

March - Ecology

Low Tech - Case Study



**Calendar for
Climate
Change**

Quid-Pro-Guo - Inter-generational
Education to Ease Global Warmi



Case Study: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Month:	March
Topic:	Ecology
Case Study Title:	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan



Source: Unsplash, Heather McKean

Name of the Climate or Social Enterprise or Activist Group:	National Biodiversity Data Centre
What is their Story?	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP) was launched by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in 2015 to combat the decline of native pollinators in Ireland (National Biodiversity Data Centre, 2020). When this plan was launched in September 2015, Ireland became one of the first European countries to combat the gradual extinction of pollinator species in Europe. The project is supported by the EU Horizon 2020 Plan.</p> <p>The AIPP works to both educate individuals, farmers, and industries about the importance of pollinators to our native ecosystem. The AIPP published advice, guides, videos, and workshops on how to encourage</p>



	<p>pollinators in our gardens and provide shelter during the winter. This includes guides such as how to plant pollinator-friendly pots of plants, and includes lists of pollinator friendly plants.</p> <p>Their resources are available and targeted to all age groups with many resources produced in both Irish and English. This ensures that these resources are accessible to a wide audience across Ireland, even in Irish-speaking communities.</p>
<p>Link to the Case Study:</p>	<p>Introduction to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HD7dTR25vFE</p> <p>All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Website https://pollinators.ie/</p> <p>AIPP Resource Database https://pollinators.ie/resources/</p>
<p>Why is this a Good Example to Follow?</p>	<p>The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan encourages all people and organisations to rewild our public spaces and pay attention to the bees and insects around them. The Plan and its accompanying tools provide resources and assistance to groups, schools, and people who want to make their gardens and local areas more friendly to our native pollinators. This is great for gardeners as well as bee-enthusiasts as increased pollinator populations encourages better plant growth!</p> <p>The Plan is promoted by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, who also undertake important research into pollinator-populations and efforts to rewild our countryside and public spaces.</p>
<p>What Impact has this case study example achieved?</p>	<p>From the end of the 2015-2020 AIPP, there has been an increase in bee populations across the country. At least seven different mining solitary bee species have set up home across Ireland since the establishment of the plan (National Biodiversity Data Centre, 2020, p. 6).</p> <p>In Cork, following the implementation of the AIPP guidelines by the County Council, it has led to some surprising results – the pollinator populations have increased and as a result, hundreds of rare orchids have begun to grow along now unmown roadside verges (National Biodiversity Data Centre, 2020, p. 9)!</p> <p>Causeway Hospital in Coleraine, Northern Ireland, implemented the guidelines by sectioning off areas of the grounds to be allowed to grow and flower every spring and summer. As a result, many species of butterflies, moths, bumblebees have begun to find homes in the grounds, as well as hedgehogs and birds (National Biodiversity Data</p>




	<p>Centre, 2020, p. 37)!</p> <p>The AIPP has also partnered with Tidy Towns initiative to encourage local areas to rewild public spaces for pollinators, as well as taking pollinator-friendly actions when ‘beautifying’ their towns. Each year, Tidy Towns presents the Local Authority Pollinator Award which rewards the town that has taken the most pollinator-friendly action throughout the year (Tidy Towns, 2019).</p> <p>As we can see from these examples, the AIPP has achieved a significant impact where it has been successfully implemented in local communities across the island of Ireland. As an All-Ireland Plan, it brings communities from the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland together in partnership to save our pollinators. As such, this case study can have, and is having, a significant impact on supporting the pollinator population across the island.</p>
References	<p>National Biodiversity Data Centre. (2020). <i>Working together for Biodiversity: Tales from the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020</i>. Waterford: National Biodiversity Data Centre.</p> <p>Tidy Towns. (2019, March). <i>10 Tips to help your entry for the Pollinator Award</i>. Retrieved from All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: https://www.pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Tips-on-entering-Tidy-Towns-Pollinator-Award.pdf</p>



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