

## **Newsletter about Pesticides**

N°8 - May 2022

## **Civil society activities**



## **EU: PAN-EU report on pesticide-free towns**

In the context of <u>Pesticide Action Week</u>, our partner <u>PAN Europe</u> published a <u>new report</u> 'Pesticide Free Towns: A diversity of European Approaches' on March 28, 2022. It explores the different methods adopted by eight European Union Member States - Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands and Switzerland - to reduce or ban the use of pesticides in public places.

Some of these initiatives were presented during the webinar 'Pesticide-free Towns: a First Steps Toward Ecological Transition', organized by PAN-EU. Recording and presentations are available <a href="here">here</a>.

These pesticide bans are primarily targeted at playgrounds, parks, amenity areas, school and hospital grounds, and other green public spaces. Health risks, especially for the most vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women or the elderly, who are particularly represented in these areas, are thus considerably reduced.

The report underscores that phasing out pesticides in these areas is a matter of political will and that pesticide-free town maintenance is already successfully implemented by thousands of municipalities across the European Union!

The experience highlights that a successful transition to pesticide-free towns requires effective regulation, sharing of best practices and a deep citizens involvement. Thanks to many pioneering towns and municipalities, there are now non-chemical alternatives to pesticides and communication tools to free cities from pesticides throughout Europe.

In order to encourage such a transition, PAN-EU insists on the need for effective regulation at the European Union level. The revision of the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD) must include effective provisions to ban pesticides in public places. Some Member States and many municipalities have already implemented such policies. Any other way of action cannot be justified.

If you have made it this far, can you make one more small effort to allow us to continue this work of investigation and information to help the victims of pesticides?

Justice Pesticides needs you.

I donate to Justice Pesticides

Back to Justice Pesticides Website