



Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report

The Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report will serve as a guide for existing and future initiatives to refer to. It will include information from all initiatives on all the points seen below. The purpose of this report is to have the most essential and pertinent information about GPBB initiatives in one place, for easy access and visibility, as well as the up-to-date information as the annual report in each initiative's webpage. Because the makeup of each national and regional initiative is different, we hope this report highlights the key characteristics that comprise the GPBB initiatives.



1. General Information

Profile
<p><u>Description:</u> Please include a brief summary of the initiative while mentioning the date of creation, who it represents, and its main purpose.</p>
<p>UK Business & Biodiversity Forum (UKBBF) stands as a vibrant and expanding community composed of business leaders and biodiversity experts. Its fundamental role is to empower UK businesses by enhancing their understanding of biodiversity, guiding them on essential actions, and facilitating the integration of biodiversity considerations into their strategic and operational decision-making processes. The forum's overarching aim is to embed nature and biodiversity at the core of business operations, helping companies to prioritize these critical elements.</p>
<p>The UK Business & Biodiversity Forum was incorporated on September 15, 2022 though has been active as an informal association since 2020. It is registered as a Private Company Limited by Guarantee without Share Capital and operates as a Community Interest Company (CIC).</p>
<p>The UKBBF primarily represents UK businesses, encompassing business leaders and biodiversity experts. Its broader mandate involves accelerating the mainstreaming of biodiversity in both business operations and public decision-making. To achieve this comprehensive goal, the forum engages a diverse array of stakeholders, including businesses, government bodies, subject matter experts, and media.</p>



The principal purpose of the UKBBF is to support UK businesses in developing a profound understanding of biodiversity, identifying the necessary actions, and effectively integrating biodiversity considerations into their decision-making frameworks. This translates into a mission to help companies prioritize and integrate nature into their core business strategies, ultimately placing biodiversity at the heart of their operations. The stated purpose transcends simple comprehension of biodiversity, emphasizing its integration into decision-making and positioning it at the core of business.

Vision

Description: Please summarize the initiatives' vision in one sentence.

UKBBF's overarching aim is to help companies prioritize and integrate nature into their decision-making processes and to embed biodiversity at the very heart of their business operations. This objective aligns seamlessly with its broader goal to accelerate the mainstreaming of biodiversity in both business activities and public policy.

Mission

Description: Please summarize the initiatives' mission in one sentence.

The mission of the UKBBF is to facilitate the prioritization and integration of nature into companies' decision-making processes, thereby placing biodiversity at the core of their business. This mission is actively pursued and supported by a growing community of dedicated business leaders and biodiversity experts.

Objectives

Description: In point form, please include the main objectives of the initiative.

The UKBBF pursues its overarching purpose through a series of well-defined objectives:

- To provide practical advice and step-by-step building blocks to guide businesses in effectively integrating biodiversity into their operations.
- To offer a robust platform for sharing best practices and ensuring access to specialized expertise across diverse business sectors.
- To disseminate the latest updates and critical insights concerning key UK and international policy developments related to biodiversity, including those originating from devolved administrations.
- To assist businesses in adopting significant initiatives such as the Nature Positive Business Pledge and upcoming frameworks like the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) as they evolve.
- To support and actively demonstrate companies' commitment to biodiversity, enhancing their capacity to influence and promote broader collective action.³
- To strengthen networks and enhance the reputation of UK businesses and other influential stakeholders engaged with biodiversity issues.



- To foster knowledge-sharing between various sectors and to conduct original research specifically designed to guide members in integrating biodiversity into their business practices.
- To raise awareness among all businesses, irrespective of their size or membership status, regarding the profound importance of biodiversity.
- To contribute to the development of nature clauses for their incorporation into both public and private sector procurement contracts.
- To assist in the development of robust biodiversity indicators and metrics that effectively align national targets with corporate disclosure requirements and recommendations.

Funding, Budget and Resources

Description: Briefly describe the funding aspect of the initiative, including membership fees, external funding, donations, funding through events, etc.

The UKBBF primarily secures its funding through a tiered system of membership and sponsorship fees. The available information details the specific costs associated with various business sizes, clearly indicating a robust, member-supported operational model. This structured tiered membership and sponsorship fee model, with costs scaled by company size, indicates a deliberate strategy to ensure the forum's accessibility to a broad spectrum of businesses, ranging from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to large global corporations. The higher sponsorship tiers, which offer additional benefits such as company logo display and dedicated advisory meetings, suggest a model designed to incentivize deeper engagement and greater financial commitment from larger, more influential entities. This differentiated financial structure implies that the UKBBF tailors its value proposition to different business scales, aiming for broad participation while securing substantial support from those with greater capacity to contribute.

UKBBF's strategy for 2025/26 prioritizes commercialization and income growth, aiming to develop sustainable revenue streams and reduce reliance on grants or subsidies. Key initiatives include commercializing UKBBF events and refining sponsorship packages.

Membership/Sponsorship Tier Name	Employee Range	Fee (excluding VAT)	Key Benefits
SME Business Membership	1 to 250	£80	Access to members-only webinars, exclusive events, Insight Series recordings, bespoke templates, toolkits,



Membership/Sponsorship Tier Name	Employee Range	Fee (excluding VAT)	Key Benefits
			members platform, micro consultancies with Steering Committee; Nominated representative with voting rights + 2 named individuals
Large Business Membership	250 to 1000	£175	Same as SME Business Membership
Enterprise Business Membership	>1000	£575	Same as SME Business Membership
Global Business Membership	>10,000	£875	Same as SME Business Membership
Micro Business Sponsorship	<10	£500	All member benefits + Company logo on website/marketing, dedicated advisory meetings; Nominated representative with voting rights + 7 named individuals
SME Business Sponsorship	10 to 250	£1000	Same as Micro Business Sponsorship
Large-Global Business Sponsorship	250+	£5000	Same as Micro Business Sponsorship



Services and Activities		
<p><u>Description:</u> In point form, please include the main services and activities that the initiative provides. These can include projects, events, workshops, information sharing, resource mobilization, capacity building, program development and implementation, case studies, policy recommendations, indicators and methodologies, etc.</p>		
<p>The UKBBF offers a comprehensive range of services and activities meticulously designed to support businesses in their efforts to integrate biodiversity into decision-making processes. This diverse array of services, spanning from practical advice and toolkits to policy updates and exclusive events, demonstrates a highly holistic and integrated strategy.</p>		
Category	Specific Service/Activity	Brief Description
Guidance and Support	Practical Advice and Step-by-Step Building Blocks	Guides businesses on integrating biodiversity into operations.
	Support for Initiatives and Frameworks (Nature Positive Business Pledge, TNFD)	<p>Assists businesses in adopting the Nature Positive Business Pledge and TNFD.</p> <p>The Nature Positive Business Pledge provides principles and a clear process for businesses to become Nature Positive, aiming to halt and reverse their impact on nature across their value chain. Businesses signing up commit to following principles, developing a Nature Positive Plan (including materiality assessment, baseline, SMART targets), annually assessing progress, reviewing commitments every three years, and sharing information.</p>
	Demonstrating Commitment and Promoting Collective Action	Supports companies in showing biodiversity commitment and influencing broader action
Knowledge Sharing and Research	Platform for Sharing Best Practice and Expertise	Offers a robust platform for sharing best practices across sectors.



Category	Specific Service/Activity	Brief Description
	Policy Updates	Disseminates latest updates on UK and international policy developments.
	Knowledge-Sharing and Original Research	Fosters inter-sector knowledge exchange and conducts research for members.
	Research & Resources (Toolkits, Templates)	Provides access to research, including a Biodiversity Toolkit developed with ICCUK, offering practical tools and insights for sustainable global value chains, including a biodiversity checklist, sustainability reporting frameworks, and guidelines for the nature positive business pledge.
Events and Engagement	Insight Series	Bi-monthly online events developed in partnership with the University of Oxford's Nature Positive Hub. These events offer in-depth exploration of the latest business and biodiversity research, including expert Q&A sessions on topics like nature finance, biodiversity net gain, and natural capital accounting. Members gain exclusive access to a library of past webinar recordings and advanced research.
	Exclusive Events	Bi-annual conferences and events with external partners for networking and practical insights, including roundtable briefings, drinks receptions, and launch events.
	Member Drop-Ins (Micro-consultancy)	Offers tailored advice sessions with the UKBBF's Steering Committee.
	Private Working Groups and Collaborative Platforms	Supports members on their journey towards Nature Positive practices, including groups on TNFD and Biodiversity Metrics.
Networking and	Strengthening Networks and Reputation	Aids in enhancing reputation of UK businesses and influential stakeholders.



Category	Specific Service/Activity	Brief Description
Reputation Building		
	Dedicated Online Platform	Provides a central hub for member engagement and resource access, offering latest news, insights, opportunities for member engagement, and a comprehensive library of resources, research, and articles.

Membership and Governance
<p><u>Description:</u> Please describe the membership and governance structures of the initiative, including the executive body, types of membership, levels of engagement and any associated organizations.</p>
<p>Please answer here:</p> <p>The UKBBF operates on a tiered membership model, with varying levels of engagement and associated fees determined by business employee count. Membership benefits are extensive, including access to members-only webinars, exclusive events, recordings from the Insight Series, bespoke templates and toolkits, a dedicated members platform for networking and resources, and bookable micro-consultancy sessions with the Steering Committee. Each membership tier grants a nominated UKBBF representative voting rights, along with the inclusion of additional named individuals from the member organization.</p> <p>The UKBBF maintains a formal leadership structure, which includes a Board of Directors and a Steering Committee. The Directors of UKBBF are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mark Johnson, UKBBF Founder & Chair • Paul Harrison, Nature Investment Group • Tom Butterworth, Arup • Julia Baker, Mott MacDonald • Edward Pollard, Biodiversity conservation specialist • Keith Mellen, Anne Veck Limited • Emily Johns, SSE <p>The Steering Committee members are actively involved in strategic oversight and the promotion of the UKBBF. Members are also able to access micro-consultancy sessions directly with the Steering Committee. The composition of the UKBBF's Directors, which includes individuals from prominent consultancies (Arup, Mott MacDonald), investment groups, SMEs and large corporations (SSE), alongside a dedicated biodiversity conservation specialist, suggests a deliberate strategy to integrate diverse, high-level expertise from both the business and environmental sectors into the forum's leadership. This multi-sectoral leadership</p>



significantly enhances the UKBBF's credibility and its capacity to provide practical, relevant guidance to businesses.

The UKBBF engages in strategic collaborations with various partners to advance the integration of biodiversity in business. Key partners include:

- **International Chamber of Commerce UK (ICCUK):** Collaborates to promote biodiversity-friendly practices within the business community.
- **institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP):** Partners to integrate robust environmental management standards into business operations.
- **University of Oxford's Nature Positive Hub:** A key collaborator for the bi-monthly Insight Series events.

The UKBBF serves as a crucial **bridge between businesses and the UK Government**, particularly Defra. It offers policymakers direct access to UK business leaders, ensuring that biodiversity policies are informed by practical business insights and operational realities. The forum helps align business practices with government biodiversity goals, facilitating effective policy implementation across sectors, and translates high-level biodiversity policies into actionable strategies for businesses.

Significantly, the UKBBF holds the distinction of being the **official UK representative of the UN CBD Global Partnership for Business & Biodiversity**. As an **accredited observer of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**, the UKBBF ensures UK business interests are represented on the global stage. This status allows the forum to provide its members with timely policy updates and engagement opportunities related to global biodiversity conferences (COPs), helping them understand international developments and their implications for UK businesses. Its close ties with government bodies like Defra and its international representation underscore its substantial influence and strategic positioning within both national and international biodiversity policy landscapes, indicating a robust foundation for driving change by effectively leveraging both internal expertise and external partnerships.

2. Annual Updates

Businesses your initiative represents
<p><u>Description:</u> Please indicate the businesses that your initiative represents. Please provide a full list of their names and the total amount of businesses that are represented.</p>
<p>The UKBBF represents all UK businesses, small, medium and large. Our sponsors include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Veck • Arup • Culture Communications Collective • Diageo • Kilimanyika • Mott MacDonald



- Responsible Investor
- Verna
- WSP

The forum broadly represents UK businesses, business leaders, and biodiversity experts and aims to cultivate a growing community.

Highlights of Work in 2024

Description: Please highlight outstanding works in 2024.

Highlights from 2024 include the following and offer valuable insight into the forum's key areas of focus and operational achievements:

- The UKBBF welcomed Defra's call for evidence aimed at expanding the private sector's role in nature recovery, indicating active policy engagement.
- The "Make biodiversity action everyone's business" toolkit, developed in collaboration with ICCUK, was launched. This toolkit is designed to provide businesses with essential insights, knowledge, and practical tools to support a green transition by focusing on sustainability and environmental aspects within global value chains.
- Active preparation for COP16 was taken forward, with the objective of empowering UK businesses to take a leading role in biodiversity initiatives on the international stage.
- The UKBBF reported from CBD CoP16 several times from Cali, keeping members abreast of the situation
- A positive stance was taken on the Water Sector Reform legislation, viewing it as a crucial initial step towards a broader transformation aimed at restoring the UK's water system.
- Working groups around the Nature Positive pledge and disclosure (including TNFD) were continued

Reports, Platforms, or Publications Launched in 2024

Description: Please indicate reports, platforms, or publications launched by the initiative in 2024, if any.

The Biodiversity Toolkit developed with ICCUK is a notable and recently launched resource in the news. This toolkit is designed to provide practical tools and insights for establishing sustainable global value chains, including a biodiversity checklist, sustainability reporting frameworks, and guidelines for our nature positive business pledge. Additionally, the forum offers an online platform for its members, providing access to the latest news, insights, working groups, and a comprehensive library of resources, research, and articles. UKBBF prioritized the provision of actionable resources and a dedicated digital space for its members during the period. These various elements are central to the forum's value proposition: delivering practical guidance and facilitating continuous engagement and access to essential resources. UKBBF delivered on a strategic choice to provide tangible, usable tools



over a high volume of formal reports, which aligns with its mission to guide businesses in practical biodiversity integration.

Planning of Work in 2025

Description: Please indicate the initiative's remarkable work in 2025.

The UKBBF's planning of work for 2025 largely reflects a strategy of continuity and reinforcement of its core objectives and member benefits, with an aim to deepen its impact and expand its reach. The 2025 plans largely echo and deepen the existing objectives and services, indicating a strategy of continuity and refinement rather than radical change.

Key Objectives and Support Areas for 2025 (Annual Plan 2025/26) :

- **Commercialisation & Income Growth:** Develop sustainable revenue streams by launching a UKBBF Summit by April 2025 as a high-impact industry gathering and new income source. They also plan to engage with partners to launch revised membership categories and pricing models by June 2025, and identify a company for fundraising support by the end of 2025.
- **Events & Member Engagement:** Deliver a high-impact events program, including launching a Nature Positive Series as a closed member event by April 2025 to highlight biodiversity challenges and opportunities. They will also scope key external events by April 2025, securing active participation at two events per year, and refresh member communications.
- **Influence & Strategic Partnerships:** Expand influence by strengthening relationships with ICCUK and ISEP to include defined partnership agreements and new benefits by June 2025. They plan to launch a Biodiversity Leaders Forum by August 2025 and recruit at least one industry Ambassador by the end of 2025.
- **Membership Growth & Development:** Increase membership by introducing a Trade Membership category by June 2025, formalizing target markets, and conducting a member package review by the end of 2025.
- **Policy Engagement & Government Relations:** Strengthen our role in shaping biodiversity policy by evaluating UKBBF's participation at COP16 to inform future engagement strategies by April 2025. We will expand engagement beyond Defra to other UK government departments by the end of 2025 and continue monitoring key policy developments throughout 2025/26.
- **Digital Transformation:** Enhance operational efficiency by implementing automated systems for membership processes (Mailchimp, Stripe, Xero, Memberpress) by August 2025, reviewing and improving the membership journey, and launching an enhanced member platform area of the website by the end of 2025.

Key Events and Series in 2025:

- **UKBBF Biodiversity Summit:** The inaugural annual summit is scheduled for 21st to 22nd October in London. This flagship event aims to bring together industry leaders,



policymakers, UKBBF members, and sustainability experts to accelerate business action on biodiversity, showcase leading corporate strategies, and provide a collaborative space for networking and partnerships. A key objective is to generate new revenue for UKBBF and drive membership growth. The 21st October will feature an evening reception in the Churchill Room in the UK Parliament whilst the 22nd will be a full day of the summit.

- **Nature Positive Series:** New dates for this series extend through 2026, underscoring a sustained commitment to knowledge sharing and capacity building. This will be launched as a closed member event by mid 2025.
- **Insight Series:** Continuation of the bi-monthly online "Insight Series" events, developed in partnership with the University of Oxford's Nature Positive Hub, providing in-depth exploration of research.

Exclusive Events: Ongoing invitations to bi-annual conferences and events hosted by external businesses, NGOs, and government departments.

Please provide the information below:

Website: The official website for the UK Business and Biodiversity Forum is <https://www.business-biodiversity.co.uk/>.

- Focal point (one or two): **Paul Harrison MBA**, Director, UKBBF (paulharrison@business-biodiversity.co.uk)
- **Dr Mark Johnston**, Chair, UKBBF (markjohnston@business-biodiversity.co.uk)
- **Physical Address:** The UKBBF is physically located at Fox Farm House, Todenham, Moreton-In-Marsh, England, GL56 9NY.
- **LinkedIn Presence:** The forum maintains an active presence on LinkedIn, accessible via the handle /uk-business-biodiversity-forum.