



A LITTLE BLUE RESEARCH CASE STUDY

Developing a roadmap for integrating nature and biodiversity into business decision-making and disclosures

Client name: BT Group

Client size: 100,000+

Little Blue Research provided technical support to develop a nature strategy to enable the client to integrate nature into its business processes including estate management; sourcing and infrastructure.

In addition, the team provided support to help develop a roadmap towards fuller disclosures of nature-related risks and opportunities.

Service: Strategic planning: implementation & disclosure

Type: NATURAL

Assessment locations: UK, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Estonia, Poland, Morocco

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Case Study details

Client need

BT Group required technical support to develop a roadmap to enable integration of nature into business decision-making and potential future disclosures. To do this Little Blue Research:

- Conducted a prioritisation process across more than 8,000 BT Group facilities and undertook a screening for both nature-related risks and opportunities;
- Conducted a series of nature-related analyses using spatial data across the client's key suppliers and own facilities;
- Undertook a screening to determine potential areas where biodiversity actions/interventions could be used to restore habitats;
- Developed a roadmap to set out actions for the shorter and longer term to help the client begin integrating nature into business decision-making; and
- Provided support and peer review to the Openreach's internal nature working group.

The challenge

- Engaging with multiple business units and contacts and identifying relevant internal stakeholders.
- Collating and consolidating data from a number of different data sets, each with their own format and criteria.
- Identifying supplier manufacturing and sourcing locations across key suppliers and sectors.
- Aligning future strategies, next steps and recommendations across several areas of the business.
- Obtaining supplier and facilities spatial data to map locations and identify high-risk areas and potential sites where there may be opportunities for nature restoration.
- Conducting multiple prioritisation exercises to select suppliers and facilities for further analyses.
- Determining the potential risks of materials used in own-branded products despite limited data availability.



Outputs and results

- ✓ Developing a living nature roadmap to enable the integration of nature-related risks and opportunities into business processes.
- ✓ Identifying priority suppliers, including a mapping of manufacturing locations and interfaces with nature where available.
- ✓ Identifying the potential presence of high impact commodities used within own-branded products.
- ✓ Prioritising facilities across the company based on their nature interface and the potential nature-related risks and opportunities on-site.
- ✓ Developing a facilities report and a supply-chain report with findings and next steps specific to each area of the business.
- ✓ Screening facilities to identify opportunities for the protection, enhancement and restoration of nature locally.

What happened next

BT Group took forward the next steps set out in the roadmap to support its work towards integrating nature into relevant business processes. Key internal stakeholders from BT Group are considering recommendations presented as part of the close-out workshop. In addition, Openreach is continuing to identify relevant data collection processes as part of its nature working group meetings.



"The team at Little Blue Research helped us start understanding our impacts and dependencies on nature throughout our own operations and our supply chain. There is still a lot more for us to do, but based on this work, we have a much better understanding and useful starting point"

Gabrielle Ginér, head of environmental sustainability at BT Group.



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