



INVITE TO TENDER:
FACILITATION OF CO-DESIGN WORKSHOP TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF 30X30
FRAMEWORK FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

This document invites companies and individuals (“candidates”) to tender for a contract to help organise and facilitate a stakeholder workshop around the topic of 30by30, with an associated write-up of lessons learnt. The aim of this piece of work is to bring everyone up to speed with the concept by providing a platform for knowledge exchange, facilitate topic-focused dialogue with key stakeholders and to produce an overarching road-map to achieve 30by30 in Northern Ireland, based on stakeholder views. The project will contribute towards a wider evidence base supporting policy development for Nature’s Recovery in Northern Ireland and follows a previous piece of work by Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) and partners on 30x30 on [land](#) and at [sea](#). The long-term aim for this work is to contribute towards the identification of a portfolio of specific steps to inform policy-makers.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone to contribute towards the development of a strategic, evidence-based and co-designed approach towards achieving a key global and national target to achieve nature’s recovery in Northern Ireland. The work will be largely desk-based with an expectation to partake in a one-day in-person event in Northern Ireland in early to mid February 2025.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 30by30 and the Global Biodiversity Framework

The nature and climate crises are detrimentally impacting nature and people across Northern Ireland. With 12 % of species threatened by extinction ([Gilbert *et al.*, 2023](#)) on the Island of Ireland, it’s clear that we need a step change in how we protect and manage the natural environment. One of the key actions to reverse this trend that has been put forward, is the ambition of protecting 30 percent of land and sea for nature by 2030, also known as 30by30. The target of reaching 30% coverage, stems from a 2019 piece of research published in Science Advances, which sees 30% as a minimum threshold to prevent any further biodiversity loss.

Following this, in September 2020, we heard [Boris Johnson commit to protecting 30% of UK land by 2030](#) as part of [The Leaders Pledge for Nature](#). Later, in May 2021, [Edwin Poots, the Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for Northern Ireland, also publicly endorsed the 30x30 target](#). Finally, in December 2022, a global 30by30 target was agreed under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of Parties (COP15) and written into [the Kungmin-Monreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(GBF\)](#). In essence this means that all signatories (UK is a signatory, meaning that essentially UK reports back on progress on behalf of the devolved nations) need to put in place national approaches to reach the set targets and report back to the CBD.

Fundamentally, 30by30 is considered a key threshold towards an ‘ecosystems approach’, which would ensure that **critical areas** for biodiversity are protected; with an emphasis on **ecological coherence**, especially though delivering connectivity across sites; and thus building long-term resilience under

unpredictable environmental pressures, such as climate change, while simultaneously highlighting joint benefits for people (Crick, et al. 2020; Isaac, et al. 2018 and Keeley, et al. 2019). The successful delivery of 30by30 commitment would provide the backbone of the NI-wide [Nature Recovery Networks](#).

1.2 The role and aim of the Northern Ireland 30by30 co-design workshop

With 2030 just around the corner, and with the target now also enshrined in the Northern Ireland [Environmental Improvement Plan](#), it's crucial that we take action to define how we're going to achieve this target. This contract, therefore, will contribute towards the development of core evidence base and sectoral agreement for a 30by30 framework for Northern Ireland. The work will focus on helping to design and run a one-day workshop, with a particular focus on taking the role of an independent facilitator, where stakeholders will be able to hear from key practitioners from elsewhere and be able to discuss what the approach could look like for Northern Ireland. The lessons will then be collated to in order to produce a road map with key proposals and priorities for the design of a 30by30 framework for Northern Ireland.

2.0 DETAILS OF WORKS

2.1 Task

Ulster Wildlife is seeking to appoint a suitably experienced consultancy/contractor to work with representatives to run a co-design workshop around 30by30 and based on discussions, produce a summary report with recommendations towards the establishment of a 30by30 framework for Northern Ireland. A suitable candidate would therefore ideally be well versed in Northern Ireland environmental issues and environmental and land-use policy and have experience in acting as an impartial facilitator at events.

2.2 Deliverables

Objective 1: Organise and help facilitate a 30by30 stakeholder workshop

- Work with Ulster Wildlife Nature Recovery Networks Development officer to design and organize workshop.
- Help to run and facilitate the discussions at a one-day in person workshop in Northern Ireland, with the focus on acting as an independent facilitator.

Objective 2: Produce a road-map for 30by30 delivery for Northern Ireland

- Based on discussions at workshop, produce a report detailing findings and a recommended high level road map for 30by30 for Northern Ireland.
- Present the findings to Ulster Wildlife at a virtual or in-person meeting.

2.3 Timeframe

- All outputs to be delivered by **31 March 2025**.

3.0 SUPPORT / RESOURCES AVAILABLE

3.1 Support from Ulster Wildlife & Partners

- Nature Recovery Networks Development Officer from Ulster Wildlife will be available to provide support throughout the process and will be regularly briefed by the appointed contractor.

4.0 CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

4.1 Invitation to Tender¹

We are looking to appoint an experienced contractor with strong interpersonal skills and who is well-versed in the developments in environmental policy to work with us to deliver this exciting piece of work. If that sounds like you, please submit a **tender** for this work by **11 November, 2024**. Your Tender must:

- Be in electronic format (a scanned copy is acceptable as long as it is legible) and must address your i. proposed approach and ii. associated time-frame against each objective (Gantt chart or similar). In particular
 1. Your proposed approach to the preparation of setting up and delivering a co-design workshop.
 2. The production of a report highlighting key steps and approach to be taken to achieve 30 by30 based on workshop outcomes including presentation (in person or via virtual means) to Ulster Wildlife.
- Outline costings to a maximum value of £6,000 (incl. VAT and excluding venue hire and catering). Candidates are required to detail all estimated costs for the delivery of the project, including a breakdown of estimated staff hours and VAT where appropriate, need for travel, consumables, etc. against the project objectives.
- Provide examples of any similar pieces of work you have undertaken in the past, and any testimonials where applicable. We would also like to hear of any issues you might anticipate being faced with during the delivery of the works.
- Identify the staff-time committed to the project and ability to complete this piece of work within the agreed timeframe.
- Identify who will be undertaking the work and provide short CVs for each person working on the project.
- Highlight if your company has had any claims made on its Public Liability, Professional Indemnity and/or Employers Liability Insurance policies in the past 5 years and what was the outcome of the claim(s).
- Provide details of any Environmental Management Systems you may have in place (for example ISO14001:2015/Amd 1:2024 or equivalent), including the date this was first achieved.

4.2 Evaluation Criteria & Awarding of Contract

- A scoring matrix (see Annex 7.1) will be used to assess the quotations. This will be based not only on cost but also on demonstration of relevant experience, and proposed approach to achieve individual objectives highlighted above. It will be scored by Ulster Wildlife staff members and you will be notified of the outcome by **18 November 2024**, with a view to the successful tenderer commencing work by the end of November 2024. Feedback can be provided to all tenderers.
- By submitting a response, it will be implied that you accept all the provisions of this Invitation to Tender, including these conditions. The contract will be managed by Ulster Wildlife.
- Ulster Wildlife reserves the right not to appoint any contractor for this piece of work.

Please submit your proposal in writing to nina.schonberg@ulsterwildlife.org by **Monday 11 November 2024**.

¹ Please note that due to restrictions set by data-sharing, we are only able to accept tenders for work which will be undertaken within United Kingdom.

5.0 ANY QUESTIONS

If you have a general inquiry, please contact Nature Recovery Networks Development Officer Nina Schonberg on 07485329723 or email nina.schonberg@ulsterwildlife.org. All requests for clarifications must be sent through electronically. These will be logged and responses will be made available under this advertisement at <https://www.ulsterwildlife.org/jobs> a week before the deadline on **Monday 4 November 2024**.

6.0 References

- Crick, H Q. P., I. E. Crosher, C. P. Mainstone, S. D. Taylor, A. Wharton, P. Langford, J. Larfood, et al. 2020. *Nature Networks Evidence Handbook. Natural England Research Report NERR081*. York: Natural England.
- Edwards, J., M. Knight, S. Taylor, and I. E. Crosher. 2020. *Habitat Networks Maps, User Guidance v.2*. Natural England.
- Isaac, N. J., P. N. M. Brotherton, J. M. Bullock, R. D. Gregory, K. Boehning-Gaese, B. Connor, H. Q. P. Crick, et al. 2018. "Defining and delivering resilient ecological networks: nature conservation in England." *Journal of Applied Ecology* 55 (6): 2537-2543.
- Hayhow, D. B., M. A. Eaton, A. J. Stanbury, F. Burns, W. B. Kirby, N. Bailey, J. Beckmann, et al. 2019. *The State of Nature 2019*. The State of Nature Partnership.
- Keeley, A. T. H., P. Beier, T. Creech, K. Jones, R. H. G. Jongman, G. Stonecipher, and G. M. Tabor. 2019. "Thirty years of connectivity conservation planning: an assesment of factors influencing plan implementation." *Environmental Research Letters* 14.
- Lawton, J. H., P. N. M. Brotherton, V. K. Brown, C. Elphick, A. H. Fitter, J. Forshaw, R. W. Haddow, et al. 2010. "Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network. Report to Defra." <https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130402170324/http://archive.defra.gov.uk/environment/biodiversity/documents/201009space-for-nature.pdf>.

7.0 Annex

7.1. Tender Scoring Criteria

Proposed Methodology

Assessment	Score	Interpretation
Excellent	100%	Excellent answer that meets the methodology criterion. Provision of detailed supporting evidence and no weaknesses. Response demonstrates that the tenderer will provide outstanding goods/services if awarded the contract.
Very Good	80%	A very good answer that meets the methodology criterion. Provision of very good supporting evidence with minimum weaknesses. Response demonstrates that the tenderer will provide excellent goods/services if awarded the contract.
Good	60%	A good response that meets the methodology criterion. Provision of good supporting evidence with some weaknesses. Response demonstrates that the tenderer will provide good goods/services if awarded the contract.
Limited	40%	A response which meets the basic methodology criterion. Lacks sufficient detail to award a higher mark with lack of supporting evidence and many weaknesses. Response indicates that the tenderer will satisfactorily provide goods/services if awarded the contract.
Poor	20%	A response which does not meet the basic methodology criterion. Lacks convincing detail of the methodology to be applied with significant weaknesses. Response indicates that the tenderer will not provide sufficient goods/services to be awarded the contract.
Unacceptable	0%	An unacceptable response which does not meet the basic methodology criterion. Failed to address the question/issue

Experience - Previous examples

Assessment	Score	Interpretation
Excellent	100%	Highly applicable projects with similar objectives, methodology and outputs. Tenderer's role and responsibilities demonstrated an excellent approach to successful project delivery
Very Good	80%	Broadly applicable project with similar objectives, methodology and outputs. Tenderer's role and responsibilities demonstrated a very good approach to successful project delivery
Good	60%	Reasonably applicable project with similar objectives, methodology and outputs. Tenderer's role and responsibilities demonstrated a good approach to successful project delivery
Limited	40%	Limited applicability of project with similar objectives, methodology and outputs. Tenderer's role and responsibilities demonstrated an inadequate approach to successful project delivery
Poor	20%	Poor applicability of project with similar objectives, methodology and outputs. Tenderer's role and responsibilities demonstrated a poor approach to successful project delivery
Unacceptable	0%	No project example or unacceptable information provided