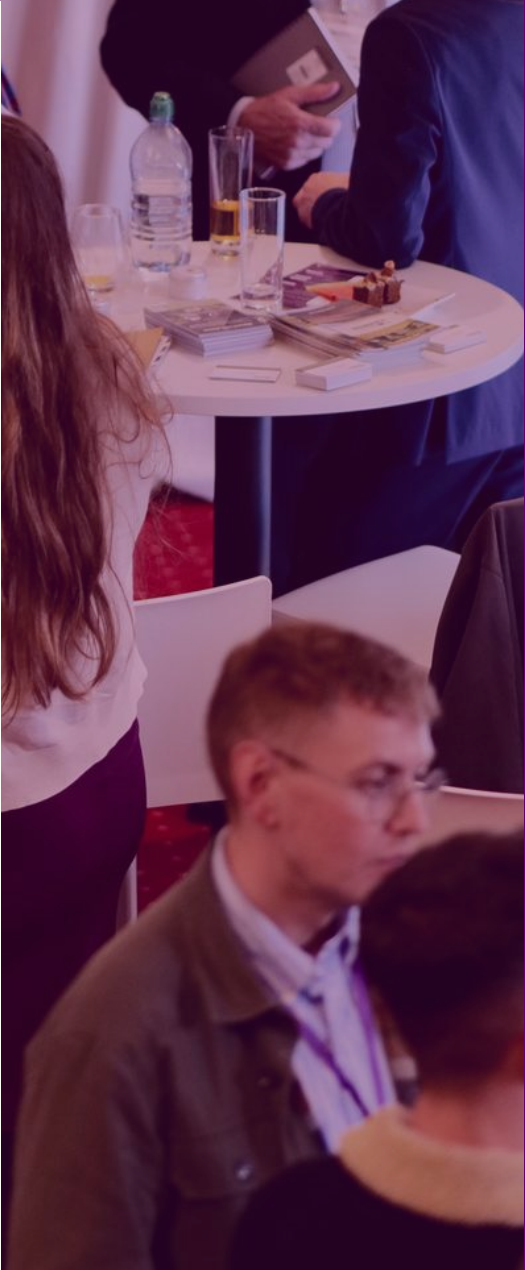




Ecosystems Knowledge
Network

Impact Report



Ecosystems
Knowledge
Network

2024-2025

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About us

About us

Ecosystems Knowledge Network (EKN) advances environmental restoration for the benefit of people and society. For over ten years, we have made a difference through the sharing of know-how and innovation between sectors and parts of the UK.

Through our learning resources, events and advice, we equip and connect people to play their part in shaping places that will achieve well-being and prosperity for everyone.

Our work is shaped by a diverse network of members and partner organisations. We continually adapt to meet frontline challenges and opportunities in harnessing the value of the environment in society.

Our story so far...

We were initiated by HM Government in response to a commitment for an Ecosystems Knowledge Network in the 2011 Environment White Paper, Securing the Value of Nature.

After launching in 2012 with project funding from Defra, together with Scottish Government and others, we grew to become a leading UK-wide network centred on harnessing the value of the environment in society.

In 2015, we gained registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



Our future

Our Mission

Through shared learning and networking, we connect people across sectors to accelerate ways to achieve a resilient and thriving environment.

Our Vision

To be the bridge between places, practices, and professions, ensuring the value of the environment for society is understood, shared, and acted upon.

Our Strategy for 2022-2027

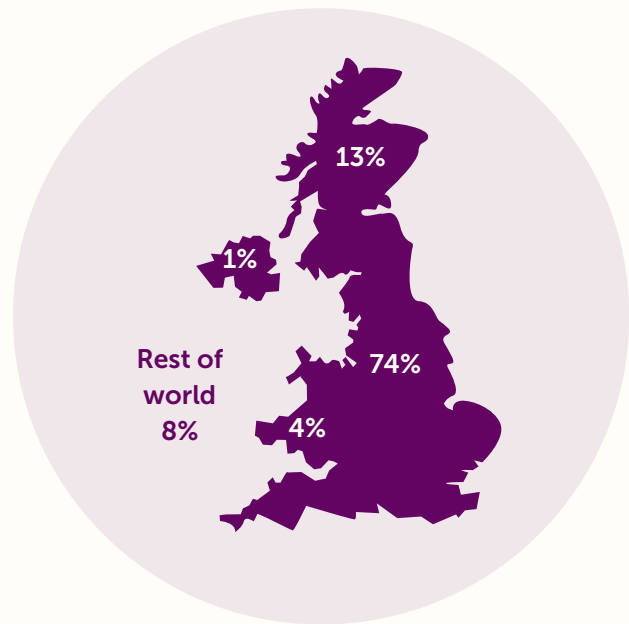
We will deliver high-quality learning opportunities to help change the stewardship of land, water and nature to an approach that harnesses the extensive value of the natural environment. This will range from curiosity-driven sharing of best practice through to the provision of formal continuing professional development.

At the heart of our charitable endeavour will be a social enterprise that delivers excellence in continuing professional development. This will include e-learning and training courses on cutting edge topics relating to our mission and not covered by others such as professional bodies.

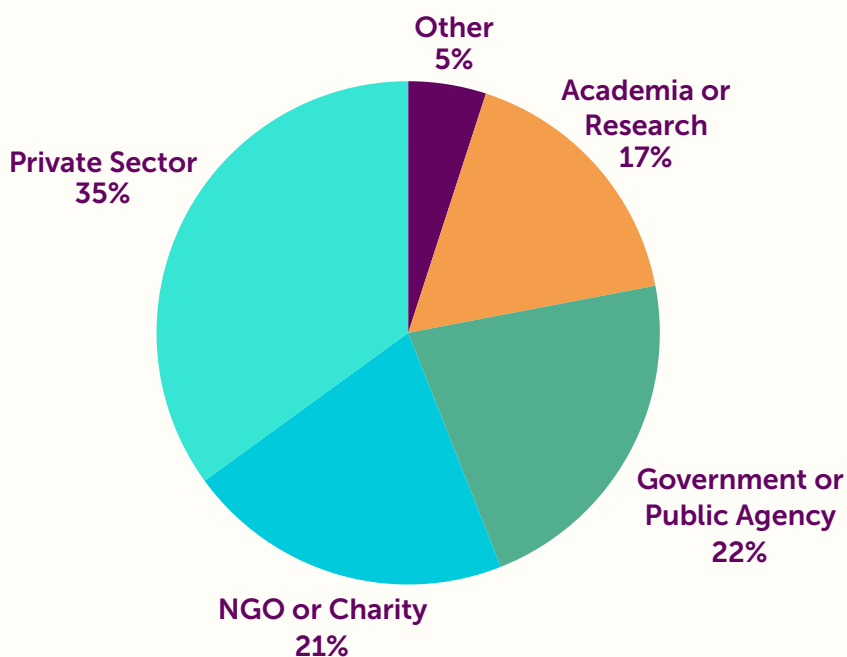
Our membership is the setting in which learning will occur. We will deliver our mission by sharing what they know and informing their work by involving additional expertise. Our focus will be on those professions central to the stewardship of land, water, and nature. This includes those for whom the environment is their primary focus, and those whose main focus is elsewhere, such as in transport, food, tourism, economic development, and health.

Our members

At the core of EKN are its members. Our network spans all four UK nations and beyond, cross-cutting geographies and sectors to bring together professionals and their perspectives to shape a national conversation on the future of our natural environment.



Breakdown of our membership by sector



We are bringing together people and organisations from all parts of the UK who are working both directly and indirectly to create a thriving natural environment.

Our members span a wide range of sectors, from conservation and land management to public health, urban planning, and financial services. By connecting professionals from fields that rarely meet, we create the conditions for innovation and collaboration. With now over 4,000 members, we represent both rural and urban geographies, from local grassroots projects to national policy teams.

4000

Members across the UK and globally

524

Organisations represented across our members

3500

Linkedin followers

Our presence

We have built a strong presence across the UK, taking part in events in cities and communities nationwide. The map below highlights a selection of these events, with callouts and photos capturing moments from each location. The locations listed here represent places where we have previously hosted or attended events, reflecting the breadth of our activity and engagement across the UK.



Events were also held across the UK, in addition to the locations above, including Liverpool, Stirling, Coventry, Cardiff, Oxford, Dumfries, Humberside and Leeds.

Our events

Our events convene practitioners, policymakers, investors, researchers and innovators to accelerate nature recovery across the UK. Designed to spark collaboration and share leading practice, they create the conditions for ideas to translate into real-world action.

Over the past year, we organised and contributed to a wide range of events and conversations that brought learning to life and connected people working across disciplines. This included business and practitioner seminars in Oxfordshire and Liverpool, supporting connections between projects, private sector partners and delivery organisations; the Northern Nature, Culture and Place Forum, highlighting how the North of England's natural assets and cultural richness can be enhanced together; and a programme of webinars exploring themes such as nature investment standards, creating places for people and nature, and the role of local government and the private sector.

We also continued our regional engagement in Wales through the Welsh Forum and Financing an Environment for Wales, alongside delivering Nature Finance UK 2025, which brought together over 400 practitioners, policymakers, investors and innovators to share learning and challenge thinking.

Event	Details	Impact
Nature Finance UK 2025	Nature Finance UK is our flagship annual event, now in its seventh year, bringing together over 400 participants from the public, private and third sectors to explore how finance can enable large-scale nature recovery.	The event strengthened cross-sector dialogue and shared learning on policy, markets and live UK case studies, helping to advance a shared ambition for a greater role and fairer compensation for nature within the economy.
Nature Tech Expo 2024	Launched in 2024, the Nature Tech Expo was one of the UK's first events dedicated to technologies supporting nature recovery and environmental management, bringing together innovators, land managers, policymakers and investors.	With 142 attendees, the Expo fostered cross-sector connections and collaborations, helping to accelerate the development and scaling of technology-led solutions for ecosystem monitoring and restoration.
Northern Nature, Culture and Place Forum	Debuting in 2025, the Northern Nature, Culture and Place Forum brought together 101 attendees to explore the connections between landscapes, communities and cultural heritage across the North of England.	By convening local authorities, cultural organisations, environmental groups and businesses, the Forum fostered place-based partnerships that support nature recovery, climate resilience and sustainable economic growth.

Our resources

35000+

Unique website visits

17000+

Tool Assessor accesses

3000+

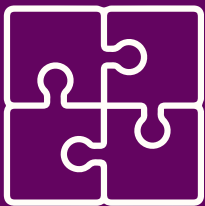
Views of webinars hosted
by EKN

120+

Projects spotlighted through
interactive maps and video
profiles

4200

Accesses to our Nature
Finance Learning Hub



We keep our members connected through timely updates, curated content and growing digital channels.

- Our Nature Finance Learning Group connects project developers, investors, policymakers and researchers to build skills and share practical lessons on nature-positive investment, growing to 1,167 members this year (up 27%) and supported by a Learning Hub that attracted 2,094 unique users and 5,785 views.
- Launched this year, the Welsh Forum | Fforwm Cymru provides a dedicated space for collaboration on sustainable land and water finance in Wales, bringing together 84 members through a bi-monthly newsletter and Wales-specific webinars, and reaching 59 unique users with 221 views to date.
- Our monthly and bi-monthly e-newsletters deliver trusted, time-saving insights directly to members' inboxes, reaching over 4,400 subscribers across three publications and achieving strong year-on-year growth of up to 36%.
- Our growing social media presence connects thousands across the UK with real-time updates, opportunities and sector insights, reaching over 140,000 impressions this year and growing LinkedIn followings by up to 53%.
- Our Insight Articles deliver expert, real-world perspectives on topics from policy change to innovative project delivery, and in 2025 we published seven articles on nature tech, nature finance and governance, attracting 3,021 views from 2,074 unique users (7% of total unique users)

We provide accessible learning opportunities which turn complex topics into practical knowledge.



Our webinar programme provides accessible, expert-led learning across key topics from regenerative agriculture to nature finance, engaging 497 participants across seven webinars and extending impact through an on-demand library with 2,571 views from 1,122 users.

We provide tools that save our members time, help them to make better decisions, and share project learning.



- Our Project Directory brings together real-world examples of environmental innovation from across the UK, now hosting over 200 projects including all Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) grantees, and attracting 2,061 views from 846 unique users this year.
- Our Tool Assessor supports practitioners to quickly identify the right tools for valuing and managing natural assets, featuring 25 tools across seven themes and reaching 7,871 unique users, representing 25% of our total audience.

Member testimonials

The evidence that nature recovery and environmental improvement underpin economic growth is robust and compelling. Accessible Nature-rich places are vital for tackling inequity and can assist in rendering communities more resilient to climate change impacts. By sharing know-how as to how this works in practice, EKN has a vital role to play in transforming the stewardship of land, water and nature across the UK, to the point where Nature-based solutions might be more fully embraced for the benefit of growth, health and national security.

Tony Juniper CBE, Chair, Natural England

The EKN's ability to bring key stakeholders together, share knowledge and best practices, and foster discussion on challenging issues has helped PCF stay at the forefront of nature financing. This collaboration has enabled us to develop resources and deliver projects that are driving meaningful change toward a healthier natural environment."

Paul Renfro
Programme Manager
Rheolwr Rhaglen



We thank you for your
ongoing support and
interest in our work

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation for their funding and continued support of our work, which has contributed meaningfully to the development and delivery of our impact.

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