

Creating a Bee Highway in Milan

Supporting biodiversity and increasing awareness

PARCO NORD MILANO



CHALLENGES TACKLED



Biodiversity Enhancement



Citizens and Business Involvement



SUMMARY

In order to preserve and increase pollinator biodiversity in urban areas, Parco Nord Milano has designed and built a 3 km long path, inside the Park, with specific plants attractive for pollinators. To make it a success, the project involved:

- An academic researcher of the University Milano-Bicocca;
- Citizens through fundraising campaigns & planting activities.

The Bee Highway became a popular attraction in the Park and many shared pictures across social media.

RESOURCES NEEDED

- Technical skills: specialist (agronomist) and academic researchers;
- Operations equipment and machinery;
- Certificated plants (seeds, bulbs, annual and perennial plants);
- Personnel employed for tracking and sowing;
- Personnel employed for maintenance;



COST OF EXECUTION & MANAGEMENT

€ 11.460



TIME

2 years

STEPS



1 Design of a path within the Park



2 Study and choice of attractive species for pollinators and the plantation



3 Monitoring the trend of BD in the existent bee highway



4 Fundraising campaigns to involve citizens



5 Collective plantations to involve citizens



6 Organize public events, labs and courses on biodiversity

MAIN LESSONS LEARNED ALONG THE WAY

Through professional monitoring, it was possible to learn what flowers are favoured by pollinators and better understand their needs. Furthermore, initial monitoring of the 'Highway' showed that it has similar levels of pollinators as wilder areas.

The Bee Highway was a success for citizen engagement and biodiversity.

The full report of this action can be found at URL www.europarc.org/greening-plans

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