



AIB customers 'Add more green' by supporting Native Woodland Development project in Co Roscommon

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AIB's customers are supporting Coillte, Ireland's leading forestry company, on the development of a native woodland area with both recreational and educational facilities at Carrigeenroe, Co Roscommon, through the AIB 'Add more green' fund.

The Project will promote biodiversity by restoring and managing native broadleaf woodland capable of regenerating itself over time and restoring the two existing habitats on the site - grassland and wet willow and ash woodland - by planting native species and removing non native species.

In addition, an amenity trail for visitors with car parking facilities will bring the site to life as a living educational resource for the community.

Over 230,000 AIB customers have already opted to receive their bank statements online, by eStatements, rather than by paper. For all those who sign up to eStatements, AIB donates €2 towards the AIB 'Add more green' Fund. Since this initiative was introduced in 2007 it has generated a fund of over €1,000,000. Projects already supported by the fund include the World Land Trust on two preservation projects in South America and the Native Woodland Trust on a 'Trees for Secondary Schools' project in Ireland.

Robbie Henneberry, Managing Director, AIB Bank, Republic of Ireland, said:

"We are delighted to be working closely with Coillte on this recreational and educational facility in Carrigeenroe.

"We believe that good business and environmental responsibility should go hand in hand. We've created 'Add more green' as a series of product and service initiatives to help both us and our customers play a part in supporting and promoting environmental responsibility and awareness.

"To minimise our own impact on the environment, we've been taking action to reduce energy consumption, reuse and recycle waste across our organisation and through the 'AIB Add more green Fund' we are keen to support our customers in making a contribution to the wider community."

David Gunning, CEO, Coillte added:

"Coillte is all about enriching lives locally, nationally and globally through innovative and sustainable management of natural resources. This project is a great example of how we can enhance and restore an important habitat and at the same time create an opportunity for people to get out and learn about nature. We believe the coming together of AIB and Coillte in this project will create something of lasting value to the people of Ireland, as a result of the significant investment by AIB as part of their Add more green Fund initiative, and are delighted to be working with them on it."

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NOTES TO EDITORS

AIB's 'Add more green' product initiatives offer customers lots of opportunities to bank in an environmentally responsible way. Customers can continue to 'add more green' by opting for online eStatements rather than paper statements by logging onto AIB Internet Banking via www.aib.ie. For added security an AIB code card is required to access the eStatement service. For every customer who makes the change to eStatements, AIB will donate €2 towards the 'Add more green' Fund.

In addition loan finance is available for environmentally friendly initiatives such as switching to renewable energy, buying/leasing plant or machinery that reduces CO2 emissions and more. Further information is available on www.aib.ie/csr

About Coillte:

Coillte is a commercial, State-owned company operating in forestry, panel products manufacturing, land management and renewable energy. Its core purpose is to enrich lives locally, nationally and globally through innovative and sustainable management of natural resources.

Coillte owns 445,000 hectares of land, 7% of the land of Ireland and employs 1,100 people in Ireland, the UK and Holland

For more see www.coillte.ie