

The aim of this conference was to take stock of the contribution of the EU agricultural and regional development policies to the conservation of pollinators and to discuss more effective measures and projects for the post-2020 period. It took place on 21 February 2020 and was attended by over 150 experts, including representatives of Member States administrations, research and academia, environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the farming sector, the beekeeping sector, and urban management. During several in depth and lively discussion sessions, delegates contributed a wealth of ideas. This report summarizes the main outputs.

#### The conference programme:

Setting the scene and welcome session

The morning breakout sessions (in parallel):

Taking stock of the programming period 2014-2020: EU Common Agricultural Policy

Taking stock of the programming period 2014-2020: EU regional development and cohesion policy

Lunch and poster session

The afternoon breakout sessions (in parallel):

Building more effective programmes in the 2021-2027 period: EU Common Agricultural Policy

Building more effective programmes in the 2021-2027 period: EU regional development and cohesion policy

The conference webstream, presentations and posters are all available on the conference webpage<sup>1</sup>.

The <u>EU Pollinator Information Hive</u><sup>2</sup> provides information on what the EU Pollinators Initiative is achieving, including guidance, and what is going on across Europe for wild pollinators. It includes interviews with five leading pollinator champions who presented at the conference.

<sup>1 &</sup>lt;a href="https://ieep.eu/news/biodiversity/pollinator-conservation/event-halting-the-loss-of-pollinators-role-of-eu-agricultural-and-regional-development-policies">https://ieep.eu/news/biodiversity/pollinator-conservation/event-halting-the-loss-of-pollinators-role-of-eu-agricultural-and-regional-development-policies</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/EUPKH/EU+Pollinator+Information+Hive

#### Setting the scene and welcome session

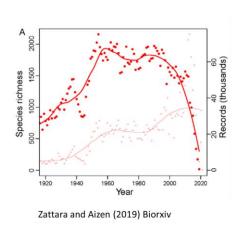
The session was opened with welcoming words from **Roby Biwer** (Vice-Chair Commission for Environment, Climate Change and Energy, European Committee of the Regions), **Pierre Bascou** (Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission) and **Nicola de Michelis** (DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission). The speakers highlighted that there was a window of opportunity, due to the polical momentum of the European Grean Deal, to mainstream biodiversity in agriculture, forestry and regional development policies.



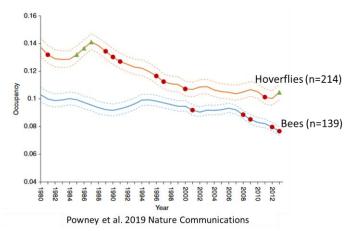


Following this, Jane Stout (Professor in Botany, Trinity College in Dublin) gave an overview on the state of pollinators in Europe. Jane Stout stressed that over 9 percent of European species are threatened with extinction. However, as half of the species are data deficient, the status of many remains unknown. She also noted that the honeybee is not in decline and only plays a small role in crop pollination. The diversity of insects is very important for fruit yields, therefore species-richness is beneficial across crop types and also within crop systems.

### **Pollinator trends**



Global decline in bee diversity based on records



Decline in occupancy in Britain by bees and butterflies based on occupancy models

The main drivers of pollinator decline are intensive agriculture, climate change and urbanisation. Agricultural intensification leads to the removal and simplification of habitats and the accumulation of chemicals in the environment including pesticides and herbicides which destroy important plants for pollinators. Climate change puts bumblebees at risk due to gradual increased temperature, rain shifts, extreme weather events, pests and pathogens. Urbanisation is an additional driver for pollinator decline. However, by providing a sufficiently complex habitat structure, parts of the city can function as a refuge for pollinators. At the international policy level, IPBES adopted its first global assessment at the CBD COP13, where the "Coalition of the Willing" on pollination and the protection of pollinators was formed (17 member countries to date). The resulting key findings and messages also influenced the development of the European pollinators initiative.

**Vujadin Kovacevic**, European Commission (DG ENV), introduced the EU Pollinators initiative, which was adopted in 2018 and has received a lot of public attention from across society. It was stressed that the causes of pollinator decline need to be addressed on farm land but also on a wider landscape level (70 percent of land use relate to cities). New actions need to be developed in the context of the European Green Deal, Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork Strategy and the Pollution Strategy.

**Evelyn Underwood** (Senior Policy Analyst at the Institute for European Environmental Policy) gave an overview of funding for pollinators through the CAP and regional development policies. The agricultural European Innovation Partnership (EIP-Agri) Pilot was highlighted as a good example to facilitate the cooperation with farmers. Additionally, the regional, cohesion and social funds offer support for the management of natural resources. Lastly, the seventh framework programme (FP7-Environment) and Horizon 2020 have helped to establish a knowledge base and long-lasting research cooperations.

# Taking stock of the programming period 2014-2020: EU Common Agricultural Policy

The European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) provide opportunities to support pollinators in agricultural areas and the wider rural countryside, including in Natura 2000 areas. In this structure, cross-compliance, the greening component of direct payments, and rural development measures provide a broad set of instruments that can help tackle pressures on insect pollinators.

#### The panel presenters of this session were:

#### David Mottershead, Institute for European Environmental Policy

David presented the key ways the CAP can influence pollinators, through Pillar 1 and Rural Development Programmes. High Nature Value (HNV) features, including those on "ordinary" farmland, were highlighted. The scientific literature shows that semi-natural habitats and field



edge habitats, including landscape features, are key for pollinators. On arable land, polinators need less use of pesticides and fertiliser and in a more precise manner, and there needs to be a greater tolerance of wildflowers and weeds, more fallow and crop rotation. Furthermore, to maintain habitats for pollinators, an improvement of the economic viability of extensive grazing of species rich grassland is needed.

#### • Andrew Bergin, EIP Agri Project – Protecting farmland pollinators, Ireland

The EIP-Agri operational group project on Protecting Farmland Pollinators is a locally-led agri-environment pilot, where scientists work with farmers to develop a whole farm pollinator scoring system. Farms are scored annually and this is compared with an initial baseline. Scientists and farmers collaborate to identify simple actions that can be taken to improve their score. Over four years, farmers will be paid annually through a results-based payment scheme.



• Isabella Grandl, Ministry of Agriculture in Austria

In Austria, the broad agri-environment-climate measure for environmentally sound and biodiversity-promoting farming engages 50,000 farmers on grassland and arable land with different obligations for biodiversity. One option supports the conservation of landscape features and the creation of 5% biodiverse flower areas. Knowledge transfer is offered on landscape features and biodiversity with a 5-hour mandatory training. Approximately 50,300 farmers have been involved in these trainings and 23,000 are committed to the organic farming scheme. A lot of lessons have been learned, for example measures need to be designed with stakeholders and a stronger focus on supporting training actions (through information and advisory services) would be beneficial.

#### • Eneli Vijk, Estonian Agricultural Research Centre

The ARC monitors the impact of the agri-environment measures (AECM) with a focus on pollinators including organic farming and the environmentally friendly management scheme. Beneficiaries attend a compulsory training of 6 hours, which includes an explanation of requirements including the significance of pollinators and pesticide risk. Fieldwork found that bumblebee numbers were higher in organic farming and AECM plots compared to the control farms, demonstrating the positive effects of the pollinator-friendly measures.

#### • Harm van Hoeve, farmer BIMAG project with Boerennatur, Netherlands

The farm insect montoring scheme in the Netherlands is an EIP-AGRI pilot project looking at the effect of AECM on the farmland area with a specific focus on moths (BIMAG). Farmers themselves carry out pollinator monitoring on their plots and have reported that it can be "easy, fun and addictive". Farmers are involved at the design stage to ensure that the monitoring activities are simple and to



facilitate their understanding of why pollinator conservation is necessary.





#### Main points from the discussions:

#### Assessment of the impact of EU policy on tackling the loss of pollinators

- Wild pollinators are not explicitly considered at the strategic level by Member States rural development programmes, but they include measures which benefit them directly or indirectly.
- The challenges of quantifying expected impacts and monitoring have been noted. The proposal was made to make monitoring an integral part of CAP strategic plans.

#### Lessons to draw from this for future policy-making

- Managing Authorities need to emphasise their strategic approach to pollinators protection
  when putting together their CAP strategic plan. Instruments are often not used in a coherent
  way and thus conditionality and greening are not used appropriately to address pollinators.
- Improved communication needs on AECMs have been highlighted. Agri-environmental
  measures are often seen as a niche instrument that are not flexible enough and less relevant
  than productive measures. Thus a change in mindset is necessary (for farmers and managing
  authorities). It is important to communicate objectives more clearly and to address
  misunderstandings.
- With regard to future policy, flexibility and results-oriented approaches instead of management requirements may lead to more satisfactory results (with more effective use of funding). Areas for attention include the protection of landscape features, reducing pesticides through organic farming and integrated pest management, and biodiversity friendly management of grassland.

#### **Key ingredients for effective strategies**

- It was recognised that support for peer-to-peer exchange and high quality advice is crucial. Farmer-to-farmer exchange can have high positive impacts and should be supported financially. Additionally, the quality of advisory services needs to be ensured.
- Breaking silos is crucial. Better communication between environmental and agricultural authorities will help achieve a better outcome for pollinators.
- Policy coherence of the CAP with the Farm to Fork Strategy, EU pollinator initiative, and the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 is key.

## Taking stock of the programming period 2014-2020: EU regional development and cohesion policy

EU structural funds under the EU cohesion policy offer more than 350 billion EUR of funding during the 2014-2020 period targeted directly or partly at biodiversity conservation<sup>3</sup>. This funding has supported restoration and management of 7 million ha of habitats in order to achieve a better conservation status. Interreg funding is particularly important for nature and biodiversity, even though it makes up only 3.5% of cohesion policy funding, therefore the session featured two current Interregfunded projects for wild pollinators and briefly described six others. In addition, 19 Interreg Europe projects on ecosystems and biodiversity are likely to be benefiting pollinators in some way. The cohesion policy programme offers a number of **policy tools and platforms** that could be used to promote pollinator initiatives:

- EU policy learning platform offers a helpdesk, peer reviews, matchmaking sessions, thematic workshops and webinars, policy briefs, a good practices database and more.
- Peer review programme simple application for a 2-day peer review with experts and practitioners.
- Macro-regional strategies these are policy frameworks which allow countries located in the same region to jointly tackle and find solutions to problems or to better use the potential they have in common. So far there are four (Baltic Sea Region, Danube Region, Adriatic and Ionian Region, Alpine Region). Biodiversity and pollinator conservation could be featured more strongly in these frameworks in future.

#### The panel presenters of this session were:

#### • Frank Stubbe, Beespoke

The Beespoke project tackles bee decline by providing tools and knowledge to policy makers and land managers that help them to increase pollinator habitat. In Flanders, the project is led by the Flemish Land Agency. The project is currently focusing on identifying what pollinators need, including seed mixes, which has been a challenge. Although seed mixes are a key ingredient of actions to recreate pollinator habitat, it has been difficult to source the right mixture of plant species from local provenances. We need better local markets for seeds that have been approved by experts<sup>4</sup>. Beespoke are now creating their own seed mix to fill this gap and are doing demonstrations of this mix on 72 sites (which are monitored). They are also providing farmers with successful land management examples that avoid the use of pesticides to challenge perceptions that pesticides are the only way to control pest species.

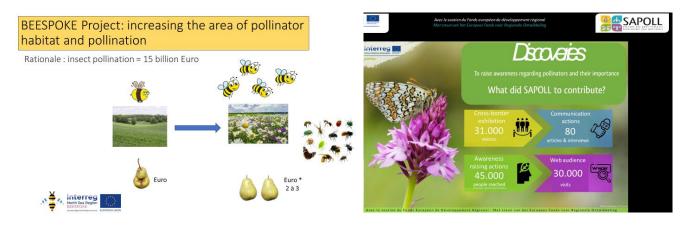
#### Morgane Folschweiler, SAPOLL

The SAPOLL project has carried out a regional assessment of the population status of wild pollinators in Belgium and northern France, including the mapping of hotspots and pollinator deserts. As part of this 580 wild bee identifiers have been trained and 4100 sampled hoverflies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/stories/s/tdxi-ibcn

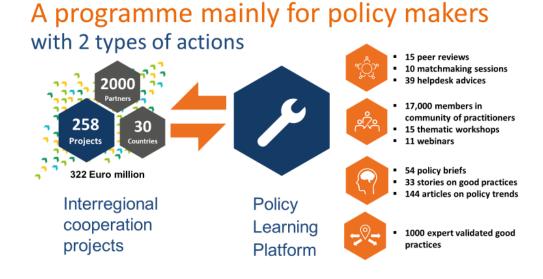
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> e.g. in France a label for local seeds has been developed, and in the UK Kew Royal Botanic Gardens and the NGO Plantlife have created labelled wild flower seeds in collaboration with a seed company

and bees have been identified. This project has inspired bottom up initiatives – it is an impulse for local actions. The project is focussed in Belgium and te North of France where they have produced an action plan for the conservation of bees, hoverflies and butterflies. In addition to providing pollinator data and expert guidance through the action plan, they raised awareness through a series of exhibitions, articles, training workshops and citizen science initiatives.



#### Astrid Severin, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

Interreg Europe fosters interregional cooperation throughout Europe, with 258 projects across 30 countries, supported by a <u>policy learning platform</u>. It currently funds 19 projects on ecosystems and biodiversity. As an example, the Bunt and Artenreich programme creates flower-rich areas in urban spaces. These are being monitored to understand the impact so local authorities can improve their actions. Another programme, Wild and Kultiviert, has been collecting seeds from biodiverse meadows and using the seed to create additional meadows in Austria and Germany.





#### Main points from the discussions

#### Assessment of the impact of the EU policy on tackling the loss of pollinators

- Despite substantial work taking place to increase species-rich grassland, damage continues to be done to existing grasslands. Focus should be on protecting what we have as well as funding projects that replace lost habitat.
- Disproportionately fewer pollinator conservation projects take place in Southern Europe
  where the greatest pollinator diversity is found. It was noted that special care should be taken
  to engage and support this region before the pollinator crisis grows there as well.

#### Lessons to draw from this for future policy-making

- The examples given in this session highlighted the importance of mutual learning, both between stakeholders (local government, research and expert community, social networks and businesses), and between peers (e.g. farmer to farmer). This can be an outcome of successful projects for example the SAPOLL project partners all recognised how the project had changed their ways of working because of their interaction with each other but to be even more effective, interaction also needs to happen between projects and regions.
- There was also discussion regarding the cultural attitudes towards pollinator-friendly behaviour. Special efforts are needed to better engage those who currently oppose organic farming or ridicule pollinator friendly actions, in order to increase support. One participant suggested emphasising the benefits of grasslands as carbon sinks as a way of selling this action more easily.

#### **Key ingredients for effective strategies**

- Collaborative working and good examples from the top down as well as bottom up.
- EU funded projects are required to quantify and measure their impact on biodiversity. This requires investment in expertise and monitoring to answer questions such as do we need to create 5%, 10% or 30% more pollinator habitat? Will we achieve a 10% increase in biodiversity and what does this consist of? What is our baseline the current decline of pollinators?

## Building more effective programmes in the 2021-2027 period: EU Common Agricultural Policy

For the Common Agricultural Policy post-2020, enhanced conditionality, eco-schemes and agrienvironment-climate measures (AECMs) are proposed as the new "green architecture". These will also be the key instruments from the perspective of pollinators, as they will link the CAP support to environment- and climate-friendly farming practices.

#### The panel presenters of this session were:

#### Wolfram Guethler, Environmental managing authority, Bavaria, Germany

Responsible for funding of the Bavarian pollinators programme where Natura 2000 sites are the main instrument for insect and bee conservation. However, Bavaria is facing challenges posed by the German federal CAP strategic plan: 16 provinces have to coordinate their needs in one strategic plan, which involves allocation of amounts. Guetherl pointed out that Bavarian Landcare Association groups are a good example of cooperation between farmers, nature conservation specialsists and regional representatives, achieving significant land management and restoration in Natura 2000 areas.



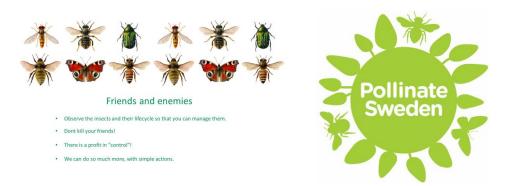


#### • Jure Cus, Ministry of Agriculture in Slovenia

Slovenia faces agricultural intensification, and at the same time the less favoured areas are threatened with land abandonment. Key instruments in the CAP in Slovenia with the potential to benefit pollinators are: enhanced conditionality; schemes for the climate and the environment; environmental, climate and other management commitment; natural or other area--specific constraint; area-specific disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements; non-productive investments; cooperation measures, and knowledge exchange and information.

#### • Hans Eriksson, Farmer in Västeräng, Sweden

Hans has initiated a collaboration project with Pollinate Sweden and the Swedish Board of Agriculture "Biodiversity in the plains". The project aims to increase pollination which leads to higher yields, develops local honey production, and promotes biodiversity. The project places straw bales for wild insects to establish nests, encourages flowering vegetation instead of grass on fallow fields, encourages good collaboration with local beekeepers, pays extra attention to the choice of pesticides, and conducts follow--up inspections.



#### • Noa Simon, Beelife NGO

Beelife is proposing a pollinator eco-scheme, which includes a package of good farming practices (arguing that GAEC and SMR have potential but depend heavily on specific implementation e.g. if rotation periods are not long enough).

#### Main points from the discussions:

#### Key challenges ahead in the policy area to halt the loss of pollinators

- Concern about reduced budget and certainty around the future policy have been raised. Particularly reduced funding in pillar two has been highlighted to be problemate and would force spending to be more stringent. The uncertainty on the regulation leads to planning issues, for example Member States not doing a proper needs assessment (trying to fund what is currently being funded and fit the assessment onto that) and difficulty to engage stakeholders (Bavaria has stopped engagement process due to uncertainty of EU policy).
- National initiatives and managing authorities hope for flexibility because simple measures as unified approach may lead to problems and thus a balance needes to be achieved.

#### The greatest opportunities to make progress

 Increase resources for pollinator protection: The eco-schemes instrument is seen as the most promising, other key measures are enhanced conditionality, GAEC 9 and 10 and SMR, AECM, area of specific constraints (this was highlighted as specifically important in Slovenia where the issue of land abandonment is widespread). Regarding the EFA: 10 percent has been stressed as the neccesary minimum while more is needed at landscape level, high push back at EU level on the percentage.

#### Key priority for action/key next steps?

- Significant knowledge on effective pollinators protection is available, however these
  measures need to receive more support: semi-natural grassland, late mowing, reduced use of
  pesticides, avoidance of over and under grazing, crop diversity.
- Farmers are interested in long-term perspectives and potentially a support contract for longer than 7 years.

## Building more effective programmes in the 2021-2027 period: EU regional development and cohesion policy

The panel presenters of this session were:

#### • Stella Weweler, Berlin

The 'Berlin is blooming' initiative is an active project that finishes in 2022. The initiative is creating pollinator habitat with wildlflower meadows and bare soil areas for mining bees, using a customised seed mixture for the bees known to exist in Berlin. They have been evaluating this method to measure its success for pollinator diversity and populations. Additionally, the project team have been working with gardeners and providing lectures and educational materials on their website to encourage more pollinator-friendly practices. The initiative has also encouraged collaboration with other groups such as housing, transport and non-profits, providing consultation to these stakeholders to better their ability to conserve pollinators. The biggest challenges thus far have been the public acceptance of the methods, the paradox of habitat being continuously lost whilst the public are asked to make more, and the extreme weather impacts of climate change which can dry out meadows.

#### • Julien Ruelle, Brussels region

The Brussels region is implementing a regional programme of pesticide use reduction. The city is also responding to public concerns about whether the expansion of beekeeping in the city is going beyond what the vegetation can support for both honeybees and wild bees. They have been mapping the number of beehives in the city of Brussels to establish where there are potentially too many hives to be supported by the available habitat. They have found around 600-700 bee hives and that in a number of areas they could be outcompeting wild bees.

#### • Sander Happerts, DG Regio

The future LIFE programme will offer a range of different project funding opportunities, including the traditional projects and small project funding but also the strategically important SNPS – Strategic Nature Projects. These are designed to increase capacity in local and national governments to mobilise EU funding for nature conservation, including pollinators and their habitats. SNPs will implement the Prioritized Action Framework for Natura 2000 – which includes key pollinator habitats (grasslands etc) - but also goes beyond the Natura 2000 network to create green infrastructure and address biodiversity priorities such as pollinators that are not currently directly addressed by the nature directives legislation. Also important – the LIFE co-funding rate will be increased for projects that address red-listed species, e.g. from the European Red List of Bees. As an example of the impact of LIFE, the **URBANBEES** LIFE project developed and promoted approaches to improving wild pollinator habitat in cities, including nesting aids such as bee hotels and bare soil patches. It finished in 2015, but the project webpage is still frequently consulted, and the team is still distributing guidance materials and organising awareness-raising activities.

#### Main points from the discussions:

#### Key challenges ahead in the policy area to halt the loss of pollinators

• A key challenge is to achieve policy coherence. DG REGIO has commentent that projects will be screened 'through the lens of the Green Deal'.

#### The greatest opportunities to make progress

- Think about how to use IT to increase opportunities for exchange and mutual learning that are not constrained by funding for travel.
- EU structural funds will have more money dedicated to biodiversity in the next funding period
   priority objective 2 will include the sub-objective 'Enhancing biodiversity, green infrastructure in the urban environment, and reducing pollution'.
- The Interreg programme will continue to offer a very important opportunity for pollinator initiatives that mobilise cooperative action and gain knowledge and expertise that can have an influence beyond the projects. As remarked, 'bees know no borders'.
- Important to keep in mind that pollinators are indicators of the loss of biodiversity and
  ecosystem services. They also inspire and attract people who do not otherwise engage with
  nature conservation. Citizen engagement and public awareness initiatives not only help to
  'Green Europe' but also achieve 'A Europe closer to citizens'.

#### Key priority for action/key next step?

- During this year and the next, the European ambition for biodiversity and pollinator conservation will be expressed in a new EU biodiversity strategy 2030 and action plan, which will be coordinated with national plans for biodiversity and pollinators. The Committee of the Regions expressed a wish that these national plans should be the aggregation of regional plans for biodiversity and for pollinators as the local authorities implement measures and make sure that the objectives, targets and goals are met. This wish has to be developed in cooperation with all stakeholders: farmers, businesses, citizens and science.
- There will be a new small projects funding mechanism, with a simple application process to make it easier for smaller initiatives to get EU funding and payments by lowering the administrative burden.

#### Poster session

The following posters were presented at the conference (see conference webpage for the posters and contacts):

## ABLE (Assessing Butterflies in Europe) - Making a vital contribution to the development of an EU Pollinator Monitoring Framework (presented by Sue Collins)

ABLE is a partnership project of Butterfly Conservation Europe, CEH, de Vlinderstichting, BCUK and UFZ; funded by DG ENV. Roll out European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme, results and indicators. Goals of the monitoring scheme: Set up a systematic database of butterfly abundance records from across the EU. 2. Facilitate the setting up of citizen science based butterfly monitoring schemes in EU Member States which do not have one. 3. Develop and publish butterfly abundance indicators for woodland and urban habitats; as well as updating the grassland butterfly indicator; and developing an all butterfly indicator and a climate indicator.

### Bees and biodiversity across environmental monitoring: the Italian BeeNet project (presented by Marino Quaranta)

National monitoring project for both honeybee and wild bees with aims both for regional and environmental coverage, and with large stakeholders' involvement.

### Beespoke - Benefiting Ecosystems through Evaluation of food Supplies for Pollination to Open up Knowledge for End users (presented by Frank Stubbe)

INTERREG funded project in North Sea region (2019 2023). Aims: Develop bespoke seed mixes and habitat management guidelines to provide the types of pollinators needed by each crop type. Increase the number of pollinators on a local and landscape scale to create a more sustainable and resilient agro ecosystem. Provide farmer friendly methods and training materials for assessing pollination and biodiversity monitoring. Increase pollinator diversity and crop yields by 10%. Provide new expertise, tools and financial knowledge to land managers and policy makers. Showcase best management practices and foster a bottom up land management approach.

#### Biodiversity in open landscapes - Mångfald på slätten (presented by Björn Gustavsson)

RDP funded network in Sweden. Aim is to stimulate farmers applying measures that are simple and reasonable to implement in order to achieve greater biodiversity in intensive areas of farming. The project promotes win- win situations; measures that are positive for ecosystem services and at the same time increases yields, as by enhancing the number of pollinators and predatory insects. The measures are seldom coupled to an actual payment, but the project has shown, for example how to use the Ecological Focus Areas (EFA) in ways that increases the biodiversity in the field. Demonstration farms were initiated to illustrate measures in reality.

Experimentation of measures to implement the National Action Plan for the sustainable use of PPP in Natura 2000 sites and Protected Areas: preliminary results on pollinators (presented by Susana d'Antoni)

Project funded by the Ministry of the Environment from 2015, coordinated by ISPRA and carried out in collaboration with the Piedmont Regional Environmental Protection Agency (ARPA) and the Universities of Turin (DBIOS and DISAFA) and Rome Tor Vergata (DIBIO). The Italian National Action Plan for sustainable use of pesticides defines risk reduction measures related to the use of PPP in specific areas including protected natural areas and Natura 2000 sites. The project is conducted in rice fields and vineyards in Piedmont (NW Italy), and in hazelnut plantations and arable lands in Latium (central Italy). The pollinator monitoring was carried out in 2018 and 2019 for vineyards, rice fields and hazelnut plantations. Results are preliminary since the project will end in July 2020.

### Expert-assisted citizen science program provides general patterns on bee assemblages at a national scale (presented by Barbara Beradi)

Led by INRA in France together with Observatoire Abeilles, CEZ, Lycee Agricole. Presents first results of a monitoring program ("Réseau Apiformes") at the national scale involving scientists and citizens (here teachers from 20 agricultural high schools in France), linked by bee expert taxonomists.

#### Fruit growers for pollinators and pollinators for fruit growers (presented by Danilo Bevk)

The main objectives of the EIP-AGRI project are: (1) To improve the transfer of knowledge into practice about wild pollinators in fruit growing. (2) Establish good practices for the protection of pollinators in orchards. (3) To improve conditions for wild pollinators and increase biodiversity in orchards. (4) Increase the reliability and quality of pollination.

## LIFE 4 POLLINATORS - Involving people to protect wild bees and other pollinators in the Mediterranean

LIFE project coordinated by University of Bologna, Italy. Aims: development and application of a new biodiversity indicator "BEE " for RDP evaluation; identification of protection measures for integrated agricultural systems; trainings to farmer consultants and to farmers on pollinator friendly practices; guidelines and workshops to target stakeholders; create pollinator friendly label to virtuous farmers; mini pilots to use the BEE indicator in four areas in other countries.

#### Make your city pollinator-friendly! (presented by Bettina Wilks)

EU pollinator guidance for local authorities produced by ICLEI for the EU Pollinators Initiative (funded by European Commission DG Environment).

#### Pollinate Sweden network (presented by Anna Lewin Lind)

Network hosts pollination week and pollinator of the year.

### Wild bee diversity in Austrian agricultural landscapes and the role of agri environmental measures – BINATS II (presented by Bärbel Pachinger)

Biodiversity survey in Austrian agrarian landscapes based on habitat structures, vascular plants, grasshoppers, butterflies, and wild bees as representative indicators - subproject wild bees). Financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism and The Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection.