

Project proposal (to be registered online by 20 November 2017)

1. Proposal information

Title:	“SPIRALE MINÉRALE” – Biodiversity and Disability
Contest:	Benelux
Quarry name:	Antoing
Language:	
Stream:	• Community
Award category:	• Connecting quarries and local communities

2. Contestant profile

First name:	
Last name:	
Job title:	
Graduation level:	
Organization / University:	
E-mail:	claugier.art@gmail.com
Twitter profile:	
LinkedIn profile:	
Personal website:	
Short biography:	

3. Project description

Project short description

SPIRALE MINÉRALE (Rock Spiral) is a collective project that will allow people with a mental or physical disability (blind and partially sighted people) to interact with an unusual natural space and use their own physical resources to create and build a sustainable structure that benefits the environment and biodiversity.

This description will be displayed on QLA website if your proposal is selected. A short summary should be used to generate public interest in your project.

Project long description and objectives (what?)

The SPIRALE MINÉRALE project aims to foster a harmonious ecosystem that respects nature.

CONCEPT AND OBJECTIVES

The construction of the spiral is inspired by two types of structure:

Firstly, the “insect spiral” used in gardens and secondly, the traditional Walloon dry stone walls known as “crêtes à cayaux”.

Integration into the landscape is a fundamental aim

The rock spiral produced and inspired by these two structures will have an outsize diameter, as is appropriate for the gargantuan site, and will be sited on top of a spoil heap.

The SPIRALE MINÉRALE will be a collective work of art, built from natural materials amid natural surroundings. It will integrate and interact with the landscape, working both with and within nature.

To respect the environment and enable integration, its height will not exceed 2.50 metres. In terms of overall size, it will have a diameter of 6-10 metres and rise up to 2.50 metres above ground level at its centre. The thickness will vary according to the height of the stone wall.

Aiming to add value to the site:

The structure will provide a habitat for the flora and fauna that naturally colonize old walls. It can also be equipped with nest boxes for solitary wasps and bees, which will be made from logs (by disabled people) and incorporated into the structure.

The SPIRALE MINÉRALE will itself be a self-managing harmonious ecosystem. It will considerably enhance diversity at the top of the spoil heap.

OUTCOMES

The project aims to enhance the overall wealth of local biodiversity by being naturally constructed from dry stone.

The project will be accompanied by an educational campaign for the general public, the aim of which will be to promote appreciation of the sustainable ecological management of industrial sites such as quarries that are valuable for wildlife and plants.

This sustainable campaign will combat the threats faced by natural species and spaces.

This campaign will aim to foster appreciation of the value of natural spaces and indigenous species, highlight the existence and impact of invasive species, and so on.

Biodiversity faces threats of many kinds on a daily basis. We need to relearn how to live with our immediate natural surroundings. One step towards protecting biodiversity is to consistently educate every possible audience about the environment: schoolchildren, families, intergenerational audiences and the disabled.

Actions and activities / Details of the project:

WHO IS IT FOR?

The second dimension targeted by the project is to have the structure built primarily by disabled people.

Erecting the spiral will help to educate and support people with a mental or physical disability (blind and partially sighted people), enabling them to interact with an unusual natural space and use their own physical resources to create and build a sustainable structure that benefits the environment and biodiversity.

Direct involvement:

This experience will give an opportunity for environmental creation to disabled people, allowing them to take part in a group activity both in the community and with other local institutional bodies and enabling them to play a role outside institutional walls. A range of organizations for different disabilities can participate in the creation



of the structure.

Creative activity erases difference; the project aims to help people to learn how to live alongside each other.

Creating the sculpture will have both a therapeutic and an educational goal. Manual work helps to deepen connections with the real world. It creates bonds between members of a group and a connection that promotes living alongside each other.

The SPIRALE MINÉRALE project is a powerful tool for personal fulfilment and social bonding which will give people a sense of autonomy, whatever their disability.

The project also aims to involve the general public directly within the group, by giving them the chance to experience part of its creation from the perspective of a disabled person, for instance by wearing dark glasses.

In order to attract members of the public, the activity will be promoted via the AWIPH's "Leisure and Disability" database, as well as with local institutions.

Innovative aspect of the project and added value:

In terms of biodiversity:

The spiral is unprecedented in an industrial setting, enhancing the site and strengthening biodiversity.

In terms of social bonds:

Its creation will make it a powerful model for living together. In terms of

its impact on the quarry:

This innovative approach is unique in its field.

Please describe what you would like to do during the "research phase" of the contest if your proposal is chosen. Questions to ask:

What are the methods I will use to find answers or which tools will I develop/use to implement the project?

- What are the targets of my research study or my project?
- What results do I expect and how will they help to safeguard biodiversity? What is
- my target group (e.g. students, company workers, biologists)?

Methods - Actions and activities (how?):

Communication:

Active public participation will be achieved via communications to the local press, community newsletters and local television and radio stations, as well as through:

– the AWIPH's "Leisure and disability" database. – mutual health

insurers and their affiliates.

– a letter to all institutions for disabled people.

Construction:

Palette Nature, a non-profit organization, will take charge of supervising institution residents, teachers and assistants.

It is planned to bring the public to the site via association minibuses, in agreement with the quarry operator.

The number of participants in each workshop will be discussed with the site manager for safety reasons, but is not expected to exceed 12 persons.



Timetable for activities:

HEIDELBERGCEMENT

A timetable for on-site activities will be drawn up in conjunction with the quarry operator.

Raw materials:

Flat stones will be needed for the project – ideally these will be supplied by quarry staff and brought to the location of the spiral. Wheelbarrows (to be brought by volunteers) and working gloves (to be purchased for the participants).

Funding:

Palette Nature requests a budget for supervisory work based on the number of days to be worked. Group supervision costs €70 for 3 hours or €140 per day, regardless of the number of participants. In total, at least two weeks' work will be needed to complete the SPIRALE MINÉRALE.

Questions to ask:

What are the methods I will use to find answers or which tools will I develop/use to implement the project?

- Describe in more detail all methods you will use for your research study Describe for
- your project the things you need and the way you will get them How can I assure
- reliability in my results or my project?

Involved groups and persons (who?):

Assistance:

Site leader plus team: Required in order to handle the raw material and bring materials to the site. The site leader will plan on-site activities together with Palette Nature and oversee the safety of the group.

Palette Nature facilitator: Before the start of the project, Palette Nature will be responsible for promoting it to the various target institutions and recruiting enough participants for the work. The facilitator will then be responsible for leading and supervising the participants, for creating the artwork and fostering a sense of shared experience and dialogue, and for gathering and circulating feedback.

Creating the artwork:

Participants: Volunteers – disabled people, educators or assistants, the general public – across a range of ages including both adults and teenagers.

Plus outside parties: Television crews and journalists will be invited to report on the creation of the artwork.

Questions to ask:

Will your project involve other stakeholders in addition to your team members?

Which organizations or persons do I need to involve to succeed in my research or project targets?

- These are people who will not be directly involved in the research or project team but are important for obtaining access to information, land, budget and technical support



Project timeline (when?):

Project implementation schedule:

Meeting with the quarry site manager:

Site visit, examine possibility of providing construction materials, schedule work, examine options for moving around the site, agree number of participants, schedule dates of work.

Contact phase:

Contact institutions and recruit participants.

Communication phase with institutions, the AWIPH, mutual health insurers, local authorities (consultation services for the disabled).

Public relations to promote the project and recruit participants. Press relations (television, radio, newspapers), to encourage them to get involved during the course of the project and report on its progress.

Scheduling of work:

Draw up a schedule in conjunction with the institutions, based on the agenda agreed with the company. Communicate dates to general public.

Get materials delivered to the site.

Build the “spirale minérale”. Institutions to build nest boxes for installation in the artwork.

Contact participating institutions and local elected representatives and invite them to an official presentation.

Inaugurate the collective artwork at a joint ceremony involving all parties involved – official presentation of the work to institutional and elected representatives.

Palette Nature to publicize project on social media throughout its duration.

Questions to ask:

What will be the timeline of my project (information collection phase, field work phase, report preparation phase)?

- Plan carefully step by step your field research or your project development.
- Ask yourself if the resources (time and money) are sufficient to get the answers on your questions or the project targets.



Describe the expected added value for Science / the Community (depending on the chosen project stream) (why?):

Added value for society:

In terms of biodiversity:

Biodiversity faces threats of many kinds on a daily basis:

- Persistent routine practices such as the use of chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides etc.) in gardening.
- Excess waste which is sent to landfill even when it could be composted or recycled.
- Excessive weeding, which is harmful to self-propagating indigenous wild species.
- Degradation of natural spaces (private gardens can be havens for wildlife, providing corridors between natural areas in a heavily urbanized countryside).
- Proliferation of invasive species (how to recognize them, eliminate them, stop buying them etc.). We need to relearn how to live with our immediate natural surroundings.

The SPIRALE MINÉRALE will benefit environmental diversity, but can also serve as a means to teach people about the environment. It can also be a place to observe the spontaneous spreading of wildlife and plants. A place of study for local schools and universities. And a place to inspire casual visitors to the quarry site.

Questions to ask:

What is the added value for Science?

- Overall target of the Quarry Life Award is to create an added value to nature and to science. How is your project or field research contributing to this?

What is the added value for the Community?

- Nature conservation and biodiversity protection are linked to human society by several ecosystem services. What is the value of your project for people and for the local community located near the chosen quarry?

Describe the expected added value for the site / the Company (why?):

Innovative aspect of the project and added value:

In terms of biodiversity:

The sculpture is unprecedented in an industrial setting, enhancing the site and strengthening biodiversity. Once installed in the mostly unoccupied space at the top of the spoil heap, it will provide places for wildlife and plants to shelter and reproduce. It will become a protective structure, an ecosystem in itself.

In terms of social bonds:

Its creation will make it a powerful model for living together. Participants will experience a rare group dynamic in which differences are accepted. In a region with a large concentration of services for disabled people, it is essential to find places where experiences can be shared and bonds created between all members of society. The “spirale minérale” project is built around a goal of social integration.

In terms of its impact on the quarry:

This innovative approach is unique in its field. It is an activity that will strengthen the bond between



society and the industrial surroundings. As such, it is a highly positive step for the company.

Questions to ask:

Is there an added value for the company?

- Prove if your research or project will create a business case for the quarry and for the company. Business cases can raise public awareness, reduction of costs for rehabilitation etc.

Project estimation (budget / time / workforce):

Project estimate:

Budget: Services by Palette Nature (non-profit organization): €140 per day for two weeks = €1680 (12 days).
Purchase of gloves at €4 per pair, based on number of participants. Flat stones.

Time: 1 week preparation with quarry operator; 2 months communications; 2 weeks construction

Workforce: Max. 12 participants per day (possibly two different groups for the mornings and afternoons, depending on number of applicants). Palette Nature facilitator. One site representative (attendance may be periodic rather than continual) plus outside staff (journalists).

Size of artwork may be revised, depending on number of volunteers (6-10 metres in diameter).

Questions to ask:

What costs are critical to the success of my project?

- Costs for information gathering and the field work (travel, tools)

4. Proposal categorization

Project focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration programmes • Connecting with local communities • Education and raising awareness • Rehabilitation & habitat research
Flora & fungi:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferns • Flowering plants • Fungi • Mosses and liverworts

Fauna:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amphibians & reptiles • Birds • Insects • Mammals • Other invertebrates
Stakeholders:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities • Local community
Habitat:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy and rocky habitat