

First Edition,

June 2023

Welcome to BioAgora's first newsletter!



A word from our project coordinator:

Hello and welcome to BioAgora's first newsletter! We are a Horizon Europe-funded project aimed at bridging the gap between biodiversity research and decision-making in the EU. Our objective is to create a Science Service for Biodiversity that will connect scientists, knowledge holders, and policymakers to support the EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. We aim to drive transformative changes for biodiversity integrating science and policy in innovative ways by: showing practical demonstration cases, analysing the existing Science-Policy Interface, and building capacity and engaging with the most relevant stakeholders. Since its launch date in July 2022, BioAgora has made significant progress as this newsletter highlights. We are excited to share our journey with you and keep you informed of our future achievements.

Greetings,

Kati Vierikko, Syke Project coordinator Watch our introductory video "BioAgora: Connecting biodiversity with decisionmaking"



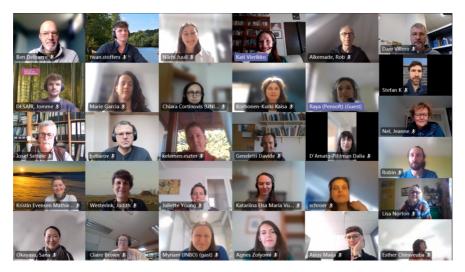
BioAgora news



How BioAgora works with Europe

The implementation of the European Green Deal, the EU Biodiversity Strategy, the Horizon Programme and the KCBD is managed by the European Commission. Therefore, the primary cooperating partners for BioAgora are to be found within the EC; more precisely it concerns the Directorates-General for Environment, for Research and Innovation, and Joint Research Centre. Find out more about BioAgora's close collaboration with European institutions in the <u>news article</u> on our website.

Overview of BioAgora activities to date:



<u>BioAgora's consortium meeting: a productive exchange</u> between project partners

BioAgora's Consortium Assembly meeting was held on 21 March 2023. This was the third consortium meeting of the project after the initial online Kick-off in July 2022, and the in-person meeting in Helsinki, Finland in November 2022. Find out how the meeting proceeded on <u>BioAgora's website!</u>

BioAgora's high-level external advisory board

The role of the External Advisory Board (EAB) is to help ensuring BioAgora develops the Science Service for Biodiversity functions and provide independent external advice on BioAgora strategic directions and transformative dimensions of the Science Service for Biodiversity. BioAgora's EAB is composed of 9 members who have been selected considering their expertise, field of experience, and gender (at least 50 % women).

bioagora Developing SSBD Functions

First Fast Request

Developing SSBD Functions: First Fast Request

BioAgora is currently developing and piloting the functions of the Science Service for Biodiversity (SSBD), which, for example, will include Horizon Scanning and Research Prioritization, Building Topical Networks, and the Answering Requests function, to encompass indepth processes of response as well as the possibility to answer to the so called Fast Request.

This particular sub-function is developed at the request of the European Commission, in order to have a reliable way to organise participatory processes or consultations on biodiversity-related themes, or to obtain a variety of outputs, like visuals or peer-reviewed knowledge synthesis, in a timely fashion, so to play a role on identified issues in developing policy processes.

EU Biodiversity Platform (EUBP) and Sub-groups	
Nature Directives	Monitoring & Assessment
Reporting under the Nature Directives	Pollinators
Marine issues	Invasive Alien Species
Forests and Nature	Green Infrastructure & Restoration

<u>BioAgora has</u> nominated observers for the EU Biodiversity Platform

BioAgora has been officially nominated as an observer to the EU Biodiversity Platform (EUBP). The consortium has selected 17 experts and researchers to step in as BioAgora observers in the EUBP and its sub-groups.

BioAgora presents:

We launched a new series of news articles on our website exploring relevant projects with the aim of fostering synergies and knowledge exchange! The first two articles on Transpath, BIONEXT and CO-OP4CBD are already published with more news about relevant



The BIONEXT project

BIONEXT is a research and innovation project that joins the fight for nature and biodiversity. The project produces new evidence to better understand biodiversity loss and demonstrates how biodiversity underpins every aspect of life, the air we breathe, the food we eat, and our health.



The TRANSPATH project

The new TRANSPATH project will identify leverage points and interventions for triggering transformative changes at consumer, producer and organisational levels through inclusive deliberation.



The CO-OP4CBD project

CO-OP4CBD is a Horizon Europe project aiming to enhance coordination of the EU support to advance the implementation of the CBD, and in doing so make more effective use of existing expertise and initiatives.

Events



Biodiversity boost: A cluster of projects working on transformative change is established



<u>Alternet</u> <u>Summer School</u>



IUFRO Forest Environment DIV8 Conference



Upcoming consortium meeting

BioAgora's upcoming consortium meeting will be held on 11-12 October in Leipzig, Germany.

Project outputs



D1.1 Typology of challenges

The BioAgora consortium has conducted an evidence-based analysis of the challenges that may hinder the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Eight key challenges categories were identified by our team and reported in BioAgora's Typology of challenges (Deliverable D1.1).



D6.3 Gender Equality Plan

The BioAgora consortium has published its initial gender and equality action plan (Deliverable D6.3). Equality and nondiscrimination are an essential part of human resources policy and of a good working community at all levels of institutions and projects.

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