

# Invitation to Tender: Community Ambassador on the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform



Role 1 – Ambassador for the Ecosystem Creation, Restoration and Management Community

Role 2 - Ambassador for the Financial Services for NBS Community

**Promoter:** Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform | Horizon Nua

**Issue date:** 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

**Deadline:** 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021

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Find information about the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform: [www.naturebasedenterprise.eu](http://www.naturebasedenterprise.eu)

## About the Role:

Community Ambassadors are industry leaders passionate about the sector they work in; determined to increase the visibility of the sector and connect like-minded enterprises in a spirit of community building and collaboration. The community ambassador showcases best practice in their sector, raise awareness about the benefits and risks of nature-based solutions and share sector-specific opportunities among community members.

## Key Requirements:

The Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform is inviting tenders from a suitably qualified individuals to serve as a Community Ambassadors for the following roles:

1. The *Ecosystem Creation Restoration and Management Community* on the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform for the period from May 2021 – April 2022. Applicants will have expertise any of the following sub-sectors, but preferably have knowledge not only on the management of ecosystems, but also on conservation and restoration:
  - Ecosystem restoration (incl. landscape and ecological restoration), conservation & management
  - Reforestation and/or Rewilding
  - Marine and/or freshwater ecosystem restoration, conservation and management
  - Biodiversity conservation

2. The *Financial Services for Nature-Based Solutions Community* on the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform for the period from May 2021 – April 2022. Applicants will have a knowledge of financial instruments and supports available in areas such as Finance and Investment for Reforestation, Rewilding, Biodiversity, Nature Conservation etc. (this could include carbon offsetting) and/or Natural Capital Accounting

Community Ambassadors will be expected to:

- Organise a minimum of 3 internal community meetings or workshops over the period and 1 thematic webinar open to public and widely promoted.
- Post a minimum of 1 news item, 1 new challenge, 1 new opportunity in the community each month.
- Actively manage and ensure that challenges posted in the community are responded to in a timely manner.
- Reach out directly to targeted organisations to grow the number of community members
- Participate in scheduled monthly Community Ambassador Calls with the platform managers and other community leaders providing updates on community numbers, engagement, planned activity etc.

#### Instructions to proposers:

Applicants are invited to submit a proposal with your individual CV with a maximum of 3 pages outlining the following:

1. Your area of expertise in the sector, experience and motivation to apply
2. Evidence of interest in building an EU wide community e.g. member of EU projects, associations etc.
3. Proposed plan for sustainability of community activity after end of project including putting in place a governance structure.
4. Ideas for planned activities e.g. news, webinars, community meetings, organisations to be contacted.

Completed proposals containing availability (number of days) and budget should be uploaded as a pdf. on the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform ([www.naturebasedenterprise.eu/opportunities](http://www.naturebasedenterprise.eu/opportunities)) as a response to the Opportunity you wish to apply for: the **“Community Ambassador for Ecosystem Creation, Restoration and Management Community”** or the **“Financial Services for Nature-Based Solutions Community”**

Note: Applicants must register as a user and register their enterprise as a nature-based enterprise on the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform in order to submit a tender.

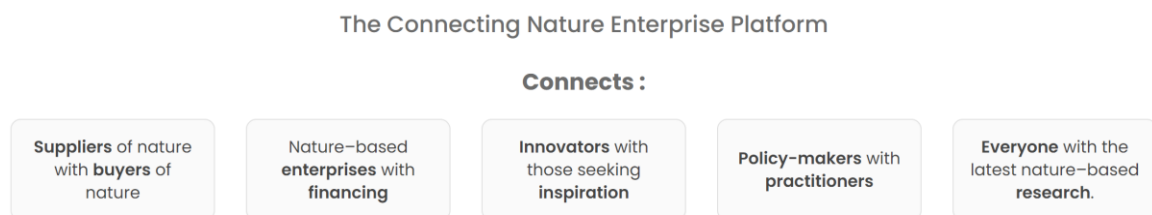
#### Resources:

A total budget of €5,000 is available to suitable individuals / organisations to provide the services listed above. The expected time commitment is in the region of 12 – 15 days over the contract duration. Up to €500 of the total can be used as direct costs for support activity e.g. welcome video.

Horizon Nua will provide training to the successful candidate on the platform management system and provide access to online meeting resources.

**Proposal Deadline:** 21<sup>st</sup> April at 17.00 CET

## What is the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform?



A global platform to directly connect market demand (cities and private sector ‘buyers’ of nature-based solutions) with supply (innovative enterprises supplying sustainable nature-based solutions) and crucially acts to increase the visibility of this fast growing sector among policy makers and communities of influence.

### Why?

Demand for nature-based solutions to climate change has increased exponentially in line with recognition that they could provide around 30% of the mitigation required to stabilise global warming to below 2°C (Seddon et al 2019). The concept of nature-based solutions has now been mainstreamed by policymakers from the UN to the EC and in July 2020 the IUCN published the first global standard for nature-based solutions to further increase their take-up.

However, as cities all over the world demand more nature-based solutions, a new challenge has emerged. Recent reports have shown that cities are having problems finding skilled and experienced suppliers to meet the burgeoning demand (UnaLab 2020). To address this roadblock, Connecting Nature has been pioneering a new field of research into the capacity of nature-based enterprises to meet this demand ([link to infographic](#)). Nature-based enterprises - from landscape architects to ecosystem restoration experts - play a vital role in helping cities design, deliver, manage and monitor nature-based solutions.

## What are the Platform Communities?

**At the heart of our platform are our communities of practice.** Our communities are grouped according to industry sector<sup>1</sup>. Each community is moderated by an industry leader, a kind of enterprise ambassador who will showcase best practice in the sector, raise awareness about the benefits and risks of nature-based solutions and share sector-specific opportunities among community members.

### About:

The Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform is a stand-alone innovation developed in the [Connecting Nature](#) project. It is a sustainable platform which will continue after the Connecting Nature project ends in May 2022.

The platform is managed by [Horizon Nua](#), a project partner in Connecting Nature.



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<sup>1</sup> [Nature-based Enterprises Guidebook](#); Siobhan McQuaid, Centre for Social Innovation, Trinity College Dublin, Esmee Kooijman, University College Dublin and Isobel Fletcher, Horizon Nua, 2020; P7