



## BUSINESSES OPERATIONALISING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND NATURAL CAPITAL

### THE SME EVENT

#### PROGRAMME

#### Tuesday 27 October evening

[L'Atelier](#), Franklinstraat 28, 1000 Brussels

- 19:00-21:00 *Networking dinner* (free, registered Event participants only)



#### Wednesday 28 October

[Scotland House](#), Rond Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels

- 09:00-09:30 *Registration*
- 09:30-11:00 *Opening Plenary* – Chair, Guy Duke
  - 09:30-09:40 **Overview of the event:** *Guy Duke*, Director Europe & Research, The Environment Bank Ltd and Senior Visiting Research Associate, Oxford University Environmental Change Institute

- **09.40-09.50 Introduction to OpenNESS: *Ben Delbaere***, Head of Programme Operations, European Centre for Nature Conservation
- **09.50-10.10 KEYNOTE: The Circular Economy and the role of SMEs in operationalizing NC&ES: *Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP***, European Parliament Rapporteur for the Circular Economy.
- **10:10-10:40 KEYNOTE: Investing in nature-based solutions – the importance of SME's in Research and Innovation: *Kurt Vandenberghe***, Director Climate Action and Resource Efficiency, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission.
- **10:40-11:00 Q&A with *Kurt Vandenberghe***
- **11:00-11:30 Coffee break**
- **11:30-12:45 Plenary** - Chair, Guy Duke
  - **11:30-12:10 KEYNOTE: Opportunities for business to protect and value nature: *Professor David Hill CBE***, Chairman, The Environment Bank Ltd, Deputy Chair of Natural England and Member, UK Ecosystem Markets Task Force
  - **12:10-12:45 An introduction to Oppla: *Paul Mahony***, Creative Director, Countryside
- **12:45-14:00 Networking lunch**
- **14:00-15:00 Break-out**
  - **What SMEs want from Oppla, what SMEs can offer Oppla** (3-4 break-out groups, facilitated by ECNC/Oppla)
- **15:00-15:30 Coffee break**
- **15:30-17:30 Plenary – rapid presentations** – Chair, Guy Duke
  - **15:30-15:45 Feedback from Oppla break-outs**
  - **15:45-16:30 SME experiences** – OpenNESS SMEs
  - **16:30-17:15 SME experiences** – non-OpenNESS SMEs (by invitation only)
  - **17:15-17:30 Panel comment and close**
- **17:30 END**

