

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

RE-PEAT

#ZJVF1SDJZT submitted on 31 May 2023

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

RE-PEAT is looking for funding to host a series of 5 workshops that are designed to hold space for collective, supported and transformative grief through peatland related stories.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

What if the climate and ecological crisis was not a crisis about life, but about death? We are living in a world that chimes with the ever-present sound of extinction and yet we rarely leave space to embody this loss. In fact, many of us have learnt to turn away and close off this channel to grief. Peatland ecosystems can teach us a lot on this topic, they are composed of generations of semi-decomposed organic material. They are holders of the deceased like no other Earth system. In doing so, they are also protectors of our climate, biodiversity and water reserves. Today, many peatlands are drained using channels that cause slow erosion, erasing this ancient soil from the landscape. In removing the water from the peatland, the preserved organic material starts to decompose and add carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere, adding further threat to life in other corners of the earth system. We believe that a careful consideration of this process can reveal something about our own relationship with death and, ultimately, what we want to keep hold of going into the future. When explored in a safe and collective way, the subject of death has the possibility to take us beyond a doomism narrative towards a renewed sense of life.

We are currently prototyping workshop formats that are designed to hold space for collective, supported and transformative grief through telling peatland related stories. The development of these workshops is happening as part of an ongoing HuddleCraft programme DeathxLife. The series of workshops are aimed at people who are trying to move through some kind of grief, this might be as a result of eco-anxiety, or it could be through the loss of someone dear. At the core of this project, is the belief that transforming our society to become in line with the boundaries of nature, must start by an exploration of our relationship with death. Having started this 6-month long peer-to-peer learning process with HuddleCraft, it is clear that coming together and discussing death is fertile. We are, therefore, confident that these events will create a space for the participants to challenge core values, limiting narratives and fears. In turn, leaving them with a renewed sense of their own power and place in the wider symphony of life.

This kind of work is crucial from both an ecological and a peacebuilding perspective. Today we see a rise in people (especially young people) struggling with eco-anxiety and a feeling of despair when it comes to tackling climate change. These feelings of anger and nihilism have been further exacerbated by the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, rising living costs and other intersecting realities. Unacknowledged, this overwhelming sense of loss has the potential to increase the polarisation between people and to disempower them from building thriving communities. Furthermore, our current individualised model of mental health therapy is not designed to help people deal with these kinds of systemic issues. Which is why this project follows a number of emerging initiatives such as the Death Cafe and the Griefcast and is inspired by the ideas proposed in Douglas Hine's book "At Work in the Ruins" that attempt to bridge this gap. It is unique in the way that it approaches this topic through an ecosystem, giving people the opportunity to learn about this landscape, as well as learn through it.

What it will look like:

5 hybrid events for up to 15 people per workshop

Each workshop themed on a different topic

Based in a location in UK

People can join one or all of the workshops

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

B - Peace-building and conflict resolution

D - Climate change mitigation

1.3b Peace-building and conflict resolution

The audience will be from diverse backgrounds. This will enrich the workshop by demonstrating the breadth of realities but also the links between people through their shared experience of grief and loss. This practise of being vulnerable with a group of strangers from different walks of life can create social cohesion through participants learning to empathise with each other.

1.3d Climate change mitigation

Peatlands are our planet's largest terrestrial carbon store. They hold twice the carbon as all forests combined, meaning they are crucial ecosystems for stabilising our climate system. Unfortunately, many people do not appreciate them or understand the implications of when they are degraded. Through this, we hope to build the foundation of value needed to protect and restore them.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

United Kingdom (GB)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

We plan on further developing these workshops to improve them and run them at different events, conferences and venues. We hope that once the materials have been piloted we can create a framework for this to be ongoing.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

After every workshop we will have an feedback and evaluation form that people can fill out to show what they learnt and if the space achieved what it was designed for (holding space for collective, supported and transformative grief through telling peatland related stories).

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Hiring Location	£2,000	We have a location that could be possible in London
Workshop Materials	£1,000	
Design and facilitation	£2,000	
TOTALS	£5,000	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Participant donations	£400	£0	
	£0	£0	

TOTALS	£400	£0	
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2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£5,000

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

Yes

2.4b Please provide the date of the previous application

n/a we have not made an application before

2.4c Was this previous application successful?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£38,750

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

Yes

2.6b Upload File

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2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Climate 2025 Limited

GB62 BOFA 1650 5020 4164 85

(this is their IBAN)

3.1 Your name

Frances Turk

3.2 Your contact telephone number

+447528160389

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Network and Communications Coordinator

3.4 Your email address

info@re-peat.earth

3.5 Organisation name

RE-PEAT

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

Non-profit foundation (dutch registered Stichting)

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

RE-PEAT is a youth-led collective on a mission to create a paradigm shift in the way that people approach peatlands. We host educational workshops, organise events and discussions and create artworks that challenge dominate narratives and ways of seeing peatlands.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

28 Bidder Street London E16 4ST

3.9 UK telephone number

+447528160389

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

n/a

3.11 Year established

2020

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<http://www.re-peat.earth>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

/repeatearth (fb)

repeat.earth (insta)

@repeatearth (tw)

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

Word of mouth

Edge Fund