



# Newsletter 3



Biodiversity Corridor 1160 Vienna Photos: Isabella Klebinger / Öko Campus Wien

## Moving forward: Co-Bio Progress & Milestones

The Co-Bio project is making great strides! Our interim report has been approved, marking an important milestone in our efforts to co-create greener cities across Europe. With strong collaborations and valuable feedback, we continue refining our methodologies and implementing local biodiversity solutions.



Icebreaking Session \_Isabella Klebinger/ ÖCW

## Exchange Meeting in Vienna – A Hub of inspiration

From February 25-27, 2025, Co-Bio partners gathered in Vienna for an exchange visit filled with knowledge-sharing, field visits, and discussions on urban biodiversity and co-creation hosted by Öko Campus Wien and Gartenpolylog.

*As more and more people move to cities, we must not overlook the potential for change within the heart of urban settings. It is crucial to note that biodiversity is not a phenomenon limited to rural areas. We may not notice biodiversity in cities because we have built over it, and impeded the natural habitats that have existed far longer than we have. Although biodiversity remains in these urban settings, humans have continuously damaged it over time and must help it flourish to restore healthy ecosystems.*

*We have trespassed on the homes of animals and plants, and it is our responsibility to readapt their habitats to promote their health and wellness. In doing so, we would also be protecting our planet and ecosystems and, consequently, our own well-being. Urban settings can still be harmonious with nature, and we should not view them as two separate entities, but rather two environments that can co-exist and evolve to work towards a more sustainable world.*



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## Excursions & field visits

- **UBB Campus & City-Forest:** We explored the University of Vienna's Biology Building surroundings, discussing the removal of invasive species (*Ailanthus altissima* and *Buddleja davidii*) and the planting of fruit trees and hedges by *Öko Campus Wien* (Öko Campus Vienna).
- **Biodiversity corridor in Ottakring:** A community-driven initiative integrating tree pits and public green spaces, with insights from Sarah Prehler in Vienna.
- **SOLEKTIV & Sonnenpark in St. Pölten:** A vibrant mix of ecological restoration and cultural engagement, featuring community gardens, beaver habitats, and biodiversity-friendly practices in Lower Austria.



## Workshops & Discussions

- **Project Presentations:** Each partner shared updates on their local case studies, exchanging challenges and best practices at the Case Exchange Meeting in Vienna.
- **Co-Creation & Public Value:** We reflected on how our projects contribute to public value and discussed strategies for stronger community engagement.
- **Öko Campus Wien - Campus Tour:** We explored biodiversity-friendly projects, such as bat nesting boxes, bird habitats, and sustainable mowing techniques on the Campus of the University of Vienna.



## What's next?

With renewed energy from the Vienna exchange, we now turn our focus to implementing the insights gained in our local projects. The next months will be crucial as we refine our co-creation processes, engage local communities, and expand biodiversity initiatives.

💡 Stay tuned for more updates, and thank you for being part of the journey toward greener, more biodiverse cities!

Best,  
The Co-Bio Team

