

BEEPATNNET

Learning Logs: Amarante transfer story



Written by *Ana LÍrio*, BeePathNet ULG Coordinator for the
city of Amarante



Enriching the Urban Jungle
with Bees



What you can find here?

1. The evolution of ULG in Amarante
2. The transfer story from Amarante
3. Meet our URBACT Local Group
4. Amarante – victories and regrets of our transfer process
5. Our opinion about bees
6. BeePathNet Amarante Map

Enjoy the Adventure!

THE EVOLUTION OF THE ULG IN AMARANTE

written by Ana Lírio, the ULG coordinator in Amarante

The ULG in Amarante was established by the team of Amarante representatives willing to transfer the BEE PATH good practice and Amarante citizens who enthusiastically embraced the BeePathNet project concept and idea. This group of people representing the Municipality, beekeepers, development support entities (like Dolmen) and entrepreneurs grew together through the first year. But not only in knowledge and experience, we also grew in numbers and diversity of our members, as new members from different areas joined us – e.g., tourist companies, companies specializing in bee products, additional beekeepers, schools and teachers, etc.

At the beginning the excitement, motivation and enthusiasm was high. Many ideas flew around the meeting room, many dreams for Amarante were dreamt, however through time we also noticed some "losses" in the group, some members became less frequent at meetings and reduced their participation in the ULG. Just as the tide of new ideas slowed down, the pandemic came and forced us to re-group.

At this stage there were still some good meetings, but luckily new members joined the group, full of the desire to make and create beautiful things in Amarante. As new forces came into the ULG they put us back on track with the organization of the World Bee Day, newly set-up BeePathNet garden, established bee path in Amarante and a set of totally new ideas. These successes brought back the enthusiasm and we became a more cohesive group. It was at this stage that the links between ULG members became closer and stronger. We really felt that whoever really believed in the ULG, stayed with us or came in and reinforced us.

Many ULG members developed and realized their own ideas and activities during this period, such as Tiago of Runas Mead who created a series of workshops and participated in international competitions, Dolmen who created an online store to adapt to the new reality of sales and product promotion, the beekeeper Alexandre who started selling bee products in the Municipal market, the schools raising awareness of pupils and their families on bees and beekeeping, etc. – all supported by the ULG members.

The BeePathNet project which is slowly reaching its end, will not really end – at least not for us in Amarante. It created bridges between people, cities and ideas for the common good across Europe, despite challenges. Its form is cohesive, firm, rooted in all of us. With feet firmly on the ground and its strong connections between bee friendly cities, it will persist in time.

Come, visit Amarante and we will show you around our own bee path!



Learning Logs: Amarante transfer story

Written by Ana Lirio, BeePathNet ULG Coordinator for the city of Amarante

Preamble

Hi, my name is Ana Lirio and this story begins in 1986 somewhere on Planet Earth on the day I was born (yes, I am the little and smilly girl in the photo). I am a small girl that always loved animals and that quickly discovered that I wanted to be a biologist. I could start my story like this but here what is important to know is more about the transfer story of the BeePathNet project in Amarante so we will start a few years later in June 2018. It was on a normal day, in a



normal conversation with a co-worker, that everything changed and for the better. Tiago Ferreira made me a proposal that I couldn't refuse: join BeePathNet Amarante and be the ULG coordinator. The invitation came up and without realizing much about bees, beekeeping, bee products or the history of beekeeping in Amarante I instantly said YES. There are things that are made to happen and maybe I was meant to be there. So, the journey began a few months in Ljubljana.

The beginning

Once upon a time in Ljubljana...

It was in April 2019 that a group of 6 friendly people from Amarante (Portugal) went to Ljubljana to share, with five other European countries, a unique experience, the BeePathNet Bootcamp. In the suitcase we took a great desire to learn, share and to get know this wonderful city and this amazing project dedicated to bees. This group included me, the coordinator of the



Amarante team in Bootcamp

local group in Amarante, two beekeepers, Avelino and Alexandre (Vice President of the Amarante Beekeepers Association), a member of Dolmen (local cooperative), Celso and two members of the executive board of our Municipality, Councilor of the Environment Lucinda Fonseca and Councilor Rita Baptista. Our first day was dedicated to getting to know all partners and an introduction to the city of Ljubljana. We visited the main points of interest in the urban area dedicated to beekeeping, honey and bees. We learned about the story around honey (the city's first apiary, the beehive stores, the botanical garden, beehives on top of the buildings, a hotel that produces its own honey and seeks to be

“environmentally friendly”, the ethnographic museum). The second and third day were rich in sharing. We strengthened our connection, discussed different themes in the different working groups and learned a little more about Ljubljana's good practices. Meanwhile in Amarante we were already a newspaper cover sharing our experience in Ljubljana with all the inhabitants of Amarante. We learned, smiled, talked and enjoyed the local cuisine – a great foundation to start creating our story.



Together we began to draw our map and our BeePath through Amarante. We came to Amarante with a suitcase full of ideas and joy as we faced such a beautiful challenge. In conclusion, we saw in the Slovenian group and in all groups a deep enthusiasm and involvement around the Bees in the various countries, but in Slovenia they seemed to have a special dimension, most certainly also the result of their culture, education and historical respect for

beekeeping, installed over time in the general population.



Inspiring Story



If we talk about inspiring stories, we have to talk about the ULG group. The ULG of Amarante includes a set of inspiring, and very diverse people. The group initially began with Tiago, where the people involved in the project application met. Then, gradually, more people joined the group and together we started building our BeePathNet

Amarante and transferring good practices from Ljubljana. We got together, discussed, dreamed together and the group grew. Throughout this process, people also left and new people entered. The group has always been dynamic and lively, thanks to the group of incredible people that is made of beekeepers, entrepreneurs, educators people interested in the theme.

However, the pandemic situation appeared and we had to adjust all the meetings: the zoom era began.



At this point I would like to introduce one of our ULG Members, one of the inspiring people, one of the most active beekeepers in our project. His name is Alexandre Morais (in the picture), he's 61 years old. The passion for beekeeping came from a coworker of Alexandre. One day a swarm appeared in Alexandre' house, he adopted the bees and created his first hive. In the same year Alexandre attended training in beekeeping. Alexandre has always been very interested and curious about the world of bees. He always wanted to learn more and more. These hives gave him a lot of work, but a lot of satisfaction and honey too. So he started looking for a market, he produced 2 to 3 tonnes. Naturally the cooperation with Dolmen appeared, a Local Products Store and also agreed support to start marketing his



Alexandre Morais

products in the region. Quickly, the honey he had was no longer enough for orders, so, in a new stage, he installed a honey factory. At this moment he produces monofloral honeys, from rosemary, orange, chestnut and other types the market requests. During the activities of the project, Alexandre shared that the beekeeping has had its growing challenges: the pests and diseases that are increasingly affecting bees, such as the wasp velutina. However, Alexandre truly believes that the spirit of resilience and the passion for bees will speak louder and beekeeping will always win.

At this moment it is also important to share the perspective of one of our members, Patrícia Pereira from our ULG group and her view of the project in Amarante. *“In 2018, the possibility arose of integrating a new URBACT project “Best Practices Transfer Network”, which was the BeePathNet project. Right from the start, my role was established, as in the two previous projects, I would be responsible for*



Maruska, me and Patrícia in november of 2019

administrative and financial matters. My participation in these projects has always been very discreet, very bureaucratic, I don't usually have an active participation, for example, I rarely participate in ULG meetings, even participate less in study visits, except in those that are organized by us, but here, my role is an logistic role and not of active participation in panels. It turns out that, at the end of last year,

with the appointment of the mid-term review meeting of the BeePathNet project, for the month of January 2020, I was organizing the logistics of participation, when I realized that none of my colleagues would be available to participate. Combined with the weight of the responsibility to represent “Amarante”, I felt that there was also an awakening to the adventure, I was uncomfortable with the situation but, at the same time, willing to live this experience. The weeks leading up to the trip were lived with great anxiety, but after being in Ljubljana, meeting more people from the leading city, until then I only knew Maruska and Klemen, when they were in Amarante, meeting people from other partner cities, seeing the enthusiasm with which they spoke about their cities, the tasks they had in the project, the commitment they had with the development of the project, I felt involved with that spirit of sharing, of exchanging experiences. In summary, the BeePathNet project provided me, even though, in the beginning, almost “obligingly”, the greatest experience of an international projects, in a real way, I experienced a transnational exchange, the community environment, the sharing, the will to to hear everything, to assimilate all the information. At one point I felt like I seemed to know everyone personally since the beginning of the project.”

Sharing is caring



All the team in field trip during the Transnational meeting in Hegyvidék

Another important moment for this project was the transnational visit to Hungary and Poland. This trip was very enriching, it brought a lot of learning about education and biodiversity. On this trip, one of our ULG members, Ana Dias, went on this trip, she is responsible in Amarante's municipality for the area of education.

This is how she experienced the back-to-back meeting: *"The trip to Budapest and Bydgoszcz was an important learning and sharing moment for me. My stay in Budapest made it possible for me to acquire more knowledge in terms of biodiversity, the passage through Bydgoszcz allowed me to learn more about how the theme can be worked on in Schools. It was very interesting, we went to the field, we saw and felt how the theme is received at schools and what strategies are used to captivate the interest of the little ones, since early ages. I cannot help but to*

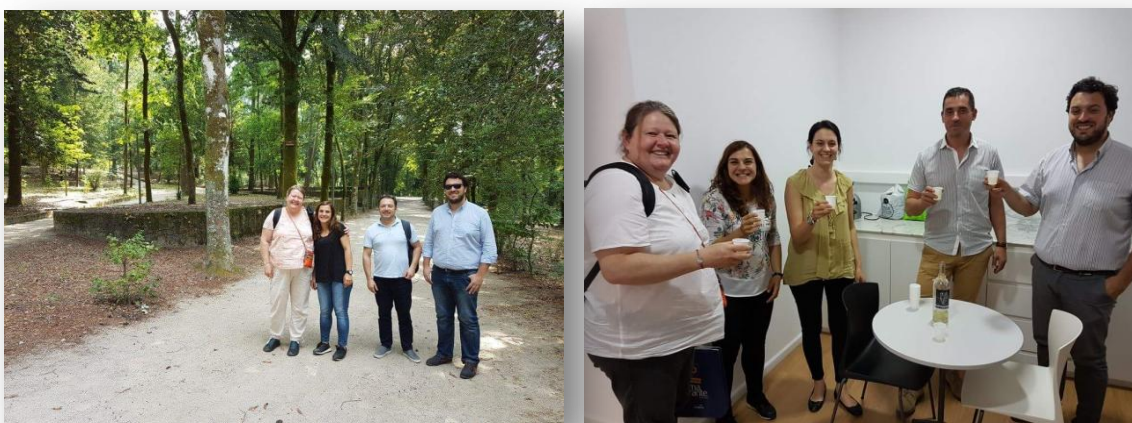
highlight the animosity, motivation and joy that was experienced in the work group! The purpose was shared by everyone and everyone aspired to improve their project and drink all the contributions they could receive! And then ... we were received with such affection and attention! In conjunction with Ana LÍrio we have already presented some ideas to our superiors and we are confident in building new paths in this matter! I brought a lot of "luggage" from this trip and I couldn't be more grateful for the opportunity to get to know all the elements of the BeePathNet project! I thank everyone for the way they received me and contributed to the enrichment of my practice!"



Almost all the "bees" of BeePathNet Project

The Adventure

The adventure started in the moment I met “the queen bee” Maruska, I met the great mind Klemen, I fell in love with beekeeping, I visited Ljubljana, I fell in love with the city, I arrived in Amarante full of ideas and I fell in love with the BeePathNet. As soon as we were back in Amarante I became the coordinator of the local action group, my job was to be the “glue” that would connect everyone in favor of a common good: to develop beekeeping in Amarante and the awareness of the importance of bees for Biodiversity. With no previous leadership experience, but always trying to be empathetic and helpful to everyone, I created a group and created a bond. It was all about strengthening ties that this is always about creating bridges. Bridges between people, bridges between ideas, bridges in city and countryside, bridges in tourism and education, bridges between us. It wasn't always easy. Sometimes I didn't dedicate myself as I would like to, I didn't focus 100% on my task, but at all times I did my best and put my heart and soul into it. But I have always tried to never lower my arms, because a busy bee has no time for sadness. And following his example, even when a pandemic broke out and the world suddenly stopped, I followed their example and continued to work. I continued to try to create bridges, to become cohesive and make them last.



Maruska and Klemen in Amarante

Our main strength has always been children. Because of my connection to education and schools, putting the seed in children about the importance of bees, the variety of products they generously give us, pollination and so many other curiosities was an asset for this project and for me. For all of us in the project. And the people, the people I met in Amarante, the incredible internal team that has always been “there for me”, the local action group in Amarante and my colleagues and friends members of BeePathNet from other countries. How much they taught me, how much I grew and learned from everyone. The bridges have brought me here, and here I am, a point of becoming a beekeeper and creating a connection to the umbilical BeePathNet.

At this point it is important to highlight another main strength of this Project, the ULG. The ULG was born, grew and thrives. This group of people is so diverse but all have a common interest or several common bee interests, which made this adventure and this trip more beautiful and promising. In

this regard, I share a testimony from one of our members about one of the ULG meetings that took place, in this case on May 20, 2019, to feel the living atmosphere that is felt in our group. "The ULG meeting that most impressed me was the one that took place in May 2019 and coincided with the first celebration, in Amarante, of "World Bee Day".To celebrate this day and meeting a challenge that we launched to one of the pastry shops in the city, to make a cake that, in its ingredients, included honey. To accompany the cake, we had the collaboration of another member of ULG, we toasted to the "World Bee Day" with a sparkling mead from Runas Hidromel - Tiago Morais. It was a very special day indeed".



1st World Bee Day Celebration in Amarante

And now something completely different

An Urbact project is always a challenge and for me it was the first. Through Urbact programs, cities can challenge themselves and develop new ideas to promote sustainable development. This is what we thought for Amarante when we joined BeepathNet. Very important from the beginning of each project, was to define what would be considered successful regarding the implementation of the project, so we started to build that together with the local action group and the internal team. We began starting with the vision for the future of the project, in order to have a shared perspective that would motivate the whole group during the project cycle. We started with a general meeting to present the project, where we introduced the transfer network and presented the good practices from Ljubljana. Enthusiasts began to emerge around a common good: promoting beekeeping in Amarante and raising awareness of the importance of bees for maintaining biodiversity. The dice was released and it was at the second meeting that the dream began to be built. We united on May 20th and for the first time, dreams and ideas began to fly. At the third meeting we decided to consolidate ideas and it was in a simple exercise created by the project coordinator, Tiago Ferreira that we highlighted the main areas such as the environment, tourism, education, biodiversity, new products, awareness and some ideas started to take shape. At this point, the beekeepers' love of beekeeping became very evident, the bubbling of ideas on the part of tour operators and entrepreneurs, the flow of ideas on the part of schools and teachers and we started to row our boat to a good port. Soon, we created a map, a map of ideas that would be our key objectives for the project in Amarante and where we wanted to be at the end of the project. Such as:

- Develop the beekeeping tourism niche;
- Make the population aware of the beekeeping sector and the role of bees and pollinators in Nature;
- Create a bee-friendly garden, a good example that can contribute to awareness / replication;
- Improve the *link* between universities, training centers, beekeepers association, in order to promote knowledge transfer between them and cooperation;
- Promote organization in the sector at regional level and influence beekeeping policies.

These were the objectives defined together with the motto of good Ljubljana practices, now becoming our path for our project. We reached the news that we would wish to read at the end of the project, published in a renowned magazine in the area of Sustainability: “Amarante: a beekeeping city, where bees are happy because people take care of them and the environment, where honey and other bee products are used by everyone, where tourists discover the beauty of beekeeping in Amarante, and where beekeepers thrive.”

Now, let's start all the fun (or not)

The World Bee Day was not lived the way we had dreamed of in April 2019, during the work camp in Ljubljana where all BeePathNet partners got together and started to dream together. More dreams emerged from that dream and these dreams began to be shared by the Amarante group from

BeePathNet. This ULG planned a world bee day full of surprises. It would be a month of May entirely dedicated to bees. However, life sometimes changes us and there are conditions that make us review everything. And it was this way with World Bee Day. All plans had to be changed due to the pandemic situation of Covid 19. But we did not lower our arms. The situation was not promising but in the midst of the disorder, but we managed to organize a very beautiful world bee day in Amarante. We celebrated these little animals that give us so much, that never stopped during the pandemic situation and that deserve all our esteem and care. We had planned to open the BeePathNet Garden on



this day. At the same time, we were going to carry out an awareness campaign about the importance of pollinators and our partner Cercimarante (partner that created the Amarante insects hotel) would

distribute insect hotels to our partners and the city, highlighting the importance of these small beings for healthy life in the city and for biodiversity. A challenge was also planned for schools of illustrations and bee stories, and simultaneously challenging everyone to specially the children), on this day, taste products from the hive that they have never tasted, awakening the palate to new and unique flavors. As the conventual sweets fair is held close to this date, this year we would dedicate it to honey and challenge the confectioneries that exhibit and showcase their products, creating a sweet with honey to go to the contest and be the new sweet representative of the city. In view of the pandemic situation, the plans had to change and I started this day differently. I started by receiving an abysmal amount of illustrations from schools that we did not count. We knew that many schools had expressed interest, but given the constraints of confinement (COVID-19 effect), we did not expect this avalanche of creativity and love for bees. I felt like it was Christmas and moment after moment my heart was overflowing with the generosity of all the kids and teachers.



Draws from children in World Bee Day

DIA MUNDIAL DAS ABELHAS

Curiosidades:

- As abelhas são insetos sociais;
- As abelhas operárias não tocam firmas;
- As abelhas não vivem muito tempo;
- Só existe uma Abelha - Rainha por colmeia, que vive cerca de 2 a 3 anos, enquanto as operárias vivem cerca de 6 a 8 semanas;
- As abelhas são as únicas produtoras de mel;
- Cada colmeia tem o seu próprio odor, o que lhes permite identificar os membros da colmeia;
- A Abelha - Rainha produz 2000 ovos por dia;



Agrifood market in WBD 2020

Then we went to the Agrifood Market to be with our Beekeeper Alexandre Morais. He was selling his products and the interest aroused in many who passed by the market that day at his stall, about the world bee day. Later we went to Dolmen, which had a part reserved for the celebration of this special day and the bee products of our local and regional products. Then the afternoon was spent around schools and their draws. Everyone deserved our attention, everyone deserved to be publicized. At 6:00 pm in the afternoon, our *online* seminar about

Economy and Beekeeping began, led by Tiago Ferreira, from Invest Amarante and attended by Alexandre Morais, President of Apimarão, Tiago Morais, creator of Runas Hidromel and José Martino, live from Espaço Visual. It was a very interesting debate about the beekeeping sector in Portugal. The celebration of the day only ended on May 21 with the set of joint classes held by Fani and Paulo Russo. The generosity and sharing were incredible, I think we all learned a lot and had a very good time. May 20th was not as we imagined. It was much better. Because it was real, it happened within adversity and that is what makes this project so beautiful, the animal bees so special and the BeePathNet group a real family.

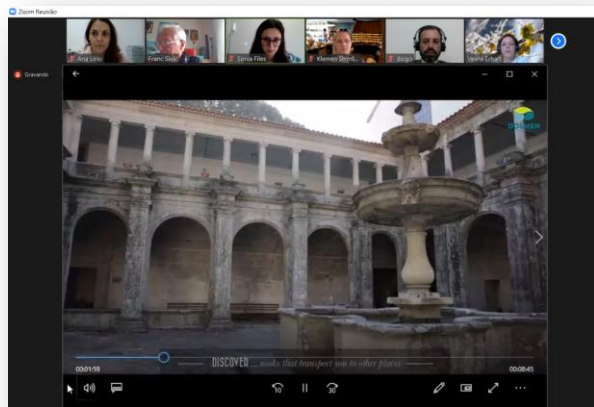


Webinar for the WBD



Joint class: Portugal and Greece (WBD)

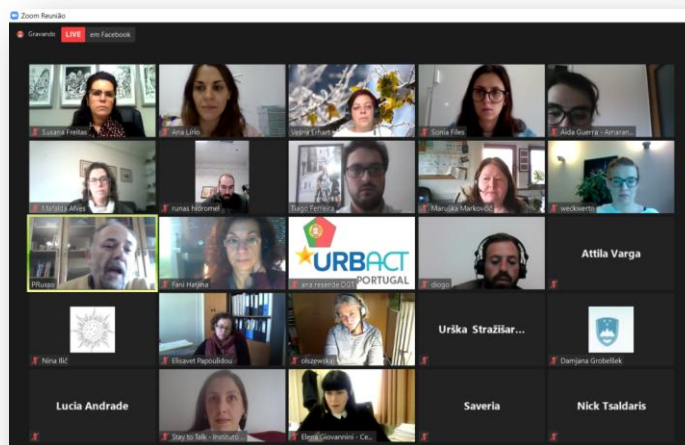
Shinning Star Moment



Transtional meeting in Amarante

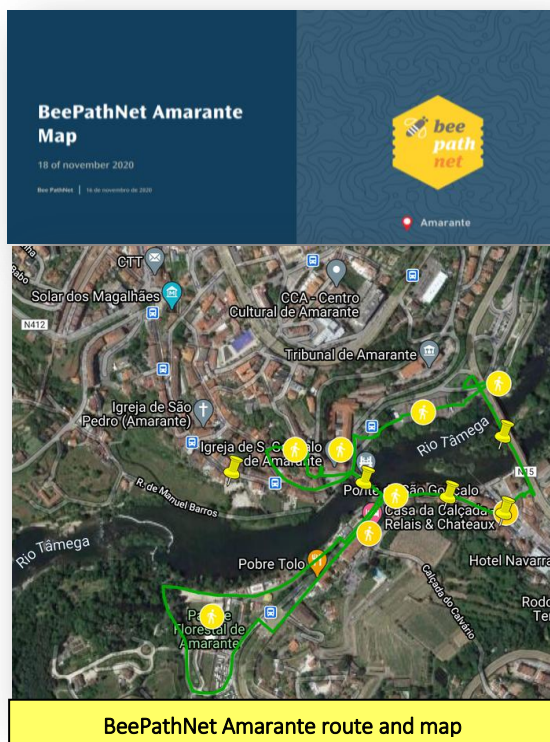
One of the very important moments in the BeePathNet transfer process and much awaited by us, the Amarante team, was the visit of the partner cities to Amarante. Everything would be prepared very carefully. We took our friends from the partner cities to discover the most beautiful spaces in the city, our BeePathNet route, the good gastronomy and the tasty sweets. However, travel was conditioned and this

whole experience of Amarante became virtual. This virtual trip took place over two days and we tried that, although short, it could include a little of what we had to show. The President of the Chamber welcomed all the participants, we introduced the entire internal team and let them know a little about what we had been doing over these months. Our friends were able to meet the members of our ULG, who shared their ideas, work developed and involvement in BeePathNet. We had the excellent sharing of our good practice, Dolmen, by Diogo Pereira. We also had a very rich round table where we shared ideas about new bee products.



Transtional meeting in Amarante

The future



There we are on May 20 of 2029. Ten years have passed since the beginning of the BeePathNet project and ten years since the first celebration of world bee day. Over these ten years Amarante has become a beekeeping city and a national reference for beekeeping. Today we have another meeting of the project's local action group, with about 20 members. All the members brought their families because today we are going to celebrate the World Bee Day together and the ideal way to celebrate is to take our route BeePathNet. We started at the tourist office where today we already have 5 possibilities for honey routes. There are: exploring the mountain and the beekeeping tradition of Amarante, tasting honey and mead sweets and drinks, apitherapy and well-being Amarante thermal baths, "Colmeia do Marão" and an apiary route and urban bee route with the Amadeo Hives. Today we decided to take the urban route and here we will pass by pastry shops with tasting of sweets with honey, a visit to the Dolmen, a visit to the Municipal Market, a visit to the Pura Mistura store to know more bee cosmetics, we will visit Amadeo' hives and Hostel hives and visit 5 BeePathNet gardens and discover the insect hotels designed by schools. At the moment there is a universe of 300 beekeepers registered with the Amarante beekeepers association and 5 are professional beekeepers. We have 2 schools that have a "Bee Friendly School" emblem where children rejoice with pollinators, have honey gardens in schools and consume honey almost daily. Over these 10 years, companies in Amarante that sell bee products have grown and we will organize this year, in November, a national beekeeping congress on the theme "Beekeeping - opportunity and challenge of the future". Over these 10 years, this was only possible through the will and determination of people who believed in BeePathNet, the local action group. The bridges that created these people in 2019 persisted in time and brought us here.

I am beekeeping, and this is one of my messages about the future and belief in the project.

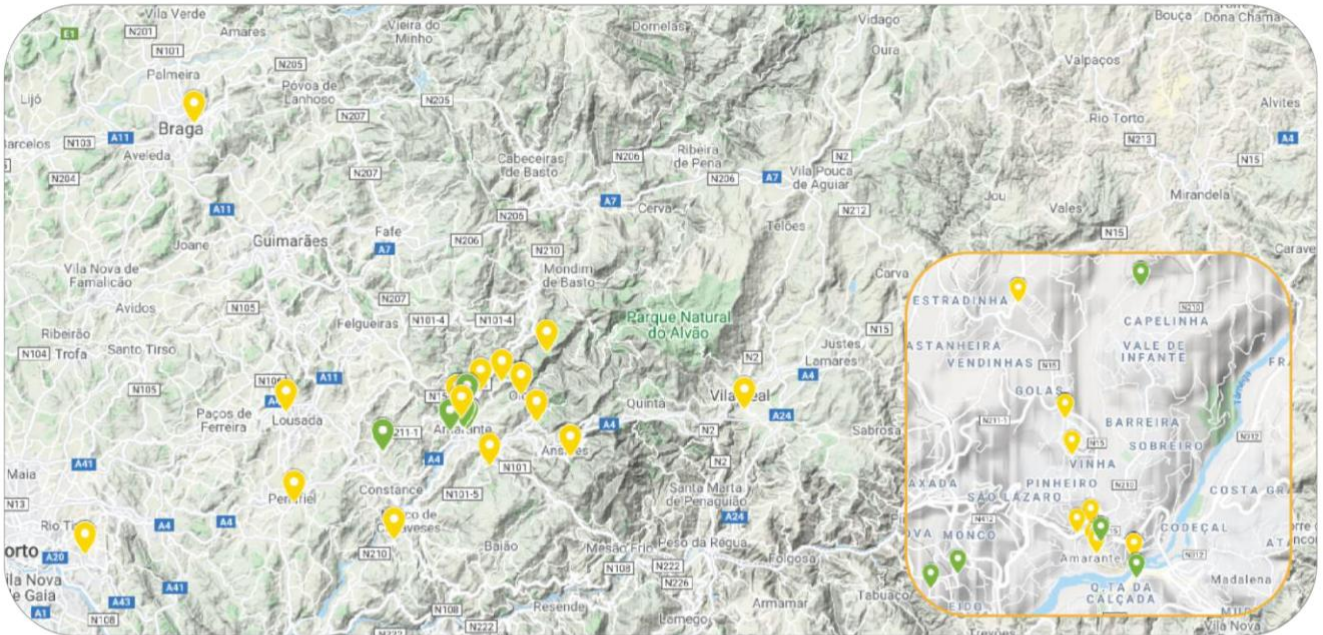


"A dream you dream alone, it is just a dream. A dream you dream together is reality".

AMARANTE



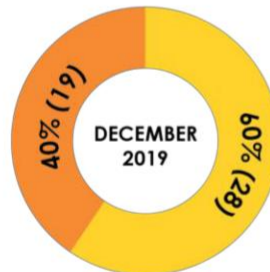
Meet our URBACT Local Group



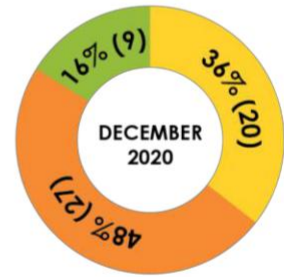
Active members New members

Diagrams 1 and 2: ULG members per their activity status (% and number of members)

Active members Observers New members



Total number of ULG members
47



Total number of ULG members
56

The URBACT Local Group (ULG) from the City of Amarante (Portugal) overgrew its “city character” almost from the start, and is today involving members from cities like Porto, Braga and Villa Real. Its members compose an interesting mix of city officials, beekeepers, entrepreneurs, teachers, tourist guides and various associations.

With 56 ULG members it is the 2nd largest ULG in the BeePathNet project. But more importantly, it is “a lively” ULG – with a healthy core of 20 “active members” from 2019 and 9 “new members” joining the ULG in 2020 and immediately assuming active roles, thus expressing a clear desire to contribute with fresh ideas. Despite quite a large group of 27 less active “observers”, no one decided to leave the ULG.

A constant increase in the level of cooperation between ULG members can be detected on the Diagram 3; visually demonstrating the effects of a continuous and goal-oriented work with ULG members, benefits of a constructive and creative ULG environment and achieved mind-change. If you pay attention to the distribution of ULG members in December 2020 (green columns), two contradictory processes become evident – a clear formation of “the core team” with an obvious buy-in and high level of cooperation, as well as a clear formation of “the observer group” with a sincere desire to remain

Diagram 3: BeePathNet project impact on improved cooperation between ULG members

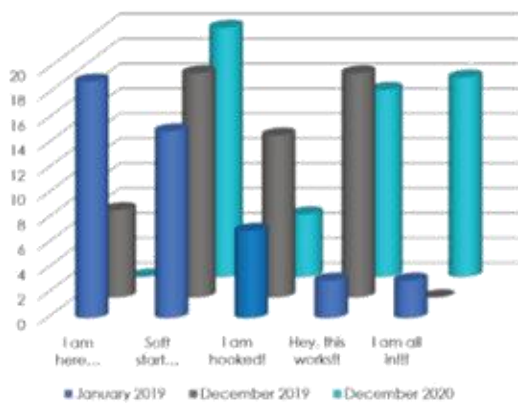
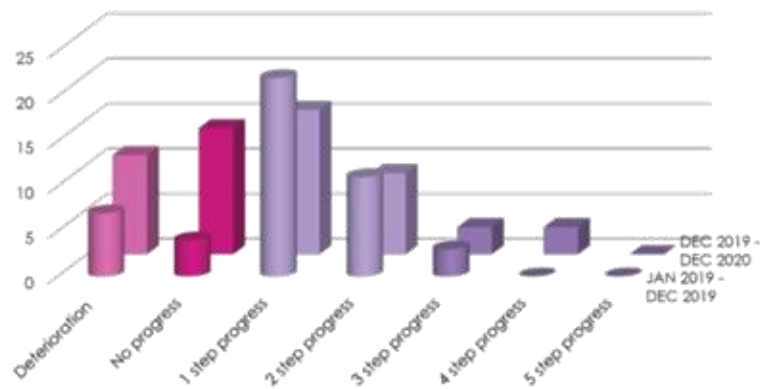


Diagram 4: Division of Amarante ULG members into cooperation progress types



Progress step --	Period	1	2	3	4	5	Average	Period	Number of members / % of members				Progress step --	1	2	3	4	5
		I am here...	Soft start...	I am hooked!	Hey, this works!!	I am all in!!!			"Doubters"	"Freezers"	"Growers"	"Jumpers"		Number of "freezers" per step	I am here...	Soft start...	I am hooked!	Hey, this works!!
Number of all ULG members	47 January 2019	19	15	7	3	3	1.54	01/2019 - 12/2019	7	4	33	3	0	2	1	1	0	
	54 December 2019	7	18	13	18	0	2.75	12/2019 - 12/2020	15%	9%	70%	6%	0	10	1	4	0	
	54 December 2020	0	20	5	15	16	3.48		20%	25%	45%	11%						

within the ULG, but assume a less active role. However, identified "polarization" within the ULG is normal and expected in such voluntary working environments where ULG members are driven by their own ambitions, as well as actual capacities for active cooperation. This is why "observers" in the ULG should not be neglected, but rather understood as an important potential for the future.

Diagram 4 breaks the ULG members into four "cooperation progress types" – their distribution further confirming above conclusions linked to "polarization" within the ULG in Amarante:

- "Jumpers" – most active ULG members, reaching a high level of cooperation in the 1st year within ULG.
- "Growers" – active ULG members with less turbulent, but constant 1-2 level progress per year.
- "Freezers" – ULG members who have already reached the desired level of cooperation within the ULG. If it is high (levels 3 to 5) they should be understood as active members, if it is low (levels 1 and 2) they should be understood as observers.
- "Doubters" – a group of ULG members whose level of cooperation within the ULG has deteriorated – they are less active.

Overall, the ULG in Amarante reached one of the highest cooperation progresses within the BeePathNet project, with 1,42 level progress achieved by "an average ULG member" in Amarante. Despite already high initial level of cooperation, active members showed a very constant progress throughout the 2-year period. It is interesting that even observers showed significant progress in the 1st year, which deteriorated in the 2nd year due to various reasons on individual ULG member level. However, it is the clearly formed "core team" led by the ULG coordinator Ana Lírio, reinforced by impressive progress of new ULG members, which confirms the "lively" character of the ULG in Amarante and its bright future.

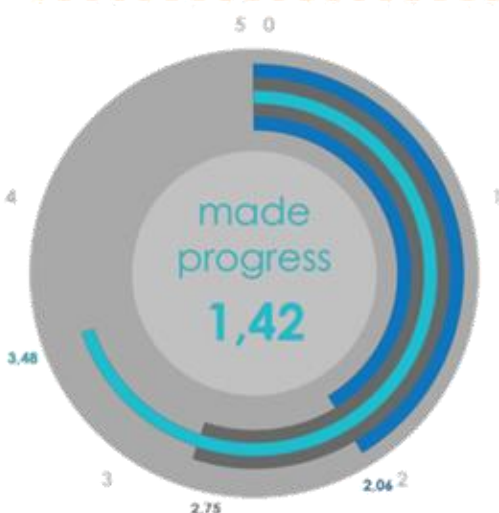
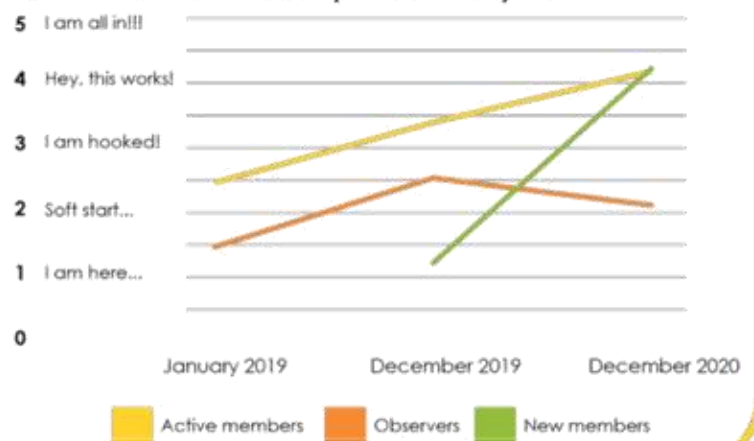


Diagram 5: Overall cooperation progress dynamics between ULG members in Amarante per their activity status



Amarante - victories and regrets of our transfer process

Shining stars

Eureka moments

Invisible victories

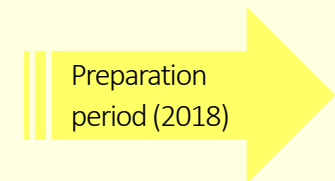
Our regrets

Obstacles in our way

Maruska in Amarante, having Maruska's visit was an extra motivation for the whole group.

The beekeeper Luciano Carvalho and bees on the Museum – Bees chose the city to live in and the museum became their home.

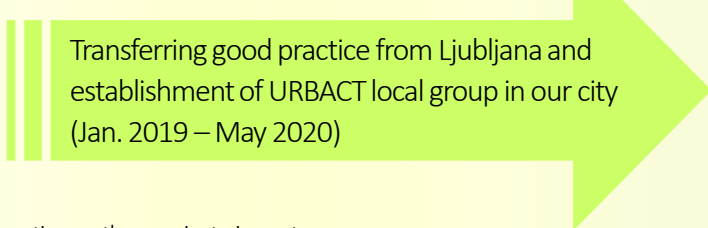
More cohesive internal team, more frequent work meetings, more active participation in external meetings, several partnerships created.



Participation of the councilwoman and stakeholders in Bootcamp (project start-up in Hegyvidék).

Implementation of the BeePathNet route – create a honey route in Amarante and a set of tourist bee experiences in the city.

Travel from Patricia to Ljubljana, a key member of the group represented us in Ljubljana.



Sometimes the project is not what the stakeholders would think, **not captivating enough the ULG**.

Too many projects, too many tasks, internal team in overworking.

FLC contracting failed, we failed the 1st refund request.

Sale of bee products in the Municipality market - despite the pandemic situation, we managed to bring honey and bee products to the municipal market.

We found the solution for the Bee Garden – we found the ideal space in the city center with fancying panels.

Luciano Carvalho and **beekeeping classes** at the Senior University.

Dolmen: contest with a highlight for some of our stakeholders in September.

Difficulties in selecting the bee-friendly garden: **1st and 2nd ideias for bee garden failed**.

Due to Pandemic situation departure and desmotivation from the ULG group and some activities were canceled/delay.

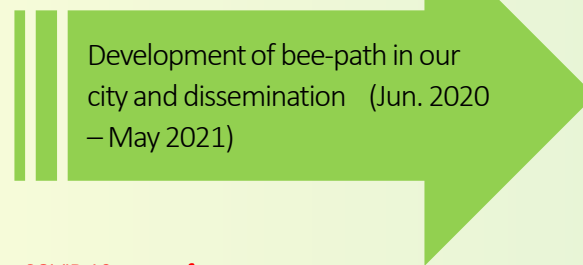
Despite the lockdown because of the COVID 19, we managed to have an incredible **World Bee Day 2020**, full of bees and sweetness all over the city.

Melliferous Campaign – Christmas 2020 - offer to the whole community honey seeds to help bees in the spring.

BeePathNet route mobile application – *Amarante tourism app* will allow to have the route on the mobile phone of all visitors in a simple and accessible way.

Tiago Morais one of the most active ULG member: mead workshops and contest in Spain.

More active participation of the Business Association: several partnerships.



Due to COVID 19 many of our activities, especially those linked to schools/education, **need to be changed**.



Enriching the Urban Jungle with Bees

Although not physically but offering the sun, the sweetness of honey and the green of the mountains, during **virtual visit to Amarante**.

New stakeholders arrive - a breath of fresh air arrived with the new stakeholders.

Betting on the proximity and dissemination of products, Dolmen created the **Online store**.

Amarante beekeeping plan, a long-term plan, created by the ULG group that will keep BeePathNet present in Amarante.

“Colmeia do Marão”/New Project “Marão Hive,” a creating of a honey interpretative center in the mountain.

COVID 19 – second round!! Here we go again. Let's reinvent ourselves.



Our opinion about bees

Results of the on-line survey in Amarante

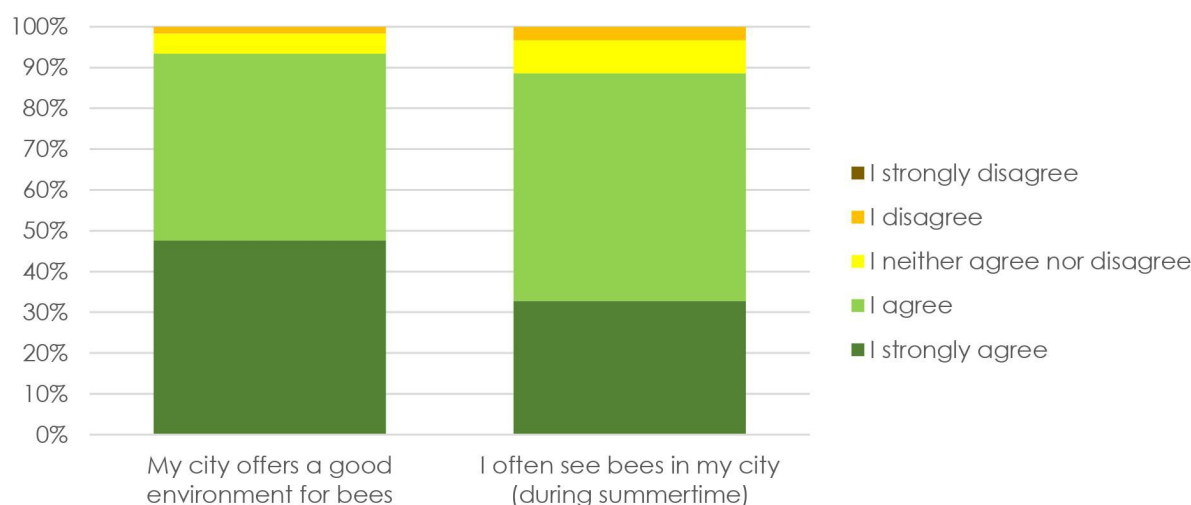


In spring 2020 the BeePathNet partnership carried out an on-line survey to capture the public perception of bees and urban beekeeping. Based on its results, the BeePathNet project team developed "citizen profiles" representing predominant public opinion. To make them livelier, we created citizen characters and let them tell your story...



Amarante's bees bloom

My name is Maria Flor. I'm a 15-year-old schoolgirl from Amarante. We live in a green, rural part of town. Around my city, there are many bees in the summertime. I think that this is because Amarante offers a good environment for bees. It's nice to see them whizzing around, although I am a bit afraid of bees, just like most of my friends.



It is important to protect bees, also in the city. We need them to grow our plants and crops and they are an important species in our environment. And of course, they make sweet honey. The honey from around Amarante is the best. At home, we always have some of it in the cupboard and I eat it around once a week. I especially like cakes and deserts with honey.

This year, we did a school project about bees, to learn more about how they live. One of the things I learned, is that bees not only make honey, but also other tasty and useful things, like pollen, royal jelly and bee wax. There is a World Bee Day every year, to show people around the world what they can do to protect them. And in my town, there is a new Bee Path where you can see beekeeping in real life. I think many people should come and see it for themselves.

We can also help bees around our house. We have a nice garden, like most other houses in our neighbourhood. My parents didn't really think about it before, but with the school project we talked about what we can do for bees. This year we stopped spraying chemicals against bugs. I also planted lots of special flowers that bees like. It was a nice to see so many flowers and bees around our house this summer.

If you are interested, we invite you to read the full on-line survey report, which you can find in our [BeePathNet project library](#).

Amarante's Bee Path city map



Interactive Tourism Store



Confeitaria da Ponte
Place to buy bee products



Dolmen



Forest Park
Insects Hotel



Municipal Market



Thermal of Amarante



Amadeo's hives



Beepathnet garden

Tamega river

Points of interest outside the city center

Runas Mead

📍 Lat 41°17'16.63"N Long 8°5'19.06"W

Colmeia do Marão - Honey Interpretive Center

📍 Lat 41°18'2.69"N Long 7°57'6.61"W

Ancient Apiary

📍 Lat 41°16'5.41"N Long 7°58'50.14"W

Apiary

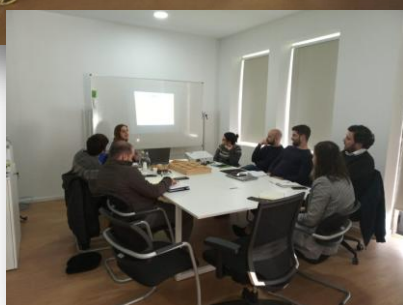
📍 Lat 41°18'10.82"N Long 7°56'27.10"W

50m



BeePathNet Amarante Team

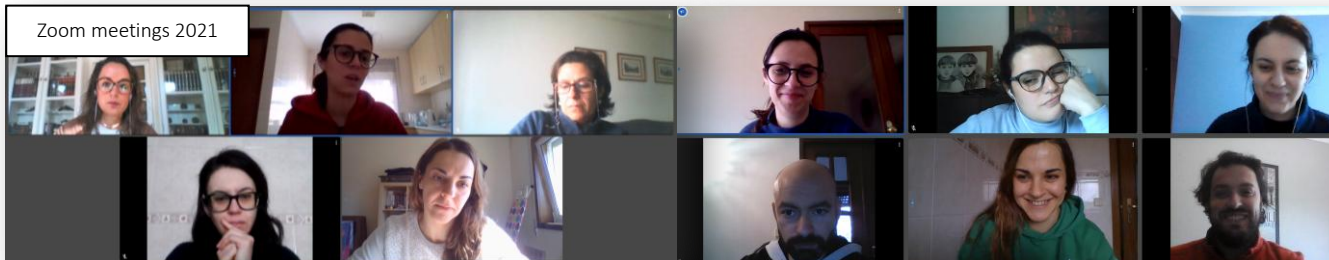
Amarante ULG 2019



Awareness campaign about melliferous plants in Christmas 2020



Zoom meetings 2021



For more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/beepathnet.portugal/>

<https://www.cm-amarante.pt/pt/beepathnet-enriquecer-a-selva-urbana-com-as-abelhas>

<https://amarantetourism.com/>

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