SAFEGUARD

WP6 Reports and briefings from policy workshops and events (EU)

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IEEP Institute for European Environmental Policy

Safeguard

Safeguarding European wild pollinators

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DELIVERABLE 6.2: Reports and briefings from policy workshops and events (together with other communication products produced under T7.4) (IEEP, M 8-48)

Contents

Summary

This deliverable provides an overview of the past and future EU focused policy activities and events that the Safeguard policy work package (WP6) has developed for the whole duration of the Safeguard project, as they stand in August 2023. Policy engagement activities are tailored to the policy needs identified through the exercise undertaken under the EU policy roadmap report (Deliverable 6.1). Three areas of EU policy are targeted: urban greening policy, nature conservation policy and agriculture policy. For each policy engagement activity, we detail its policy context and relevance, a summary of contents, the evidence of impacts (or expected impacts for future events) and an annex with relevant documentation. This deliverable will be updated and resubmitted on a yearly basis reflecting progress made in the WP. It does not cover the global policy activities of WP6.

Introduction

The goal of the Safeguard Horizon project policy work package (WP6) is to strengthen pollinator-relevant policy and decision making by: building the capacity of EU and national policy decision makers and programmers to plan, monitor and assess the impacts of policy programmes and strategies on wild pollinators; strengthening the impact of the EU Pollinators Initiative to 2030 by feeding Safeguard research findings directly into EU, national and international policy relevant to pollinators, and provide rapid policy responses to emerging issues; ensuring the policy relevance of Safeguard research by co-developing research questions with EU policy makers (and other stakeholders), to maximise the utility and efficacy for decision making (in synergy with WP5); identifying routes to support the EU's contribution to international commitments on pollinator conservation, and influence the state of knowledge and international policy development to protect and enhance wild pollinators. The policy activities are designed to help achieve the Safeguard project aim to achieve better informed EU-wide and global pollinator relevant policy and decision-making through timely dissemination of research outcomes, and also to support the objective to deliver key knowledge for the preparation of key indicators and methodologies for monitoring pollinators.

At the EU level, WP6 team first assessed current and developing EU and national policies to identify entry points for Safeguard work. The global policy engagement activities are described in another deliverable of the project. IEEP and partners carried out a thorough analysis of policy opportunities for engaging with EU policy priorities and policymakers, documented in the roadmap report (Deliverable 6.1). For each of the pollinator-relevant policy areas, WP6 identified key EU policy instruments, their relevance to wild pollinator conservation, and their expected developments within the Safeguard timeline (from 2021 to 2026). EU environmental policy has been extremely dynamic in the framework of the current European Commission's EU Green Deal, providing many opportunities for creating synergies with Safeguard research. The EU Pollinators Initiative relaunched in January 2023 provides the policy framework and several policy aims and targets to which Safeguard can make a substantial contribution.

Guided by this policy mapping, WP6 is feeding Safeguard research findings and Safeguard pollinator conservation expertise into policy engagement activities and publications tailored to targeted relevant EU policies. The policy activities are designed to address the following questions:

- Where and when do EU policy interventions support wild pollinator conservation or fail for wild pollinators?
- What are the enabling conditions for policies to be effective?
- How do available monitoring data and research results inform policy assessment?
- How to improve monitoring and information sources to fill policy evidence gaps?

Current and developing EU and national policies

Our policy activities are focusing on three areas of policy: urban greening policy, nature conservation policy and agriculture policy. The reasoning for selecting these policy areas is explained below.

EU urban greening policy

Green spaces in urban and peri-urban areas can be important habitats for pollinators, providing them with food resources and foraging and nesting sites. The planning, design, support, and management of green spaces in cities can be a key instrument for wild pollinator protection. The EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 set the goal that every city over 20,000 inhabitants should have an Urban Greening Plan, and this target forms part of the proposal for an EU Nature Restoration Law (currently being negotiated between the Council and the Parliament). Such plan should describe the city strategy to protect and restore biodiversity and mitigate climate change. Although urban policy and spatial planning is mostly a member state competency, the EU has relevant policies that set the context and framework for local action for urban pollinator communities. Safeguard activities focus on the urban greening planning process and the Urban greening platform, launched by the EU Commission in October 2022, which aims at providing resources to help cities develop and implement their urban greening plans.

EU nature conservation policy

EU nature conservation policy covers a wide range of policy instruments, from the trans-European nature network, Natura 2000 management, to the Nature Restoration Law with nature restoration planning, and associated targets. The proposal for an EU nature restoration law (NRL) includes legally binding targets to restore habitats of European Community interest,

including grasslands, heath and scrub, forests, and wetlands, which are all important pollinator habitats. There is a dedicated target to restore pollinator populations (Article 8), which aims at reversing the decline of pollinators by 2030 and achieve an increasing trend for pollinators until satisfactory levels are achieved.

The NRL legislation proposal offers several opportunities to raise the profile of wild pollinators in the nature restoration agenda, for example:

- Member States will be asked in their national restoration plans to justify steps taken to reduce pressures on pollinators, such as preventing the loss of (micro)habitats, reducing or banning pesticide use in protected areas, cutting nitrogen and light pollution and other environmental pollution, and preventing and eradicating invasive alien species.

- Conservation measures could be identified and promoted that provide good habitat conditions for invertebrates including wild pollinators, for example by increasing structural diversity, micro-habitats that provide breeding or overwintering sites (such as open ground, dead wood, and tree holes), some disturbance dynamics that create open areas, and high flowering plant diversity and abundance.

In this policy context, Safeguard will contribute to pollinator information to help plan and monitor pledge and review process for achieving the protected area and status improvement targets, and/or implementation of legally binding nature restoration targets.

EU Agricultural Policy

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is EU's agricultural policy instrument in the EU and takes up the largest share in its budget. The CAP was introduced in 1962 to support farmers and increase agricultural productivity to ensure food security. The CAP has since gone through many changes, the most recent of which was agreed in June 2021 to be implemented in 2023 to 2027. The CAP is the main policy instrument to support the implementation of environmentally friendly farming practices. The most recent CAP reform has led to some key changes to the current (2023-

2027) CAP, including an ambition to make the CAP greener. CAP strategic plans must show higher environmental and climate ambition than that of the previous CAP and the Commission expects CAP strategic plans to be in line with the Green Deal targets. In addition, Eco-schemes under Pillar 1 have to make up at least 25% of the Pillar 1 budget. For Pillar 2, 35% of the budget must be allocated to measures to support climate, biodiversity, environment, and animal welfare. Another important change is that 40% of the CAP budget must be spent on climate measures and the CAP should support the goal to spend 10% of the EU budget on biodiversity by 2026.

CAP measures and funding have great potential to support pollinator conservation on farmland and reduce pressures on pollinators. In this context, Safeguard aims to investigate the links between the CAP measures and pollinators. CAP strategic planners and implementing agencies could be engaged in policy workshops and targeted with information and communications.

Safeguard policy activities and events

COMPLETED POLICY ACTIVITIES

This section provides an overview of the policy activities already completed by the Safeguard project.

Workshop – Urban greening: from policy to practice (Urban policy)

This workshop was organised in the context of the Urban Greening Plans (UGPs), stemming from the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030.

Summary table of action:

Policy activity	Workshop – Urban greening: from policy to practice
Date	8/12/2022 from 9:30 to 14:30 (online)
Subject/aims	Help city managers integrating pollinator conservation into their urban greening plans Test usefulness and approaches to an Integrated Assessment Framework for strategic planning of pollinator conservation in the urban area Showcase some leading city actions and approaches Provide tools for the EU Urban greening platform
Policy context / Relevant policies	EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: cities with over 20,000 inhabitants are expected to develop Urban Greening Plans. EU Pollinator Initiative
Keywords	Urban greening /pollinator monitoring / Integrated assessment framework/ biodiversity indicators
Target audience	City managers – Biodiversity officers – urban planners
Partners	IEEP, IUCN with EUROCITIES and ICLEI
Materials	• Report of the workshop • Presentation: Monitoring and assessment of pollinators in urban habitats: a focus on France (Paris) and Western Europe, Isabelle

	Dajoz (researcher, Sorbonne University) and Denis Michez (University of Mons, WP1) • Presentation of the Safeguard project and introduction to the IAF methodology, Adam Vanbergen (Researcher, University of Dijon, WP5) • All presentations
Participation	• The workshop was held on zoom and gathered 60 participants with representatives from the following cities: Tallinn, Paris, Strasbourg, Utrecht, Porto, Cork, Ljubljana, Palermo, Dublin, Lund, Oslo, Aberdeen, Munich, London.

Policy relevance of the workshop

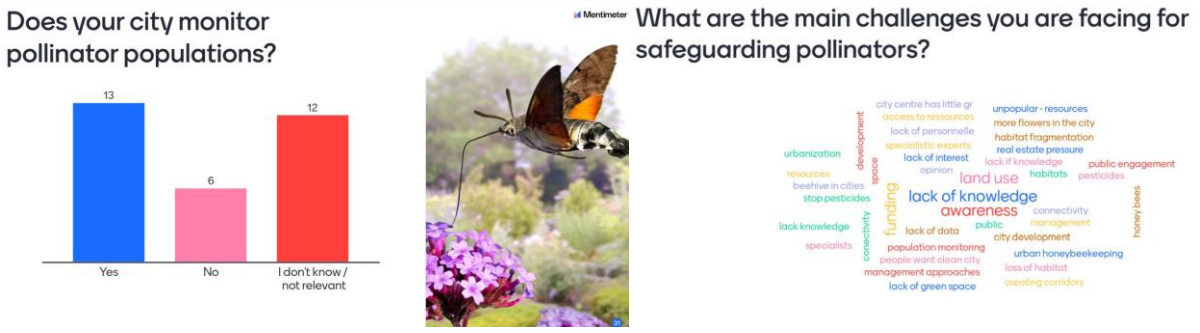
This workshop was organised in the context of the Urban Greening Plans (UGPs), stemming from the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030, and which lays out that every city over 20,000 inhabitants should have an UGP. Urban Greening Plans should describe the city strategy to protect and restore biodiversity and mitigate climate change. To accompany cities in the process, the Commission launched in October 2022 the Urban Greening platform, which hosts a comprehensive guiding document, a toolkit as well as other resources for the development and implementation of urban greening plans.

IEEP, together with IUCN, EUROCITIES and ICLEI, organised the workshop "Urban greening: from policy to practice", to foster the integration of pollinator conservation actions into cities' urban greening plans, and thereby taking advantage of the policy momentum created by the recent launch of the urban greening platform.

Urban greening plans, setting cities' strategies to support biodiversity, offer great opportunities for pollinator conservation, considering that urban areas are increasingly considered as refuges and corridors of favourable habitats for pollinators. Green spaces in urban and peri-urban can be important habitats for pollinators providing them with food resources and foraging and nesting sites, that may be less available on intensively managed farmland. Urban greening plans offer opportunities for more pollinator-friendly green space management, mapping key pollinator habitats in the city, develop pollinator monitoring, raise citizens' awareness, etc.

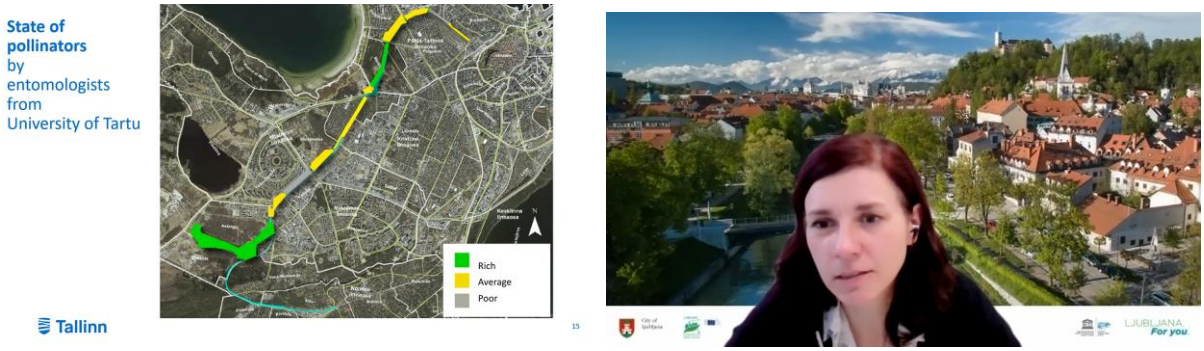
Topics and connections to Safeguard research

The workshop was designed to be interactive, and to encourage the sharing of good practices between cities. Participants were invited to take part in a poll to get an impression of what cities are already doing for pollinators (see extract below).



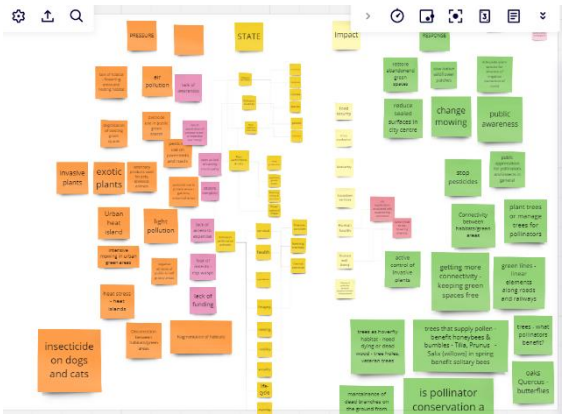
Extracts from the poll results of the workshop

Tallinn gave a presentation sharing good practices on the integration of pollinator conservation in urban planning via its 'Pollinator Highway'.



Printscreens of the presentation from Meelis Uustal, Nature conservation leading specialist for the City of Tallinn, and the intervention from Branka Trčak during the Q&A session.

The workshop was closely co-created with the Safeguard team producing an Integrated Assessment Framework (IAF) (WP5 Integrative Assessment Framework (IAF) socio-ecological concepts, tools, and solutions), which analyses the separate and combined effects of the DPSIR (Drivers, Pressures, State, Impacts) components on wild pollinators and pollination. The conceptual approach is aimed at helping informed decision making. It enables the validation and test of the response options and decision-making processes between scientists and stakeholders from different sectors and governance levels. Therefore, the workshop was seen as an excellent opportunity to test the approach on an audience of local policy stakeholders, in the sector of urban policy.



Printscreen of one of the Miro board co-constructed during the breakout session on the Integrated assessment framework

The integrated Assessment framework, developed by INRAE and partners, was the focus of a dedicated break out session. Participants took part in the co-development of a tool to do strategic urban planning for pollinators. In this facilitated exercise, participants identified pressures and responses affecting pollinators, and connected them. The exercise was a great way to test the integrated assessment approach on urban policy makers, and see how it can be improved.

The workshop focused on the issue of monitoring, which is a central part of Safeguard's WP1 (Re-assessing the status and trends of European pollinators). The aim was to raise municipalities' awareness on pollinator monitoring to assess the state and trend of pollinators in the municipality, which will be critical for the implementation of conservation activities and adequate planning.

In the second session, participants took part in a discussion on pollinator monitoring and how to use pollinators as indicators of biodiversity in cities, informed by Safeguard research (from WP1). Participants could share best practice examples from their cities and address some of the issues connected to monitoring. Topics covered: budget, enabling cooperation, public attitude towards pollinators, citizen science, tools for knowledge transfer.

Presentation on pollinator monitoring in Paris (Isabelle Dajoz and Denis Michez, Safeguard)

Evidence of impact

The workshop gathered participation from 14 different cities, and engagement was quite active throughout the workshop. The individual feedback received as well as results from the online survey that was circulated after the workshop were very positive, as shown by some participants' quotes below:

Gitty Korsuize (urban ecologist at the city of Utrecht (the Netherlands): "Thank you for very inspirational presentations!"

Cecilia Holmström (Aquatic ecologist/biologist, Ekologigruppen): "thank you for a very interesting seminar".

The totality of survey participants (6) rated the quality of the presentations as 'very good', as well as the quality of the discussions (except for one respondent rating them 'somewhat good'). Respondents, when asked to sum up the workshop with one word, referred to the following: 'insightful', 'interesting' (x2), 'stimulating', 'useful' (x2).

The discussions from the workshop are contributing to the guidance for monitoring pollinators in urban habitats that will be part of the urban greening toolkit (see below). In preparation of the guidance document, Safeguard conducted in depth interviews with some of the workshop's participants on the topic of pollinator monitoring. These interviews provided a good base for evaluating challenges and opportunities for pollinator monitoring in cities, as well as identifying good practices.

Apart from direct feedback, the workshop enabled the building of an effective partnership with EUROCITIES, that has become Safeguard's key partner on the organisation of the webinar on climate adaptation and pollinators in cities (see below) and overall work on urban policy.

Annex – Agenda of the Urban Greening workshop

Morning session		
9:30 – 9:40	Intro to the workshop & the Safeguard project	Adam Vanbergen (Researcher – INRAE Dijon)
9:40 – 9:45	Policy context setting on the urban greening plans Additional remarks on the urban greening guidance	Benjamin Caspar (Senior policy officer – DG Environment, EU Commission) Eurocities & ICLEI
9:45 - 9:55	Q & A on presentations	
9:55 – 10:10	What are cities already doing? Participants survey (Mentimeter poll) and networking (GatherTown)	All
10:10 – 10:25	Coffee break with GatherTown networking option	
10:25 – 10:45	Tallin pollinator highway - How the city developed an integrated approach for its urban greening planning	Meelis Uustal (Nature conservation leading specialist – City of Tallinn) Anna Semjonova (Urban Planner at Tallinn Strategic Management Office)
10:45 – 10:50	Q&A	
10:50 – 11:05	Pollinators & Cities: framing the issue to inform evidence-based decisions	Adam Vanbergen (Researcher – INRAE Dijon)
11:10 – 12:00 Break out session	Co-developing a tool to do strategic urban planning for pollinators In this session we will go through a decision-making tool to help integrated urban planning for pollinators. We will find answers to: *What are the biggest threats to pollinators in cities? How strong is the scientific evidence?* *How do I decide what will help pollinators most?* *How do I decide what needs to be done where and how much is needed?*	Led by Safeguard expert team together with city ambassadors Tallin Paris Lille
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break	
Afternoon Session		
13:00 – 13:20	Paris: monitoring & assessment of pollinators	Denis Michez (Professor, University of Mons) and Isabelle Dajoz (Sorbonne University, Paris)
13:20 – 13:25	Q&A	
13:30 – 14:15 Break out session	Discussion on using pollinators as indicators of biodiversity in cities In this session we will discuss: *How to do a baseline survey of pollinators?* *How to use pollinators as indicators?*	Led by pollinator experts: Denis Michez Isabelle Dajoz Adam Vanbergen

	How to set up and run monitoring? We will walk through these questions with help from our pollinator experts. For each step, we will ask: *What is the minimum effort needed to get meaningful results?* *How much does it cost? Where can experts be found? What methods and techniques are available?* *How to address knowledge gaps? How can citizen science help?* We will look at good practice and ideas from cities – both cities present in the workshop and examples that participants are familiar with.	
14:15 – 14:20	Conclusion & closing	IEEP/IUCN – EU Commission

Webinar – Urban greening plans: how to maximise synergies between climate adaptation and pollinator conservation?

After a first urban policy workshop focused on urban greening plans, pollinator monitoring, and approaches for an integrated assessment framework in the urban context, Safeguard is now focusing on the interlinkages between climate adaptation and pollinator conservation. The first workshop revealed that pollinator conservation is only one of the many priorities that cities have to balance out. Climate adaptation is becoming a priority for EU cities that suffer from increasing temperatures and inadequate infrastructure exacerbating the heat island effect, particularly over the last temperature-record-breaking summers. Therefore, Safeguard identified as a policy opportunity the creation of synergies between climate adaptation and pollinator conservation in cities' policy agendas. The webinar was informed and closely developed with Safeguard research (WP4, primarily).

Summary table of action:

Policy activity	Webinar – Urban greening plans: how to maximise synergies between climate adaptation and pollinator conservation?
Date	20 September 2023
Subject/aims	Create synergies between climate adaptation and pollinators Create awareness among policy makers on the importance of creating functional green spaces to increase resilience of pollinators in urban areas Showcase of good practices in cities • What actions can we take to help urban pollinator communities become more climate-resilient? • What is the impact of heat and drought on urban pollinators? • How can urban greening plans integrate better these issues and create synergies with climate adaptation/resilience of pollinators?

	• What are the variety of options that cities have to achieve climate resilience across the EU (through urban greening)?
Policy context	Urban greening plans EU climate policy
Keywords	Urban heat island / climate change / pollinators / pollinator resilience / climate adaptation
Target audience	City planners / biodiversity officers / city green space management leads
Partners	IEEP and IUCN, with Eurocities
Summary	20/09/23, Online, 1h45. 10:30-12:15 Draft agenda: • Welcome and poll questions: • Scientific background (Costanza Geppert) How does temperature affect pollinators in urban environments? Why is urban greening critical to increase pollinator resilience to climate change? What are the optimal responses urban green spaces can offer? • Policy background from ICLEI • Good practices examples from Berlin and Paris + Q&A How are cities increasing pollinator resilience and addressing heat stress? 2 city presentations on pollinator-focused Nature based solutions (2*20') • Panel discussion and questions Interview style discussion between academic and city presenters on recommended actions cities can take to adapt to climate change and boost (native) pollinators – facilitated by Costanza Geppert (UNIPD)
Materials	Webinar report and presentations: Paris, Berlin, Iclei, Scientific background (Costanza Geppert)

Policy relevance of the webinar

As part of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, the Commission calls on European towns and cities of at least 20,000 inhabitants to design urban greening plans (UGP). These plans should frame the cities' strategies on the long term to support both biodiversity and ensure climate adaptation. The first urban greening workshop focused on pollinator monitoring and the results from WP1. This webinar will address urban greening through the lens of climate adaptation in urban environments, and the synergies that can be created with pollinator conservation.

Designing climate and biodiversity proof urban greening plans will be critical in the context of a warming climate. Climate change will continue to bring more frequent extreme weather events and droughts, which will be exacerbated in cities. Heat affects pollinators via direct drivers through changes in survival or fitness, driven by the relationship between habitat temperature and thermal tolerance. Further, heat affects pollinators indirectly via plant stress

since warming or the accompanying water stress often reduce the production of pollen or nectar on which pollinators rely on for foraging (Ganuza et al, 2022).

Temperatures in cities are higher in urban areas than rural areas, due to urban heat island effect (UHI): Cities typically experience higher temperatures due to the elevated prevalence of heat-absorbing and emitting surfaces and additional heat production, compared to rural areas. Urbanisation also leads to the prevalence of impervious surfaces, which increases water run-off and reduces evapotranspiration.

Therefore, cities are facing critical challenges when it comes to adapting to climate change and to the increased likelihood of extreme weather events, for both local populations and local pollinators and biodiversity. In this context, urban greening is key to adapt to the impacts of the urban heat island effect and mitigate it.

In the context of warming cities, urban greening has to become a key aspect of cities' strategies towards climate adaptation to reduce the urban heat island effect on citizens. Urban heat creates an additional stress on pollinators, already subject to multiple pressures in urban environments. Urban greening offers unique opportunities to create human/pollinator co-benefits. Such co-benefits can be guaranteed if urban greening takes into account the different needs of pollinator populations and their dynamics.

Relationship to Safeguard research

The webinar used results and expertise from Safeguard research (WP4, primarily[1]). Safeguard research on environmental factors shaping wild bee communities in urban environment ((Geppert et al, 2023), University of Padua).

The panel discussion touched on the following topics:

Public perception

Successful urban greening policies rely on public acceptance and the reconciliation of potentially conflicting visions. The discussion touched on the issue of conflicts between pollinator conservation objectives and public expectations of urban greening aesthetics – that tidy and neat green spaces are not very compatible with pollinator conservation. How can the public perception be changed towards a positive view of green spaces with unmown ('messy') grass and flowers and more diverse ('untidy') and wilder vegetation and open spaces?

Costanza Geppert explained the results of her recent study (under review) on the willingness of rural and urban citizens to undertake pollinator conservation actions. It was carried across three European countries (Germany, Italy and the Netherlands) with an online questionnaire to 4,541 respondents stratified by nationality, environment, age and gender. The experience of green areas was found to be the strongest predictor of willingness to help pollinators, compared to education and gender.

Anja Proske shared that in Berlin, perceptions have been changing over time, as illustrated by perceptions on mowing: citizens used to complain about the city not mowing – nowadays they complain about green areas being mown. She underlined the importance of informing the public to maximise acceptance, for example with information boards. It is important to repeat

[1] Results from (Geppert et al, 2022) who recently showed that in a highly urbanised environment, temperature is the main driver shaping wild bee communities.

and simplify messages to effectively influence public perceptions on urban greening and pollinators.

Bridging the research and policy gap

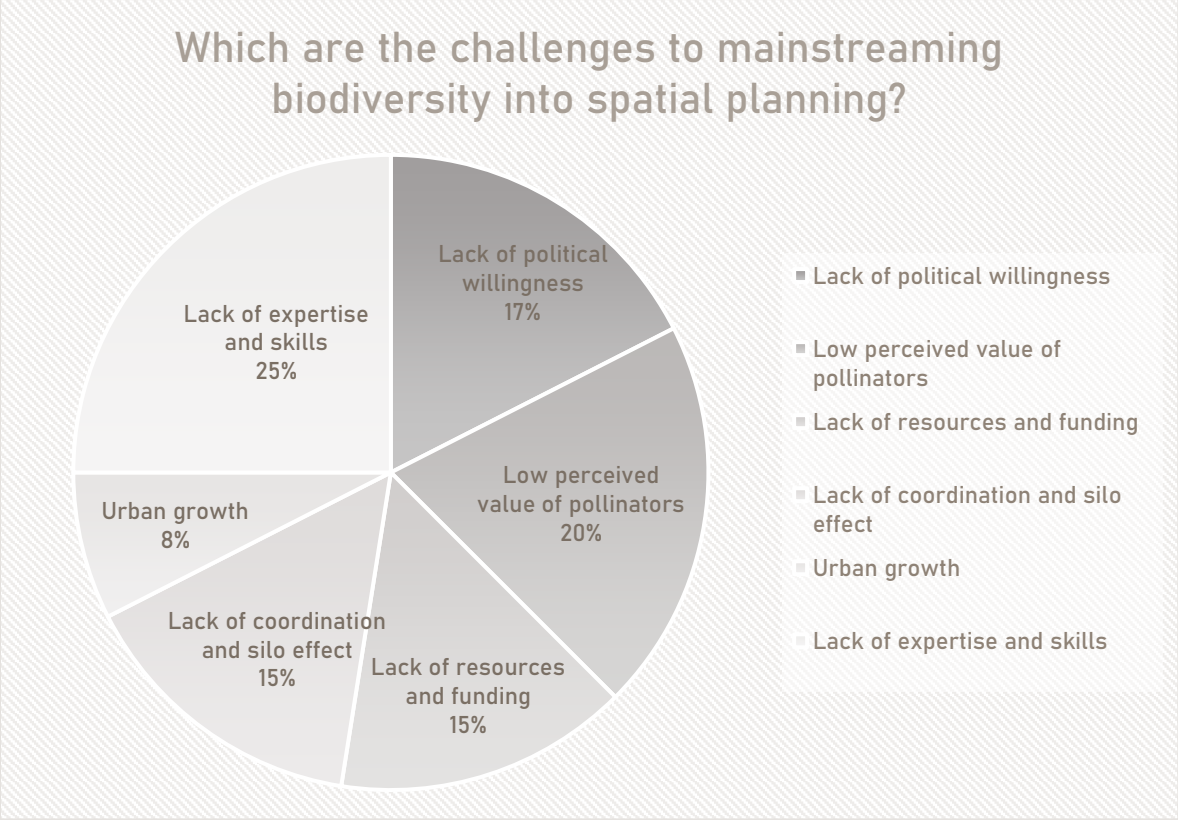
Shreya Utkarsh shared insights about the potential for research and nature-based solutions to help bridge the gap between science and policy/practice. Over the last few years, strong efforts have been delivered by EU policy makers to involve local governments on the topic of nature-based solutions.

Monitoring projects could also help bridge this gap. Data from pollinator monitoring tends to be fragmented, due to the existence of different monitoring approaches across various scales. It is therefore a challenge to connect data (to ensure interoperability) and get the wider picture. The EU wide initiative to roll out standard approaches to pollinator monitoring (see the EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme – EU PoMs) funded by the European Commission is actively addressing these issues, and the Safeguard project is actively supporting this by developing EU wide data sets and tools.

Cooperation and skills

Jonathan Sorel explained how the city of Paris manages and develops the skills of its urban greening staff to increase the ecological value of the city's green space. The ecological management of green spaces involves new skills (knowing how to select the right perennial plants and climate adapted trees, for example) and understanding (for example, not cutting down freshly planted saplings or retaining ecologically important plants whilst mowing an area). The Parisian employees are developing their skills and knowledge thanks to support from the administration.

The issue of collaboration between national and city administrations was also part of the discussion. Shreya touched on the challenge of strengthening collaboration between the city and the region (or the national government). National biodiversity strategies should reflect local strategies/plans in place since the real on-the ground activities happen within municipal administration boundaries. There are great opportunities for synergies between urban Greening Plans with the National restoration plans in the context of the Nature Restoration Law proposal.



Results from a mentimeter poll conducted during the webinar on the challenges to mainstreaming biodiversity into spatial planning (37 respondents)

Policy impact

In this context, and in the follow-up on the last workshop on urban greening, this webinar challenged some of the misconceptions that city managers could have on the effect of heat on urban pollinators.

A total of 66 people connected (125 registered, including 50 city representatives, 30 from environmental organisations/think tanks, 13 researchers, and citizens).

The webinar was attended by urban greening policy makers from 36 cities, who are directly responsible for shaping the policies in their cities. Feedback received from the webinar was very positive. Many participants commented on the quality of the presentations and informativeness of contents: excellent webinar and/or presentations (x10), interesting (x3), inspiring/motivating (x4), well organised (x2). 15 participants expressed their thankfulness for the organisation of the webinar.

The webinar recording, the presentations, and the materials will be available on the Safeguard website and communicated to a wider audience to increase the reach. The Safeguard project will follow up a guidance document on pollinator monitoring and indicators for urban greening planning.

The Safeguard project contributed new research findings and scientific expertise from the University of Padua and University of Budapest research teams.

Annex – Agenda of the Urban Greening webinar

Agenda - Urban pollinators: how can cities protect pollinators and build resilience to climate change?		
10:30 – 10:40	Welcome and poll questions: What kind of strategy is in place in your city? Which are the challenges to mainstreaming biodiversity into spatial planning?	City managers Facilitator: Heather Brooks, Eurocities
Scientific background		
10:40 – 11:00 including 5 min Q&A	How does temperature affect pollinators in urban environments? Why is urban greening critical to increase pollinator resilience to climate change? What are the optimal responses urban green spaces can offer?	Costanza Geppert (University of Padua, Italy)
Good practices examples from cities + Q&A		
11:00 – 11:40 Berlin, Paris 12-15 min each + 10 min Iclei	How are cities increasing pollinator resilience while contributing to climate adaptation? Presentations of the strategies and examples from Paris and Berlin for developing pollinator-focused Nature based solutions	Shreya Utkarsh, ICLEI Anja Proske, project manager for the Berlin wildbee project at the German Wildlife foundation (Deutsche Wildtier Stiftung) Jonathan Sorel, Advisor to the Mayor of Paris on public space, transport, mobility and nature in the city Facilitator: Costanza Geppert (UNIPD)
Panel discussion and questions		
11:40 – 12:10	Interview style discussion between academic and city presenters on recommended actions cities can take to adapt to climate change and boost (native) pollinators & questions from the audience	Anja Proske Jonathan Sorel ICLEI speaker Facilitator: Costanza Geppert (UNIPD)
12:10 – 12:15	Wrap up and conclusion	

PLANNED POLICY ACTIVITIES FOR 2024

This section covers the policy activities planned for 2024. After focusing primarily on urban planning policy, the Safeguard policy package will shift focus to agricultural policy and nature conservation policy.

Agricultural policy engagement activities will focus on implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans (CAP SPs) for the period 2023-2027, and their contribution for pollinator conservation. Safeguard will engage policy makers and member states to raise awareness and disseminate good practices for the implementation of pollinator conservation practices in the context of CAP SPs implementation.

Nature conservation policy activities will be focused on the development of a policy brief on nature restoration in the context of the foreseen adoption of the Nature Restoration Law in Q4 2023.

PLANNED POLICY ACTIVITIES FOR 2023

This section provides an overview of the policy engagement activities planned for 2023, which are mainly focusing on urban policy. Cities are currently in the process of developing their urban greening plans and Safeguard is actively engaging with them to promote the integration of pollinator conservation policies into the plans. Activities include a webinar on synergies between climate adaptation and pollinator conservation, and a guidance document on setting up pollinator monitoring in cities and using pollinators as indicators of green space quality.

Guidance document on setting up pollinator monitoring in cities and using pollinators as indicators of green space quality

This guidance is meant to fill one of the policy gaps identified from discussions with city managers during the last workshop focused on urban policy (see section above – urban greening workshop). This document is a logical step in the urban policy engagement activities developed by WP6, and will be part of the urban greening platform developed by the Commission.

Summary table of planned action:

Deliverable	Guidance document on setting up pollinator monitoring in cities.
Date	September 2023
Subject/aims	Completing the work of the EU Commission guide for pollinator-friendly cities. Provide cities with an overview of pollinator monitoring methods, good practices examples or 'success stories', an overview of challenges and important factors for the success of monitoring schemes. Making a case to encourage cities to monitor pollinators will allow the identification key pressures to pollinators in urban environments and the creation of adequate planning for conservation measures.
Policy context	Urban greening plans

	EU Pollinator Initiative EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (EU PoMS)
Keywords	Pollinator monitoring and use of pollinators as indicators of green space quality Citizen science approaches Pollinator conservation Raising awareness
Target audience	City managers / Biodiversity officers
Partners	IEEP
Progress	Series of interviews (6) with city managers responsible for pollinator monitoring and scientists working on pollinator schemes in cities (Aberdeen (UK), Besancon (FR), Budapest (HU), Ireland, Paris (FR), Portugal) provided a good base for evaluating challenges and opportunities for pollinator monitoring in cities, and good practices. IEEP is currently working on the draft guidance.
Materials	To be made available on the EU urban greening platform and the Safeguard project website, with a link on the EU Pollinator Information Hive

Policy relevance

Urban greening plans will need to pay particular attention to pollinator monitoring to assess the state and trend of pollinators in the municipality, which will be critical for the implementation of conservation activities and adequate planning. Therefore, monitoring pollinators in the context of urban greening plans is essential.

Monitoring pollinator populations is a key step for **promoting evidence-based policy** and effective conservation actions. It allows urban planners to make informed decisions to where interventions can be the most effective. Sometimes, cities implement actions in favour of pollinators without the full picture of the state of pollinators in their city, which can lead to potential negative effects on pollinator populations.

There are important **knowledge gaps** concerning threats, state and pressures on pollinators, also in urban areas. There are comparatively fewer studies of pollinators in urban areas than in agricultural or natural landscapes and many knowledge gaps exist.

Monitoring pollinator populations in urban areas provides also a great opportunity to raise citizens' awareness on pollinator conservation.

Relationship to Safeguard research

The guidance is informed by the following Safeguard experts and research:

- Use of citizen science to improve engagement in pollinator friendly management of private green spaces (Morgan Morrison, Royal Holloway University of London/University of Reading).
- Safeguard research on environmental factors shaping wild bee communities in urban environment (Geppert et al, 2023).

Expected impact

This guidance document will support the key following aims:

- Building on the guide for pollinator-friendly cities, and provide cities with additional information focusing on monitoring.
- Providing gateway for cities to access resources on pollinator monitoring
- Providing background on the different kinds of monitoring possible and options available
- Provide good practice examples from monitoring schemes in the EU at city scale

This document will be part of the toolkit that is provided to cities on the Commission's Urban greening platform for developing their urban greening plans.

CAP conference featuring CAP measures for pollinators

This conference to be organised together with the European Commission will highlight good practices and scheme design for CAP support for pollinator conservation in agriculture. It will be informed by an analysis of the approved CAP Strategic Plans for their potential impacts on wild pollinator conservation.

Summary table of planned action:

Policy activity	CAP Workshop or contribution to conference
Date	In Brussels, with hybrid option - beginning 2024
Subject/aims	Evaluate the impact of CAP measures on pollinators Good examples from CAP plans Encourage Member states to rethink their schemes in a more pollinator friendly way Disseminate good practices
Policy context	Implementation of the CAP plans, reflections on the next CAP
Keywords	Pollinators and the CAP / agriculture / ecoschemes /agrienvironmental schemes
Target audience	Member States' CAP programming authorities, and/or research institutes attached to Min of Ag, but not only
Partners	IEEP and DG AGRI (EU Commission), ELO, informed by Safeguard research
Progress	Use meeting of the September 2023 Agricultural task force to get inputs from Member States on the content of CAP Strategic Plans.
Materials	• Background document that analyses pollinator relevant measures in the new CAP Strategic Plans
Policy relevance	• Share best practice examples of CAP measures for pollinators to increase awareness of what can be supported • Improve farmers delivery for pollinators of CAP Strategic Plan supports and funds

Policy brief on Nature Restoration and pollinators

The Nature Restoration Law is foreseen for adoption on Q4 2023. From the moment of adoption, member states will have two years to develop their nature restoration plans. The brief will be timely to disseminate information about the potential of nature restoration for pollinators, and how Safeguard research could provide relevant knowledge for restoration action. The aim will be to inform and help member states integrate pollinator conservation into their nature restoration plans.

Summary table of planned action:

Policy activity	Policy brief on Nature Restoration and pollinators
Date	First half 2024
Subject/aims	The aim of this policy brief would be to disseminate information about nature restoration and pollinators, and how Safeguard's work could provide relevant knowledge for restoration action.
Policy context	The European Commission published the proposal for the Nature Restoration Law in June 2022, with the aim to restore nature in the EU, including pollinator populations. The negotiations for the final adoption of the law are expected to take place in Q4 2023.
Keywords	Pollinators, restoration
Target audience	Policy-makers, environmental stakeholders, businesses, general public
Partners	IUCN informed by Safeguard research
Progress	IUCN gathering inputs from WP from July to September 2023. Draft expected to be ready in November 2023. The drafting process will take into account the Nature Restoration Law negotiations and their outcomes.
Materials	Digital policy brief to be available online on the EU Pollinators Hive and the Safeguard website and distributed by the Safeguard communications team and partners.
Expected impact	Raise awareness of information and recommendations for national restoration planning for pollinator populations, and thereby improve Member States national restoration plan effectiveness for reversing decline in pollinator populations.

Policy relevance of the brief

The proposal for an EU nature restoration law includes legally binding targets to restore habitats of European Community interest, including grasslands, heath and scrub, forests, and wetlands, which are all important pollinator habitats. There is a dedicated target to restore pollinator populations (Article 8), which aims at reversing the decline of pollinators by 2030 and achieve an increasing trend for pollinators until satisfactory levels are achieved.

Safeguard research is directly relevant to the conservation measures that will be implemented in the context of the Nature Restoration Law proposal. This brief will help Safeguard to provide evidence-based recommendations on the implementation of conservation measures in the context of the proposal implementation.

PLANNED POLICY ACTIVITIES FOR 2025

This section provides an overview of the planned policy engagement activities for 2025. Policy activities will carry on the focus on agricultural and nature conservation, in the context of the Nature Restoration Law implementation and the preparation of the future CAP.

Workshop on nature restoration and pollinators

This workshop will follow up on the policy brief developed in 2024, and will create an opportunity to further share information among policy makers on the integration of pollinator conservation in the context of nature restoration plans relative to Nature Restoration law implementation. The workshop will be the occasion for an informed science-policy discussion on the many synergies that can be created by nature restoration for pollinators.

Summary table of planned action:

Policy activity	Workshop on nature restoration and pollinators
Date	2025
Subject/aims	This workshop aims to enable dialogue between relevant stakeholders on nature restoration for pollinators
Policy context	Nature Restoration Law
Keywords	Restoration, Pollinators
Target audience	Nature conservation policy makers
Partners	IEEP with IUCN informed by Safeguard researchers.
Summary	This workshop aims to give the opportunity to discuss the implementation of restoration measures targeting pollinators among relevant stakeholders, in the context of the Nature Restoration Law, as well as to disseminate the contents of the Nature Restoration Law policy brief.
Materials	Background paper, hybrid or online workshop (subject to availability of funding), workshop report
Expected impact	Raise awareness of information and recommendations for national restoration planning for pollinator populations, and thereby improve Member States national restoration plan effectiveness for reversing decline in pollinator populations.

Policy relevance of the workshop

As mentioned above, the proposal for an EU NRL contains an article which would set a legal obligation on Member States to put in place measures to reverse the decline of pollinators by 2030. The proposal, currently at the trilogue stage of negotiations between the Parliament and the Council, could be expected for adoption by 2025. Member states would then have two years to produce their nature restoration plans.

In anticipation of that process, the Safeguard workshop will be timely for member states to discuss options on how to implement the provisions of article 8 of the proposal. This workshop would disseminate knowledge on pollinator population restoration as well as promote discussions among different stakeholders. The aim of such an event would be to share

knowledge from different perspectives (research, environmental and agricultural stakeholders, policy-makers) on restoration measures that can inspire policy-makers and stakeholders that are taking part in the implementation of such measures in their nature restoration plans.

Policy brief on the future of the CAP

As a follow up to the previous policy activities focusing on the CAP, and the implementation of the 2023-2027 strategic plans, this brief will be forward thinking and anticipate the design of the future CAP. The brief, informed by Safeguard research, will raise the importance of increased ambition for pollinator conservation policy design in the next CAP.

Summary table of planned action:

Policy activity	Policy brief on the future of the CAP
Date	2025
Subject/aims	This policy brief aims to disseminate knowledge on pollinator conservation and inform the debate on the upcoming CAP
Policy context	Upon the end of the current CAP in 2027, a new CAP will be adopted.
Keywords	Agriculture, pollinators
Target audience	Policy-makers, environmental stakeholders, businesses, general public
Partners	IUCN with Safeguard researchers
Summary	This policy brief aims to communicate and highlight the links between the upcoming CAP and pollinator conservation, and disseminate the knowledge produced by Safeguard that is relevant for the design of the policy.
Materials	Policy brief to be available online on the EU Pollinators Hive and the Safeguard website and distributed by the Safeguard communications team and partners.

Safeguard dissemination events in 2025

The WP6 team will also convene a series of events in Brussels that will bring Safeguard research results to policy audiences during the first half of 2025.

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