



# ACTION 2030

Project Report  
for 2021-22



**CIEEM**

# BACKGROUND

In September 2019, we declared a **climate emergency and biodiversity crisis**, acknowledging that these two issues are inextricably linked, and determined that urgent action is needed at all levels. But a declaration means nothing without action. That is why we have launched **Action 2030**: a project which will see us reach net-zero emissions by 2030 and lead the way for the profession in tackling these joint crises. Our **Action 2030 report for 2020** sets out everything we achieved in the project's first year.

This document sets out the steps we have taken in the 2021-22 operational year, in order to reach our stated goals to:

- Achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030 in all of our operations and activities
- Identify means by which we can lead change to professional practice to reflect opportunities to address the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis
- Provide information and advice to members on how they can help to address the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis through their professional work, for example, through producing advice notes, briefings and/or webinars
- Promote the use of nature-based solutions to address the climate emergency
- Build relationships and share knowledge with other relevant climate emergency and biodiversity crisis working groups.







# OUR YEAR OF ACTION

1

Published our first **Carbon Reduction Plan** (CRP) in July 2021 which sets out our progress on achieving our target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and further actions we will take to achieve the goal. This will be updated in April each year.

7

Moved to a smaller, more energy efficient office in Ampfield, Hampshire. The office has several 'green' features including solar panels for electricity supply, electric vehicle charging points and does not have a gas supply.

2

Created our own bespoke greenhouse gas calculator to track our emissions from our Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions set out in the CRP.

8

Launched a new **Member Pledge for 2022** which seeks to get 500 members signed up and committed to reducing their own operational impacts and becoming visible champions for change in society. We have offered eight example pledges and an option of creating their own, and collated useful resources to assist members in achieving their pledge. Those who have pledged are listed [on our website](#).

3

Joined as a signatory to **Pledge to Net Zero** which requires us to:

- a. Set and commit to deliver a greenhouse gas target in line with either a 1.5°C or well below 2°C climate change scenario – covering buildings and travel as a minimum.
- b. Publicly report greenhouse gas emissions and progress against this target each year.
- c. Publish one piece of research/thought-leadership each year on steps to delivering an economy in line with climate science and in support of net zero carbon. Alternatively, signatories may choose to provide mentoring and support for smaller signatory companies in setting targets, reporting and meeting the requirements of the pledge.

9

Ran a survey of the membership in May asking what Continued Professional Development options members would like to see offered by CIEEM relating to climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. The two most selected topics were 'carbon capture and storage in different habitats' and 'the implementation of nature-based solutions and how to identify which services they will provide' (selected by 71% of respondents). Results were reported to our Training, Education and Careers Development Committee which they will consider in planning future Continued Professional Development offerings.

4

Signed up to the **Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter**.

10

Published Action 2030 group member Penny Anderson's detailed review of carbon and ecosystems, identifying the contribution those especially in the UK can play in the race to capture more carbon from the atmosphere whilst at the same time addressing the biodiversity crisis and incorporating other ecosystem services. Read the Carbon and Ecosystems: Restoration and Creation to Capture Carbon report [here](#).

5

Integrated Action 2030 and its purpose as a key theme of **CIEEM's Strategic Plan 2021-24**, and therefore a goal of every part of our work.

6

Began reviewing the sustainability of CIEEM events and developing a Sustainable Events Policy.

11

Presented the Action 2030 Award for 2020 to the Committee Climate Change (2020 Awards were held in January 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and the 2021 Action 2030 award to Dialogue Matters working with Grantham Institute, Oxford University and BEIS, for the ***Global Climate Change: Strengthening Understanding of the Economic Impacts of Climate Change project***.



12

Met with representatives from the Climate Change Committee to present the findings from Penny's review paper and our views set out in the position statement on **Habitat Creation and Restoration for Tackling the Climate Emergency**. We discussed the need to expand advice to incorporate the full suite of high carbon habitats, and evidence gaps in these areas. CIEEM was invited to submit any useful information/evidence to them and be more involved with their specialist committees.

13

Members of our Action 2030 group and Ireland Policy Group **jointly responded** to a Northern Ireland Government consultation on the Northern Ireland Climate Bill.

14

Held an **online event jointly with IES** linking COP15 and COP26 through the lens of nature and Nature-based Solutions for adaptation to climate change.

15

Jointly hosted an online event with the BES Scotland Policy Group to explore COP15 and COP26, how they tie together and the plans for them. Action 2030 group member Tamsin Morris presented Scottish perspectives on climate change and biodiversity at the event.

16

Commenced production of guidance on the use of sustainable materials and alternative methods in ecology and environmental management. This work is led by a small working group of members including Christina Dow, Clare Pugh CEnv MCIEEM, Dan Thomas MCIEEM, Debbie Bartlett FCIEEM, Diane Corfe MCIEEM, Jean Hamilton MCIEEM, Mark Latham ACIEEM, Mike Oxford FCIEEM, Ria Monkton and Sophie Mairesse MCIEEM.

17

Published a **statement on the UN Biodiversity COP15 and Climate COP26 meetings** calling for transformative change and for the negotiations for the two events to happen in an integrated way to ensure agreements tackle both crises together.

18

Attended fringe events at COP26 and created a blog, **COP26 Was Not the Success It Could Have Been**, setting out the outcomes from the event and our thoughts.

19

Published seven blogs by Action 2030 group members:

a. **What does Transformative Change mean?** – Diana Pound

b. **Species Range Shifts: Impacts and Barriers to Movement** – by Jean Hamilton

c. **Emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere is like overfilling your bath with the overflow pipe full** – John Box

d. **We All Need to Eliminate, Reduce, Substitute and Finally Offset CO2 Emissions – But Starting at Home Makes It Real** – By John Box

e. **How to Get More Wildlife into Your Garden and Absorb More Carbon** – by Penny Anderson

f. **Making 2022 A Year of Action for the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Crisis** – By Amber Connett

g. **No one is too small to make a difference: How to choose renewable energy suppliers for homes and offices** – by John Box

20

Three webinars, hosted by the Action 2030 group, on issues related to the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis:

a. **Plastics Innovations: Research Projects & Solutions**

b. **The Climate Emergency, Biodiversity Crisis and Mental Health**

c. **Balancing Carbon and Ecosystems** (hosted by West Midlands Member Network, and supported by the Ecological Restoration and Habitat Creation Special Interest Group)

21

Published two In Practice articles from Action 2030 group members:

a. **Blue Carbon: the Sea, the Coast and the Climate Crisis** – by Richard White and Amber Connett

b. **Carbon Offsetting to Achieve Net Zero by 2030** – by John Box and Amber Connett

## Other Activities

Most other aspects of our work and interactions with members aim to address either the climate emergency, biodiversity crisis, or both but have not been reported here as they have not been developed specifically for Action 2030 or as part of the Action 2030 working group activities.

### Events and Publications

Members regularly submit blogs and *In Practice* articles, or host webinars on relevant topics which add valuable contributions to the aims of the project.

Our CPD programme and Member Network committee events also cover a vast range of topics in ecology and environmental management, and wherever possible we are keen to link the Action 2030 project aims with these events.

### Policy

In our policy work, we provide the Secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Nature which provides a forum for engaging and inspiring parliamentarians and others with the natural world, the major threats that it faces today, and the positives that come from a healthy natural environment. Past events with the group have included discussions on COP15, COP26 and Nature-based Solutions to the climate emergency.

In the 2021-22 year, we held Two webinars following part 1 of COP15: [the first](#) focusing on the threats, conservation and restoration of biodiversity, as well as issues such as skills and capacity, targets and enforcement, and public engagement. [The second](#) focused on the resources and finances needed to deliver the new Global Biodiversity Framework, business engagement and government intervention.

Many of our consultation responses, position statements and briefings produced by our Policy Team and Policy Groups are relevant here and are available on our [Resource Hub](#).

## Next Steps for 2022-23

Our focus for the coming year is to continue providing information for members through our Autumn Conference on Delivering Nature Positive-Carbon Negative, webinars, briefings, training, and articles on how we, as a sector, can go further to address these joint crises.

We will be submitting our Science Based Target for annual emissions reductions through the Pledge to Net Zero and will be publishing the 2022 update to our Carbon Reduction Plan alongside this report.

We will continue to review our current practices and membership offerings, including conducting a review of our Competency Framework which will ensure it adequately addresses the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. At all stages, we will ensure transparent communication of our actions.

We will continue collaborative working with other environmental bodies and key institutions, particularly through our membership of the Environmental Policy Forum, Pledge to Net Zero and Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter.

Finally, we will continue to encourage action from members through our member pledges and promoting a systems-thinking and collaborative approach to ecological interventions which support a wide range of ecosystem services. We urge our members to assess the impact of their organisations, mainstreaming sustainable practice and encourage suppliers and pension providers to make changes.



# Meet the **Action 2030** Working Group

The Action 2030 working group was launched in October 2019 to act as 'a sounding board, an ideas generator and a challenge body' to help us address the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. This year, we continued meetings of the group (5 meetings in 2021/22) where we plan and deliver activities set out in this report. The group advise on Secretariat-led activities, and author or deliver many of the blogs, In Practice articles and webinars listed.



**John Box**

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