

Proposed RFP outline for flood-data acquisition

I. Invitation to proponents & submission instructions

The issuing body, identified as EDHEC Climate Institute, invites qualified proponents to submit proposals in response to Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 00001. The closing date and time for submissions is 15th March 2026 at 1 p.m. (CET).

Proposals must be delivered via e-mail at submissions@climateimpactedhec.com. All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing by e-mail at submissions@climateimpactedhec.com.

Proposals received after the specified closing date and time will not be accepted.

II. Introduction & background

The EDHEC Climate Institute (ECI) (the “Institute”) is an organisation dedicated to advancing research on climate-related risks and their implications for financial and economic systems. The Institute operates as an internal unit of EDHEC, the holding company of the group (the “Holding Company”).

The Institute requires flood-related data to support its internal research activities and to enable the use of such data and the development and use of analytical outputs by affiliated commercial entities within the group (the “Affiliates”), under the scope of a group-level licensing framework held by the Holding Company.

The requested flood-hazard data will support the Institute’s work on assessing physical climate risks across various asset types. This includes the development of related analytical layers and proprietary analytical outputs that are used to evaluate potential financial materiality linked to flood exposure. These assessments contribute to broader climate-risk research, scenario analysis, and the development of methodologies intended to improve understanding of climate-related physical risks.

III. Purpose & objectives

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to procure high-quality flood-related data required to support the EDHEC Climate Institute’s research and analytical activities. The data will be used to conduct detailed flood-risk assessments and to quantify the potential financial impacts associated with flood events on precisely located assets.

The acquired data will serve as a core input to multiple analytical frameworks, including climate-risk models, physical-risk assessment tools, and financial modelling applications. These analyses aim to evaluate the exposure, vulnerability, and potential loss outcomes linked to flood hazards across different asset classes.

The objectives of the data acquisition include, but are not limited to:

- Obtaining accurate, high-resolution flood-hazard information suitable for integration into geospatial and financial models.
- Enabling the production of reliable flood maps and forward-looking risk assessments.
- Supporting the quantification of financial materiality associated with flood events based on asset-level location data.
- Providing a robust data foundation for internal research purposes and, where permitted, for use by affiliated commercial entities under agreed-upon terms.
- Assessing the relative impact of flood resilience measures as provided by the ClimaTech initiative.

Desired outcomes include the ability to generate precise flood-risk metrics, enhance model accuracy, and improve the assessment of climate-related financial impacts.

IV. Scope of work / data requirements

This RFP seeks the direct provision of flood-related datasets that meet the specifications outlined below. The selected provider must deliver data files directly. Access through APIs, dashboards, or proprietary interfaces will not be considered.

IV.1 Type of Data Requested

Proponents shall supply high-resolution global flood-hazard datasets, including:

- Flood-inundation maps providing flood depth values including flood defences for coastal flood, riverine flood and pluvial floods.
- Flood depth grids for multiple return periods, ranging at minimum from 10-year to 1,000-year, and explicitly including 50-year and 100-year return periods.
- Future flood-hazard projections covering specified time horizons using climate scenarios SSP2-4.5 and SSP5-8.5 (minimum requirement).
- Historical flood-hazard layers representing baseline or hindcasted conditions.

Data should reflect the best scientific practices, using transparent and well-documented methodologies, hydrodynamic modelling approaches, and validation techniques.

IV.2 Spatial Coverage

- Data must be global in extent, with consistent coverage across all land areas.
- Minimum acceptable spatial resolution is 30 metres or finer.

- All datasets must be delivered in a consistent coordinate reference system suitable for global modelling.

IV.3 Temporal Coverage

The datasets must include:

- Historical baseline datasets, covering a representative reference period (to be specified by the proponent).
- Future flood projections for multiple time horizons between 2030 and 2100.
 - Examples of acceptable time slices include: 2030, 2040, 2050, 2070, 2100 (final list to be agreed).
- Return-period maps must be provided for both historical and future periods.

Data must be supplied in file format, available for example from an online storage for example. No real-time or API-based delivery is required.

IV.4 Data Quality and Standards

All data must meet the following quality criteria:

- High-resolution flood depth estimates derived through validated scientific methodologies.
- Transparent documentation, including model description, assumptions, calibration and validation methods, input datasets, and uncertainty ranges.
- Consistent vertical and horizontal datums, clearly stated.
- Metadata describing the dataset creation process, structure, and standards applied.
- Data must be delivered in widely recognised, non-proprietary formats (e.g., GeoTIFF, NetCDF).

The provider must demonstrate adherence to recognised scientific standards for hydrodynamic modelling, climate scenario application, and geospatial data integrity.

IV.5 Licensing and Ownership Requirements

Proponents must clearly state the ownership status of all datasets offered, including whether the data are owned outright by the proponent or supplied under licence from another party.

The EDHEC Climate Institute requires a licence that permits:

1. **Internal research use** by the EDHEC Climate Institute.

2. **Use of the data** to affiliated commercial entities for defined commercial purposes, under terms that will be mutually agreed upon with the selected vendor. It concerns use of data to generate derivative analytical products, including but not limited to flood-risk metrics, financial-impact assessments.

Proponents must specify:

- The scope of permitted uses.
- Any restrictions on use by affiliated commercial entities.
- Whether derivative works created by the EDHEC Climate Institute or the Affiliates may be used, published, or further distributed without additional permissions.
- Any attribution requirements.

If the proposed data incorporates third-party materials, the proponent must confirm that the licensing terms allow the EDHEC Climate Institute and the Affiliates to use the data as described above, and that no third-party rights will be infringed.

The final licence terms must explicitly enable all agreed-upon research and commercial use activities.

V. Deliverables & reporting

The selected provider must supply all datasets and associated materials as outlined below. All data must be delivered directly as files, in accordance with the technical specifications defined in this RFP.

V.1 Data Deliverables

Proponents must provide the complete set of flood-hazard datasets described in the Technical Requirements section. Deliverables shall include:

- All requested flood-hazard maps and depth grids for historical and future periods.
- Return-period maps for all specified return intervals.
- High-resolution geospatial files in the agreed format(s).

Only final datasets are required unless otherwise agreed in writing.

V.2 Metadata and Documentation

The provider must deliver comprehensive documentation for all datasets, including:

- Detailed metadata describing dataset structure and characteristics.
- Explanations of data provenance, modelling approaches, and processing steps.
- Technical descriptions of methods, assumptions, and quality-control procedures.
- Any information required to ensure proper interpretation and integration of the data.

V.3 Support Materials

All data must be accompanied by supporting documentation sufficient to allow internal understanding, validation, and methodological integration. This documentation should, where possible, be suitable for internal and external use, including incorporation into our own technical or methodological documentation. This may include, but are not limited to:

- User guides or technical manuals.
- Methodological descriptions.
- Notes on limitations or uncertainty.
- Where certain elements of the documentation cannot be shared externally due to intellectual property, licensing, or confidentiality constraints, providers must clearly identify and label which materials are restricted to internal use only and specify any limitations on use, disclosure, reuse, or citation. Any such restrictions should be explicitly stated at the time of submission.

V.4 Support and Issue Resolution

The provider must offer reasonable support to assist with:

- Data-format clarification.
- Troubleshooting any issues with corrupted, incomplete, or inconsistent files.
- Clarification of methodology or metadata where required.

Support expectations will be further defined in the final agreement.

V.5 Reporting

Where applicable, the provider may be asked to deliver:

- Sample datasets or interim materials for review before final delivery.
- A final summary document describing data sources, processing, and limitations.

VI. Vendor Instructions and Questions

Proponents must prepare their proposals in accordance with the instructions outlined below. All requirements specified in this RFP must be addressed in full. Statements made in the proposal regarding data capabilities, methodology, or deliverables will be considered accurate and may be incorporated into the final contract.

VI.1 Proposal Content and Organisation

Proposals should be organised in a clear and logical structure. At minimum, proponents should include:

- Executive summary

- Company profile
- Relevant experience and past projects
- Technical understanding of the requirements
- Proposed methodology and data solutions
- Eligibility criteria
- Compliance with technical specifications
- Delivery timeline
- Support approach
- Any additional information that demonstrates capability

Samples of past work, technical credentials, and references are encouraged to support the proposal.

VI.2 Validity of Proposals

All proposals must remain valid and open for acceptance for a period of 3 MONTHS.

VI.3 Submission of Questions

All enquiries, requests for clarification, or questions regarding this RFP must be submitted exclusively to the designated procurement contact listed below:

Procurement Contact: EDHEC Climate Institute RFP Committee

Email: submissions@climateimpactedhec.com

Proponents must not contact any other staff or representatives of the issuing authority regarding this RFP. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification.

VII. Budget & cost proposal

Proponents must provide a comprehensive **cost proposal** detailing all costs associated with the delivery of the datasets and services described in this RFP. No indicative or estimated budget from the contracting authority will be provided.

The cost proposal must include:

VII.1 Itemised Cost Breakdown

A complete **itemised cost breakdown** for each major component of the proposed solution, including:

- Costs for each dataset or dataset category.
- Costs for each time horizon or scenario option (e.g., historical period, future projections, SSP scenario variants).
- Costs associated with different spatial resolutions, if applicable.
- Any optional add-ons or enhancements.

Each item must be priced separately so that individual components may be selected or excluded.

VII.2 Optional Components and Sub-Options

Where multiple delivery options, methodological options, or tiers of data quality exist, proponents must provide clearly separated **sub-option costings**. This should identify:

- Base option cost
- Each sub-option or upgrade cost
- Dependencies between options (if any)

This ensures that the contracting authority may select individual options or sub-options without ambiguity.

VII.3 Licensing Costs

All licensing fees must be clearly detailed, including:

- Costs for internal research use
- Costs associated with group-level access rights for affiliated commercial entities, broken down between access to raw data and access limited to derived data
- Any recurring licence fees or renewal costs
- Any limitations that affect pricing

VII.4 Additional or One-Time Charges

Proponents must disclose any additional fees, such as:

- Hard-drive preparation and shipping
- Support services
- Documentation or customisation costs

No undisclosed fees will be accepted after contract award.

VII.5 Pricing Validity

All proposed pricing must remain valid for a period of 3 MONTHS from the closing date of the RFP.

VIII. Proposal format & submission guidelines

Proposers shall submit **one (1) original and [number] copies** of their proposal. **Electronic submission is accepted** as specified in this Request for Proposals. When electronic submission is permitted, proposals must be submitted in PDF format, unless otherwise stated.

All proposals must be prepared in **English** and must comply with the following formatting requirements:

- Maximum length: 20 pages, excluding appendices
- Font: minimum 11-point, standard font (e.g., Arial, Times New Roman)
- File format (for electronic submissions): PDF

Proposals that do not conform to these requirements may be deemed non-compliant and rejected without further evaluation.

Proposals must be **received by 15th March 2026 at 1 p.m. (CET)** at the address or electronic submission portal specified in this RFP. **Late proposals will not be accepted**, regardless of the reason for the delay.

Each proposal must be **clearly labelled** with the proposer's legal name, contact information, and the RFP reference number. Sealed proposals must bear no external markings that could identify the proposer other than those required for submission.

All proposal materials submitted in response to this RFP have become the property of the issuing authority and will not be returned, without prejudice to any pre-existing intellectual property rights of the proposer. Proposers should clearly identify any proprietary or confidential information by marking such materials "**Confidential.**" The issuing authority will make reasonable efforts to protect confidential information, subject to applicable disclosure laws and regulations.

Proposers are responsible for all costs incurred in the preparation and submission of their proposals. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the procedural requirements of this RFP.

IX. Evaluation criteria & scoring

Proposals will be evaluated by an evaluation committee in accordance with the criteria set out below. The contract will be awarded to the proposer whose submission is determined to be the **most economically advantageous proposal**, taking into account both qualitative and financial considerations.

1. Technical Quality and Data Compliance (35%)

The extent to which the proposed data meets the required **scope, accuracy, completeness, consistency, and metadata standards** defined in this RFP. Particular attention will be paid to data validation processes, documentation, and compliance with applicable data standards and regulations.

2. Experience and References (10%)

The proposer's demonstrated experience in **flood-related data collection, management, and delivery**, including comparable projects of similar scale and complexity. References may be contacted to assess past performance, reliability, and technical capability.

3. **Approach and Methodology (25%)**

The quality and robustness of the proposed approach, including the proposer's **understanding of the requirements**, data-collection methodologies, quality-control procedures, proposed **data access and usage model**, alignment with the licensing and usage principles set out in the Annex, and the degree of innovation or added value introduced by the solution.

4. **Cost and Value for Money (10%)**

The overall cost of the proposal, assessed in terms of **price competitiveness**, transparency of pricing, and value for money in relation to the proposed technical solution and services.

5. **Schedule and Delivery Capacity (5%)**

The proposer's ability to **meet the required timelines**, including the feasibility of the proposed delivery schedule and the availability of resources to ensure timely execution.

The issuing authority reserves the right to seek clarification from proposers, to negotiate aspects of proposals where permitted, and to reject any or all proposals if deemed in their best interest.

X. Legal terms & conditions (flagged section)

This Request for Proposals (RFP) and the resulting procurement process are governed by the legal and contractual provisions set out below. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of these terms.

1. **Acceptance of Conditions and Form of Contract.** By submitting a proposal, the proposer acknowledges and accepts the terms and conditions of this RFP. Any requests for amendments to contractual terms must be submitted clearly with the proposal, together with written justification. Proposed amendments must be consistent with the **licensing scope, data usage principles, and ownership provisions** described in this RFP. The issuing authority reserves the right to accept or reject any proposed contractual modifications.
2. **Right to Accept or Reject Proposals.** The issuing authority reserves the unrestricted right to **accept or reject any or all proposals**, in whole or in part, to waive minor irregularities, or to cancel the procurement process at any time, without incurring any liability to proposers.
3. **Costs Incurred by Proposers.** All costs incurred by proposers in the preparation and submission of proposals are the **sole responsibility of the proposer**. The issuing

authority shall not be liable for any costs, expenses, or losses incurred as a result of participating in this RFP.

4. **Prime Contractor and Subcontractors.** The successful proposer shall act as the **prime contractor** and shall be fully responsible for the performance of the contract, including the acts and omissions of any subcontractors. The use of subcontractors must be disclosed in the proposal and approved by the issuing authority.
5. **Amendment, Withdrawal, and Validity of Proposals.** Proposers may amend or withdraw their proposals by written notice prior to the submission deadline. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline. Proposals shall remain **valid for a period of 3 months** from the submission deadline, unless otherwise specified.
6. **Confidentiality and Disclosure.** Proposals will be treated as confidential and will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating responses to this RFP, subject to applicable laws on access to information. Proposers shall treat this RFP and all related documentation as confidential. The RFP may not be copied, disclosed, or distributed to third parties without prior written consent. All copies of the RFP and associated documents must be **destroyed after proposal submission**, unless otherwise required by law.
7. **No Obligation to Award and Right to Terminate.** This RFP does not constitute an offer or commitment to award a contract. The issuing authority is under **no obligation to enter into a contract** and may terminate or suspend the procurement process at any stage without liability.
8. **Conflict of Interest and Non-Collusion.** Proposers must disclose any **actual or potential conflicts of interest** that could affect their independence or impartiality. Proposers may be required to submit a **non-collusion declaration** and to adhere to recognised ethical and professional standards throughout the procurement process and contract execution.
9. **Ownership of Proposals and Intellectual Property.** All proposals and supporting documentation submitted in response to this RFP become the **property of the issuing authority** and will not be returned, without prejudice to any pre-existing intellectual property rights of the proposer. Submission of a proposal does not grant the proposer any rights to the issuing authority's intellectual property.
10. **Data Licensing and Ownership.** The successful proposer shall warrant that all data delivered under the contract are either **owned by the proposer or validly licensed** for use by the issuing authority in accordance with the group-level usage and licensing principles described in this RFP. The data agreement shall, at a minimum:
 - Define the licensed data set and acknowledge applicable ownership rights
 - Specify the **permitted uses** of the data by the issuing authority and restrict any unauthorised or commercial reuse by the proposer outside the scope of the agreed services

- Address the treatment of **derivative data**, including ownership and access rights
- Ensure compliance with applicable **open data policies**, unless justified restrictions apply; where third-party data are involved, original licence conditions must be respected
- Require appropriate **data security, confidentiality, and protection measures**, particularly for personal or sensitive data

11. **Limitations on Data Disclosure.** Access to and disclosure of flood-related data may be restricted where justified on legal grounds, including but not limited to **public security, confidentiality of proceedings, intellectual-property rights, protection of personal data, information provided voluntarily without legal obligation, and protection of the environment**, in accordance with applicable law.

XII. Contract negotiation & award

Following the evaluation of proposals, the proposer achieving the highest overall score will be invited to enter into contract negotiations with the issuing authority. Negotiations may address technical, commercial, and contractual aspects of the proposal.

If the issuing authority determines that it is unable to reach agreement with the highest-ranked proposer within a reasonable timeframe, it reserves the right to terminate negotiations and to invite the next highest-ranked proposer to enter negotiations, without any obligation to re-open the evaluation process.

No work may commence, and no costs shall be incurred on behalf of the issuing authority, until a formal contract has been executed by authorised representatives of both parties. Any work undertaken prior to contract signature shall be at the proposer's own risk and expense.

The contract shall be awarded for an initial term of three years, subject to the terms agreed during contract negotiations, commencing on the effective date of signature.

The successful proposer shall be required to maintain, for the duration of the contract, appropriate insurance coverage in accordance with the terms of the contract.

XIII. Appendices

Proposals should include, as appendices, standard forms covering the elements listed below to facilitate evaluation and administrative review.

- Vendor information & eligibility forms.
- Cost proposal.

- Non-collusion affidavit.
- Conflict of interest declaration.
- Sample data request or data-use agreement (illustrative, non-contractual).
- Draft contract or terms and conditions (to be used as a basis for negotiation and to be read in conjunction with the annexed licensing and usage principles).