



proteus

Proteus 2025 Financial Summary

This report provides an overview of income, expenditure, and co-finance raised in support of the Proteus workplan in 2025

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2025 Financial Overview

PROTEUS 2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

INCOME

Across all Proteus Partner MoUs, we received **£1,424,500** in 2025.

This was increased by **£3,565**, as we carried forward underspend from 2024.

Therefore our total available budget for the 2025 workplan was **£1,428,065**.



PROTEUS 2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

CO-FINANCE

Proteus is committed to matching financial contributions made by Partner companies at least one-to-one against other sources of funding.

Based on standard currency exchange rates, we raised **£1,828,412** in 2025 as co-finance.

Across total contributions from all Partners, this translates to a Partners: co-finance funding ratio of **£1 : £1.28***.

For individual Partner contributions, this translates to a Partner: co-finance funding ratio of **£1 : £37.77****.

* calculated as: co-finance / total income

** calculated as: (co-finance + total income – average Partner income) / average Partner income

PROTEUS 2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure covers all Proteus income used for staff time, expenses, and sub-contracted consultants to support delivery of the Proteus 2025 workplan.

Our total expenditure was: **£1,428,065**.
With an income of **£1,428,065**, our total balance at the end of this year (and therefore the 2021-2025 phase) is **£0**.



PROTEUS 2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUMMARY

Income for 2025 work plan (GBP)

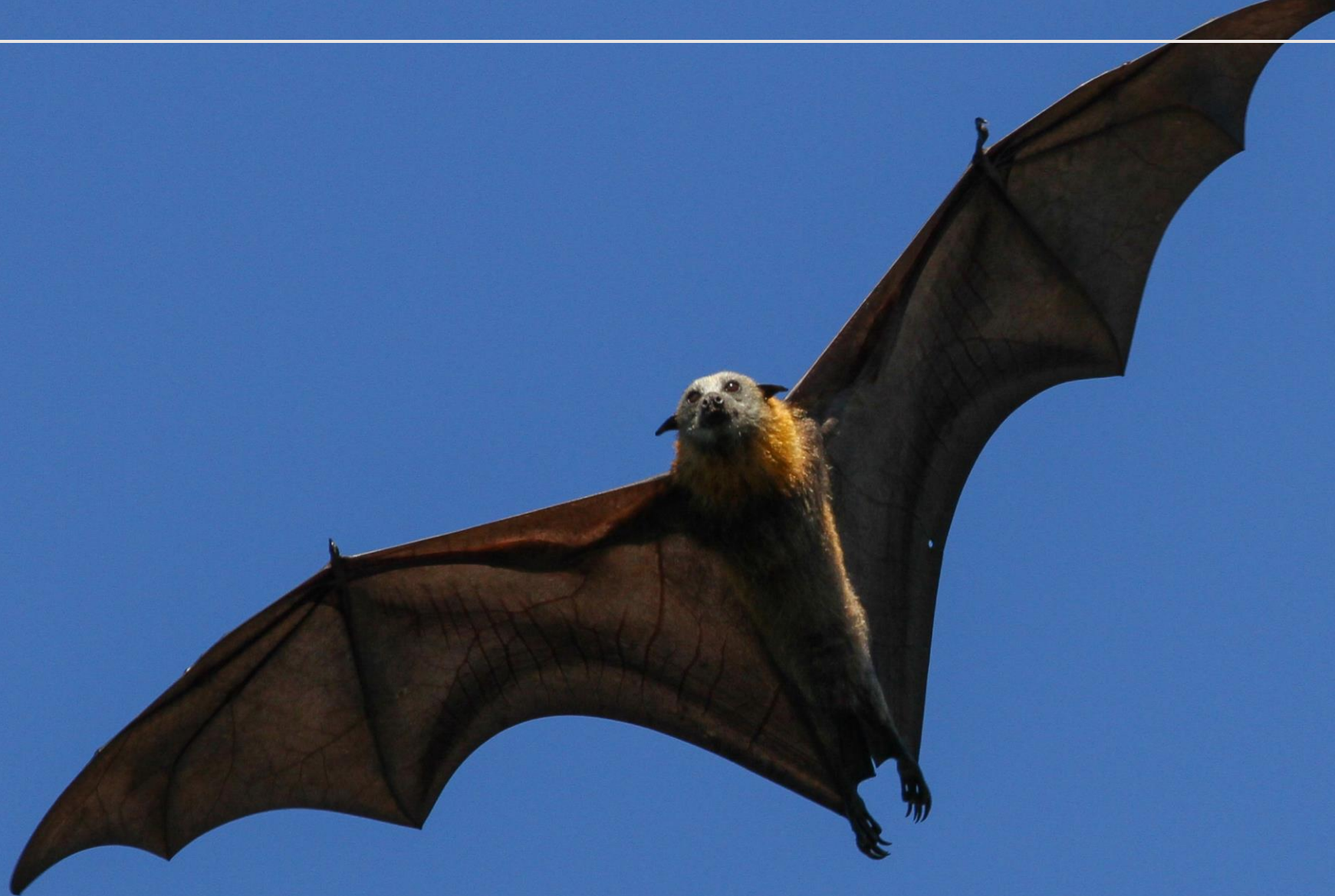
	Budget Income	Actual Income
Proteus Partner Income	£ 1,344,500	£ 1,424,500
2024 Carry Forward	£ -	£ 3,565
Total 2025 Income	£ 1,344,500	£ 1,428,065

Expenditure for 2025 work plan (GBP)

	Budget Exp.	Actual Exp.	Co-finance
Goal 1 - Help companies recognize their responsibilities for nature and communicate the business case for its management	£ 235,500	£ 258,839	£ 354,412
Goal 2 - Accelerate and scale decision support tools and capacity building to help improve corporate performance	£ 676,000	£ 670,553	£ 1,230,312
Goal 3 - Strengthen and increase business engagement in the global biodiversity policy agenda	£ 126,500	£ 146,056	£ 86,852
Goal 4 - Sustain a viable mutually beneficial partnership through cross-sectoral collaboration	£ 154,000	£ 221,829	£ 156,836
Goal 4 - Partnership management	£ 114,500	£ 130,788	
Contingency	£ 38,000		
Total 2025 Expenditure (GBP)	£ 1,344,500	£ 1,428,065	£ 1,828,412

Balance £ 0

One new partner joined Proteus in 2025 increasing our income by **£80,000** compared to our initial budget. This additional income was applied to activities across Goals 1, 3, and 4. Goal 2 saw a slight underspend due to some partners not exhausting their technical support allowance completely. These funds were reallocated across the other three Goals.



2025 Breakdown by Goals

PROTEUS 2025 WORKPLAN – GOAL 1

Delivery



Goal 1 focused on establishing a compelling business case for nature in companies. The **Nature Action Dialogues** and the **Proteus Annual Meeting** have continued to grow in prominence and attendance from Proteus expansion target sectors. Under our **Every Job Is a Nature Job** initiative, we released **cross-cutting guidance for sustainability professionals**, giving recommendations on communicating about nature to the C-Suite and providing case studies on business transformation. We also began researching and writing guidance for the **Social Engagement Officer** role, which was released in April 2026. To scale the knowledge generated through Proteus, we contributed to initiatives strengthening the understanding of **business interactions with nature**, working with organisations such as Business for Nature, WBCSD, WEF, ICMM, and UN Global Compact. For example, we contributed to WEF’s Nature Positive Transition guidance for the tech sector and UNGC’s Think Lab on Nature. Under **Communications** we provided data updates and quarterly reports on delivery against the workplan. We also made significant upgrades to the **Proteus website**.

Funding under Goal 1 was allocated to:

- Proteus Annual Meeting and Nature Action Dialogues
- Business case materials and initiatives
- Communications
- Redesign of the Proteus website
- Every Job is a Nature Job – Cross-cutting Guidance and Social Engagement Officer

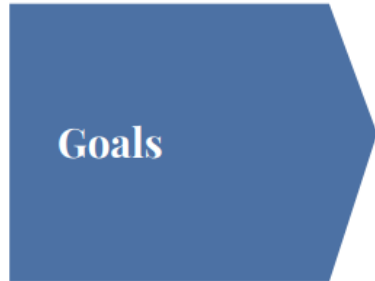
Budget

Budget	Actual	Co-finance
£ 235,500	£ 258,839	£ 354,412

Additional available budget enabled us to scale up our update for the Proteus Website and support our planning for the 2026 Nature Action Dialogues. Our co-finance ratio for this goal stands at £1 : £1.37.

PROTEUS 2025 WORKPLAN – GOAL 2

Delivery



2. Accelerate and scale decision support tools and capacity building to help improve corporate performance



Goal 2 covers our work related to our decision support tools. Under **Protected Planet**, 2025 saw the addition of OECMs (Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures) to the WDPA (World Database on Protected Areas) and its transformation into the **WDPCA** (World Database on Protected and Conserved Areas). Besides the regular updates to its datasets, **IBAT** received a new user interface, enhanced Disclosure and Freshwater reports, and the launch of the Species report. The three **Ocean+** platforms have been consolidated into a single source of marine habitat data: Ocean+ Habitats. We continued to map and engage with the contributors to our global spatial datasets, delivering on our commitment to **open data principles** by the end of 2025, and worked with third-party data providers to promote data accessibility and open data principles. We delivered **4 Data Forums** for 50 attendees, covering the topics: Net Positive commitments, state of nature metrics, IBAT updates, and the Restoration Opportunities layer. We delivered 30 **trainings** to 492 participants, provided 351 hours of **technical assistance** and responded to 56 **data queries**.

Funding under Goal 2 was allocated to:

- Protected Planet
- WDPCA Monthly Updates and Priority Countries
- IBAT subscriptions
- Ocean+
- Open data
- Data Forums
- Data Queries
- Partner Training and Technical Assistance

Budget

Budget	Actual	Co-finance
£ 676,000	£ 670,553	£ 1,230,312

Goal 2 received the most funding across our workplan, allowing for the delivery of key datasets and tools, provision of technical assistance and training, and Partner IBAT subscriptions. There was a small underspend due to some partners not exhausting their Technical Support allowance completely. These funds were reallocated across the other three Goals. Our co-finance ratio for Goal 2 stands at £1 : £1.83.

PROTEUS 2025 WORKPLAN – GOAL 3

Delivery



Goal 3 encompasses our efforts to strengthen links between businesses, global policy developments, and emerging trends and initiatives that respond to them. We participated at **UNFCCC COP 30**, the **IUCN World Conservation Congress**, and **UNEA-7** and provided targeted summaries of partner-relevant outcomes from these events. We supported partners to understand key implications emerging from policy making and nature-related trends through **4 Horizon Scan Webinars**, for example, focusing on AI in conservation, Landscapes, and Business contributions to Protected Areas. Overall, we had 41 participants in our webinars. We delivered **4 Technical Briefs** spanning topics related to goals 1, 2, 3 and 4. We released a global **Restoration Opportunities GIS data layer**, allowing businesses to screen for locations where ecosystem restoration can deliver multiple benefits for sustainability goals. Finally, we kept the **Biodiversity A-Z** up-to-date with key biodiversity terminology used in international biodiversity policy.

Funding under Goal 3 was allocated to:

- Engagement at UNFCCC COP 30 & IUCN WCC
- Policy updates
- Restoration Opportunities layer
- Horizon Scanning Webinars
- Biodiversity A-Z

Budget

Budget	Actual	Co-finance
£ 126,500	£ 146,056	£ 86,852

Additional funding in 2025 enabled the development of additional policy updates for Partners, as well as additional modelling and analysis during the development of the Restoration Opportunities layer. Our co-finance ratio for this goal stands at £1 : £0.59.

PROTEUS 2025 WORKPLAN – GOAL 4

Delivery



Goal 4 is about maintaining the Proteus Partnership, ensuring it remains mutually beneficial and financially viable, while fostering cross-sector collaboration. We continued engaging with **sector associations**, like ICOMM and Ipieca, and expanded our **cross-sector outreach** via conferences and workshops. Examples of sector-relevant conferences attended include Sustainable Foods, European Business and Nature Summit, Nature Tech Summit, and Reuters Sustainability Europe. These efforts broadened the reach of Proteus, enabling a diversifying set of sectors at our webinars and the Nature Action Dialogues. In 2025, we condensed our learnings into how Proteus can meaningfully contribute to the nature performance of Partners across **landscapes and supply chains** into the strategy of phase 2026-2030. Finally, the **Partnership management** budget sits under Goal 4. This includes our efforts to develop and oversee the delivery of the annual workplans, engage with Partners through regular bilateral calls to understand their needs and share insights, and ensure Proteus’ continued operational and financial stability.

Funding under Goal 4 was allocated to:

- Cross-sectoral engagement
- Participation in conferences, meetings and events
- Partnership expansion
- Landscapes & Supply Chains
- Partnership management

Budget

	Budget	Actual	Co-finance
Goal 4	£ 154,000	£ 221,829	£ 156,836
Management	£ 114,500	£ 130,788	

Additional funding in Goal 4 helped us increase our reach in our target sectors by attending more conferences and building relationships with key actors from business and sector associations. Our management costs were also increased to cover the development of our new strategy and begin the contract renewal process. Our co-finance ratio for this goal stands at £1 : £0.44.

A photograph of a forest. The majority of the trees are green pine trees. In the center-right of the image, there is a cluster of trees with bright yellow leaves, standing out against the green background. The text "2021-2025 phase overview" is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

2021-2025 phase overview

2021-2025 FINANCES*

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Overall
Income	£ 983,213	£ 1,250,511	£ 1,323,467	£ 1,284,475	£ 1,424,500	£ 6,266,166
Expenditure	- £ 947,129	- £ 1,278,305	- £ 1,337,918	- £ 1,274,749	- £ 1,428,065	- £6,266,166
Cumulative Balance	£ 36,084	£ 8,290	- £ 6,161	£ 3,565	£ 0	£ 0

Across the five years, we received **£6,266,166** to support our work. Our income continued to increase each year across the phase, except for 2023 to 2024, driven primarily by changes in total number of partners. Our end of phase balance was **£0**.

** including Enterprise Plus IBAT subscriptions, excluding Additional Technical Assistance*

PROTEUS 2021-2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUMMARY

Income across 2021-2025 (GBP)

Proteus Partner Income	Income
	£ 6,266,166

Expenditure for 2021-2025 work plans (GBP)

	Expenditure	Co-finance
Goal 1 - Help companies recognize their responsibilities for nature and communicate the business case for its management	£ 953,830	£ 1,307,322
Goal 2 - Accelerate and scale decision support tools and capacity building to help improve corporate performance	£ 3,511,616	£ 5,663,077
Goal 3 - Strengthen and increase business engagement in the global biodiversity policy agenda	£ 622,672	£ 1,069,265
Goal 4 - Sustain a viable mutually beneficial partnership through cross-sectoral collaboration	£ 761,229	£ 1,340,259
Goal 4 - Partnership management	£ 416,820	
Contingency		
Total 2021-2025 Expenditure (GBP)	£ 6,266,166	£ 9,379,923

Balance £ 0

Over 56% of our budget was spent on Goal 2, reflecting our focus on data and technical work. Less than 7% of our budget was spent on management costs. Our co-finance ratio across the five years stands at £1 : £1.50.

CONTACT

If you have questions about the Proteus Partnership's finances or would like to discuss them in more detail, please contact Bálint Ternyik at Balint.Ternyik@unep-wcmc.org.



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