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## **BUSINESS, FINANCE, ENVIRONMENT AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS KICKSTART INVESTMENT PLAN TO REPAIR NATURE**

On the day that the Environment Bill returns to Parliament, leaders from the business, finance and environment sectors are meeting with the Environment Secretary to establish a shared commitment to unlock barriers to private investment needed to help reverse the decline of biodiversity and meet the UK's nature-based targets.

The meeting builds on the work of the *Financing UK Nature Coalition* - established last November by the Broadway Initiative, Finance Earth and Green Finance Institute in collaboration with cross-sector stakeholders - to identify barriers to private investment in a UK nature recovery.

Over the next six months, the Coalition will continue its work and outreach to develop solutions to those barriers, such as the standards and market mechanisms needed to attract largescale private investment to: protect existing habitats; restore degraded ecosystems; and enhance environmental services from nature.

The work of the Coalition will culminate in an implementation plan with key recommendations to establish the UK as a leader in creating and operating markets for nature. The report is expected to be published in autumn 2021.

**The Environment Secretary George Eustice said:**

**“There is an increased awareness of the link between our own health, and economic prosperity, and that of the planet – as highlighted by the recent Dasgupta Review on the economics of biodiversity.**

**“That is why I am pleased to announce today the launch of the Financing UK Nature Recovery Coalition at this important roundtable. The Coalition will develop a vital action plan for accelerating private investment for nature recovery and sustainable land management to help deliver Net Zero and the Government’s 25-Year Environment Plan.”**

### Additional quotes

Beccy Speight, CEO, RSPB *"There's a great opportunity to scale the investment needed for nature's recovery. Ensuring smart regulation to ensure nature really benefits is now the vital step to take."*

Ed Lockhart-Mummery, Convenor, Broadway Initiative: *"There's tangible excitement about the prospect of creating new markets for nature in England and the UK, but we need rapidly to put in place an appropriate market architecture to give everyone the confidence to participate. Today is the start of a process to consolidate the best ideas and make sure collectively we act while the window of opportunity remains open."*

Jamie Mansfield, Co-founder and Managing Director, Finance Earth: *"Nature Based Solutions are beginning to emerge as a new asset class and this year we have a unique opportunity to make the UK centre stage of this global movement, but we need enlightened policy interventions to unlock private finance seeking a home in nature-friendly investments"*

Rhian-Mari Thomas, CEO, Green Finance Institute: *"There is much collaboration and innovation already happening between the business, finance and environment sectors to meet the UK's nature goals. We know that public funding alone will not be enough, but with the right levers, incentives and supportive infrastructure, we can ensure that private investment is mobilised at the scale needed."*

Mark Tufnell, Deputy President, Country Land and Business Association *"While the pioneers of environmental markets are forging ahead, the majority need more certainty about the rules. We welcome the chance to work with government to find solutions that will provide sustainable market place for environmental delivery."*

NFU Deputy President Stuart Roberts said: *"British farmers are ambitious and want to be global leaders when it comes to delivering climate-friendly food alongside protecting and maintaining the environment and helping deliver success on the government's green agenda; whether that's managing floods or reducing farm emissions, farmers are already playing a huge part to help achieve our goal of reaching net zero agriculture by 2040.*

*"The challenge will be to ensure our farmers are properly rewarded for the role they play in nature-based solutions, to minimise administrative costs and develop approaches that deliver multiple benefits, as well as ensuring schemes are available for all active farmers including those in the important tenanted sector."*

Saker Nusseibeh, CEO, International, Federated Hermes: *"The UK's 25 Year Environment Plan has the potential to facilitate pioneering innovation and initiate a paradigm shift regarding direct investment at scale into UK Nature. We stand ready to play our part and embrace the opportunity to work with expert stakeholders and local communities to deliver a 'just', transparent, verifiable and nature-positive transition to net zero."*

Nigel Jackson CEO Mineral Products Association said *"as an industry with over 50 years of enhancing biodiversity in quarries including the creation of 80 sq km of priority habitats with 100 sq km planned we are keen to share our proven and practical experience with other industries who can help restore nature"*

Martin Baxter, Director of Policy and External Affairs, Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment: *"Scaling private sector finance and investment into nature-based solutions is a significant opportunity to enhance the natural environment. Recognised standards and competence in assuring the outcomes will be needed to underpin trust and confidence."*

### More information

The *Financing UK Nature Coalition* launched last November with the ambition of bringing together experts from across business, finance and the environment to identify barriers and solutions to mobilising private capital into UK nature. publishing a report on the barriers and solutions for unlocking private investment in UK nature. A copy of the launch paper can be found [here](#).

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