



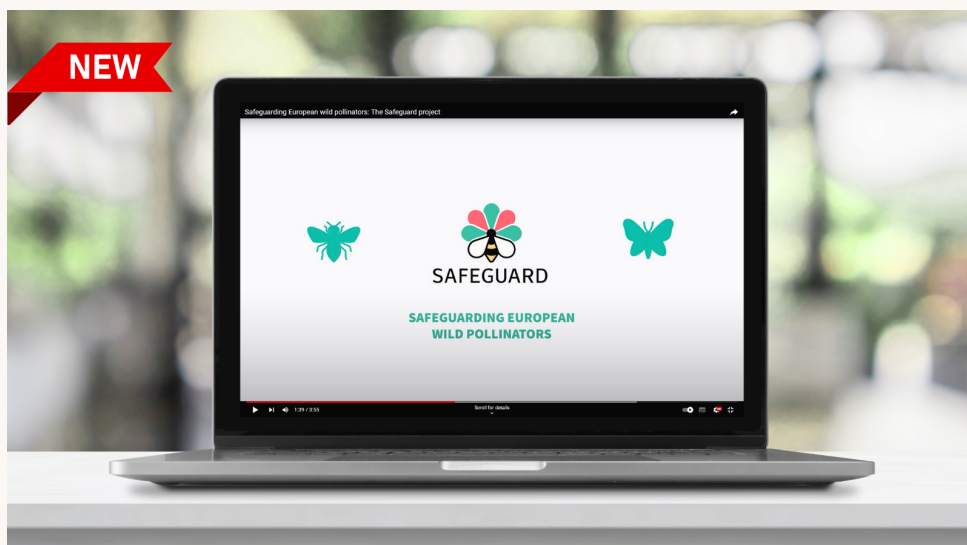
## Welcome to Safeguard's Autumn Newsletter!



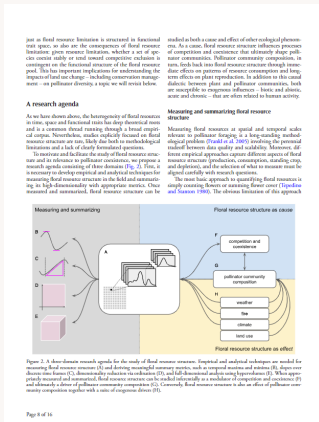
### Safeguard's Introductory Video is Here

We are thrilled to announce the release of Safeguard's brand-new introductory video! In just four minutes, the video offers an insightful overview of the project's mission and objectives and the critical issue of wild pollinator declines.

The video is now available for viewing on YouTube, so be sure to check it out and share it widely to help spread awareness about the Safeguard project's mission to help reverse the loss of wild pollinators across Europe and beyond.

[Watch now](#)

# Explore the Collection of Recent Safeguard Publications

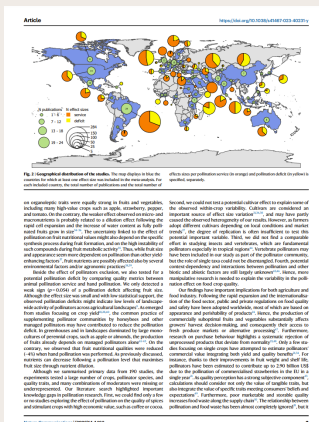


## Pollinator competition and the structure of floral resources

Sponsler D, Iverson A, Steffan-Dewenter I (2023)

Ecography

Read

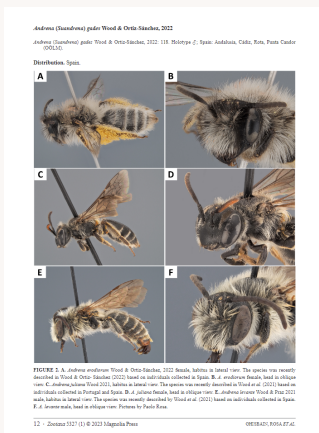


## Global meta-analysis shows reduced quality of food crops under inadequate animal pollination

Gazzea E, Batáry P, Marini L (2023)

Nature Communications

Read

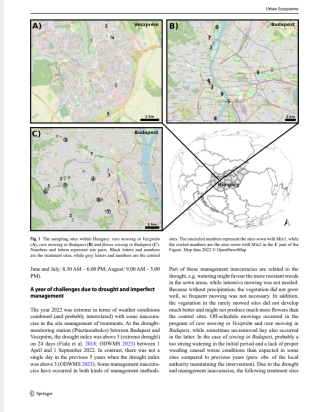


## The new annotated checklist of the wild bees of Europe (Hymenoptera: Anthophila)

Ghisbain G, Rosa P, Bogusch P, Flaminio S, Le Divelec R, Dorchin A, Kasperek M, Kuhlmann M, Litman J, Mignot M, Müller A, Praz C, Radchenko VG, Rasmont P, Risch S, Roberts SPM, Smit J, Wood TJ, Michez D, Reverté S (2023)

Zootaxa

Read

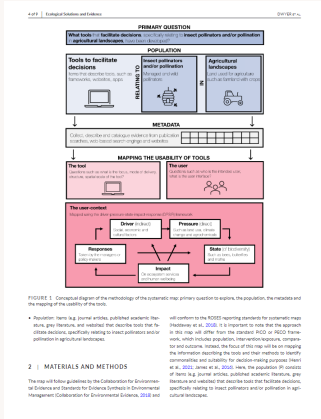


# First steps of pollinator-promoting interventions in Eastern European urban areas – positive outcomes, challenges, and recommendations

Süle G, Kovács-Hostyánszki A, Sárospataki M, Kelemen TI, Halassy G, Horváth A, Demeter I, Báldi A, Szigeti V (2023)

Urban Ecosystems

Read

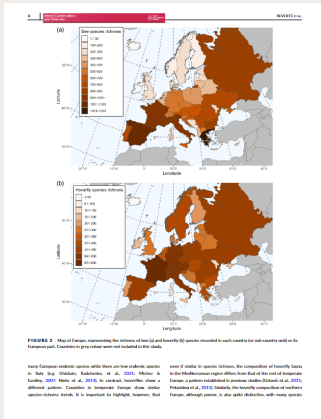


# What evidence exists on the use of pollinator tools in agricultural landscapes: A systematic map protocol

Dwyer C, Clough Y, Bartholomée O, Smith HG (2023)

Ecological Solutions and Evidence

Read



# National records of 3000 European bee and hoverfly species: A contribution to pollinator conservation

Reverté S, Miličić M, Ačanski J, Andrić A, Aracil A, Aubert M et al. (2023)

Insect Conservation and Diversity

Read



# Mate-guarding success depends on male investment in a butterfly

Gór Á, Lang Z, Pásztor K, Szigeti V, Vajna F, Kis J (2023)

Ecology and Evolution

Read



## Project Poster

Safeguard's brand-new project poster presents the project's concepts, objectives, mission and consortium, and will be used to introduce the project at physical conferences, meetings, and stakeholder events. Feel free to download and spread it around!



**SAFEGUARD**  
Safeguarding European  
wild pollinators

 [safeguard.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de](https://safeguard.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de)

 [@Safeguard2021](https://twitter.com/Safeguard2021)

 [@SafeguardProject](https://facebook.com/SafeguardProject)


Safeguard aims to substantially contribute to reversing the loss of wild pollinators across Europe through increasing our understanding of the direct and indirect drivers of pollinator declines, environmental, economic and societal impacts and delivering an integrated assessment framework as basis for a portfolio of effective policy and practice solutions. Our goal is to inspire the development of management and policy guidelines for the public and private sectors to safeguard wild pollinators and the benefits they provide.


### PARTNERS


#### 25 institutions from 15 countries


A team of researchers, NGOs, industry and policy experts from 25 institutions spread across 14 European countries and China are joining forces to contribute to Europe's capacity to reverse the losses of wild pollinators. Safeguard is coordinated by Prof. Dr. Ingolf Steffan-Dewenter, head of the Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology at Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg in Bavaria, Germany.

### CONCEPTS

 Investigating spatial distributions and temporal trends of pollinator biodiversity, pollination services and responses to multiple pressures in (i) (semi-)natural habitats, (ii) agricultural landscapes and (iii) urban areas.

 Developing and testing best-practice tools and methods for targeting intervention types, and assessing the effectiveness of combinations and spatial arrangements of interventions.

 Establishing empirical research in a modular site network across Europe for a systematic multi-scale assessment of multiple pressures on pollinators.

 Conceiving an integrated assessment framework (IAF) that builds on pre-existing and new knowledge syntheses as well as a portfolio of evaluated modelling approaches and decision making tools. The IAF will be co-developed with stakeholders, to capitalize on their expertise and ensure relevance and usability of knowledge synthesis and toolkits.

### OBJECTIVES

- 1 Re-assessment of the status and trends of European wild pollinators
- 2 Predict the impacts of drivers and pressures on European wild pollinators
- 3 Quantify consequences for multiple values including pollination and co-benefits associated with shifts in pollinator communities
- 4 Quantify the effectiveness of multiple interventions to benefit pollinators
- 5 Co-develop an integrated assessment framework able to assess and address pollinator declines
- 6 Inform national, European, and global policies by providing relevant and timely evidence
- 7 Increase awareness and knowledge of wild pollinators and their societal values



Funded by  
the European Union

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[View online](#)

Policy corner

## **EU Pollinators Initiative – EU Parliament wants more ambition**

On the 25th of July 2023, the European Parliament released a draft motion for a resolution on the revised Pollinators Initiative. The resolution generally supports the Initiative and pushes for more ambition. Regarding urban areas, the resolution underlines the need to incorporate the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services into urban planning practices to protect pollinator populations. It also calls on the Commission to “assess new avenues for financing the measures needed to meet the objectives of the EU Pollinators Initiative and underlines that the initiative must mobilise sufficient additional financial resources and secure commitments and investments at EU and Member State levels on a scale and with an urgency that will contribute to halting pollinator losses by 2030”.

[Learn more](#)

## **Pesticides derogation**

In January 2023, the EU Court of Justice presented a very clear ruling on pesticide derogations. Approval to use banned pesticides can only be given in very special and unforeseen circumstances. As a result of this ruling, some countries withdrew derogations that allowed the use of highly dangerous pesticides. However, others did not. Following absence of reaction from the European Commission, a series of Member States kept issuing derogations for EU-banned pesticides. Since the beginning of the year, PAN Europe has identified that, from the derogations disclosed on the Commission database, 29 derogations for EU-banned pesticides have been provided by 14 EU countries. Therefore, Pan Europe wrote a letter to the Commission on the 19th of July to flag the issue.

[Read the letter](#)

[Learn more](#)

## **Nature Restoration Law (NRL)**

MEPs voted in Plenary on the 12th of July in favour of the proposal. However important points were amended relating to the scope of the regulation, the level of ambition of the restoration targets and timing. The final regulation will be less ambitious than the Commission's original proposal and will focus mainly on Natura 2000 areas. Article 9 on agricultural ecosystems has been completely deleted by the Parliament, while article 4 has been made weaker. However, ambition relating to article 8 on pollinators has been conserved.

The Spanish Presidency is already engaging in the trilogue negotiations. The first trilogue session started just a week after the Parliament vote. Trilogue III are foreseen on the 13th of November. In early December, the Envi committee should vote, followed by COREPER I mid-December. The NRL could potentially be finalised at the end of the Spanish presidency at the end of 2023.

[Learn more](#)

## Sustainable use of pesticides regulation (SUR)

The proposal (adopted by the Commission in June 2022) sets legally binding targets at EU level to reduce by 50 % the use and the risk of chemical pesticides as well as the use of the more hazardous pesticides by 2030. It also sets rules about restricting use of pesticides in protected areas and other sensitive areas.

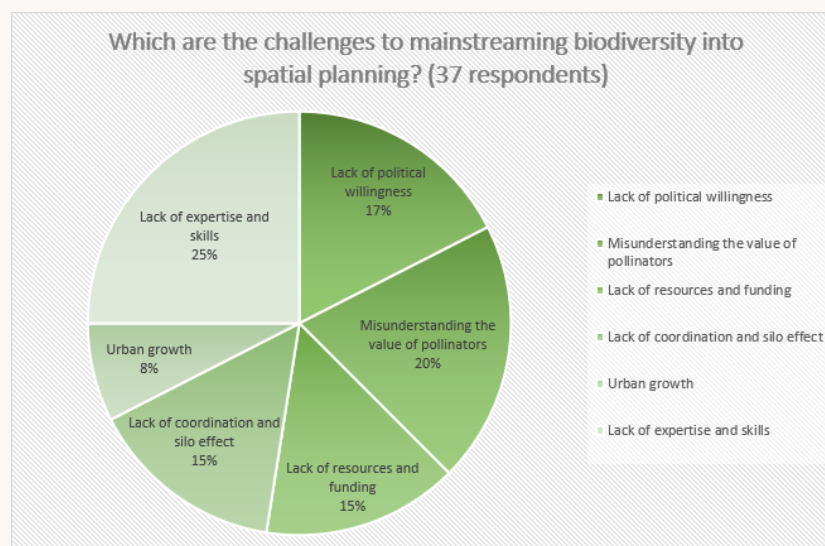
The regulation is already months behind schedule due to contentious issues and the Parliament's Agri Committee's tactics to push it back. However, the green MEP Sarah Wiener, lead on the file for the Environment Committee, notified that 'there will be something substantial in November when the votes are going in the Plenary'.

[Learn more](#)

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# News

## Integrating pollinator conservation into urban greening plans: Safeguard's second urban-greening workshop



Safeguard organised a second online webinar focused on urban greening and pollinators: "Urban pollinators: how can cities protect pollinators and build resilience to climate change?". The event was held online on September 20th, 2023 and addressed the topic of

climate adaptation and pollinators in cities. The aim of the workshop was to help provide keys for city managers to optimise co-benefits for pollinator conservation and climate through urban greening and highlight best practices.

[Read more](#)



## Bee and pollinator health in focus: EU report highlights opportunities and knowledge gaps

Last year, the European Research Executive Agency (REA), Unit B.3 “Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Environment”, organised a workshop, focused on pollinators and their vital role in the European Union.

**Safeguard** actively engaged in the workshop.

[Read more](#)



## The INRAE Safeguard team took part in the annual bee festival APIdays

Representatives of **Safeguard**'s partner French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE) participated in this year's bee festival APIdays in Dijon, France. The event presented around thirty stands, workshops, exhibitions and other activities to inform about bees and other pollinating insects.

[Read more](#)

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Newsletter

October 2023



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