

The EU Pollinators Initiative

Michaela Schwedeler – European Commission
DG ENV, D2 Biodiversity
ANL conference centre, Laufen

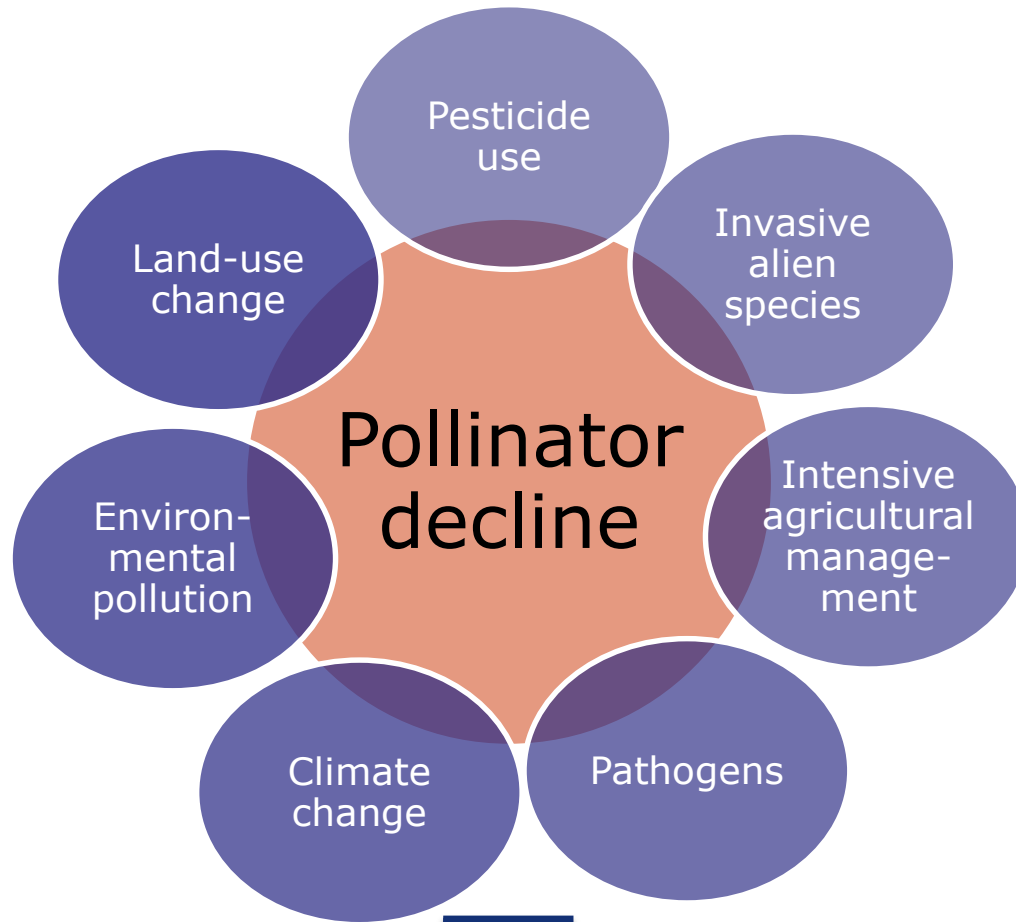
30 November 2017



Pollinators are in decline

- Pollinators' decline in occurrence and diversity
- European Red List: 1 out of 10 bee and butterfly species is facing extinction
- Loss of animal pollination services affect:
 - **78% wild flowers**
 - **84% of crops**
- EUR 15 billion of annual EU agricultural output
- Affects diversity and quality of our food

Multiple drivers of pollinator decline

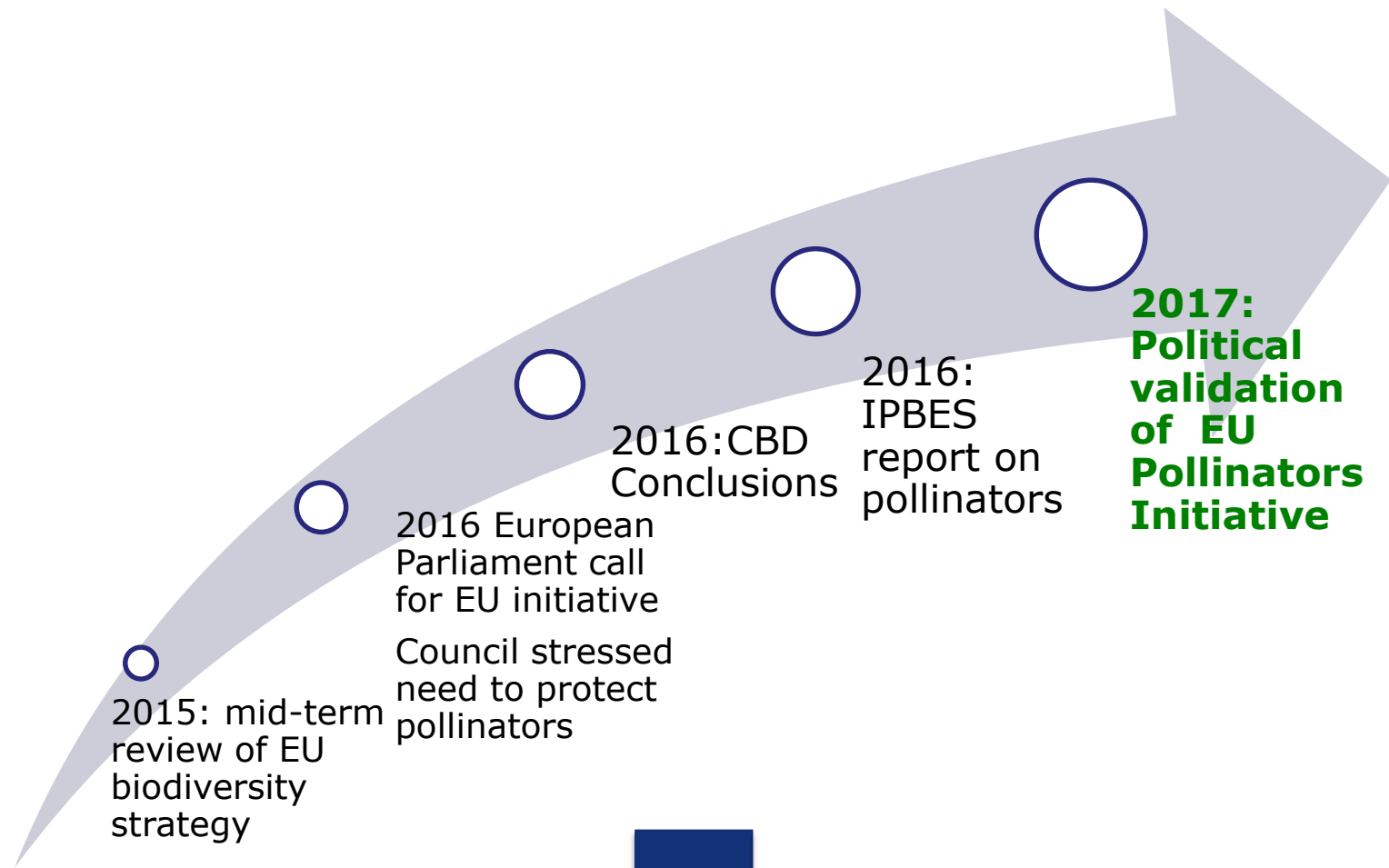


Existing EU measures

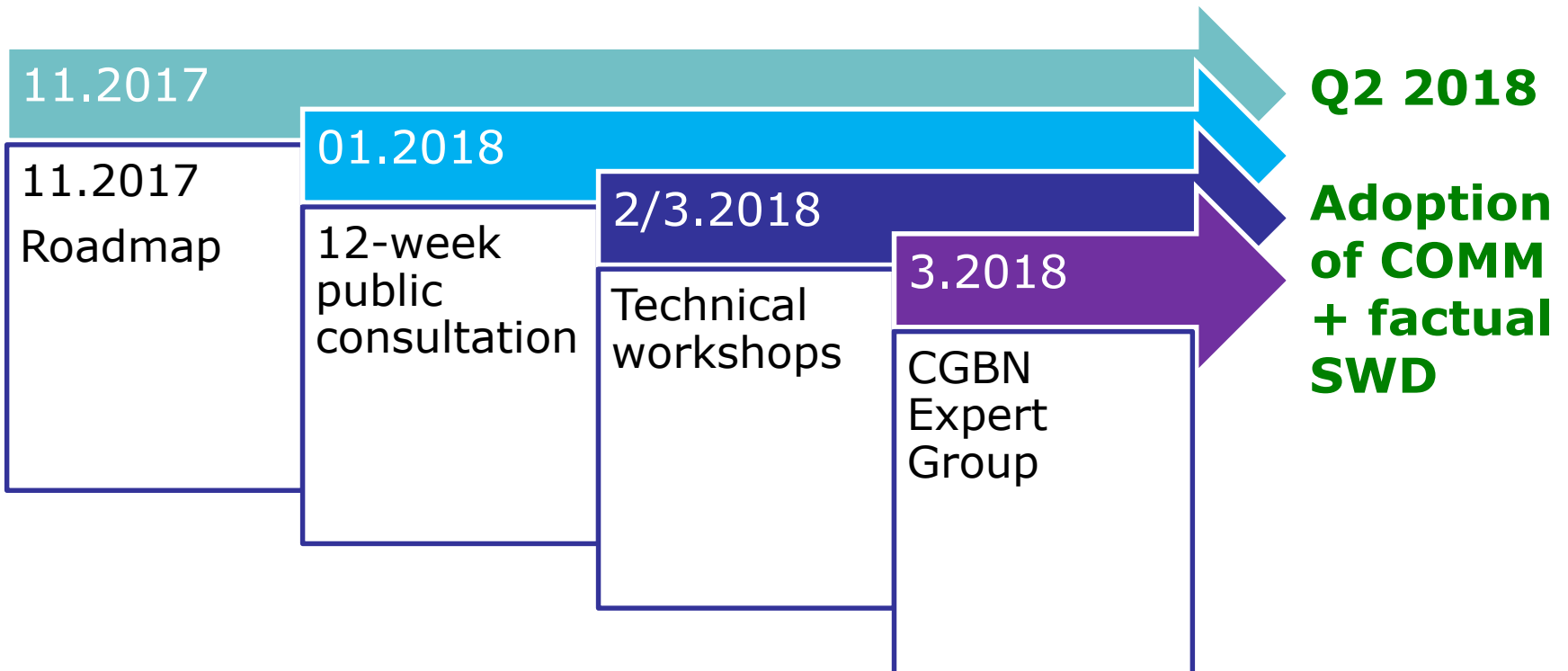
- Environment and health policies (Birds and Habitats Directive, EU legislation on pesticides)
- Common Agricultural Policy
- Cohesion Policy
- Research and Innovation Policy

→insufficiently targeted and coordinated

Developing the EU Pollinators Initiative



Indicative timeline/next steps



What could the initiative address?

Knowledge on pollinators

- Improve knowledge on
 - **status and trends of pollinators (monitoring?)**
 - **threats and their importance & interlinkages**
 - **ecological and economic importance, future risks**

Drivers of decline

- Habitats in rural and urban areas
- Pesticide use
- Invasive alien species
- Climate change?

Raise awareness, improve collaboration & knowledge sharing

- Rural and urban communities
- Knowledge sharing
- Collaboration among MS
- Support local, regional and national pollinator strategies

Consultation activities

- 12 week public open consultation in all official EU languages (January 2018?)
- Expert groups (CGBN, others)
- Workshops with experts and MS (Q1 2018?)

Your input into the process is invaluable!

- **Potential EU framework for monitoring pollinators**
- **Citizen science**
- **Enhancing existing EU instruments for pollinators**
- **Raising awareness**



Thank you for your attention!

More information:

- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/pollinators/index_en.htm

Contact:

- Michaela.schwedeler@ec.europa.eu
- Vujadin.kovacevic@ec.europa.eu

