



provincie **HOLLAND**
ZUID

IVN Natuureducatie

Plantage Middenlaan 2c
1018 DD Amsterdam

Onderwerp

Letter of Commitment – ‘Tiny Forest’ LIFE project

Dear sir,

With this letter the Province of Zuid-Holland declares its commitment to the LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation proposal ‘Tiny Forest’ submitted by IVN Natuureducatie. During the proposed project period (2022-2026) the province will provide the co-financing for five Tiny Forests and search for suitable sites. Moreover, all adopted Tiny Forests will have to be included in the overall long-term maintenance plan of the business parks involved, which will allow for them to reach full maturity and thus fulfil their potential as actors in climate adaptation and the conservation of biodiversity.

In this letter we will elaborate on the agreed terms and conditions of the partnership between IVN and the province of Zuid-Holland as they would apply in the proposed LIFE project.

Bezoekadres
Zuid-Hollandplein 1
2596 AW Den Haag

Tram 9 en de buslijnen
90, 385 en 386 stoppen
dichtbij het
provinciehuis. Vanaf
station Den Haag CS is
het tien minuten lopen.
De parkeerruimte voor
auto's is beperkt.



Gedeputeerde Staten

Contact



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T 070 - 441 66 11
www.zuid-holland.nl

Datum

Zie verzenddatum linksonder

Ons kenmerk

DOS-2017-0001917

PZH-2021-780914126

Uw kenmerk

Bijlagen

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What does the Tiny Forest participatory process entail?

Definition of a Tiny Forest: A Tiny Forest is a dense, fast-growing native woodland that is around the size of a tennis court (approx. 200 m²) in an urbanized area. The forest has not only proven climate change adaption benefits (protection during flooding, prevents heat islands and captures CO₂), but is an attractive location for butterflies, birds, bees and small mammals; and is a pleasant place for people as well. In the outdoor classroom, the local community can learn about native flora and fauna, and it provides a pleasant and healthy spot for neighbors to come together.

In prior Tiny Forest trajectories throughout the Netherlands (since 2015), the search for suitable locations has always been undertaken by first of all recruiting schools, businesses and/ or community members. IVN/GoodPlanet project leaders supported by of the municipality/city look for active companies with aspirations to adopt a Tiny Forest on their business park. After selecting the most devoted companies and business parks, the project leader assists in collectively finding a proper location that also meets the criteria set by the province.

The selection criteria for building a Tiny Forest in LIFE can be found in the appendix 1. This checklist includes the physical, location and social characteristics.

When the Tiny Forest LIFE project is granted, the province is dedicated to selecting the urbanized locations according to the participatory process as described above, to ensure the long-term climate benefits and the engagement of companies and business parks. As a consequence, we cannot at this time pinpoint the exact locations for the Tiny Forests we intend to adopt. We are however prepared to offer the time and resources necessary to find five locations that meet the criteria of the program as well as the desires of companies and business parks. Judging from IVN's prior experiences, we are fully confident that this approach will lead to a sustainable future for our Tiny Forests.

Commitment to the long-term maintenance

All Tiny Forests we intend to adopt within the proposed LIFE project will be realized on business parks in the province and their maintenance will have to be anchored in the overall maintenance agreement for the business park. To ensure employee engagement and the participation of employees of the business park, certain tasks (e.g. weeding, cleaning up litter, pruning of branches to clear paths) will be delegated to companies and employees, as has been customary in other Tiny Forest trajectories. The responsibilities of the parties involved will be laid down contractually in a maintenance agreement signed by the business park as well the companies involved.

All things considered, the province of Zuid-Holland is confident in the continuation/ establishment of the Tiny Forest partnership with IVN when the Tiny Forest LIFE project is to be accepted by the reviewing committee.

Yours faithfully,

Gedeputeerde Staten van Zuid-Holland,
secretaris, voorzitter,

drs. H.M.M. Koek

drs. J. Smit

Appendix:

- 1.Criteria for building a Tiny Forest in LIFE

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