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Newsletter

September 2025

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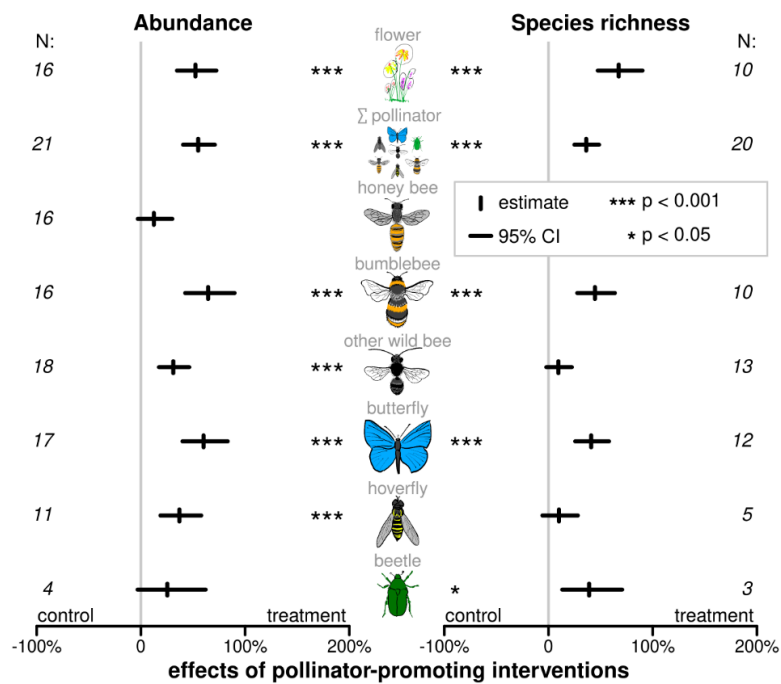
# Welcome to Safeguard's newsletter

Explore recent project developments, publications, events and stay up-to-date with EU biodiversity policy news!

## Publications

### **Safeguard researchers investigate the effectiveness of urban pollinator-promoting interventions across Europe**

A new Safeguard study led by the HUN-REN Centre for Ecological Research investigated the impacts of pollinator-friendly management compared to conventionally managed urban green spaces across Europe. Researchers carried out a re-analytical data synthesis based on 28 primary datasets from 12 European countries with 1051 sampling sites. Published in the journal *Ecology Letters*, the synthesis examined whether pollinator-promoting interventions have positive effects on vegetation, floral resources, and a broad range of pollinator groups.



[Learn more](#)

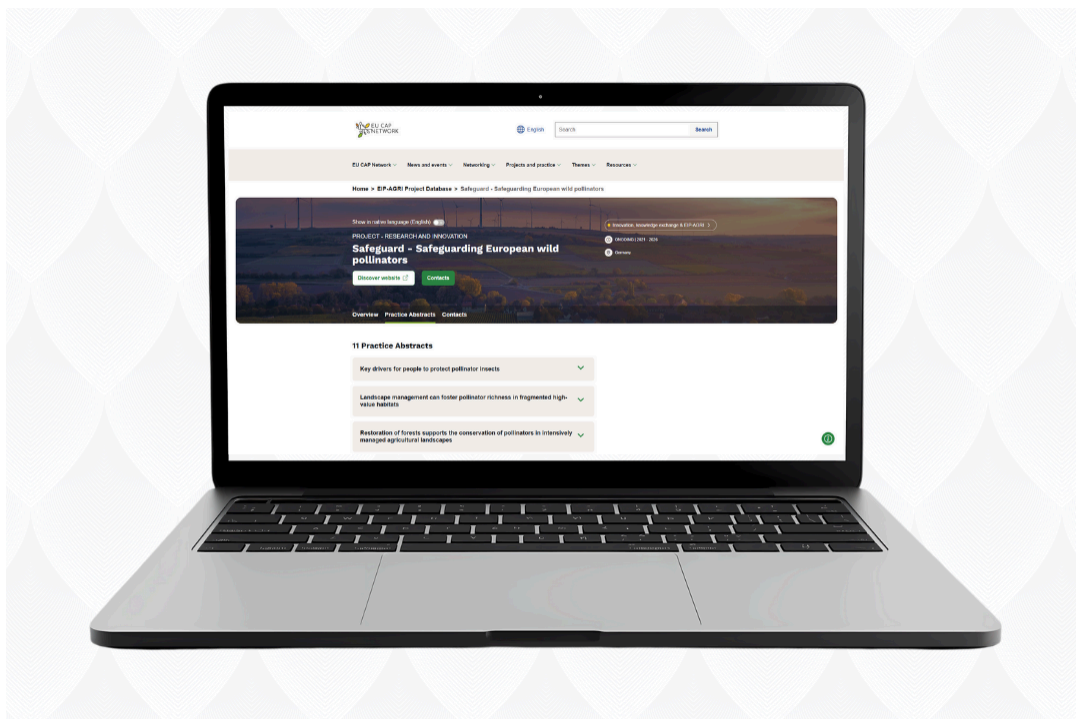
## New set of stakeholder summaries of key Safeguard publications



As part of our commitment to protect wild pollinators across Europe, Safeguard has generated a substantial amount of project publications rich in practical applications. To ensure these outcomes are clear and accessible to relevant audiences, last year, we introduced a **collection of concise stakeholder summaries**. Each summary captures the study's context, purpose, findings, and key lessons, distilling complex research into practical insights. This year, we are extending the collection with six more stakeholder summaries.

[Learn more](#)

## New practical recommendations on wild pollinator conservation from Safeguard

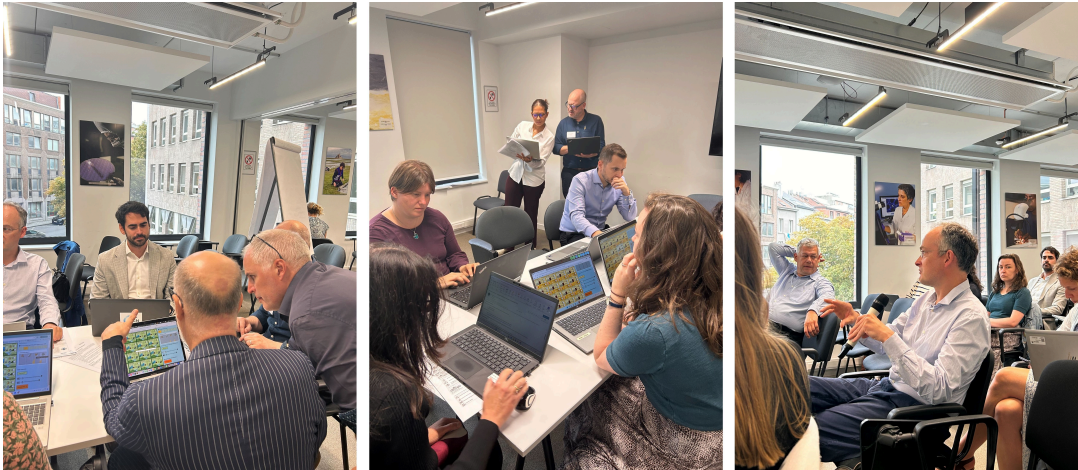


Project has complemented its collection of practical recommendation materials on wild pollinator conservation with **five new practice abstracts**. The research outputs focus on various aspects of pollinator conservation, ranging from landscape management in fragmented high-value habitats and intensively managed agricultural landscapes to plant-pollinator interaction networks and pollinator-promoting interventions.

[Learn more](#)

## Events

### Integrated assessment of policy interventions for pollinators: Safeguard's game-based workshop



On 10 September 2025, a game-based workshop took place in Brussels, Belgium, to **explore how policy and practice in responding to the pressures facing pollinators may improve the state of pollinator biodiversity and their benefits**. The workshop, titled “Integrated assessment of policy interventions for pollinators: A game-based dialogue”, was organised by Safeguard partners, the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), INRAE, and with support from the Horizon Europe BioAgora project and the University of Stirling.

[Learn more](#)

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### Science-policy conference “Farming for pollinators: Unlocking economic and ecological



gains"



In April 2025, the Institute for Environmental Policy (IEEP), in collaboration with the European Landowners Organisation (ELO), organised a Safeguard **project event on the role and the economic, environmental, and social advantages of pollinators within agricultural landscapes**, providing insights into farming practices that benefit both pollinators and stakeholders throughout the agri-food value chain.

[Learn more](#)

## Policy corner

### EU Roadmap towards Nature Credits

On 7 July 2025, the European Commission launched the "Roadmap towards Nature Credits," an initiative designed to increase private sector investment in the protection and restoration of nature. Nature credits are defined by the Commission as "a unit that represents a

nature-positive outcome, derived from a certified and independently verified action and quantified using a recognised biodiversity metric or indicator.” The system follows a two-step model: certificates verify that investments meet nature-positive criteria – so actors get paid as soon as their investment is approved, while credits monetise the positive environmental impact – after 20 years. The Commission has an [open call for feedback](#) from 07 July 2025 to 30 September 2025.

[Learn more](#)

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## **Nature Restoration Regulation delegated act on monitoring pollinator diversity and pollinator populations**

The Nature Restoration Regulation requires EU Member States to monitor pollinator abundance and diversity using a science-based methodology. This monitoring is intended to provide reliable data that can help assess progress toward the Regulation’s goal of reversing pollinator decline by 2030. Under Article 10(2) of the Regulation, the European Commission is authorised to establish and update the methodology for pollinator monitoring. A draft delegated act outlining the proposed monitoring approach was published on 19 June 2025 and was open for public feedback until 17 July 2025. The final version of the delegated act is expected to be published shortly.

[Learn more](#)

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## **European Environment Agency briefing: Protecting and restoring Europe’s wild pollinators and their habitats**

A recent briefing by the EEA provides an overview of the state of wild pollinators, the main drivers of their decline and solutions to protect and restore them. The briefing emphasizes the ecological and agricultural importance of wild pollinators, particularly moths,

wild bees, hoverflies, and butterflies, and highlights their essential role in maintaining food security and ecosystem resilience. To support pollinator recovery, the EEA recommends pollinator-friendly management of agroecosystems and forests, the conservation of semi-natural habitats, reductions in pesticide use, and targeted conservation and habitat restoration efforts. The briefing underscores the need for coordinated action across sectors and governance levels to achieve meaningful results.

[Learn more](#)

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## **Proposal for CAP from 2027 to 2036 - in next Multi-annual financial framework: IEEP briefing**

IEEP CAP team summary of the proposed next Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) fund structure for the “European Fund for Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion, Agriculture and Rural, Fisheries and Maritime, Prosperity and Security” (NRPF) — and the CAP regulation. Key points:

1. Environment and climate objectives have been downgraded and are missing from the core objectives of the NRPF.
2. There are no longer any ring-fencing requirements for environmental and climate funding under the CAP nor are there any environmental schemes that are 100% EU funded.
3. A far greater number of measures are compulsory for Member States to put in place; creating a significant risk that Member States will not be incentivised, or even in a position to prioritise as much of their budgets to environmental and climate action as is currently the case.
4. Conditionality requirements (farm stewardship) are being weakened in favour of providing farmers with incentives to take action.

Worrying omissions and steps backwards in the details:

- Protection for landscape features is not mentioned as part of the new farm stewardship (the successor to conditionality rules – the GAECs and SMRs).
- No impact indicators for biodiversity are mentioned – not the established CAP impact indicators (farmland bird index,

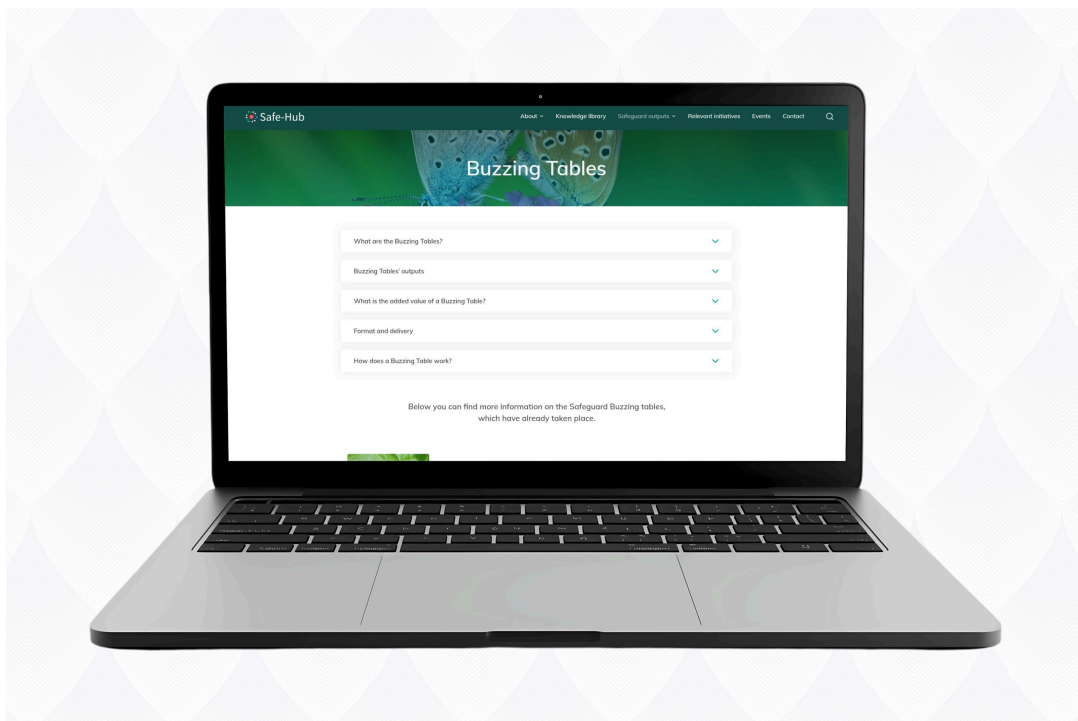
conservation status of EU protected habitats and species associated with farmland) nor the proposed CAP impact indicators on landscape features and pollinator populations.

- CAP interventions (direct payments outside ecoschemes, Areas of Natural Constraint payment) have a 40% environment contribution marker but no weighting factor to account for the fact that most of these payments have no impact or negative impact (maintaining or incentivising intensive production).

[Learn more](#)

## New on Safe-Hub

### Buzzing Tables: Discover the new page on Safeguard's Safe-Hub



Safeguard Knowledge Exchange Hub ([Safe-Hub](#)), the platform providing information and toolkits on pollinator conservation from many projects and initiatives, including Safeguard, has launched a



new website section – the Buzzing Tables! The Buzzing Tables bring together relevant stakeholders to discuss specific pollinator-related themes, challenges and solutions. The stakeholder discussion groups aim to identify and fill the gaps from different knowledge sources, providing a forum to share the best practices in various areas and enriching Safeguard’s scientific knowledge base.

[Learn more](#)

## Social media

### Safeguard is now on LinkedIn and Bluesky

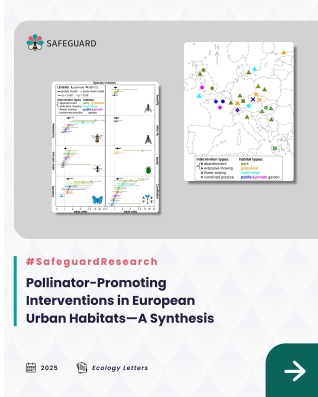
Adapting to the dynamics of the digital world, Safeguard has expanded its online presence by launching official accounts on LinkedIn and Bluesky. These platforms serve as the main channels for sharing the latest results, developments, and insights from the project, engaging with stakeholders, and fostering discussions on pollinator conservation.

**Follow us to stay up to date**



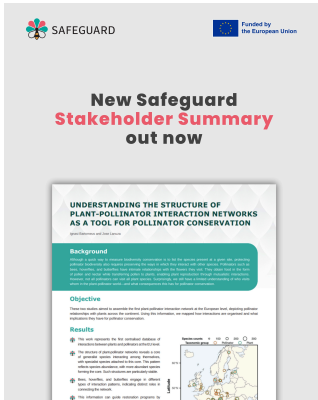
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**Campaigns to look out for:**



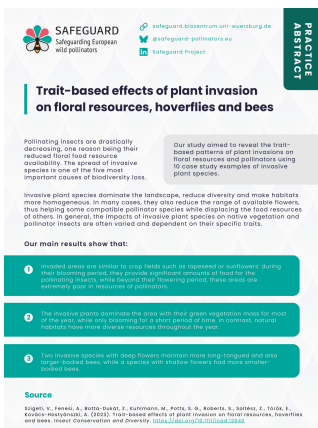
## #SafeguardResearch

Presenting all Safeguard-derived publications since the beginning of the project



## #SafeguardSummaries

Dedicated to the stakeholder summaries of key project publications



## COMING UP IN OCTOBER: #SafeguardPractices

Introducing Safeguard's visual practice abstracts

# Featured

## Together for #EUpollinators

In January 2025, two Horizon Europe projects were launched to contribute to a pollinator-friendly future:



## Values and dependence of society on pollinators

VALOR aims to co-develop and demonstrate a systems-based approach to understanding, measuring and responding to changes in the benefits that pollinators provide to society and the economy. The project bases its approach on the specific needs of seven focal regions across Europe, where the impacts of pollinator shifts on ecosystems, farm businesses and local communities will be explored through primary research and modelling.

VALOR will significantly expand Safeguard's Safe-Hub by contributing searchable databases of key pollinators, pollinator dependences, including NUTS-3 level estimates of total pollinator dependence, national pollinator risk models, and VALOR's landscape management tools, methods handbook, and business guidebook, all hosted as open-access materials.

[Explore VALOR](#)



## Promoting sustainable agriculture for pollinators

Threats to pollinators and pollination services that support agriculture and benefit people are a worldwide problem. AGRI4POL's ambition is to assist the transition of agriculture from being a pressure on pollinators to becoming a positive force for

managing and restoring pollinator biodiversity, crop pollination services and co-benefits to ecosystems and people.

[Explore AGRI4POL](#)

A dark blue banner with a lightbulb and a plant. The lightbulb is glowing with a green and yellow light. The plant is green and has several leaves. The text 'bioagora' is in white, with 'DEVELOPING THE EU SCIENCE SERVICE FOR BIODIVERSITY (SSBD)' in smaller white text below it. The text 'Actionable knowledge' is in large green letters. Below it, the text 'BioAgora mobilises knowledge to support evidence-informed decision-making!' is in white. The hashtag '#Science4Biodiversity' is in white at the bottom right.

**bioagora**  
DEVELOPING THE EU SCIENCE SERVICE  
FOR BIODIVERSITY (SSBD)

## Actionable knowledge

BioAgora mobilises knowledge to support evidence-informed decision-making!

#Science4Biodiversity

The Horizon Europe project, BioAgora, is tasked to build the Science Service for Biodiversity, the scientific pillar of the European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity. Researchers and professionals can engage with BioAgora and the Science Service by:

- Contributing to policy requests for knowledge issued by the EC
- Participating in policy dialogues on key biodiversity topics
- Sharing knowledge together with BioAgora
- Joining a Knowledge Exchange Network based on your field of expertise

The **BioAgora Knowledge Exchange Network on Pollination** will mobilise actionable knowledge from the scientific and end-user community to link to EU policy objectives and improve the mainstreaming of pollinators and pollination across sectors.

[Learn more](#)



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Safeguarding European  
wild pollinators



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