

The Iris Project Ecosystem

a guidebook



What's The Iris Project?

The Iris Project is run in collaboration with Global Greengrants Fund, and has been established in memory of Iris Goldsmith, who died in a tragic accident aged 15.

Iris had a deep and lifelong connection with the natural world, a gentle way with animals, and a particular love for the sea. In her memory, we are building a global community of young people working to protect and restore their local natural environment.

We recognise that young people are already leading the way in finding solutions to the climate and ecological crisis. The Iris Project exists to shine a light on that leadership, and to enable outstanding individuals to take it further by providing access to the funds and support that, all too often, they find too difficult to access.

What's The Iris Project Ecosystem?

Besides empowering action through the annual Iris Prize, we connect youth from around the world to share learnings, provide support and advocate for change. That's where The Iris Project Ecosystem comes in!

The Iris Project Ecosystem is a Slack platform, where members can share and look for opportunities to support their projects, find collaborating partners, and initiate or join discussions about environmental and social issues relevant to their community and their advocacy.

What's Slack?

Slack is a community platform where users can communicate with voice calls, video calls, text messaging, media, and files in private chats or as part of communities called "workspaces."

The Iris Project Ecosystem is a community or "workspace".

A brief overview on [How to Use Slack](#)

Welcome to the Ecosystem's channels!

#capacity-building-opportunities

In this channel, everyone is welcome to share capacity building opportunities with the whole ecosystem (webinars, workshops, knowledge exchanges, informative sessions...). When sharing opportunities, please indicate key details (age group, country / region / continent, etc.) said opportunities apply to.

#funding-opportunities

In this channel, every member can share funding opportunities related to protecting and restoring nature with the whole Iris Project ecosystem! When sharing opportunities, please indicate key details (age group, country/region/continent, etc.) said opportunities apply to.

#house-rules

Set rules to ensure that every member of the ecosystem is welcomed, respected, and honours the values The Iris Project stands for.

#collaboration-calls

It takes two flints to make a fire! In this channel, members of the ecosystem can share collaboration opportunities or search for potential projects or initiatives to join! When sharing opportunities, please indicate key details (age group, country/region/continent, etc.) said opportunities apply to.

#climate-conferences

It's never too early to start thinking about the next climate conference!

In this channel, everyone is welcome to share funding opportunities, social media groups and workshops connected to upcoming climate conferences! When sharing opportunities, please indicate key details (age group, country/region/continent, etc.) said opportunities apply to.

#initiatives-to-support

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. This is a channel where ecosystem members can share (and find!) initiatives about nature protection and restoration that need support!

#the-iris-project

All things The Iris Project – Keep your eyes wide open for nomination calls, workshops and capacity building sessions we organise!

#general

[Website](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Instagram](#)
[TikTok](#)
[LinkedIn](#)

#random

This channel is for all things random BUT still ON THEME! Members are encouraged to share interesting documentaries, books, articles, etc., about nature protection and restoration!

House Rules

1

Be **kind, polite, and friendly**. Respect each and every member of the ecosystem.

2

The Ecosystem is meant for building a **global community** of young people working to protect and restore their local natural environment, so please make sure to only share content that would contribute to that.

3

Offensive, harmful and spam messages are forbidden.

4

Do not send links to phishing or scam websites or you will be removed from the group.

5

Hate speech is **not entertained** and members found using such language will be **removed**.

6

A warning will be given on the violation of the house rules; however, members will be removed if they are found doing it again. Do not encourage other users to violate rules.

7

Feedback, as well as **constructive criticism**, is always welcome!

How to be an active member?



You've seen an
opportunity or
want to
collaborate?

Briefly
describe the
opportunity
you are
sharing!

- What's the topic?
- Who can apply?
- When's the deadline?

Find the
channel most
suitable for
the
opportunity.

Post it!

How to be an active member?

Have you seen
an interesting
post? Tell us
you like it!

..... **REACT**

You have
questions about
an opportunity
you saw? Ask!

..... **COMMENT**

You have more info
about an opportunity
or know the answer to
the question asked?
Reply!

..... **REPLY**

Our Goals

Make opportunities more accessible

Despite globalisation, it is difficult for young people, especially those with a limited network, to find opportunities to grow and scale their projects. That's precisely why the Ecosystem aims to bring as many opportunities as possible to young people - from capacity building programmes to accessible climate conferences and grants, no matter what part of the world they come from.

Give youth a platform

We recognize the crucial role that young people have in finding ambitious, thorough and concrete solutions for preserving and restoring nature in their communities. By giving you a platform, we want to uplift your voices, promote your work, and thus help you find partners and opportunities for further collaboration and development.

Build a community

If you want to go quickly, go alone, if you want to go far, go together! Only by working together across regions and sectors, can we make major, far-reaching and just changes for generations to come. The Ecosystem strives to encourage collaboration by connecting like-minded, passionate environmental activists and providing them an online space to meet and work together towards a brighter future.

Any questions?

Get in touch
to find out more:

ecosystem@theirisproject.org

