

CREATURES



Call for Tenders Creative Support for ATNC Network

The **CreaTures** project (<https://creatures-eu.org/>) is calling for tenders from creative organisations able to support the ATNC (Art Tech Nature Culture) network, engaged with issues of socio-ecological transformation, to co-design and collaborate on novel interaction activities.

The CreaTures project (Creative Practices for Transformational Futures) aims to demonstrate the power of existing and emerging creative practices to move the world towards socio-ecological sustainability. Our aim with the project is to understand and evaluate the transformative potential of creative practices and make it better recognized by diverse publics, including policy-makers.

Through this call for tenders and subcontracting we invite creative practitioners (e.g., from arts, design, culture, citizen-led activism) to offer their ideas and structures for a year's intervention in the network list (see it at <http://atnc.persona.co>). **ATNC** is a global community of practice for creative practitioners across disciplines (from art, architecture and design to community organising and digital development) who care about social and ecological transformation. It was founded on the internet in Nov 2020 in a context of Covid-19 restrictions, and its 200+ members have started to connect on a classic discussion list to share work, make things, and support each other.

The ATNC Resident will address these key CreaTures questions through creative community engagement:

1. How can the ATNC community come together to understand itself - who's here and what are they interested in? How can we foster diverse and lasting transdisciplinary alliances between the fields of **art, technology, culture and nature/sustainability** through the umbrella of creative practice?
2. What matters do creative practitioners interested in ecological restoration care about the most? How are these concerns associated with **the community histories of other movements engaged in ecological and/or system change thinking** (e.g. more-than-human, alternative economies, sustainability transitions, commoning)?
3. How can **participatory governance** be productively fostered in **a virtual community**? What are the possibilities of collective non-hierarchical organising in blended virtual/physical settings?

What's happening already:

In response to community interests identified in the [first ATNC members survey](#), the Steering Committee is running a set of experimental engagements to support members working together in a variety of contexts: 1) **The Buddy System**, to set up 1:1 mutual aid networks; 2) **Natureculture Takeovers**, to foster discussions via email; 3) **Commissioned Co-creations**, where members join creative projects; and 4) **Fireside Gatherings**, where members meet and hang out. These engagements are still in their infancy.

What we'd like the Resident to bring:

The ATNC Resident will lead on the creative vision and organisation of new virtual/physical engagements for the year ahead. The ATNC Resident's role is to work in synergy with the existing activities run by the Steering Committee, introducing a further collection of opportunities. This role will be both practice and research-based, and involve regular interfacing with members of the [CreaTures](#) research project to share critical reflections.

Documentation and reporting formats will be collectively negotiated with the CreaTures research team after selection, but might include: taking pictures and recordings; self-reflective journaling; creating observation notes; and/or attending regular meetings with the CreaTures research team and the Steering Committee.

The following sections provide detailed information about the scope of the commissioning.

Details:

The call for tenders is open to legal entities with the possibility of invoicing as the commissioning will be realized by subcontracting. The subcontracting agreement terms require transfer of ownership of intellectual property for the commissioned work. The selected organisation must agree on the transfer of ownership of results and intellectual property to the results with the authors of the work. Proposals by organisations must be submitted with a full acknowledgement (letter of commitment) signed by the authorised representatives of the organisation.

Scope of involvement

The subcontracted work is expected to begin in September 2021 and last for one year (a detailed schedule will be agreed upon selection). Organisations must appoint a main contact person responsible for communication with the CreaTures team throughout the duration of the commissioned project. Interactions between a responsible member of the organisation and CreaTures researchers may happen in online only or hybrid format (online/in-person where possible).

The collaboration will involve several types of activities

- Liaising with the steering group on delivery;
- Conducting creative sessions to involve (some of) the list members in deepening engagement with the list and others on the list over the course of one year (Sept 21-Aug 22);
- Experimenting with new tools and methods of engagement;
- Documenting the process (involves e.g., taking pictures and recordings; self-reflective journaling; observation notes) in a form that can be shared meaningfully with CreaTures researchers;
- Participating in research sessions led by CreaTures throughout the duration of the commission (e.g., interviews, observations, internal co-creative workshops).

Dissemination of results

- We will include the subcontracted work and outcomes in CreaTures Laboratory and Observatory collections of sustainable creative practices (<https://creatures-eu.org>);
- The CreaTures team presents the CreaTures productions and outcomes at arts and design festivals and other leading outlets, such as research publications.

What we offer

- Appropriate compensation for the subcontracted work.

Requirements

To apply for this position, please submit a **1-page plan** for how you would address the themes, opportunities and concerns of the ATNC community over a year, with reference to your own background and aptitudes as a practitioner. We invite applicants who self-identify as creative practitioners and live anywhere in the world. The due date for proposals is Monday 5th July, Anywhere on Earth Time.

Please respond to the selection criteria and tell us: about your proposal; your proposed activities, methods and formats; how you imagine the outputs to look /feel like; your bio (250 words max, with links to examples of work and/or social media), and attach a budget for these activities.

Start date: as soon as possible after appointment.

Selection criteria:

- The creativity of the proposed activities;
- The alignment of the proposal with the core areas of enquiry (above);
- How innovatively the proposal works with the medium of the mailing list (plus other blended digital-physical spaces);
- The willingness and availability of the subcontractor to work with the research team;
- Value for money.

Main contact:

Enquiries are welcome to University of Sussex Researcher Lara Houston, l.houston@sussex.ac.uk or the Steering Committee Chair Kit Braybrooke, hi@codekat.net.

Support for applicants:

We welcome applications from everyone who meets the eligibility criteria for bidding, without regard to race, colour, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, neurodiversity, age or religion. Contact us if you have any access requirements so that we can support you to apply.

About the CreaTures project

CreaTures (Creative Practices for Transformational Futures) is a three-years H2020 project that explores the potential of creative art and design practices in supporting socio-ecological transformation. The project involves a consortium of 11 partners working closely together while combining their expertise from sustainability-oriented art, design, research and policy. Starting from the proposition that creative practices hold immense potential in supporting sustainable transformations but their impact is largely under-utilised, the consortium conducts a systematic practice-based interrogation to demonstrate the power of arts to move the world towards sustainability. Through direct engagement and co-creation, our Observatory, Laboratory, and Evaluation procedures bring together diverse creative projects and develop insights allowing them to focus their efforts more effectively. Drawing on evolving outcomes, we provide recommendations for policy-makers and implementers to help them see the merit of employing creative techniques.

The CreaTures project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 870759 and funding terms must be agreed to with all receivers of funding.