



Landscapes as Carbon Sinks

Be part of the design and delivery of Scotland's land sector journey from carbon source to carbon sink

For Scotland to meet its target of **Net Zero Carbon by 2045**, we need to greatly accelerate the pace of change through genuine cross-sector partnerships and through 'learning by doing'. Creating large-scale, investable projects that will transform the land sector.

Landscapes as Carbon Sinks provides a platform to do this.

Scotland – Net Zero 2045

In aiming to deliver net zero carbon emissions by 2045, Scotland has set one of the most ambitious national targets in the world. This commitment and the launch of other initiatives, such as Scotland's £3 billion Green Investment Portfolio, offer great opportunities to catalyse progress towards a just transition to the low-carbon economy we urgently need.

Our land offers untapped opportunities to transform sources of greenhouse gas emissions into sinks that sequester carbon in biomass, soil, and in new materials.

Only through transformative change can we achieve Scotland's net-zero target. Planting trees is only a small part of the solution. We need integrated landscape management that responds to the climate emergency while enhancing the rural economy and quality of life. Creative and bold thinking across multiple partners and land use sectors will be necessary to effect such change.

The land sector can show global leadership, building partnerships from across the sector and beyond to design and develop innovative, even radical, options that can have transformative change in land management systems.



Designing the land sector's transformation together

Landscapes as Carbon Sinks is a Deep Demonstration programme of EIT Climate-KIC. It provides coordination through a structured design process for participants to work together. In collaboration with EIT Climate-KIC, The University of Edinburgh's Centre for Sustainable Forests and Landscapes (CSFL) and Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI) are working with those tasked with delivering change in the land sector. This includes the Scottish Government and a range of public and private 'challenge-owners' in Scotland.

The initiative also draws on the expertise of a number of European partners: ETH Zurich, INRAE, ONF International, The Nature Conservancy, Wageningen Research, and WWF Landscape Finance Lab.

Working closely with a range of partner organisations across the entire lifetime of the project is fundamental to the project's philosophy. We welcome interested partners to contact us throughout the duration of the project.

For more information on **EIT Climate-KIC's Deep Demonstration** programme [click here](#).



Designing Projects that Scale

The Deep Demonstration design process provides space to create bold ideas and integrated thinking to tackle multiple societal challenges simultaneously. The programme of activities connects pioneering land-based, bioeconomy and investment organisations with policy makers and citizens to scope out visions and priorities for the future; and then design and deliver transformational projects for net zero. Essential to success is a systems-thinking approach that reflects the complex inter-relationships spanning land-based sectors and scales.

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2019
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2020

We are working with partner organisations to explore future options, identify key challenges, and elaborate potential levers for change.

2020
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2021

Our priority shifts to designing approaches for unlocking the levers of change. This could be in the form of creative new business models, governance systems, innovative financing, new technologies, new products, or management approaches and behaviours.

2021
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2030

Transformative ideas will be structured and trialled over a period of 3–10 years. Each project will be tested for its societal, environmental, and economic impact. This will be a high risk–high reward approach, with the potential for first–mover benefits. Based on the experiences and data generated, we will synthesise lessons learned to inform and shape land management and policy towards the ultimate goal of net-zero carbon across Scotland.

For more information on the **Landscapes as Carbon Sinks** project [click here](#).

The Partners

EIT Climate-KIC is a Knowledge and Innovation Community that aims to deliver a prosperous, inclusive, climate-resilient society founded on a circular, zero-carbon economy. Climate-KIC is supported by the European Institute of Technology, a body of the European Union.

ECCI believes in making things happen. Its work is fuelled by in-house expertise and networks of thought leaders across government, business and academia. Together they power cutting-edge public policy, innovative low carbon businesses and projects, and professional education to deliver real change - in Scotland and globally.

The Centre for Sustainable Forests and Landscapes works with a wide range of partners in Scotland, Europe, and globally to provide the critical interdisciplinary knowledge to deliver sustainable landscape management and policy development.

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