



Call for project collaborators MSc minor Collective Futures

Join hands with the University of Amsterdam and a team of second-year MSc students to help your organization make meaningful change.

About Collective Futures:

[Collective Futures](#) is an interdisciplinary program for MSc students who want to make a tangible difference and prepare for fulfilling and impactful careers. We work with partner organizations on projects combining science, systems thinking, social innovation and consulting. Students explore their unique qualities and passions, take present-day action, and develop the skills to co-create a more sustainable, resilient and collective future

Summary of how it works:

- Submit a one-page project proposal with a question or case your organization wants help with, using [this template](#)
- If selected, we'll match an interdisciplinary team of 2-4 second-year MSc students to your project
- Students work on your project 20 hours/week for 5 months (Feb-July)
- We provide guidance to the student team, consisting of experienced trainers, consultants, coaches and academic supervisors

What we look for:

We seek collaborators who share our vision and support our students' development. Our projects:

- Have clear societal value (e.g., sustainability, well-being, justice, social cohesion)
- Are complex and interesting enough for three science students to work on for 5 months
- Take shape in a process of co-creation in which we consider your questions/needs, societal context, and students' autonomy and learning path

What we do:

- Students are challenged to make practical impact that is scientifically sound, creative and attuned to the project's context
- We combine methods such as scientific analyses, systems thinking, literature research, fieldwork activities, social design, expert interviews and stakeholder meetings
- At the end, students deliver a project report, presentation, and other deliverables tailored to the project's needs. Examples of additional deliverables include an area development plan, an event to connect stakeholders, a (digital) prototype, or a landscape intervention
- Students have their own office space at Startup Village Amsterdam Science Park and receive supervision from Collective Futures teachers, academic staff and external trainers

Some of our previous projects:

- Development plan for [Anna's Tuin en Ruigte](#), a community-managed permaculture garden
- [Citizen participation in the energy transition](#). In collaboration with TNO.
- [Acoustic ecology study and campaign](#) at Science Park, on the interplay between biodiversity, sound and psychological well-being. In collaboration with [Waag](#) and [ARISE](#).
- Reducing Light Pollution in Amsterdam. In collaboration with [Municipality of Amsterdam](#).

What we ask from you:

- Submit a one-pager detailing your question or case, using [this template](#)
- Attend two project presentation sessions
- Meet with the students to provide feedback every two weeks from Feb - Jul

Participation fee:

Collective Futures is funded by University of Amsterdam. We do ask for a standard contribution of 3,000 euros to give students the opportunity to receive additional training in relevant skills for the execution of the project and their broader professional development.

This contribution should not be an obstacle for a good project. If the standard contribution doesn't fit your budget, we are open to discussing alternatives.

Submission details:

Submit a one-pager project proposal using [this template](#) to one of the contacts mentioned below before December 20. This can be specific, but a more open and explorative approach is also possible. Our acquisition committee will evaluate its societal value, scientific component, and creativity.

In case you have any questions or ideas you would first like to discuss before submitting a proposal, feel free to reach out to us. We can together explore options for collaboration.

Contact:

- Jarik Guijt – J.J.Guijt@uva.nl
- Jelger Kroese – J.Kroese@uva.nl

Previous collaborators

