

What is Ambition 2030?

The impacts of climate change and nature's decline are being felt right across the globe, posing an ever-growing threat on food production and food security. As one of the most significant contributors, the food sector must address these issues from farm to fork. FDF's environmental sustainability strategy - *Ambition 2030* - sets out how the sector can tackle these sustainability challenges and how every business can make its contribution. The strategy is supported by practical guidance on measurement, target-setting and action, such as FDF's Net Zero Handbook, and on how to navigate the increasingly complex landscape of initiatives and reporting frameworks. The strategy has five pillars, reflecting the areas our members can make greatest contribution through their action:

-  **Net Zero**
-  **Nature Restoration**
-  **Sustainable Commodities**
-  **Food Waste**
-  **Packaging**

This work sits alongside actions that members and FDF are taking on other sustainability issues including labour and human rights, diet and health, industry growth and more.

PILLAR 2: Nature Restoration

Ambition: Contribute to the UK's Nature Positive ambition to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030.

The Challenge: Why Action is Needed

The world is facing a nature crisis with a 69% decline in wildlife populations in the last 50 years. The top five drivers of biodiversity loss are: unsustainable use of natural resources, land/freshwater/ocean use change, pollution, invasive species and climate change. In turn, nature loss also exacerbates climate change. At COP15, over 100 countries agreed to 23 biodiversity targets, including protecting 30% of global land and 30% of global ocean by 2030 – targets which are included in, and built upon in UK Government's Environmental Improvement Plan.

From farm to fork, the sector is both dependent on nature to grow food as well as being the biggest contributor to biodiversity loss. For example, pollination creates value for agriculture by increasing yields (c.£440 million in the UK alone, around 13% farm income) whereas agriculture is responsible for 78% of the world's ocean and freshwater eutrophication (water pollution caused by excessive fertiliser). Compensating for the impacts of nature loss already increases food production costs, for example. Soil degradation alone in the UK costs farmers c.£246 million each year. Combined with the impacts of climate change, this creates wider financial risks, impacting markets, legislation and liabilities. Therefore, investment in

nature restoration projects is key to building resilient supply chains. Nature-based solutions, such as regenerative agriculture, can also help mitigate climate change contributing to reducing the sector's Scope 3 emissions in line with its Net Zero commitments (Pillar 1). However, there is £44bn minimum funding gap for nature restoration in the UK over the next ten years. A step-level change in investment and cross-sector collaboration is needed to bridge this gap, which will be a key focus for FDF going forward, alongside a supportive regulatory framework.

For key agricultural commodities, deforestation is the biggest cause of biodiversity loss and carbon emissions in the food supply chain. Nature Restoration through sourcing sustainable commodities is covered under Pillar 3.



Figure 1. Double Materiality, CISL

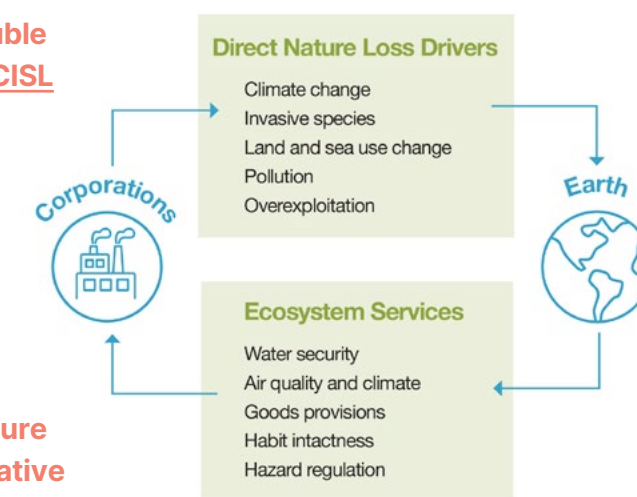
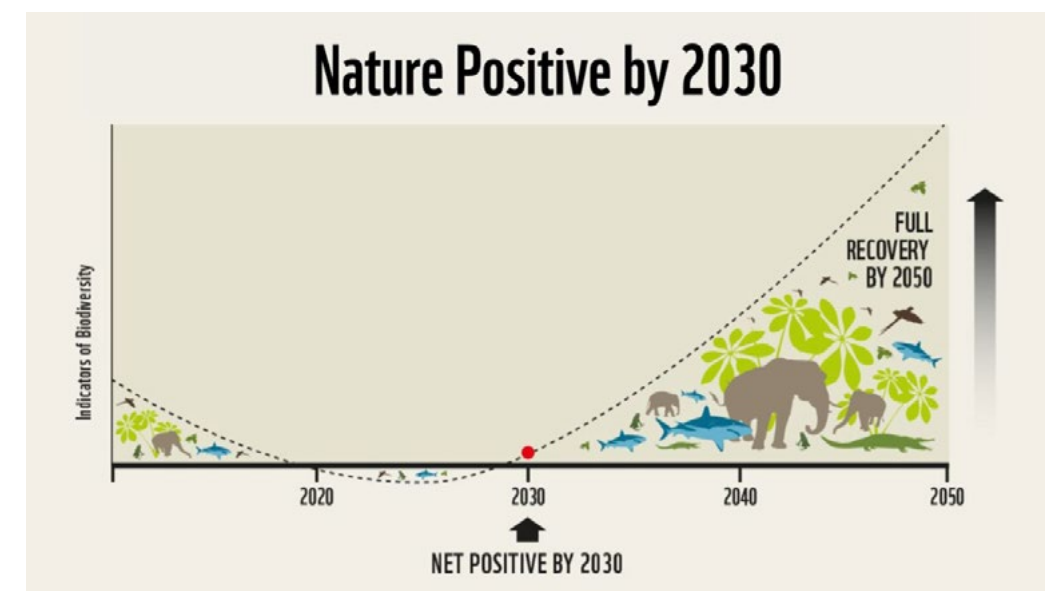


Figure 2. Nature Positive Initiative

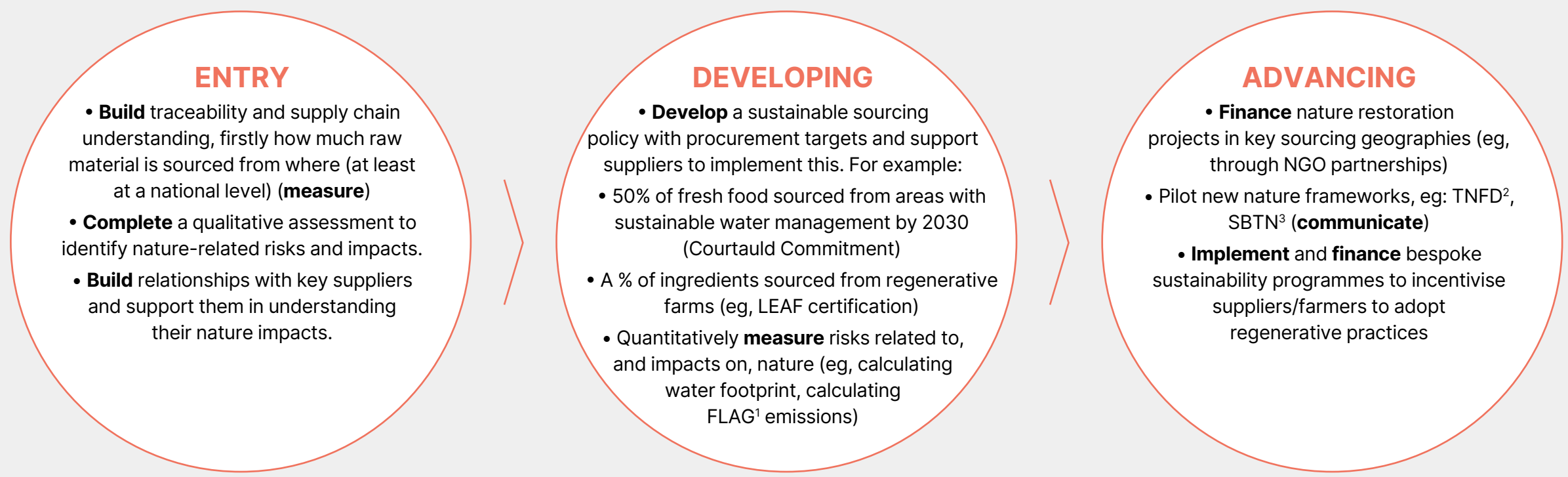


PILLAR 2: **Nature Restoration**

Manufacturers Taking Action

FDF members are at different stages of their sustainability journey in how they are engaging with nature. Ambition 2030 addresses this by demonstrating how each business can progress from their current position.

FDF recommends members follow IGD's strategic framework for building a sustainability Roadmap, taking action across these key areas: **measure, target, implement, finance, and communicate and advocate**. Below sets out some of the actions members may take as they progress on their sustainability journey:



ENTRY

- **Build** traceability and supply chain understanding, firstly how much raw material is sourced from where (at least at a national level) (**measure**)
- **Complete** a qualitative assessment to identify nature-related risks and impacts.
- **Build** relationships with key suppliers and support them in understanding their nature impacts.

DEVELOPING

- **Develop** a sustainable sourcing policy with procurement targets and support suppliers to implement this. For example:
 - 50% of fresh food sourced from areas with sustainable water management by 2030 (Courtauld Commitment)
 - A % of ingredients sourced from regenerative farms (eg, LEAF certification)
 - Quantitatively **measure** risks related to, and impacts on, nature (eg, calculating water footprint, calculating FLAG¹ emissions)

ADVANCING

- **Finance** nature restoration projects in key sourcing geographies (eg, through NGO partnerships)
- Pilot new nature frameworks, eg: TNFD², SBTN³ (**communicate**)
- **Implement** and **finance** bespoke sustainability programmes to incentivise suppliers/farmers to adopt regenerative practices

Supporting Frameworks

Alongside Ambition 2030, FDF is supporting members by providing guidance on reporting frameworks and initiatives for each pillar. These aim to provide clarity in an increasing complex landscape, freeing up resource to focus on implementing actions. For Nature Restoration, this covers: **Accountability Framework Initiative, TNFD, SBTN, Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CRSD)** and more.

Public resources:

- FDF Net Zero Handbook
- IGD Strategic Framework

1. FLAG = Forestry, Land and Agriculture
 2. TNFD = Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures
 3. SBTN = Science-Based Targets for Nature

Measuring success

To communicate and advocate for the sector, FDF will provide annual progress updates for each pillar of Ambition 2030. FDF will source case studies from members and use existing data where available, for example through data sharing with Carbon Disclosure Project. Example metrics for Nature Restoration:

- Number of members with nature-related targets (eg % sourced from LEAF-certified farms)
- Number of members who've completed a double materiality assessment
- Number of members who are Courtauld 2030 signatories



FDF Supporting Activity

As the voice of manufacturing, FDF is leading the sector's efforts to tackle the causes and consequences of nature loss, to help build a sustainable resilient food system for all. Most businesses are early in their sustainability journey for Nature Restoration, where their understanding of their wider impact on nature is now growing. Contributing to the UK's Nature Positive ambition will be challenging. Regulation, standards and frameworks that are essential to support companies, are less mature - these must develop rapidly given the urgent need for investment. FDF is prioritising scale up support to members accordingly, providing guidance and sharing best practice with members, working with them to understand shared barriers to action and to co-create solutions, advocating on behalf of members with supply chain partners, government and wider stakeholders. Specifically, FDF will support members within this Nature Restoration pillar through:

Advocating for regulation that channels private finance to farmers for delivering nature-based solutions

Articulating the process and case for investment into nature by developing a Nature handbook for members

Engaging with stakeholders to co-create solutions to common challenges around sourcing from regenerative farms.

Promoting WRAP's Water Roadmap and direct-action projects to members

Supporting members to improve their understanding of new reporting frameworks to undertake impact assessments, eg: TNFD.