

NOTICE OF SELECTION FOR A WORK CONTRACT

at the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET)

OPEN CALL

Assignment of an art curator for the project SOIL TRIBES

Article 1 - Description

A selection is announced, based on qualifications, aimed at the stipulation of a contract for the provision of services to be carried out at the premises of the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET), located in Ala (Trento, Italy), within the European project of which WAMU-NET is a partner: 'SOIL TRIBES - Global Ecosystems Restoring Soil - Values, Roles and Connectivity'.

Subject of the contract:

The selection is for an Art Curator who will have the task of coordinating and managing the artistic activities and exhibitions foreseen in the European project 'SOIL TRIBES', in cooperation with the WAMU-NET Project Manager, ensuring the achievement of the set objectives, in compliance with the objectives of the project.

Project summary

SOIL TRIBES is a three-year project (with a duration from 1/1/2025 to 31/12/2027) funded by the European HORIZON programme, which includes 25 partners led by the Lead Partner INOVA+, including The Global Network of Water Museums. The purpose and objectives of Soil Tribes are reported in the attached Technical Description (Annex 1), as follows. Life on Earth depends on healthy soils: they are the basis of our food and provide many other vital ecosystem services. The EU's rich soil patrimony features a myriad of soil types (covering 24 of the world's 32 major groups and 45 ecosystems, grouped in Urban, Agroecosystems, Forest, Wetlands, Heathlands and Rivers and Lakes). But our soils are severely endangered by climate changes, intensive agriculture, deforestation, urbanization, fire and invasive species, which are drivers of soil degradation, and lead to loss of organic matter, soil compaction and sealing, soil acidification and nutrient imbalances, pollution, salinisation and sodification, erosion and landslides. The gravity of the situation is demonstrated in clear alarming numbers: approximately 60-70% of EU soils are unhealthy, soil degradation costs the EU several tens of billion Euros per year and halting and reversing current trends could generate up to EUR 1.2 trillion per year in economic benefits. It is also well documented that the costs of inaction on soil degradation surpass the costs of actions by a factor of 6 (EEA, 2018). As such, soil protection is the cheaper and safer option to ensure future food security and to prevent soaring costs for the remediation of degraded soils.

In this frame, SOILTRIBES aims at establishing, activating, and empowering multi-actor communities tied by a strong and familiar soil "dialect", a deep emotional connection backed up by relevant knowledge and an action-oriented mindset that recognizes the key role each and everyone together has in preserving for generations to come our rich, essential, and irreplaceable soil.

Within the project, 'Soil Lab Activators' (SLAs), i.e. expert organisations bringing a multitude of knowledge and expertise (scientific, pedagogical, practical, artistic and communicative), will mobilise the 7 national 'tribes', leading the implementation of a series of events and a multitude of resources tailored to specific contexts and target groups. The SLAs will share the same commitment and embark on a powerful journey of transition and transformation, reinforced by the nexus of science, technology, arts and society. The main objective of SOILTRIBES is to pave the way for inspiring 'back to the Earth' narratives translated into new formats of knowledge, feeling and behaviour towards soil, its importance and challenges, and its future.

Main responsibilities of the assigned role

Like all Horizon projects, SOILTRIBES is organised through work packages (WPs), in which several partners collaborate. The role of the Art Curator is foreseen in particular within the WP3 'Creation of edutainment tools and resources for boosted soil literacy', and more specifically in relation to the activity 'T3.1.

Producing a multidisciplinary artistic soil tale', that is the specific task assigned to WAMU-NET. Also, its tasks and activities are foreseen in WP4.

The activity envisaged in these WPs involves **the creation of a multidisciplinary artistic soil tale composed of four artistic works made by four different artists**. Proposals of artistic works shall focus on the digital arts, plastic arts and photography. After the selection, the four selected artists will produce for a period of six months their artworks touching on the themes of arts, science, soil and water from different perspectives, also including **a digital video teaser** to present their work and vision as a contribution to Soil Tribes. The artistic narrative composed of the four artworks will be developed under the guidance of WAMU-NET's Art Curator to create a coherent travelling exhibition which will be hosted, starting in November 2025, by seven different museums. Agreements will be made with seven selected museums in order to increase the knowledge of soil for the large public, also in relation to water and Ancient Hydro-Technologies (AHT).

The travelling exhibition will also be accompanied by educational workshops (organised in cooperation with the art curator) in the context of WP4 'Pollinating Widely', and precisely in the framework of activity T4.2 'Edutainment activities for young people in different learning settings', that is, an activity coordinated by WAMU-NET in cooperation the project partner OCE (Office for Climate Education, Paris).

In this context, the responsibilities of the Art Curator are as follows:

1. **General coordination of the activities for four selected artists:** Coordinate the 6-month phase of artistic production of the selected artists reporting to the WAMU-NET's PM and the LP. Ensure adherence to the agreed timetable and deliverables, also regarding the budget allocated to artists for the art production. Keep regular contacts with the artists in the artistic production process also regarding the production of the video Teaser.
2. **Regular communications and relations with the selected artists and museums:** Coordinate all key actions linked to the travelling exhibition at the selected museums, supporting the activities of artists and the implementation of the educational activity to be carried out in each museum in cooperation with the PM.
3. **Curation of contents for the digital exhibition** to be created in both the Soil Tribe web site and the one of WAMU-NET, in cooperation with the PM.
4. **Organisation and supervision of specific activities:** Collaborate in: the preparation of the call for proposals for the selection of artists; the work of the jury for the identification of the most meritorious art proposals; the preparation of communication materials on the artistic production. Supervise: the visual (digital) teaser to be produced by each artists, the booklet with all artworks for the exhibition, and the pedagogical activities in museums. Contribute to the dissemination of artists' artworks in the 2 Soil Tribes festivals (planned in France and Portugal), and in the framework of the planned Boot Camps (3) and Soil Lab Activators (7). Contribute to the dissemination activities of the project for Social Media and the Newsletter.
5. **Administrative management:** Regular reporting to the PM and LP on artists' and exhibitions' timelines and activities. Supervise the budget allocated to artists with the correct financial reporting of costs incurred for art production. Regular updates of the project's communications spreadsheet in cooperation with the PM.

Activities to be developed and supervised by the art curator

In an indicative manner, and referring to the Technical Description of the project (Annex 1 to the call), the main activities that the curator will be called upon to develop and supervise for the WAMU-NET, in line with the SOILTRIBES timeline, are:

- **on WP3 'Creation edutainment tools for boosted soil literacy' (February 2025 / December 2027):**
 - Collaborate in the preparation and advertisement of the call for artists;
 - Collaborate in the work of the jury to identify the 4 most meritorious proposals in line with the objectives of the SOILTRIBES project;
 - Planning and coordinate the activities of the 4 selected artists during the 6-month phase production
 - Planning and coordinate the travelling exhibitions with artists' involvement as follows: first exhibition scheduled in November 2025 (M11 of the project). Second exhibition scheduled in March 2026 (M15). Third exhibition scheduled in July 2026 (M19), the fourth is scheduled in November 2026 (M23), the fifth is scheduled in March 2027 (M27), the sixth is scheduled in July 2027 (M31) and the last is scheduled in November 2027 (M35).
 - Maintain communication with the artists during the period of work production, providing suggestions and technical guidance in the realization of the works to fulfil the project objectives
 - Supervise each artist in the creation of the digital video teaser related to their artworks, curating and ensuring a coherent format (brand image) among all artworks for the travelling exhibition.
 - Keeping the WAMU-NET PM and other project partners informed about the art production process
 - Participate to the Soil Tribe Consortium meetings for direct reporting, when requested by the PM
 - Curate regular communications for social media and newsletter regarding the artistic production
 - Collaborate with museums to develop the exhibitions and all communications related to the 7 planned events (including technical information for the setting up of the exhibition, transport of the works, presentation of the video teasers, etc)

- **on WP4 'Pollinating Widely' (October 2025 to August 2027):**
 - Support the organisation and coordination of educational activities linked to the travelling exhibition (to be developed in the 7 selected museums, in cooperation with the PM)

- **on WP5 'Dissemination and Exploitation' (February 2025 to December 2027):**
 - Support the communication and dissemination activities of the project, especially for social media linked to the travelling exhibition and the film teasers produced in WP3.

- **on WP6 'Management' (February 2025 to December 2027):**
 - Ensure full compliance with the project timetable and deliverables
 - Ensure availability in presence for regular meetings at the premises of WAMU-NET's office in Ala for the entire duration of the project
 - Supervise the budget allocated to the artists in close cooperation with the WAMU-NET PM, especially in relation to the purchases needed by the artists to produce the artworks
 - Monitor progress and collaborating in the preparation of periodic reports in collaboration with the PM regarding production of artistic works, travelling exhibitions, and related communications
 - Report on the project communication spreadsheet for all activities related to artists and exhibitions

Duration and payment

The planned duration of the assignment is 34 months (from February 2025 to 31 December 2027). The commitment on work activities will not be subject to hourly measurement but to delivery of project objectives. The gross remuneration is € 24.000, including VAT, social security, and charges to be borne by the administration. Subject to agreement with WAMU-NET: reimbursement of authorised and documented travel, board and lodging expenses incurred (in accordance with the provisions of WAMU-NET).

Location of the activity

The activity will be carried out providing regular availability at the WAMU-NET office located in Ala, via Gattioli n. 2, 38061 Ala, with the possibility of travelling nationally and internationally.

Art. 2 - Essential requirements for participation

Essential requirement to be possessed by the deadline of the call, as detailed in the Application Form:

- 1) good knowledge of English language
- 2) degree or Master's degree or equivalent qualification in artistic disciplines obtained in Italy or abroad
- 3) senior professional experience in the relevant artistic discipline, with documented activities and conferences at international level linked to the relevant theme of the call
- 4) experience in the management and curation of art projects linked to the themes of ecological transition / Anthropocene
- 5) scientific and popular publications in the relevant disciplinary field
- 6) category B driving license and drive category B vehicles (refusal to drive category B vehicles may be subject to contractual termination)

Art. 3 - Application to participate and submission deadlines

To participate in the call for applications, the candidate must send the application **no later than 12 noon on 10 February 2025**, under penalty of exclusion from the selection, to the following e-mail address:

communication@watermuseums.net specifying in the subject line 'SOIL TRIBES selection'. For any information write to the same e-mail address.

In the Application Form (attached to this notice) the candidate must clearly and accurately state under his/her own responsibility:

- His/her personal details, including date and place of birth, citizenship, residence and address for the purposes of the selection;
- to be in possession of all requirements indicated in this notice;
- to be aware of all restrictions and to declare not find him/herself in any of the incompatibilities indicated in the notice;
- any existing contracts with other public or private entities;
- for those who are citizens of a country other than those forming part of the European Union, or with which the same Union has stipulated free movement agreements, to be in possession of a regular residence permit for self-employment covering the entire duration of the contract or to have submitted a request for conversion of their residence permit;
- to promptly notify any change of residence or address indicated in the application form.

Applicants must attach to the application:

- a) curriculum vitae (CV) pursuant to art. 15 of Legislative Decree 33/2013, demonstrating the professional experience and the skills required for the performance of the activity described in art. 1 of the notice itself. The CV must be dated and signed by the candidate;
- b) a copy of the certificate of graduation in the relevant subject area;
- c) list of all publications, certificates and any other qualification deemed useful to prove the candidate's qualifications in relation to the assignment (a list of publications and qualifications must be prepared and attached, dated and signed by the candidate);
- d) photocopy of an identity document or other identification document;

The administration accepts no responsibility in the event of loss of communication due to inaccurate information provided by the candidate or failure or delay in communicating any change thereof.

The application must be dated and signed in original by the candidate.

Art. 4 - Selection Committee

The Commission shall be composed of three persons as follows: the WAMU-NET CEO, the President, and a member of the WAMU-NET Scientific Committee. The judgment of the Commission is final and not appealable.

Art. 5 - Procedure for the selection and evaluation of qualifications

The selection is based on proven qualifications provided by each candidate. The commission may award a maximum score of 30 points (maximum 10 points by each commissioner) to every candidate.

The total maximum score for each candidate is 30 points, based on the following grid of parameters:

- 1) 25% professional experience in the relevant subject area, preferably at international level
- 2) 30% experience in the management of artistic projects related to the themes of ecology and the Anthropocene
- 3) 25% scientific and popular publications in the relevant subject area
- 4) 20% knowledge of English

Preferential requirements are:

- High level of professional experience in the artistic, scientific and technical fields of the ecological transition and the Anthropocene
- The ability to develop interdisciplinary artistic works in connection with the themes of the Anthropocene and soil ecology
- Operational autonomy and the ability to manage timeframes and project resources
- The level of knowledge of English
- Communication, interpersonal and soft skills
- Experience in the management of interdisciplinary multi-stakeholder projects or projects integrating art, science and technology
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Art. 6 – Selection ranking list

The selection process concludes with the formation of a merit ranking list consisting of the marks obtained. After the selection process takes place, it will be published on the WAMU-NET website by February 28th: www.watermuseums.net.

The successful candidate in the ranking list will be invited to submit a declaration of acceptance of the proposed assignment and to hand over all the documentation required for the conclusion of the contract. Failure to submit the declaration of acceptance referred to in the preceding paragraph shall result in the forfeiture of the right to enter into the contract, unless justified impediment is promptly communicated. Participation in the selection and eventual classification in the ranking list does not in any way generate an obligation to enter into a contract.

Art. 7 - Incompatibility and assignment

At the time of accepting the appointment and signing the contract, the selected curator shall issue a declaration in accordance with D.P.R. 445/2000, in which he/she attests that the signing of the contract does not give rise to any situation of incompatibility with any appointments previously held by him/her and that he/she has no relationship of marriage, kinship or affinity up to the fourth degree inclusive (Art. 18, Law 240/2010), with an employee belonging to the structure conferring the appointment.

Art. 8 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Articles 13 and 14 of the EU Regulation 2016/679 'General Data Protection Regulation' (GDPR), the personal data provided by candidates will be used exclusively within the scope and for the purpose of this selection and will be subject to processing carried out - with or without the aid of computer systems - in compliance with the legislation in force and confidentiality obligations.

The Data Controller of personal data is WAMU-NET.

For further information: communication@watermuseums.net.

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Deadline: 10 February 2025

Results published on: 28 February 2025