

Call for interest in the Task Force

Deadline for submission of interest: 11/04/2022

About CLEARING HOUSE

Trees and forests are proven nature-based solutions contributing to address major urban challenges while providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits. However, their potential for delivering ecosystem services and ensuring cities resilience, urban forests are often underestimated and underused as nature-based solutions. Active planning, management, and inclusion on the climate agenda of the urban forest can improve society resilience to climate change and help cities and communities better adapt.

CLEARING HOUSE is a H2020 funded project that brings together 26 partners in Europe and China across sectors, and will provide evidence and tools that facilitate the mobilization of the full potential of Urban Forests as Nature-Based Solutions (UF-NBS) for rehabilitating, reconnecting and restoring urban ecosystems.

More information on CLEARING HOUSE is available through <http://www.clearinghouseproject.eu>

About the Task Force

The global objective of the Task Force is to offer the opportunity to a selected local authority to receive scientific support regarding UF-NBS challenges from the CLEARING HOUSE experts partners. This support will include a review of the challenge stated, research for gaining more in-depth insight in the challenge in the specific territory of the local authority, and an action plan for implementing the suggested solutions.

An ad-hoc Selection Committee, formed by partners in the CLEARING HOUSE project will select a local authority proposal (from Europe, Latin America or Northern Africa) to receive guidance from the CLEARING HOUSE task force.

The selected local authority will commit to participate in the redaction of a short and concise report on the results of the Task Force and to the series of recommendations addressed to any local authorities interested in implementing projects related to the thematic of the exchange.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no 821242. Several Chinese CLEARING HOUSE partners, NFGA, MOST and CAF have also contributed to the funding. 该项目获得欧洲 H2020 研究与创新计划的资助 (拨款协议号码: 821242)。部分中国合作伙伴 也为此提供了资金。



Why participate

Participating in the Task Force is an opportunity for local authorities to receive guidance about a UF-NBS thematic of their interest and exchange knowledge and practices on concrete **urban forests as nature-based solutions** with experts of the CLEARING HOUSE project.

They will:

- 1) Explore solutions and innovation provided by UF-NBS and learn how to adopt them.
- 2) Get support from recognized international experts and academics.
- 3) Showcase your own local governments experiences, policies and good practices internationally.
- 4) Be featured in the CLEARING HOUSE action's events, publications and outreach.

The selected local authorities will receive guidance from a selected pool of experts from the CLEARING HOUSE project.

Who can participate

- 1) Any local or metropolitan authorities located in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and North Africa.
- 2) With a population of 50.000+ inhabitants.
- 3) Committed to the implementation of UF-NBS projects.

How to participate

For any local authorities wishing to participate in the call for interest in the Task Force, official representatives of this authority must send the following required documents to Mr. Guillaume Berret gberret@metropolis.org (subject: CLEARING HOUSE TASK FORCE) and before 11/04/2022:

- Application form
- Letter of participation stamped and signed by an official representative of the local authority wishing to participate
- Any documents (or link to webpage) supporting the commitment of the local authority to the implementation of UF-NBS projects in its territory (Action Plan, Projects, Budgets...)

Chosen local authority commits to cooperating with the CLEARING HOUSE Task Force for a period of 6 months from the acknowledgment of their selection, developing a joint comprehensive report of the challenges faced by their administration on UF-NBS and potential recommendations to tackle them. In addition, the selected local authority is also expected to communicate through its channels, actions regarding its Task Force activities.

For any additional information, please contact to Mr. Guillaume Berret gberret@metropolis.org

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Themes

This call will tackle one or several of the following themes, as a focus of the project:

- inner-city afforestation
- air quality improvement
- heat-wave mitigation
- outdoor recreation
- restoring former mining sites
- urban regeneration
- socio-cultural integration
- green infrastructure

Process of selection

The Selection Committee will select a local authority to receive guidance from the CLEARING HOUSE Task Force. The following criteria will be considered by the committee during the selection process:

- Level of commitment – proved by documents on the implementation of UF-NBS projects in the local authority represented (Action Plan, Budget...)
- Topic submitted matches to the expertise of one or several CLEARING HOUSE partners
- Contribution of submitted UF-NBS project/s to the global agendas (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Aichi targets...)
- Strength of compliance of the UF-NBS to the Global Standard for NBS

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