



The biodiversity perspective from a botanist's point of view



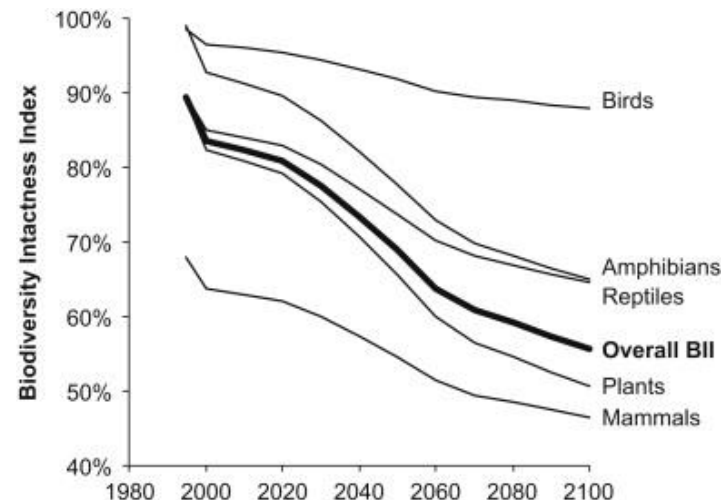
Birgit Gemeinholzer
University Kassel - FB10 - Botany

Why is the preservation of biodiversity important?

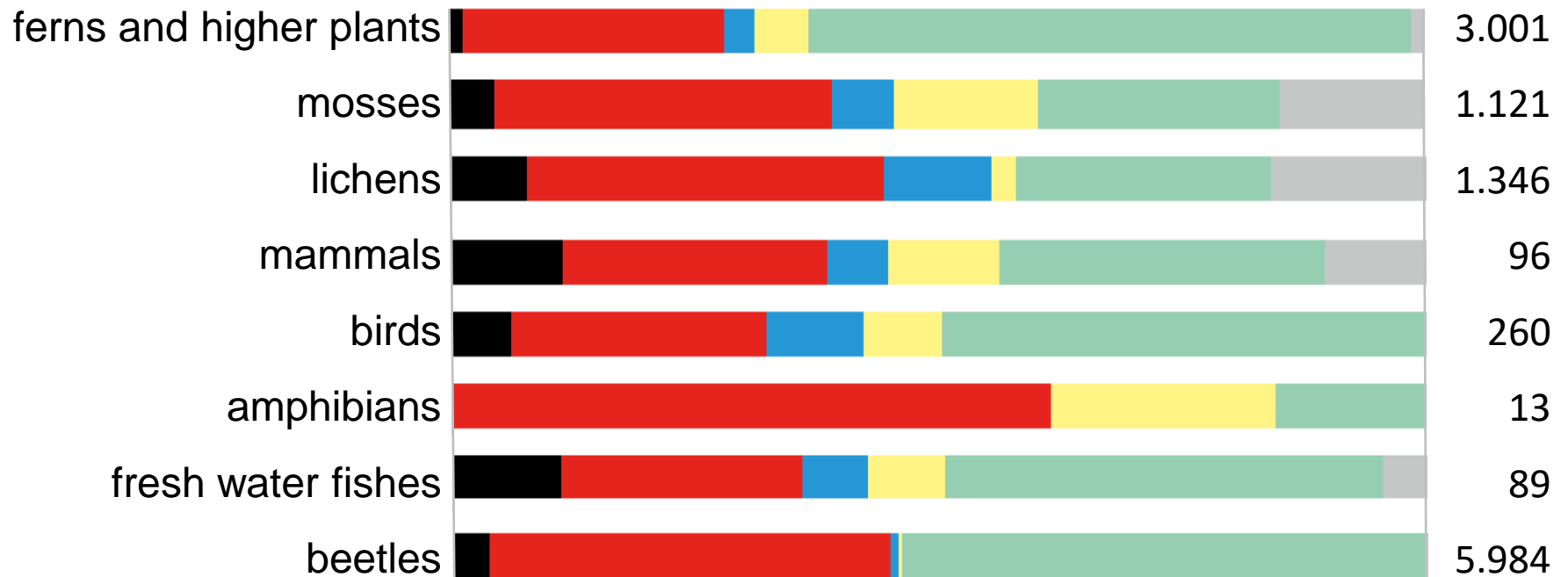
New formations and extinction events of species are natural processes

- Anthropogenic impacts have accelerated biodiversity loss 100-fold over natural extinction events in the last 100 years.
- This trend is ongoing. In the next 200 years, about half of all species on land and in water could become extinct.
- There are many more extinction events than new species formation, resulting in ecosystem biodiversity losses.

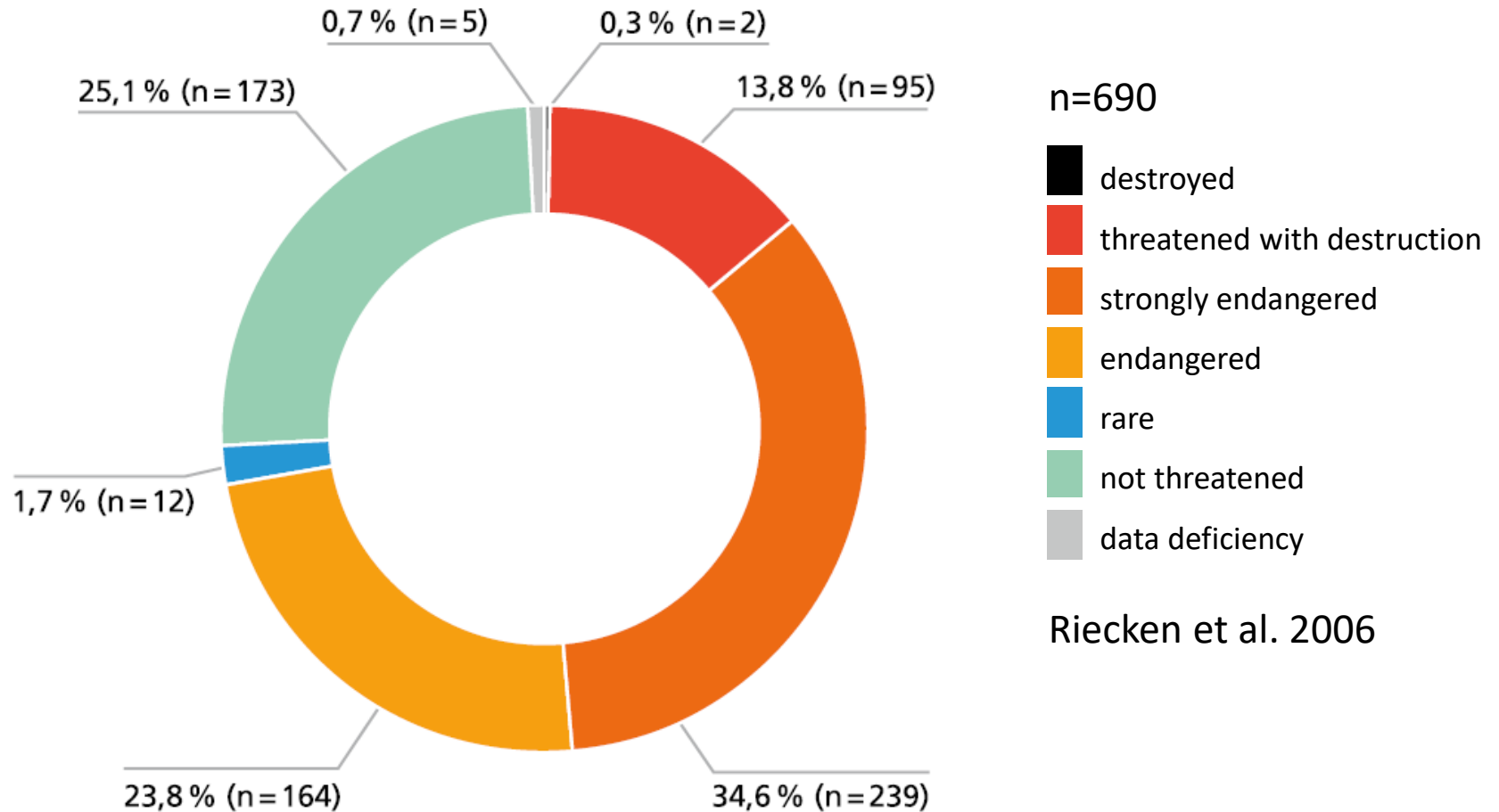
<https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>



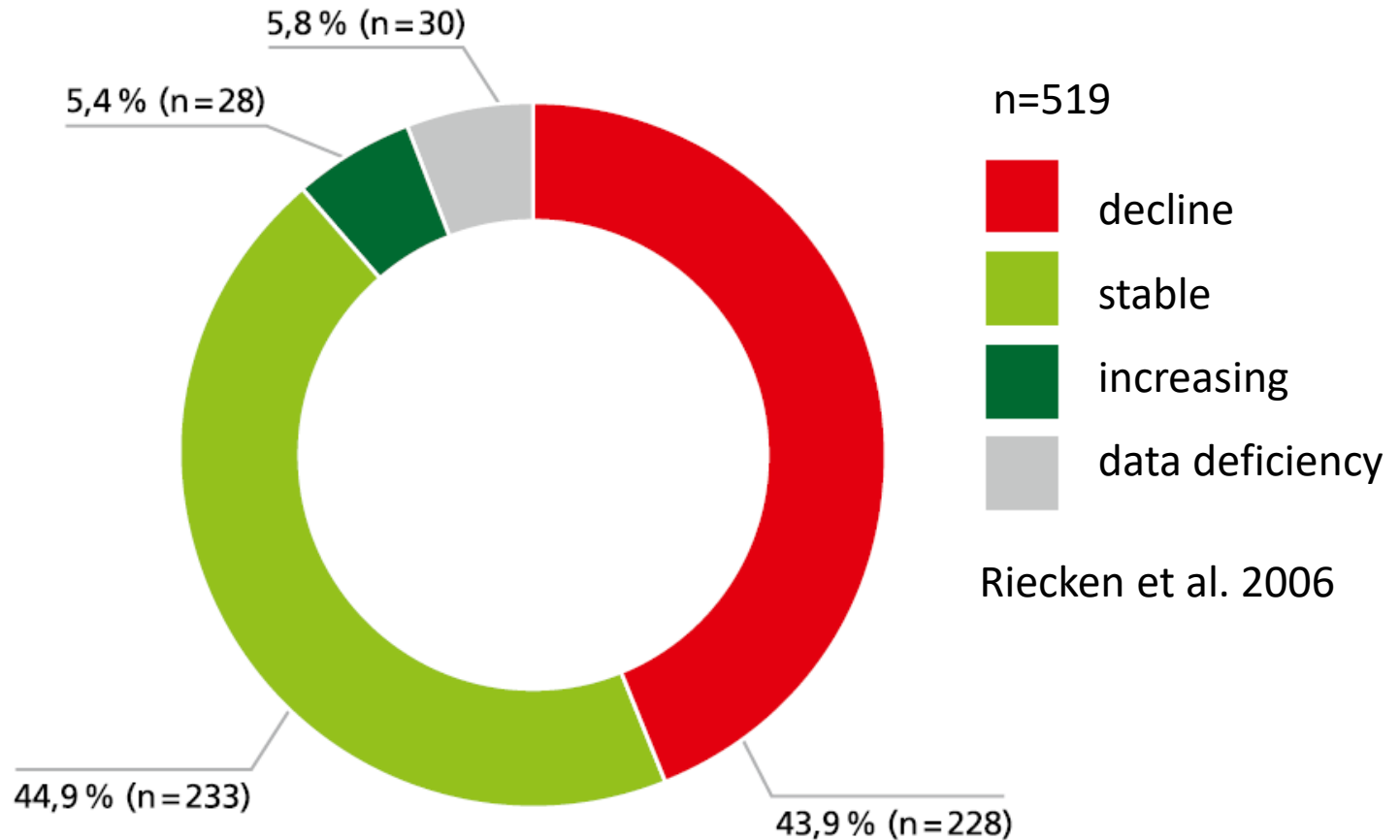
~ 71.500 species have been detected in Germany



690 different habitate types and their vulnerability analysis in Germany

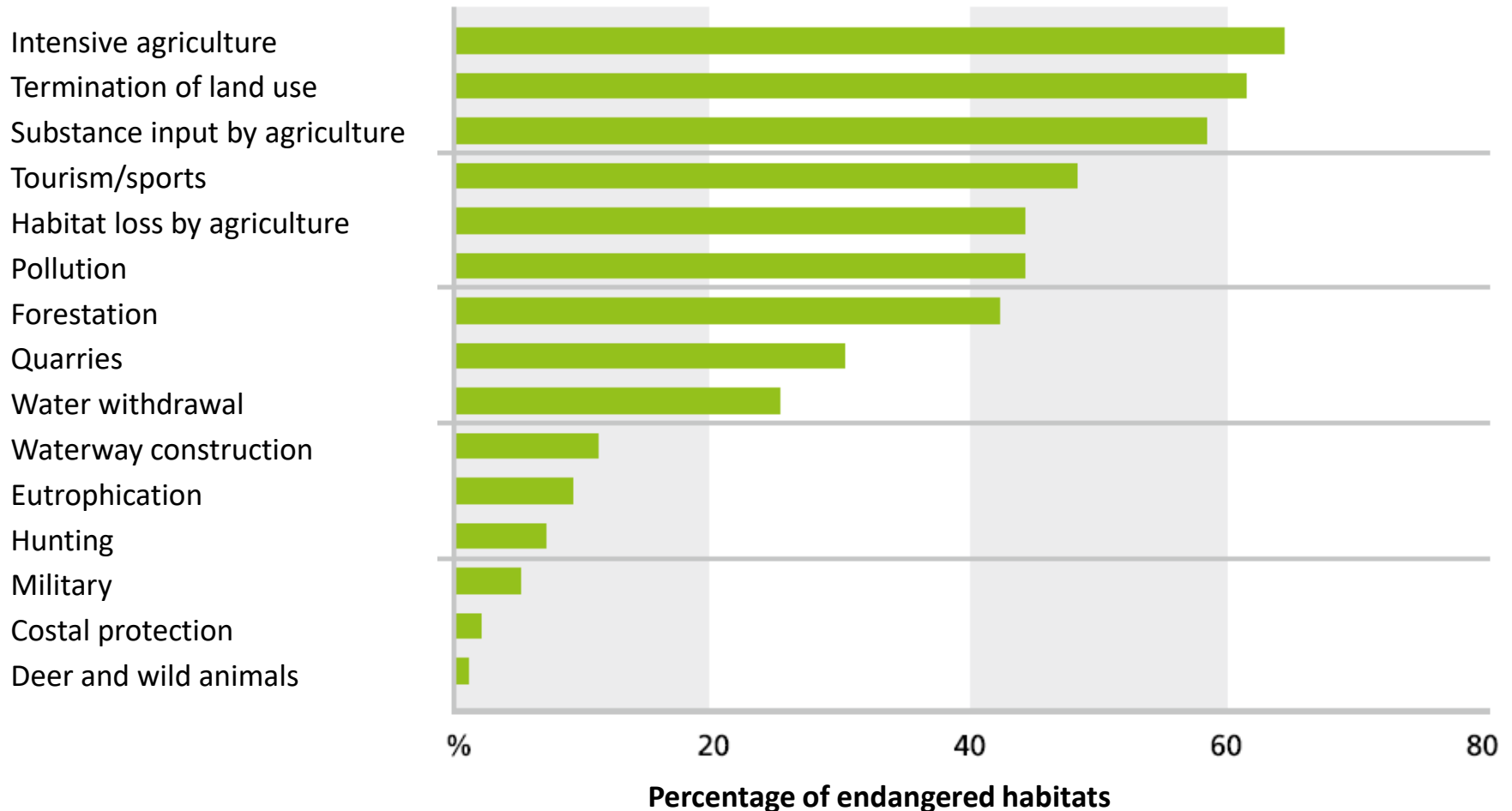


Trend analysis of habitats in Germany



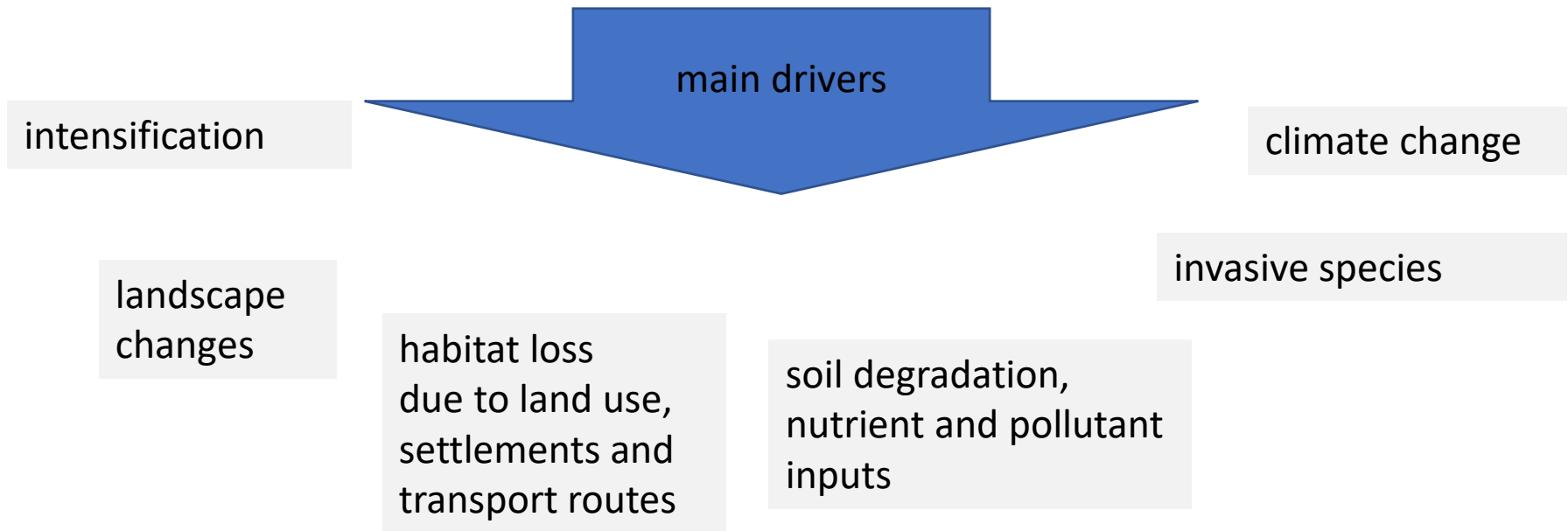
Every fourth biotope type is not or hardly regenerable

Main hazard factors of predominantly agricultural open-land biotope types in Germany



Challenges for biodiversity in Germany

1. The **loss of biodiversity** is a **global, scientifically well documented phenomenon**.
2. The current species extinction reaches loss rates, as they are known only from the large mass extinction events in the history of the earth.
3. This leads to a **loss of ecosystem services**, which causes immense **economic damage worldwide**.



Challenges for the biodiversity in Germany

Major knowledge gaps - extent and specific **causes of biodiversity decline**.

Need for research in the evaluation and valorisation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, in particular in the development of integrative assessment approaches that combine ecological, economic, social and ethical aspects.

The protection and sustainable use of biodiversity need to be integrated into many policy areas.

The **implementation and enforcement deficits must be eliminated**.

Conservation oriented interdisciplinary linking of scientific, social science and humanities.

A vertical photograph of a dense, lush green meadow. The field is filled with numerous small, delicate flowers in shades of white and light purple. The foliage is thick and green, with some plants having large, rounded leaves and others being more fern-like. The overall impression is one of a healthy, wild, and vibrant natural space.

Foto: Andreas Kolter

Foto: Andreas Kolter

A dense collage of various flowers and insects, including bees, butterflies, and beetles, set against a black background. The flowers include daisies, poppies, cornflowers, and many others in various colors like yellow, pink, blue, and white. The insects are shown in various poses, some on the flowers and others on green leaves. The collage is a collection of many small, overlapping photographs.

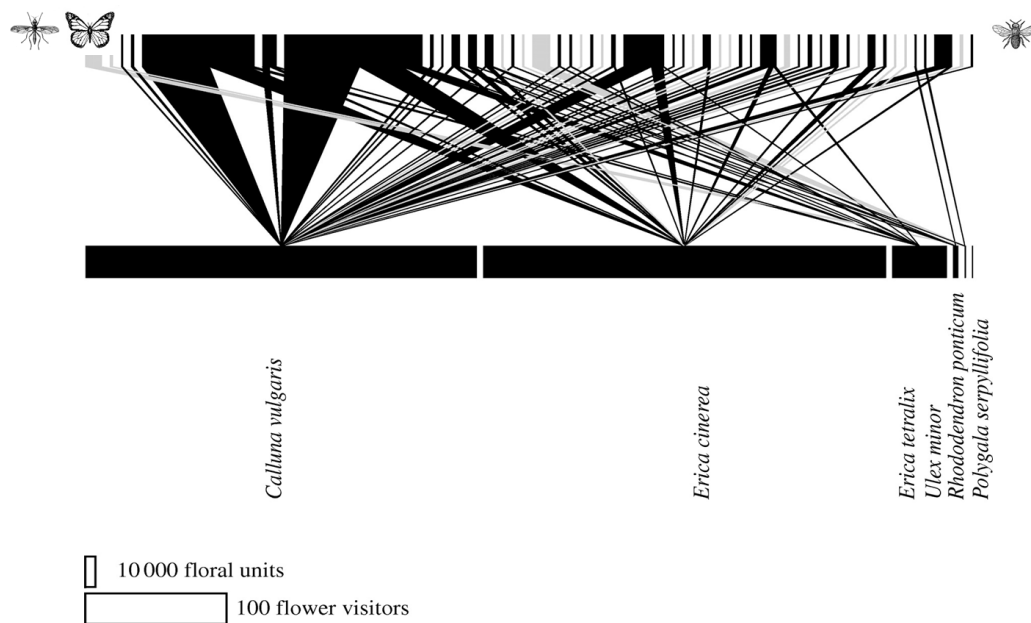
A dense, vertical garden bed filled with various wildflowers and green foliage. The plants are tall and bushy, with many small, colorful flowers in shades of purple, blue, yellow, and white. The background is a blurred green field.





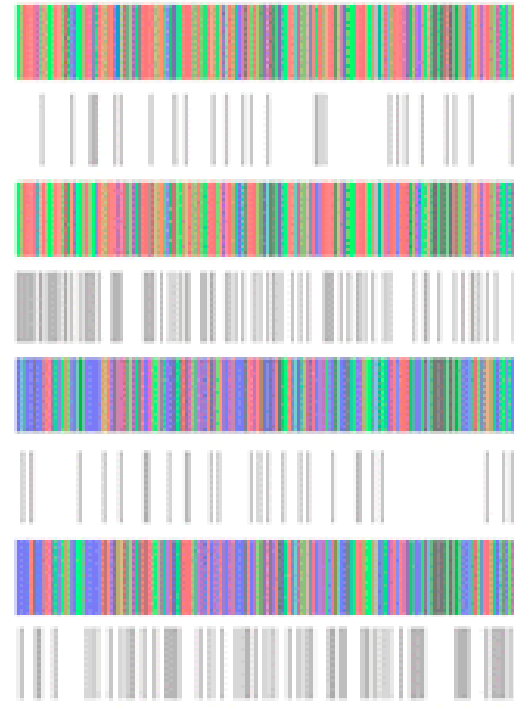
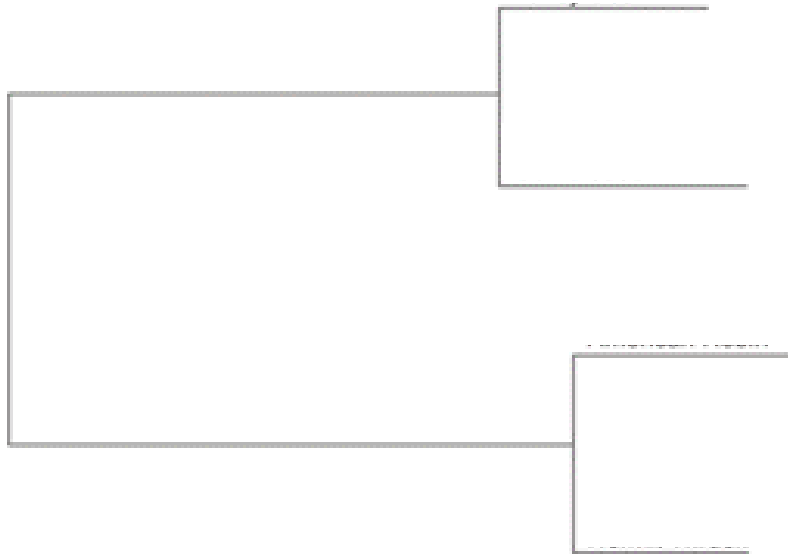


Foto A. Kirse

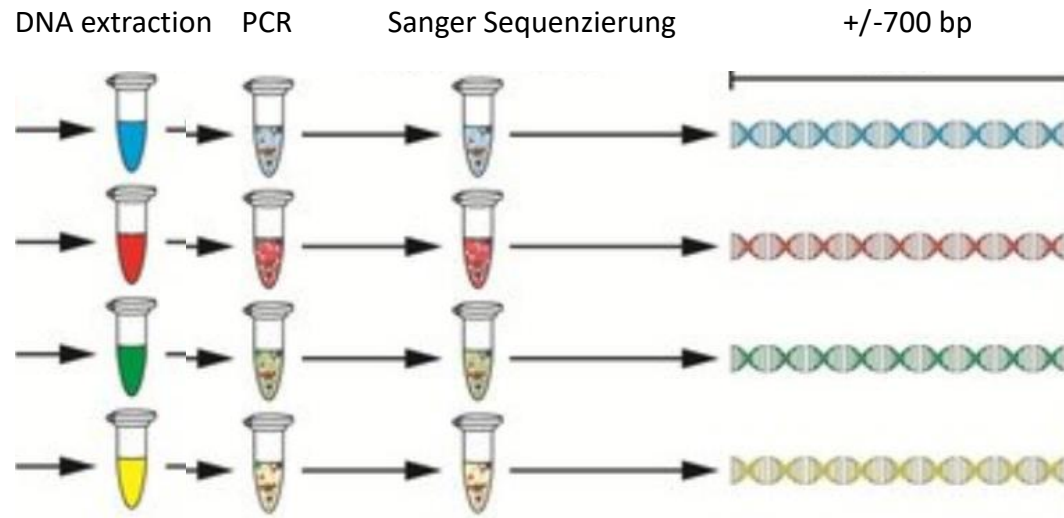


Plant-pollinator network from
an ancient heathland field site
in Dorset, UK
*J. Memmott (2009) Phil Trans.
Royal Soc. B 364:1524*

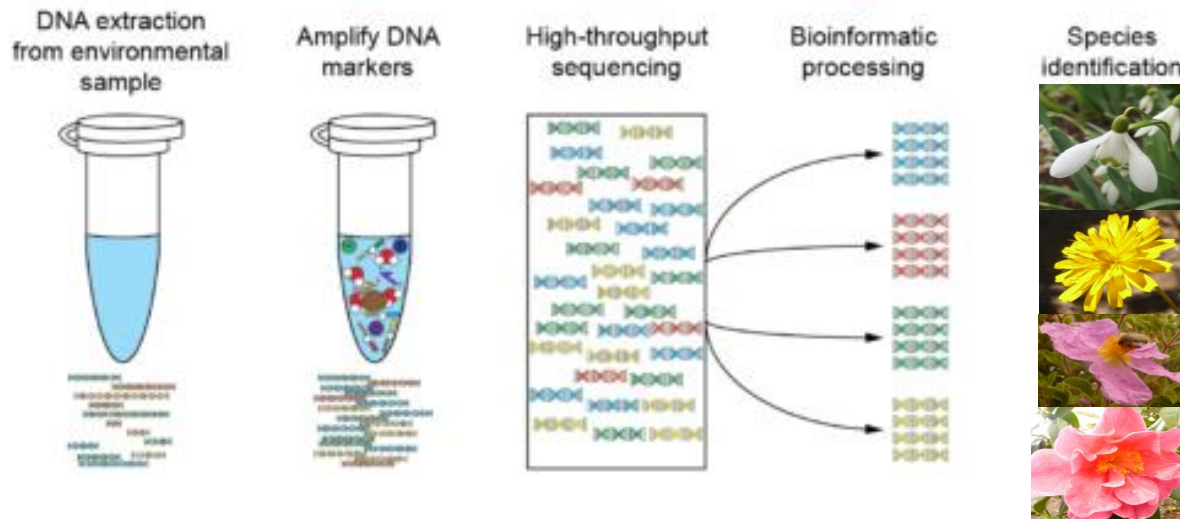
DNA Barcoding



DNA Barcoding



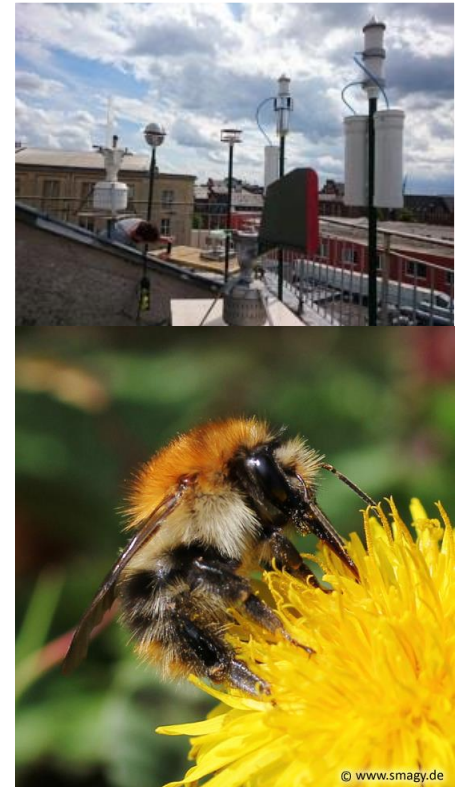
eDNA Barcoding oder Metabarcoding



eDNA Barcoding or Metabarcoding advantages

If the error rate is known, the technique is optimized, the method can be routinely used in an automated way for routine biodiversity monitoring

- a fast way for:
 - Pollen forecasts
 - Drug controls
 - Food control
 - Conservation issues
 - Forensic investigations
 - Plant-pollinator interactions
 - Flowering phenologies

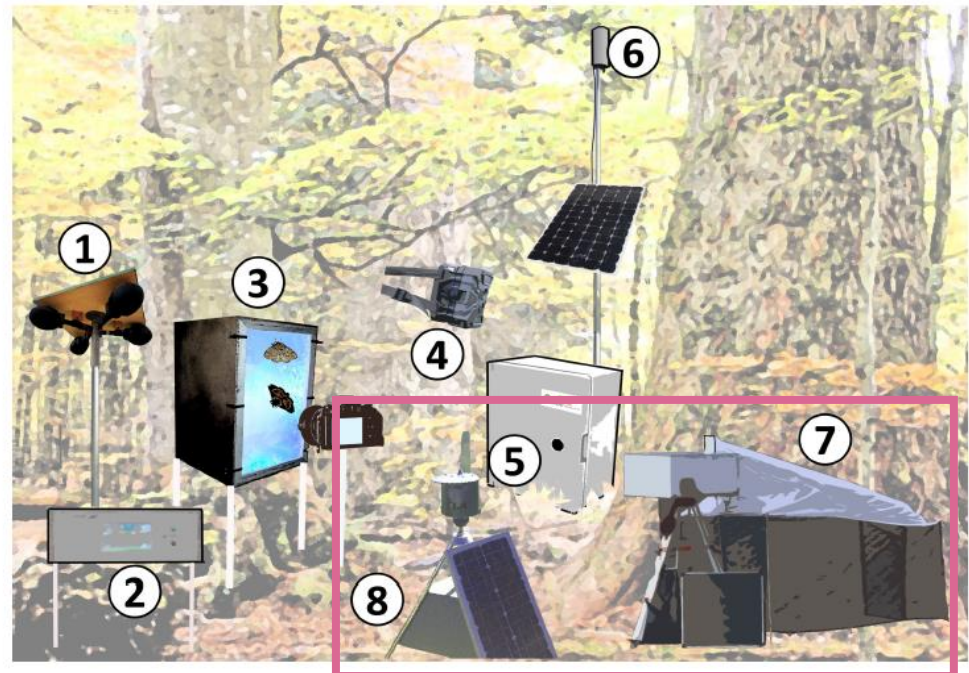


Automated Multi-Sensor Stations for Monitoring of Species Diversity - AMMOD

(development of a “weather station for biodiversity”
an innovative infrastructure for biodiversity monitoring)



Module	Number
Acoustic monitoring	①
Smellscapes (VOCs)	②
Visual monitoring	
Moth scanner	③
Camera trap	④
Base station	⑤
Data management	⑥
Metabarcoding	
Malaise trap	⑦
Pollen trap	⑧



Diversity of insects in nature protected areas (DINA)



Assessment of:

Flying insects

biomass, species identification & abundance for selected taxa (Malaise traps)
+ metabarcoding & morphological determination

& causal factors

- Vegetation (plant communities, pollen)
- Pesticides (air, soil, vegetation, insects)
- Landscape indicators (GIS)

+ Stakeholder analysis:

Societal, political and economic needs



Synthesis



1 Malaisefallen-Transekt am Standort Hofberg (Thüringen) © Martin Sorg

Linking Plant Diversity and Bumblebee Diversity in a historic context

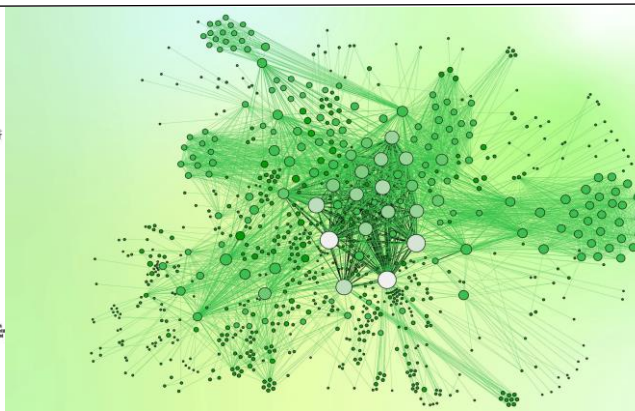
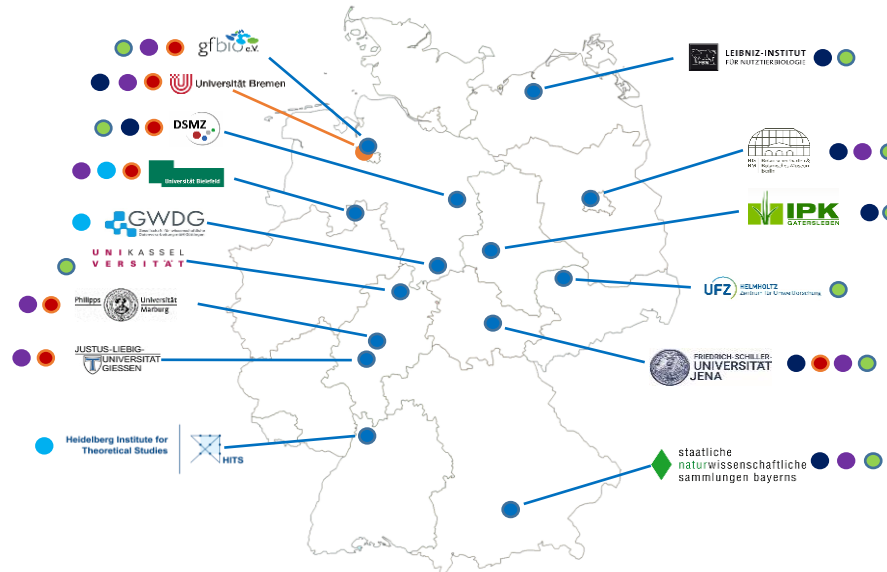
- *Which plants are being visited by which insects at which time of the year?*
- *Can a change in plant availability explain bumblebee decline?*



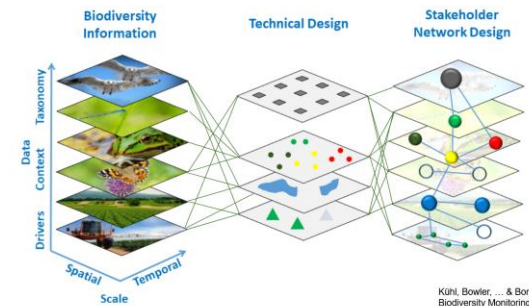
comparing 1980's to today's bumble activities

NFDI4BioDiversity: National Research Data Infrastructure 4 Biodiversity Data

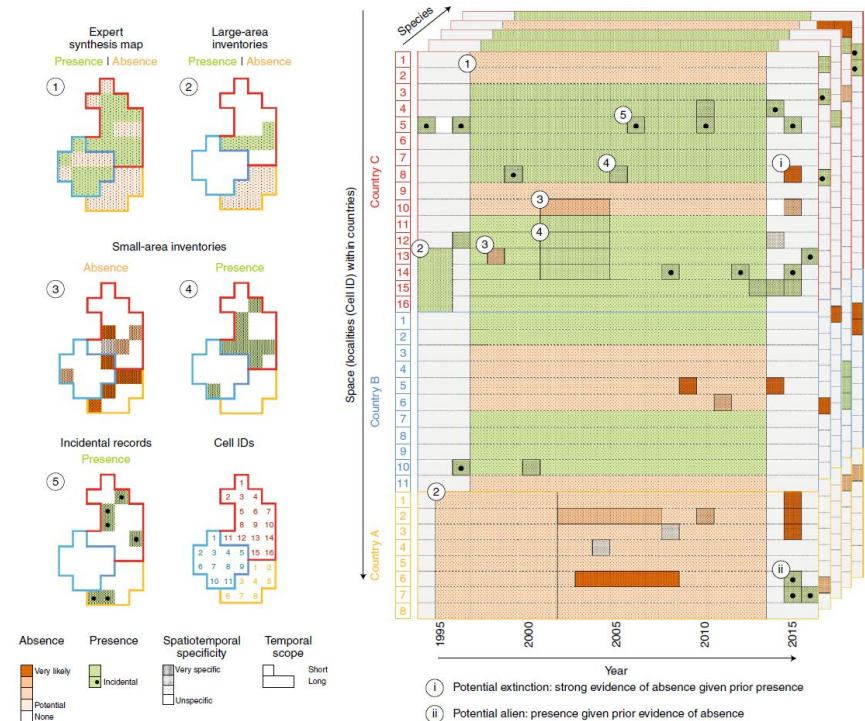
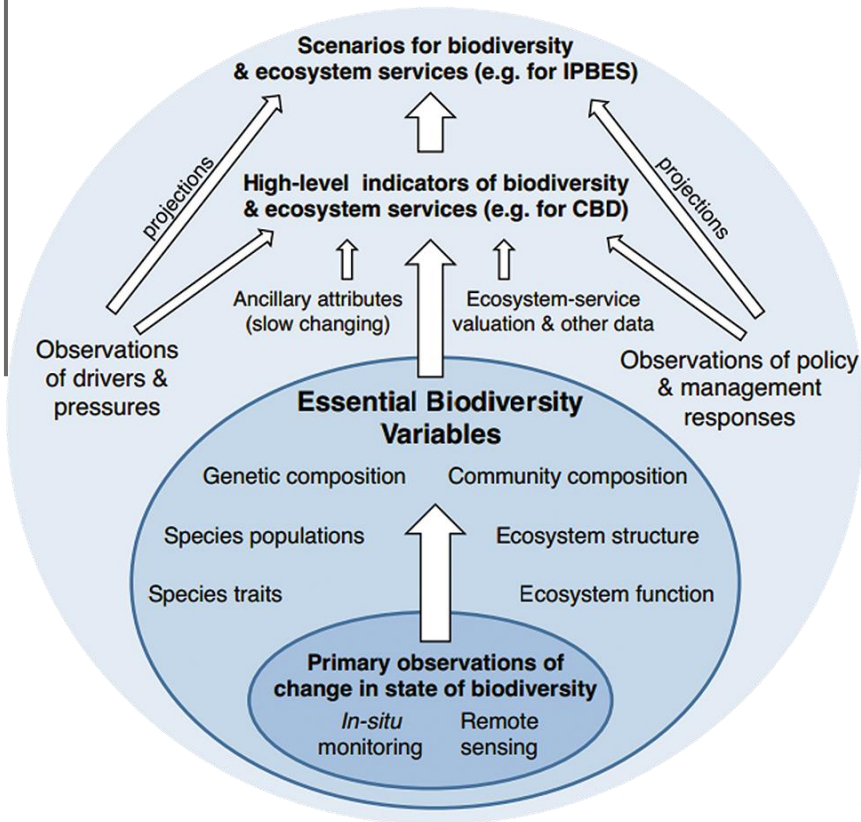
- Data Center
- Infrastructure Provider
- Computer Science
- Biology/Env. Sciences
- Teaching/Training



Community Engagement (2involve)



How much biodiversity knowledge is available, e.g. in Hesse?



Jetz, W., McGeoch, M.A., Guralnick, R. *et al.* Essential biodiversity variables for mapping and monitoring species populations. *Nat Ecol Evol* **3**, 539–551 (2019).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-019-0826-1>

Organic agriculture and biodiversity – What is the impact of modified crop cultivation on biodiversity?



Prof. Dr. Miriam Athmann



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... and all the administrative personell in the background!

