

A UK Peatland Strategy: Global Context

- **Global Peatlands Initiative (UNEP):** reduce degradation, sustainable peatland management , restoration and adoption of strategies and action plans
- **UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (MICCA):** 10 strategic peatland actions
- **IUCN Resolution on Peatlands:** Country focussed programmes to protect restore and sustainably manage peatlands



A UK Peatland Strategy:

Partnership including Government in the four UK countries agreed there is a need for a strategy:

- Provides a clear signal, focus and coordination
- Continue knowledge exchange and skill sharing
- Benefit from collaboration over research, monitoring and development of good practice
- Efficiencies through partnership working, shared approaches





Peatland Programme

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A UK Peatland Strategy: Vision

UK peatland natural capital, protected and enhanced, peatlands are managed sustainably and are recognised for their intrinsic value and the public benefits they provide.

Two million hectares in good condition or under restoration agreement and sustainably managed by 2040.



A UK Peatland Strategy: Aim

Provide a **long-term framework** for the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of **UK peatlands**: blanket bogs, lowland raised bogs and fens.

In order to **secure multiple benefits** from enhanced biodiversity, water quality, water regulation, climate mitigation, cultural services and resilience in the face of climate change.



A UK Peatland Strategy: Goals

- Conserve and restore best and most readily recoverable
- Restore degraded areas to functioning peatlands
- Apply land uses that are compatible with healthy peatlands
- Adapt management of drained peatlands under intensive use
- Establish a formal framework to stimulate funding, share experience, promote best practice management and monitor progress
- Communicate peatland values.



A UK Peatland Strategy: Who's is it?

- IUCN UK Peatland Programme
- Encompasses growing government interest and allows each country space to develop its own actions
- Builds on Commission of Inquiry, conferences, stakeholder meetings and the regional peatland partnerships
- A strategy for all involved in peatlands to align with and help deliver.



A UK Peatland Strategy: Next steps

- Consultation phase ends 20th January 2017
- How do we best use the strategy and make it connect with high level plans for climate, flooding, land management (agriculture/forestry/planning)?
- Can we get the strategy to resonate with decision makers, funders, land managers, communities who live and work in peatlands, and the tax paying public?





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