



ECOS Board: Call for Expression of Interest

Full role description

- **Starting Date:** June 2026
- **Contract type:** Voluntary with a 3-year duration, renewable consecutively once
- **Location:** EU/Global (Remote with travel to Board meetings in Brussels)
- **Application closing date:** 28 February 2026

About the role

ECOS is seeking suitably qualified candidates, both independents and from within our membership, to join our governance and contribute to the strategic direction and governance of ECOS.

The ECOS Board (or Executive Committee) holds the second highest level of decision-making authority within ECOS, reporting into the Annual General Meeting. The Board shapes the future and ensures strong governance of ECOS.

This is a unique opportunity for an experienced leader to play a key role in guiding our vision and mission, and strategic decision-making, as well as drive positive environmental impact across the globe, while navigating a complex and evolving geopolitical landscape.

We are looking for suitably qualified candidates (independents and member representatives) aligned with our vision, mission and values. Candidates will have professional experience of, for example, Board governance, environmental NGOs, philanthropy, advisory, standardisation, policy & politics, international organisations.

Your responsibilities

- **Set the strategic direction:** maintain the vision, mission, and strategic direction, in particular agreeing and overseeing the implementation of the ECOS Strategic Plan 2025-2030
- **Policy & advocacy:** monitor the implementation of the strategy and major policies and programmes, including the annual work programme
- **Strategic decision-making:** act in the best interest of ECOS, making balanced and adequately informed decisions, and applying a long-term as well as a short-term perspective
- **Resources:** oversee the finances of ECOS responsibly, approving budgets and audit reports, and monitoring budget execution
- **Risk mitigation:** ensure that ECOS is addressing risks appropriately, and is taking the remedial action needed

- **Compliance:** ensure that the organisation complies with its Articles of Association, Belgian law, and any other relevant legislation
- **Leadership:** act as the Executive Director's line management, appoint, support, and challenge the Executive Director, ensuring they have all the resources needed to lead effectively

What we are looking for

We are seeking candidates who are aligned with, have an understanding of, and commitment to, the ECOS vision, mission, values and Strategy.

Essential experience & skills:

- Senior leadership experience in governance, sustainability, standardisation, philanthropy, policy or a related field
- Strong understanding of environmental challenges, particularly in Europe, Africa and at the global level
- Demonstrable experience of contributing to strategic board-level discussions and decision-making
- Strong governance skills, including crisis management, performance evaluation, stakeholder management, strategic thinking
- Experience engaging with government, international institutions, philanthropy, or multi-stakeholder initiatives
- A strong professional network that can support ECOS advocacy and fundraising goals
- Experience in non-profit governance and/or fundraising
- Awareness of the external trends affecting the work of ECOS, including in the environmental impact sector
- Demonstrated excellence in ethical leadership, communication, networking and negotiation skills.

Desirable:

- Knowledge of the standardisation system
- Prior board or strategic advisory committee experience
- A background in strategic partnerships or stakeholder engagement
- Experience in navigating legal and compliance issues for organisations
- People and culture leadership experience

Commitment & participation

Board members are expected to have sufficient time available to execute the responsibilities of this role. In practice, this typically includes Board meetings, preparation, task-force work, and engagement between meetings. Some years may require a higher level of involvement.

- Attend at least 4 Board meetings annually (held in-person in Brussels, remotely or hybrid) (4-day commitment/year plus preparation)
- Attend the Annual General Meeting (in Brussels usually in June) (1-day commitment/year)
- Join Board Task Forces to contribute between Board meetings (2-day commitment/year)
- Board members serve a three-year term, renewable once consecutively

Compensation & reimbursement

This role is unremunerated, offering personal and professional growth and development opportunities, as well as visibility. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed in line with ECOS travel policy. Board members are appointed for a three-year term, renewable once concurrently.

Apply now

If you are interested in helping ECOS make an impact, we invite you to apply. **Please submit your CV with a brief statement of motivation (1 page max), outlining your experience working in similar roles, what contribution you could offer to enhance our impact, why you are interested in joining the ECOS Board, by midnight 28 February 2026 to careers@ecostandard.org with the subject line “ECOS Board member: your name”.**

ECOS is an equal-opportunity employer, placing great value on diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We welcome applications from candidates with diverse cultural backgrounds and expertise.

In line with our commitment to diversity, ECOS seeks to ensure a diversity of applications by, for example, geography, age, or gender. All appointments will be made on merit, following a fair and transparent process and in line with relevant Belgian legislation.

Process

Potential candidates will be invited to interviews during March and April, the Board will make its recommendation in April, and the successful candidates **will be appointed by election at the AGM in Brussels on 9 June.**

Concerning the use of Artificial Intelligence in applications

We are interested in getting to know your authentic self and your unique set of skills and experiences, which cannot be generated by AI. Please therefore limit the use of AI to reformulation and be aware of its environmental impact. **If you have used AI for your application, please declare it**, indicating what type of AI tools you have used and for what purpose.

About ECOS

ECOS is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies and laws. We ensure the environmental voice is heard when they are developed and drive change by providing expertise to policymakers and industry players, leading to the implementation of strong environmental principles. ECOS is headquartered in Brussels with a regional office in Nairobi and has an exceptional team of 35+ staff supported by a network of over 50 technical experts, and over 60 member organisations. www.ecostandard.org

ECOS Strategy 2025 – 2030, an environmental vision that drives change

Using targeted advocacy, for-impact communications, and strategic partnerships, ECOS works to trigger change through policy and standards internationally. We give the environment a strong voice in standardisation, strategically expanding our regional footprint to exert influence at national, regional, and international level. We also work to reinforce our identity as a collaborative, global organisation that blends stability with agility.

Discover the three pillars of our Strategy: <https://ecostandard.org/our-strategy>.

A values-based approach

At ECOS, we strive for a healthy and clean environment, protected by robust rules that respect nature and its resources. Our organisational values are our guiding principles, giving the ECOS network a

common purpose and direction. They also establish a foundation for collaboration among ECOS colleagues and our broader community.

Learn more: <https://ecostandard.org/our-values>.