



***Draft Proposal for an Early Career Research session in A Coruña***

Dear early career researcher,

This short session is first and foremost aimed at bringing together those early career researchers who are studying nature-based solutions, especially those we will see in the future and asking them to envision and shape this future. Nature-based solutions in cities have the potential to employ many people and have even more potential to become new enterprises or grow existing ones. So, as we gather in A Coruña, and as we listen to the cities and SME from many projects and regions of Europe discuss the potential for nature-based solutions, let us also see where early career professionals can fit into this arena and how it can benefit you from an academic or a practitioner point of view.

**Purpose**

- To discuss the challenges for early career research and practice in the field of nature-based solutions and governance
- To share data and data-gathering expertise
- To provide a basis for creating opportunities for career development, networking and funding for early career researchers and practitioners
- To identify synergies in research and across fields such as ecological engineering, architecture, smart cities, planning, climate change and so on
- To discuss inter-, multi- and transdisciplinary research and the implications for early career researchers
- To create a viable network of early career researchers focused on fostering nature-based solutions research
- To discuss potential journals for publications as well as other avenues for publishing results and case studies
- To open the floor to issues that arise in A Coruña that may impact on your work

**Preparations**

Before you arrive in A Coruña you should prepare! We will begin the session by asking everyone for a 30 second introduction to their research. Depending on numbers on the day, we will split into groups to address the above bullet points (20 minutes, approximately). We will then have open debate. I would like to conclude with the group preparing a position paper that will become part of the workshop reporting. I am really looking forward to seeing you and to chatting with you in A Coruña.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Marcus J. Collier  
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