



BeePathNet - Reloaded

## Final Transfer Report

The City of Bergamo



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. The purpose of the Final Report

The purpose of this report is to ensure an understanding and an appropriate documentation of the entire process within which BeePathNet-Reloaded project developed in Bergamo: it will be a useful tool for evaluating the investment that has been made by URBACT but it is also going to be for us an important record of what happened during these 18<sup>th</sup> months of efforts and satisfactions, to ensure we will be able to capitalize on such an effort and to learn from this very positive experience.

The Final Report includes a reflection on the transformation that has taken place on an individual, institutional and city level.

## 1.2. WE MADE IT! BUT HOW DID WE DO IT?

All what is described here derives from the previous efforts we made to reflect on the project progress within the Quarterly Transfer City Reports and on the Quarterly Network Report that was made by our Lead Expert, Klemen Strmsnik. In this document we are therefore summarize and interpret what was written in the previous documents we produced to monitor the project development.

## 1.3. A city level transfer story

How did we start? And where exactly did we begin? Which ideas did we have in mind?

This is how we presented a picture of our mindset at the beginning of the adventure:

### 1.2. Briefly about our aspirations in the project

Being the process led by the Municipality of Bergamo with its Botanical Garden all the expertise of this cultural institution can be driven into the project.

The city of Bergamo needs to become aware of the needs connected with sustainability issues in a highly urbanized context (food security, biodiversity loss, green areas vs paved areas, climate change fight, mitigation and adaptation) and therefore the past experience of the botanic garden in biodiversity conservation and education can be exploited. Besides this, Bergamo Botanic Garden can be the perfect institution for driving a long-living process which will go beyond the end of BeePathNet-Reloaded best practice thanks to the participative approach used in the development of many initiatives set in the last years.

Bergamo city has a specific motivation for being involved in the network, namely the interest of the public administration in promoting the transition to a greener town. Sustainable development has been taken into consideration as a powerful innovation driver as it affects many sectors, from the economic ones (tourism, agriculture, services) to the social ones (social farming, ethical commerce, education). Just to name a specific issue, the actual administration is moving the first passes on the theme of "depaving", which has many connections with urban management, and the urban development plan will be soon adopted.

The specific features of this project (its desire to promote a movement which lasts beyond the end of the European funding) makes it interesting for many stakeholders that identify themselves in the values promoted by the triggered process.

What is probably even more interesting in the actual transfer process mechanism is the involvement of many stakeholders that are asked to share duties and take responsibility roles in order to put in place specific and concrete actions which will benefit all the actors of the URBACT Local Group. There is a convergence of objectives that makes the project attractive and that might be the driving force for the project itself to last a long time.

As a result, Bergamo expects to bring in a best practice which will shape some aspects of the city, of the minds of its citizens and which will improve the quality of life in an area with a complicated situation for what concerns sustainability issues: this will make this experience more challenging but will also give hope to solve similar problems in other urban situations in Europe.



Needs connected with sustainability issues, Sustainable development as a powerful innovation driver, promoting a movement, involvement of many stakeholders, share duties, take responsibility roles, convergence of objectives, best proactive which will shape some aspects of the city, improve the quality of life, experience more challenging: these are the words, extracted from chapter 1.2 of our first Quarterly City Report, that tell you about the beginning. And we also would say they also tell you about the end, because after this 18<sup>th</sup> months' adventure we still see ourselves mirrored in them.

After three months our sailing trip had started and we were in the middle of the ocean, with waves, sometimes little storms, but also with a lot of sunshine:

been moving forward: the 'Active partnership establishment and management' (good practice number 1) is taking more time than thought because the ULG is made of many participants and has grown since its

the person to which the Botanic Garden refers to for its administration) the communication process inside the municipality offices is proceeding smoothly and so far now good support has been granted in involving

and primary schools and Biodiversity maintenance) a little more time is needed for the ULG to become

protagonist and to define tasks among members. This will happen concretely from January onwards, even if

In addition, some extra actions have been thought and developed;

What apparently seems difficult to achieve, differently from what we expected, is the development of a local product promotion and

a decision was taken to split the ULG in 3 thematic sub-groups each,

Group Habitat -- a set of possible locations where to perform interventions or

Group Culture -- three are the actions foreseen by this group:

Group Beekeeping and Food: the group initially discussed the possibility of defining a local brand for Bergamo Honey but beekeepers are not sure the production in the city is enough to sustain a branding project. This group needs more time to define the actions to be undertaken.

At this point there were so many ideas and every idea was in a cloud: with the beginning of the year, we felt there was a need for actions to be put in place, therefore we summarized all the ideas that had come up and we made as many workgroups as many ideas had been developed, in order to be able to be more actionable.

Therefore, we came up with a list of 35 actions: it was a number! We knew it would be hard to develop them all, and in fact some of them turned out to be non-feasible, but what we did not expect was that the passion of our ULG members and the interest the project had lit would bring in new stakeholders and new ideas that finally increased this list!

Planned actions	Stakeholders involved	Effectively carried out actions	Period
Local intervention: via Tasso	Arketipos, Municipality green areas offices	PARTIALLY	spring 2022
Local intervention: Grumellina	Arketipos, Municipality green areas offices	NO	
local intervention: Sentiero dei Vasi e altre aree Parco dei Colli	Parco dei Colli	YES	spring/summer 2022
Beehotel placement: zona Malpensata	Rotary Terre di San Marco	YES	summer 2022
Local intervention: via Goisis	ReteGas Bergamo	NO	
Local intervention: at Brolo dei Frati	Associazione Vivere Longuelo together with municipality green areas service	YES	spring 2022
Local intervention: Parco EON	Legambiente association	YES	spring 2022
Local intervention: Parco del Quintino	Orti del Parco del Quintino association	YES	spring 2022
Beehotel contest	Ruah cooperative, Arketipos	YES	summer/autumn 2022
Local intervention: CSC di Fontana	La Scatola delle idee	NO	
New strategy planning for mosquito treatments in the city	Ecology service of Bergamo municipality, Museo di Scienze Naturali.	YES	spring 2022
Testing of different seed mixes for flowery meadows: Valle della Biodiversità dell'Orto Botanico	Botanic Garden, Seme Nostrum	YES	spring/summer 2022
Testing seed mixes for flowery meadows: Valle d'Astino in area Lino	Linificio e Canapificio Nazionale, Botanic Garden, Seme Nostrum	YES	spring/summer 2022
Testing of different seed mixes for flowery meadowso	Municipality green areas offices, Botanic Garden	NO	spring/summer 2022
Collecting entomophilous plants seeds and creating seed pockets for distribution in public events	Botanic Garden Volunteers	YES	spring/summer 2022
Implementing ecological corridors in urban areas	Bergamo municipality: green areas sector, environment municipality, Servizio Ambiente (Strategia vs Cambiamenti Climatici), Orto Botanico (progetto Boschetti Scolastici)	YES	spring/summer 2022
Dialogue with farmers about herbicides in agriculture	Coldiretti, Confagricoltura Biodistretto, Parco dei Colli	NO	
Communication: strategy and communication campaign	Orto Botanico, Linificio Italiano, Mammafotogramma	YES	spring/summer 2022
Schools: teachers training	Ufficio Scolastico Provinciale, ApiBergamo, Orto Botanico	YES	spring 2022





Schools: modular package for primary schools and kindergartens	Ufficio Scolastico Provinciale, ApiBg, Associazione Amici dell'Orto Botanico , Coldiretti, Confagricoltura, Slow Food Bergamo, Pastorale Sociale del Lavoro, - Cooperativa Sociale Alchimia, Ambasciatori dei Mieli, Associazione Mercato & Cittadinanza, Museo Scienze Naturali Caffi; Legambiente - Accademia Carrara	YES	spring/summer/autumn 2022
Schools: support for project 'Scuola Amica delle Api' development with Istituto Comprensivo 'I Mille' di Longuelo	Ist. Comprensivo 'I Mille'., Botanic Garden	YES	spring 2022
Schools: job-school project with Secondary Schools Einaudi Dalmine and Liceo Manzù Bergamo	Botanic Garden	YES	spring 2022
Scuole: Inserimento moduli su biodiversità ed impollinatori nel percorso di formazione docenti dell'Istituto Secondario Superiore 'Don Milani' di Romano di Lombardia	Botanic Garden and Rete Orti Botanici della Lombardia	YES	spring 2022
Schools: Parco dei Colli collaboration to project 'Impollina Bergamo' by Secondary School Natta	Parco dei Colli	YES	spring 2022
Schools: Ischool project	association Amici dell'Orto Botanico	YES	spring 2022
Touristic beehpath	Visit Bergamo, Associazione Culturale Guide Turistiche Città di Bergamo, Associazione Bergamo su e giù, Agiat Guide, FAI Palazzo Moroni, Parco dei Colli, Museo di Scienze Naturali Caffi.	YES	spring/summer/autumn 2022
Events calendar at the Botanic Garden	Botanic Garden, ApiBg association	YES	autumn 2021, winter/spring/summer 2022
Melliferous plants in the catalogue of regional nurseries ERSAF	Botanic Garden	NO	
World Bee Day, events calendar	ULG members	YES	spring/summer 2022
Resolution to become part of the national network of befriendly cities	Botanic Garden, Green areas municipality offices	PARTIALLY	autumn 2022
Study of melliferous flora in Bergamo city	Association Gruppo Flora Alpina Bergamasca	YES	spring/summer 2022
Beehives in the city: setting of an educational beehive at Bergamo Botanic Garden	ApiBg association, Botanic Garden	YES	spring 2022
Beehives in the city: setting of an educational beehive at Museo Caffi	Museum Natural Science Caffi; ApiBG association , Botanic Garden	YES	spring 2022

Brochure for matching cheese ad honey	Botanic Garden, APIBG Association, Branzi cheese farm	YES	summer/autumn 2022
Citizens involvement in Grumello al Piano neighbourhood	Arketipos, Bergamo Botanic Garden, Neighbourhood Networks	YES	spring/summer 2022

Therefore, the months of April, May and June came, and we had the terrific experience of seeing things happen!

And in fact, in the third trimester the table presenting our progress looked like this:

## 1. → OUR PROGRESS

### BEE-PATH-good-practice-transfer-progress-in-the-transfer-City-of-Bergamo-in-March-2022

GOOD-PRACTICE-MODULES	GOOD-PRACTICE-TOPIC-DEVELOPMENT-STEPS	OUR-GOOD-PRACTICE-TRANSFER-ASPIRATIONS	
OBLIGATORY	Active-partnership-establishment-and-management	1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of key stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mobilization of key stakeholders (1 <sup>st</sup> autonomous meeting) / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Building enthusiastic atmosphere and providing support on regular meetings / 4 <sup>th</sup> Identification of individual stakeholder goals, capacities and preparedness for cooperation / 5 <sup>th</sup> Definition of a yearly ULG action plan, roles and responsibilities / 6 <sup>th</sup> Guidance in yearly ULG action plan implementation / 7 <sup>th</sup> Achieving synergy effects without involvement of the ULGCR	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Definition of key administration departments/sectors and their roles / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gaining operational support / 3 <sup>rd</sup> On-going communication with city administration (briefing) / 4 <sup>th</sup> Regulating urban beekeeping and integrating it into the strategic urban context / 5 <sup>th</sup> Strengthening political support	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of target groups / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Communication and awareness rising strategy / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Development of communication tools (e.g. web site, social networks, local news, etc.) / 4 <sup>th</sup> Regular publication of news and contents, giving interviews, etc. / 5 <sup>th</sup> Organization and implementation of yearly awareness rising and promotional events, exhibitions, lectures, etc. / 6 <sup>th</sup> Organization of beekeeping symposiums / 7 <sup>th</sup> Organizing international beekeeping conferences	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of interested key stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Identification of key natural and cultural heritage points / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Design of the Bee-Path and marking of points / 4 <sup>th</sup> Creation of the "story" behind the Bee-Path / 5 <sup>th</sup> Creation of the Bee-Path guide (e.g. book, brochure, leaflet, etc.) / 6 <sup>th</sup> Design of a Bee-Path tourist package / 7 <sup>th</sup> Education of tourist guides and interpreters in the city	
		1 <sup>st</sup> In-depth understanding of existing educational system and needs of target groups / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Development of educational programmes concepts together with key stakeholders from ULG / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Involvement of relevant experts & institutions with development of educational programmes / 4 <sup>th</sup> Pilot implementation of educational programmes through involvement of teachers / 5 <sup>th</sup> Full implementation of educational programmes	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Awareness-raising campaign linked to promotion of planting of autochthonous melliferous plants in green areas / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Distribution of seeds and seedlings to citizens and planting of autochthonous melliferous plants with key target groups / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Awareness-raising campaign linked to importance of wild pollinators / 4 <sup>th</sup> Set-up of wild pollinator hotels / 5 <sup>th</sup> Organization of biodiversity conferences	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of potentially interested stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Guidance in bee-product development with entrepreneurship education / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Support in development of business ideas and plans / 4 <sup>th</sup> Establishment and organization of promotion events	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of potential locations (properties in ownership of the city) / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Identification of potentially interested stakeholders / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Development of a conceptual & organizational design of a local product promotion and selling point / 4 <sup>th</sup> Establishment of a local product promotion and selling point / 5 <sup>th</sup> Operationalization of a local product promotion and selling point		
	1 <sup>st</sup> Agreement on organization of the bee-swarming SOS service with key stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Operationalization of the bee-swarming SOS service / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Awareness raising and promotion of the bee-swarming SOS service / 4 <sup>th</sup> Development and pilot implementation of the bee-swarming SOS service / 5 <sup>th</sup> Operationalization of the bee-swarming SOS service		
	VOLUNTARY	Biodiversity-maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> Awareness-raising campaign linked to promotion of planting of autochthonous melliferous plants in green areas / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Distribution of seeds and seedlings to citizens and planting of autochthonous melliferous plants with key target groups / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Awareness-raising campaign linked to importance of wild pollinators / 4 <sup>th</sup> Set-up of wild pollinator hotels / 5 <sup>th</sup> Organization of biodiversity conferences
		Support-mechanisms-for-new-bee-products	1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of potentially interested stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Guidance in bee-product development with entrepreneurship education / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Support in development of business ideas and plans / 4 <sup>th</sup> Establishment and organization of promotion events
		Conceptual-design-of-a-local-product-promotion-and-selling-point	1 <sup>st</sup> Identification of potential locations (properties in ownership of the city) / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Identification of potentially interested stakeholders / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Development of a conceptual & organizational design of a local product promotion and selling point / 4 <sup>th</sup> Establishment of a local product promotion and selling point / 5 <sup>th</sup> Operationalization of a local product promotion and selling point
How-to-deal-with-bee-swarming		1 <sup>st</sup> Agreement on organization of the bee-swarming SOS service with key stakeholders / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Operationalization of the bee-swarming SOS service / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Awareness raising and promotion of the bee-swarming SOS service / 4 <sup>th</sup> Development and pilot implementation of the bee-swarming SOS service / 5 <sup>th</sup> Operationalization of the bee-swarming SOS service	

What a surprise in seeing that we had marked in orange so many aspirations that had been satisfied!

And we were also aware of the fact that we had done more than this: there were some actions that were not included in this list but that had come out from the ULG creative energy and because of the city listening to our buzzing activity. We were surprised about the number of people asking us about the project and expressing enthusiasm, thus asking to join in.

The World Bee Day celebrations were a success and gave us a tool to explain and demonstrate that acting together gives us more power.

The month of June also gave us satisfaction with the visit and meeting in Bergamo of our friends from Partner Cities of Ljubljana, Banskó, Osijek and Sosnowiec.

Then the summer came, and everything slowed down; it was almost impossible to meet, because of vacation period not matching, but it was also a good opportunity to think of the last actions to be put in place for the autumn, visioning the project end approaching. This was also the time when we

were presented with the idea of a Mid/Long term Plan, a tool that would help us put ideas down for making the project survive to its end.

But by the end of September, we started collecting the interesting products that we have made together with our ULG and we were very pleased with them!



Our touristic Beepath now on sale on Visit Bergamo website



A research being presented to the public on Bergamo city entomophilous flora



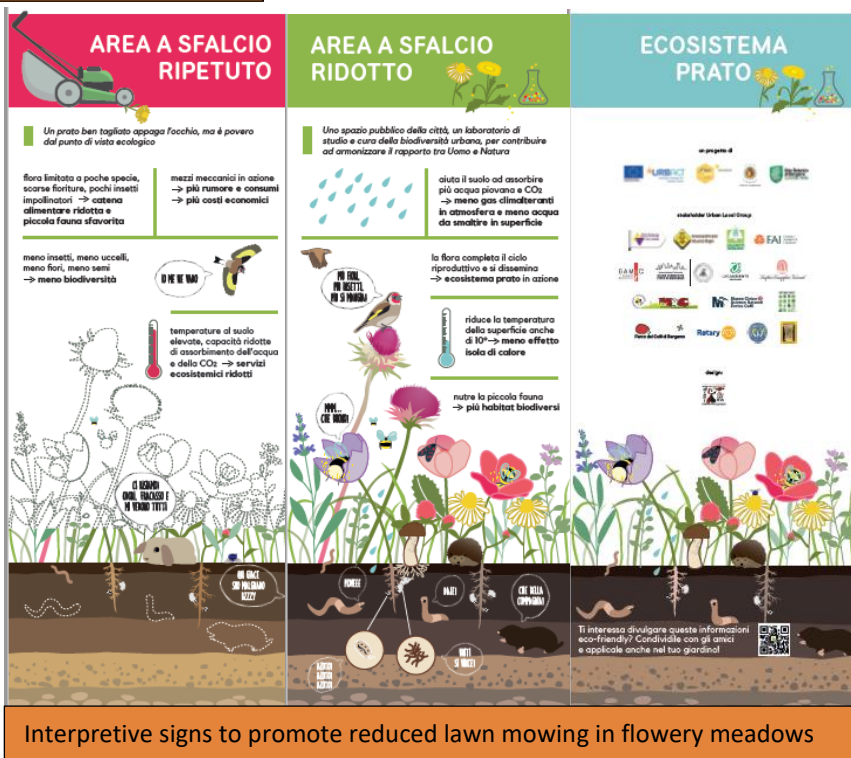
A contest for the best beehotel of the city



An educational modular package for primary schools and kindergartens



A brochure for joint honey and cheese tasting



Interpretive signs to promote reduced lawn mowing in flowery meadows

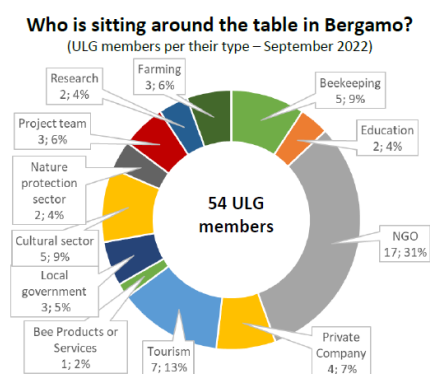
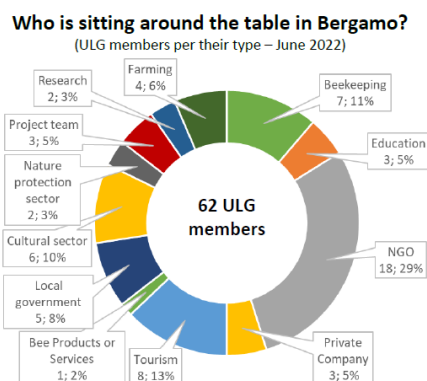
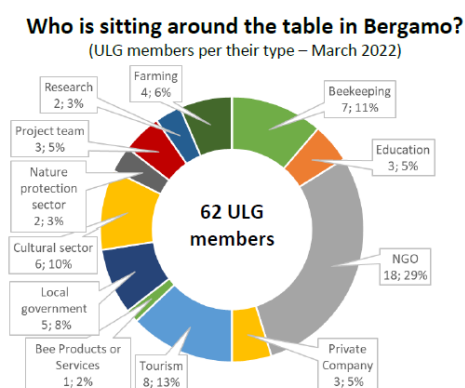
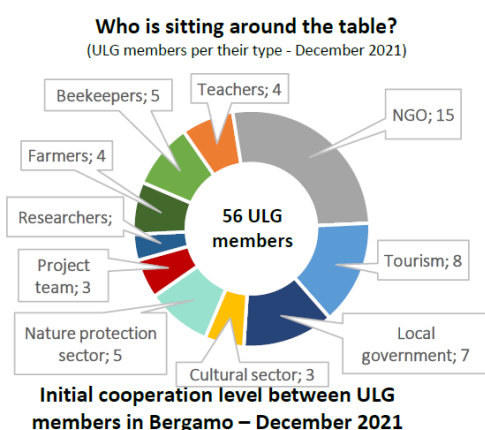


## 1.4. Progress within ULGs

As already told, Bergamo ULG was very numerous from the beginning: we started with the idea of involving 30 people, but as the project development proceeded more and more institutions and groups of people came to know about our work and asked to join in. Now, at the end of the project, we have 54, but we had, in certain moments, 62 (as reported in the document 'BPNR Quarterly Network Report'). We must actually say that probably it is a good idea to work, like we did, with smaller groups separately, each one dealing with one action to be delivered.

The infographics below give us an idea of how the ULG changed during the process.

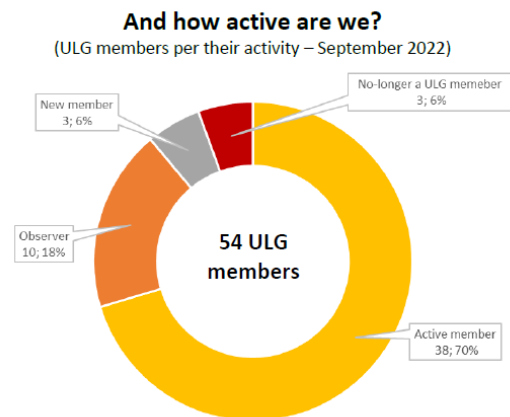
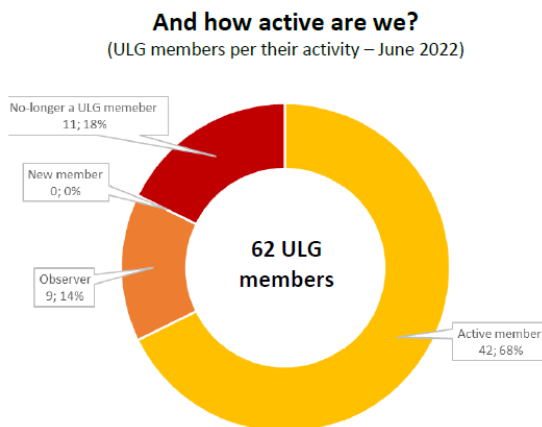
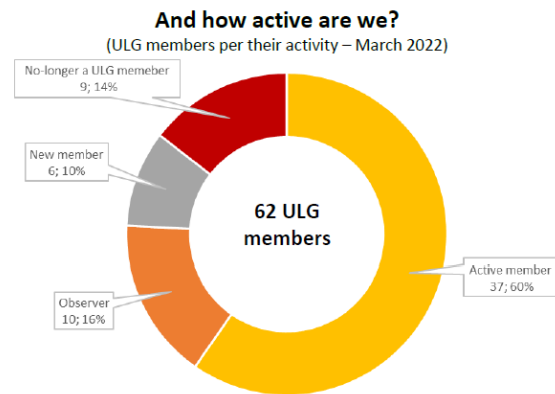
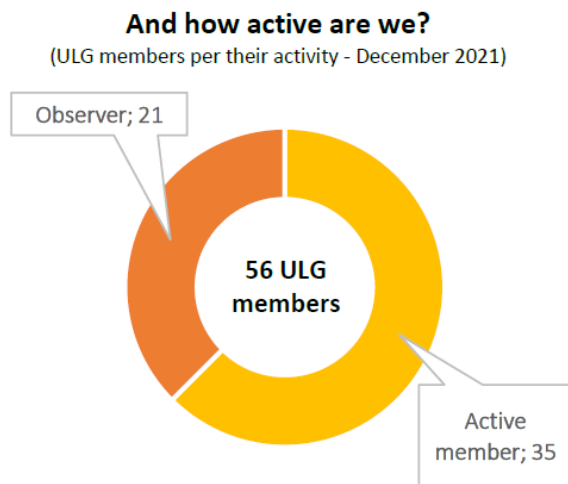
For what concerns the **composition of the group**:



What is interesting in these graphs? We noted that there was an increase in the percentage of people from the cultural sector, which makes us happy because we think that cultural actions are really needed to create a movement of thought, to change people's mind and to raise awareness. Involving professionals from the cultural sector means being able to reach new target audiences with communication actions.

We noticed a predominance of members from the NGO sectors, which is also interesting because they represent a very active portion of urban communities.

If, instead, we want to analyze **how active were our ULG members**:

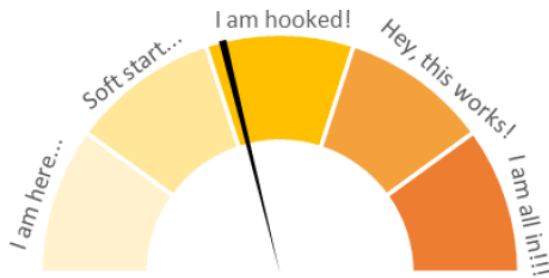


We can observe the increase in number of participants to the group because of newcomers that was balanced by a certain number of people who left the groups for various reasons: some of them lost interest or could not find a suitable way of being engaged, some changed their position at work and were therefore not allowed to take part any more.

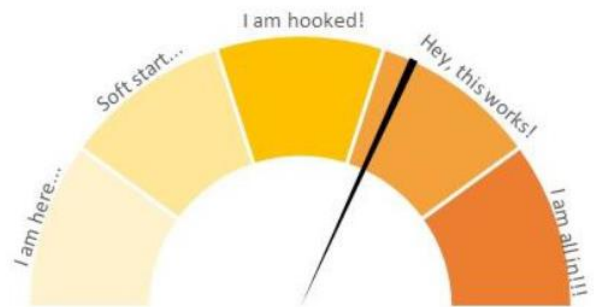
Therefore, the total number of members was nearly the same during the last year, from December 2021 to December 2022.

As far as the **level of cooperation** is considered:

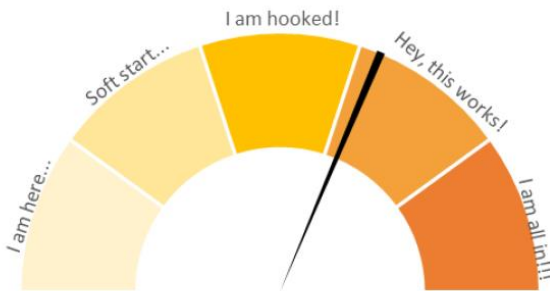
**Initial cooperation level between ULG members in Bergamo – December 2021**



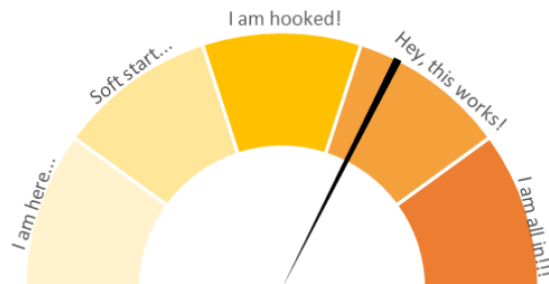
**Level of cooperation between ULG members in Bergamo – March 2022**



**Level of cooperation between ULG members in Bergamo – June 2022**



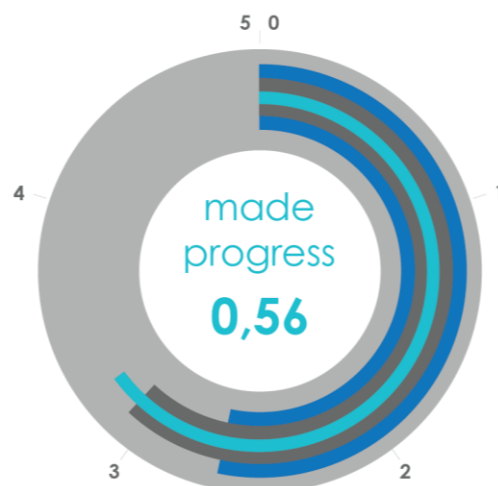
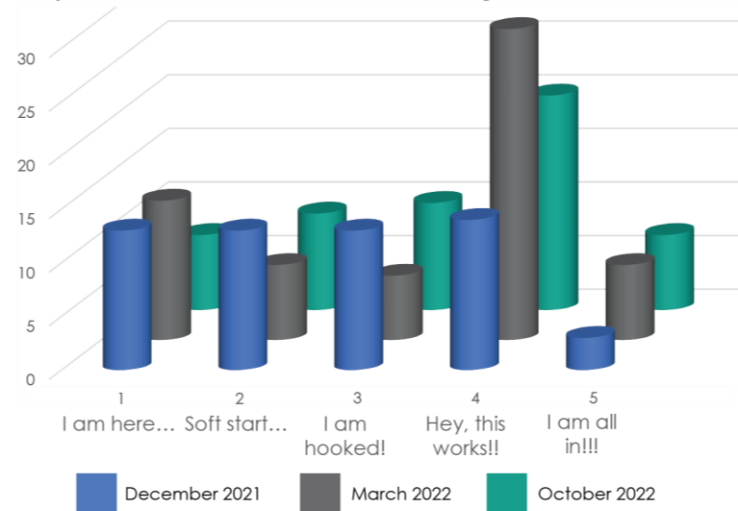
**Level of cooperation between ULG members in Bergamo – September 2022**



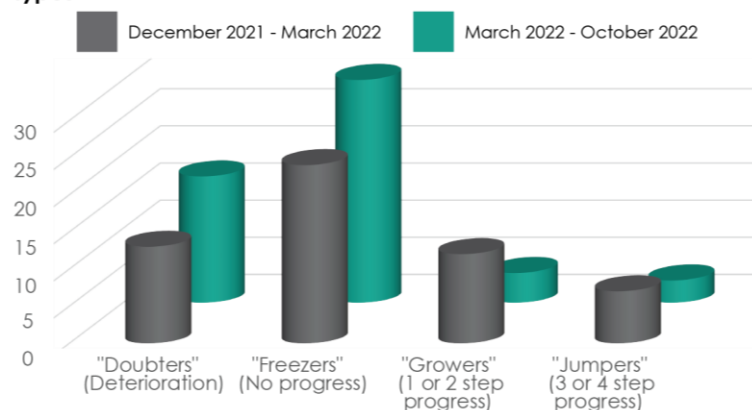
We can say that there was an initial increase in enthusiasm and it was kept alive for the whole duration of the project, which is possibly the reason why we were able to perform so many interesting actions even if there was not a consistent funding.

To further analyze the project impact on improved cooperation we present the following infographics, again deriving from the effort of Klemen Strmsnik, showing how active are the ULG members (over 70% are active) and how did their cooperation increase throughout the process. There have been fluctuations in the participation to the group work, but it is interesting to see that the ULG was able to attract new members.

**Diagram 3: BeePathNet-Reloaded project impact on improved cooperation between ULG members in Bergamo**



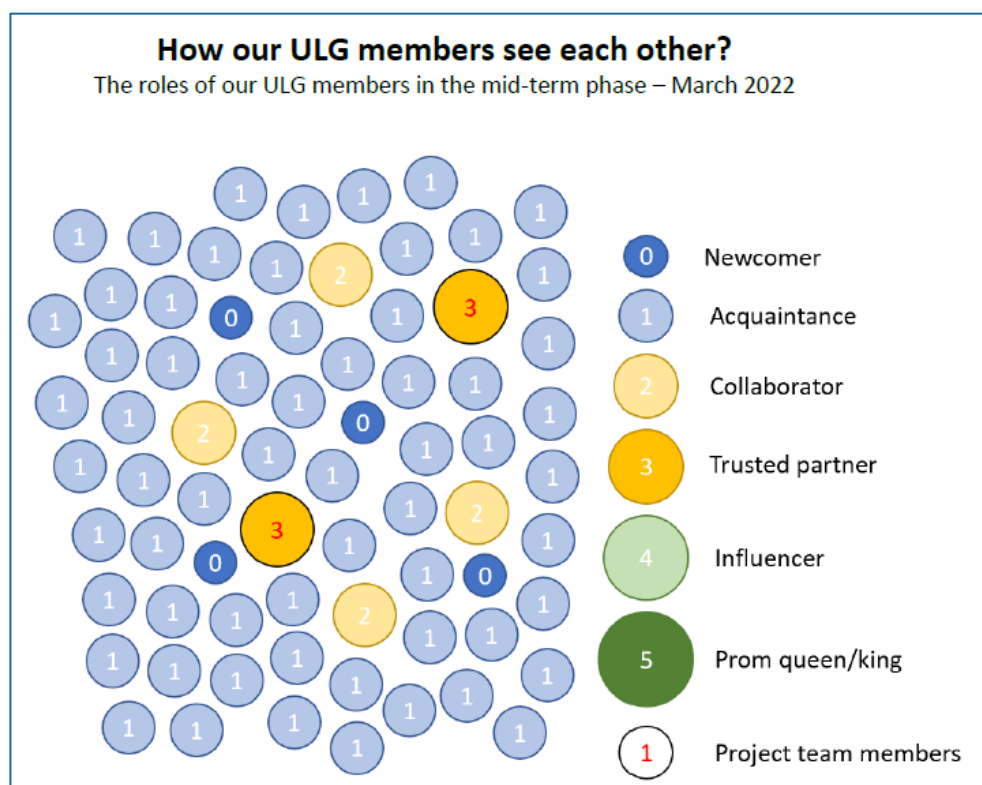
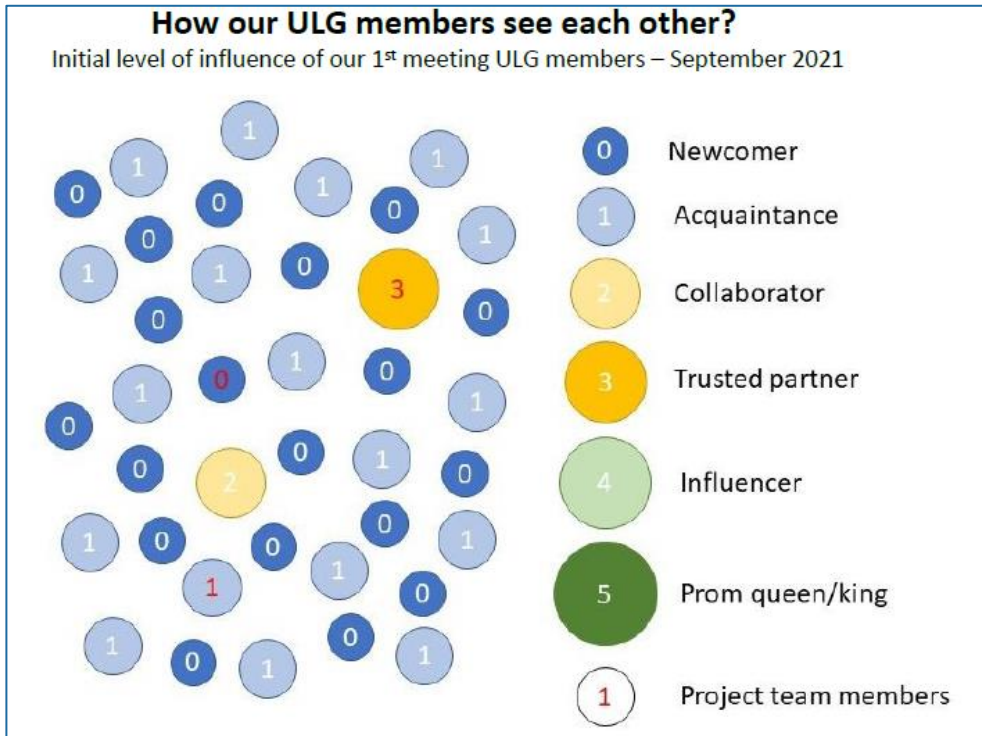
**Diagram 4: ULG members from Bergamo by cooperation progress types**





As a final interesting reflection, we would like to consider the infographics reporting **how ULG members see each other** in the cooperation, which give us a measure of the heat of relationships. We feel this is one of the most important legacies of the project: new relationships are worth more than money and will offer us the opportunity to go further with the ideas and dreams we have in mind.

We have seen a growth on the general acquaintance level and in the number of collaborations being activated.



By the end of the transfer process we are also able to evaluate the level of connection among the most active ULG members, thanks to the effective infographics by our Lead Expert, Klemen Strmsnik.

The diagram below offers a clear vision of what the role of the two people acting together as ULG coordinators: they are crucial nodes of a dense set of collaboration. This confirms the vision we posed in the development of our Mid-Longterm Plan, in which we underlined the need of a key actor as the ULG coordinator, to keep warm the relationships among actors and to coordinate stakeholders in order to make their energies become complementary.

It is also interesting to notice how dense is the network: there are also good connections among the other stakeholders, that probably were developed thanks to BeePathNet Reloaded project.

### Diagram 5: Social network model of our most active ULG members

Circles represent our ULG members and show how well they are connected to other ULG members.

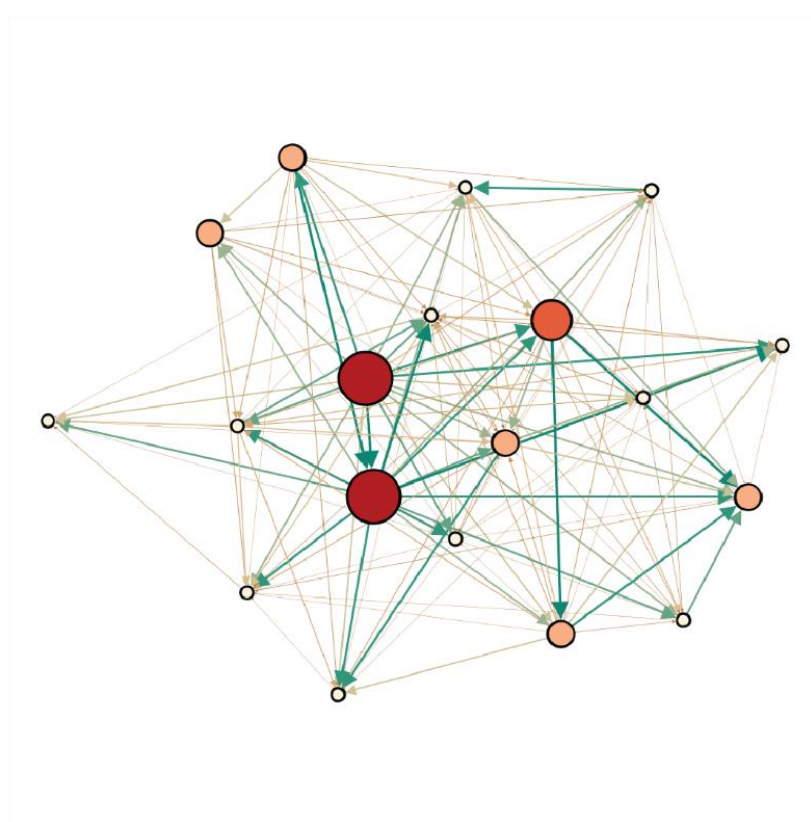
WEAKLY connected

STRONGLY connected

Lines represent strength of connections between individual ULG members.

WEAK link

STRONG link



## 1.5. Our Bee Path

In this section we are happy to present one of the most remarkable outputs of BeePathNet Reloaded project: our touristic Bee Path.

It was created by 9 institutions together with professional touristic guides and it was tested also with European partners. It is going to be put on sale as a Christmas Gift at the time this report is being written. We take this circumstance as a good will occurrence for the future development of the project.



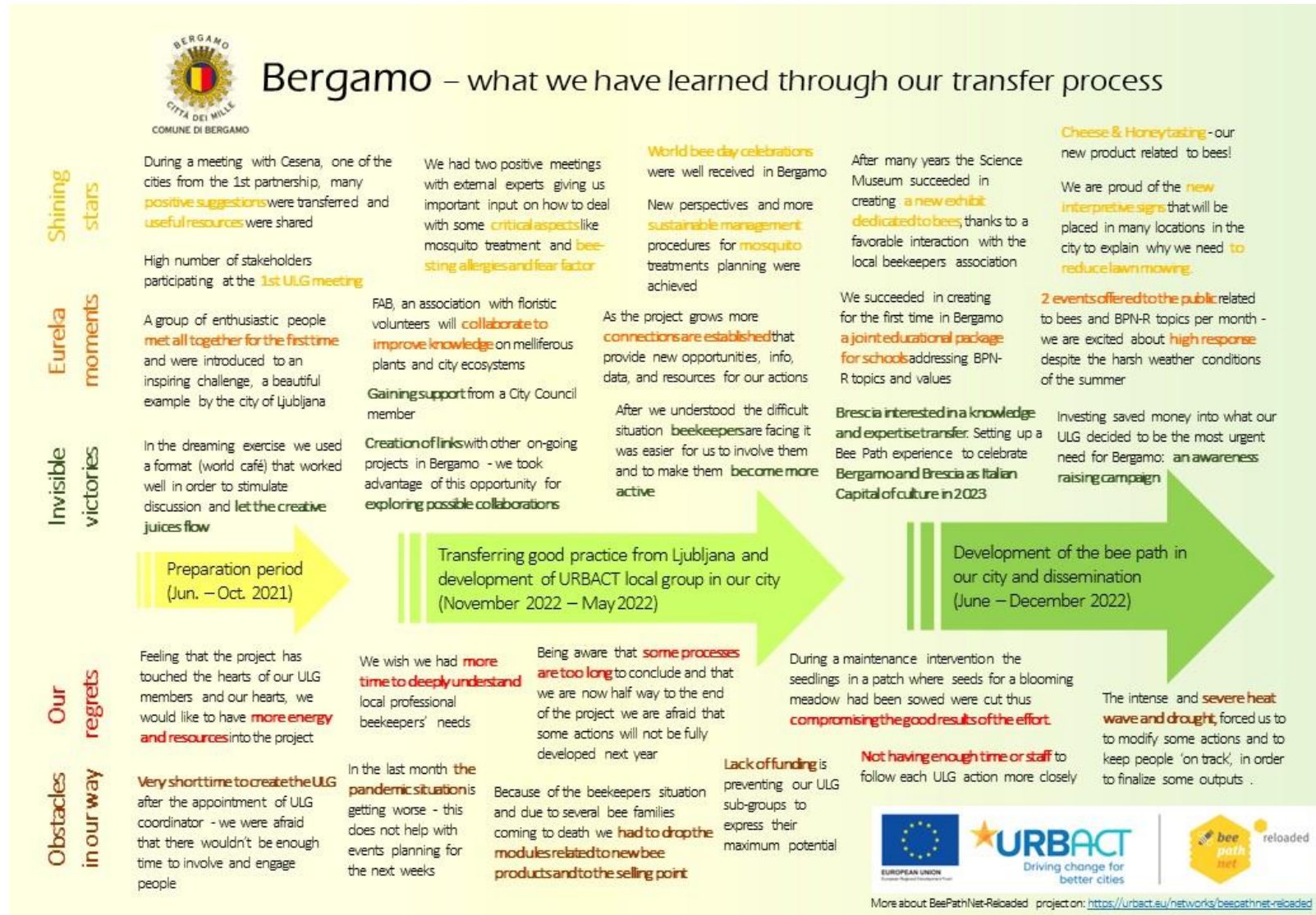


## 1.6. Photo Library





## 1.7. The “secret ingredient”





# Bergamo – what we have done through our transfer process

Shining stars

Eureka moments

Invisible victories

Impressions from our City visits



Preparation period (Jun. – Oct. 2021)

Transferring good practice from Ljubljana and development of URBACT local group in our city (November 2022 – May 2022)

Development of the bee path in our city and dissemination (June – December 2022)





More about BeePathNet-Reloaded project on: <https://urbact.eu/networks/bee-path-net-reloaded>

