

Advancing and Applying Knowledge ELP Grants 2021 – Guidance for submitting an Expression of Interest

Background

The [Endangered Landscapes Programme](#) (ELP) aims to restore natural ecological processes, species populations and habitats for a better and more sustainable future. It hopes to contribute to reversing biodiversity loss and to provide inspiration for a fundamental shift in the policy and practice of nature conservation. The programme is funded by [Arcadia](#) and managed by the [Cambridge Conservation Initiative](#) (CCI) and its principal activity is the provision of [large grants](#) for the restoration of biodiversity and natural ecological processes to degraded landscapes and seascapes across Europe.

In addition, the programme seeks to draw on the expertise, experience, networks and data of partners across the ELP and CCI in order to enhance the delivery of large-scale restoration in Europe. To achieve this, ***the programme is inviting applications for small grants to develop projects that will advance our understanding and apply our knowledge of landscape restoration, to support and improve current and future restoration activities in Europe.***

Aims

The aim of the Advancing and Applying Knowledge Grants is to draw on the expertise and skills that exist across the ELP and CCI partner networks, by funding projects that will ***enhance the ability to deliver landscape-scale restoration in Europe***. The grants will fund projects that support organisations working on the ground and add value to individual projects, but that also produce resources or improve understanding that will increase the capacity and effectiveness of landscape restoration in Europe more widely.

The purpose of the enabling activity grants is:

- To develop outputs that will support current and next-generation landscape restoration projects
- To stimulate research, development and engagement across subject/technology areas where ELP and CCI partners have expertise or interests, leading to increased and improved delivery of landscape restoration in Europe
- To kick-start pieces of work (and relationships to deliver them) relating to landscape restoration that have prospects of continuing beyond the lifetime of the grant

- To leverage new funding for work that will enable landscape restoration

Details of the first set of projects funded by the ELP to enable landscape restoration are available [here](#).

Criteria for applications

- Proposals must show clearly how, by meeting a demonstrated need or gap in understanding, their outputs will make a difference to landscape restoration on the ground.
- Project impacts should reach beyond a single project site or area.
- The issue addressed should have particular relevance to working at landscape scale.
- Projects should demonstrate that they have engaged with landscape restoration practitioners (including ELP implementation project teams) during project planning. We welcome informal enquiries about the possibility of working with ELP-funded projects; please address such enquiries to the Science Manager (n.ockendon@jbs.cam.ac.uk).

Additional guidelines

- Projects that have co-funding, or that demonstrate an opportunity to leverage co-funding, will be looked on favourably.
- Ideally, projects will show how they plan to use a grant from the ELP as 'seed funding' to stimulate further funding and research.
- Although there is no requirement, applicants that demonstrate collaboration across ELP and/or CCI partners will be particularly welcome.
- Projects may include collaboration with organisations that are not ELP or CCI partners.

Topics of interest

Proposals should demonstrate a clear and specific contribution to landscape-scale restoration and provide evidence that there is a need for their outputs. As well as being assessed by an expert panel, project proposals will be shared with [ELP Implementation projects](#) for comment. Therefore, a well-defined link to improving on-the-ground restoration is key.

There are no restrictions on project activities or outputs. They could include:

- Tools, resources and guidelines
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Training resources, manuals, videos
- Data-sharing platforms
- New databases and analyses
- Convening and knowledge exchange events (symposia, workshops)
- Influencing policy
- Education/capacity development

Eligibility

Applications are welcomed that are led by:

1. Anyone from a CCI partner organisation, or
2. Anyone working in an organisation that is an ELP grantee or is a partner in an ELP-funded [Implementation](#) or [Planning](#) Project, or
3. Anyone from an institution (e.g. university, research institute, non-governmental organisation) that has an ongoing collaboration with an ELP-funded [Implementation](#) or [Planning](#) project

Applicants from organisations that meet either (2) or (3), but are not themselves an ELP grantee, will need to submit a letter of support from the ELP grantee with which they are associated with their application.

Proposed projects can involve collaborators from within the same organisation, other CCI or ELP partners, or external organisations, as appropriate. Please note applications are open to charities/NGOs (including most universities and other educational institutes), but not private for-profit companies. If you have any questions about eligibility please contact the ELP.

Each application will need to provide the names of two independent external referees (appropriate peers from outside ELP and CCI partner organisations) who can provide an expert assessment of the proposal, including the need for the outputs described and the proposed methodology. Applicants will need to ensure that referees independently submit their reference form directly to the ELP by the deadline of midnight on Sunday 11th April 2021 (see application form for full details).

Funds available

Each project can apply for funds of up to £80 000. The programme expects to award a range of grant sizes and encourages applications for smaller amounts than the maximum. An organisation can submit a maximum of 4 proposals. There is no fixed start date or duration for projects, but they would normally be completed by June 2023.

Process and timeline

The application process and provisional timing is summarised in the diagram below. Projects will be selected on the basis of a four-page Expression of Interest using the attached form. Projects up to the value of funding available will be selected at this stage. However, projects will only receive final approval when a more detailed project proposal has been prepared and agreed.



Please address any questions about eligibility or the application process to the ELP Science Manager (n.ockendon@jbs.cam.ac.uk).