

Investing in Nature - Ecosystem Services and Funding Mechanisms

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment
Agency



**NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT
INVESTMENT
READINESS
FUND**

What is Green Finance?

- Green finance is any structured, financial activity — a product or service — that's been created to ensure a better environmental outcome.
- It includes loans, debt mechanisms and investments used to encourage new green projects or make traditional projects greener.
- Green finance can come from both private or government sources and, often, a combination of the two.



Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund

Overall aim

- To **improve the financial resilience** of the natural environment sector and increase the overall level of funding available by stimulating private sector investment

Provide opportunities

- for public, private and third sector investors
- for businesses
- for farmers and land-owners/managers



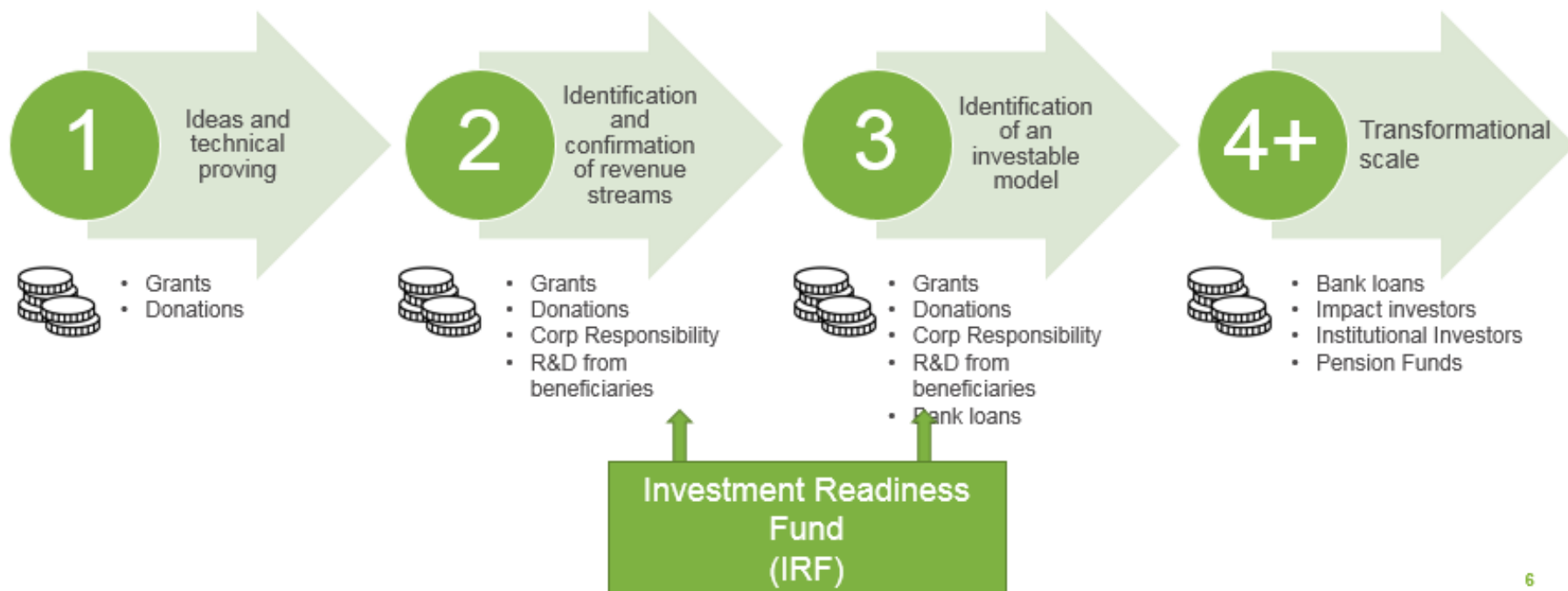
What does Investment Readiness mean?

Investment Readiness supports charities and social enterprises become ready take on investment.

- Capability and capacity development
- Business plans, structuring financial strategies, legal agreements, governance structures



Journey to Investment



6

NEIRF- Overview

What is
funding for?

- **Build capability** and/or address barriers to green finance
- **Procure support** from professional advisors
- **Develop investable project proposals**

What is
expected?

Investable project proposals need to be

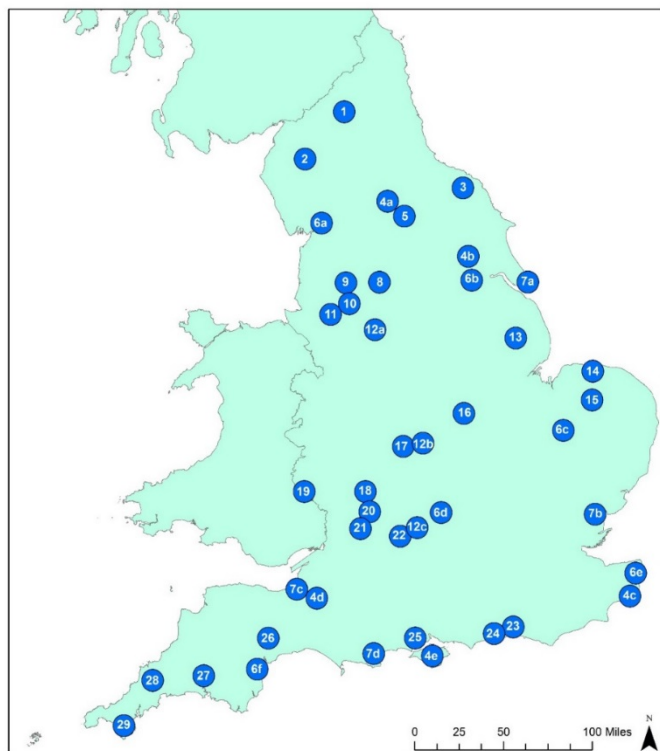
- **Replicable and scale-able**
- Deliver benefits in **England**

NEIRF
particulars?

- Revenue grants between £10k and £100k
- Duration < 1 year and not to go beyond 31st March 2024
- Application closing date 3rd February 2022

NEIRF Outcomes

- 152 applications requesting £13m in funding
- 190 Defra Group staff involved in assessment
- 29 successful projects



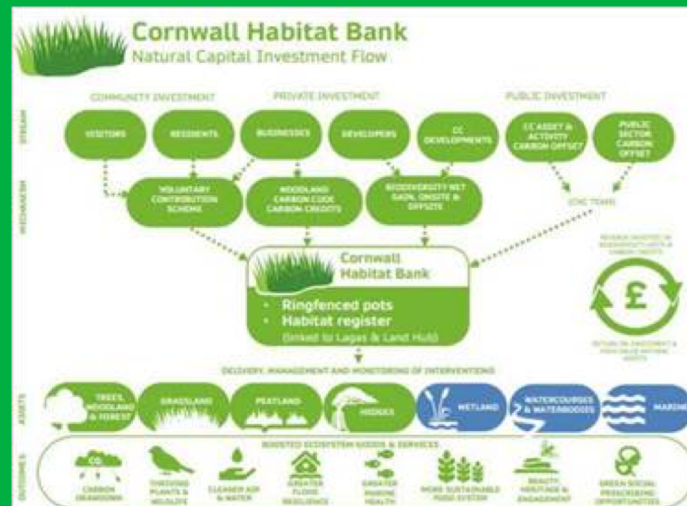
Revenue Model	Number
Investment vehicle/ Habitat Banking	6
Landscape projects	5
Carbon Code (development)	5
Catchment Services	5
Environmental Impact Bonds	3
Woodland Carbon Code	3
Peatland Code	1
Aggregator Vehicle	1

Investment Vehicles / Habitat Banks

*Warwickshire County Council -
Warwickshire Carbon and Environmental
Markets*

*Surrey Wildlife Trust - A Natural Capital
Investment Company for Accelerating
Delivery of Habitat Banks*

*Worcestershire County Council -
Developing a Worcestershire Natural
Capital Investment Partnership*

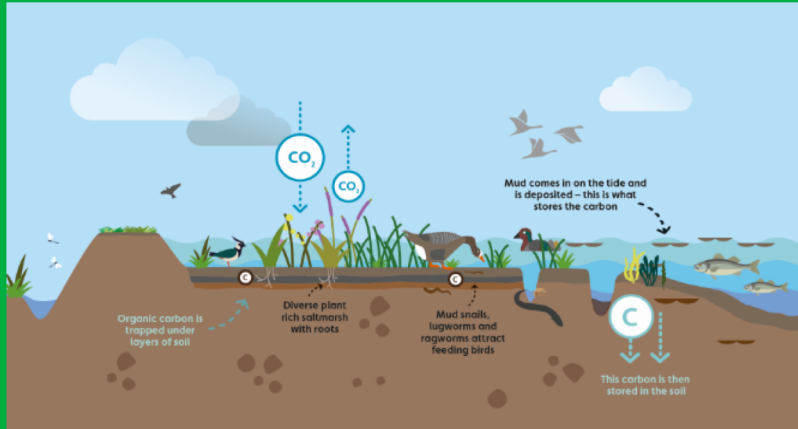


*Berkshire, Buckinghamshire,
Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust – The
Wildlife Trust's Habitat Banking
Investment Model*

*Cornwall AONB Trust -Protected
Landscape Investment Bank*

*Cornwall Council – Cornwall
Habitat Bank*

Carbon Codes



*UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology –
A case for a UK Saltmarsh Carbon Code*

FWAG – UK Soil & Farm Carbon Code

*Adur District & Worthing BC –Sussex Bay
Kelp*

*Allerton Research & Educational Trust –
Creation of a Hedgerow Carbon Code*

Kent Wildlife Trust – Wilder Carbon Standard

Landscape Projects

*Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust - Green Investment in Greater
Lincolnshire (GIGL)*

*National Trust - Landscapes for Water in the Calder and
Colne Catchment*

*New Forest NPA - New Forest Net Zero: Investment
Models for Nature Restoration*

*Swinton Estate – Developing a new business model for
multi-functional forestry*

Norfolk Wildlife Trust - Wendling Beck Exemplar Project



For further information contact:

NEIRF@environment-agency.gov.uk

[Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) - Application Form & Guidance

[SharePoint](#) - FAQ, Case Studies, Project Directory,
Webinars



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