

# Invitation

## Platform for Transformative Change

Open-minded minds, odd ducks and dedicated doers, sign up!



Globally, biodiversity, space for nature and the health of ecosystems are under pressure. We have known this for some time, but turning the tide is proving particularly difficult.

Consequently, in policy, practice and science, we see an increasing recognition of the need for **transformative change** - "a fundamental, system-wide reorganisation across technological, economic and social factors, including paradigms, goals and values" (IPBES, 2019).

But what exactly does that mean? And where do you start? In the new **Platform for Transformative Change**, we look for signs of fundamental change. We will exchange knowledge, ideas and

experiences in order to make a difference together.

Would you like to discover how you can contribute to transformative change, get inspired by the stories of others, and share your own knowledge? Then come to the first meeting on **14 December at 13u30 at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Vautierstraat 29** in Brussels.

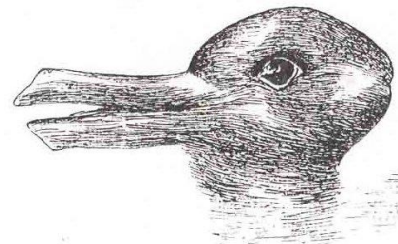
On the agenda:

- *Mycelium*: In an introductory exercise we look for connection.
- *Seeds of Change*: Where do we find transformative initiatives? And what defines them?
- *Common ground*: Where do we want to go together? And how do we get there?

**Interested in participating?** Register [here](#). Do not hesitate to forward the invitation to other interested persons. More information: [inge.liekens@vito.be](mailto:inge.liekens@vito.be)

Kind regards,

Inge Liekens, Dieter Cuyper & Joeri Naus - team [VITO](#)



## Additional info

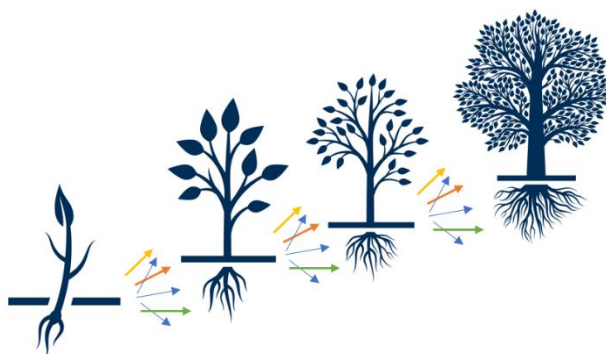
In the Platform for Transformative Change, we look for signs of fundamental change; in the way we relate to the world around us, in the way we interact with ecosystems, in the way we generate and use knowledge. **What can we learn** from each other, from nature and from projects that really want to do things differently? And **what can we do** to ensure that these developments will reinforce each other?



The platform is an initiative of VITO, from its participation in the **Horizon Europe project SELINA**. The aim of this project is to promote protection, restoration and sustainable use of ecosystems through broad knowledge sharing, and to pave the way for transformative change.

We are not starting from scratch. In shaping the community, we like to build on the work of the [Belgian Ecosystems and Society community \(BEES\)](#). This community connects experts in the field of ecosystem services with each other and with international networks.

As a starting point for exchange, we are looking for 'Seeds of Change' - initiatives by governments, citizens and/or companies that (can) make a difference in practice. Where do we find them? And what characterises these initiatives?



In addition, we offer space to think together about the direction and design of the new platform. How can the platform **add value**? What should it then be about? And how do we proceed?

We are initially thinking of 2 to 3 meetings a year.

**The language used will be English.**