

The Green Construction Board



Biodiversity Roadmap Launch event



Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Group
Green Construction Board

28 February 2024



Construction
Leadership
Council

The Green Construction Board



Welcome

David Pinder

Agenda

- **Welcome – David Pinder**
Chair of Green Construction Board and Executive Chair of Mixergy
- **Industry context - Matt Palmer**
CLC Lead for Net Zero and Biodiversity and Executive Director of Lower Thames Crossing (LTC)
- **Overview of the Roadmap – Louise Clarke & Dr Martina Girvan**
Chair of the Green Construction Board – Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Working Group and Group Head of Sustainability, Berkeley Group
Senior Technical Director – Head of Ecology, Arcadis
- **Why collaboration is need to achieve our goals for biodiversity – Dr Anusha Shah**
ICE President and Senior Director, Resilient Cities, Arcadis
- **Panel discussion**



The UN Convention on Biological Diversity's Framework looks to achieve 'zero net loss of nature' from 2020, 'net positive' by 2030, and a full recovery of nature by 2050.



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The Industry context

Matt Palmer

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Overview of the Roadmap

Louise Clarke & Martina Girvan



The earth is what
we all have in common.

Wendell Berry novelist, poet, essayist, environmental activist, and farmer

BACKGROUND

The Green Construction Board identified biodiversity and environmental net gain using nature-based solutions and a sustainable supply chain as a key area of focus which needs greater emphasis within the construction industry.

A working group (Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Working Group) was started in 2021 to focus on biodiversity and drive understanding in the industry.

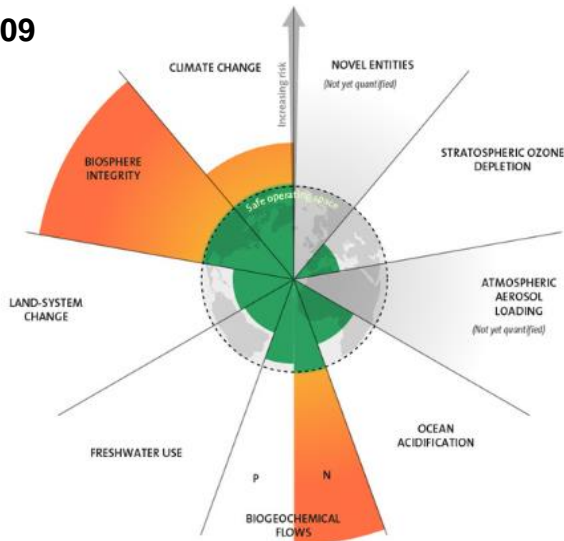
The working group produce a thought piece on nature in the built environment.



CONTEXT

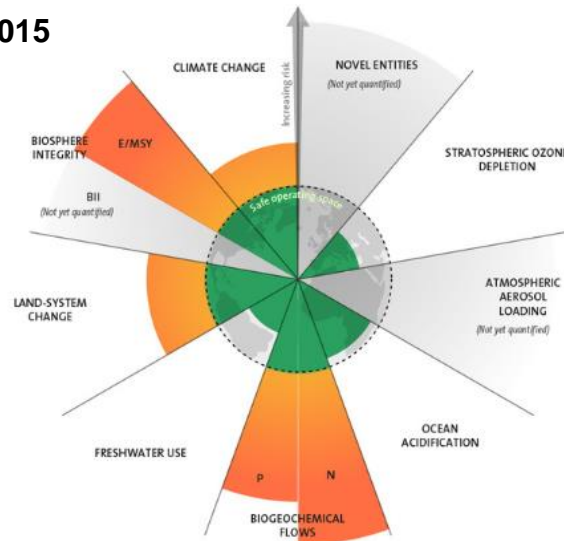
Our ecosystems are already at, or potentially beyond, the critical thresholds.

2009



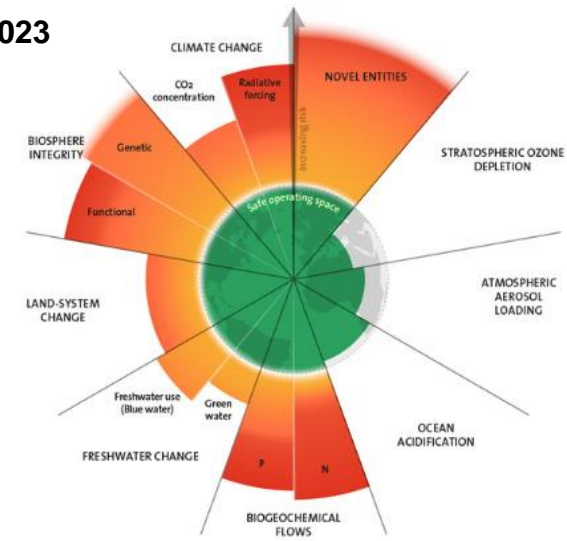
7 boundaries assessed,
3 crossed

2015



7 boundaries assessed,
4 crossed

2023



9 boundaries assessed,
6 crossed



CONTEXT



US \$ 44tn
Economic value generation moderately or highly dependent on nature¹



80% UN SDG
Targets threatened by declines in biodiversity leading to systemic risk²



US \$ 10tn
Expected annual business opportunity achieved by 2030 with nature positive actions³



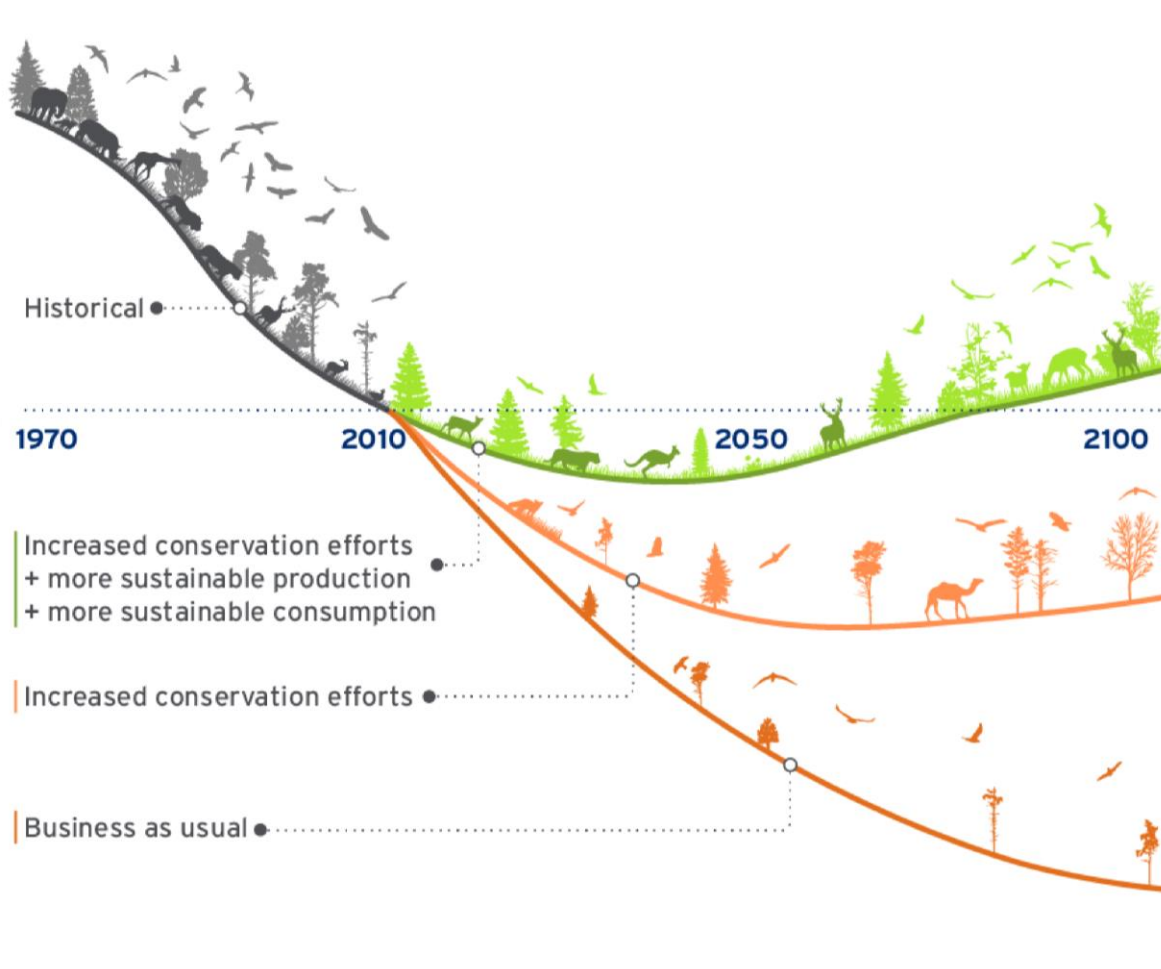
68%
Average decline in species population sizes since 1970⁴



37,400
Species threatened with extinction⁵



75% New Disease
Spillover from animals resulting in 2.5bn illnesses from zoonotic disease⁶



We need to maximise every opportunity to deliver biodiversity and environmental net gain to restore these systems so that we can all enjoy the quality of life in the future that we have today.



Complexity of the system

The construction industry not only impacts but depends directly and indirectly upon biodiversity and ecosystems although these interdependencies are often less tangible.



This complexity has pulled focus from the crises; however, it is just that complexity that delivers the resilience against climate change, stability, productivity, and sustainability upon which we depend.



The Vision

Alfred Place Gardens



The Vision



The development of the roadmap

Aims

Biodiversity and nature is a complex area. There are different focuses such as **ecosystem services**, **nature-based solutions**, **natural capital** and the emerging term **nature positive**. The roadmap sets out what the industry should prioritise with the ultimate aim to be 'nature positive' and align with the targets in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity's Framework.

Development of the roadmap

Key priorities

Identified the key priorities for the roadmap.

Targets

Set key targets under each of the key priorities

Actions

These were set out under short (2025), Medium (2028) and long term (2030).



Consultation feedback

1. Level of ambition of the roadmap
2. The number of themes and complexity of the roadmap
3. NGO's role in the delivery
4. Delivery of the actions – who's responsibility



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The Roadmap

Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Group

The Business Case

Operational - lower capital and management costs, provision of multiple benefits and climate resilience that single purpose grey infrastructure does not

Market - brand value, added value and new revenue streams



Reputational - stakeholder relations, improving social cohesion and opening access to land and long-term community management support

Regulatory - accelerating consents and at lower costs by positive design and management

Financing - access to more favourable loans, grants, co-delivery and resource efficiencies

KEY THEMES OF THE ROADMAP

The roadmap has three themes which are the strategic priorities and are grouped around similar topics. Under each of the themes are the key areas of action. Under each of these key action areas we have set out the aim for the theme, targets and then the detail on how we are going to achieve the vision over the short (2 years), medium (5 years) and long term (8 years).



Summary of Targets



DRIVERS, FUNDING AND DELIVERY



1. BNG over 10% delivered on all development projects not just new developments by 2025
2. Sites proposed for BNG align with Local Nature Recovery and other spatial strategies by 2025
3. Uptake of Urban Greening Factor and 20% BNG Target by 2028
4. Biodiversity loss is halted across the UK by 2030 and ENG in legislation with clear timelines by 2030



1. Have a clear and agreed (by government and industry) approach on benefit stacking, including additionality by 2025
2. Standardised industry agreed figures for benefits and costs of NbS and sustainable supply chain 2028
3. Green Finance becomes accessible and BAU by 2030



MEASUREMENT, MANAGEMENT, MONITORING



1. BNG metric used on all projects to baseline and measure improvements by 2025
2. Metrics for indirect (supply chain) as well as direct land use change to be implemented by 2028
3. Simple measuring tools developed for ENG and used across industry by 2030



1. Sustainable management specifications adopted as standard by 2028
2. LPAs and institutional landowners to have a sustainable environmental maintenance plan or sustainable maintenance within their nature recovery plans by 2030



1. Sites that are on the BNG register monitor the habitats by 2025
2. Sites proposed for BNG monitor and demonstrate additional Environmental Targets by 2028
3. Combine and centralise the current data into a government led national database of biodiversity land use and quality by 2030



UPSKILLING AND ENGAGEMENT



1. Increase awareness of BNG and ENG, across the sector by 2025
2. Embed training into institutions and industry bodies and deliver industry wide modules by 2028
3. Double the number of environmental professionals employed in industry by 2030



1. Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain is a central criteria of mainstream industry awards/ recognition schemes 2025
2. Every company has a biodiversity champion in their workforce and/or engagement with nature focussed groups 2028
3. Companies have engagement with/use of key, relevant voluntary certification schemes as standard e.g. Building with Nature, TNFD 2030





Drivers and Policy Targets

1. BNG over 10% delivered on all development projects not just new developments by 2025
2. Sites proposed for BNG align with Local Nature Recovery and other spatial strategies by 2025
3. Uptake of Urban Greening Factor and 20% BNG Target by 2028
4. Biodiversity loss is halted across the UK by 2030 and ENG in legislation with clear timelines by 2030

- Integration into permitted developments
- Bigger, better, more joined up
- Increasing to 15 or 20% BNG negligible additional cost
- 10% of nothing is nothing!
- Let's make the most of the opportunities





Funding and Delivery

1. Have a clear and agreed (by government and industry) approach on benefit stacking, including additionality by 2025
 2. Standardised industry agreed figures for benefits and costs of NbS and sustainable supply chain 2028
 3. Green Finance becomes accessible and BAU by 2030
- How to stack demonstrating additionality?
 - Reducing risk demonstrating benefit is key to unlocking green finance
 - Global net zero estimated to be up to £1 trillion requiring and additional 50bn per annum up to 2030. Nature goals up to 100bn.





Measurement

1. BNG metric used on all projects to baseline and measure improvements by 2025
 2. Metrics for indirect (supply chain) as well as direct land use change to be implemented by 2028
 3. Simple measuring tools developed for ENG and used across industry by 2030
- BNG baselining and monitoring across all land parcels
 - Metrics for measuring indirect impacts agreed and implemented across industry (TNFD)
 - Agreed and user-friendly tool and metrics across industry for measuring all Environmental Targets





Management

1. Sustainable management specifications adopted as standard by 2028
 2. LPAs and institutional landowners to have a sustainable environmental maintenance plan or sustainable maintenance within their nature recovery plans by 2030
- We can achieve material improvement managing the land we have, for very little cost, Sustainable Land Management aligned with development and operation





Monitoring

1. Sites that are on the BNG register monitor the habitats by 2025
 2. Sites proposed for BNG monitor and demonstrate additional Environmental Targets by 2028
 3. Combine and centralise the current data into a government led national database of biodiversity land use and quality by 2030
- We have a national database that tracks the biodiversity and environmental benefits delivered by our land.



1. Increase awareness of BNG and ENG, across the sector by 2025
 2. Embed training into institutions and industry bodies and deliver industry wide modules by 2028
 3. Double the number of environmental professionals employed in industry by 2030
- Sharing and embedding knowledge similarly to net zero.
 - We will run out of people before we run out of money!
 - 200,00 shortage for net zero alone, 17000 unfilled positions in green finance with Nature Experts “like gold dust”
















Engagement

1. Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain is a central criteria of mainstream industry awards/ recognition schemes 2025
 2. Every company has a biodiversity champion in their workforce and/or engagement with nature focussed groups 2028
 3. Companies have engagement with/use of key, relevant voluntary certification schemes as standard e.g. Building with Nature, TNFD 2030
- Nature awards are front and centre in our industry, rather than an add on
 - A biodiversity champion role is seen as important as H and S and wellbeing ambassadors
 - Accreditation for nature related targets is BAU



Thank you - Green Construction Board Working Group

Thank you to all the hard work of the working group for their time and dedication to getting this roadmap ready. With special thanks to **Martina Girvan** as **Lead Author of the Roadmap.**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Hannah Bilston |  | Heleni Pantelidou | ARUP |
| Philip Box |  | Ellie Powers |  |
| Louise Clarke (Chair) |  | Mark Ross |  |
| Martina Girvan |  | Kay Tor |  |
| Phil Henry |  | Rosie Whicheloe |  |
| David Mason |  | Melissa Zanocco |  |

Visual Communication Support: Mags Ashmore (Arcadis)



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Why collaboration is needed to achieve our goals for biodiversity

Dr Anusha Shah

The Green Construction Board



Panel Discussion



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THANK YOU