

EKLIPSE @ECCB2018 – Call for capacity building course



Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) invites proposals in accordance with this call for proposals and its annexes for a capacity building course on science communication and outreach on biodiversity and ecosystems services at the European scale to be held on June 11th 2018 at the ECCB2018. This ***EKLIPSE @ECCB2018 – Call for capacity building course*** is publicly disseminated in social media and emails.

About SYKE

SYKE is governmental research institute, and a center for environmental expertise, which provides useful information, expertise and services related to sustainable development of the society. SYKE is part of environmental administration and it operates mainly under the Ministry of Environment, however in connection with water resources SYKE operates under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. More information about SYKE may be found from: <http://www.syke.fi>

About EKLIPSE

EKLIPSE is an EU-funded project that started in February 2016. The project aims to establish a robust and flexible long-term mechanism to provide knowledge for policy support on biodiversity and ecosystem services. It aims to communicate and engage with a wide set of knowledge holders in its work to ensure tailor-made results to knowledge requesters and society more broadly. More information about EKLIPSE may be found from: <http://www.eclipse-mechanism.eu/>

Description of course to be organised

Interplays of science, policy and society for planetary wellbeing: meaningful science communication and outreach on European scale*¹

Link: <http://conbio.org/mini-sites/eccb2018/program/pre-and-post-congress-courses/>

Goal: The objective of this course is to find effective and innovative ways to communicate scientific research on biodiversity and ecosystem services as a part of science-policy-society interactions. The course aims to find new ways to approach different types of audiences ranging from the general public and civil society to policy makers through engagement and knowledge co-production. The idea will be to discover diverse tools and approaches for outreach and public engagement that make a difference. This course adds to the symposium “Informed decision-making for planetary wellbeing” held in ECCB2018.

¹ *) Course description as it is on the ECCB2018 website:

To create meaningful interplays between science, society and policy different means and channels of communication and outreach need to be explored. This holds especially true for the environmental sector where for the often global nature of issues the range of stakeholders is wide and thus requires diverse approaches. It is not merely a matter of successfully communicating scientific knowledge but also hearing, integrating and disseminating the voices of other knowledge holders. Europe has a broad and diverse landscape of knowledge holders across academia and other domains, working at multiple levels, from the local, sub-national and national level, where most biodiversity relevant decisions are taken, to the European level, where major framework decisions like the Nature Directives or the Common Agriculture Policy are formulated. It is widely acknowledged that issues regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services are complex and often depend on a multitude of drivers, pressures and societal responses, requiring a broad array of knowledge from different stakeholders to understand and address them. Discovering diverse ways of expressing, framing and communicating topics has the ability to make these complex issues more transparent and understandable for a wider public thus promoting participation in the discussions and strengthening the legitimacy of them. Not only the “how”, but also the “when” and “where” of communicating research is important when the stakeholders vary. From traditional written and face-to-face approaches to a multitude of virtual means of dissemination the tools for scientific communication are growing, but finding the appropriate ones also becomes more challenging. This course aims to cover a variety of elements related to the science-policy-society communication of biodiversity and ecosystem issues (in the EU) drawing on practical experiences, hoping to build the capacity of researchers for meaningful outreach and give them novel ideas on the topic.

Content of the capacity building course

We are seeking an expert agency or organization to provide a capacity building course with the topic of effective science-policy-society interactions for planetary wellbeing. Participants of the course will be mainly researchers and the course will be held in English. The objective is to provide new practical actions on how researchers can better engage their publics. The structure of the course should be as follows:

Duration: 0.5-1 day (depending on the proposed structure); **on 11th June 2018**

1. Introduction to the capacity building event for effective and innovative science-policy-society communication related to biodiversity and ecosystem services
2. Key note speech with the a topic around: Science-policy-society communication for environmental themes: State of the art and visions for futures and the opportunities provided by digital media
3. Presentations (for example 4x15 min) on practical experiences of science-policy-society interplays (using digital media). This will include one presentation from the EKLIPSE team on their online science café experiences.
4. Training introduction
5. Training exercise: workshop in small groups with facilitators
6. Gathering main points based on the exercises and discussion of the day
7. Concluding the session

Minimum/Maximum of participants: 15/50^{**2}

Fee: None

Included in the proposal and budget we wish to have the following structure (to be detailed and filled by the service provider in the proposal using WEBROPOL:

<https://www.webropolsurveys.com/S/5B81A4FDB6292BF8.par>

- Necessary planning meetings pre and post-course with SYKE's EKLIPSE representatives and others (e.g. speakers)
- Travel and accommodation for service providers and invited speakers
- Detailed plan of the course content and program
 - Schedule
 - Keynote speaker
 - Presentations
 - Training content and exercise structure
- Promotion of the course
 - Planning of social media presence and promotional material before and after (incl. a video of the activities)
- Practical organization of the course such as.
 - Equipment and materials and the production of the materials for participants (print-outs, pens, paper etc.)
 - Coffee break catering
 - Classrooms^{***3}
 - Facilitating the training
- Communication services or other external expertise which may be required
- Final report concluding and analyzing the content of the whole course

^{2 **}) The deadline for participants to register for the course will be March 15th 2018, after which the final number of participants will be known.

^{3 ***}) The course will be organized at the campus of the University of Jyväskylä (facilities may be used free of charge), but any additional arrangements for other facilities needed should be taken care of by the service provider.

Compensation

SYKE will fund one course and additional costs for organising with the maximum budget of **EUR 15 000 (fifteen thousand euros) excluding VAT**. Expenses are to be estimated in the application and detailed after the course in case of a successful proposal.

The Contracting authority, SYKE, shall pay to the service provider in accordance with the contract after the Contracting authority has approved and received the service. The payment shall comprise of the service and travelling and accommodation expenses. The total amount of the service and travelling and accommodation expenses may not exceed EUR 15 000 excluding VAT.

Co-designing the course and roles for service provider and SYKE representing EKLIPSE project

The course will be co-designed with the service provider and SYKE representing EKLIPSE project. The service provider is responsible for designing and organizing the event. SYKE's representatives of EKLIPSE will assist in the planning of the event structure and contents where necessary. Ideas on keynote speakers, topics of the presentations will be co-planned with the service provider and SYKE representing EKLIPSE project. All arrangements and facilitation and dissemination will be provided by service provider.

Selection criteria

The selection criteria for the course includes (in no particular order or emphasis):

- The relevance and potential of the proposal for improving the effectiveness of science-policy-society communication related to biodiversity and ecosystem services at the European level
- The innovativeness and novelty of the proposal, course content including facilitating methods and the final outputs (report)
- The price of the proposed course

SYKE representing EKLIPSE project reserves the right to discuss the application with the service provider, which may result in reframing the proposal.

The selection of the service provider will be done shortly after the deadline for proposals in order to develop the course's promotional materials accordingly for dissemination well in time before the registration deadline of participants closes March 15th 2018

Further Information

More information about the call for proposal can be obtained from:

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Other rules and conditions

Both EKLIPSE and European Commission logos will be displayed on all promotional and other material produced for an event (e.g. posters, videos, banners, folders, notebooks), along with the logos of the organising entities. EKLIPSE consortium members reserve the right to access, promote and use materials produced, including any photographs and videos taken during an event, to attend an event and to publicise the aims and goals of the EKLIPSE project in the capacity building event.

Submitting of Proposals and Validity

Deadline for proposals: January 31st 2018 11:00 AM (CET)

Binding proposals must be delivered by **31.01.2018 11:00 AM** (CET) via Webropol: <https://www.webropol.fi/surveys/S/5B81A4FDB6292BF8.par> Which automatically delivers them to SYKE's administration (kirjaamo.syke@ymparisto.fi) with reference SYKE-2015-R-124. Belated proposals will not be taken into consideration.

The proposals must be valid for two months from the date they are delivered.

Publicity of the procurement document

The procurement documents are public according to the Act on the Openness of Government Activities (621/1999) when the procurement contract is executed. However, for the Tenderers procurement documents are public when the procurement decision is made.

The proposal has to be drafted in a manner that no trade secrets are included in the proposal. If it is necessary to include any trade secrets in the proposal, these must be included in the separate annex and the annex must be marked as confidential. In addition, Tenderers are asked to give reasons, why the marked information is trade secret in accordance with the Act on the Openness of Government Activities. The total price of the proposal cannot be a trade secret.

Date and signatures

8th January 2018

Eeva Furman
Director, Environmental Policy Centre
Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)

Riikka Paloniemi
Head of Unit, Environmental Policy Center
Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)

Annex

Annex 1: Application form

ANNEX1: Application form (fill in WEBROPOL)

Instructions

Before starting the application, please read carefully the instructions of EKLIPSE¹ @ECCB2018 – Call for capacity building course. Title: Interplays of science, policy and society for planetary wellbeing: meaningful science communication and outreach on European scale.

To answer the call, please complete and submit the current application form, making sure to address appropriately the obligatory fields **before January 31st 2018 11:00 AM (CET)**.

General information (*required)

- *Name of organizing body:
- *Name of contact person:
- *Postal address:
- Website:
- *Email:
- *Telephone:

1. Brief summary of course content (max 300 words)
2. Proposed duration of the course (0,5-1day) and justification:

Detailed information

3. *Please describe the content and structure of the proposed event (incl. preliminary ideas on keynote speakers and other possible presenters) (max 600 words):
4. *Please describe the relevance of the proposed course to improving the effectiveness of science-policy-society communication related to biodiversity and ecosystem services (max. 300 words)
5. *Please demonstrate the innovativeness and novelty of the proposed course and the added value of your approach to the participants (max 300 words):
6. *Please justify the relevance of the course to improving science-policy-society interfacing at the European scale (max 300 words):
7. *Please describe what type of engaging report or other output would you envision preparing of this type of course? (max 100 words)
8. *Please demonstrate your organization's capability to deliver the proposed event (max 300 words):
9. Name of co-organizers, if any:

Budget

10. Please provide an outline of total of anticipated expenses (including the total expenses of all the requirements expressed in the call):

Thank you for your participation

The selection of the service provider will be done shortly after the deadline for proposals. We will be in contact with all applicants.