THE GROWTH
OF NATURE &
PLACE-BASED
GREEN FINANCE

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GREEN FINANCE FOR THE BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GREEN FINANCE AS PART OF THE GREEN TRANSITION

Key drivers & enablers for the UK's accelerated climate & nature transitions

PEOPLE



POLICY





MARKETS & BUSINESSES

New business models

Green Finance

Data & technology

Private investment & blended finance

The Green Finance Institute's coalitions are working to identify address barriers & catalyse markets e.g. stacking and bundling

WHAT IS GREEN FINANCE?

- Using the finance sector to help address key environmental and social challenges
- This has been primarily based around:
 - Climate Change Mitigation
 - Climate Change Adaptation
- The UK's first Green Finance Strategy (2019) distinguishes between Greening Finance and Financing Green

Total Investment (%)





■ Private Sector
■ Public Sector

GREEN FINANCE CAN BE LEVERAGED IN DIFFERENT DOMAINS

Accelar is working with local and combined authorities, infrastructure bodies, charities, businesses and the financial sector.

Energy Efficiency Transport Retrofit for Decarbonisation Buildings **Place-based approaches** Natural Capital Climate and Ecosystem Adaptation Services



NATURE GREEN FINANCE - THE BIG PICTURE



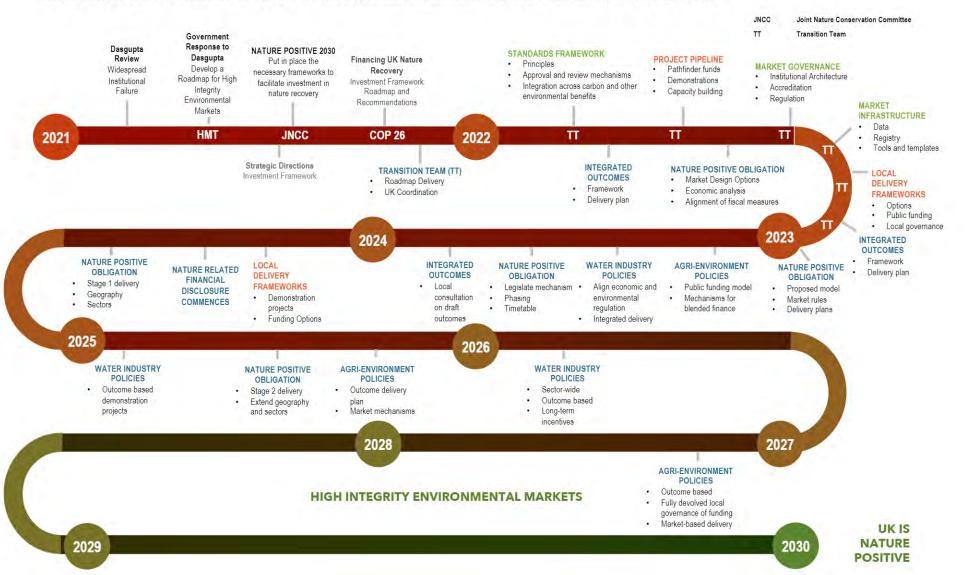
THERE IS A LARGE NATURE FINANCE GAP TO BRIDGE

- The finance gap for UK nature has been estimated at £44 to 97bn of investment above current public sector commitments over the next 10 years
- The largest gaps relate to:
 - England
 - climate mitigation (through bio-carbon)
 - the protection and/or restoration of biodiversity

(source: <u>Green Finance Institute/ Eftec,</u> October 2021)

ROADMAP

FINANCING UK NATURE RECOVERY - PUTTING NATURE ONTO A SUSTAINABLE PATH IN 2021



THE NATURE FINANCE TRANSITION

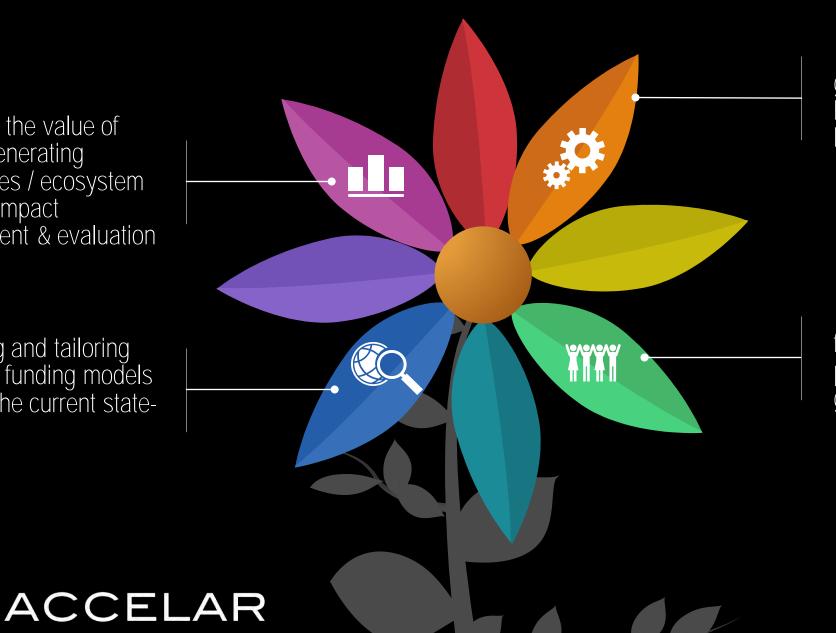
Towards high integrity environmental markets by 2030

(source: <u>Financing Nature</u> Recovery Coalition, draft, October 2021)

KEY TASKS TO GET NATURE GREEN FINANCE PROJECTS OFF THE GROUND

Appraising the value of revenue generating opportunities / ecosystem services; impact measurement & evaluation

Pinpointing and tailoring successful funding models based on the current stateof-the-art



Embedding revenue generation on an ongoing basis, alongside nature-based outcomes

Enabling and readiness funding: writing / reviewing proposals and collaborative grant funding applications

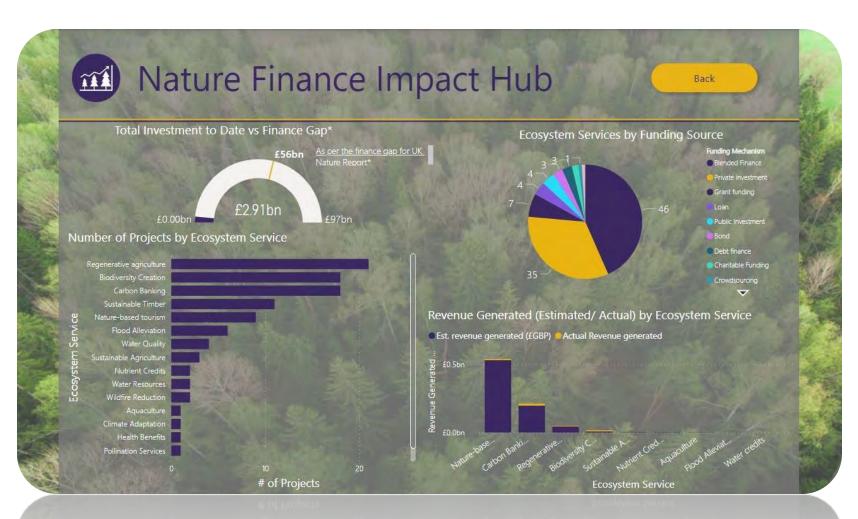
STATUS AND MARKET OUTLOOK FOR DIFFERENT ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

PINPOINTING THE FINANCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF NATURE POSITIVE PROJECTS: THE NATURE FINANCE IMPACT HUB

<u>accelerategreenfinance.com</u>





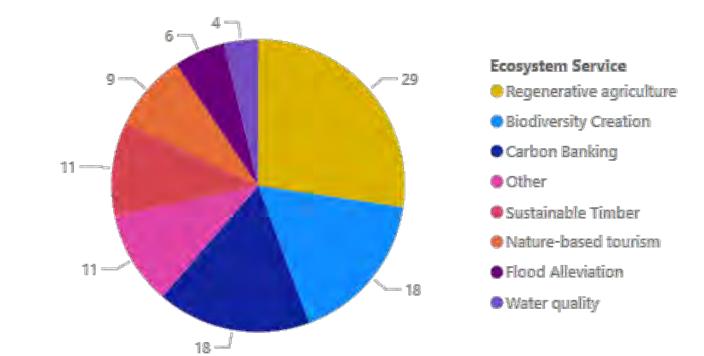


ECOSYSTEM SERVICES INSIGHTS



- Insights to be gained from 80+ nature positive projects, all with a green finance angle
- The hub has information on 15 ecosystem services, in 27 countries
- There are 18 projects in the UK, with 6 in the south of England
- We've captured a total investment into these projects of £3 billion+, with 10 million tCO2e captured, and nearly 1 million hectares of land restored (aggregated figures across all projects)

Projects by Ecosystem Service

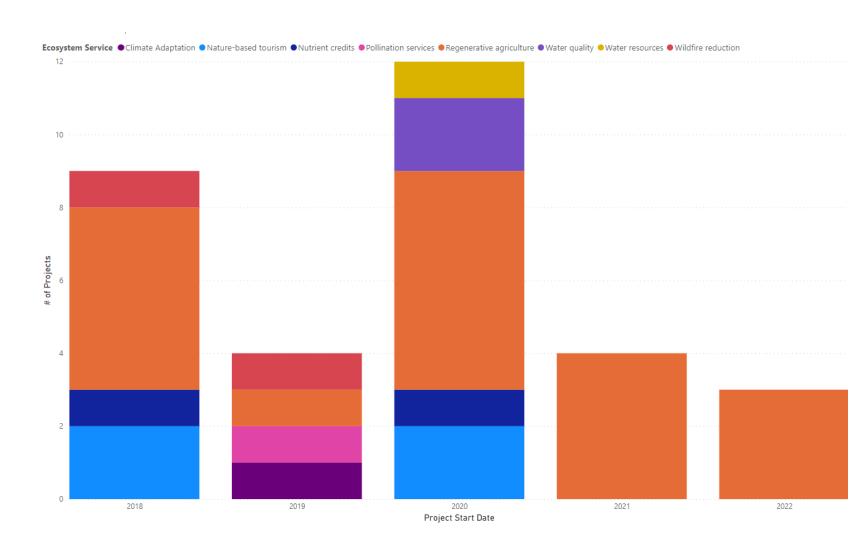




NEW MARKETS (BEYOND CARBON & BIODIVERSITY)

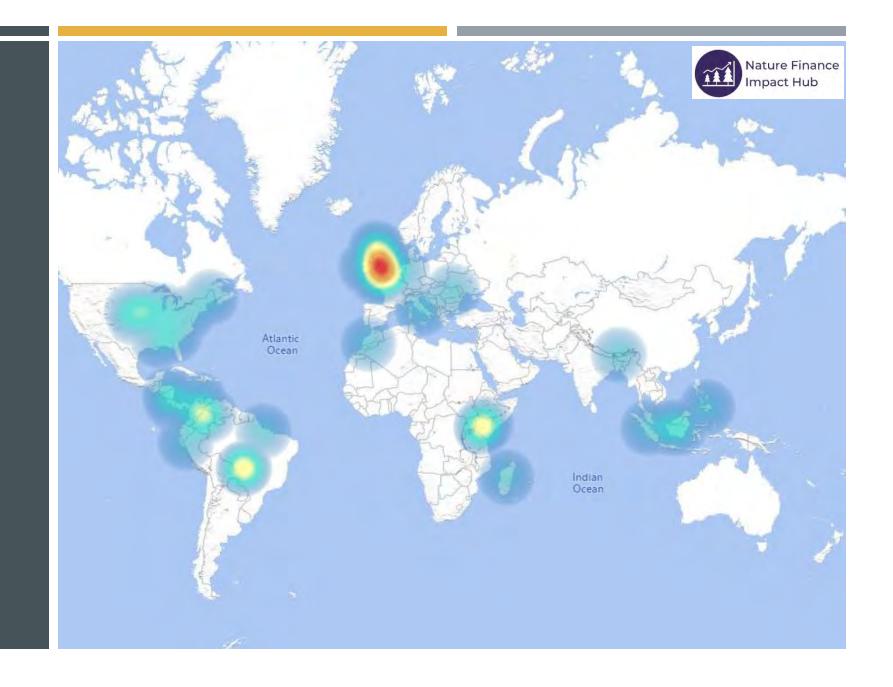


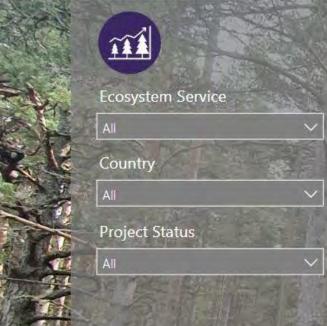
- The number of projects in new and emerging ecosystem services (outside of carbon and biodiversity net gain) is also gaining traction
- These ecosystem services have generated revenue of c.£230 million
- As well as generating revenue, they've bought cost savings of nearly £4.9 million
- Most have either been via blended finance mechanisms (15), or through private investment (11)



GLOBAL TRENDS IN SOME ECOSYSTEM SERVICES OF RELEVANCE TO THE GREEN HALO AREA

- This map identifies 5 ecosystem services: carbon banking, habitat banking, nature-based tourism, nutrient credits and regenerative agriculture
- In the last 2 years, 20 new projects began trading these ecosystem service
- Using this data, the industry has generated over £500 million in revenue, and has received a total of £2 billion of investment





Attracting over 181,000 visitors, resulting in higher wages, increased tax revenue, increased spending and new jobs in the region. Investor repayment will be tied to the economic development outcomes produced from the influx of new visitors to the Baileys Trail System. (Payment for success model)







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The hub is live:





CASE STUDIES OF TRAILBLAZING NATURE FINANCE PROJECTS

NEW FOREST NPA NEIRF PROJECT











Pioneering new approaches to nature restoration and climate resilience: NEIRF

Investment Models for Nature Restoration in the New Forest National Park



What new approaches are we trialling?

- We formed a partnership with global impact consultancy <u>Palladium</u> through the <u>Revere</u> partnership to investigate the potential for private funding for nature restoration in the National Park.
- The partnership was awarded £100,000 from the <u>Natural Environment Investment Readiness</u> <u>Fund</u> (NEIRF) to run a pilot project to design and test a commercial model for restoring nature.
- It ran from September 2021 to September 2022.
- Three landowners took part: Barker-Mill Estate, Cadland Estate, and Forestry England.





REVERE



Trial objectives

- Design nature restoration and land use change options with each estate participating in the trial
- Identify a range of ecosystem service revenue streams and explore opportunities to combine these in practice, to make nature restoration financially viable using private sources of funding.
- Design and test commercial models that calculate restoration costs, revenues from private finance opportunities, cashflows for projects, and landowner returns
- Create a replicable and scalable concept to enable delivery across the National Park.



Trial process

Baseline Mapping

A detailed natural capital baseline report was produced by Natural Capital Research for each estate, including the estate's existing:

- Natural capital stocks (assets)
- Ecosystem service flows (services)

Market opportunities research was undertaken by Palladium to understand the opportunities to derive an income from nature restoration from private sources as opposed to public sources.

Enhancement Mapping

Restoration design planning with each estate

Two scenarios were designed:

- 'Realistic' scenario considering marginal land and low risk land use change;
- 'Data-enhanced' restoration scenario

Natural capital modelling of restoration scenarios

- New natural capital assessment reports were generated for the restoration cases.
- Uplift in ecosystem services was quantified across each restoration scenario.

Economic Modelling

Cashflow model creation for each restoration scenario, including:

- Costs for the design and planning phase, restoration phase and long-term maintenance phase (up to 30 years).
- Estimated revenues from sale of ecosystem services and prospective public grants.
- Analysis of cashflow and returns for landowner per year for 30 years.
- Up front financing required to cover initial Capex of the project.

Implementation

The landowners have been provided with vital tools to guide their business planning for taking the nature restoration projects into implementation.

It is the role of the landowners to now decide on precisely how and when they wish to take the plans through into application.



What has the trial revealed (1/3)?

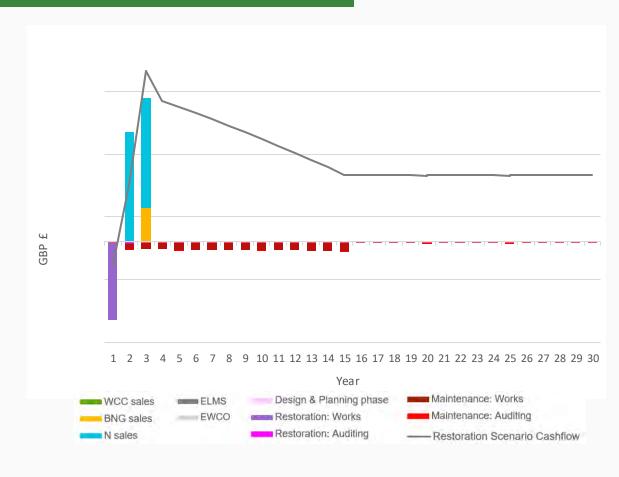
Opportunities to restore nature and create bigger, better, more joined-up habitats were identified across the landholdings. These included creating woodland, wetland, heath, hedgerows and meadows.



What has the trial revealed (2/3)?

- For each landowner,
 Palladium designed a
 bespoke cashflow model
 setting out the costs and
 revenues associated with
 nature restoration and
 resulting financial returns per
 year for 30 years.
- Restoring nature on the Barker Mill and Cadland Estates was revealed as a profitable business case when using private funding.

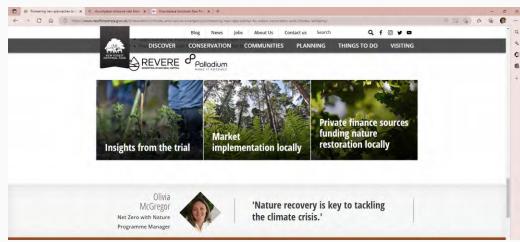
Cumulative Cash Flow over 30 Years





What has the trial revealed (3/3)?

 The trial has created a wealth of information on the state of the ecosystem services market in the New Forest National Park. It resulted in a set of market insights, information on each of the ecosystem services markets available in the National Park and the opportunities they present to landowners.



<u>Pioneering new approaches to nature restoration and climate resilience - New Forest National Park Authority (newforestnpa.gov.uk)</u>



FARMING FOR CARBON & NATURE: STUDENTS ORGANISING SUSTAINABILITY UK

- Supported by the Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (round 2)
- Creating & refining a new model for the UK university sector to leverage its extensive agricultural estate plus student science capabilities to generate soil carbon, biodiversity & other sellable benefits at scale



UNLOCKING GREEN FINANCE: CHILTERNS AONB

- Exploration to unlock green finance for various ecosystem services, building on a range of innovative programmes:
 - Water: River Chess Smart Water Catchment
 - People: Inspiring access amongst diverse local communities (Chalkscapes project)
 - Heritage: Beacons of the past, iron age hillforts

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

To follow up on anything discussed & to explore how we can collaborate please contact Chris Fry

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www.accelar.co.uk

- → net zero carbon
- → climate resilience
- → natural capital
- → green finance
- → circular economy

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Helping to accelerate the green transition