***Championing Coastal Coordination***

**Call for Expressions of Interest**

**Introduction**

*The Championing Coastal Coordination (3Cs) initiative is a programme of work that is being led by the* Environment Agency with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs). It is a collaboration seeking to enhance and progress coordination for coastal sustainability and resilience in England. This is in recognition of the major challenges that we face in our coastal and estuarine environments. The coast consists of many highly interconnected landscapes and seascapes, with a diverse mix of ownership and governance arrangements. The management of coastal issues poses a set of complex challenges unlike those inland. The number and diversity of public and private sector interests is often highest at the coast, with a proportionate increase in the complexity of planning and management in this highly contested space.

Coastal communities are on the frontline of climate change, facing increased risks from the impact of coastal change through storms and sea-level rise, with serious challenges of future land and sea management priorities to be faced. Coastal zones often attract intensive investment in development, such as housing, ports, recreational and transport infrastructure. Economic competition for space between diverse and legitimate interests places multiple stressors on coastal and estuarine environments and can result in coastal squeeze and habitat loss. If these pressures are not well balanced, public access and enjoyment can be compromised and ecosystem health can deteriorate. England’s estuaries and coasts are home to a diverse range of natural capital ‘assets’ that provide ecosystem services vital to the economy and societal wellbeing. Restored, recovered and resilient coastal habitats provide functioning, nature-based solutions for mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change as well as a wide range of other ecosystem service benefits such as carbon sequestration, flood mitigation and biodiversity improvement.

The 3Cs initiative ran a successful pilot in 2021/2022 and secured funding for an additional 3-year period from 2023-2025. The 1st was financial year 2022/2023. We will run a competitive selection process again this year and invite submissions via Expressions of Interest (EOI).

This 2023/2024 EOI will be for Phase two which is the 2023/2024 financial year only. If your proposed project is planned to run for the duration of the 3C’s initiative time frame you are encouraged to also submit an outline plan (including funding requirements) for phase 3 the 24/25 financial year.

However due to the nature of the funding, applications will need to be made every year. Funding for Phase 3 the 23/24 financial year will be made available in April 2024

* **Phase 1** - for the financial year 2022/2023 (January - March 2023)
* **Phase 2** - for the financial year 2023/2024 (May 2023 - March 2024)
* **Phase 3** - for the financial year 2024/2025 (April 2024 - March 2025)

Funding allocations

A competitive process will award funding to successful proposals to test the following themes;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Themes** |  |
| 1 | Coordination of planning and delivery of locally owned plans |
| 2 | Coastal Champions to strengthen capacity and capability  |
| 3 | Restoration and recovery of natural habitats |

Project proposals will need to show how they contribute to collaborative advantage by working across public, private and civil society sectors. In particular, proposals will need to include involvement of local environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (eNGO’s), local planning authorities and coastal groups to co-develop their ideas and to improve strategic alignment of local planning and delivery.

**Overarching Requirements**

**Coordinating planning and delivery of locally owned plans and place-based initiatives:**

* Projects to be led by an environmental charity or not for profit organisation and involving other stakeholders, including the Environment Agency if appropriate.
* Demonstrate collaboration between civil society and the public sector as a minimum and outline how you plan to engage the private sector with a view to securing private investment
* Deliver exemplar locally led initiatives, for example regional restoration and monitoring plans or local application of Natural Capital approaches, to set the standard for collaborative place-based projects

**Coastal champions to strengthen capacity and capability in local stewardship:**

* Demonstrate how you will develop a wider understanding of the land-sea interface and the impacts of the freshwater/terrestrial component upon the estuarine and coastal environment through the development of coastal champions

**Restoration and recovery of natural habitats:**

Encompass one or more of the following elements

* Active or passive interventions that will restore the estuarine and coastal environment, and align with the ambition of the Restoring Meadows, Marsh and Reef (ReMeMaRe) initiative.  As a minimum, determine; locality, efficacy, cost-benefit, potential funding sources and mechanisms (including private investment) and the stakeholders required to ensure successful delivery for each intervention.
* Improved quantitative understanding of pressures impacting the estuarine and coastal environments, e.g., prediction of pollutant loads
* Improve quantitative understanding of the status of the estuarine and coastal environment, e.g., through a focus upon habitat, water quality or biota
* Implement one or more designed interventions including those addressing pollution control, climate resilience and sequestration of carbon
* Application of Natural Capital approaches in the development of regional restoration and monitoring plans for our estuaries and coasts to prioritise areas of restoration potential

Timeline milestones

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone Description** | **Estimated Start date** | **Estimated End date** |
| Launch call for proposals | 24 March 2023 | 19 May 2023 |
| Confirm successful proposals | 5 June 2023 | - |
| First draft activity reports | - | - |

**Funding eligibility**

The Environment Agency is given powers under the Charities Act 2006 to provide grants. Applications can therefore only be made by charitable, benevolent or philanthropic institution for the benefit of the whole or any part of England.

To be eligible to receive this grant funding, the applicant will:

* Be a charitable, benevolent or philanthropic institution for the benefit of the whole or any part of England, as defined by the Charities Act 2006
* On request, provide evidence of charitable status

Please complete the information requirements in Annex 1 and Annex 2

Please contact 3cs@environment-agency.gov.uk for further details

**Annex 1**

**Championing Coastal Coordination: Expression of interest form**

**Applicant summary**

**Project title**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Title  |  |

**Contact information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead Organisation |  |

**Project owner**

Contact details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Name |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Mobile |  |
| Email  |  |

**Project location or locations**

Details and a description of the full extent of the project area. If you would like to include a map of the project area please submit as part of this form.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project location(s) |  |

**Project partners**

Project partners will need to representatives from public, private and civil society sector such as the [Coastal Group Network](https://tep-thames.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2604db06dc714acfae394253d0ee30f3), Coast Protection Authorities (CPAs) and/or a Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs).

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| List Project partners |  |

Project justification

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**Application detail**

Assessment of issues

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Project description and mix of activities

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Project potential - Set out the outcomes of your project

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Innovation and learning

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Readiness of project partnership

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Readiness of project business case

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Capacity for delivery

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Monitoring, evaluation and dissemination

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Cost estimate - Complete the high level cost estimate table below

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| **Costs** | **Total** |
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|  |  |
|  |  |
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**Annex 2 Data protection**

The Environment Agency will be the data controller for this service. A data controller determines how and why personal data (personal information) is processed. The [Environment Agency personal information charter](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/personal-information-charter) explains how your personal information will be dealt with. Go to GOV.UK and search ‘Environment Agency personal information charter’.

The personal data collected will include:

• Full name

• Organisation

• Work email address

• Work phone number

We are allowed to process your personal data because it is needed to be able to manage this programme. By completing this Expression of Interest form and the signed and dated declaration below, you consent to us the Environment Agency doing so. The Environment Agency will keep your details until the project is closed or until you withdraw your consent.

Declaration

I provide my consent for my data to be held and processed by the Environment Agency for the purposes of the Championing Coastal Coordination project only.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date |  |