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Safeguard's response to the EU Pollinators Initiative revision consultation



The European Commission held a public consultation to collect views on the implementation of the EU Pollinators Initiative and gather suggestions on how to strengthen the current framework on wild pollinators to meet its long-term objective to reverse the decline of pollinators by 2030. Coordinated by IEEP, the Safeguard project had the opportunity to submit its opinion, putting forward recommendations to the Commission.

Safeguard's response

For more details, please consult [the submission to the public consultation.](#)

Wildflower Budapest 2021 programme: results and experiences of the first

VADVIRÁGOS BUDAPEST
2021 EREDMÉNYEK

Sokszínűbb élővilág
a méhlegelőkön az intenzíven kaszált gyepkezekhez képest:

2-4x Több méhlegelő	2,5x Többféle és többféle faj gyepkezek között	Új, a területre jellemző növényfajok jelennek meg
		

Borsós, A. (2021) Ökológiai Kutatóközpont, PÉCSI Tudományterület, Pécs

Védett növényfajok
jelennek meg több helyen

 MÉHBANGÓ (Bee fly)	 BUDAJ IMOLA (Budapest carnation)	 BUNA-VÖLGYI CSILLAGVIRÁG (Buda valley starflower)
<small>Termelékenységvesztés értéke: 250.000 Ft</small>	<small>Termelékenységvesztés értéke: 5.000 Ft</small>	<small>Termelékenységvesztés értéke: 5.000 Ft</small>

MAH Magyar Madártani és Természettudományi Társaság

year

An article presenting the "Wildflower Budapest 2021" project and its first-year results was recently published on the website of the Municipality of Budapest.

The research group of Safeguard partner Dr. András Báldi of the Centre for Ecological Research (OK) collaborated in the programme.

[READ MORE](#)



A strong proposal for a Nature Restoration Law for EU`s damaged ecosystems


On 22nd June 2022, the Commission adopted pioneering proposals to restore damaged ecosystems and bring nature back across Europe, from agricultural land and seas, to forests and urban environments. The aim is to cover at least 20% of the EU's land and sea areas by 2030 with nature restoration measures, and eventually extend these to all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. Find out more about the ambitious targets and how they affect agricultural ecosystems and pollinators in the article below.


[READ MORE](#)


Hungary joins the Promote Pollinators Coalition

Hungary recently decided to join the Promote Pollinators Coalition by signing the Declaration of the Willing on Pollinators.


To examine the health of pollinators, stop their decline, and sustain and restore pollination as a critical ecosystem function is one of the 19 primary objectives of





 PROMOTE POLLINATORS

Hungary joins



the Promote Pollinators Coalition

Hungary's proposed National Biodiversity Strategy until 2030 (the final draft is yet to be approved).

Find out more about Safeguard's role in the process in the article below.

READ MORE

Join Safeguard!



OPPORTUNITY FOR EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS

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Submit your abstract by June 18th!

Contact:
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Student Conference on Conservation Science SCCS Hungary, 2022

SCCS Europe – Connecting Eastern and Western Europe in conservation biology Balatonvilágos (Lake Balaton), Hungary, 14 - 17 September 2022

We are delighted to invite you to the seventh [SCCS Europe in 2022](#), organised by the Centre for Ecological Research this autumn. The Conference will introduce prominent keynote speakers such as Prof. Lorenzo Marini from the University of Padova, Italy. The event will entail a series of workshops, networking opportunities, fun, and of course, the possibility to present your own research results!

Deadline: 18 July



Policy Corner

New EU Nature Restoration Law: Responses

-**Copa-Cogeca** – representing the mainstream farming sector - have announced that they will oppose it, calling for realistic ambitions and long-term support instead of arbitrary deadlines

Read more

-Environmental NGOs have published welcoming responses:

- **EU NGOs**
- **NABU (in German)**

-**Butterfly Conservation Europe** provided encouragement in a networking event on butterflies and EU Biodiversity Strategy targets.

Read more

Proposal for National Pollination Accounts

The Commission has proposed **an amendment** to the Regulation on European environmental account that will require Member States to set up national accounts for ecosystems, forests, and environmental subsidies, and encourage the use of pollination accounts to measure benefits from ecosystems. Pollination is defined as the ecosystem contribution by wild pollinators to the production of the crops above. The contributions shall be reported in tonnes of pollinator-dependent crops that can be attributed to wild pollinators, by type of crop for the main types of pollinator-dependent crops comprising fruit trees, berries, tomatoes, oilseeds, and ‘other’.

Read more

Pesticides

The Commission’s proposal for a **Regulation on sustainable use of pesticides** (to replace the current directive) was adopted on 22 June. The measures include:

- Prohibiting the use of all plant protection products in all sensitive areas and within 3 metres of such areas. The definition of sensitive areas includes: Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas, ecological focus areas under the CAP (GAEC 8 of new CAP), urban areas and public spaces, hospitals, schools etc, and: (f)(iii) ‘any area for which the monitoring of pollinator species carried out in accordance with Article 17(1), point (f), of Regulation 2022/0196 establishes that it sustains one or more pollinator species which the European Red Lists classify as being threatened with extinction.’
- Independent advisors must provide advice on - where chemical plant protection products are necessary - measures to effectively minimise risks to [...] pollinators, from such use, including risk mitigation measures and techniques.
- Defining the implementation of integrated pest management using crop-specific rules. This is a much more prescriptive process than the undefined IPM approach of the directive.

Even though these things were already present in the Directive, they resulted in **very little action**. The proposal transforms the existing Directive into a Regulation that will be directly binding and uniformly applicable to all Member States and must be approved under the normal legislative procedure.

Read more

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Member states’ draft strategic plans for their CAP spending and support to farmers, foresters, beekeepers, etc. from 2023 to 2027 have been

Global

-On the global stage, there is finally a definite COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity taking place – in **December in Montreal**.
-Progress on preparations is slow

scrutinised and commented on by the European Commission. A handful are now in the final stages of revisions and are expected to be published soon – this may include Denmark, Spain, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Finland, and Austria. Estonia, the Netherlands, Hungary, and Poland have said they are resubmitting in July or August, but DG ENV still sees major issues. France has declared its intention to go ahead with its plan without making all the major changes demanded by the Commission. The other plans are still being negotiated and may still take a while - Wallonia has only just completed its public consultation on the draft plan.

Read more:
[‘CAP Plans in Negotiations: What is the Substance?’](#)

however - **Birdlife’s take on the preparatory talks** -IPBES the International Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services has published two major new reviews featuring pollinators and/or pollination services:

- IPBES thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species (**sustainable use assessment**)
- IPBES scoping report for a methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people (**business and biodiversity assessment**)

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe has launched a new pollinator call - 'Maintaining and restoring pollinators and pollination services in European agricultural landscapes'. It aims at maintaining and restoring species-rich pollinator communities and their services in agricultural landscapes dominated by intensive land use and facilitating the uptake of pollinator-friendly practices at wider scale. This calls for the need to ensure policy coherence and to integrate pollinator and pollination considerations not only in policy measures that support the transition towards more sustainable agricultural practices but also across sectors (for example forestry, consumption, and health) and at different spatial scales (farm, landscape, ecosystem).

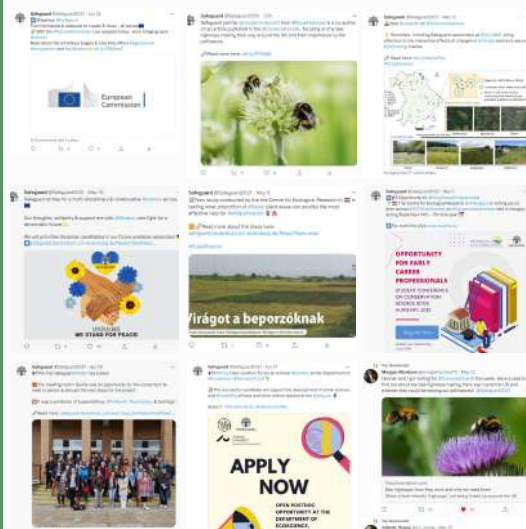
Safeguard looks forward to exchanging with this pollinator research and policy engagement, as well as its already funded ‘sister’ pollinator projects.

Read more

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