

The Barefoot Guide on Climate Cooling

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR WRITERS AND ARTISTS



IN A NUTSHELL

We are a group of people who are passionate about addressing climate change through working with nature to realign our relationship with the earth, the water and the air. Climate change is not an abstract concept. It is already changing the livelihoods, lives and future potential of everyone and will particularly impact on the lives of children and young people. While the urgent need for carbon (CO₂) reduction is well known, the potential to mitigate, adapt, and even cool the earth through regenerative practices is not. Yet there are people, organisations and communities all over the world who are working with soil and water cycles in natural systems to transform harmful practices and restore Earth's health. We want to share these stories, practices and approaches that have the potential for climate cooling with as many people as possible. We believe that as everything is interconnected, everyone has a role to play in this transformation.

Do you believe that humans are part of wider living systems? Do the words interdependence, interconnectedness, and community resonate with you? Do you have a story to tell about communities that are adapting to climate change? Do you have experience with successful regenerative practices in land use, water management and/or regenerative agriculture/agroecology? Do you want to share your work with water cycles, soil regeneration and nature in general to help address our pressing climate problems? If you believe that we need inspiration, encouragement, radical collaboration and rapid learning at the individual, local and global levels, or if you are you an artist/illustrator able to create images that make the above ideas real and accessible for people, do get in touch!

WHAT IS A BAREFOOT GUIDE?

Barefoot Guides are freely downloadable resources, written in accessible language and supported by visuals, focusing on a variety of

applied social change and transformative practices.

They are produced by practitioners for practitioners and by people who have important ideas and valuable stories to share about the possibilities for deep change.

So far, six Barefoot Guides have been produced that have been translated into several languages (Swahili, Chinese, Bahasa, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Vietnamese and Arabic) and are widely used around the world.

Barefoot Guides enable practitioners to tell stories of change and explore concepts in a way that inspires and enables others to learn from them.

The Guides are filled with stories, examples, questions, discussions, conceptual sections (demystified and accessible) and practical ideas. Social change leaders and practitioners can use them individually or collectively to stimulate deeper thinking and conversations about their work and to enable them to become more effective in practice. They are illustrated in such a way that makes the content highly accessible.

GETTING INVOLVED

We are looking for people who want to share their experience, knowledge and work with nature to address climate change. We would like to hear from you if you:

- Have *knowledge* of natural systems and how to work with regenerative practices to address climate change.
- Have *lived experiences and practice* of mitigating or adapting to climate change through working with nature (soil, air or water cycles).

- Have experience working with communities on behavioural change in their relationship to climate change and the Earth.
- Are an illustrator or graphic artist who wants to help share important ideas and information about climate change and climate cooling.
- Are passionate about stories and keen to share valuable ideas, knowledge and practices with a wide global audience.

have helped hundreds of people to find their writing voices and confidence to share stories that matter. 'Everybody can write' is the basis of the Barefoot Guide Connection Writeshops, but we are also open to the possibility of people telling their story through video.

Contributors will be accompanied throughout the process by experienced facilitators, but your time investment and commitment are voluntary and unpaid. Depending on funding, we may be able to pay for illustrations.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

At this stage we are primarily looking for people who can participate in a writeshop held over four half-day sessions in October. This will give you an opportunity to get your stories and images on paper and to get feedback from other participants. If you cannot commit to the writeshop or do not feel confident to write, but still think you have an important story to tell, do get in touch as we may be able to involve you later in the process or find other means to capture your story.

If you feel called to join this process, we invite you to fill-in an expression of interest in which you address (in 200 words or a 2 minute video) the main idea of the story/piece you want to contribute, how this is relevant to this Barefoot Guide, and why you want to participate. In case you are an artist, we ask you to upload examples of your work. [Please fill-in the form here](#) **LATEST BY 17 SEPTEMBER**. For any questions you can contact us at: barefootguideclimatechange@gmail.com

The facilitators from the Barefoot Guide Connection

“Going barefoot is the gentlest way of walking and can symbolise a way of living - being authentic, vulnerable, sensitive to our surroundings. It’s the feeling of enjoying warm sand beneath our toes, or carefully making our way over sharp rocks in the darkness. It’s a way of living that has the lightest impact, removing the barrier between us and nature.”

Adele Coombs, “Barefoot Dreaming”

www.barefootguide.org

To contact us: barefootguideclimatechange@gmail.com

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