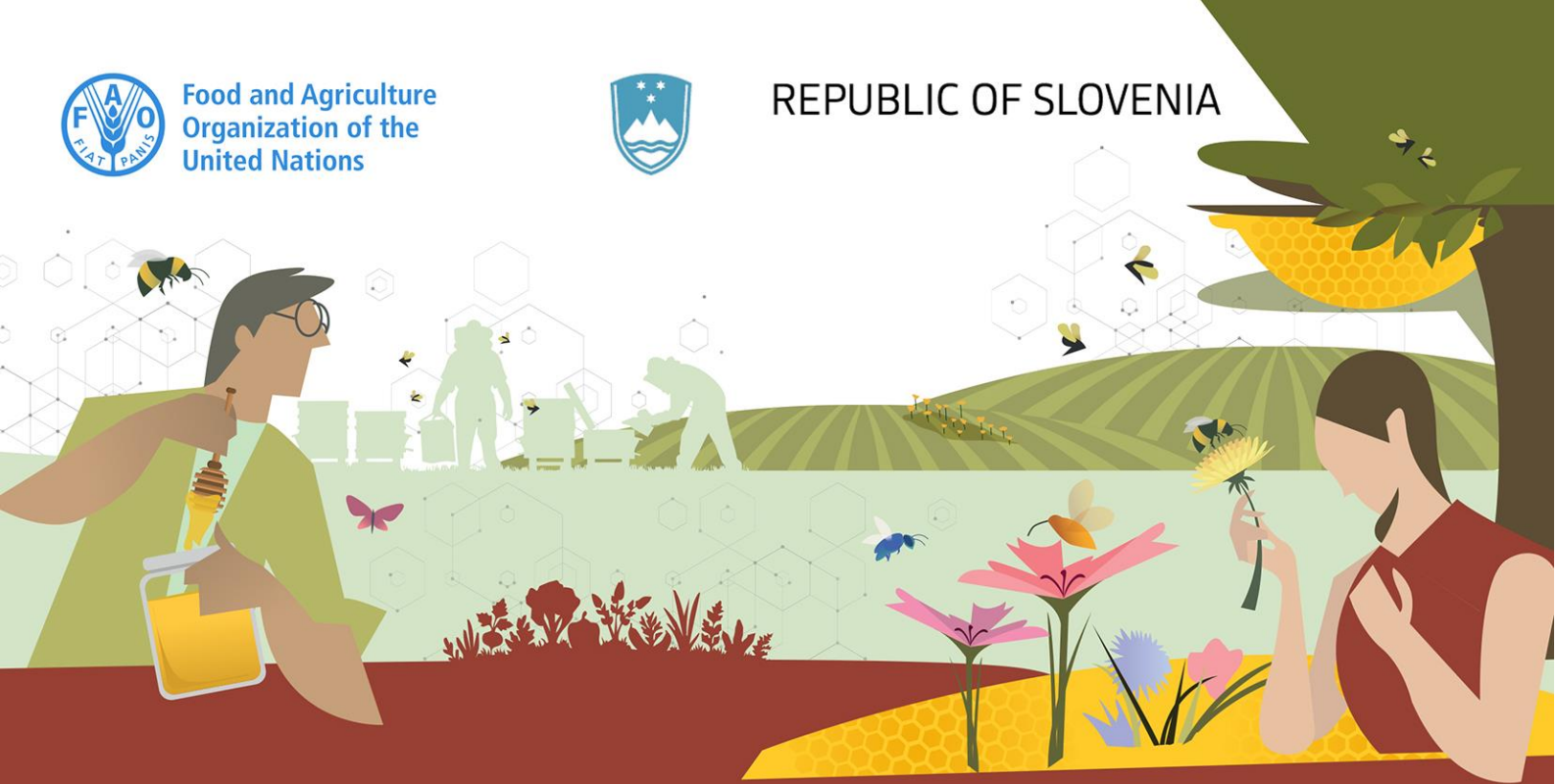




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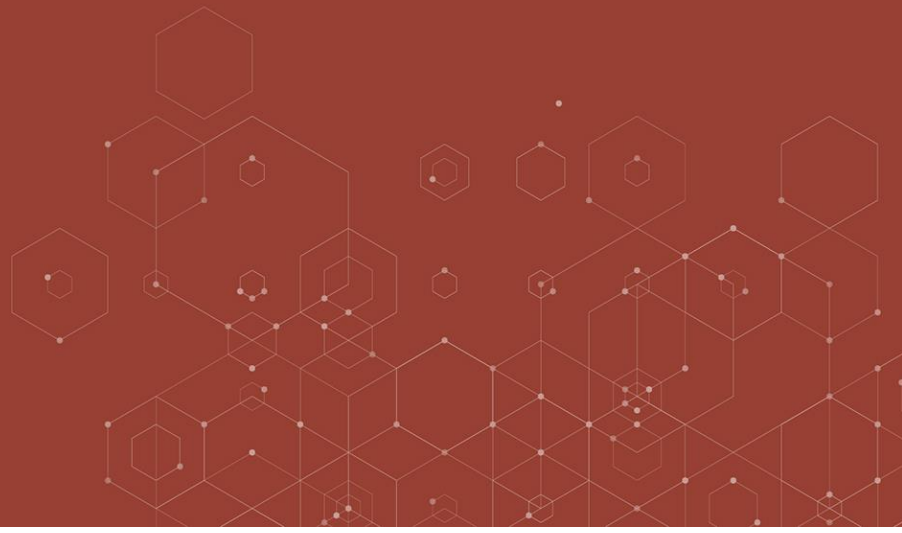


Third International Forum for Action on Sustainable Beekeeping and Pollination

Science, innovation and policy actions for a more sustainable future

Maribor, Slovenia | 20 – 21 May 2026

Agenda



DAY 1 20 May 2026

Time (CEST)	Topics	Speakers
Moderator: <i>Peter Poles</i>		
08:00 – 09:20	Registration	
09:20 – 10:00	Opening	
09:20 – 09:30	Introduction & videos	
09:30 – 09:40	Opening remarks	<i>Mateja Čalušič, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</i> <i>Darja Bavdaž Kuret, Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovenia</i>
09:40 – 09:50	Opening remarks	<i>Thanawat Tiensin, Assistant Director-General, Director of the Animal Production and Health Division, FAO</i>
09:50 – 10:00	Opening remarks	<i>Christophe Hansen, Commissioner, Agriculture and Food, European Commission (video message)</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Group photo and coffee break	
10:30 – 12:30	High-level session: Linking science, agriculture and biodiversity	
10:30 – 10:45	Session keynote: The role of multidisciplinary research for sustainable beekeeping and the conservation of pollinators	<i>Janez Prešern, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Slovenia</i>
10:45 – 11:00	Case study: Bridging the Gap: Pollinator Conservation in Europe	<i>Vujadin Kovacevic, Senior Policy Officer, European Commission</i>
11:00 – 12:00	High-level panel discussion <i>Moderator: Petra Bauman, Slovenia</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hans Thulstrup, Chief of Section, Man and Biosphere Networking, Biosphere Reserves and Capacity Building, UNESCO</i><i>Maša Žagar, State Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</i><i>Nizar Haddad, Programme Director, FAO Saudi Arabia</i><i>Peter Kozmus, Acting President, Apimondia</i><i>Samuel Ayenew, Minister and Alternate Permanent Representative to the UN Agencies in Rome, Ethiopia</i>	
12:00 – 12:05	Live virtual connection with the World Bee Day event at FAO headquarters in Rome	
12:05 – 13:15	Lunch	
13:15 – 15:00	Technical session I: Towards a global pollinator platform <i>Session moderator: Hien Ngo, FAO</i>	
13:15 – 13:30	Session keynote: The global pollinator platform	<i>Dan Leskien, Senior Liaison Officer, FAO</i>
13:30 – 13:45	Case study: Strengthening Pollinator Conservation in Nepal: National Actions for a Global Platform	<i>Kedar Devkota, Professor, Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal</i>
13:45 – 14:45	Facilitated discussion with panellists and forum participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Jerome Montemayor, Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, Philippines</i><i>Lena Dempewolf, Biodiversity Specialist, Trinidad and Tobago</i><i>Verónica Cañedo Torres, Ministry of Environment, Peru</i>	
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee break	

DAY 1 **20 May 2026**

Time (CEST)	Topics	Speakers
15:00 – 16:30	Technical session II: Scaling crop production practices that protect pollinators <i>Session moderator: Pierre Ferrand, FAO</i>	
15:00 – 15:15	Session keynote: Redesigning agriculture: How landscape-scale agroecology can reverse pollinator decline and strengthen food security	<i>Lucas Garibaldi, Director, IRNAD, Professor, National University of Río Negro, Researcher, CONICET (online)</i>
15:15 – 15:30	Case study: Pollinators and people: An integrated landscape approach to restoration, biodiversity, and rural livelihoods	<i>Linda Shio, Beekeeping Officer and DSL-IP Green Value Chain Focal Point, Tanzania Forest Services (TFS), Tanzania</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Facilitated discussion with panellists and forum participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Clare Ronoh, Treasurer of Macodev and Ogiek Honey Presidium, Ogiek Honey Slow Food Presidium, Kenya</i><i>Danilo Bevk, National Institute of Biology, Slovenia</i><i>Shiny Rehel, Senior Programme Coordinator, Keystone Foundation, India</i><i>Tristan Schüller, Young Citizens Assembly on Pollinators</i>	
18:00 – 20:00	World Bee Day celebration and Golden Bee Award ceremony Gala reception hosted by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, in the presence of Her Excellency the President of the Republic of Slovenia.	

DAY 2 21 May 2026

Time (CEST)	Topics	Speakers
Moderator: Peter Poles		
09:00 – 11:15	Technical Session III: Honey quality and trade: Challenges on the rise	
09:00 – 09:15	Session keynote: Addressing global issues in honey quality and trade	<i>Etienne Bruneau, former Director, Centre Apicole de Recherche et d'Information (CARI) and Vice President, Bee Life, Belgium</i>
09:15 – 10:00	Facilitated discussion with panellists and Forum participants Panel moderator: János Körmendy-Rácz, Apimondia, Hungary <ul style="list-style-type: none">Christina Vlachou, Head, Food Safety and Control Laboratory, Joint FAO/IAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and AgricultureNik Lupše, Head, Scientific Committee, European Beekeeping AssociationNorberto Luis Garcia, Professor, Universidad Nacional del Sur, ArgentinaRobert Bali, Beekeeper, SloveniaTeja Mižigoj, Director, Medex d.o.o.	
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee	
10:15 – 11:15	Facilitated discussion with panellists and Forum participants (continued)	
11:15 – 12:00	Closing	
11:15 – 11:40	Forum conclusions: Key messages for action	
11:40 – 11:50	Closing remarks	<i>Andreja Komel, Head of Structural Policy and Rural Development Sector, Directorate for Agriculture, Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Slovenia</i>
11:50 – 12:00	Closing remarks	<i>Thanawat Tiensin, Assistant Director-General, Director of the Animal Production and Health Division, FAO</i>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break	
13:00 – 19:00	Field trip <i>Guided visits to points of interest (Bee Centre, local beekeeper, apitourism site)</i>	