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## In Support of Copenhagen as the site of Apimondia 2025

The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) would like to offer its enthusiastic support to The Norwegian Beekeepers Association (NorBi) effort bring the 2025 Apimondia conference to Copenhagen. NINA has worked with NorBi for several years. Beginning in 2022, NINA and Norbi will be collaborating on a 4-year research project with funding from the Norwegian Research Council, to investigate what conditions might lead to competitive interactions between honeybees and wild bee populations. This work will involve experimentally adding hives to an area and observing the effects increased honeybee density has on wild bee populations. Results from this research will provide information necessary to inform Norwegian beekeepers where to place their hives to avoid both negative effects from competition between honeybees and local wild bee diversity and competition from other honeybees. The project also involves participation from conservation groups interested in preserving wild bee populations. Together with Norbi, the collaboration will produce a beehive placement map that can indicate where beekeepers can maximize honey production and minimize unintended harm, as well as communicate this forward-thinking strategy to the general public.

Norbi is clearly interested in gathering the information necessary to ensure that beekeeping in Norway is conducted in a way that does not cause harm to local biodiversity. The experimental design we will be using in this project would not be possible without Norbi's cooperation. Their curious and proactive approach speaks to how their view their role as beekeeping's ambassadors, and convinces me that they would help guarantee that an Apimondia conference in Scandinavia will be a success.

Respectfully,



Erik Stange, Ph.D.  
Research scientist  
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