



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Sustainable Management Scheme

Collaborative Projects



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar
gyfer Datblygu Gwledig:
Ewrop yn Buddsoddi mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig
European Agricultural Fund for
Rural Development:
Europe Investing in Rural Areas



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Welsh Government

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.
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Managing Resources Sustainably in the Black Mountains

Lead organisation: Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Email: Louise.Moon@beacons-npa.gov.uk

Grant Award: £1,004,155

Location: Black Mountains, Brecon Beacons National Park

A collaborative project from the Black Mountains Land Use Partnership, engaging local landowners, graziers and regulatory bodies it aims to bring about positive social, economic and environmental change through the implementation of cooperative and sustainable land management across the black mountains landscape.

Project activities will include bracken management, heather regeneration and the protection of peat resources. Planned improvements to livestock access will help with stock management and provide a better visitor experience to the area. The focus will be on peatland and bracken management in tandem with improving the visitor experience in the area and engaging local communities who will be involved through developing a rural skills programme, engagement with schools and the creation of employment opportunities.

Collaborative Sustainable Natural Flood Risk Management on the River Clwyd

Lead organisation: Cadwyn Clwyd Cyfyngedig

Email: sarah.jones@cadwynclwyd.co.uk

SMS Award: £330,000

Location: River Clwyd, Pwllglas, south of Ruthin to Bod Petryal, outskirts of Clocaenog forest

A landscape scale project to reduce peak flows into the river Clwyd and improve biodiversity through natural land based interventions and understanding their wider benefits if applied across the larger catchment. The longer term aim is to better understand the opportunity for collaboration between farmers, landowners and the public in habitat creation, reducing flood flows and improving water to benefit the local area. It is hoped that this project will be able to help deliver longer term solutions to the flooding issues effecting people and businesses in the area.

Realising the Natural Capital of Welsh Peatlands

Lead organisation: Snowdonia National Park Authority

Grant Award: £924,956

Email: rhys.owen@eryri.llyw.cymru
rachel.harvey@eryri.llyw.cymru

Location: Pan Wales

A project, taking collaborative action with stakeholders, including communities, to transform and improve peatlands across Wales. Improvements include ecological stability and long-term sustainable management of peatlands. It is hoped to deliver the project on spatial (e.g. catchments) and sectoral (e.g. protected sites) scales, as well as developing the expertise and capacity of partners to deliver peatland restoration.

This project will help deliver the 2020 target to bring peatlands into sustainable management. Coordinated action will deliver multiple environmental benefits through collaboration with existing mechanisms together with capital works covering the current 'difficult to do' sectors of peatland restoration, leading to longer term sustainable management supported through payment for ecosystem services (PES). Other critical activities will lead to more coordinated and coherent approaches covering external funding, training, education, PES procurement, monitoring and research activities relevant to Welsh peatlands.

Building Resilience In Catchments (BRICs)

Lead organisation: PLANED

Grant Award: £609,549

Email: paul.renfro@pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk

Location: Pembrokeshire

A project, led by PLANED, delivering landscape scale collaborative action, bringing together partners from across the supply chain including land managers, industry, land managers and communities in three catchment locations to develop climate change mitigation plans, take action to improve soil and water management, and related habitat measures. It is hoped work will be undertaken in three diverse sub-catchments involving approximately 50 farms to deliver actions on climate change mitigation by improving soil and water management and related habitat measures; further benefits include the protection of drinking water intake.

Delivering Payments for Ecosystems Services: Pumlumon

Lead organisation: Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust

Email: clive@montwt.co.uk

Grant Award: £269,319

Location: Cambrian Mountains

A collaborative project bringing together local communities, land managers, statutory agencies and businesses to reconnect them socially and economically with the natural environment of their area. By building in a process of collaborative learning with other PES projects and organisations around Wales and beyond, it is hoped this project will deliver significant additional value. The step to securing tangible PES agreements is one that many pioneering schemes and projects are yet to make; by pooling knowledge and sharing learning from this project with other PES pioneers, this project can make a real contribution to progress on PES more widely.

Building on previous work this project will explore and research new approaches to establishing Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) agreements as a long-term and self-sustaining support mechanism for the SMNR.

Fferm Ifan Ecosystem Service Improvement Scheme

Lead organisation: Fferm Ifan

Email: ffermifan@gmail.com

Grant Award: £696,352

Location: Upper Conwy Area

A collaborative farmer led project taking landscape scale action on land management to improve ecosystem resilience and the services they provide. A cooperation of 11 farmers, Fferm Ifan seek to improve and manage natural resources in a more sustainable and efficient way.

The project covers approximately 2,456 Ha and includes new targeted land management actions which will also deliver socio-economic benefits to the 11 farms and to the wider rural community Fferm Ifan live within.

Barrog Natural Catchment Management

Lead organisation: Coed Cymru Cyf

Grant Award: £299,728

Email: garethd@coedcymru.org.uk

Location: Llanfair Talhaiarn, Conwy

A project, led by Coed Cymru Cyf, bringing together partners from the local farming community to deliver changes in land management practices within the Nant Barrog and Elwy catchments to increase attenuation and minimise flood risks downstream at Llanfair Talhaiarn village. It is intended to manage the risk of flooding through natural land based interventions such as hedge and gully planting, improved management of riverine woodland, woody debris dams and changes to land management which will attenuate run-off and reduce the peak flow on downstream flood defences.

Integrated Welsh Woodlands: Nature Based Solutions

Lead organisation: Coed Cymru Cyf

Grant Award: £413,194

Email: garethd@coedcymru.org.uk

Location: Pan Wales

A landscape scale project supporting priority regions across Wales to maintain and create woodland and to restore, maintain and create hedgerows, which provide a wide range of benefits and comprise more than half the woodland cover in Wales. It seeks to put in place delivery mechanisms to ensure: (a) the condition of Wales' woodland is maintained and enhanced and (b) that woodlands and trees fully realise their potential within the landscape of Wales, to continue to deliver social, environmental and economic benefits.

Golygfa Gwydyr: People and Forest

Lead organisation: Golygfa Gwydyr

Grant Award: £232,478

Email: rogerd@golygfagwydyr.org

Location: Conwy

A community focused project which is hoping to build on the skills development and capacity building started and achieved under the Nature Fund. In its centre are the management and usage of land resources to: improve bio diversity and recreation facilities; develop sustainable community management systems; and promote sustainable communities with enhanced wellbeing and sense of place.

This project is restoring and managing a 3 hectare arboretum and sustainably managing an 11 hectare mono-culture conifer plantation (Caerdroia) plot delivering multiple benefits for the environment and the local community.

Powys Moorland Partnership

Lead organisation: Ireland Moor Conservation Ltd

Grant Award: £600,000

Email: will@irelandmoor.com

Location: Powys

A landscape scale project to encourage moorland restoration through bottom-up collaborative action driven by communities living and working on and around the moors. It seeks to realise multiple benefits including public health, skills sharing and education. Key stakeholders including landowners, farmers, and communities will create a vibrant moorland environment to boost biodiversity, delivering economic and social benefits.

It is hoped to create an exciting strategic initiative in Powys and realise the full potential of nearly 20,000 acres of moorland stretching from the Llanthony Valley in the south of the county to Beguildy common in the north, which can be enjoyed by communities as well as attracting tourism and new business opportunities to boost rural employment and stimulate rural economy.

Cynllun Dalgylch Yr Afon Eden

Catchment Project

Lead organisation: Snowdonia National Park Authority

Grant Award: £815,444

Email: Rhys.Owen@eryri-npa.gov.uk & Sam.Price@eryri.llyw.cymru

Location: Eden Valley, Gwynedd

A farmer led project centred on the improving ecological quality of the Afon Eden and its tributaries at catchment scale by planting and managing native deciduous trees; further benefits include improved natural habitats and erosion prevention.

It is planned that a group of up to 22 farm businesses, in this area of special conservation will collaborate on the project. The overarching theme of this project is improving the river catchment, particularly with regard to the conservation of the endangered freshwater pearl mussel. This will be achieved by working with farmers and engaging the local community to undertake a range of measures which will improve ecological resilience and provide sustainable land management.

Pennal 2050 & Tackling environmental and social issues through nature based solutions in Dyfi catchment'

Lead organisation: Partneriaeth Pennal Ltd

Email: pennalpartners@aol.com

Grant Award: £818,283.00

Location: Dyfi Catchment Area, Pennal

The project is an ambitious long term strategic plan to build a resilient and sustainable rural community based on a landscape scale collaborative community partnership of more than 40 partners. Landowners, community groups, environmental organisations, farming unions and local businesses are addressing a number of local challenges including better coastal and upland catchment flood management and alleviation; improved water/river quality; enhanced biodiversity and habitats; improved access provision; increased employment, tourism and health opportunities; strengthening economic and social resilience.

Tir a Môr Llŷn – Land and Sea

Lead organisation: Cyngor Gwynedd Council

Email: arweljones@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Grant Award: £700,000

Location: Llŷn Peninsula

This collaborative project led by the Llŷn Landscape Partnership brings together statutory, environmental, economic and social groups. The project is centred on addressing the challenges impacting on the natural resources in the area. This project aims to maintain and expand a continuous strip of diverse habitat around the coastline, working with farmers to create connectivity corridors linked to the Wales coastal path, opening up recreational opportunities and benefitting health.

The Project will also be exploring the concept of 'payment on outcomes' with the help of three National Trust farms. The aim is to create a model and encourage the wider community to pilot and run the new approach.

Uwch Gwyrfai Common Community Links

Lead organisation: Snowdonia National Park Authority

Grant Award: £418,010

Email: Rhys.Owen@eryri-npa.gov.uk & dion.roberts@eryri.llyw.cymru

Location: Caernarfon, Gwynedd

This project operates in the Uwch Gwyrfai Common stretching from an area of 'urban' fringe to the remote summit of Mynydd Mawr. It incorporates a variety of habitats, with large areas of heath along with acid grassland, a lake, flushes and some mire as well as abandoned slate quarries and some sites of archaeological interest.

This innovative project seeks to transform the Uwch Gwyrfai Common by reconnecting it with local communities. It aims to enable graziers to work better together to graze the Common to both improve biodiversity and benefit the local rural economy. Practical activities will focus on reducing fire risk in the area through scrub removal and stock management to help improve habitats, soils and water quality.

The project aims to bring local community groups, school children and community councils together to identify what needs to happen to improve and increase access and recreational use of the common.

Connecting Communities with Nature: Halkyn Mountain

Lead organisation: Flintshire County Council

Grant Award: £285,000

Email:

Location: Halkyn Mountain, Flintshire

Halkyn Mountain is an area of just under 800 hectares of open access common land and is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and 610 hectares as a Special Area Conservation (SAC). The common and its natural resources are central to the future prosperity of the communities.

Project collaborators include Local Authorities, Natural Resources Wales, North Wales Wildlife Trust, the Fire and Rescue Services, a quarry and landowners are involved in the project with the aim of addressing the challenges facing the Common. The project aims to create a good quality, well managed common land opening up recreational opportunities for the surrounding communities, develop skills to help enrich their lives, leading to more resilient and healthier communities.

Sustaining the Caerphilly landscape

Lead organisation: Caerphilly County Borough Council

Email: EADONK@CAERPHILLY.GOV.UK

Grant Award: £295,987

Location: Caerphilly

The focus of this project is on a large expanse of land south of Caerphilly bordering on Cardiff and Newport containing a wide range of habitats and species and designated areas. The project will be taken forward collaboratively through the Caerphilly Landscape Partnership exploring a public service board model and including a wide variety of partners.

One of the key priorities will be to improve the diversity, accessibility and extent of outdoor recreational facilities in a way that doesn't damage or compromise the habitats and species supported in the area. This will also include support for an NHS Exercise specialist to work with some of the deprived communities near Caerphilly looking at opportunities for supported walking exercise and sign posting natural areas for mild conditions that may benefit from being outside in these areas.

Biodiversity Means Business

Lead organisation: North Wales Wildlife Trust

Email: acljones@wildlifetrustswales.org

Grant Award: £388,438

Location: Rural Wards of Holt and Marchwiel

The focus of this project is centred on the large (550ha) rurally located Wrexham Industrial Estate and its surrounding rural communities. Through a collaborative approach involving businesses, landowners, farmers and community groups the aim is to improve the resilience of the ecosystems across the landscape while making the area positively attractive to businesses.

A focus on green infrastructure including planting wildflowers, restoring public footpaths, planting native trees, encouraging the use of sustainable drainage and demonstrating soft engineering techniques will help with surface water retention and improve wildlife corridors as well as creating a nicer place to work for employees working in the area. Engaging with surrounding local communities and offering volunteering opportunities to become involved with the project creating a sense of place.

North Wales Moorland Partnership

Lead organisation: North Wales Moorland Partnership CIC

Email: emmastory@rhug.co.uk

Grant Award: £700,000

Location: Berwyn and Migneint, North Wales

This collaborative project based in the Berwyn and Migneint in North Wales is taking action on moorland enhancement through bottom-up collaborative action, driven by those living and working on and around the moors.

The landscape has a variety of habitats and is enjoyed by a large number of visitor and communities attracting tourism and business opportunities. The area also experiences challenges such as fly-tipping, vandalism and illegal off-roading.

Together they are taking action using scientific evidence and their skills and expertise to address the challenges and improve heather management and grazing regimes to bring the habitat back into favourable condition. The long term aim is to achieve the return of grouse, lapwing, curlew and golden plover.

Dolau Dyfi Meadows

Lead organisation: Pont Cymru

Email: julia.korn@pontcymru.org

Grant Award: £467,114

Location: Lowland area of the Dyfi catchment, Gwynedd

This collaborative project is focused on joining up natural resources with health and well-being benefits in the Dyfi area.

The project aims to help tackle challenges by improving targeted areas of the landscape and connecting people with nature. Investment will also be available for access works and promotion, encouraging locals and visitors to use the outdoors and create safe spaces and enjoyable places to visit.

Further activities include establishing a local volunteer network, art projects and a potential “walking to health” programme. Project beneficiaries include farm businesses and rural communities, including through the employment of local contractors and boosts for local tourism businesses.

Natural Solutions to Landscapes for Living

Lead organisation: Denbighshire County Council (Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty)

Grant Award: £561,391

Location: Clwydian Range and Dee Valley

Email: Rachel.jones@denbighshire.gov.uk

The collaborative approach to this project brings together 10 organisations with a common goal to tackle issues impacting on the rural communities across their landscape. The shared aim is to unlock the potential of approximately 40 sites across the landscape to improve habitats and soil condition, reverse the loss of species, improve nutrient recycling and increase the amount of carbon store potential.

The project aims to help rejuvenate traditional land management skills alongside the development of new skills and potential business opportunities drawing on the breadth of experience across the range of collaborators and through the engagement of young people in the area.

Increasing Resilience in Iconic Welsh Woodlands

Lead organisation: Coed Cymru Cyf

Grant Award: £563,400

Email: garethd@coedcymru.org.uk

Location: Several locations across Wales

This project aims to focus on and improve our iconic Welsh woodland habitats, as most of these iconic and ancient woodlands are held in private ownership collaboration between landowners, managers and users is key to success. The project will build on the existing engagement and partnership working happening in a number of woodland sites across Wales. This will enable the sharing of ideas and knowledge across these sites to ensure the right actions are taken forward to tackle threats such as invasive species and diseases.

The project will also help increase timber production sustainably, explore other income generating opportunities and test options for post Brexit support for woodlands to help move towards self-sustaining models of support.

Our River Wellbeing: Nature Based Solutions in the Dee Catchment

Lead organisation: North Wales Wildlife Trust

Email: lynbyrne@wildlifetrustswales.org

Grant Award: £700,000

Location: River Dee catchment in North Wales

The focus of this project spans the entire Dee catchment in North Wales including several rivers, lakes and reservoirs. The area encompasses five local authorities, the National Park and includes several designated land areas.

The project aims to tackle the numerous challenges facing the catchment from flooding, soil erosion and water quality issues through to long term unemployment and social deprivation through developing a group of collaborating organisations including Dee Valley AONB, Natural Resources Wales, Wildlife Trusts & the Clwydian range and National Park to implement nature based solutions and engage the community.

South East Wales Resilient Uplands

Lead organisation: Torfaen County Borough Council

Email: alvin.nicholas@torfaen.gov.uk

Grant Award: £399,000

Location: Torfaen, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent

The upland landscape across Torfaen, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent faces a number of challenges from landscape crime, loss of habitats to poor infrastructure and fragmented communities. Building on previous community engagement the project will take forward new collaborative action to improve the uplands, support farm enterprise, improve visitor experiences and create more resilient communities.

The project's collaborative approach includes the three local authorities, police, fire and rescue services, commons associations, action groups, farming unions and Brecon Beacons National Park. The initial focus will be on land management to improve soils and water quality, biodiversity, and carbon storage.

Strengthening relationships between stakeholders and commoners to support upland communities, building capacity through volunteering, training and community engagement, increasing farm competitiveness and viability through diversification and the development of innovative business opportunities will also be the project aims.

Dunes to Dunes: Sustainable Management of Bridgend Coastal Landscape

Lead organisation: Bridgend County Borough Council

Email: Mark.Blackmore@bridgend.gov.uk

Grant Award: £312,541

Location: Kenfig National Nature Reserve, Bridgend

This project area spans the dune landscapes of the Kenfig Burrows and Merthyr Mawr Warren dune systems in South Wales.

The project aims to build a lasting collaboration of land and reserve manager and land owners, users and beneficiaries. To help achieve the sustainable management of this coastal landscape improving biodiversity and providing benefits to local communities. The project aims to maximise the health and well-being opportunities of the area through accessible well maintained walking routes and quality green spaces.

The project will also work collaboratively with local businesses such as the Golf club supporting them with their ongoing sustainable performance with the ambition to achieve the GEO Certified Eco label.

Healing & Memory (South West Anglesey)

Lead organisation: Bodorgan Environmental Management Ltd.

Email: kate.coyle@bodorgan.com

Grant Award: £595 000

Location: South West Anglesey

This collaborative landscape-scale project aims to revitalise the landscapes of South West Anglesey by improving the ecosystems and enhancing the access opportunities for people to enjoy the rich natural resources of the area. The project includes action to improve riverine, wetland, coastal and terrestrial habitats.

The project seeks to improve access to the area both physically through improved infrastructure and socially by making available historic information and linking to remaining World War II military infrastructure. A new high quality footpath linking the area with the Wales Coastal Path and exploring the potential for the creation of a new off-road cycle track linking local beaches and sites of interest. Work such as fencing and invasive species removal will also be done to help improve river banks to restore habitats and help improve water quality.

Coertir Anain – Cambrian Wildwood

Lead organisation: Wales Wild Land Foundation CIC

Email: admin@cambrianwildwood.org

Grant Award: £566,024

Location: Machynlleth

Located in Bwlch Corog in the Cambrian Mountains this project focuses on a 140ha area restoring habitats and connecting woodlands helping to increase ecosystem resilience and improve biodiversity. It will undertake activities such as blocking drainage grips and increasing woodland cover to help reduce and manage surface water flow, improve water quality, and increase carbon storage in soils and trees.

The project will also improve access to provide opportunities to exercise and enjoy nature. There are also plans for public engagement, opportunities for skill development, an educational programme for primary schools, courses for teenagers and activities on site, including volunteering.

Taff Bargoed Catchment Restoration

Lead organisation: Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Grant Award: £417,000

Email: Rachel.Morton@merthyr.gov.uk

Location: Taff Bargoed River Catchment

This project aims to deliver sustainable catchment management of the Taff Bargoed river in Merthyr Tydfil. The collaboration consists of an established partnership group and members of the local community and at the heart of the project is the restoration of the silted up lake in Parc Taff Bargoed.

The project seeks to implement sustainable upland interventions which will: restore a popular amenity for local communities to use and enjoy; reduce siltation of the water environment; enhance biodiversity and ecological resilience; improve water quality; and reduce the flood risk to local communities. Local farms, leisure businesses and the communities of Bedlinog, Trelewis and Treharris will be the key beneficiaries.

Cydweithredu Comin – Common Collaboration

Lead organisation: Gelliaer & Merthyr Commoners Association

Grant Award: £255,987

Email: commoners@gmx.co.uk
ranger@gmcommon.org

Location: Gelligaer and Merthyr Commons

This collaborative project seeks to improve the Gelligaer and Merthyr Common. Its membership includes Natural Resources Wales, Cadw, the Police, Merthyr Tydfil and Caerphilly County Borough Councils, the Gelligaer and Merthyr Commoners Association, residents and specific interest groups such as walkers, cyclists and the South East Wales Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club.

The group has a strong community representation to deliver actions designed to restore the Common's landscape by implementing the sustainable management of natural Resources principles. The project seeks to address a number of social factors in particular anti-social behaviour like illegal off road vehicles, fly-tipping and roadside littering as well as fly-grazing and reduced land management as well as sustainable grazing and habitat restoration.

Dyffryn Tywi: Tirwedd Hanes Ein Bro – Tywi Valley Historic Landscape

Lead organisation: National Botanic Garden of Wales

Grant Award: £698,000

Email: rob.thomas@gardenofwales.org.uk

Location: Tywi Valley, Carmarthenshire

This landscape scale collaborative project aims to join up and integrate the management of an area of the Tywi Valley between Carmarthen and Llandeilo to benefit wildlife, heritage and communities through a strengthened network of land owners, land managers, and experts.

The project will enable landowners and managers to access specialist information and advice and works to improve the historic parkland. the area is a great destination for a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities including walking, running, cycling, archaeology, horticulture volunteering, ecological surveying and farming.

The health improvement opportunities offered by the project also include working with Down To Earth, an award winning social enterprise.

Growing Better Connections: Biodiversity in our Communities

Lead organisation: Cwm Arian Renewable Energy (Care) Ltd

Grant Award: £213,975

Email: holly@cwmarian.org.uk

Location: Clydau, Crydmych, Cilgerran & St Dogmaels community wards

The Growing Better Connections project is a community-led land management initiative based in North Pembrokeshire operating in the wards of Clydau, Crymych, Cilgerran and St Dogmaels. The project will focus managing and enhancing existing areas of rich biodiversity, and increasing connectivity between these areas by tree and hedgerow planting, fencing, drainage works and improving green infrastructure.

The project offers opportunities for participation in citizen science, wider learning and skill development and seeks to invest in community activities, including planting orchards and opening up green spaces.

Farming the Gwent Levels Sustainably

Lead organisation: RSPB Wales

Grant Award: £554,953

Email: Lewis.Stallard@rspb.org.uk

Location: South East Wales Wetlands

This collaborative project includes RSPB Wales, Natural Resources Wales and the Gwent Wildlife Trust working closely with farmers and other partners to develop the understanding, knowledge, skills and experience need to deliver the sustainable management of natural resources within the Gwent Levels.

Participating farmers and project partners will take action to improve water quality, habitat improvement and creation, improving soil condition, and establishing habitat strips for pollinators, which will also act as buffers alongside water course. All actions aiming to Improve the environment of the Gwent Levels for people and nature, whilst supporting sustainable farm businesses.

Wye Ithon & Severn Ecosystems (WISE)

Lead organisation: Wye and Usk Foundation

Grant Award: £530,215

Email: simon@wyeuskfoundation.org

Location: Llandrindod Wells to Knighton

This collaborative project will work with an established catchment partnership, including landowners and local communities to improve the natural resources in a large landscape travelling down a stretch of the Wye catchment. Action will be taken to improve soil quality in agricultural land, create woodland to maximise the potential for reducing flood risk, habitat improvement for better biodiversity and water quality and improved infrastructure on farmyards to reduce pollution.

The project aims to involve the rural communities and agricultural businesses in the area to help them understand and take action to ensure long term improvement of ecosystems and understand the services these ecosystem provide that are vital for helping address the impacts of climate change and flooding, and in turn providing opportunities for improved health and well-being.

Elwy Valley Landscape

Lead organisation: Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust

Email: loliver@gwct.org.uk

Grant Award: £257,680

Location: Elwy Valley

The project spans 23,500 hectares in collaboration with NRW, Welsh Government, partner organisations and a number of landowners and individuals.

The project will provide advice and support for woodland owners to restore, manage, buffer and extend the woodland network, manage ancient trees and enhance connectivity between the anticipated 60 sites.

Work with Bangor University to monitor fallow deer and look any impact on the control of animal diseases and to understand the distribution and density of the deer populations at this scale and determine the impacts of deer on biodiversity.

The creation of a skills hub in the area offering all the various skills needed to manage the local woodland, working with the Red Squirrel Trust and North East Wales Wildlife Trust on Control of non-native species e.g. Himalayan balsam.

Cain Valley sustainable land and water management project

Lead organisation: Cain Valley Sustainable Land Management and Water Management CIC

Grant Award: £364,715

Location: Llanfyllin, Powys

Email: Alice.Fallon@severnrivertrust.com

A partnership including the farming community of the Cain Valley catchment and aims to reduce diffuse pollution in the catchment to 'slow the flow' to improve biodiversity.

Project activities will include construction of reedbeds, creating riparian corridors, planting and restoring new hedgerows and woodland, building otter holts, constructing riverside paths and creating a 'natural community conservation area'. The project will also develop an education programme for local schools and groups and provide access to outdoor space for individuals with mental health conditions.

Camlad Valley Project

Lead organisation: Camlad Valley Farmers, GWCT

Grant Award: £585,000

Location: Camlad Valley, Powys, SY15 6DU

Email: mgoodall@gwct.org.uk

This is a farmer led project delivering landscape scale management with the aim of improving ecosystem resilience and enabling productive resilient agricultural businesses. The biodiversity of the Camlad Valley will be enhanced through bottom-up collaborative action taken by those that live and work in the area.

Landowners, farmers, communities and key stakeholders will focus on restoration of traditional lowland wet grassland habitat to deliver a healthy, resilient and diverse ecosystem. The project will take a placed base approach to shape and understand local priorities including actions to support their much loved, diminishing local population of ground nesting birds. The project will use these species as key indicators to measure the general health of the ecosystem as a whole. The project will also provide opportunities for involvement through volunteering and explore the benefits of this on health and wellbeing.

Irfon Catchment Resilient Freshwater Habitats

Lead organisation: Freshwater Habitats Trust

Email: hshaw@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk and jbiggs@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk

Grant Award: £684,437

Location: Afon Irfon, West of Builth Wells, Powys

The Irfon catchment in Mid-Wales is a Special Area of Conservation designated for its exceptional freshwater biodiversity. The project aims to deliver actions to improve the water quality through a collaboration of local farmers, landowners, rural businesses, foresters, statutory organisations, specialist freshwater NGOs and the water industry.

The project will deliver practical measures to tackle diffuse and point source pollution in strategic locations by reducing pollutant runoff through farm soil and nutrient management, tree and woodland planting, reducing point source inputs and implementing natural flood risk management (NFRM) techniques.

The project will encourage public engagement in the management and monitoring of water quality, using citizen science. Social prescribing will be trialled in the area based around the water environment, to maximise health benefits. A comprehensive monitoring programme will ensure that actions and information from the project are of wide relevance to maintaining the resilience of freshwaters in Wales.

The Three Parishes – for the Common Good

Lead organisation: Three Parishes For The Common Good CIC

Email: frondorddu@talktalk.net

Grant Award: £695,300

Location: The project will be based on and around the commons of Llanwrthwl, Llysdinam and Llanfihangel Bryn Pabuan close to Newbridge-on-Wye and Rhayader (Powys)

The commoners of Llanwrthwl, Llysdinam and Llanfihangel Bryn-Pabuan have come together to actively manage their local commons creating a more sustainable resilient landscape supporting improved biodiversity. This partnership will be managing the heathland, the flora-rich rhos pasture, ffridd and woodland within the project area. Commoners and volunteer groups will also create and enhance existing pools and wetlands, tackle bracken using different techniques and graze sustainably with cattle and ponies.

The project also aims to increase outward bound opportunities and tourism by improving signage, interpretation and support for educational visits. The collaboration includes the National Trust and RSPB providing expertise in delivery, monitoring & evaluation.

Wild Skills Wild Spaces Project

Lead organisation: Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust

Email: carla@montwt.co.uk

Grant Award: £699,854

Location: 8 Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Reserves & Green Space within Montgomeryshire, Powys

An innovative collaboration between the Welsh NHS and the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust (MWT) the project will deliver a range of nature-based solutions to improve the health, skills and well-being of our local communities. New and existing habitats will be created and managed with project groups to spend meaningful time understanding and managing areas of local wildlife value.

The nature reserves improved by the project will enable local communities to safely explore riverside habitats, woodlands, grasslands, canal side, wetland and upland environments. The project will also focus on developing a structured, accredited programme of nature based activities to enable people to participate in the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing', that improve health & wellbeing, develop new skills, build confidence and reduce social isolation. The aim is for this to be available for direct referral from the NHS and GP's as well as openly to local communities across Montgomeryshire.

Restoration of Rhos Pasture

Lead organisation: Radnorshire Wildlife Trust

Email: darylle@rwtwales.org

Grant Award: £349,200

Location: North Brecknock and West Radnorshire, Powys

This project is a collaboration of local farmers, land managers, tourism businesses, environmental groups and arts & culture businesses with the aim of landscape scale restoration of the iconic Welsh habitat of Rhos pasture in north Brecknock and west Radnorshire. The project will deliver actions to restore the existing marshy grassland areas to be more resilient, diverse, species rich grazing land. The outcomes of this work will include decreasing soil compaction, improving soil structure and enhancing the capacity to store carbon and water, slowing run-off and erosion. The existing Rhos Pasture will once again become connected as a continuous landscape feature.

The collaboration will go on to celebrate the cultural, inspirational and aesthetical value of the Rhos Pasture habitat in a modern Wales. Improved access for both local communities and visitors to this special landscape will provide a range of recreational and outdoor exercise opportunities.

Woodlands for Water

Lead organisation: North Wales Wildlife Trust

Email: adrian.jones@northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk

Grant Award: £682,614

Location: Alyn and Wheeler Rivers from their source to where the River Wheeler joins the River Clwyd and on the River Alyn to Mold.

The project area encompasses the River Wheeler and upper River Alyn and surrounding land, supporting a range of important habitats including ancient woodland, unimproved grassland, heathland and wetlands. It includes one SAC (Alyn Valley Woods), eleven SSSIs, part of the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB and areas of common land.

The project aims to better link people with wildlife-rich sites and promote opportunities and benefits which are low-impact and contribute to the local economy. The project will identify opportunities to include the development of walking routes, provision of new access infrastructure, better management of existing paths and targeted interpretation. The specific provision needed would be agreed through consultation with the public, local authority/AONB, landowners/managers and tourism providers.

Local LAND Project – Talley & Cwmdu

Lead organisation: Talley Community Amenity Association

Email: local.land.talley@gmail.com

Grant Award: £520,000

Location: Area surrounding Talley & Cwmdu, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire

With a collaborative vision, the project aims to encompass in the region of 800 hectares of farmland in the historic villages of Talley and Cwmdu. At the heart of the project is the development and usage of 24 hectares of a diverse habitat of community owned land, located in the village of Talley. Local residents and landowners have co-produced this project to address local challenges of social isolation, the lack of local business opportunities and the need for sustainable, resilient, land management practices and business.

The project activities will focus on; improving water retention in the uplands, improving water quality of the two Talley Lakes, development of wildflower meadows and diverse leys, tree planting and actively managed woodlands, improved access for people, better habitat connectivity and improving soil management. The community owned land will be developed to increase biodiversity and improve access for both residents and visitors to the area. The provision of infrastructure in this outdoor space will help create a more attractive place for people in the community to use supporting the opportunities to improve health and wellbeing, social cohesion and a local sense of place.

Nant Alan land management and climate resilience project

Lead organisation: Severn Rivers Trust resilience project

Email: Alice.Fallon@severnriverstrust.com

Grant Award: £268,020

Location: Nant Alan Valley, Llanfihangel, Powys

The project aims to improve biodiversity and make the Nant Alan valley and its catchment more resilient. Downstream from the catchment the area suffers from flooding with consequences for homes & businesses, farmers and their livestock. The project will focus on activities to help tackle diffuse pollution, reduce surface water flow, and restore broadleaved woodland. It will also create a forest school hub for community use, increase recreational opportunity, improve farm business resilience and improve community engagement. Land management activities will include reedbed construction, the creation of new ponds, hedgerows and new woodland planting, restoring of ancient woodland sites. The project will also carry out a school/community engagement programme and create a 'living laboratory' and network to discuss and plan the long term sustainability of the valley.

Dawnsio ar y Dibyn

Lead organisation: Cyngor
Gwynedd Council

Grant Award: £399,590

Email: dawnmsinclair@gwynedd.llyw.
cymru

Location: Pan Wales

Our Dawnsio ar y Dibyn project will establish an exemplar collaborative Pan Wales framework to enable a more strategic approach to effectively address the environmental and socio-economic issues impacting on Wales' coastal fringe ecosystems.

The project will focus on developing links between existing projects, initiatives and working groups to minimise the duplication of effort, showcasing best practices that offer good value for money. It will increase engagement and participation and enable the undertaking of cooperative, adaptive approaches to sustainable coastal fringe management.

Prosiect Goedlan Glynllifon

Lead organisation: Cyngor
Gwynedd Council

Grant Award: £284,336

Email: carwynwilliams@gwynedd.llyw.
cymru

Location: Glynllifon LL54 5DU

This project will work with local communities to develop a collaborative approach to managing the natural resources of Glynllifon Country Park and surrounding area for the benefit of all.

The project will focus on the sustainable long-term management of the woodland within the park and exploring connections with similar ecosystems in adjacent farmland. It will also explore the services this ecosystem can provide, and how we can bring people and nature together to provide social, economic, and health & wellbeing benefits.

The woodland habitats (including a designated SAC & SSSI) are facing challenges due to storm damage, inadequate understanding of condition & management needs, and diminishing resources. This investment improve their qualities and potential allowing benefits to the local communities to be fully realised.

Bro Cors Caron

Lead organisation: Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust

Email: mgoodall@gwct.org.uk

Grant Award: £490,000

Location: Ystrad Meurig,
Ceredigion SY25 6AN

This farmer-led group aims to enhance the farmed landscape surrounding the Northern end of Cors Caron National nature reserve. Holistically focusing on biodiversity, habitat enhancement, soil health and water quality and improving connectivity. Supporting the adjacent NNR and protecting natural resources and public goods alongside food production and profitable farming. Succession and providing opportunities for their children and future generations is a huge driver for the project.

Alongside the significant habitat restoration the project aim to improve the well-being of the community; enhancing social connections, well-being and the traditional and historical connection between community and land.

Golygfa Gwydyr Wellbeing Project

Lead organisation: Golygfa Gwydyr Ltd

Email: rogerd@golygfagwydyr.org

Grant Award: £70,000

Location: Arboretum, Cae'n y Coed,
Conwy, grid ref SH761574 Caerdroia,
Gwydyr Forest, Conwy, grid ref SH793601

The project aims to identify how Golygfa Gwydyr forest resources (under a 10-year Community Management Agreement (CMA) with Natural Resources Wales (NRW)) can be best utilised to deliver a range of wellbeing activities and to develop our forest resources for wellbeing activities to support beneficiaries across North Wales.

Life in rural Conwy has traditionally been centred on farming and forestry and both remain important to local people. In the last two decades there has been a shift from these sectors to tourism but, culturally, farming and forestry remain important to the people and there remains much knowledge and skills in these areas which this project aims to preserve within the community.

Natural Solutions in the Elenydd Area of Ceredigion

Lead organisation: Grwp Elenydd Cyf

Grant Award: £252,430

Email: hmitchellassoc@aol.com

Location: Cwmystwyth, Ceredigion

A collaborative partnership between landowners, residents, Natural resources Wales and the Hafod Trust to support the resilience and sustainability of life in the Elenydd area of the Cambrian Uplands and Ystwyth Valley. The project celebrates the community heritage of the valley's historical mining past while minimising its negative environmental legacy on those living nearby and downstream to Cardigan Bay.

The project hopes to bring together the community in order to engage and promote sustainable farming practices, better access to heritage and learning opportunities, more sustainable use of resources and access to volunteering in this iconic area preserving the intrinsic value of natural assets protecting language and community to benefit current and future generations.

People and Nature – Working Together

Lead organisation: Maesmawr Collaborative Group

Grant Award: £499,200

Email: hmitchellassoc@aol.com

Location: Newtown

The Maesmawr Collaborative Group, have identified local challenges facing farming and community life in the towns and villages of their landscape. Part of the River Severn upper catchment, incorporating some 17,240 acres of members' land and NRW forestry stretching from Dolfor in the east to Clywedog in the west.

The main aim is to support the health of ecosystems to improve biodiversity. Our 30 farming partners will implement tree and hedge planting, restore habitats, improve connectivity, pond creation and developing better access to green and blue spaces for physical activity and mental well-being. They will also look to understand and promote better understanding of the threats and how to counter them by use of advanced technology. This will be done by being the first farmers in Wales to ground-truth satellite imagery as part of the Living Wales digital imaging project being run by Aberystwyth University.

Wales Resilient Ecological Network (WaREN 2)

Lead organisation: North Wales
Wildlife Trust

Grant Award: £499,200

Email: lynbyrne@wildlifetrustswales.org

Location: Pan Wales

The Wales Resilient Ecological Network (WaREN) project implements an exemplar collaborative pan Wales framework to facilitate more effective action to tackle INNS impacts on the environment, economy and wellbeing of the people in Wales.

The project aims to facilitate the formation of a sustainable network of Local Action Groups (LAGs) in Wales to enable delivery of effective actions on the ground on local INNS issues and in priority hot spots. They will produce and communicate project tools to support collaborative effective INNS actions including toolkits, training programme, surgeries, knowledge sharing forum and funding opportunities, to enable preventative measures to reduce INNS across Wales.

Cynefinoedd Cynaliadwy Amaethwyr Mawddwy

Lead organisation: Snowdonia National
Park Authority

Grant Award: £499,641

Email: rhys.owen@eryri.llyw.cymru

Location: Dinas Mawddwy/
Llanymaddwy area

The group are made up of young land-owners who farm extensively around Dinas Mawddwy in south Meirionnydd. Their livestock farms extend from the peaty uplands around Aran Fawddwy (905m), to the lush valleys of Cwm Cywarch and Llanymawddwy. In partnership with Snowdonia National Park Authority, the aim is to undertake a project to maximise the benefits that can come from the natural resources we have in the area, both for businesses and that of the wider community.

The group aim to deliver a range of nature based solutions across the farms to restore the uplands and manage them to increase resilience and improve biodiversity, store carbon, improve water quality & reduce flood risk.

They will also look at the recreational benefits of the area, one of the most spectacular natural resources in this area is the Dark Skies Reserve status. This will sit alongside plans to improve access in the area, working in conjunction with other access based projects. They aim to offer a host of training and community development opportunities and work alongside other partners to offer training and volunteer opportunities in the area to build capacity within their communities.