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## NetworkNature Annual Event 2025

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2025  
in Bruxelles Environnement building  
Tour & Taxis Avenue du port 86C / 3000  
Havenlaan 86C/3000, 1000 Brussel

Open call

Why choose  
nature? /  
Why do  
we care?



# Open call Why choose nature? / Why do we care?

For the exhibition at the NetworkNature Annual Event 2025

## About the NetworkNature Annual Event

Organised by NetworkNature in collaboration with Brussels Environment, this year's NetworkNature Annual Event 2025 "**Choose Nature**" will explore different ways to align biodiversity and economy in times of urgency, building on the concept of Nature-based Solutions. We will hear from a broad range of stakeholders, from the public and private sectors, examine diverse ideas, exchange knowledge, explore initiatives and share case studies that link nature with economy, innovation, finance and business. Through pitches and discussions, we will delve into pathways to build a resilient economy that benefits both people and planet. The event will also encourage stakeholders to engage with and adopt these approaches.

Know more about the event [here](#).

In parallel to the main event, the exhibition **Why Choose Nature? / Why do we care?** will invite you and your organisation to explore the diverse (and divergent) reasons why working with nature is essential and why do you care about it.

Curated through this open call, this exhibition will compile a variety of resources, experiences and types of knowledges, all highlighting how nature-based approaches can encourage and build on a wide range of perspectives in relation to nature. This concept is inspired by the IPBES Values Assessment report and aims to contribute to a meaningful exchange during the event. **This open call has been developed by NetworkNature in collaboration with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU (Florence Damiens) and count on the support of Bruxelles Environnement.**

## Why should you contribute to the open call?

Whether you are an individual, a collective or part of an organisation — from any backgrounds and sectors— **you are invited to share your reasons for placing nature as a first priority. This is your opportunity to present your ideas and work and help create a mosaic of motivations to choose and care for nature, building on the different resources, materials, knowledge and experiences you or your organisation might have.**

The NetworkNature Annual Event will gather a diverse audience of stakeholders eager to share their perspectives. Selected contributions will not only be featured in the exhibition but also included in a special NetworkNature report, and shared via NetworkNature's social media channels. These will also help disseminate relevant ideas and material across the network. The open call is open to everyone. We foresee an increased participation from key stakeholder groups (See *below*). The submission process is simple and is expected to take no more than one hour.

## Key stakeholder groups: how to contribute

We have developed specific questions for key stakeholder groups, to help you in your contributions:

### **EU-Funded projects on Nature-based Solutions:**

Why do you or your project team think we should choose nature or care for it? Share your insights, policy briefs, case studies, and other materials that highlight your perspective.

### **Educators, education institutions, students and researchers**

Is your research and/or teaching guided by specific motivations or care for nature? Could you show us, illustrate? Can you share with us specific materials that relate to that?

### **National and EU-level policy makers and local or regional governments**

Why do you or your institutions work with/for nature? Do not hesitate to showcase the principles behind policies, plans, and programs that use or support nature-based approaches.

### **NbS investors and (nature-based) entrepreneurs**

Why have you or your company decided to choose nature? Do not hesitate to share the key concepts, reasons or other motivations that guide your investment strategies or business models related to nature and NbS.

### **Planners and developers, natural resource managers and landowners.**

Have you or your organization shifted how you approach land or sea use? Did you do it for yourself, for nature, for both? Feel free to share the motivations, projects, or concrete examples that drive meaningful change according to you.

### **Artists**

Could you explain how your art engages with nature? What motivates your creative work and its message about nature?

### **Society at large**

We want to hear from individuals and communities actively working with nature. Share your collective and personal stories, experiences, and motivations: why did you or your community choose nature? What do you care?

**Note 01:** Unfortunately, we can only cover speakers travel expenses.

**Note 02:** Multiple entries from the same stakeholder are welcome

## **What would the Why choose nature / Why do we care? exhibition look like?**

This exhibition will be the core of NetworkNature Annual Event 2025. We aim to create a compelling and diverse mosaic of reasons to choose and care for nature. NetworkNature will be responsible for designing and printing the selected short and long statements, accrediting the authors. The exhibition will include printed materials, research papers, policy briefs, and various visual and artistic resources supporting the presented ideas. You can submit your motivation, a long statement about it, and linked resources related to it.



**Fill in this [short form](#) to share why you choose nature / care about it.**

**(See form details below)**

## Can I participate as a speaker in the NetworkNature Annual event 2025 Choose nature?

This open call also gives you the opportunity to submit a proposal for participating as a speaker. You just need to tick the box that says, **“Please consider me as a potential speaker for the NetworkNature Annual Event 2025.”** in the short form.

Please note that, in order to be considered as a potential speaker, your motivation and the case study or material you submit must relate to **different ways to align biodiversity and the economy in times of urgency, based on the concept of Nature-based Solutions – the theme of this year’s event**. Your proposal should be connected to **at least one of the four thematic sessions** of the event. You’ll find below some ideas to help guide your submission:

### **Choose to work with and for nature**

*Looking for:* Motivations, case studies, and materials where nature-based approaches have strengthened economic resilience, improved livelihoods, supported long-term financial stability, averted losses, or enhanced local and regional economic activity.

### **Choose to trust nature and people**

*Looking for:* Motivations, case studies, and materials that highlight the potential of people and nature to address current societal challenges. This includes blending high- and low-tech innovation with Indigenous and local knowledge, as well as insights from ecological and social sciences.

### **Choose to invest in nature**

*Looking for:* Motivations, case studies, and materials that have successfully unlocked investment in nature, supported by strong safeguards. These should address social, environmental, and economic challenges while delivering ecosystem services, improving human well-being, and benefitting biodiversity.

### **Choose to partner with nature**

*Looking for:* Motivations, case studies, and materials related to the creation or transformation of business models that work in partnership with nature. This includes models that contribute to sustainable ecosystem management and use, as well as those that receive innovative finance in recognition of the benefits they provide.

## General conditions

### Who can apply?

Anyone that has been involved in projects and initiatives where nature is identified as an ally and provider of solutions and wellbeing, such as NbS. National and EU-Level policymakers, local and subnational governments and public authorities, economists, investors and (Nature-based) entrepreneurs, educators, education institutions and students, infrastructure planners and developers, natural resource managers and landowners, artists, individuals and communities... in brief society at large is invited to submit their proposal.

### How can I submit my proposal?

You are invited to apply through [this short form](#).

### What is the timeline?

We invite you to submit your idea **by the 30th of June**.

### How would the selection process will be done?

Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis. We will accept as many entries as space allows, provided they are clear, relevant to the event's theme, and align with the principles of Nature-based Solutions—providing benefits for biodiversity through conservation, restoration, sustainable use, or management of ecosystems.

# Online form: Why Choose Nature?

**01 First name:**

**02 Last name:**

**03 Affiliation:** *(please, write “N/A” if you are a non-affiliated individual)*

**04 Short bio of you / your organisation :** *(maximum 200 characters)*

**05 Email:**

**06 Location / City:**

**07 Country:**

**08 Which stakeholder category do you represent?**

- *EU Funded NbS Projects*
- *Local and subnational governments and public authorities*
- *NbS investors and (nature-based) entrepreneurs*
- *National and EU-level policymakers*
- *Society at large, including individuals and civil society*
- *Educators, education institutions, students, researchers*
- *Infrastructure planners or developers*
- *Natural resource managers and landowners*
- *Other*

**09 Is your work related to an EU-Funded NbS project?** Y/N

**10 If yes, which one(s)?**

**11 How would you like to be credited?**

*(E.g. Name Surname / Job position at organisation)*

**12 Please consider me as a potential speaker for the NetworkNature Annual Event 2025.** (Yes/No)

**13 According to you, why should we choose Nature/ Why do we care? Short statement. (Maximum 100 characters).**

Please, provide a catchy short sentence in response to the question. You can answer as an individual, or as part of a bigger group or organisation.

**14 Why Choose Nature/ Why do we care? Long statement. (Maximum 1200 characters).**

Please, provide a more developed answer, mentioning relevant resources or materials you may want to share. Resources and materials can be personal or related to your work, you choose!

**15 Short title of the linked resource or material** *(Optional)* (Max 100 characters).

**16 Link to resource or material** *(Optional)*

Add a stable link to the resource (we will generate a QR code).

Example of resources: Guidelines, case studies, scientific publication, factsheet, policy briefs, novels, poems, photos, posters,

**17 Type of resource (by format)** *(Optional)*

- Book/booklet (e.g., guidelines, case study reports, novels)
- Small-format (e.g., scientific publications, factsheets, policy briefs, poems, pictures, photos)
- Large-format (e.g., posters)
- Other (please specify)

**16 Will you bring a physical copy of the resource?** (Maximum size allowed: A4) *(Optional)*  
(Yes/No)





NetworkNature is an expanding ‘network of networks’ working together to raise awareness, share knowledge and build capacity about nature-based solutions to accelerate their uptake in business, science, policy and practice along the policy priorities of the European Green Deal. It will maintain and add to a diverse and science-based repository of evidence on NbS, strengthen partnerships and foster new relationships around a clear, strategic framework for action. This work is underpinned by an up-to-date EU Research & Innovation NBS Roadmap and NetworkNature’s six priority themes: Biodiversity enhancement and ecosystem restoration; Sustainable food systems; Zero Pollution; Climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience; Sustainable finance, investment and just transition; Sustainable urban and regional transformation



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