

14 OCTOBER 2026,
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Abstract Submission Guidelines

The organizers of the National Open Science Festival 2026 invite you to submit an abstract. The online abstract submission portal is open between 04-05-2026 and 28-06-2026 (closes at 23:59 CEST). Please note that only electronic submissions are accepted.

Type of Submission

Abstracts can be submitted for workshops, lightning speeches, network sessions, poster sessions or the information market:

Workshops

The workshop is a traditional element of the Open Science Festival. This time, we would like to get a clearer idea of what you will do in the workshop with your audience:

- Skill-up
- Influence policy
- Get updated
- Co-create
- Exchange knowledge
- Network
- Other

Standard session length is 45 minutes. If your workshop requires more than 45 minutes, please submit two separate proposals (Part 1 and Part 2). Part 1 of the workshop should be designed to function as a stand-alone session. The programme committee will review all submissions and determine whether a second slot can be allocated for any given workshop.

For workshop submissions, it is highly encouraged to include interactive components, as they are essential for engaging participants, fostering active learning, and allowing attendees to apply concepts in real-time. Interactivity is more than conducting a poll with “Mentimeter.”

You will also be asked to indicate the level of the workshop:

- Novice: no prior knowledge required.
- Competent: average knowledge on the subject is advised.
- Expert: Detailed knowledge on the subject is required to get the most out of the workshop.

Lightning speeches

Lightning speeches are a new format. We offer the floor to individuals or teams working on projects that deserve the limelight. Selected individual and/or teams are asked to prepare a 7-minute presentation with a maximum of 7 slides:

- Projects awarded in the NWO Open Science Infrastructure call
- Project finished in the NWO Open Science Rewarding & Recognition call
- NPuls projects addressing Open Education
- Citizen Science projects
- Any other research project

Networking sessions (for teams, organisations)

Also new this year are networking sessions. These sessions last 45 minutes. The academic landscape includes many valuable Open Science organisations: CS-NL, OSHNED, NLRN, OSCNL, but also university collaborations such as 4TU, LDE and EWUU. You are invited to organise a session to make your team better known, larger or stronger. During abstract submission, you will be asked to indicate your main objective:

- Skill-up
- Influence policy
- Get updated
- Co-create
- Exchange knowledge
- Network
- Other

Absolutely anything

You may have a brilliant idea that we have not thought of ourselves. We will be happy to consider it. Please indicate what resources you would need for your session: a room with a screen, and if so, how big? How much time would you need? Do you need a blank wall to write on, a small section of the floor for interpretative dance? You name it!

Poster sessions

Posters will be on display in the networking and catering area throughout the event. A poster board will be available for each presenter to hang their poster. The poster size is A0 (841 mm x 1189 mm / 33.1 inches x 46.8 inches). Presenters of accepted posters are kindly asked to bring their printed poster with them to the venue; there are no printing possibilities at the venue.

Information Market

The Information Market offers a space for organisations and companies to present their work to festival visitors in an approachable and informal setting. The market will feature standing tables with limited options for additional setup.

Abstract Requirements for Workshops, Lightning speeches, Networking sessions, Poster Sessions and Information Market

Abstracts should meet **all of the following specifications** to be considered:

Title	Each abstract should have a brief descriptive title and should be written in sentence case. The title should not exceed 20 words. Please note that there is no option to add a subtitle.
Abstract Text	The abstract text should not exceed 350 words.
Keywords	During the abstract submission process, submitters will be asked to specify up to five keywords.
Level	Novice, Competent, Expert
Equipment/facilities	White board, SMART board, Single Projector, Desktop PC, microphone, other
Seating arrangement	Cinema, Forum, Table blocks, no seats (standing workshop).
Audience	• Research supporters • Researchers • Educators • Policy makers • Techies • Students • Broader public
Authors	Names, affiliations, cities, and countries of all contributing authors should be provided. The person submitting the abstract should be the presenting author of the work. All communications regarding an abstract will go to the submitting author, irrespective the designation of the presenting author. Please verify that your email address is correct as it will be used for contacting you after the review process.
Language	Abstracts should be written in English. It is crucial that abstracts are proofread carefully to avoid errors before they are submitted. Please note that the text of approved abstracts containing grammatical and spelling errors will NOT be edited prior to publication on the website of the Open Science Festival.
Additional Information for Workshops	During the abstract submission process, workshop submitters will be asked to provide the following additional information: • What would you like your participants to be aware off/feel/know/be able to do at the end of your session? What are the intended outcomes or tangible outputs of the proposed workshop (e.g., tools, resources, publications, action plans, collaborations)? • Target audience for your workshop • Preferred and the maximum number of people to attend your workshop. • Brief summary of the workshop including key take away messages for the online programme (if no summary is provided, the full submitted abstract will be published in the online programme)

Abstracts Deadlines

- Abstract submission deadline: **28-06-2026 (23:59 CEST)**
- Notification on acceptance/rejection in August 2026.

Review and Acceptance

Submitted abstracts will undergo review by the [programme committee](#) and will be scheduled for presentation or workshop only if accepted by the reviewers. Notifications regarding the acceptance or rejection of the presentation will be sent to the submitting author in August.

Abstracts will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Workshops/Lightning speeches/Networking sessions:

- Diversity (we strive for a broad representation of universities (of applied sciences) and other organisations)
- Originality
- Quality of content
- Potential impact
- Readability/understandability
- Relevance
- General assessment of proposal
- Interactive component

Poster sessions:

- General assessment of the proposal
- Potential to stimulate discussion and collaboration
- Level of innovation
- Quality of the content
- Openness and FAIRness of the solution / method / product (if applicable)
- Relevance

Information Market:

- The programme committee will select exhibitors based on the relevance of their proposals to festival visitors.

Registration and Participation

To ensure scheduling of a submitted and accepted abstract in the final programme, the presenting author must register as a delegate. Please note, registering as a delegate is free of charge. Open Science NL will not cover costs incurred in submitting an abstract, or for travel and accommodation costs for presenting authors.

Withdrawal of abstracts can only be accepted if notified in writing and subsequently confirmed by the Festival Secretariat.

For all enquiries regarding abstracts, please contact the Festival Secretariat at: osf@congressbydesign.com