



Recap working session at IPBES-7 Paris, 29 April 2019

Monday, 13.00 - 15.00 #IPBES7

Present (members)						
 Austria	 Belgium	 Colombia	 Dominican Republic	 Estonia	 European Commission	 Finland
 France	 Germany	 Mexico	 Netherlands	 Peru	 Spain	 Sweden
 United Kingdom	 Uruguay					
Absent members						
 Bosnia Herzegovina	 Denmark	 Ethiopia	 Ireland	 Luxembourg	 Norway	 Slovakia
 Slovenia						
Aspiring members		Observers		Other		
 Burundi	 Switzerland	 FAO	 UNDP	 Paraguay		

On the 29th of April the members of the Coalition of the Willing Promote Pollinators joined in a meeting to exchange experiences and discuss the organization model of the coalition Promote Pollinators and the role of the secretariat.

The results of the survey

On 19 March the secretariat sent out a survey to the members of Promote Pollinators in order to collect input for the development of our working programme. The survey was closed on Monday 8 April, receiving a total of 19 replies.

Conclusions

Members' priorities

Taking action and making national strategies – mostly in early stages.

- Learn how to integrate policy across fields and sectors
- Learn from the experienced members how to develop strategy
- Develop guidelines together
- Also learn how to engage with stakeholders
- Share knowledge between Agricultural and environmental sectors

Research

- On wild pollinators
- Common research priorities

Secretariat

Create an inventory of national strategies

Collect best practices & communicate these, e.g. how to:

- Engage with stakeholders
- Set and monitor targets
- Share knowledge between Agricultural and Environmental sectors
- Integrate policy across sectors

Connect actors from science and from policy

Follow and report scientific developments

Facilitate cooperation within regions (but not duplicate efforts by others, like FAO, BESNet)

Ambassador for pollinator cause

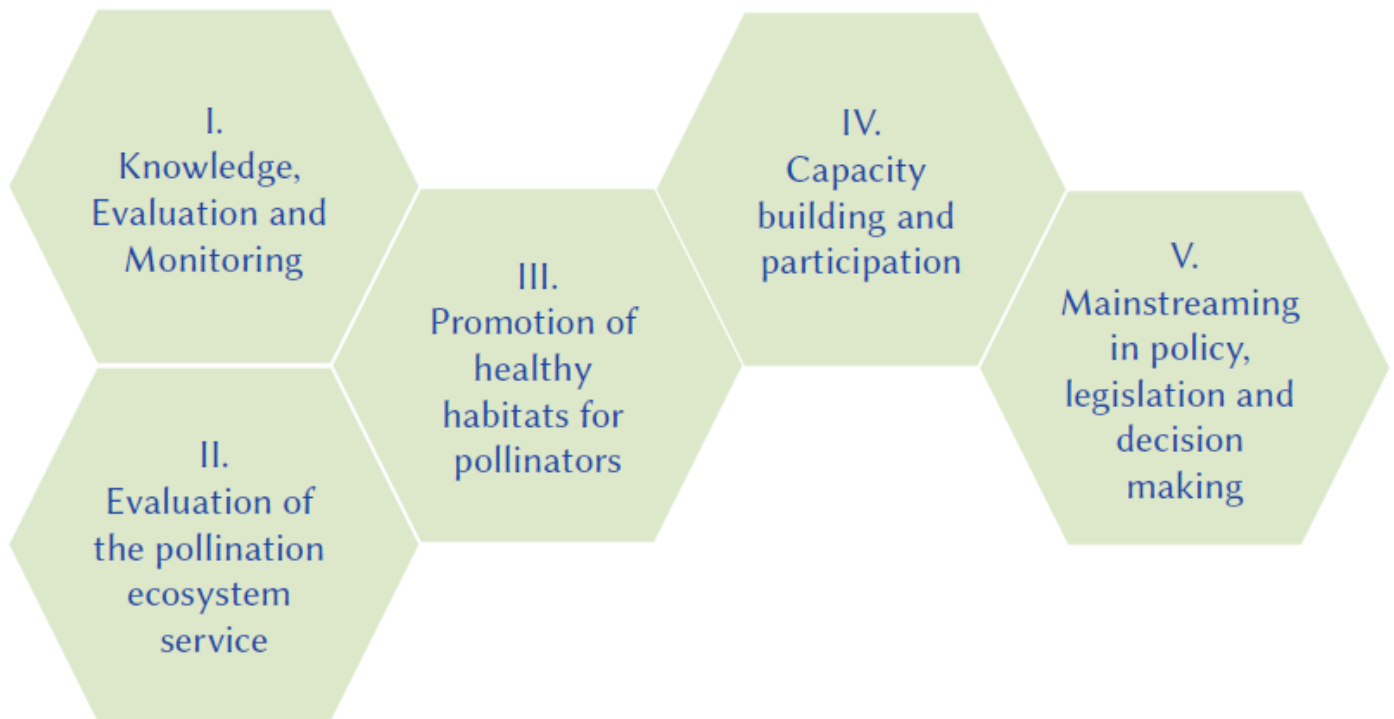
In the document enclosed you'll find the overview of the results of the survey.



Updates by members of the coalition Promote Pollinators

1. Presentation by Colombia – Mr. Nicolas Pinel | Colombian initiative on pollinators

Colombia has been a member for a year now. In that year they took major steps in protecting pollinators and their habitats. The strategy they presented earlier has become much more concrete with the help of a large group of stakeholders and inspired by many initiatives. The result is a roadmap with priorities. Colombia appointed 5 different axes with specific goals:



THEMATIC AXIS I: Knowledge, evaluation and monitoring.

Colombia as the second country in diversity of plants, requires generating knowledge in the identification, description and characterization of pollinators and pollination for effective decision-making processes on conservation, sustainable use and evaluation of the situation of pollinator decline that is reported globally.

Goal: to generate knowledge related to the identification, distribution, biology of pollinating species, the pollination ecosystem service and the risk of extinction of pollinators, prioritizing native species.

THEMATIC AXIS II: Evaluation of the pollination ecosystem service.

The evaluation of the pollination service consists of economic (monetary) and non-economic (qualitative and quantitative) evaluation of the benefits derived from it for the health of ecosystems and human well-being.

Goal: to characterize economically and not economically the ecosystem service of pollination in Colombia.

THEMATIC AXIS III: Promotion of healthy habitats for pollinators.

Pollinators and the pollination service are being affected by the five direct drivers of transformation and loss of biodiversity and their ecosystem services: the transformation and loss of ecosystems and natural habitats, overexploitation, biological invasions, pollution and climate change, to which reference is made in the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services.

Goal: to maintain, secure and restore habitats for pollinators through good practices and the promotion of the conservation of natural ecosystems and diversification of agroecosystems, urban and industrial areas.

THEMATIC AXIS IV: Capacity building and participation.

It is essential that the different actors interacting directly or indirectly have the knowledge and skills for an adequate management of this ecosystem service.

Goal: to formulate, strengthen and implement processes aimed at raising awareness, awareness, ownership and training of society on the importance of pollinators and pollination as an ecosystem service.

THEMATIC AXIS V: Mainstreaming in policy, legislation and decision making.

The inclusion of pollination service management in decision-making is one of the main challenges and final objective of the Colombian Pollinators Initiative because it is fundamental for the maintenance and improvement of

the quality of life of the Colombian population, for which efforts are required for the mobilization of national and international resources.

Goal: to incorporate the sustainable management of pollinators and the pollination service into the public policy instruments and decision-making scenarios.

For the full document of the initiative, visit:

<http://repository.humboldt.org.co/handle/20.500.11761/35163>

<http://www.minambiente.gov.co/index.php/bosques-biodiversidad-y-servicios-ecosistematicos/fauna-y-flora/iniciativas#documentos>



2. Presentation by the United Kingdom – Ms. Deborah Steele | Evidence direct to policy

For effective policy-making, evidence is required. Some of the questions addressed:

- Have the abundance or distribution of different pollinator groups changed?
- Are there any particular crops or geographic regions that are at risk of loss of quality or yield?
- How effective has the creation of wild flower habitat in the UK been in improving the status of pollinators?
- How successful are innovations to boost nesting opportunities for wild pollinators?



Lessons

Approach

- Set policy relevant questions.
- Consult stakeholders early.
- Be flexible in format of information.

Layout

- Separate evidence gaps at the end of each section.

Evidence Statements

- Each section should include all the information a policy-maker needs to know.

Management and drivers of change of pollinating insects and pollination services: <https://bit.ly/NPSevidence2019>

3. Presentation from an initiative in the Netherlands – Ms. Sonne Copijn | Bee Foundation

The app *Happy Bee, Happy Me* is one of the initiatives that are part of the implementation of the strategy of the Netherlands. The activities of the Bee Foundation:

1. Constructive action	2. Bee oasis	3. Bee training	4. Game Happy Bee, Happy Me
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contribution to National Bee Strategy• Contribution to National Biodiversity Plan• Organizer of the Petition: Outlaw of neonicotinoids Europe• Organizer of an action on: invasive exotic species	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Domestic perennial species• All ecosystem layers• Different soil types• For specific wild bees• Connecting schools, companies, municipalities and festivals• As a gift: 5 euro/m²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training to municipalities• Training to volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Game for school kids (10-14 years)• Bed & Breakfast for wild oligolectic bees

4. Ms. Pernilla Malmer, SwedBio (a programme at Stockholm Resilience Centre)| Linking indigenous, local and scientific knowledges and practices to global policy-making

The objectives of the “Dialogue across indigenous, local and scientific knowledge systems reflecting on the IPBES Assessment on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production” are:

- To review key messages of the IPBES Pollination Assessment
- Contribute to method developments for IPBES procedures and approaches to work with indigenous and local knowledge
- Contribute and link Karen local indigenous knowledges to the science – policy interface, as a way to strengthen its recognition, and contribute to sustainable development.
- Support the uptake of the IPBES Pollination Assessment in local, national and international policy.

To read more about the dialogue: <https://swed.bio/news>

MEB and the dialogue process: <https://swed.bio/stories/a-multiple-evidencebase-approach-for-equity-across-knowledgesystems/>

After the presentations, Noelia Vallejo (Spain) and Abram Bicksler (FAO) gave some personal reflections, on the relevance of the presented information, how the coalition can make good use of it, and what topics and themes were missing. They thought sharing this type of information was certainly useful and inspiring. Similar threats occur across many of the countries. Presenting the methodologies addressing these was very helpful. It would be important to continue sharing information about actions taken to implement policies, and learn from each other’s experiences on management practices.



Presentation & discussion on organizational model - Secretariat

Based on the results of the survey, the role of the secretariat was discussed. The model of network organization is best suited for the coalition:

- Informal, cooperative
- Self-governing
- Less bureaucracy, more efficiency
- Participation based on personal commitment
- Relatively easy and cheap to set up and maintain

Requires light 'governance' for continuity, transparency, effectiveness:

- Terms of Reference
- Rule Book
- Working Plan mid-2019 to mid-2021
- Leadership
- Financing.

We will produce drafts by mid-June, and invite your comments on the Terms of Reference (incl. Rule book) and working plan.

Concerning leadership and financing, the secretariat will explore several options based on the discussion. This can be summed up as follows: An informal organisation and a light structure were preferred by all. Continuity is important. Several suggestions were made, which included: connecting to an existing, larger organisation, with similar goals and stakeholders. This could support the initiative on the basis of dedicated funding. Another option could be that another country takes over from the Netherlands to fund the secretariat. Membership fees might pose difficulty for developing countries, lack a legal base, and may give a high administrative burden for the members.

The meeting decided to plan a next meeting of the coalition to take place back-to-back or in the context of the SBSTTA in Montreal, 25-29 November 2019.