



Natural
Environment
Research Council

‘Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future’ initiative

Welcome.

We will be with you shortly.

The webinar will be recorded

Please use the Q&A feature to post questions.



Natural
Environment
Research Council

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

Funding Opportunity Webinar
29 June 2022

Agenda

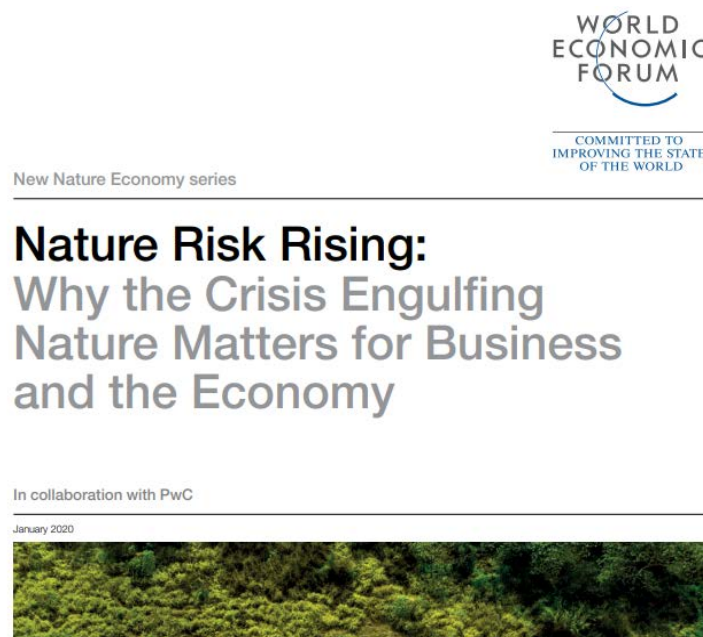
1. Welcome, aims and format
2. Context & Community perspectives:
 - Finance sector: Ian Simm, Impax Asset Management
 - Research and Policy: Matt Smith, Elementales
3. The opportunity: Nature Positive Futures programme overview
4. Q&A



Context

“The health of our planet and the health of our financial system is inextricably intertwined. Finance has the power not only to change our economy, but also the way we live –and the time to act is now.”

Sir Roger Gifford, Chair of Green Finance Institute (UK) (July 2019)





Natural
Environment
Research Council

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

Finance Sector Perspective

Ian Simm, Impax Asset Management



Natural
Environment
Research Council

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

‘Research & Policy’ Perspective

Matt Smith, Elementales



Natural
Environment
Research Council

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

('Nature Positive Futures')

Programme and Announcement overview

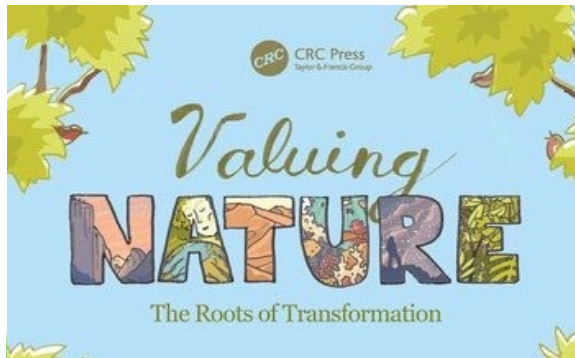
Gemma Truelove, Senior Programme Manager

Interdisciplinary Programme Design and Management

Strategic Partnerships, NERC

NERC - Greening Finance & investments

Huge opportunity to link researchers, science, data to users in support of greening finance and investment.



**£6M Economics of Biodiversity
Research Programme**



**EoB Workshop
&
Green Finance
'business' breakfasts**



**£10M CERAF
Research Programme**



**£1M Nature Finance
Seed Corn Grants & KE Fellows**



'Nature Positive Futures' (NPF) Programme

Will create a hub and spoke network to:

- **Foster and strengthen collaborative links** across academia, business, and policy (including financial regulators) communities
- **Identify the pressing research questions** and knowledge gaps that need to be resolved
- **Accelerate the translation of generating new knowledge** to understanding to outputs that can be used by businesses and policy makers.

NPF Programme

£5M funding from NERC over 4 years from 2022/23 in two phases

- **Phase one** – £1.5M available for pilot/proof of concept (£150K, 1yr) activities to:
 - Create integrated research, business and policy communities
 - Scope challenge details and identify approaches
 - Develop syntheses of current knowledge
 - Integrate pilot award groups for phase two hub and spoke
- **Phase two** – £3.5M to create an integrated hub and spoke from phase one awards, which will support Nature Finance and Net Zero ambitions.

NPF Programme Assessment

Assessment by independent panel of experts, using criteria:

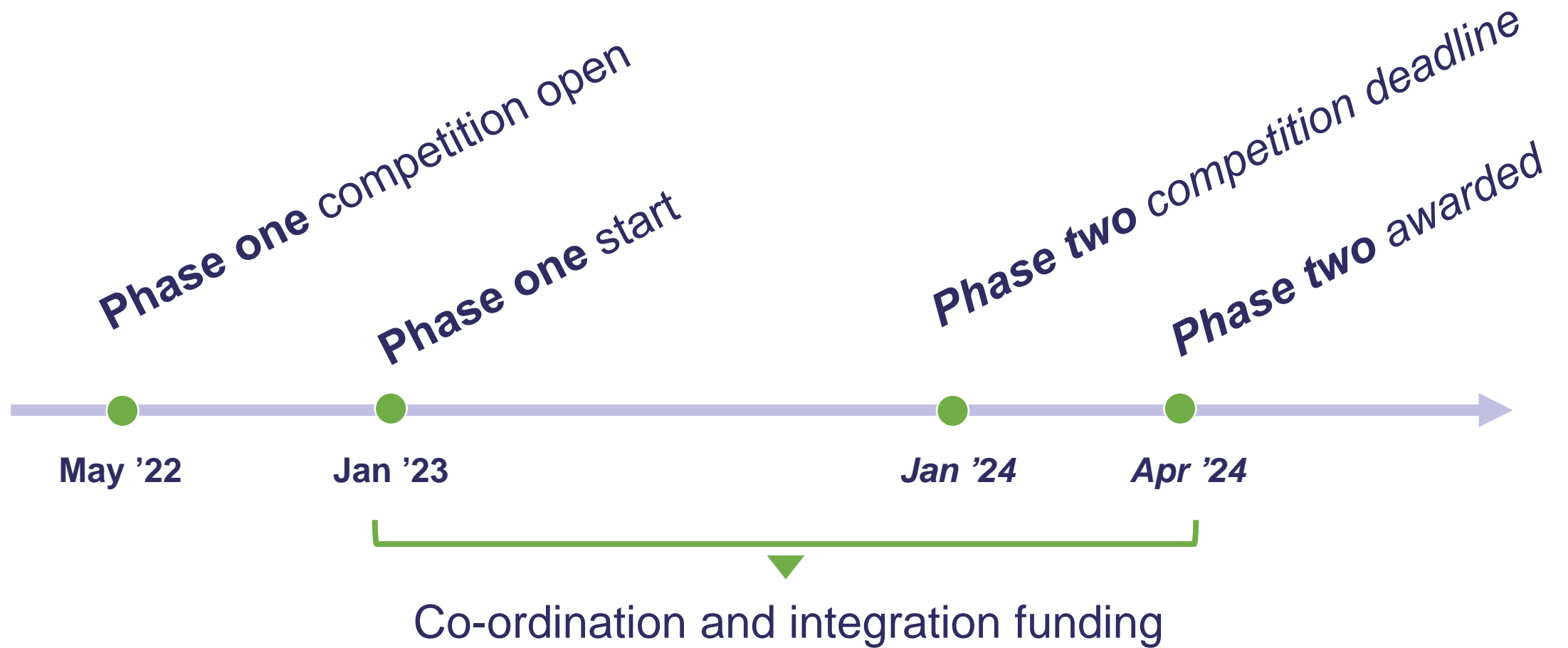
- **Excellence** – *including originality, quality, capability*
- **Fit to Scheme** - *including evidence of user need, engagement and added value*

NPF Timeline

- **Phase one:**
 - **Call closing now delayed to 1 September 2022**
 - Assessment panel October 2022.
 - Award duration January 2023 – Jan 2024
- **Phase two (TBC):**
 - Proposal invited Jan 2024
 - Assessment Feb 2024
 - Award start April 2024 for 3 years



NPF timeline



Key points

- Open to applicants to **propose pilot activities** that meet the call aims – suggestions from engagement not an exhaustive list.
- Funding will be available to phase one award holders post-award to **co-ordinate and integrate and develop proposal(s)** for phase two.
- **Importance of co-design and co-delivery** with finance sector/other partners – relative to stage of development.
- **Businesses cannot be directly funded in phase one** – subcontracts/project partnership options
- **International organisations** cannot be directly funded in phase one
- **Only phase one award holders can submit to phase two** - new organisations can be included at phase two

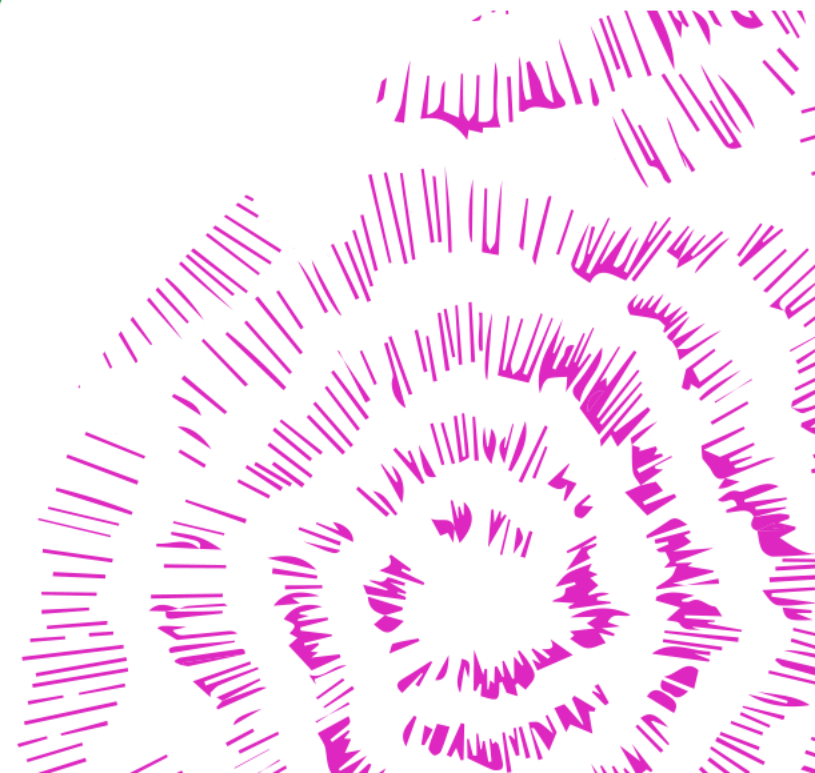


Natural
Environment
Research Council

Questions?



Natural
Environment
Research Council





Natural
Environment
Research Council

Thank you



naturepositive@nerc.ukri.org