



EUROPEAN UNION  
European Regional Development Fund



## Enriching the **U**rban Jungle with Bees



## BEEPATHNET TEAM

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Enriching the **Urban** Jungle  
with Bees

**Colophon:**  
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**TEXT:** Vesna Erhart, Maruška Markovčič, Klemen Strmšnik and partners of BeePathNet

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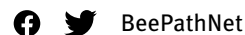
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More about the project:  
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To join the Bee-friendly movement visit our webpage which has all the needed information and links (left side of the page) to: the project monography, the transfer modules guidelines “The evolution steps toward a Bee-friendly city” and the library with thematic newsletters on Biodiversity, Education, Awareness raising, Tourism, the World Bee Day celebration 2020, New Products and partner cities’ Bee paths in 7 languages.

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# Obogatimo urbano džunglo s čebelami!



Leta 2015 smo v sklopu priprav na naziv zelena prestolnica Evrope 2016 zasnovali ČEBELJO POT, ki je v zadnjih letih prerasla v gibanje, katerega osnovni namen je ohraniti visoko okoljsko ozaveščenost, ohraniti čebele v urbanem okolju in razvijati čebelarstvo v Ljubljani. Stkali smo družbeno mrežo čebelarjev, kulturnih, izobraževalnih in zdravstvenih organizacij, podjetij, nevladnih organizacij, pa tudi posameznikov. Čebelja pot je postala izobraževalni program, s katerim ozaveščamo o celovitem in trajnostnem odnosu do svojega življenjskega okolja; hkrati pa je tudi inkubator novih podjetniških idej na področju čebelarstva ter čebeljih pridelkov in storitev. Zaradi vseh naših prizadevanj smo v letih 2017 in 2019 prejeli naziv Čebelam najbolj prijazna občina.

Leta 2017 je program URBACT, ki spodbuja trajnostni in celostni razvoj evropskih mest na ekonomskem, družbenem in okoljskem področju, našo Čebeljo pot razglasil za dobro prakso in jo postavil ob bok številnim vsebinam različnih evropskih mest. Tudi v luči slovenske pobude za razglasitev 20. maja za svetovni dan čebel smo se leto kasneje odločili za kandidacijo na razpisu URBACT za prenos dobre prakse v druga mesta. Oblikovali smo mrežo BeePathNet – Obogatimo urbano džunglo s čebelami, v okviru katere smo naše izkušnje in dobre prakse uspešno prenesli v mesta Amarante (Portugalska), Bydgoszcz (Poljska), Cesena (Italija), Hegyvidék – XII. okrožje Budimpešte (Madžarska) in Nea Propontida (Grčija). Skupaj smo razvili še nove ideje in pristope.

Mreža BeePathNet šestih evropskih mest si je preko urbanega čebelarstva za enega svojih najvišjih ciljev postavila sonaraven urbani razvoj in je danes že postala »gibanje čebelam prijaznih mest«, ki ga širimo po Evropi in preko njenih meja.

Čebele so naše prijateljice in nepogrešljive sopotnice skozi življenje. Poskrbimo, da bomo vsi skupaj živeli v kakovostnem in zelenem okolju.

**Zoran Janković**  
župan Mestne občine Ljubljana



## Enriching the Urban Jungle with Bees!

**Bees only live in a healthy environment and urban beekeeping is only possible in cities that offer a friendly habitat for them and other pollinators. Ljubljana, as the European Green Capital of 2016, is certainly one of these: a green, well-maintained, clean, safe and friendly city where, in the urban context, we have managed to create good living conditions for these small creatures – bees.**

In 2015, as part of the preparations for receiving the title of 'Green Capital of Europe 2016', we designed the BEE PATH, which has since grown into a movement; its basic purpose is to maintain a high level of environmental awareness, preserve the bees in the urban environment and develop beekeeping in Ljubljana. We have created a social network of beekeepers, cultural, educational and health organizations, companies, NGOs and individuals. The Bee Path has become an educational program through which we raise awareness of the importance of a holistic and sustainable attitude towards our living environment; in addition to this, it is an incubator for new business ideas for beekeeping, bee products and related services. Thanks to all our efforts, Ljubljana was awarded the title of 'Most Bee-friendly Municipality' in 2017 and 2019.

In 2017, in the framework of the URBACT program promoting the sustainable and integrated development of European cities in the economic, social and environmental areas, our Bee Path was recognised as an example of good practice, which places it alongside a number of other projects in various European cities. This, together with Slovenia's initiative to declare 20 May as World Bee Day, encouraged our decision to participate the following year in the URBACT call for proposals for the transfer of good practices to other cities. We formed the BeePathNet network – Enriching the Urban Jungle with Bees, which allowed us to successfully transfer our experience and good practices to the city of Amarante (Portugal), the city of Bydgoszcz (Poland), the city of Cesena (Italy), Hegyvidék – XII District of Budapest (Hungary) and the municipality of Nea Propontida (Greece). Together, we developed new ideas and approaches.

Through urban beekeeping, the BeePathNet, which includes six European cities, set sustainable urban development as one of its highest goals and has now become a movement of Bee-friendly cities that we are spreading across Europe and beyond.

Bees are our friends and indispensable companions throughout life. Let's make sure that we can all live together in a healthy and green environment!

**Zoran Janković**  
Mayor of the City of Ljubljana



# 1 Development trends of green and sustainable cities

## Transferring Urban Practices across borders – is it really possible?



**Adele Bucella**  
Head of Unit in the  
URBACT programme  
secretariat

Cities in Europe face similar challenges be it climate change, housing, social inclusion or unemployment. Local administrations around Europe are all looking for solutions to these challenges and are turning to other cities for peer to peer support.

For nearly 20 years the URBACT European Territorial Cooperation programme has been listening to city practitioners and decision makers. The programme, which has supported nearly 1000 European cities to share and develop solutions together, is proud of this bottom-up approach.

In 2018, URBACT designed the Good Practice Transfer Networks. These networks, led by a good practice city, brought together a small group of cities all from different countries and offered tried and tested concrete solutions ‘on a plate’.

Of course, a simple copy and paste approach can never work. The need for a transfer methodology was clear. The URBACT programme proposed a simple step by step process ‘understand-adapt-reuse’. Each city network developed a specific transfer methodology following these main steps.

### Success Factors

Several success factors were identified from the experience of the 23 networks including the need for strong local leadership, a representative and well managed stakeholder group, motivated and resilient transfer city partners and ambition and willingness to make a change.

The cities involved in these networks have demonstrated that investing in citizen-led local initiatives can have positive impacts on urban policy in cities and builds trust between the public administration and its citizens.

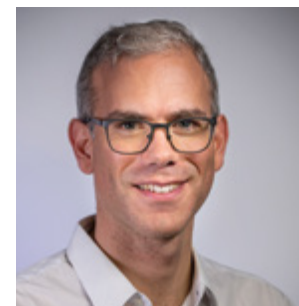
### The truth is in the stories...

The transfer of an urban good practice is possible! The BeePathNet project is one example which has proved this. All five partners have managed to adapt the good practice to respond to their own specific needs and local communities in Portugal, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Greece can be proud of their new Bee Paths. Other Transfer networks have similar success stories to share – for more good examples of urban transfer stories check the URBACT website – [www.urbact.eu](http://www.urbact.eu)

Real success, however, can only be claimed if these initiatives are sustained in the long term. Cities can consider linking these activities to the wider city, region and national strategies and for the very ambitious, sustainability can be found in new European networks or even further afield in international cooperation. These spin-off activities are only possible with strong political support and a motivated stakeholder group.

In these times of strong competition for scarce public funds, cities need to be creative and pragmatic. European cooperation, sharing solutions, re-thinking city governance and being smart are some ways that URBACT can help cities to become more resilient and generally better places for their citizens.

## Pollinators and cities: Toward an integral sustainable development



**mag. Damien Bertrand**  
Forestry Officer,  
Expert on Sustainable  
forest management,  
Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations (FAO)

Pollination is vital to life on our planet and to most flowering plants, including wild species. Also, many food crops, are pollinated by animals.

Pollinators include bees that everyone knows (honeybees, bumblebees...) but also many other pollinators.

Pollinators benefit from diverse natural habitats for forage and nesting, especially when the habitats are limited. They depend on their environment (natural or more artificial ones) to meet their needs.

In 2050, the majority of people will live in urban areas (68%), which implies related social, economic and environmental issues. Urbanization affects habitats and resources in contrasting ways, with effects on pollinator populations.

Some habitats are key to preserving pollinators and preventing pollinator declines. Forests, green areas, water bodies and even isolated habitats such as trees, stones and patches of exposed ground are beneficial to pollinators.

Practices complement the capacities of habitats allowing pollinators to meet their needs or not. Not only do they conserve habitats and prevent damaging interventions but they can also preserve connectivity among habitats and develop biodiversity richness with temporally and spatially controlled disturbances.

Last but not least, pollinator integration in management is critical for sustainable development.

Collaboration among stakeholders is paramount, giving access to extensive knowledge, enabling collective efforts and providing resilience to actions.

Pollination contributes towards many of the SDGs and needs a holistic approach in a human-environment system.

## Slovenia, a great place for bees



PhD Peter Kozmus  
the President of the  
Council for Beekeeping  
at the Ministry of  
Agriculture, Forestry  
and Food of the  
Republic of Slovenia  
and the vice-president  
of APIMONDIA

Slovenia is very dedicated to beekeeping. Beekeeping is deeply rooted among Slovenes and is part of our national identity. Slovenian beekeepers are mostly hobbyists and have an average of 15 bee colonies. Beekeepers take great care of their families and on average they harvest 15 kg of honey per hive. Slovenian customers recognize the value of domestic honey, so beekeepers sell 80% of their honey directly to final consumers.

The Slovene specialty are also apiaries with painted beehive panels that are part of our cultural heritage and which are an important part of beekeeping tourism, which has been developing in the recent period. We are proud that we are pioneers in this field and that there are more and more tourists who come to Slovenia that want to see beehives, bees and also taste our honey.

Slovenian beekeepers are also well organized and are members of beekeeping societies, which are merged into the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association. The aim of the association is transferring knowledge and solving the various problems and challenges that beekeepers face. In addition, SBA carries out many promotional projects with which it informs the general public about the importance of bees, bee products and the importance of preserving nature. For this purpose, every third Friday in November, we organize a traditional Slovenian breakfast, which is organized in all kindergartens and primary schools, and in which locally produced food is promoted.

The most important project, which we started in Slovenia, is the World Bee Day, whose initiator was the SBA and is used to raise awareness about:

1. the importance of bees in the environment,
2. the fact that bees and other pollinators are under threat globally and

what we as individuals or society as a whole can do to improve the chances of the survival of bees in the future. We are pleased to share our most successful campaigns with others, because we want other organizations to use them to solve their challenges, because we believe that their success will enable us to maintain the environment unspoiled for our children.

## Bee Paths – From Ljubljana to the world – The world of bees in a nutshell



PhD Fani Hatjina  
the President of  
APIMONDIA's Bee  
Health Scientific  
Commission and the  
ULG coordinator for  
Nea Propontida

Intense urbanization and agricultural practices, heavy use of pesticides and insecticides, loss of natural resources and habitats for bees and other pollinators, decrease of fauna biodiversity and air pollution together with the impact of climate change, is the situation we are facing in the 21st century.

Residents of rural and urban areas in particular are increasingly concerned about our future and what needs to be done to reduce or eliminate the adverse effects of all the above mentioned stressors. There are many challenges and the most popular are raising awareness on the quality of the environment, initiation of activities in relation to the environment, the use of local products and maintenance of biodiversity.

In a previous project, the BEE PATH project, the City of Ljubljana successfully addressed several of the above challenges, and received an award for its Good Practice. It was only a matter of time for this good practice to be disseminated in other cities and countries, initially in Europe, and eventually, who knows, maybe even around the world.

With the BeePathNet project, Ljubljana's good practice started its travel in the rest of the world. But in fact, this same project also brought the whole world of bees to the notice of the citizens in a nutshell, through a pleasant, enthusiastic, creative, imaginary, prosperous, participatory approach.

It was not only the type of modules and the areas of consideration that made this experience unique, but also the establishment of an active partnership in each city and among the cities. Several high value characteristics were identified:

- Not only the bees, but also the beekeepers, the guardians of bees, were brought to the attention of other citizens.
- Beekeepers together with other citizens gained knowledge, and the bee products gained more respect and a lot of recognition.
- Citizens not only demanded services from their Municipality, but they also started working with the municipality to achieve the same goals.
- Citizens were suggesting ideas, initiating actions and applying the bottom – up approach.
- Volunteering, awareness and participation for the common good were achieved.
- New ideas and entrepreneurship were developed.
- Wide stakeholders' groups were mobilized, wider than in any other study or initiative, given that educators, producers and growers, sale workers, sale managers, shop owners, scientists, cultural clubs, students and pupils were involved.



It was an honour for me to act as an ULG Co-ordinator in one of the transfer Municipalities, in Nea Propontida – Greece, a smaller one in terms of population and I can confirm that the »transfer process« of the good practice was an enlightening experience. Being involved in different areas and modules and participating in events, I had a chance to increase my own knowledge but also to be amazed by the solutions and ideas that were generated in each municipality and country!

Still the higher value of a transfer process can be found in the subject matter to be transferred. When the transfer knowledge and the ideas brought to the attention of the citizens are new, refreshing, useful, pretty and economically viable solutions, the acceptance is always high. As a scientist, I was inevitably looking at all subjects through the »lens of a microscope«: from the structure of the educational programs and the materials to be used to the historical facts; from the terminology used for the diverse plants and pollinators species to the biology of the bees even in relationship to the safety features; from the economic aspects of apitouristic development to awareness campaigns and citizens' mobilization; all had a scientifically sound base and perspective. And maybe because of this scientific background in all aspects of the good practice, the transfer was successful and it will be continued in the years to come.



## 2 Urban beekeeping in practice: five EU cities successfully transferred Ljubljana's good practice and evolved further

### From Ljubljana's BEE PATH through BeePathNet and further

As part of the activities connected to Ljubljana being named the Green Capital of Europe 2016, we established the BEE PATH in May 2015. It grew from day to day and now has 43 members from educational and cultural institutions, to health-care centres and economic entities and, of course, beekeepers and beekeeping associations. In the beginning it was meant to be just an educational path, but it grew to be so much more: it is a movement, a network of likeminded people caring for the wellbeing of bees in the city with very diverse activities. It represents the bridge between obtaining food self-sufficiency and biodiversity and encourages people to live responsibly and environmentally healthy. During the years it started to address specific urban topics – swarm management and development of IT technology regarding the bees in the city. It also spread to the field of scientific research – pollen diversity of urban honey.

In 2017 URBACT rewarded the BEE PATH with the Good Practice Award. This acknowledgement gave Ljubljana the opportunity to transfer (URBACT III – Transfer Network) its good practice into five EU cities covering the majority of climate conditions for beekeeping, various types of bees, as well as different situations related to the perception of bees among the general public. The very diverse yet excellent results in partner cities of Amarante (Portugal), Bydgoszcz (Poland), Cesena (Italy), Hegyvidék – XII District of Budapest (Hungary) and Nea Propontida (Greece), confirmed the transferability of the BEE PATH good practice.

Through raising awareness of the importance of bees, and hand in hand with everybody living and acting in the cities, we are contributing to a cleaner and greener environment, and also to the preservation of natural resources and biodiversity.

To support the holistic transformation into green sustainable cities process in other cities we, together with partners, developed two key tools. First are the transfer modules guidelines "The evolution steps toward a Bee-friendly city" where you will find the description of the BeePathNet partnership transfer journey and detailed instructions for the development of urban beekeeping. We also "built up" the library with thematic newsletters on Biodiversity, Education, Awareness raising, Tourism, the World Bee Day celebration 2020 and partner cities' Bee paths. This final book in front you will enable you to get the overall view of the results that this partnership achieved.

Enjoy!



# The city of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Mestna občina Ljubljana  
City of Ljubljana



Two experiences of the Ljubljana bee path: “Where heritage meets urban” and “The bees go buzzing one by one”

Beekeeping has been present in the area of today's Municipality of Ljubljana since pre-history. Testimony to this is also such remains like the name of the village Medno, derived from the word for honey – med. The area of Ljubljana (Green Capital of Europe 2016) is home to more than 350 beekeepers with more than 4500 bee families. Ljubljana, with all of its wealth of green areas and environmental consciousness, offers a home and quality development to the bees. They have pastures in the nearby forests, numerous green surfaces and on melliferous plants within the city (more than 3.500 trees are planted in public spaces in Ljubljana).

Urban beekeeping, in the contemporary sense, has been developing in the city since 2011 and is now flourishing in Ljubljana with the Culture and Congress centre Cankarjev dom as a pioneer leading the way. In 2014 the Association Urbani čebelar was established. It connects all urban beekeepers and takes care of their education as well as activities connected to awareness raising and promotion of urban beekeeping.

► The educational apiary in the University Botanic Gardens and beehives in Tivoli Park are popular spots for different groups of residents, photo: Luka Dakskobler

Honey produced in the area of the City of Ljubljana is of very high quality. With the “The Bee in Ljubljana” programme, the city is taking care of the development of beekeeping, organises various promotional events, and educates the youngest population within the API kindergarten programme. In addition to beekeepers, the City of Ljubljana also takes care of bees by planting autochthonous melliferous plants and increases biodiversity in public green spaces with programs such as “We will mow, when the bees have eaten” (moving of grass just two times per year).



## “Transfer process” cocktail recipe:

- 10% creativity,
- 20% hard work and operational support,
- 30% voluntarism, stubbornness, and will-power and
- 40% pure passion.

► Honey Day takes place in the frame of celebrations of the Countryside in the City festival. Stakeholders of the Bee Path can offer their products to citizens, photo: Luka Dakskobler

► Students of the Faculty of Architecture developed the educational apiary and the beehive structure on the right on the basis of contemporary apiary that was constructed by the architect Jože Plečnik, photo: BeePathNet archive



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www.ljubljana.si/en/ljubljana-for-you/environmental-protection/the-bee-path  
www.ljubljana.si/sl/moja-ljubljana/podezelje/cebela-v-ljubljani/cebela-pot



# Čebelja pot v Ljubljani

## The Bee Path in Ljubljana



### ČEBELJA POT / BEE PATH

**Od dediščine do urbanega**  
*Where heritage meets urban*

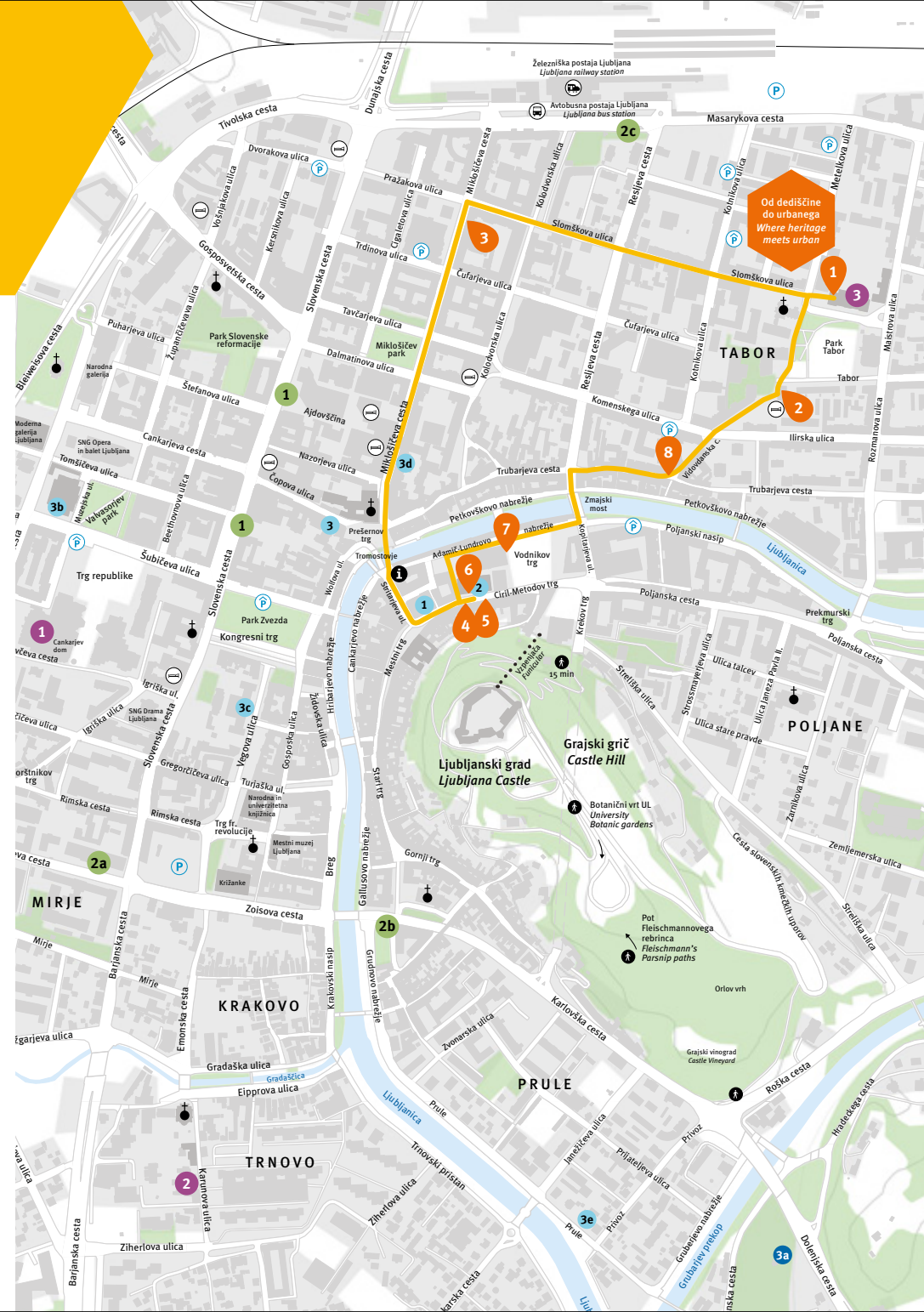
**40 min / 3 km**

- 1 Slovenski etnografski muzej  
*Slovene Ethnographic Museum*  
Metelkova ulica 2
- 2 B&B Hotel Ljubljana Park  
Tabor 9
- 3 Medex (Trgovina / Shop)  
Miklošičeva cesta 30
- 4 Pri kolovratu (Gostilna / Guesthouse)  
Ciril-Metodov trg 14
- 5 Ika (Trgovina / Shop)  
Ciril-Metodov trg 13
- 6 Stolnica sv. Nikolaja  
*Cathedral of St. Nicholas*  
Dolničarjeva ulica 1
- 7 Osrednja ljubljanska tržnica  
*Ljubljana Central Market*  
Pogačarjev trg 1, Adamič-Lundrovo nabrežje 2-7
- 8 Trubar  
Okrepčevalnica in slaščičarna  
*Snack bar and sweet shop*  
Trubarjeva cesta 53

**BREZPLAČNA BROŠURA**  
**FREE BROCHURE**



[www.ljubljana.si/sl/cebela-v-ljubljani](http://www.ljubljana.si/sl/cebela-v-ljubljani)



### ČEBELJA POT / BEE PATH

**'Od cveta do cveta, čebelica leta!'**  
*'The bees go buzzing one by one'*

**1 h 50 min / 7,50 km**

- 1 Botanični vrt Univerze v Ljubljani  
*University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana*  
Ižanska cesta 15
- 2 Plečnikova hiša  
*Plečnik house*  
Karunova ulica 4-6
- 3 Cankarjev dom  
Prešernova cesta 10
- 4 Stojšče za čebele v Parku Tivoli  
*Beehives in Tivoli Park*  
46.0524, 14.4925
- 5 Narodni muzej Slovenije  
*National Museum of Slovenia*  
Muzejska ulica 1
- 6 Drevo avtohtonih malih jesenov  
na Slovenski cesti  
*Tree-line of autochthonous flowering  
ashes on the Slovenska cesta Road*
- 7 Mestna hranilnica Ljubljanska  
*City Savings Bank of Ljubljana*  
Čopova ulica 3
- 8 Medarska ulica  
*Medarska ulica Street*
- 9 Stolnica sv. Nikolaja  
*Cathedral of St. Nicholas*  
Dolničarjeva ulica 1
- 10 Ljubljanski grad  
*Ljubljana Castle*  
Grajska planota 1

V smeri proti Botaničnemu vrtu sledimo  
oznaki »Botanični vrt UL«, v nasprotni smeri  
proti Ljubljanskemu gradu pa oznaki  
»Pot Fleischmannovega rebrinca«.

In direction towards the Botanic gardens,  
we follow the »University Botanic gardens« signs,  
in opposite direction towards the Ljubljana Castle,  
we follow the »Fleischmann's Parsnip path«.

0 50 100 200 300 400 m

'Od cveta  
do cveta,  
čebelica leta!'  
*'The bees go  
buzzing one  
by one'*



# The city of Amarante, Portugal



Dear partners,

The BeePathNet network has given us the opportunity to develop ways to support beekeeping and the entire economy focused around bee products, but also the consciousness of the necessary awareness of our entire community to the importance of bees and their products, working with environmental awareness and respect for nature.

BeePathNet gave us the opportunity to work side by side with the biggest stakeholders that contributed to the success of this project and are part of our Local Action Group, whom we take the opportunity to thank for their dedication and enormous contributions.

We want to thank the leader city of this network, Ljubljana, first for the fantastic work they have done in the field of urban beekeeping, and then for sharing their work with all the other cities that are part of this network. We are very happy to have been one of the cities chosen to be part of this URBACT program network.

For Amarante, the biggest motivation for integrating this project was the work of our beekeepers, many of them in more rural areas, who contribute a lot to the preservation of our mountains and to the continuity of an activity that is part of the history of our municipality and deserves all of our recognition and a continuous commitment to its work.

The cooperation and work developed in the URBACT program networks are an enormous asset for the progression of our city and BeePathNet is an excellent example of how collaborative work develops solid projects for the future.

Thank you very much for accompanying us on this journey and you are always very welcome in Amarante.

**José Luís Gaspar**  
Mayor of the Municipality of Amarante

Amarante is a small European city located in northern Portugal, near Porto, surrounded by amazing mountains, with a lot of history, of which honey and beekeeping are a part of.

BeePathNet gave Amarante the opportunity to strengthen relations between beekeepers and the local trade and to think about developing new products and improve the bee products that are already available. Thanks to BeePathNet we have an apitouristic offer and, of course, a bee path.

This was an opportunity to learn with other inspiring European cities, to share concerns and to find solutions to our challenges. It was also a great excuse to gather our URBACT local group and work with such inspiring people.

Since the first meeting, the commitment and motivation of all participants, whether beekeepers, producers, researchers or educators, has generated ideas and themes to debate that lead to the realization, that the project would have to extend well beyond the application time, namely in the area of education, tourism and new products.

The common vision for the project allowed Amarante to become a beekeeping city, where honey and other bee products are used by everyone and where tourists discover the beauty of beekeeping in Amarante.

#### CONTACT INFO

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📍 beepathnet.portugal

#### MORE INFO

<https://arcg.is/18in5H>

**Amarante: where bees thrive because people take care of them.**

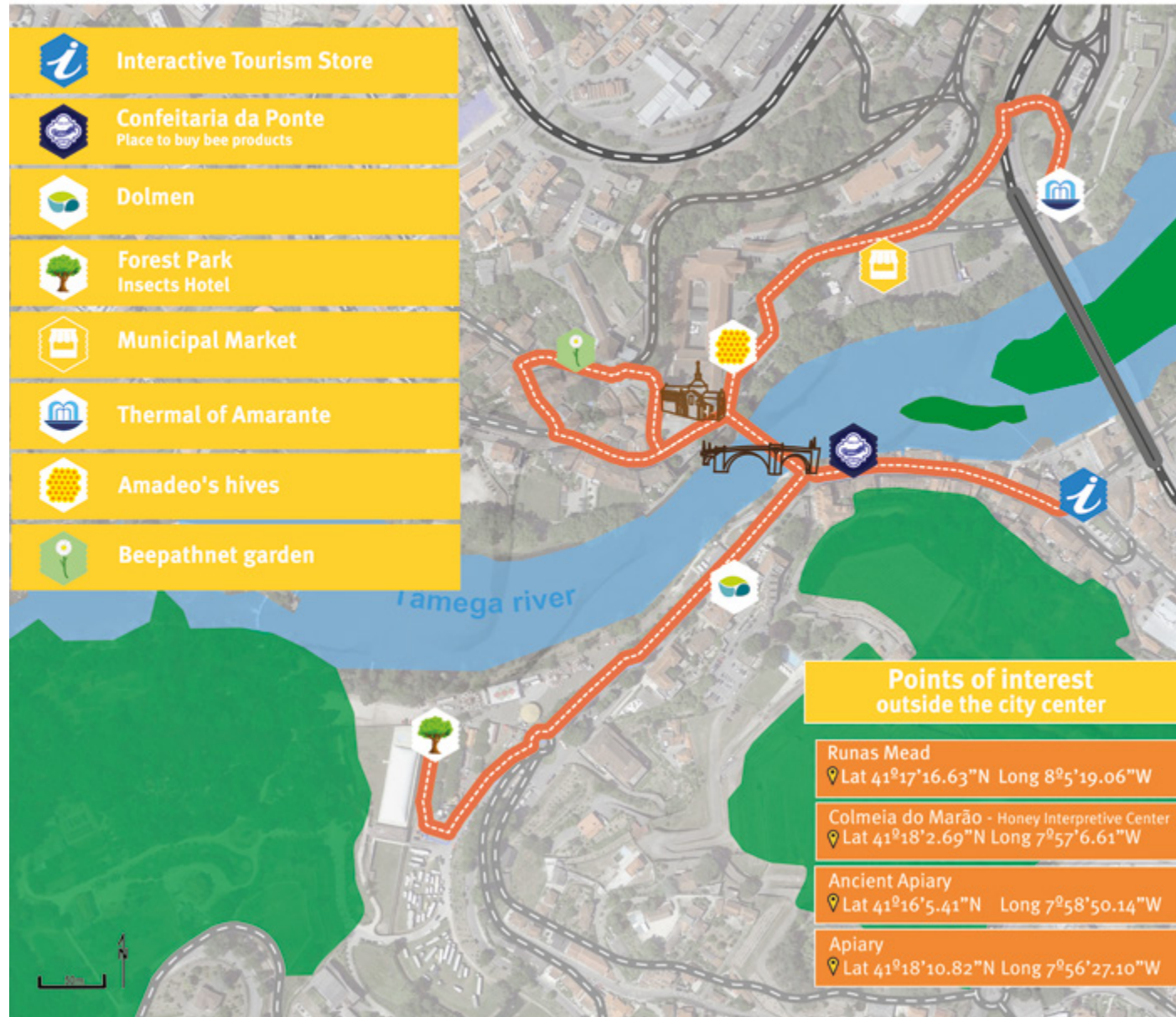
◀ 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the URBACT local group with the Mayor of the Municipality of Amarante, photo: Municipality of Amarante

▶ World Bee Day celebration with the URBACT local group, photo: Municipality of Amarante





# Amarante's Bee Path city map



## INTERACTIVE TOURISM STORE



We are pleased to give you all the information of Amarante's Bee Path and of all the other touristic points, so you can enjoy and get to know our city through all your senses.

## BEEPATHNET GARDEN



We would like you to look at our BeePathNet Garden and look for melliferous plants, right in the city center, representing for us all the work that has been done in adapting the urban beekeeping concept to Amarante.

## DOLMEN SHOP



Dolmen's mission is to promote the development of the region in an integrated perspective, based on the preservation of our knowledge, flavors and values. Between these flavors you can find several types of honey.

## RUNAS HIDROMEL



Runas is a brand of craft mead, very committed with the creation of new products, that uses local honey that guarantees the quality of the final products. Runas also runs workshops to teach how to produce homemade mead.

## FOREST PARK



This park has more than 100 years, created to reforest our mountains. Nowadays, it is one of the parks most sought after by families. And for insects too, specially with the insects hotel that BeePathNet project installed there.

## COLMEIA DO MARÃO



Future Honey Interpretive Center, where will be possible to interact and discover the whole process of honey, equipping these facilities in order to allow to receive visits and communication / training actions on honey and beekeeping.

## MUNICIPAL MARKET



The Agrifood market it's open every wednesday and saturday and can offer you bee products such as honey, pollen, royal jelly but also seeds of native honey plants to beautify your home and garden.

## ANCIENT APIARY



These structures consist of large stone fences designed to protect the swarms of bees from the main predators, which in the past would have been the badger and the brown bear.

## THERMAL OF AMARANTE



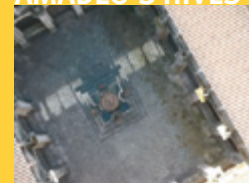
The right place to decompress and to relieve the burden of respiratory, rheumatic and MSD. Stay to Talk joined Termas de Amarante to offer an unique and sensory experience related to honey.

## APIARY



This is an active apiary in the Marão mountains. You can learn more about the beekeeping in Amarante and look around to see the native plants and understand how they influence the honey production.

## AMADEO'S HIVES



In the spring, the museum's roof houses swarms that look for shelter there. One by one, the bees settle under the underlay and only leave there to work.



# The city of Bydgoszcz, Poland



“The environmental and climate changes all over the world, as well as the trend of the extinction of various groups of plants and animals, including wild pollinators, should be a signal to every person and institution that it is time to change the way of life, alter the way of thinking, verify the role of man in the environment. From the city's perspective, its further development is mandatory. It is important, however, that Bydgoszcz develops in a sustainable way, taking into account not only civilization aspirations, but also the importance of a city as a safe place for wild nature.”

Rafał Bruski  
Mayor of the City of Bydgoszcz

Thanks to the project, Bydgoszcz BeePathNet municipal team has been working on the continued promotion of urban beekeeping in the city comprising of bee protection activities. The 2018 Bydgoszcz City Council Resolution lifted the ban on bee breeding and now it is allowed in our city. Due to the remaining common fear of bees, all-year-long educational and promotional campaigns should be an essential element of the city's activities. Thanks to the BeePathNet project the city's educational activities have also been expanded to benefit urban bees. The city strives to raise people's awareness through ecological education with the help of the new Bee Education Programme developed by the teachers of the School Complex no. 6 in Bydgoszcz. At the same time, the city shapes urban habitats and increases biodiversity, food bases and habitats. The educational and promotional events will be closely related to the newly created City Bee Path that links educators, beekeepers in the city and melliferous parks.

Within the project we have had the chance to learn from the coordinator and partners how bees can be present in everyday school and kindergarten education, tourism, culture and business. Locally, we have had the pleasure of getting to know and working with incredible urban beekeepers, entrepreneurs, teachers, educators and activists in our city who care for biodiversity and wild pollinators. We got the courage to delay lawn mowing for the entire city. Due to different opinions on the quality of urban honey, the city commissioned laboratory tests on the honey quality in selected city apiaries located in the vicinity of transport junctions. It turns out that city honey is devoid



of contamination with petroleum compounds and heavy metals. In addition, due to the diversity of plants visited by bees, it is characterized by exceptional taste. In one word: urban honey from Bydgoszcz is delicious, unique and healthy. We know we cannot inspire everyone to love bees, but we can encourage citizens to learn more about pollinators and motivate all of us to boost their population numbers by planting more melliferous mixes and to build pollinator houses.

**“A city is not only a human zone, it is a place where plants and animals live. The richness of the Bydgoszcz zone of life depends on us. There are about 470 species of bees in Poland, Bydgoszcz hosts 214 species of these animals – there is still plenty of work to do for us here”.**

Justyna Olszewska  
Bydgoszcz URBACT Local Group Coordinator

**“Once: bee buzzing – fear, pain, honey... Today: bee buzzing – joy, peace”**

Krzysztof Kotaczyk  
Bydgoszcz beekeeper

▲ Beehives in the Botanical Garden at Uniwersytet Kazimierza Wielkiego in Bydgoszcz, photo: Archives of Bydgoszcz Municipality

▲ Park along the Old Canal in Bydgoszcz, photo: K. Sobiś, Archive SUP Bydgoszcz

#### CONTACT INFO

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#### CONTACT PERSON

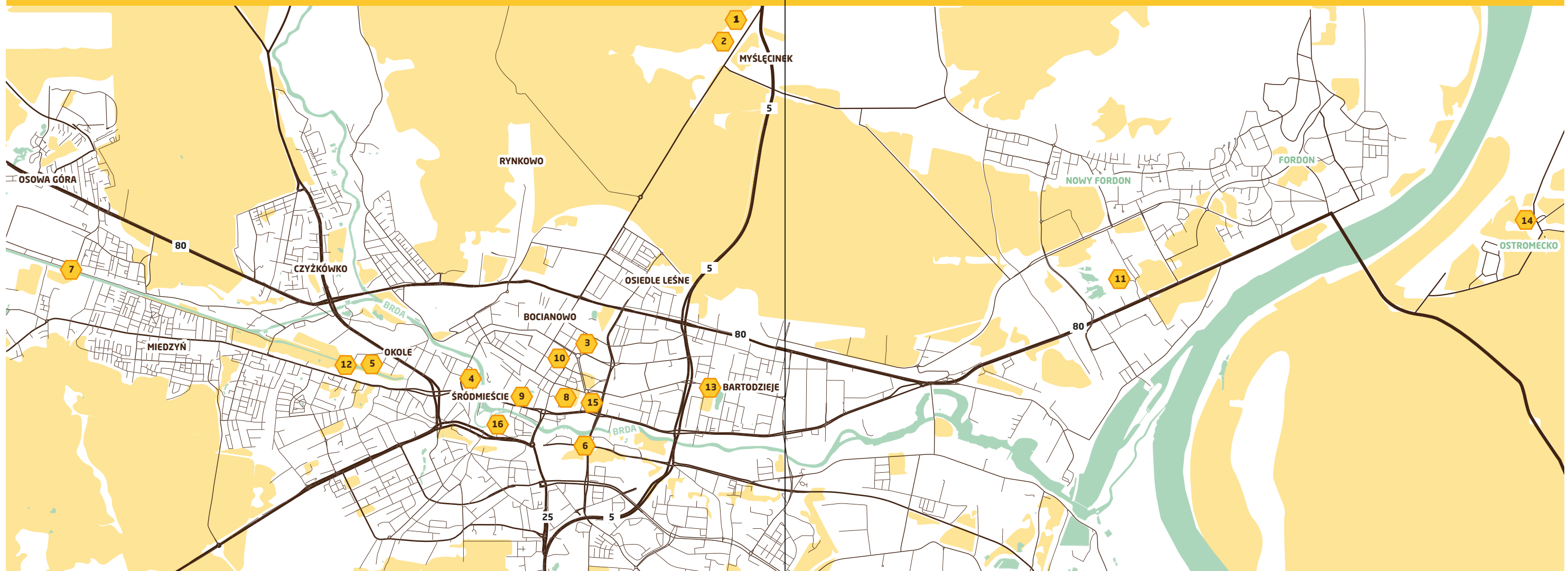
Justyna Olszewska  
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bydgoszczpl  
Beepathnet-Bydgoszcz-104085087713891

#### MORE INFO

www.bydgoszcz.pl/rozwoj-i-srodowisko/projekty-miedzynarodowe/beepathnet



“Red mason bee tree” – the Art Nouveau pollinator houses in Park Kazimierza Wielkiego, photo: Dawid Kilon



**pszczela  
ścieżka  
w Bydgoszczy**

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1 Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute                         | 5 School Complex no. 6   | 12 Park Kazimierza Wielkiego -<br>pollinator houses: „Red Mason Bee Tree” | 13 Didactic Path „Nad Balatonem”<br>in Bartodzieje District      |
| 2 Botanical Garden - Myślęcinek Culture<br>and Leisure Park            | 6 Green Rescue Team „Zielone Pogotowie”  | 9 Park im. Jana Kochanowskiego -<br>flower meadows and pollinator houses  | 14 Park and Palace Ensemble in Ostromecko                        |
| 3 Botanical Garden of Uniwersytet<br>Kazimierza Wielkiego w Bydgoszczy | 7 Apiary „Nektary Flisa”   | 10 Park Akademicki - wet wild flower meadows                              | 15 CH Focus Shopping Centre in Bydgoszcz<br>with 6 roof apiaries |
| 4 Bee Hives 'Pszczelarium'<br>at Wyższa Szkoła Gospodarki w Bydgoszczy | 8 Park Ludowy im. Wincentego Witosa - bulbous<br>flowers and pollinator houses | 11 Park along Old Bydgoszcz Canal -<br>pollinator houses                  | 16 Bydgoska Wytwórnia Mydła<br>(soap manufacture)                |



# The city of Cesena, Italy



Comune di Cesena

Cesena is situated in Northern Italy within the Emilia-Romagna Region, some 15 km from the Adriatic coast. Its geographical position – alongside the banks of the Savio river, surrounded by hills and located on a fertile plain close to the Adriatic coast – offered Cesena a perfect natural predisposition of a “bee friendly city”. In this context the city centre had many green areas planted with tillia and acacia trees, representing an un-exploited opportunity as one of the most important economic activities of the territory was agriculture, in particular crops, such as peaches, strawberries which strictly depend on the significant role of bees as pollinators. For all these reasons Cesena was the perfect place to endorse the BeePathNet project and transfer the Good Practice of the city of Ljubljana.

**Bees and pollinators, you are welcome in Cesena!**

**Yes, we can say it: Cesena is now a Bee-friendly city.**



Thanks to BeePathNet Cesena was able to boost some activities that were already in place and to use new energies and input and start fruitful collaborations between URBACT local group members. At the beginning we didn't expect that a small transfer project on urban beekeeping could turn out to be so much more:

- Education modules have been developed for kindergartens and primary schools with environmental associations;
- A city map with apitourism activities and shops is now available online and in hard copies at the Cesena tourist office;
- A high biodiversity zone has been established close to the Savio river in Cesena to implement a green corridor between the river and the urban forest that will be planted in upcoming years;
- Melliferous plant seeds have been distributed to citizens and are now blooming in various areas of the city centre and surroundings;
- For the first time, innovative beehives created by a local start-up will be set-up in public parks and green areas. Visits and beekeeping courses will be organised to all places linked to the world of bees;
- A communication campaign to increase awareness and to enhance the attitude towards bees has been carried out by the municipality in collaboration with the Bologna University, AFA – the beekeepers local association, the AUSL health local unit and the Agrarian high school institute;



- Bees have been demystified and the general public's perception of bees in the urban environment has changed, according to the 2 completed rounds of the awareness questionnaire;
- A collective-understanding of the meaning of “green and bee-friendly” has been built and will continue to be pursued.

These are only some of the numerous actions that have been put in place and represent the concrete proof that beekeeping is not only about bees and honey but can pervade each field of our life.

▲ Panorama of Rocca Malatestiana, photo: Cesena Archive

◀ Villa Cutri apiary in the centre of Cesena, photo: Maggese 201 Archive

▼ Beehives in the vicinity of Cesena, photo: AFA Archive

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f comunedicesena

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www.comune.cesena.fc.it/progettieuropi/beepath







**bee path net**

## LEGENDA

**APIARI**

- 1 Apicoltura Amaducci Oberdan
- 2 Nori Piero (fuori Mappa)
- 3 Giuseppe e Sabrina Moretti
- 4 Apicoltura Torri
- 5 Il Campo dei Fiori (fuori Mappa)
- 6 Istituto Tecnico Agrario (fuori Mappa)
- 7 La via del Colle (fuori Mappa)
- 8 Maggese 201
- 9 Orticà (fuori Mappa)

**AREE VERDI**

- 10 Area a sfalcio ridotto
- 11 Boschetto WWF
- 12 Frutteto dei Giardini "Darwin"
- 13 Giardini Pubblici

**MONUMENTI**

- 14 Abbazia del Monte
- 15 Biblioteca Malatestiana
- 16 Museo dell'Ecologia
- 17 Cattedrale di s. Giovanni Battista

**SUPPORTER**

- 18 Babbi café
- 19 BEEing
- 20 C. A. C.
- 21 Gelateria Leoni (di cui uno fuori Mappa)
- 22 Osteria Michiletta

**IAT - Ufficio Turistico Cesena**  
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 Tel. +39.0547. 356327  
 iat@comune.cesena.fc.it  
 www.cesenaturismo.it



# Hegyvidék – XII District of Budapest, Hungary



HEGYVIDÉKI  
ÖNKORMÁNYZAT

The Municipality of the XII District (Hegyvidék) is the local government body responsible for the administration of Budapest's greenest district, a hilly, partly suburban area in the western part of the Hungarian capital. As the greenest district, Hegyvidék has a huge responsibility to keep an eye on its greenery, to inform and communicate with the residents and to raise their awareness regarding environmental issues, which is why a Green Office, that is responsible for this complex role, had been established in 2016.

“Based on the main goals of Hegyvidék, joining the BeePathNet project was a great opportunity to address global and local environmental challenges from a different angle, while we could also involve and cooperate with the residents in this process.” said Zoltán Pokorni, the mayor of Hegyvidék, XII District of Budapest.

During the transfer process we learned how to further develop the activities that we already had as a district by involving relevant URBACT local group members and to find fruitful cooperation for both sides. We have created a diverse URBACT local group not just from the district but beyond and had regular meeting with them individually and as a group. We also involved them in some of the transnational meetings giving them an opportunity to experience the good practices.

It was quite evident that for the district to adapt the biodiversity module, we had to create a healthy, nutrient rich environment for pollinators in the urban area. We have created multiple bee pastures in small green public spaces, distributed melliferous plants, seeds and endemic fruit tree saplings for the public,

etc. by involving botanists, and other experts from our URBACT local group.

The “Awareness raising on the importance of pollinators and bees” module also had a key role. Using multiple communication channels (Facebook, local newspaper, posters, etc.) and organising lectures, festival events, thematic walks, we have reached the residents and other cities by involving cultural institutes, bee-keepers, biologists and other experts from our URBACT local group.

We have transferred the educational program with some modifications, adaptations into one of our kindergartens and had honey breakfasts with interactive programs in all institutes.

Together with our URBACT local group we have created a Hegyvidék Bee-friendly Network and a physical bee path with several stops in the district. In all the stops there are different activities working towards a pollinator friendly district by ensuring a healthier environment for pollinators and by educating people.

The transfer journey was challenging, exciting, instructive and fun. Learning and experiencing the good practices in a colourful international partnership gave us extra motivation to transfer this knowledge into our own local group. With the work of our URBACT local group we have successfully adapted the good practice and achieved even more than planned.



**“Less is more, more or less. You don’t have to think big in the case of supporting pollinators and bees, because with small changes, or by doing something less frequently (less mowing), you have already done that.”**

Attila Varga  
project coordinator

▲ Study visit in Budapest, photo: Archive of Hegyvidék – XXI District of Budapest

◀ Educational program in a kindergarten, photo: Archive of Hegyvidék – XXI District of Budapest

▼ Lecture about melliferous plants, photo: Archive of Hegyvidék – XXI District of Budapest



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f Hegyvidek

#### MORE INFO

<https://zold.hegyvidek.hu/mehbarat-halozat/halozat>

**“When more and more residents apply for our Stewardship program by saying they would like to plant bee-friendly plants in public spaces, I realised it means that we are doing a good job.”**

Nóra Laki  
URBACT local group  
coordinator



# HEGYVIDÉKI MÉHBARÁT HÁLÓZAT



1. DINPI SAS-HEGYI LÁTOGATÓKÖZPONT
2. ALKOTÁS MÉHLEGELO
3. MOM KULTURÁLIS KÖZPONT
4. HEGYVIDÉKI KULTURÁLIS SZALON
5. ZÖLD IRODA
6. HEGYVIDÉKI ÖNKORMÁNYZAT ZÖLDTETŐ
7. CSERTÖLGY FASOR
8. ISTENHEGYI RÉZSŰ
9. SZENT ORBÁN MÉHLEGELO
10. VÁRI MEDENCE
11. VÁROSMAJORI ÓVODA
12. BARABÁS VILLA
13. ROSKOVICS MÉHLEGELO
14. ALSÓ-SZABASÁGHEGY MEDENCE
15. FELSŐ-SZABASÁGHEGY MEDENCE
16. CSERMELY TAGÓVODA
17. HEGYVIDÉKI HELYTÖRTÉNETI GYŰJTEMÉNY
18. DAYKA MEDENCE
19. MANDULÁS LEVENDULÁS - MINDSZENTY JÓZSEF BÍBOROS TÉR
20. MANDULÁS LEVENDULÁS - KÁZMÉR ÚT
21. BORBÁS ZALÁN MÉHÉSZET
22. KUTASI TAMÁS MÉHÉSZET



# HEGYVIDÉKI MÉHBARÁT HÁLÓZAT



Hogy mennyire egészséges egy élettel, azt az ott előforduló beporzó rovarok száma jól mutatja.

Életünk, növény- és állatvilágunk sokszínűségéhez, a zöldek, gyümölcsök megtermeléséhez elengedhetetlenek a méhek és más beporzó rovarok. Ezek száma az utóbbi években világszinten is riasztóan csökkent. Annak érdekében, hogy ezek a létfontosságú kis állatok a Hegyvidéken is megfelelő otthonra lehessenek, létrejött a **Méhbarát Kerület programunk**, melynek keretében megalakult a **Hegyvidéki Méhbarát Hálózat**.

A történetünk egy elhatározással kezdődött. Felismerve kerületünk csodálatos adottságait és a beporzó rovarokat fenyegető veszélyeket, valamint azt a természetszeretettel, amely nemcsak az önkormányzatban, hanem a Hegyvidéken élőkben, sőt a kerületünkbe látogatókban is megvan, fejünkbe vettük, hogy a lakókkal és a szakemberekkel együttműködésben méhbarattá, beporzóbarattá varázsoljuk a Hegyvidéket.

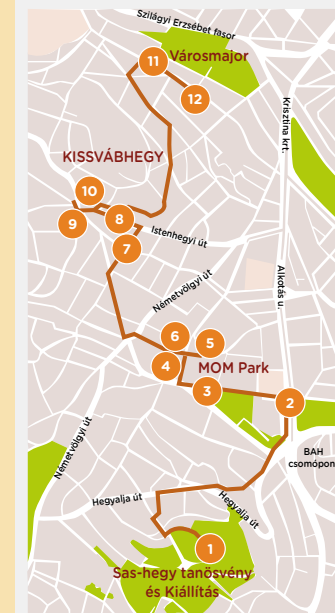
Első lépésben belevágtunk a **BeePathNet projektbe**, hogy tanuljunk a nemzetközi projektet vezető Ljubljana önkormányzatától, és a kerületünk igényeire szabva átvegyük a szlovén főváros jó gyakorlatát: egy városi méhészettel kapcsolatos hálózat kiépítését és sikeres működtetését. Emellett a projekt keretében tudást és tapasztalatot gyűjtünk és osztunk meg - Ljubljana mellett - a projektben résztvevő további négy európai várossal is.

A Hegyvidéki Méhbarát Hálózat már ezen tudás alapján alakult meg és fejlődik tovább.

A Méhbarát Kerület programot azért hoztuk létre, mert hiszünk benne, hogy a városi környezetben is lehet övni és segíteni a beporzó rovarokat, meg lehet ismerkedni és össze lehet barátkozni velük. A kerületünkben sok a kert, sok a közösen használt zöldfelület is, így nincs más dolgunk, mint kicsit jobban megnyitni ezeket a területeket a természetnek, természetközelivé tenni ezeket a helyeket.

A Hálózat működésének eredményessége a tagok (a szakemberek és a lakók) tevékenységeinek, valamint a lakosság nyitott, ösztönző hozzáállásának köszönhető.

Tegyünk együtt a beporzó rovarokért! Csatlakozzon Ön is hozzánk és legyen a Hegyvidéki Méhbarát Hálózat tagja!



## MÉHBARÁT ÁLLOMÁSOK

1. DINPI Sas-hegyi Látogatóközpont - Tájék u. 26. (XI. kerület) • 30 hektárnyi védett terület; a beporzó rovarokról szóló oktatási program; vezetett séták a biológiai sokféleség jegyében

Méhlegelek - 2. Alkotás utca - Györi út, 9. Szent Orbán tér, 13. Roskovics utca - Ráth György utca • a növények virágport és édes növényi nedveket, gazdag, változatos és egészséges táplálékot kínálnak a beporzó rovaroknak; Sipos József növényorvossal, méhészrel együttműködésben

3. MOM Kulturális Központ - Csörsz u. 18. • Mi méheink programcsorozatot gyermekeknek

4. Hegyvidéki Kulturális Szalon - Torpe u. 2. • Szabó Olivér rendszeres méhészeti előadása és mézvásár; levendulákert

5. Hegyvidéki Zöld Iroda - Kiss János altábornagy u. 43-45. • a Méhbarát Kerület Programot koordináló iroda; beporzóbarát programok: pl. kedvezményes gyümölcsfásítás; a természetközeli kertek kialakítását díjazó pályázat, közterületi zöldfelületek örökfelfogadása

6. Hegyvidéki Önkormányzat - Böszörményi út 23-25. • Méhbarát Kerület Program megvalósítása; extenzív bemutató zöldséte

7. Csertölgly fasor - Nárcisz u. 1-3. • kísérleti program: csertölgly suhángokból faszor; a Nemzetközi Dendrológiai Alapítvánnyal együttműködésben

8. Istenhegyi rézsű - Városi kaszáló - Istenhegyi út - Határőr út • évi kétszeri, kézi kaszálással az eredeti, természetközeli gyeppévétele visszaállítása, az őshonos növényzet helyreállítása

Vízmű telephelyek 10. Szent Orbán tér 1, 14. Tűscsök u. 1, 15. Eötvös út 26-28A, 18. Dayka Gábor 70. (XI. kerület) • beporzóbarát területkezelés a Fővárosi Vízművek több telephelyén; a korábbi ötről évi két alkalomra csökkent a kaszálások száma

11. Városmajori Óvodák és 16. Csermely Tagóvoda - Városmajor u. 59/b, Csermely u. 8. • méhbarát oktatási program: tavaszról őszi játszóvár tanulás a zümmögő barátainkról

12. Barabás Villa - Városmajor u. 44. • Mi méheink programcsorozatot az Iskolaméhészet Kezdeményezéssel együttműködésben

17. Hegyvidéki Helytörténeti Gyűjtemény - Zugligeti út 64. • kerületünk gazdag méhészeti hagyományát ismerhetjük meg a Hegyvidéki Helytörténeti Gyűjtemény története segítségével

Mandulás-levendulások - 19. Mindszenty József bíboros tér; 20. Kázmér út - Kázmér lejtő koratvaszi-nyár méhlegelek; mandulafák, mézesfák, levendulák; a Nemzetközi Dendrológiai Alapítvánnyal együttműködésben

21. Borbás Zalán méhészete - Kázmér út 15. • a méhészetben élő méhek a nektárt és a virágport vegyszermentes, tiszta levegőjű környezetben gyűjtik

22. Kutasi Tamás méhészete - Eötvös út • itt készül a Normafa méze

Az állomások külön-külön és az alább javasolt útvonal részeként is meglátogathatók.

1. DINPI Sas-hegyi Látogatóközpont - 2. Méhlegelek Alkotás utca - Györi út - 3. MOM Kulturális Központ - 4. Hegyvidéki Kulturális Szalon - 5. Hegyvidéki Zöld Iroda - 6. Hegyvidéki Önkormányzat - 7. Csertölgly fasor Nárcisz utca - 8. Istenhegyi rézsű - Városi kaszáló - 9. Méhlegelek Szent Orbán tér és 10. Vári medence Szent Orbán tér - 11. Városmajori Óvoda - 12. Barabás Villa

Az állomásokhoz kapcsolódó kiadványaink elérhetők a Hegyvidéki Önkormányzat honlapján.



## Elérhetőségek:

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 Facebook oldal: <https://www.facebook.com/Hegyvidek/> • BeePathNet projekt honlap: [www.urbact.eu/beepathnet](http://www.urbact.eu/beepathnet)  
 BeePathNet Facebook oldal: <https://www.facebook.com/BeePathNet/>

# The city of Nea Propontida, Greece



»BeePathNet is an action network that can strengthen our local economy by aiming to promote local bee products. Through the creation of the »Bee Path«, we also created a proposal for an alternative form of tourism and at the same time a powerful educational tool about biodiversity, sustainability and nutritional adequacy provided by pollinators in cities. In addition, it is headed in the direction of promoting an agricultural model in balance and coexistence with the pollinators«.

Emmanouil Karras  
Mayor of the Municipality of Nea Propontida



The Municipality of Nea Propontida decided to transfer Ljubljana's Good Practice on Urban Beekeeping in accordance with the 'Transfer Plan', it toured and wandered the magical paths of understanding and learning about issues related to sustainable urban development, biodiversity conservation and alternative economic growth prospects.

Significant benefits for the municipality, achieved through this transfer process, were the use of new tools in policy-making such as the implementation of the bottom-up participatory process, the development of new communication channels and raising public awareness on environmental issues such as the contribution of pollinators to a healthy environment and humanity's dependence on pollinators for biodiversity maintenance and adequacy of food.

The establishment of the "Bee Path" was linked to environmentally friendly plans and actions which will ultimately change our city to a greener city, that is friendly to bees and other pollinators.

The 'Bee Path in Nea Propontida' is a new product with both educational and economic benefits. The creation of the »Bee Path« intends to trigger and motivate the competent bodies to implement a new alternative form of tourism in our region: Apitourism. This form of tourism can support local beekeepers and promote bee products. The physical 'Bee Path' in Nea Propontida includes a permanent beekeeping exhibition, theme park, educational games and structures, information kiosks, bee nests, artworks in public buildings, an annual honey festival and a local bee products marketplace.



The 'Bee Path in the Chalkidiki Region' is a broader path that incorporates key natural and cultural heritage sites connected with the »Bee Path story«. A specially designed "Bee Path Guide" map and brochure with all of the above-mentioned points are available to anyone interested.

**Apitourism was introduced and discussed as a serious and valuable alternative tourism approach for the first time in Greece.**

**The first urban beehive was setup on the roof of the City Hall. The prevailing negative opinion of people about the existence of bees in an urban environment started to change.**

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#### MORE INFO

<https://bit.ly/2V5UcZE>

◀ The Bee Sculpture, photo: Charalambos Toumbekis

▲ The URBACT local group of Nea Propontida during an event about Apitourism in the Anel Honey Park visiting apiary, photo: Nea Propontida BeePathNet archive

▲ Establishment of bee nests, photo: Nea Propontida BeePathNet archive

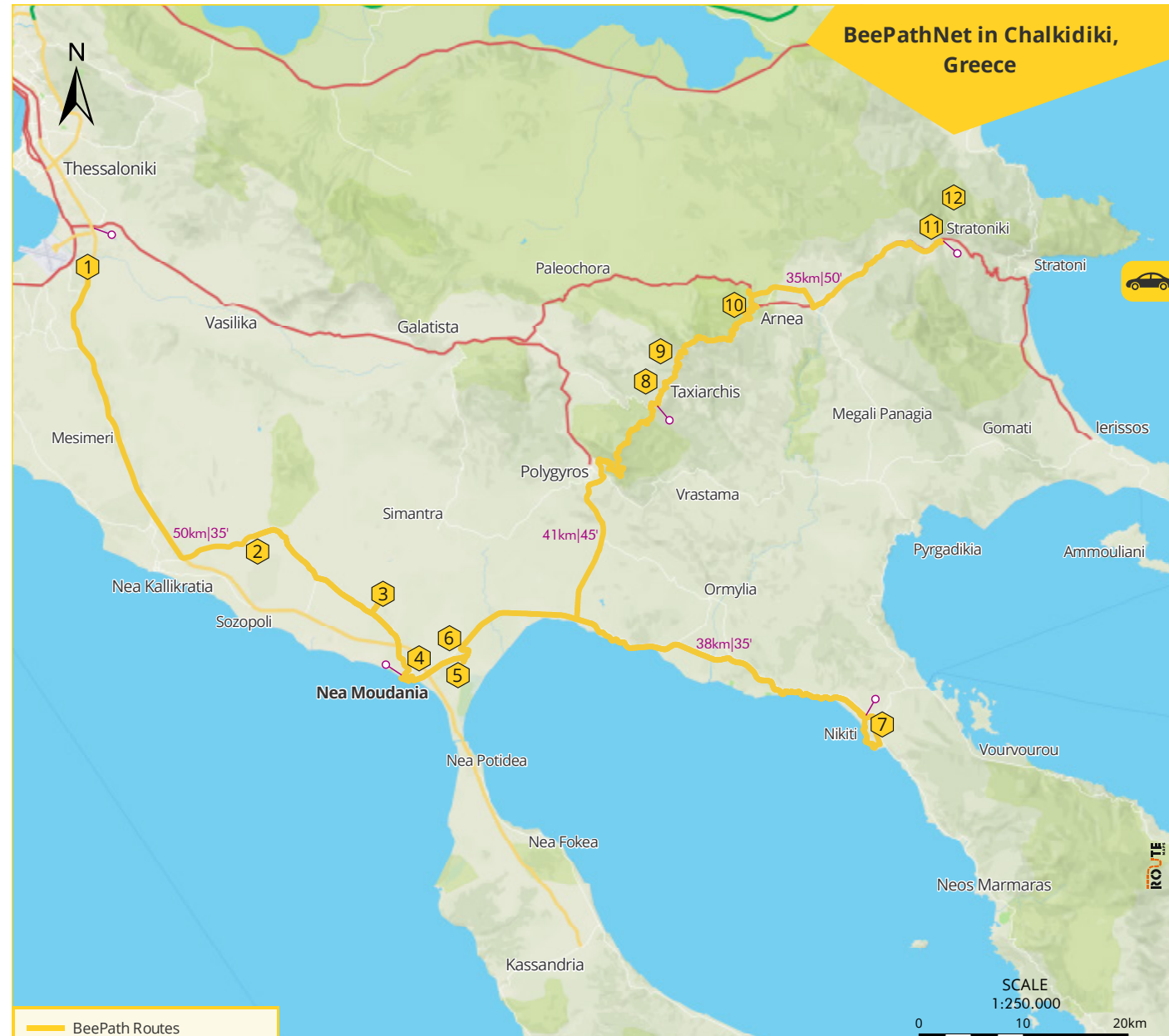


## BeePathNet in Nea Moudania, Greece



Main Bee attractions' route	'Meloida' store	Education and play corner
Biodiversity route	The Bee Sculpture	Biodiversity Info point
Educational route	Patisserie Giantays	Beekeeping supplies shop Info point
City Hall of Nea Proponida Info point	Levander lane	Kindergarten School Paintings on the walls
Central Square Info point	Painted walls	Man & Environment Info point
Halkidiki Tours	Wild bees' B&B	Hexagon garden with melliferous plants
	Hexagonal Bee Observation House	Educational corner/ The trill game/ The hexagonal 'petals' floor game
	Museum of Fisheries and boats & Beekeeping history	Bee Hotels and info points

## BeePathNet in Chalkidiki, Greece



BeePath Routes	Anel Honey Park	Nea Moudania- Bee Sculpture	Beekeeping Cooperative SITHON	Center of Environmental Education of Arnaia
Aeroclub PIGASOS	Apiculture Department	Passion Honey BeeDay	Aristotele's Park	Wildlife Sanctuary
Nursery for Aromatic Plants	Vagio Agrofarms	Aristotelian University's Museum of Forestry		



# 3 The evolution steps toward a Bee-friendly city

Ljubljana's BEE PATH good practice was transferred into five very diverse EU cities covering the majority of climate conditions for beekeeping, various types of bees, as well as different situations related to the public perception of bees among the general public. Very diverse yet excellent results in partner cities, confirmed the transferability of the BEE PATH good practice.

To support this process in other cities partners developed two key tools: guidelines on transfer modules and a library of thematic newsletters. Nevertheless, we invite you to follow us on social media Facebook and Twitter.

## Transfer modules guidelines

In the guidelines on transfer modules you will find the description of BeePathNet partnership transfer journey and detailed instructions for the development of urban beekeeping. In them you will find the answers on how to:

- Enrich urban biodiversity and enable bees to live in the city
- Address citizens to accept bees as neighbours
- Build the local community's awareness about the importance of pollinators
- Develop and implement bee-friendly activities in the city
- Support local producers and develop short supply chains
- Develop a Bee Path in your own city
- Establish API kindergartens and API schools
- Foster innovative bee-entrepreneurship
- Attract green thinking visitors
- ...and sooo much more! ☺

The guidelines have four parts, following the transfer logic – first we present Ljubljana's BEE PATH good practice (evolution), this is followed by the description of two essential methodical approaches. Then comes the main part with the six key thematic modules of the BeePathNet good practice described in detail and supported with partner cities good practices and some tips and tricks. And at the end we reveal how we did it – by looking into the background of the transfer journey.

## Evolution: from the City of Ljubljana's BEE PATH to BeePathNet

Creators of the City of Ljubljana's BEE PATH did not stop with just at physical touristic path but evolved it into a network of different stakeholders, developed educational programs and a beekeeping related "THINK-TANK"...

Rewarded with the URBACT good practice award, Ljubljana decided to transfer its BEE PATH good practice into five EU cities covering the majority of climate conditions for beekeeping, various types of bees, as well as different situations related to the public perception of bees among the general public. Very diverse yet excellent results in partner cities, confirmed the transferability of the BEE PATH good practice.

## Two essential methodological approaches

To ensure transferability four vital obligatory modules were designed, with additional six voluntary modules (i.e., education, biodiversity, etc.) supporting them. Each city is free to choose which voluntary modules to transfer. However, our transfer partners proved that, at some point in the future, you will implement them all.

Before you take a deep dive into any of the modules you need to internalise the **participatory approach**. We firmly believe that this is the only way for urban beekeeping in your city to exceed the status of "just another project" and develop into a Bee-friendly city movement. This inclusive multidimensional communication of individuals, organizations and government entities will certainly result in very diverse and above all sustainable actions. We have also included some recommendations on how to organize your local action group.

## The key thematic modules of the BeePathNet good practice

Experts from cities of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Amaranate (Portugal), Bydgoszcz (Poland), Cesena (Italy), XII District of Budapest – Hegyvidék (Hungary) and Nea Propontida (Greece) developed six thematic modules:

- **Biodiversity** – the cornerstone of the Bee Path good practice
- **Education** – investing into our future
- **Tourism and city Bee Paths** – creating a bee story and building a Bee Path in the city
- **Development of bee products in the Bee Path** – endless possibilities for innovation and creation of green jobs
- **Awareness raising** – from a project to a Bee-friendly movement in the city
- **Swarming** – Adaptation of humans to the habits of city bees

Each module consists of a presentation on how Ljubljana did it and a case study from one of our partner cities. You will also find some useful tips and tricks at the end.

## How we did it – look into the background of the transfer journey

In this sort of "behind the scenes" chapter we are publishing interviews with Mr. Klemen Strmšnik, the BeePathNet lead expert and mag. Vesna Erhart, the BeePathNet network communication officer. They revealed some of the backstage secrets of the transfer process while providing some useful transfer journey conclusions and communication tactics.

If you want good things to happen, you must say "Yes!!!" first and then take the first step.

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## Thematic newsletters

During our two- and half-year journey we “built up” the library with thematic newsletters on Biodiversity, Education, Awareness raising, Tourism, the World Bee Day celebration 2020 and partner cities’ Bee paths providing the redline article on the theme supported with some scientific articles – Brainy Bee. In News from Bee cities and What is buzzing up – inspiring stories from partner cities on partnership meetings, promotion and dissemination can be found, and we spiced up the newsletters with cute, surprising, appealing short stories to communicate the importance of bees to the general public – Amazzzing facts about Bees. To get closer to local people these newsletters were translated into 7 languages.

You can find our newsletters library at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1baqDUih94ZTMkLscrQY93DhRKtDinoAd>

Newsletters’ thematic articles:

- **Bees and pollination** are important factors for biodiversity as well as in the economy
- **Teaching the youngest** to take care of the environment will green each street of your city
- **Awareness raising in the Anthropocene:** defending the bees is defending ourselves
- **Apitourism** an alternative, enjoyable and challenging activity for demanding citizens and tourists!
- **World Bee Day 2020 – #BeTheBee!**
- **The power of Honey**
- **Walk on a Bee Path and learn a city Bee Story**



BeePathNet partners in front of the educational beehive in the University Botanic gardens Ljubljana, photo: BeePathNet archive

BeePathNet project lead partner:



Mestna občina Ljubljana  
*City of Ljubljana*

BeePathNet project transfer cities:



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