



Welcome to Safeguard's Spring Newsletter

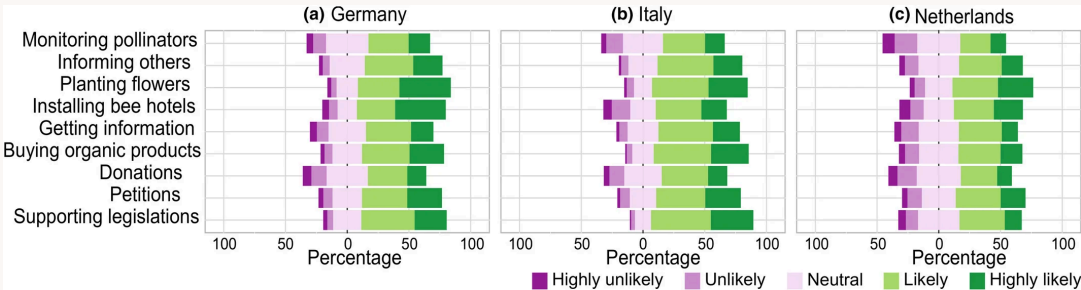
In this newsletter:

- News & Developments
- Policy Corner
- Events
- Social Media



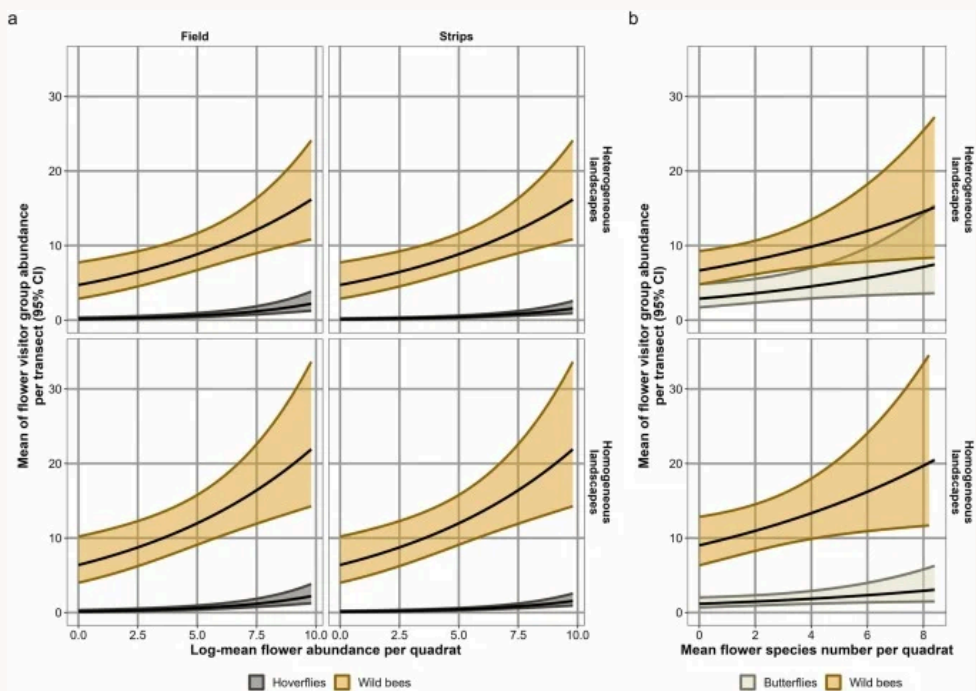
New Safeguard study explores the socio-psychological drivers of pollinator conservation

A new Safeguard study published in the *People and Nature* journal investigates the socio-psychological factors influencing individual behaviour in favour of conservation interventions for pollinators in rural versus urban environments across three European countries: Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. Despite regional differences in socio-cultural and economic conditions, individuals from the three countries living in both rural or urban environments shared similar socio-psychological drivers to protect pollinators.



Safeguard paper reveals new findings on the floral and pollinator communities in Hungary

Safeguard study published in the journal *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment* contributes to filling in knowledge gaps about the efficiency and dynamics of wildflower plantings and their relation to pollinators in the farmland regions of East-Central Europe. Researchers investigated how landscape context, spatial configuration and age of wildflower plantings, seasonality and flower composition affect pollinator communities in Hungary.



Safeguard policy brief now available in Hungarian

The Safeguard policy brief was released in 2022 on the occasion of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15). It aims to reach various pollinator and policy experts from around the world and foster policy dialogue and knowledge exchange on the topic of pollinator protection. Recently, partners from the Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development and Ökológiai Kutatóközpont prepared a Hungarian version of the policy brief, making it accessible to a broader audience.

The Far-right has gained seats in the Parliament (ECR +4 and ID +9), while the main largest political families, the European People’s Party (EPP) and the Socialists and Democrats (S&D), have maintained. Renew and the Greens have lost seats (respectively -22 and -19). The new composition of the Parliament creates potentially difficult conditions to support environmental policy in the EU over the next years, but Green Deal policies will still have to be implemented.

Sustainable use of pesticides regulation (SUR)

The farmers’ protests and the run up to the EU elections have been exacerbating pressures on the EU’s environmental ambitions for agriculture. On February 6, Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen announced she would propose the withdrawal of the highly debated SUR proposal at the European Parliament plenary in Strasbourg. The President justified the decision by declaring that the SUR had become “a symbol of polarisation”. The withdrawal decision was published on 6 May 2024 in the EU Official Journal.

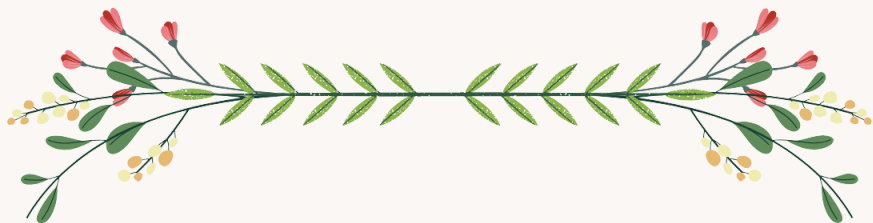
[Read more](#)

EU Commission providing exemptions on land lying fallow (CAP conditionality rules)

On 13 February, the European Commission adopted a [regulation](#) which grants a partial exemption for EU farmers from the conditionality rule on land lying fallow (GAEC 8 in the Common Agricultural Policy). Now, three months later, on 13 May, the Council gave final green light to the exemption, that will apply for one year until December 2024. It accommodates several requests for more flexibility, as requested by Member States to better respond to challenges facing EU farmers.

[Read more](#)

Events



Safeguard experts at the Sino-EU symposium on pollinator monitoring in Nanchong, China



Photos: The Nanchong People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

Last month, Safeguard's mission to reverse pollinator declines went beyond Europe's borders, landing at the Sino-EU symposium on pollinator monitoring in Nanchong, China. The event was held between 16 and 17 May 2024 and jointly organised by the Nanchong People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the School of Life Sciences of China West Normal University. The symposium meeting gathered ecological agriculture experts from Chinese and European universities and representatives of foreign entrepreneurs. Among the participants of the event were Safeguard experts from the University of Würzburg, the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research, the University of Mons, and the University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences.

[Read more](#)

Safeguard materials showcased at the Europe Day Festival in Budapest

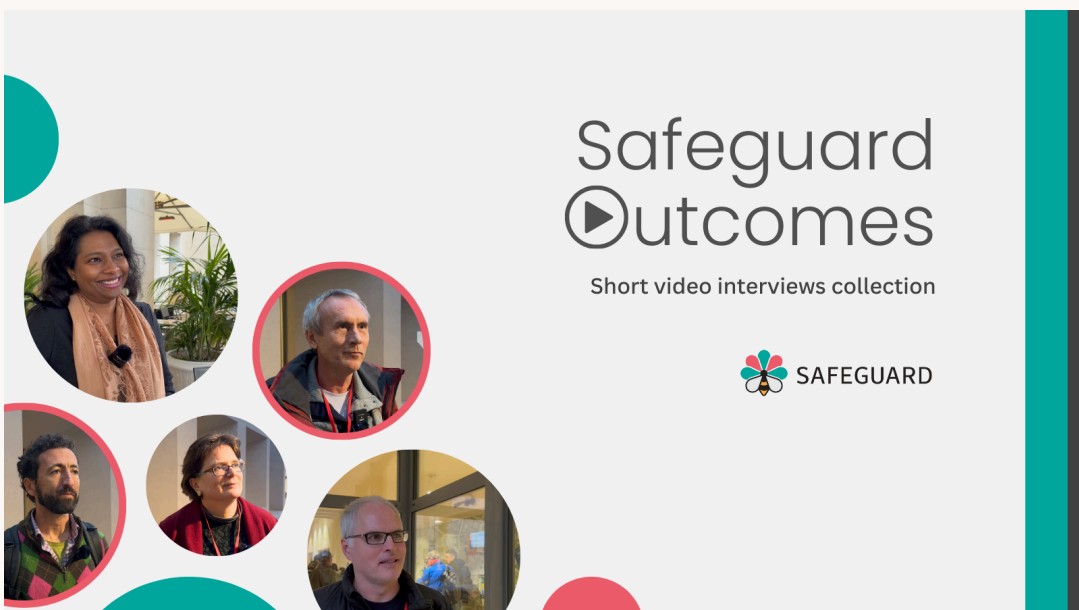
On 12 May 2024, ten thousand people celebrated Europe Day 2024 in the city centre of Budapest, Szabadság Square. During the event, Safeguard made an appearance at the exhibition tent of project partner Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development (RCISD), raising awareness of the importance of wild pollinators in the ecosystem. Visitors had the opportunity to grab a project one-pager and sticker, along with the newly designed Hungarian version of the Safeguard policy brief.



[Read more](#)



Project partners on their achievements so far: New social media campaign showcases Safeguard outcomes



Since the beginning of the project in 2021, Safeguard partners have been working towards a better world for wild pollinators across Europe and beyond. To make these outcomes easy to find and access, Safeguard launched a series of short video interviews conducted among consortium members, providing insightful updates on their progress on the project thus far. The videos are shared individually on the project YouTube channel and as a part of the new social media campaign #SafeguardOutcomes on X (Twitter) and Facebook. The videos are also available in the website's Media center.

[Watch here](#)



#FollowUs on X

@Safeguard2021

Follow



Did someone forward you this newsletter? Subscribe to Safeguard's newsletter via the button below and don't miss out on project's updates.

Subscribe



SAFEGUARD
Safeguarding European
wild pollinators



Safeguard

You received this email because you subscribed to our newsletter.

No longer want to receive these emails?

[Unsubscribe](#)

