

The Thematic Network of European Beekeepers

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and

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B-THENET Thematic Network

B-THENET is the thematic network of European beekeeping, based on a **multi actor approach** to engage beekeepers, advisors, researchers, policymakers, industry, consumers, and all stakeholders of the beekeeping sector.



Goal

Collect, categorize and validate in Europe **best practices and applicable research innovations** not sufficiently known, using a bottom-up methodology.





The B-THENET TN Consortium (1/3)

The Beneficiaries

The consortium's partners consists of a **balanced mix** of:

- Research organizations
- Universities
- International and national beekeepers' associations
- Centres for advisors training
- Centres for social sciences and humanities
- Agencies on communication and dissemination



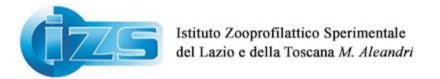












The B-THENET TN Consortium (1/3) The Beneficiaries

IZSLT (Coordinator; Giovanni Formato)

APRE (Chiara Pocaterra)

APIMONDIA (Jeff Pettis)

LOBA (Alexandre Almeida)

Swedish University (Lotta Fabricius Kristiansen)

BEELIFE (Noa Simon Delso)

Danish Beekeepers' Association (Flemming

Vejsnaes)

Slovenia Beekeepers' Association (Peter Kozmus)

University of Madrid (Aranzazu Meana)

Ellenic Agriculture Institue (Fani Hatjina)

University of Zagreb (Ivana Tlak Gajger)

National Institute of Horticultural Research

(Malgorzata Bienkowska)

University of Kosice (Juraj Toporcak)

Gent University (Dirk de Graaf)

Hohenheim University (Kirsten Traynor)

Latvia University (Aleksejs Zacepins)

University of Budapest (Gyula Kasza)

University of Graz (Robert Brodschneider)



The B-THENET TN Consortium (3/3)

The Advisory Board

The Board represents a dynamic and open network of experts in relevant sectors of European beekeeping: beekeeper associations, industry, policymakers, research, technical organisations, innovators, EURL, bee health, consumers, etc.

They are required to

- attend the project meetings (either online or onsite)
- give critical evaluation on project's major results and advice to the Coordinator and General Assembly
- support the wider dissemination and uptake of project's results.

The B-THENET TN activities

The Network activities **started on 01/09/2022** and will last 48 months (31st of August 2026).

Knowledge sharing and training on useful and applicable Best Practices through:

13 NATIONAL B-THENET CENTRES

to train Beekeepers (2080), young beekeepers (780) and advisors (520) in EU

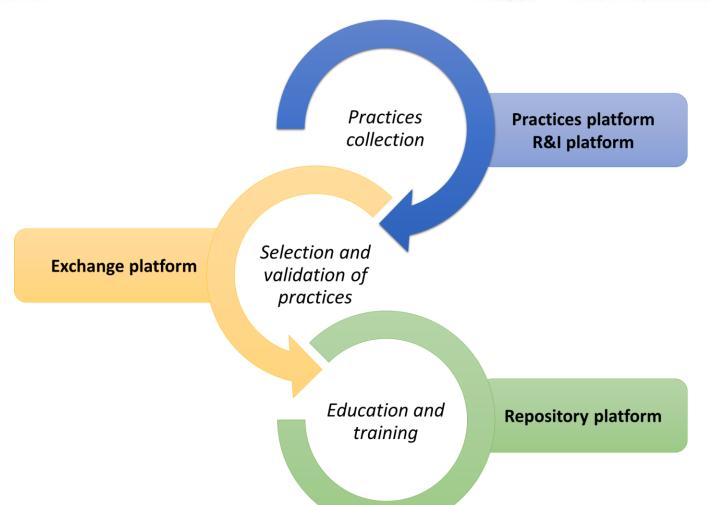
3 INTERNATIONAL B-THENET CENTRES

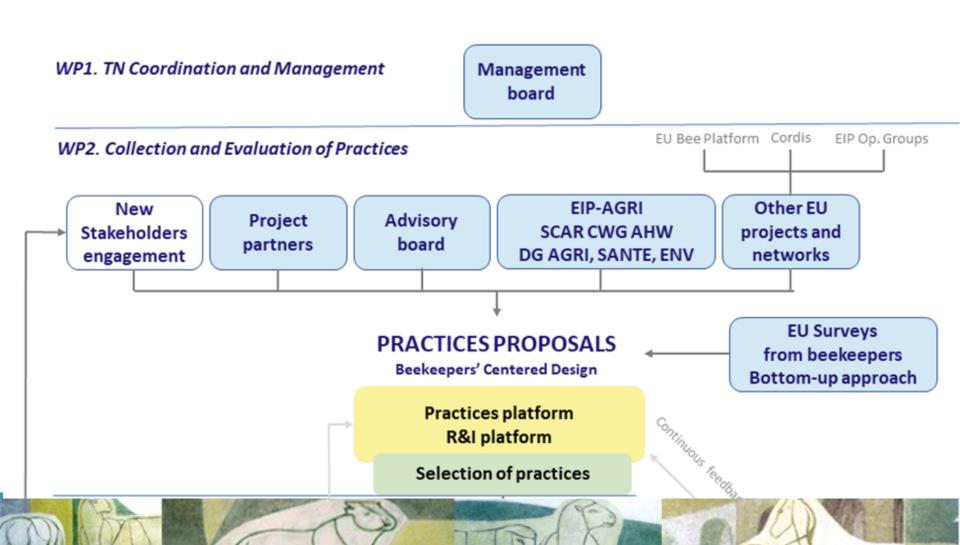
(Beekeepers, Advisors, Stakeholders)

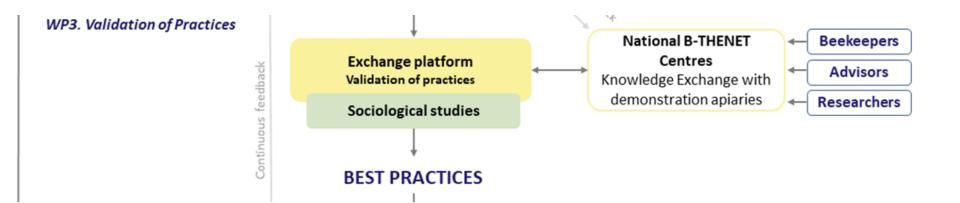
3 ONLINE PLATFORMS

>4000 registered and visiting users, > 480 practices discussed

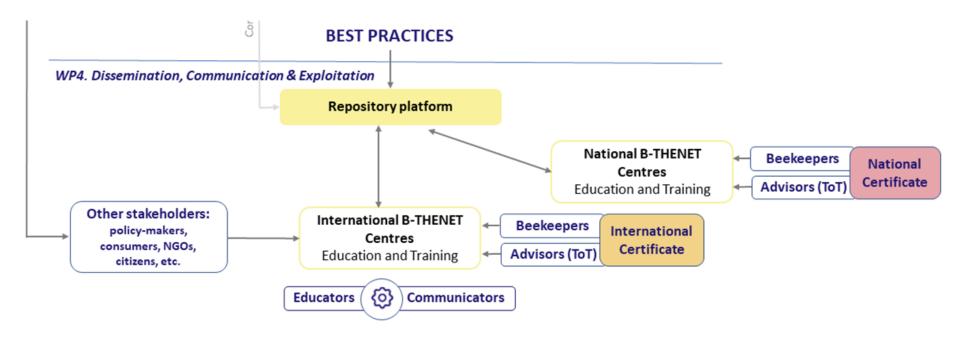




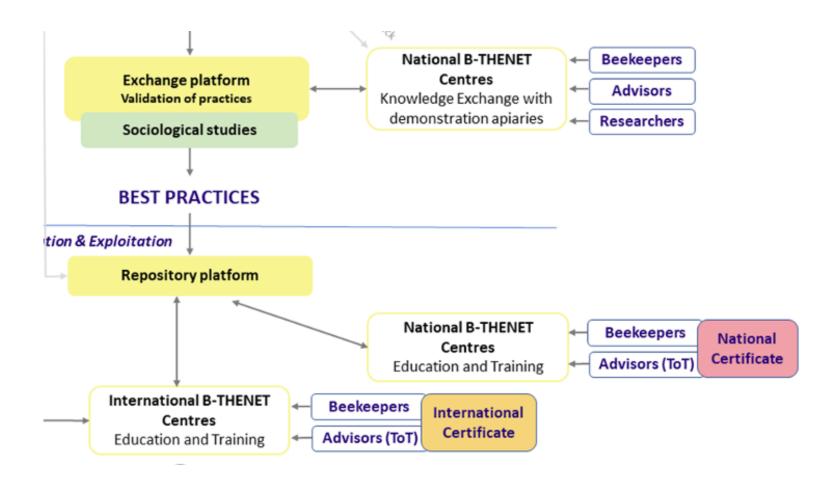














Demonstration/training apiary National/International



Our assumptions:



Small but important agricultural sector.

Lack of supportive structures.

No tradition of collaboration and coordination of activities. Increased challenges for actors to manage 'fake news' and a resistance to facts

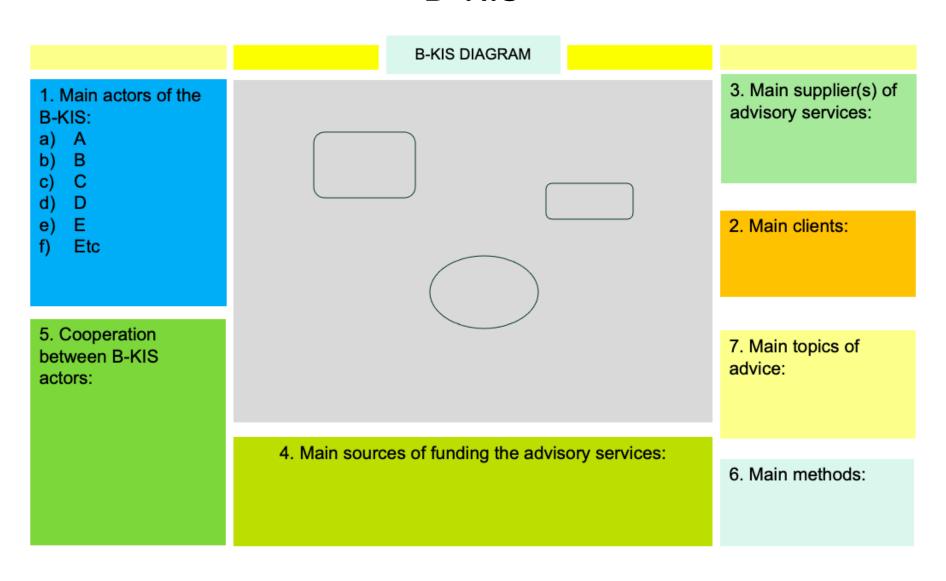
...and not only in Sweden.



Who are the advisors and are they equipped to face the challenges?



Beekeeping Knowledge and Innovation System B-KIS



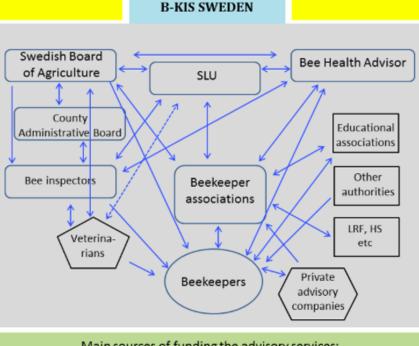
B-KIS, example Sweden

Main actors of the B-KIS: a) administration and legislation: Swedish Board of Agriculture

- b) research and education: SLU (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)
- c) extension: Bee Health Advisor
- d) Beekeeper associations

Cooperation between B-KIS actors:

Going well between some of the actors, e.g. SLU and the Bee Health Advisor. Not as well between those and the beekeeper organisations, and between the Bee Health Advisor and the County administrative boards



Main sources of funding the advisory services: EU Apicultural Programme Rural Development Programme (EU) Main supplier(s) of advisory services:

- a) Bee Health Advisor
- b) SLU
- c) Beekeeper associations

Main clients:

- a) Beekeepers
- b) Bee inspectors

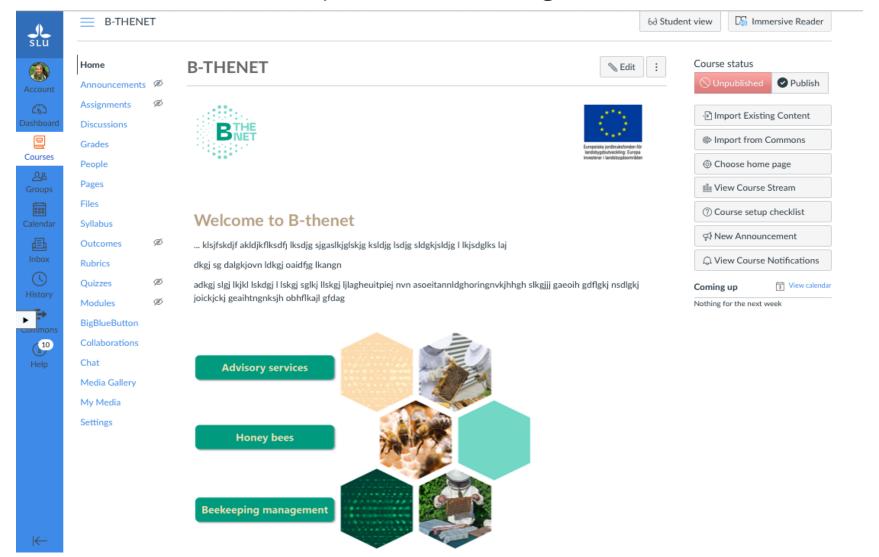
Main topics of advice: Bee health, varroa control, management for sustainable beekeeping (lower winter losses), bee breeding, management for pollination

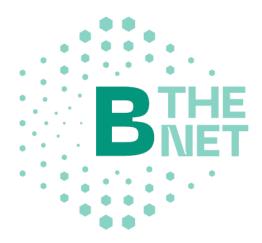
Main methods: Within the Bee-keeper Ass., there is a long tradition of study circles on all levels. Mainly courses, training workshops and study visits. But also "train the trainer" and ind. advisory services.



Certificate and micro-credentials

Open Educational Resources Practical training





Thank you for your attention

JOIN THE NETWORK!

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