

# The Registry & Environmental Markets Exchange

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## Information sheet 5

### What is the Environment Bank Registry?

The Registry is Environment Bank's database of landowners who have expressed interest in providing biodiversity compensation sites for developers. Registered landowners have provided information regarding their properties' suitability to act as compensation receptor sites – information that suggests biodiversity gains are achievable through habitat restoration and creation, via the sale of conservation credits. The Registry may also attract corporate investment in sites where landowners will restore and create habitats and ecosystem services to compensate for residual effects that corporate entities wish (or in the future may be required) to address in order to increase the sustainability of their businesses in respect of the protection and enhancement of natural capital.

Developers are searching the Registry as a first port of call when they need biodiversity compensation and landowners have a secure, confidential space to promote their interest in conservation funding - we are the broker that brings together this demand and supply. We do not own or manage land ourselves, our role is to register potential sites and to match them to the needs of developers and local planning authorities - the right type of site, of the right size, in the right place, at the right time, for the right price.

### How do I view the Registry?

The Registry database holds varying degrees of information about potential compensation sites that have been put forward by landowners, whether those sites be privately owned or owned by NGOs or Local Authorities. The online interface of the database on our website is a map, which allows developers and local planning authorities (or anyone with an interest) to search for sites in their area. The Registry map can be viewed on the Environment Bank website at [www.environmentbank.com/environmental-markets-exchange.php](http://www.environmentbank.com/environmental-markets-exchange.php). More detailed information about sites on the Registry is held 'behind the scenes'. Initially, however, a planning authority or developer will simply want to know if there are any sites near to a development and whether there is any information on the availability of credits and what habitats could be restored or created at the site. This is therefore the information that we aim to make visible on the Registry – we can provide more detail on request, with permission from the landowner in question.

Note – We have access to a wide range of additional sites via our database of contacts and partnerships which may not be visible on the Registry. While it may appear that we do not have a site in your area, please contact us for more information regarding the potential of providers local to you or to request an active search.

## How do I register my property?

An application to register land is submitted via the Environment Bank website (<http://www.environmentbank.com/register-land.php>) and then added to the Registry by an EB officer, who will contact you with any queries regarding your site. Registration is completely free of charge and confidential, with no obligation to proceed to providing a final scheme – only an approximate location of your property is viewable on the online Registry map and confidential details are not published.

## Bronze, Silver, Gold sites

The amount of detail available for a site on the Registry will largely depend on which classification of offering the site falls into. The classifications are as follows:

**Bronze** sites are those where interested landowners have registered their properties with us online via our simple registration form or who have requested and returned a completed Expression of Interest (EOI) form by email or post. At this stage the information is basic but adequate for us to consider the property for any potential compensation scheme.

**Silver** sites are those where more information is available (for example, within an existing un-funded management plan), or where a developer has shown interest in a site and more information has been gathered via a brief site visit by Environment Bank or one of our associates/partners. During a site visit, information is collected on the habitats present and the habitats a landowner is interested in creating and/or restoring. The step-up in environmental value will be estimated and given a value in conservation credits. Becoming a silver site still does not require any full commitment from the landowner, but a landowner will be expected to sign a document committing to use Environment Bank as a broker.

**Gold** sites are those where the information gathered and subsequent credit calculations is sufficient for ensuring there is a good match with a developer's compensation requirements (and usually there is a developer already actively interested in purchasing credits). The exact number of credits is confirmed at this stage following submission of a detailed management plan and site visit by an experienced restoration ecologist. Although this can be costly, this can be commissioned by the landowner, or the developer, and the costs recouped in the final credit price put forward by the landowners – ready-to-go sites are attractive to developers as credit sales can be arranged immediately.

## What is the Environmental Markets Exchange (EME)?

The EME is Environment Bank's trading platform for conservation credits. While potential compensation receptor sites are listed on our Registry, as described here, the EME is where the credits from registered sites are bought and sold, and tracked. It is a regulated, secure system that ensures credits are created under legal land management agreements, sold via a trusted broker using credit purchase agreements, regulated and approved by planning authorities (if linked to a planning application), extinguished when used (prior to or at commencement of development) and closely tracked so that credits are only created, sold and extinguished once.

We are currently increasing the functionality of the EME so that in time it will deliver streamlined credit sales, and is easily updated as the market continues to develop and as other asset classes come on board, such as water quality, nutrients, woodland and peatland carbon.

### Find out more;

- about how the biodiversity accounting system works – see Information sheet 1
- about becoming a receptor site provider – see Information sheet 3
- about how the system works if you're a developer looking for a compensation site – see Information sheet 4

All information sheets are downloadable from our online library

[www.environmentbank.com/library.php](http://www.environmentbank.com/library.php)

### Contact us

To find out more about becoming a registered landowner with Environment Bank, or to make an enquiry regarding site availability in your area, please contact us on 07710 192295 (Louise Martland) or at [admin@environmentbank.com](mailto:admin@environmentbank.com), or see our website [www.environmentbank.com](http://www.environmentbank.com) for more information.

### Register

To list your property on the Environment Bank Registry, please complete our online application form - <http://www.environmentbank.com/register-land.php>