

The South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and its partners will work with all parts of the development sector to advocate the highest standards of planning, construction and management through:

- **Research and trials**
- **Advice and guidance**
- **Promotion and accreditation**

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Front cover photo: Wetland habitat alongside new homes at Greenwich Millennium Village, London, helps to provide a 'better quality of life'

Photo Acknowledgements
Countryside Properties plc, Woking Borough Council, Brighton and Hove City Council, Oxford Science Park, English Nature



SEEDA acknowledges the financial support of:



Building blocks for success:

- ① **Thorough survey**
- ① **Early consultation**
- ① **Wildlife designed in from the outset**
- ① **Safeguard special features**
- ① **Create new habitats**
- ① **Local character and distinctiveness**
- ① **Wildlife corridors**
- ① **Native species**
- ① **Management plans**
- ① **Involving communities**

Building For Nature



Putting wildlife at the centre of our lives



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Why has the Project been set up?

In a region of eight million people producing 15% of the national income, there is strong growth and demand for expansion. The challenge is not just to minimise the impact on the environment, but also to seek positive gains for wildlife in our new developments.



Quality design incorporating wildlife features creates quality places to live

Why is wildlife important?

Our environment is central to the success of the South East both in terms of the economy and our social well-being. Abundant wildlife is a measure of a healthy environment, and it makes a real contribution to our quality of life.



26000ha of our ancient woodland has been destroyed since 1920. Living close to woodlands and green spaces enhances the quality of our lives



Many species are now endangered due to our lack of regard for them. Thoughtful planning now can help save these species for future generations to enjoy

What is the Project trying to achieve?

We want to influence working practices so that wildlife is made central to the planning, design and management of new developments. The goal is for development to result in more wildlife, not less.



Planning for wildlife – where machines once worked herons, kingfishers, finches and magpies have now made their homes.

How will it be done?

We will collect ideas, experience and examples of good practice, and run pilot studies on new developments around the region. From the store of knowledge we draw together, we will offer advice and guidance, promote high standards and celebrate the best successes.

Who is the Project aimed at?

We will work with people at all stages of development, from planners, architects, engineers and developers through to the communities and organisations that occupy the new buildings.



Quality advice is invaluable to identify opportunities for biodiversity gain within developments

Who is involved in the Project?

SEEDA has been joined by a strong partnership of private, public and voluntary sector bodies to establish this initiative. SEEDA employs a full-time Project Officer based at its Headquarters in Guildford. Its current partners are:

- The Association of Local Government Ecologists
- The Civil Engineering Contractors Association
- English Nature
- Environment Agency
- The House Builders Federation
- The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
- West Sussex County Council
- The Wildlife Trusts