# Responses of bees and wasps to urbanization



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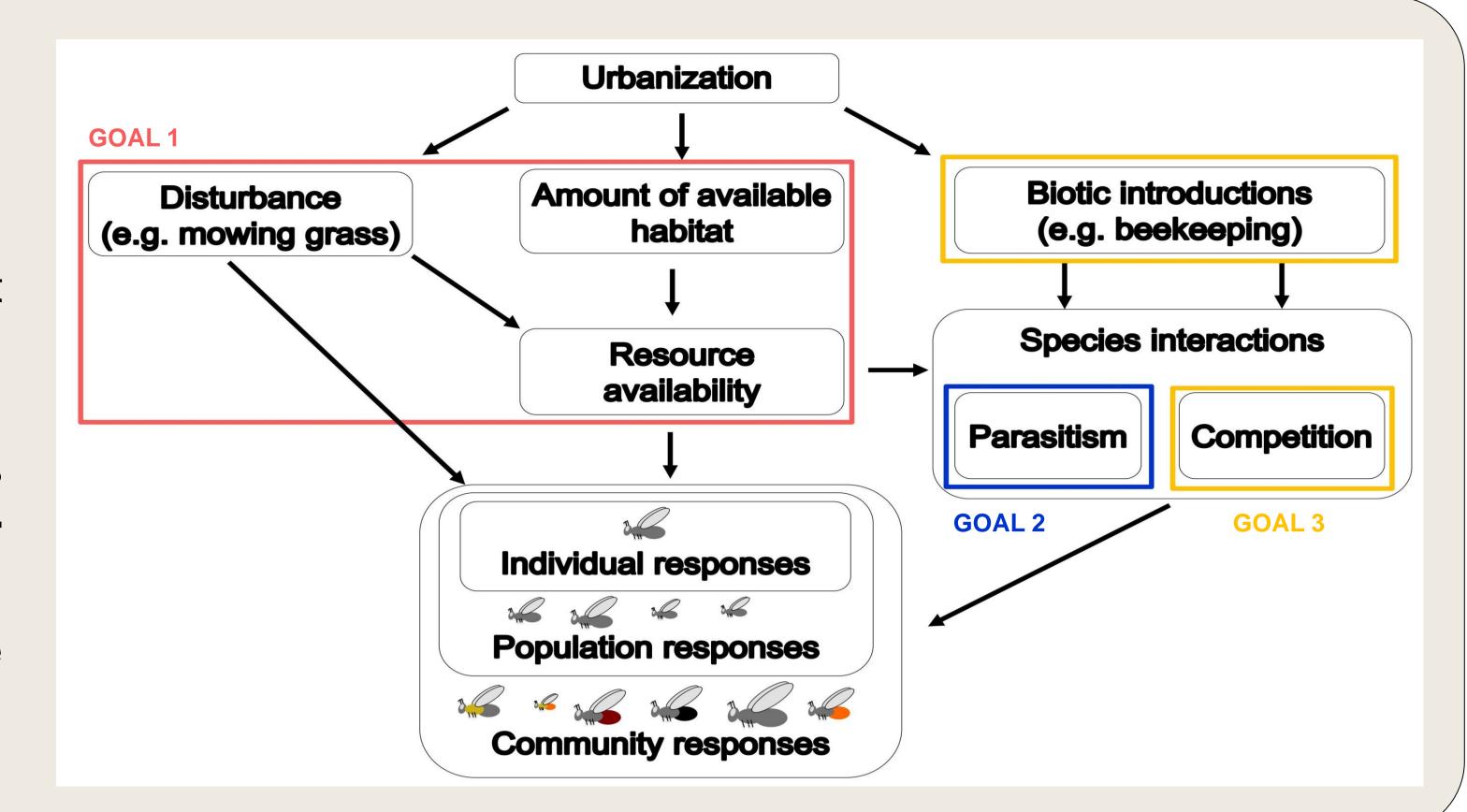


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## **BACKGROUND**

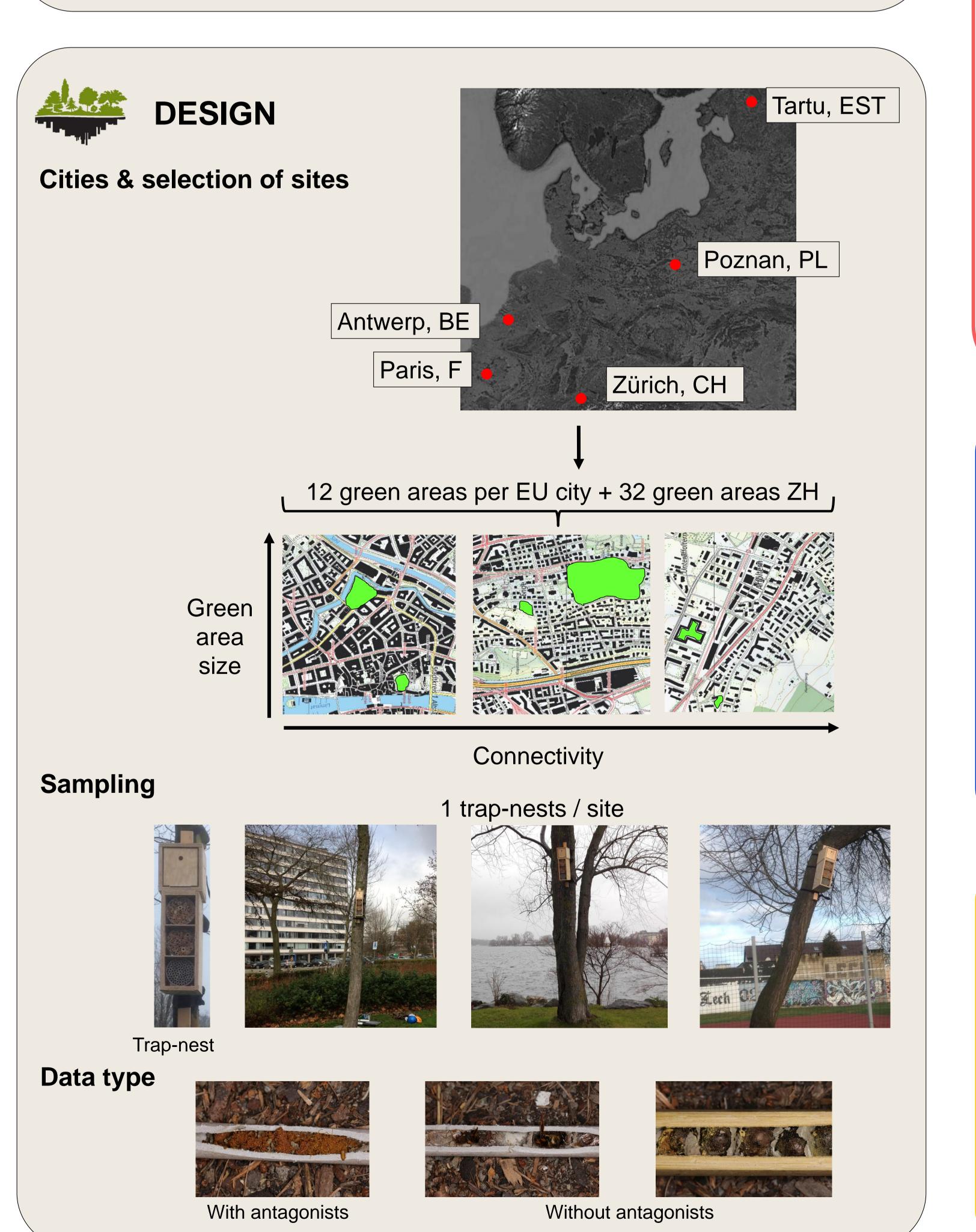
- Urbanization drives the decline of several insect pollinator species.
- The amount, **composition** and **configuration** of urban green infrastructure (**UGI**) can alleviate the effects of urbanization at different spatial scales by enhancing **connectivity** or increasing **resource availability**<sup>1</sup>.
- Cavity-nesting bees and wasps (**CNBW**) and their antagonists represent a specialist umbrella guild with complex **host-antagonist interactions** that are sensitive to urbanization.<sup>2</sup>
- **Urban beekeeping** is an increasing practice in cities but the effects on the rest of the bee community are yet poorly studied. <sup>3,4,5</sup>



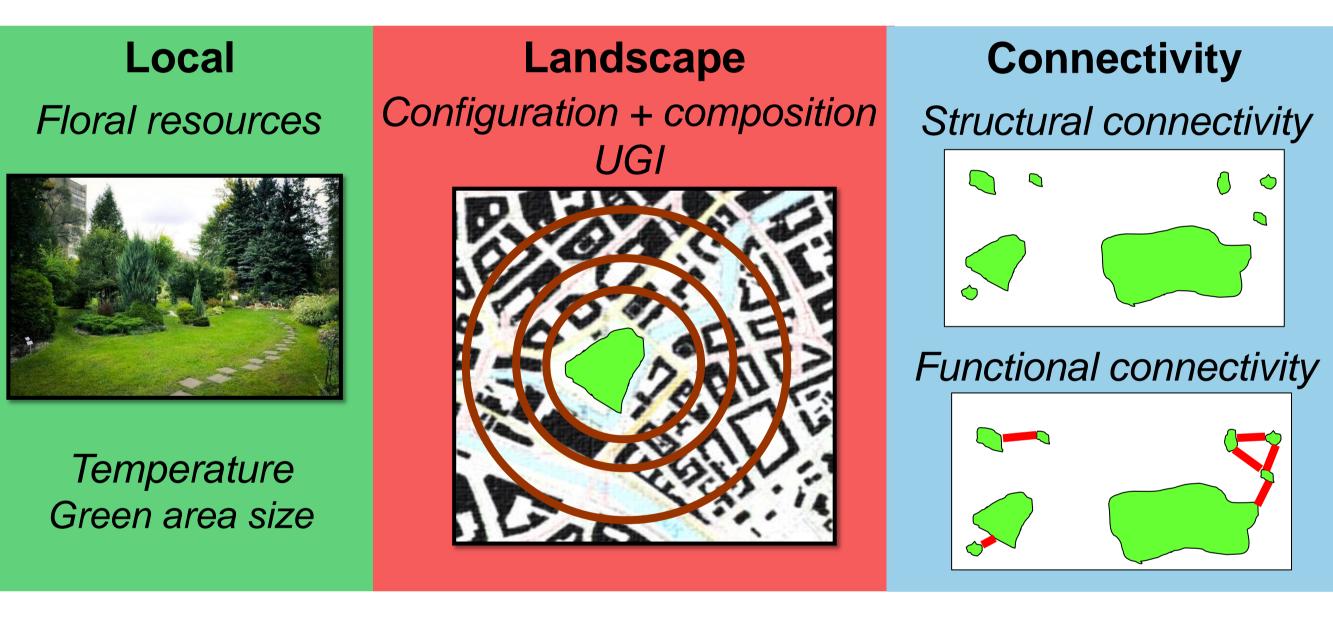


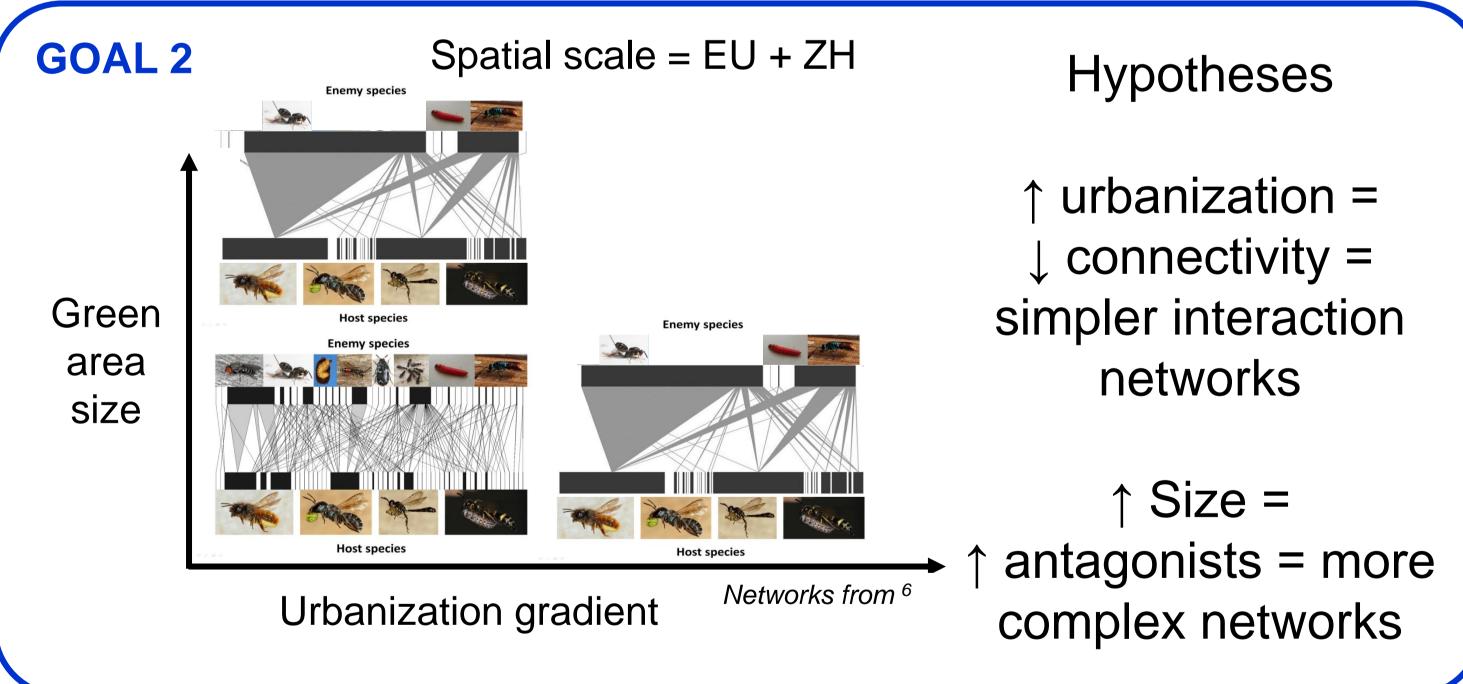
#### GOALS

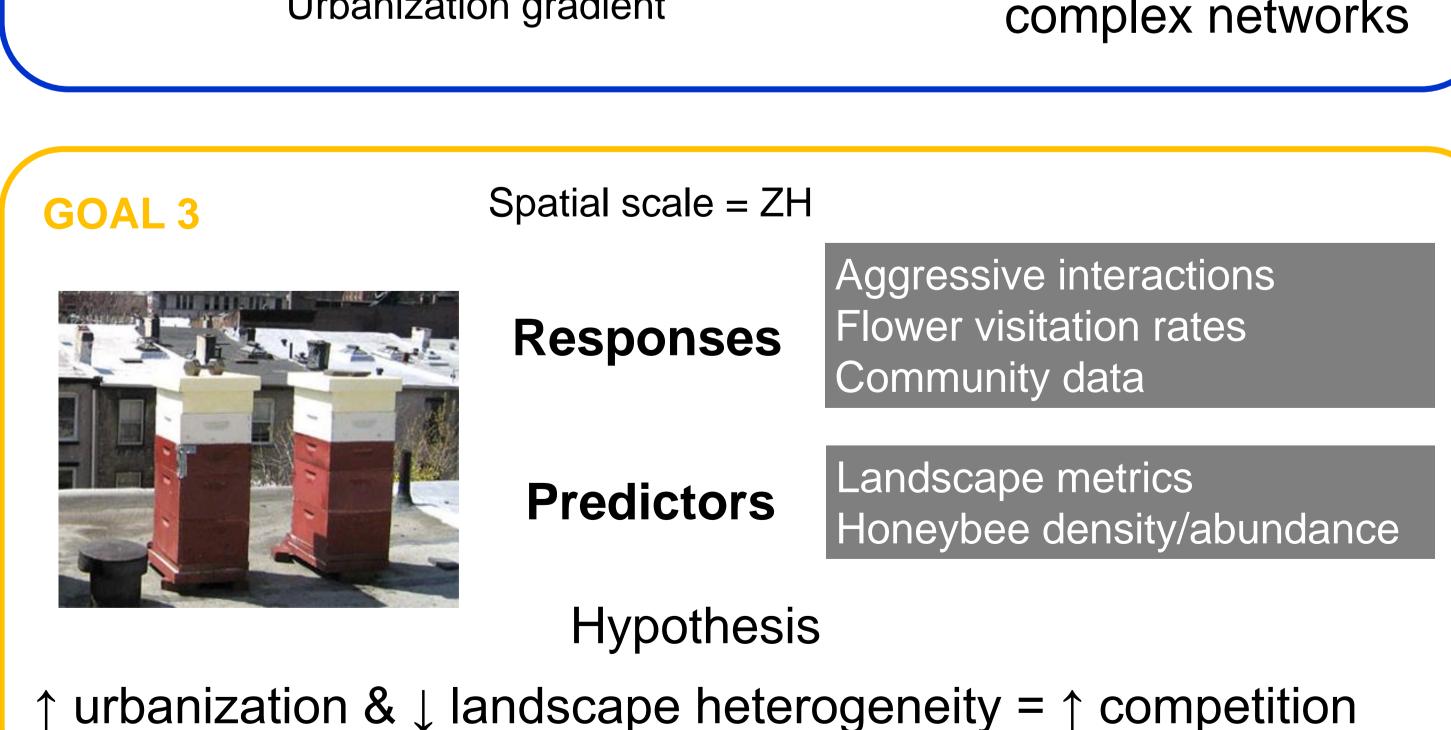
- 1: Test the effects of UGI on CNBW at different spatial scales.
- 2: Study host-antagonist interactions in CNBW along urbanization gradients.
- 3: Investigate the effects of urban beekeeping on the wild bee community.



#### **GOAL 1** Spatial scale = EU + ZHResponses COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL FITNESS Trait diversity Abundance Reproduction Diversity Sex ratio Groups Richness Parasitism rate **Predictors** Local Connectivity Landscape Configuration + composition Floral resources













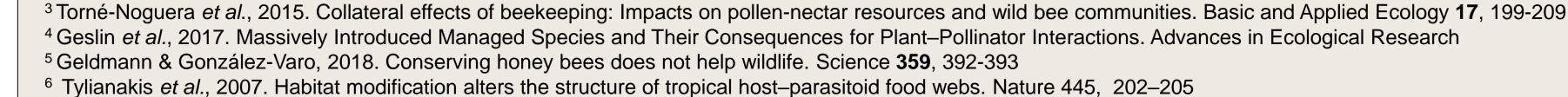
**SPONSORS** 











<sup>1</sup> European Commission, 2013b, Building a green infrastructure for Europe. Publ. Office of the European Union, Luxembourg

<sup>2</sup> Banaszak-Cibicka & Żmihorski, 2012. Wild bees along an urban gradient: winners and losers. Journal of Insect Conservation 16, 331–343.