



ELIGIBILITY for Transnational Access and Remote Access

A user group (=research group that applies for access to one or more research stations) eligible for Transnational Access must satisfy the following conditions:

1. **Country of work and residency.** The user group leader and the majority of the users must work in a country other than the country(ies) where the installation is located; Trans-national access is not granted to an infrastructure/installation that is located in the same country where the user works. In other words, applicants are not eligible for TA to their national infrastructures, i.e. stations that are located in the same country or operated by institutions located in the same country in which the applicant is working/residing.

For example: Scientists working in Finland are not eligible for TA to Finnish research stations; Scientists working in Denmark are not eligible to Greenlandic research stations operated by Danish institutions, scientists working in UK are not eligible to UK Arctic Research Station in Svalbard, and so on.

2. **Justification of the research infrastructure where access is applied.** There should not be similar infrastructure in the country where the user group leader is working and residing. If such an infrastructure exists, the applicant should demonstrate and provide a scientific and/or facility-based justification on why the requested research cannot be done at the national infrastructure. **Note:** this also applies in cases when the applicant has a national infrastructure in the same location where access is applied such as in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard.

3. **Dissemination of results.** Only user groups that are allowed to disseminate the results they have generated under the action may benefit from the access, unless the users are working for SME's.

4. **Research focus.** Access can only be granted to user groups to directly conduct research, not for arranging or attending courses, conferences, seminars or workshops. **The research supported should be focused on the terrestrial environment;** any other kind of research (e.g. marine or atmospheric) should demonstrate strong linkages to terrestrial realm in order to apply for INTERACT TA.

The maximum amount of access granted to one user group during the INTERACT project period (2020-2023) is 3 months, including both Transnational and Remote Access. Access for user groups with a majority of users not working in EU or associated countries is limited to 20% of the total amount of units of access provided under the grant. This is monitored and possible restrictions are set if the limit is close to be exceeded.

Selection Priorities. The selection of user groups is based on a scientific merit and novelty of the research, but taking into account that priority should be given to user groups composed of users who:

- Have not previously used the installation
- Are working in countries where no equivalent research infrastructure exists
- Apply working at more than one location for generating comparative studies
- To early career scientists (<5 years from a PhD degree)