

Translational Centre Biodiversity Conservation: Connecting Research and Practice

Conference Poster

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Translational Centre Biodiversity Conservation

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Connecting research & practice

Background

Together with climate change, biodiversity loss is the most pressing environmental crisis of our time. The "Translational Centre Biodiversity Conservation" bundles knowledge and makes it generally available. In collaboration with key Swiss stakeholders, the Centre identifies topics for knowledge exchange, translation, and synthesis, and communicates and distributes the resulting synthesis products (Figure 1). We are funded by the ETH Board under the 2023 Joint Initiative "Engagement and Dialogue With Society".

Who Are We?

Our team consists of experts in the fields of aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity as well as policy, management and communication (Figure 2). In addition, the project is supported by an Executive Board, half of which consists of experts from the field and half of researchers. The project is funded by the ETH Board and is a collaboration between various institutions in the ETH Domain.

Translational Centre Biodiversity Conservation			
Executive Council		Subject Experts	
Practice Christoph Bühler (Hintermann & Weber AG) Dr. Urs Gimmi (KBNL, Kt. St.Gallen) Sarah Pearson Perret (Pro Natura) André Stapfer (Büro Landschaft & Natur)	Research Prof. Dr. Rolf Holderegger (WSL, Lead PI) Dr. Eva Lieberherr (ETHZ) Prof. Dr. Christoph Vorburger (Eawag) Prof. Dr. Alex Widmer (ETHZ)	Manager Dr. Rea Pärli (WSL)	Aquatic Biodiversity Dr. Karen Bussmann-Charran (Eawag) Terrestrial Biodiversity Dr. Sarah Richman (ETHZ) Policy & Governance Nora Zumbühl (ETHZ)
Working Groups Composed of Stakeholders Researchers Accompanied by Executive Council			

Figure 2. TCBC Organigram

Survey Question	Percent of Survey Respondents				Average
	Very relevant	Relevant	Somewhat relevant	Not relevant	
How can biodiversity issues and their loss be communicated effectively to different target groups?	53.06%	20.41%	18.37%	8.16%	3.18
How can connectivity measures be implemented most effectively overall and for specific species (stepping stone distances, arrangement of connectivity elements, avoidance of barriers, European migration corridors, etc.)?	44.90%	30.61%	18.37%	6.12%	3.14
How must the promotion of species/habitats be adapted under the influence of climate change (especially beneficiaries and species/habitats that cannot be preserved in the long term)?	38.78%	36.73%	18.37%	6.12%	3.08
What role does the spatial arrangement of biodiversity promotion areas in relation to each other and to agricultural land play in their effectiveness?	38.78%	34.69%	12.24%	14.29%	2.96

Figure 3. Example from stakeholder survey

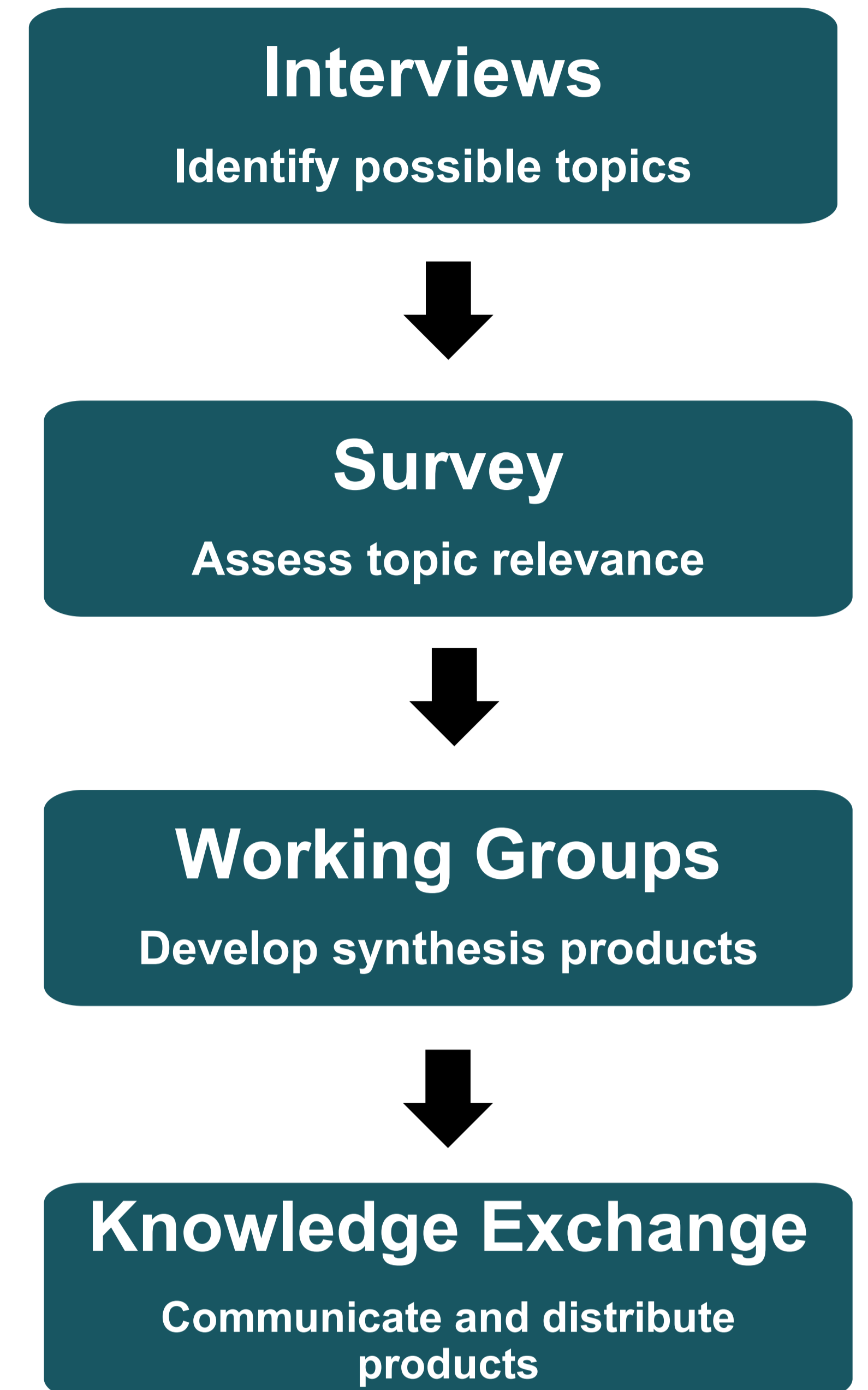
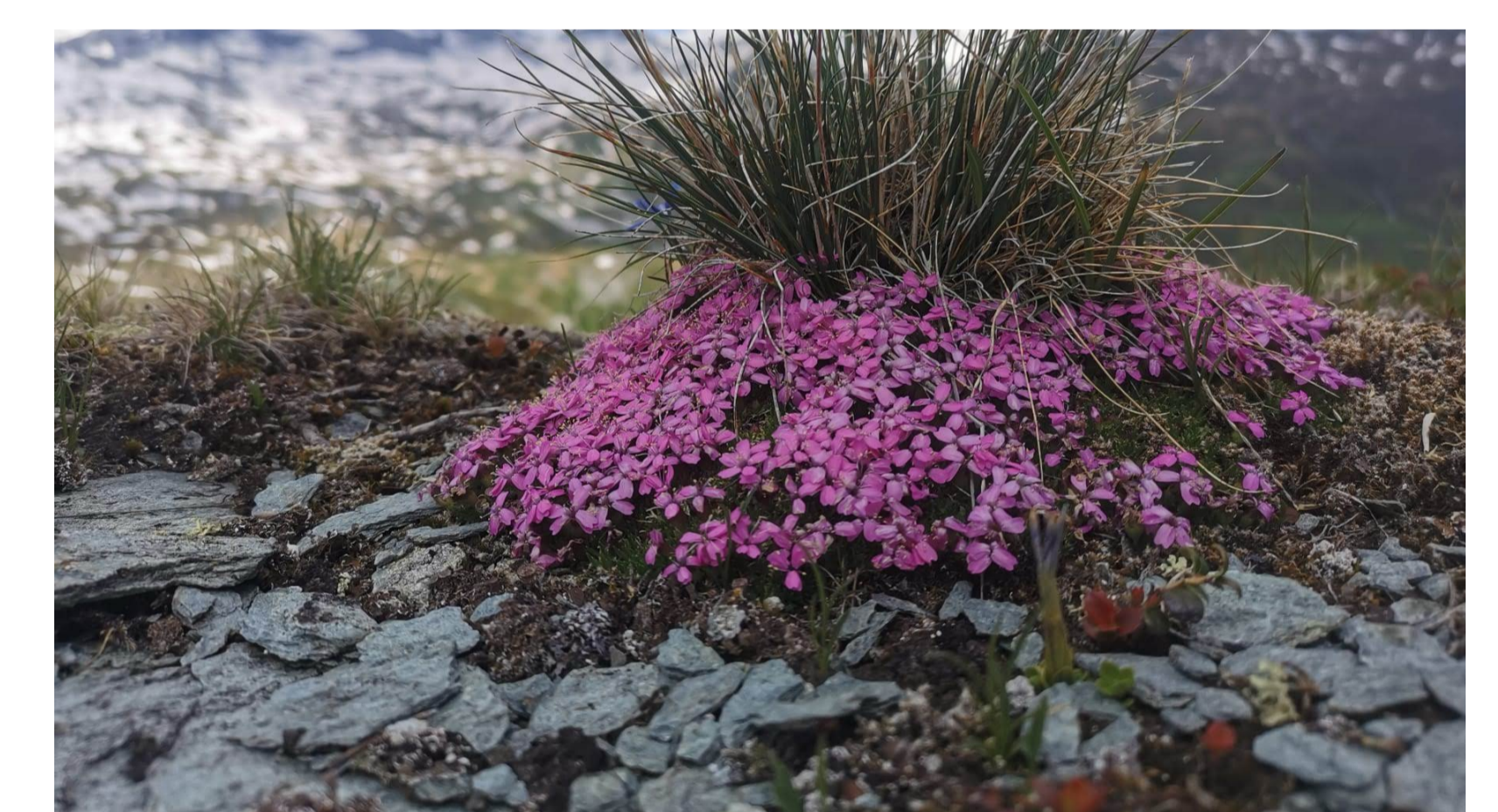


Figure 1. TCBC Workflow



Current Projects

As a first step, we have conducted targeted stakeholder interviews with representatives of the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), Swiss Cantons, NGOs, and environmental consultancies to assess the most pressing questions and needs related to biodiversity conservation practice. From the interviews, we selected ca. 60 topics to be included in a wide-reaching survey for Swiss stakeholders. The breadth of topics includes aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity as well as conservation policy, management, and communication. The survey launched in December 2023, and we are currently analyzing the results (Figure 3). Our second step will involve the formation of working groups, equally comprised of researchers and practitioners, which will summarize the existing literature and create synthesis products on topics derived from the survey analysis. We plan to provide synthesis for 6-8 topics in the next three years.

Get Involved!

In early 2024, we will begin the formation of our working groups. We will be looking for researchers who are passionate about science communication and biodiversity conservation to join us. Please be in touch if you are interested in joining a working group. Scan QR code to be linked to our website or use the contact information below. The Centre uses a participatory and transdisciplinary approach throughout the project duration.



Check Out Our Website

  @SynBiodivers

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