Monitoring wild pollinators populations

David Roy (on behalf of the SPRING project)





Why monitor wild pollinators?

- Central to understanding the causes of change and measuring progress
- Wider benefits such as educating, involving and engaging the public
- Clear economic benefits to research and society Breeze et al. (2021). Pollinator monitoring more than pays for itself. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 58(1): 44-57.
- Important part of the solution to insect declines (where, when, why)

Thomas, Jones & Hartley (2019). "Insectageddon": A call for more robust data and rigorous analyses. *Global change biology*.

EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (EU PoMS)

Design

Pilot, Refine & Build Capacity

Roll out



Action 1A of the EU Pollinators Initiative

"The Commission will devise and test an EU-wide pollinator monitoring scheme to ensure the provision of good quality data for assessing the status and trends of pollinator species in the EU and developing a pollinator indicator. A technical expert group will be set up to support this work."

Defining the approach for an EU PMS Science and Technology for pollinating insects (STING)



WS1: **Sampling design** David Roy & Claire Carvell



WS2: Methods & recorders Bas Oteman



WS3: Taxonomic & data support Axel Hochkirch



WS4: Indicators Jens Dauber



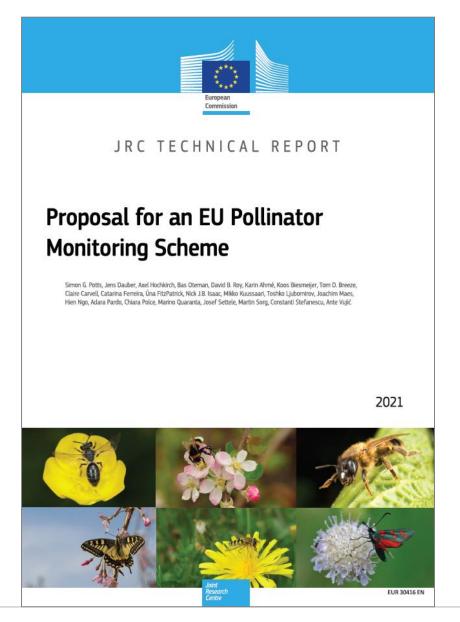
WS5: Integration Simon Potts, Joachim Maes & Chiara Polce



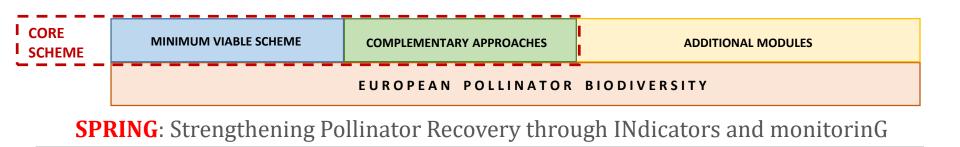
Plus 13 other experts, together covering:

Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Serbia, Spain, Sweden & UK

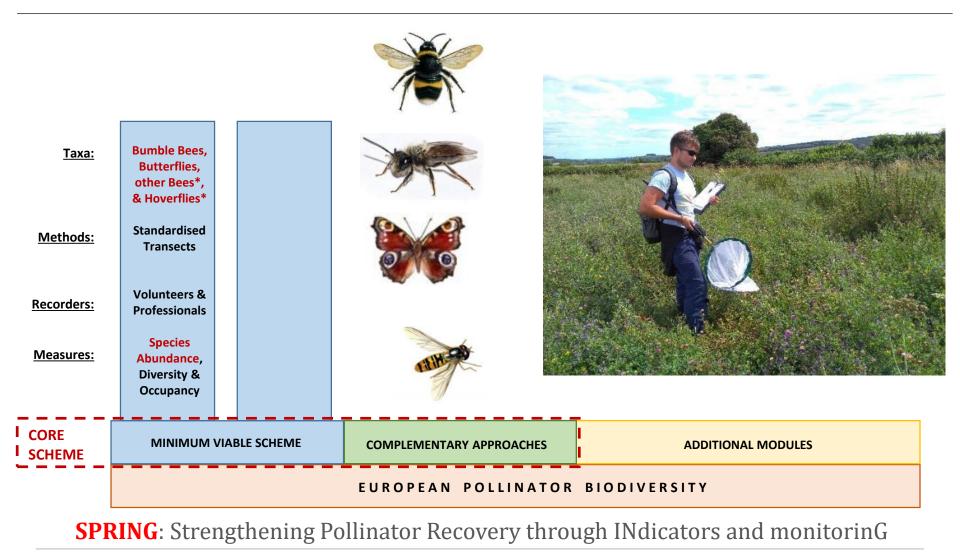
Potts et al. 2021. Proposal for an EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme. doi:10.2760/881843 (online)



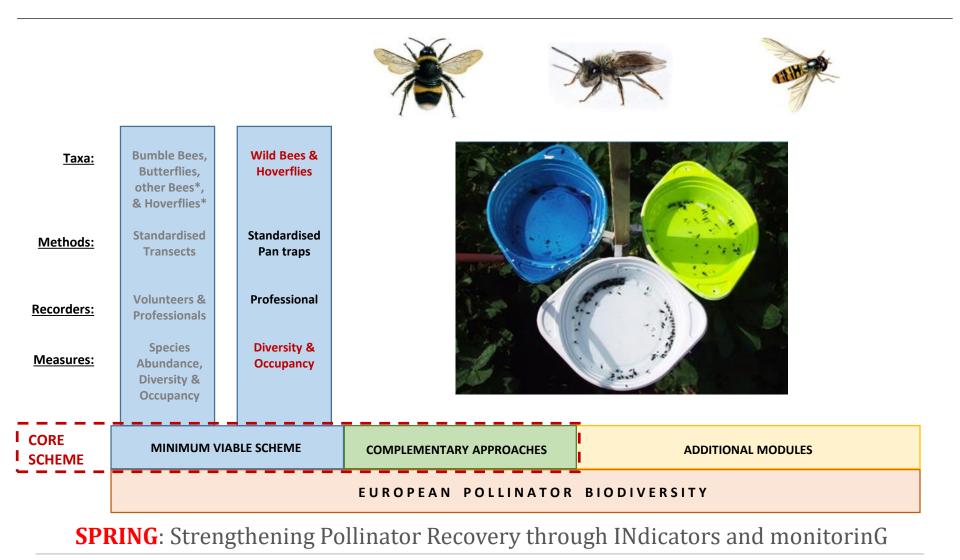
Proposal for EUPMS



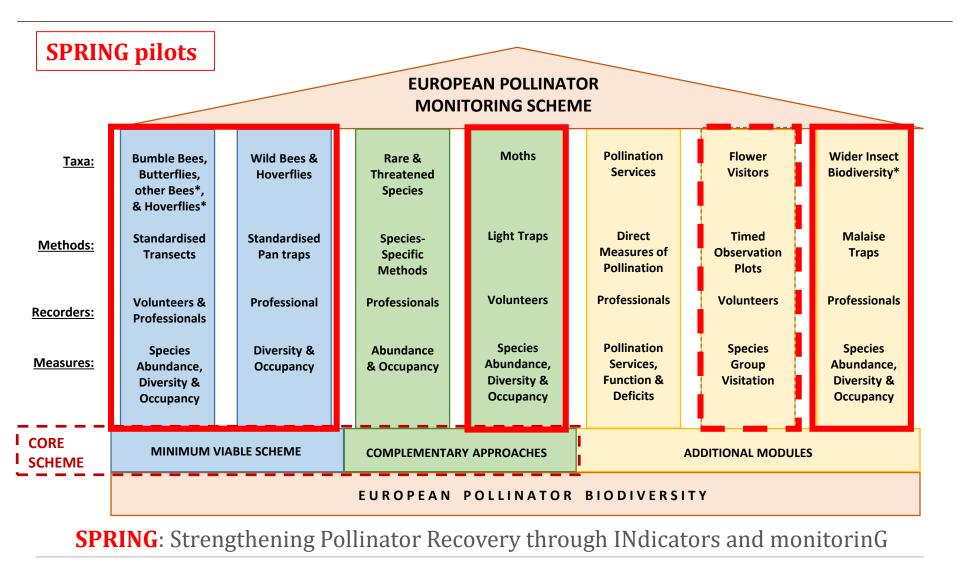
Minimum Viable Scheme



Minimum Viable Scheme



The full EUPMS



Piloting the approach

SPRING: Strengthening Pollinator Recovery through INdicators and monitorinG

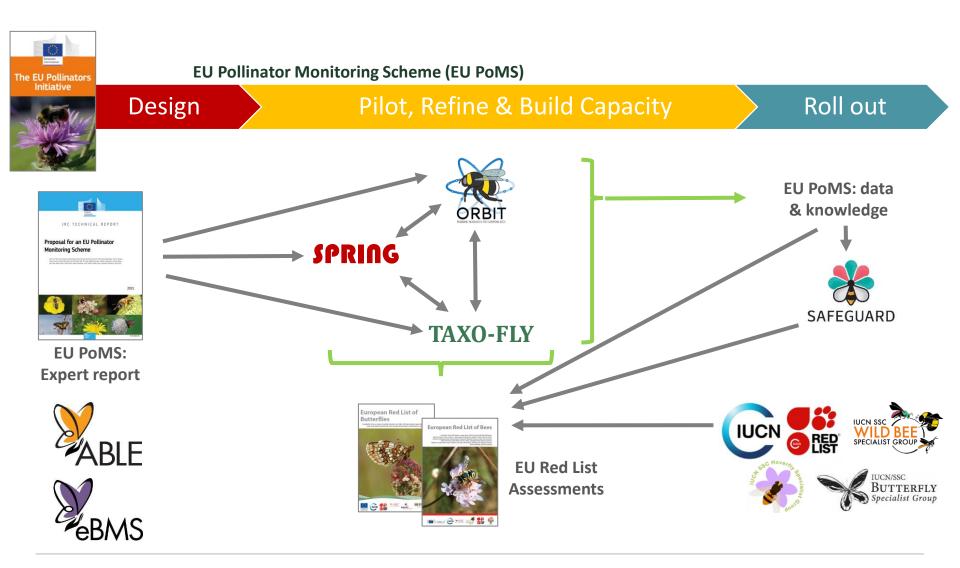
Parliamentary Preparatory Action contract, coordinated by DG Environment, €5m

May 2021 to November 2023 19 partners, UFZ lead

- 1. Expansion of butterfly monitoring and citizen science networks on pollinators (19%)
- 2. Taxonomic Capacity building (38%)
- 3. Piloting the Minimum Viable Scheme (31%)
- 4. Testing complementary additional modules (10%)

Piloting the approach

SPRING: Strengthening Pollinator Recovery through INdicators and monitorinG



Relevance of SPRING to CAP Indicators

SPRING is focused on:

- Methods to monitor the status of pollinators over time (a State Indicator)
- General surveillance of the EU landscape (i.e. not directly targeted at land under CAP)

Can support CAP Indicators through:

- Tested sampling methods for pollinators
- Analysis methods for pollinator indicators
- Recommended sampling designs to land under CAP





Volunteer recorders and scheme organisers

The EU and MEPs for funding and support for the ABLE and SPRING projects

SPRING ABLE and STING partners

particularly Simon Potts for slides

