

CURIOSOIL ARTATHON 2025

Submission Guidelines for Artists

The Curiosoil Artathon invites artists to submit project proposals that creatively explore the theme of soil and its importance to ecosystems, climate, and culture. Selected projects will be developed over six months and exhibited in Wageningen (NL) and Aveiro (PT), as well as in digital format.

To ensure feasibility and alignment with exhibition requirements, all submissions must meet the following criteria:

1. TRANSPORTABILITY

- Artworks must be suitable for safe transport between venues.
- **Maximum dimensions:**
 - Wall-mounted: 100 cm x 100 cm x 10 cm
 - Freestanding: Base max 100 cm x 100 cm, height up to 200 cm
- **Maximum weight:** 15 kg
- Must be capable of being packed flat, crated, or disassembled.
- Artists are responsible for transport and packaging unless otherwise arranged.

Required: Brief description of how the work will be packed and shipped.

2. DURABILITY FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY

- Works must be non-perishable, robust, and designed for repeated public engagement.
- Interactive elements must withstand regular use.

Required: Materials list, noting any fragility or special considerations.

3. EASE OF INSTALLATION

- Artworks must be installable in under 2 hours by two people.
- No specialized technicians should be required.

Required:

- Simple installation guide (PDF, max 2 pages)
- OR a short video (max 2 minutes)

4. DIGITAL REPRODUCIBILITY

- All artworks must be digitizable for online exhibition and archiving.
- **Minimum requirements:**
 - Images: JPEG/PNG, 2000px minimum width
 - Video (if applicable): MP4, max 3 min
 - Audio (if applicable): MP3/WAV, max 3 min

Required: Upload up to 5 supporting media files.

5. WORK DESCRIPTION & AUDIENCE INTERACTION

A written description (max 300 words) must accompany each proposal. This section is essential for understanding both the creative concept and how it engages the public.

Please include the following:

- **Concept and artistic vision:** What is the idea behind your work? What message or experience does it aim to convey?

- **Relevance to soil/ecosystems:** How does the piece relate to the theme of soil, soil health, ecosystems, or human-soil interaction?
- **Target audience:** Indicate whether your work is designed for children under 12, adolescents and adults over 12, or both.
- **Intended form of interaction:** Describe the nature of interaction (e.g. tactile, sensory, narrative, participatory, technology-based, or workshop series).
- **Facilitation:** Specify if the piece requires facilitation. If so, who would facilitate it (the artist, a local staff member, a volunteer)?
- **Engagement logistics:** Estimate the average time a visitor would spend with the piece and the maximum number of users who can interact with it simultaneously.

Required: A concise audience interaction summary (max 150 words), describing how people will engage with your work in practice.

6. INTERACTIVITY & ENGAGEMENT

- Works must include at least one interactive element (e.g. tactile, narrative, sensory, participatory).
- Interaction may take various forms, including:
 - Individual engagement with an installation
 - Collective contributions (e.g. soil drawings, participatory sculpture)
 - Technological interaction (AR, sound, light)
 - A **series of workshops** that engage participants over time
- Must be safe for children and accessible to diverse audiences.

7. OUTDOOR INSTALLATION OPTION

- Artworks may also be conceived for outdoor display, provided the artist considers the specific challenges of:
 - **Weatherproofing** (rain, wind, UV exposure, temperature swings)
 - **Public access and vandalism prevention**
 - **Anchoring and safety** (no sharp edges or unstable components)
 - **Ease of setup/removal** (must not require heavy equipment)
- Outdoor works must be built using **durable, sustainable materials** suitable for open-air conditions.

Required: Indicate if your work is intended for outdoor display and provide a brief risk mitigation plan.

8. SAFETY & ACCESSIBILITY

- No toxic, flammable, or dangerous materials.
- Include inclusive design features where possible (e.g. subtitles, tactile elements, alternatives for sound/light).
- Use simple language or visual instructions to enhance accessibility.

Required: Confirm compliance with safety/accessibility standards.

9. OWNERSHIP, SALE & REPRODUCTION RIGHTS

- Artists retain ownership of physical artworks.
- By submitting, artists grant Curiosoil/ISRIC non-exclusive rights to reproduce, digitize, and use images/videos for educational and promotional purposes.
- Artists agree **not to sell the artwork until the end of the final exhibition in Aveiro, Portugal (2027)**, unless otherwise authorized in writing by the curator.

- Artists must notify the curator in the event of an intended sale after this period.

Required: Consent checkbox in the submission form.

10. TECHNICAL & LOGISTICAL NEEDS

- Clearly outline any technical, spatial, or environmental requirements for your work:
 - Power, lighting, sound, temperature, darkness, etc.
 - Expected duration or maintenance schedule (if applicable)
 - Any dependencies on equipment, staffing, or budget support

Required: Description of technical needs and any expected contributions from the organizers.

11. INSURANCE

- Artists are encouraged to ensure their works are insured for transport and exhibition.
- The organizing team will provide **basic liability coverage** for the exhibition space; however, **insurance of the artwork itself remains the artist's responsibility** unless otherwise agreed in advance.

Required: Indicate whether you have artwork insurance and note any concerns regarding risk or value.

Please ensure all documentation and files are submitted according to the specified formats. Incomplete submissions may not be considered.

For any questions, contact: [Curator's Email]

We look forward to seeing your creative explorations of the world beneath our feet!

— The Curiosoil Team

