

NetworkNature+

TF1: Data and Knowledge Sharing

Bi-annual Work Plan | M36-41 | July – December 2026

NbS Task Force 1 (TF1) exists to support EU-funded projects on data and knowledge sharing.

The overall objective of TF1 is to support delivery of the European Research and Innovation Roadmap for Nature-based Solutions, specifically focussing on the first strategic action area for transdisciplinary research: “*Advancing NbS knowledge and data on NbS*”.

It aims to help standardise and promote the exchange of knowledge in formats that are FAIR, open, shareable and interoperable; and to support the exploitation of emerging new technologies, including artificial intelligence and geospatial.

This work plan provides a structured and forward-looking approach to the activities of the Task Force over the period July - December 2026.

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Timeframe: July to December 2026

Bi-annual work plan	
Priority objectives	During the next 6 months, TF1 will prioritise development of metadata standards for NbS indicators.
Implementation	Workstream 1: metadata templates for NbS indicators 10 NbS indicators have been shortlisted, for which templates are being developed by working groups comprising 2-6 people in each. The selected indicators are: • Biodiversity enhancement • Climate resilience: carbon stored/sequestered • New economic opportunities and green jobs • Water management • Green space management • Participatory planning and governance • Climate resilience: heat • Social justice and cohesion • Health and wellbeing • Natural and climate hazards

	A first set of draft templates is expected to be ready by the end of October (M39), ready for initial review by NbS projects during the remainder of this plan period until December. Workstream 2: hackathon This year's hackathon will be hosted in-person as part of the Task Forces Cluster Event on 5 November (Paris, France). The event will bring together members from across the NetworkNature Task Forces to explore how the NbS community can collectively support the ongoing evolution of the NbS R&I Roadmap by improving how evidence is generated, shared and integrated. A draft plan for the hackathon has been developed by TF1 and is in the process of being finalised. Workstream 4: artificial intelligence Workstream 4 has been refocused from horizon scanning to artificial intelligence. A learning webinar on the topic of AI is being planned for November 2026. Workstream 5: project resources and case studies A new API is available for sharing NetworkNature resources and case studies with external websites (newly released with the platform's move to Drupal 11 software). TF1 is actively seeking projects and organisations wishing to exploit the API for their own websites. Workstream 6: PERENNIAL Led by Neil Sang at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). Workstream 6 aims to create a long-term, evolving knowledge repository that allows scientific evidence about Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to be accumulated, curated and reused across Horizon Europe projects, rather than being lost when individual projects finish. TF1 aims to support the launch of PERENNIAL this period via a cross-Task Forces webinar (date tbc).
Products & activities	Expected this period (July-December): • Full set of draft metadata templates for NbS indicators, ready for review and piloting by projects. • Completion of the 2026 TF1 Hackathon event in Paris, developing practical ideas for improving how Roadmap evidence is gathered, curated and used. • Completion of a learning webinar on AI, exploring case studies and emerging new applications from NbS projects. • Scoping completed for exploitation of the NetworkNature website API by MIP4Adapt.

	• Hosting of a webinar to launch the PERENNIAL knowledge repository.
Outcomes	• Standardised metadata templates enable early development of an evidence base for monitoring the effectiveness of NbS at local level. • SMART recommendations support ongoing development of the R&I Roadmap as a living resource. • Knowledge on the good use of AI by NbS projects is collated and shared. • NetworkNature API adds value to MIP4Adapt by enabling direct access to NbS resources and case studies by the climate adaptation community. • PERENNIAL develops options for a long-term repository of scientific evidence on NbS.
Potential enablers	• Collaboration with Task Force 2 in development of metadata templates for NbS indicators. • Continued engagement and motivation of TF1 working groups on metadata templates. • Continued support from European Commission on data standardisation and knowledge sharing. • Project buy-in to Task Forces. • Technical support from Oppla in use of the NetworkNature API. • Capacity and buy-in from MIP4Adapt to engage with NetworkNature over knowledge sharing.
Potential risks	• Limited capacity from projects to undertake technical and time-consuming work. • Reliance on a core group of dedicated Task Force members. • Difficulties scheduling meetings around TF members' numerous competing commitments. • Fast-moving technology that is outpacing projects' own operational speed.