

Enhancing biodiversity, supporting thriving communities: Priority Actions



Developed as part of the BIO-NEIGHBOUR project by the Irish Green Building Council and Trinity College Dublin, with support from The Housing Agency.

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NATIONAL LEVEL



Implement a **coordinated national strategy on biodiversity** and development, centred around the **mitigation hierarchy**.

- **Review existing standards** and guidelines to ensure all policies are fully aligned.
- Develop a **National Planning Statement (NPS) on Nature, Biodiversity and Development**.
- Adopt a **single nationally agreed method for measuring biodiversity**.
- Ensure **publicly funded projects** adhere to **higher biodiversity requirements**.
- **Resource local authorities** to deliver on the mitigation hierarchy.
- Introduce a “**Sustainability Pass**” using the Safe Pass model.

Find out more at [igbc.ie](https://www.igbc.ie)

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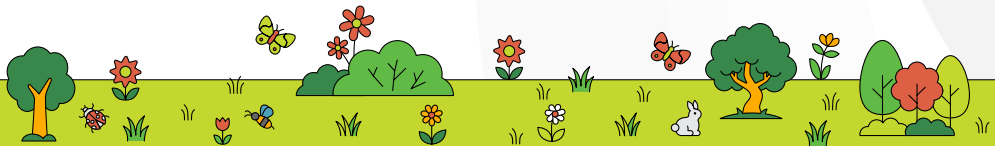
LOCAL LEVEL



Ensure **clarity and consistency** in the consideration and protection of Nature in **planning, land use zoning, and development standards**.

- Develop **evidence-based mapping** to support the implementation of the mitigation hierarchy.
- **Strengthen existing planning and development procedures** to support biodiversity.
- Where land is zoned for development, provide **site-specific guidance** to inform master planning and site layouts.

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STAKEHOLDER LEVEL



Engage all stakeholders from industry to academia **to ensure the best outcomes** on the ground.

- **Upskill** built environment professionals and construction workers on biodiversity protection and enhancement in new developments through short and flexible training courses.
- **Review existing apprenticeships and construction-related third-level courses** to ensure biodiversity in the built environment is fully covered.
- **Promote opportunities** offered by **careers** around protecting and enhancing biodiversity in the built environment, including **ecology**.
- Develop **high-quality research** to support best practices and fill knowledge gaps.

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