Network Nature Annual Event

General Conditions: Bust your myth

General conditions for the 'Bust your myth' open-call

Who can apply?

Everyone that has been involved in projects in relation to NbS can submit a proposal. National and EU-Level policy-makers, 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 land owners, artists, … in brief society at large is invited to submit their proposal.

It is possible to present a myth to bust and propose a speaker different from you (e.g. A practitioner or a person from civil society that experienced a change of view working from NbS).

How can I submit my proposal?

You are invited to apply through the short form available on the Networknature website.

What should my proposal look like?

Proposals can vary depending on the focus of your experience (policy, practice, research etc). We ask you include the following elements (you will be guided through the form):

- ***What is the myth you propose to bust and what alternative solution are you proposing?***
  Myth to bust: Pre-conceived concept considered inaccurate/untrue
  Example: "To adapt our cities to climate change and other societal challenges, we need solely to improve our grey infrastructure and pavements".
  Alternative proposal: Solution proposed to bust the myth
  Example: "To adapt our cities to climate change and other societal challenges, we need to iimplement NbS"
  Explanation of alternative proposal based on your work
  Example: We renatured 30% of the surface and increased the tree cover by 300% of a street accessing a school. We facilitated soft mobility, provided a cleaner air, a liveable atmosphere, a noise reduction. Now we can hear birds chirping and children are happy to walk to school, even during the hottest days of the year.
- ***Please explain briefly what makes the myth not accurate***
  Explanation of the myth and why it is considered inaccurate/untrue
  Example: Pavements and grey infrastructure may contribute to increase the heat-island effect, they are expensive to maintain, they have a significant carbon-footprint, they avoid water infiltration, etc.
- ***To which of the three event topics is your myth relevant to?***
  Consider the following three topics as the focus of the event, you will be asked to select one:

Regenerating nature	*This section will explore the myths to bust in relation to practical implementation on the ground for land, sea and water management. Consider the following:* **Main myth: Conventional soil and water management approaches address effectively societal challenges** Considering the common myths in relation to soil and water management, which actions of conservation, protection, restoration, and sustainable use and management are effectively addressing societal challenges? **Main myth: Some land uses necessarily compete with biodiversity** *Considering the common myths in relation to land management, which actions of conservation, protection, restoration, and sustainable use and management allow coexistence of land uses and biodiversity***?**
Nature governance	*This section will explore the myths to bust in relation to nature governance and policy, and the role of communities.* *Consider the following:* **Main myth: Actions for nature harm/undermine people's needs** *Considering the common myths in relation to governance structures and the role of citizens and communities, which cases, experiences and policies are ensuring that nature and people's needs align?* *(consider health, gender equality, social justice, inclusion, youth and elderly, migrants and vulnerable groups)* **Main myth: People are not interested in recovering biodiversity** *Considering the common myths in relation to governance structures and the role of citizens and communities, which cases, experiences and policies are ensuring that people support transformative changes for biodiversity?*

The value of nature	*This section will explore the myths to bust in relation to the value of nature, including the economic value.* *Consider the following:* **Main myth: The value of nature is well-known and understood** *Considering the common myths in relation to the valuation of nature, which cases, knowledge and experiences try to acknowledge better thevalue of nature?* **Main myth: Nature does not benefit the economy** *Considering the common myths in relation to the relationship between nature and the economy, which cases, knowledge and experiences demonstrate that the economy can be aligned with nature?*

Example: the myth would relate to "regenerating nature"

How will my proposal be selected?

The selection process will take in consideration the myth to bust, the diversity of stakeholders, both as speakers and as targeted audience, the diversity of ecosystems represented and the relevance of the proposed case study.

Regardless of the selection, NetworkNature aims to store all information received on myths and ways to bust them as contributing to the evidence base on NbS.

What is the timeline?

We invite you to submit your idea **by 20th of June.** Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis until, and no later than 15th of July.

What happens if my proposal is selected?

NetworkNature will contact you to invite you (or your suggested speaker) to participate as speaker in the NetworkNature Annual Event.

Please note that EU NbS projects are expected to join the NetworkNature Annual Event with their own project funding. NetworkNature will explore funding opportunities should this not be possible.

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.