

The background features several decorative geometric patterns. A large, light green trapezoidal shape with fine diagonal lines is on the right side. Below it, a series of dark green diagonal stripes are arranged in a stepped pattern. At the bottom, there are more dark green diagonal stripes and a light green trapezoidal shape with fine diagonal lines, mirroring the one on the right.

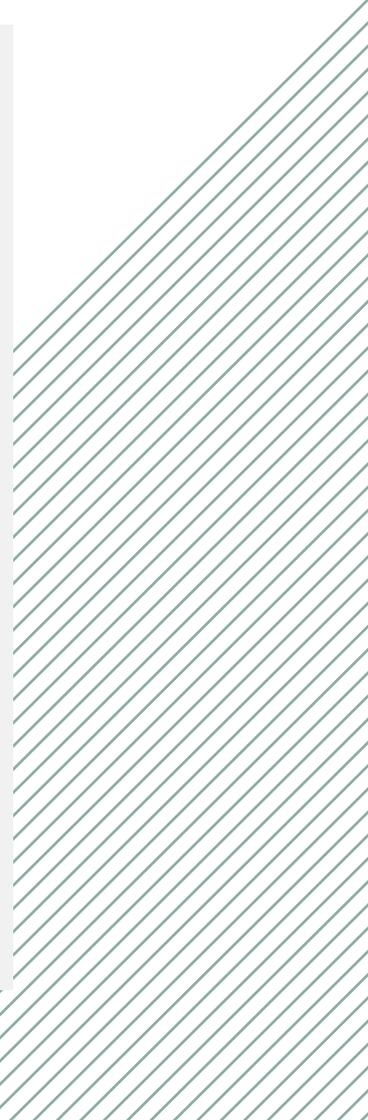
BIID SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021-2024

Designing a sustainable future



Our commitment to a sustainable future

The British Institute of Interior Design (BIID) is committed to leading the industry towards more sustainable design practices. We will do this by reviewing our own operations and providing our members with tools and support, to do their work in the most environmentally and socially responsible way. Our values, Strategic Plan (2021-2024) and Code of Conduct all provide direction for our work on sustainability.



Introduction

As interior designers, we are part of an industry which accounts for around 40% of the UK's entire carbon footprint. Through our projects and businesses, small considered changes could together make a huge positive impact on our environment and emissions.

The climate emergency is one of the biggest challenges of our time and the BIID is committed to rising to this challenge. Our 2021 Strategic aims include- 'to further embed sustainability into interior design practice', additionally the new 2021 Code of Conduct includes 'lessen the environmental impact of your work and promote sustainability'.

In February 2020 the BIID committed to become net zero by 2050 along with the Construction Industry Council. We believe the BIID can achieve this much sooner and have decided to audit our carbon footprint from April 2021 and aim to achieve net zero by 2023.

We understand that for most, becoming more sustainable is a journey, one which many of us have been on for years and others of us may not yet have started. We also recognise that solving the climate crisis requires a collaborative force between clients, designers, suppliers and governments. We have therefore produced a framework which sets out clear goals and actions, to affect real change at many different levels.

We hope that by our members and industry partners embracing these goals and actions, we will achieve better design outcomes, increased business opportunities and will build a greater awareness of environmentally and socially positive options for their clients and colleagues.



Lester Bennett — President
2020-2021



Lindsey Rendall — President
2021-2022

"The climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions. All we have to do is to wake up and change."

Greta Thunberg, December 2018



How we will maximise our impact

The BIID recognises that becoming sustainable will be an ongoing journey, as technologies, consumer requirements and environmental goals change and progress.

As part of our ongoing Sustainable Strategy, the BIID commits to:

Awareness - Knowledge - Promotion

Build **Awareness** of the Climate Crisis and the positive role members and the industry can have in response.

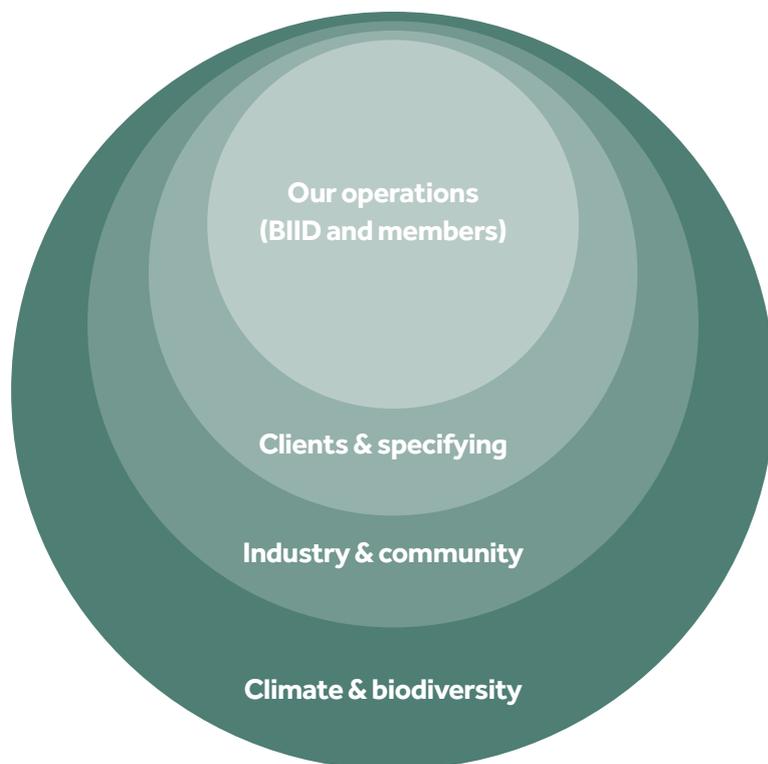
Develop **Knowledge** for members on practical measures, actions and policies they can adopt in their businesses and projects- in order to become more environmentally and socially responsible.

Prioritise **Promotion**, advocacy and celebration of technologies, practices, materials and products which improve sustainable outcomes- by members, the industry and the world.

Key areas of sustainable impact

The BIID has developed four key areas, where members and the industry can create positive sustainable impact. Using the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) as a framework we've set out how the BIID and our members can operate more sustainably, benefit from more considered design, improve their business practice and contribute to the sustainable goals for our planet.

As part of the BIID's ongoing sustainable strategy we plan to release further information, organise events and create and accredit CPDs over the next 3 years to provide interior designers with the tools, resources and knowledge to promote, create and implement sustainable and ethical design.



Our operations (BIID & members)

In February 2020 the BIID committed to supporting the UK Government's net zero target by 2050 along with the Construction Industry Council (CIC) and other built environment professional bodies. The BIID will explore how we as an organisation and a sector can reach these targets sooner.

UN SDG	Objectives	Actions
12- Responsible consumption and production 13- Climate action	To have a clear path for the BIID to become a net zero carbon emissions organisation	Develop a net zero plan, target and timeline, and build this into the BIID's strategy
	To recommend tools and frameworks for members to develop net zero carbon emissions plan	Develop a shared resource bank for members with tools and frameworks to make it more feasible for members to commit to and implement net zero plans alongside usual business practices

Clients & specifying

One of the most impactful ways BIID members and affiliates can respond to these Sustainable Development Goals, is through responsible specifying. The BIID seeks to build awareness of how technologies, materials, supply chain, whole lifecycle of projects and products can affect the environment and society as a whole. The goal is to ensure these effects are considered throughout the design process and beyond.

UN SDG	Objectives	Actions
1- No poverty 3- Good health and well-being 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth 12- Responsible consumption and production	To ensure awareness among members of the importance of responsible sourcing	Set up tailored CPD programme focused on responsible sourcing and supply chain. Including but not limited to carbon footprint of materials, social sustainability and consideration of embodied energy, full lifecycle of a material, product and project.
	To provide members with tools to make responsible sourcing easier	Create a designers 'toolkit' for members with guidelines for responsible sourcing- with a focus on how to promote sustainable options to clients- including reference to health and wellbeing as well as financial savings and reduced emissions/ carbon footprint.
		Design an information campaign for the above for members with opportunities for members to contribute their ideas, experiences and/ or case studies as relevant to the tool kit released by the BIID

Industry & community

As an Institute, the BIID has a responsibility to improve the impact Interior Design has on the environment and society in the UK and worldwide. The BIID seeks to encourage ethical and sustainable business practices internally and by members in their businesses. Additionally, the BIID will continue to work in collaboration with other professional bodies and participate in external steering groups, influencing Government & industry policy to reflect sustainable design practice & our alignment with UN SDGs.

UN SDG	Objectives	Actions
7- Affordable and clean energy 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth 9- Industry, innovation and infrastructure 11- Sustainable cities and communities 17- Partnerships and goals	To encourage suppliers to aid responsible sourcing for interior designers	Recommend suppliers have a valid sustainability report in place.
	To advocate for sustainable options at standard, not premium, prices	Working with other trade organisations, political and financial institutions to encourage and lobby industry change
	To contribute to the wider community and consider systems and infrastructure both now and in the future	Continue to engage with the CIC to form a panel of experts as per the statement signed by the BIID in Feb 2020. Where possible/ relevant- the BIID will also engage with other groups, initiatives and seek to work collaboratively to achieve climate goals.

Climate & Biodiversity

The BIID supports the ambition to achieve Carbon Neutrality and will continue to encourage members to support initiatives and organisations which support biodiversity, responsible management of natural resources and where appropriate carbon offsetting.

UN SDG	Objectives	Actions
13- Climate action 14- Life below water 15- Life on land	To understand the negative and positive impact design can have on the climate and biodiversity	Undertake a study to state the industry's current impact
	To reverse any negative impact of the industry on the climate and biodiversity	Provide a selection of recommended schemes for biodiversity support for the BIID and its members



Success Indicators

The BIID will review the above objectives and actions as part of an annual review in April 2022 and beyond. Each year we will update and set new objectives as necessary and announce achievements and where useful will provide practical information on how members can also achieve similar goals within their practices.

Acknowledgements

The BIID has worked with specialists, committee members and other contributors on this document and other upcoming publications, information and tools for members. With thanks to Susanne Lund Conway of Sirkel Consulting; Liz Bell of Absolute Project Management; Simone Suss of Studio Suss Ltd; Chloe Bullock of Materialise Interiors Limited; Brian Woulfe of Designed by Woulfe Ltd; Angela Bardino of Jacobs and Paul Micklethwaite of Kingston University. We would like to especially thank the late Anna Whitehead who contributed to this document and was a tireless champion of sustainability in interior design practice.

Support Sustainability with the BIID



If you would like to provide feedback, information or experience to the BIID on sustainability as it relates to the interior design industry please get in touch with us at info@biid.org.uk



biid.org.uk