



NICOLE
FOUNDATION

NICOLE Foundation Associate Network – Project-Ready Expert Pathway

A global network of deployable experts
delivering technical solutions in the
world's toughest environmental contexts.

nicolefound.org/experts

Protecting people,
ecosystems,
and biodiversity
where others can't.

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Project-Ready Expert within the NICOLE Foundation Associate Network.

This briefing pack outlines what it means to be a deployable expert, how we work, what we ask of you, and how we support you in delivering real-world environmental impact.

Our mission is simple:

To protect people and ecosystems from environmental pollution – particularly in regions where the **polluter pays principle isn't enforceable**, and **local capacity is overwhelmed or not available**.

As a Project-Ready Expert, you contribute your expertise to important projects that protect people and places often left without support – and help turn knowledge into real results that can be measured.

Landfill improvement and gas valorisation at two landfills in Havana, Cuba



LIFE IP CleanEST – addressing residual pollution from oil shale in Estonia



Technical assistance for oil spillover assessment and response planning in North East Syria

Identification of environmental damage and cost estimates following an oil spill in Peru

What is a Project-ready expert?

A Project-Ready Expert is an experienced professional available for deployment into projects requiring technical delivery, advisory input, or fieldwork – sometimes at short notice, and often in high-pressure or complex environments.

This pathway is designed for:

- Environmental consultants and engineers
- Remediation specialists, hydrogeologists, ecotoxicologists, risk assessors
- Water and sanitation engineers
- Waste management specialists, waste disposal engineers
- GIS/data specialists
- Environmental project managers
- Sampling team experts, field survey experts
- Chemical analysis experts

Core traits:

- Responsive
- Field-ready
- Collaborative

How deployment works

When your skills match a project need, we will:

1. Contact you directly with a **role brief** and project context
2. Share the **scope, timeline, risk profile, deliverables**, and **compensation** (if funded)
3. Invite you to confirm interest and availability
4. Provide a **briefing pack**, data access, and project support
5. Support you during delivery and request a short debrief post-assignment

You are never obligated to accept a role. This is a **flexible and voluntary network** until a formal agreement is signed for a specific assignment.

What you bring

We are looking for experts who can:

- Deploy on short notice (when feasible)
- Bring advanced technical skill and field experience (where required)
- Operate in complex, sensitive environments
- Communicate clearly with partners, clients, and local stakeholders
- Adapt to changing conditions, incomplete data, or bureaucratic blockers
- Work respectfully across cultures and disciplines

You may be asked to:

Conduct on-site assessments or sampling

Develop remediation plans or risk analyses

Review documents or provide situational input remotely

Support local capacity building through training and mentoring

Represent the NICOLE Foundation in field or partner meetings



What we provide

When deployed, the NICOLE Foundation aims to offer:



A clearly defined
scope of work



Technical support from
internal teams or peer experts



Project briefings and
cultural context notes



A fair compensation model
when budget allows

(we are transparent about which
roles are funded or voluntary)



Access to shared
tools, templates, or
field protocols

We also provide



**Recognition and optional
visibility in reports, media
or publications**



**Opportunities to present
at technical forums or
share learning**



**Access to internal
training sessions and
expert roundtables**

FAQs

Will my time be paid for?

Many roles are funded, especially for donor-backed projects. Others will be pro-bono because the budgets are unavailable. You'll always be told upfront.

What's the expected notice period?

Deployment windows vary. Some are weeks in advance, others 48 hours where urgent response is needed. You'll only be asked when it fits your stated availability.

Can I decline a role?

Yes! There is no obligation. You control your involvement.

Can I refer someone else?

Absolutely. We welcome referrals of trusted, experienced professionals.

How to join

1. Register online here – [**NICOLE Foundation Associate Network**](#)
2. Share your technical profile, availability, and preferred regions or focus areas
3. Receive curated deployment calls and updates based on your expertise

We aim to match people with the *right* opportunities – not just the nearest or fastest. You will only be contacted when there is a meaningful fit.



You'll never be asked to take on something that doesn't suit your role, timing, or interest.

This is a network built on
trust, capability, and urgency.

As a **Project-Ready Expert**, you are part
of something larger than any single job
or project. You are part of a community
restoring ecosystems and protecting
people where others have walked away.

We're glad you're here.



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