



Northern Ireland
environment
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A Year in Review 2021

As the year comes to an end, we reflect on the resilience of our sector and highlight some of the achievements over the past year. As a sector, we value how important it is to work together during the challenging times so that we all reap the rewards in the future.

Events



This year has seen a great deal of collaborative work in the sector. Events took place both online and in-person. Kicking off the year with Belfast Food Network, RSPB, NIEL, Food Farming and Countryside Commission, Nature Friendly Farming Network and Food NI setting up NI's first ever Food, Farming & Land Convention (February 2021). Later in the year, Climate NI attended COP26 in November, showcasing collaboration for local climate action alongside NILGA, Derry City and Strabane District Council) and the Climate Unit in Belfast City Council. You can read their summary of COP26 [here](#).

Consultations



Having a voice in these uncertain times has never been so important. Here at NIEL, a key aspect of our role has been to maintain communications within the sector, and represent our members' needs to Government and others. We hope that Members feel that we did this to the best of our ability. This year has seen a number of important issues that we felt needed the input of the sector. You can see all of NIEL's Consultation responses for 2021 [here](#).



Reports



In May, a [New Strategy and Action Plan for Education for Sustainability \(EFS\)](#) in Northern Ireland was produced to review delivery of sustainable environmental education in NI. In September, the launch of the [Farming for the Future, A Vision for Sustainable Land Management](#) report at the Balmoral Show put forward the case for Sustainable farming and land management in Northern Ireland.

You can check out all our reports [here](#).

Task Forces & Working Groups



Collaboration within and beyond the Environmental NGO sector is a key aspect of our work. If you are interested in engaging with Task Forces/Working Groups that are relevant to your own work area and want to find out more, you can do so [here](#).

If you would like to find out more highlights of the past year at NIEL, you can check out [2020-21 Annual Report](#) [here](#).

Thank you for all your support during 2021. From all of us at NIEL, Board and Staff, we want to wish our members, colleagues and friends a very Happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2022!