

## Women in Nature Restoration Working Group

### Working group lead

The **Tóchar Midlands Wetland Restoration Scheme**, member of the [Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network](#) (FCCJNN), is a nature initiative operating within Ireland's Just Transition territory, backed by the EU Just Transition Funds and coordinated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. At the heart of this project lies collaboration—reflecting the harmonious interdependence of species within ecosystems to sustain a thriving planet. Addressing intricate challenges like climate change and biodiversity loss demands fresh perspectives, bold ideas, and the courage to disrupt outdated patterns of thinking.

In this spirit, Tóchar propose the establishment of a **Women in Nature Restoration Working Group** of the FCCJNN to:

1. Foster and nurture a vibrant community of women leading in nature restoration and the Just Transition.
2. Build connections among women and feminist leaders to amplify the strength and impact of the movement.
3. Provide resources and support for women to innovate, lead, and implement practical solutions in restoration work.

### Why This Matters

Gender dynamics within the Just Transition and nature restoration remain underexplored. This initiative seeks to uncover key insights and answer pivotal questions:

- What is the current gender balance in nature restoration in Ireland, particularly in the Just Transition region?
- Do women face a "green ceiling" limiting opportunities in this field?
- What strategies are most effective in empowering women to lead nature restoration efforts?
- How can we better support women entrepreneurs in designing and managing restoration projects?
- What structures or networks are most effective in prioritising women's needs and fostering their success in restoration work?

### Vision

We aim to create a supportive, solution-driven network where women can thrive as leaders, entrepreneurs, and change-makers in restoring nature. Together, we can share knowledge, highlight best practices, and shape a restoration movement that is inclusive, equitable, and impactful.

As Robin Wall Kimmerer beautifully writes in *Braiding Sweetgrass*:

*"Restoration is a powerful antidote to despair. Restoration offers concrete means by which humans can again enter into positive, creative relationship with the more-than-human world, meeting responsibilities that are simultaneously material and spiritual."*

Let us harness this restorative power to inspire hope, action, and transformation.

