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| **OPEN CALL** **for applications for the** **2022 Golden Bee Award** |

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**I. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE OPEN CALL**

1. **Name and registered office of the organiser**

The Golden Bee Award Committee (hereinafter: Committee), Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana, is calling for applications for the 2022 Golden Bee Award.

The funds for the call for applications are provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia.

1. **Legal basis for the call for applications**

On the basis of the Golden Bee Award Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia *[Uradni list RS]*, No. 36/21, hereinafter: Act) and the Rules on the Golden Bee Award (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia *[Uradni list RS]*, No. 64/21, hereinafter: Rules), the Committee is launching an open call for applications for the 2022 Golden Bee Award (hereinafter: Call).

The Call is published in Slovenian and English.

1. **Purpose and subject of the Call**

The subject of the Call is the submission of applications for the 2022 Golden Bee Award (hereinafter: Award), the highest national award of the Republic of Slovenia for outstanding achievements in relation to the conservation of bees and other pollinators, the protection of bees and other pollinators, raising awareness of their importance for sustainable agriculture, ensuring food security, preserving the environment and biodiversity, and cultural heritage and human health.

The Golden Bee Award takes into account projects or achievements in relation to the conservation of bees and other pollinators that were published in the seven years prior to the application.

The purpose of the Call is to highlight the contribution of individuals, legal entities or international organisations in order to motivate the public to conserve and protect bees and other pollinators and raise awareness and visibility of their long-term importance.

1. **Eligible recipients of the Golden Bee Award**

The award may be given to a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia or a foreign national, a legal person or other organisation established in the Republic of Slovenia or abroad, or an international organisation (hereinafter: Award Recipient). The Award Recipient receives a cash prize, a statuette and a certificate.

The Committee gives the Award for a contribution of outstanding importance in relation to the promotion of bees and other pollinators.

Article 4 of the Act stipulates that the Award may be given to the same natural or legal person or organisation only once and may not be given posthumously.

1. **Award period**

The Golden Bee Award is given for the calendar year 2022 and for a specific topic.

The Award Recipient receives a cash prize, a statuette and a certificate. The Award is given by the Committee and presented by the President of the Republic of Slovenia on 20 May 2022.

The Award Recipient is announced on the central website of the Slovenian state administration, on the websites of international organisations and on the website [www.worldbeeday.org](http://www.worldbeeday.org)

1. **Awarding authority**

The Award Recipient is chosen by the Committee. In accordance with Article 11 of the Act, the Committee has decided to award a cash prize of EUR 28,000 for 2022, to be paid to the Award Recipient's bank account after the official presentation of the Award.

The Committee's decision on the amount of the cash prize and the Award Recipient is final.

1. **Application submission deadline and application review**

The application form for the Award is available on the central website of the Slovenian state administration, on the websites of representative international organisations (such as [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)) and on the website [www.worldbeeday.org](http://www.worldbeeday.org).

The Call will be open up to and including Tuesday, 15 March 2022.

Applications may be submitted at any time from the date of publication of the Call until the application submission deadline by one of the following:

* By regular post in a sealed envelope to the address:

 **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food**

 **Dunajska cesta 22**

 **1000 Ljubljana**

 **Slovenia**

 marked **"2022 Golden Bee".**

The name and surname of the sender and the address of the sender must be indicated on the envelope.

* Applications may also be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "2022 Golden Bee" at the mailroom of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Dunajska cesta 22, 1000 Ljubljana, during office hours.
* Applications may also be sent by e-mail to: **gp.mkgp@gov.si**, whereby the application must be made and submitted in the same way as if it were sent by regular post, i.e. by writing "2022 Golden Bee" in the subject line of the e-mail and providing the sender's contact details in the body of the e-mail, with attached scans of complete forms signed by hand or electronically, if the applicant uses an electronic signature.

In the event that the Committee finds an application to be incomplete, the applicant will be invited to supplement it. The deadline for supplementing the application must not exceed eight (8) days or be shorter than three (3) days.

The Committee will only consider applications that are complete and were submitted on time.

Applications may be submitted in Slovenian or in English if the applicant is not from the Republic of Slovenia. In the event of discrepancies between the Slovenian and English versions of the Call, the Slovenian version will prevail.

If the Committee receives more than 20 applications, it will appoint a Golden Bee Award Application Review Panel (hereinafter: Panel), which will review and evaluate the applications received and, in accordance with Article 6 of the Act, make a priority list of up to ten nominees for the Award for the Committee.

The Committee’s decision on the Award Recipient is final.

The applicants will be informed of the outcome of the Call in writing in fourteen (14) days after the meeting of the Golden Bee Award Committee or at the latest by 15 April 2022 by e-mail to the address specified in the application form (Form 1).

1. **Person responsible for providing information at the time of publication of the Call**

For further information concerning the Call, please refer to the contact person at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food:

Andrea Mugerle, namely by e-mail at andrea.mugerle@gov.si or telephone on +386 1 478 93 15 (during the ministry's office hours).

**II. GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS ON PREPARING APPLICATIONS**

1. **Preparation and submission of an application**

The application must be prepared in Slovenian or English and in line with the provisions of this Call.

The applicant must submit the application either in electronic or paper format.

A single applicant may submit an application for no more than three nominees for the Award, in which case a separate application form must be submitted for each nominee.

More than one applicant can submit an application for a nominee for the Award, in which case the applicant submits with the application a completed statement(s) by the co-applicant(s). The statement of support must be obtained prior to submitting an application (Form 4).

The application must include all the forms specified in Section IV of this Call. The forms must be completed in full. In the fields marked, the applicant must enter the required information and tick the appropriate boxes. The applicant must not delete mandatory elements of the forms.

Forms 1, 2, 3 and 4 must be completed correctly, and Forms 1, 3 and 4 must be signed by the applicant, the co-applicant and the nominee, and stamped (if the applicant/co-applicant/nominee uses a stamp) in the appropriate places on the forms.

The applicant should also take into account the eligibility criteria.

**Form 1: Application form**

* 1. **Confirmation of the conditions and criteria of the Call.** Indicate (mark the box with an X) that you understand the conditions and criteria of the Call and have attached to your application a signed statement by the nominee for the Award.
	2. **General information.** In the table below, please provide general information about the contribution/achievement – e.g. a person’s life work, achievement, contribution, project, implementation period, country, person responsible and partners involved, field and financial resources.
	3. The **applicant** may be a natural person, a legal person or a body governed by public law whose activity concerns the protections of bees and other pollinators and raising awareness of their importance (Article 3 of the Act).
	4. **Indicate the person who will supplement the application, if necessary.** Fill in this section only if the applicant (referred to in point 1.3.) is a legal person.
	5. A **nominee for the Award** may be a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia or a foreign national, a legal person or other organisation established in the Republic of Slovenia or abroad, or an international organisation (Article 4 of the Act). Please include in the table the following details about the nominee: name of the natural or legal person, academic title (if any), date and place of birth of the natural person or establishment of the legal person, permanent residence of the natural person or address of the legal person and correspondence address (e-mail, telephone, address).

If the applicant submits an application for more than one nominee for the Award, they must submit a separate application form for each nominee.

When several applicants submit an application for a nominee, a Statement of support must be submitted (Form 4). Consent from the co-applicants must be obtained prior to submitting an application.

* 1. **Field for which the 2022 Golden Bee Award is given.** Indicate the field for which the Award will be given in 2022 – this is to confirm that you are aware of the topic of the Award for which you submitted an application.
	2. **Brief introduction of the nominee.** Please provide a brief introduction of the nominee who is competing for the Award.
	3. **Verification.** A statement by the applicant that by submitting the application they confirm they have read understood and complied with the general conditions and criteria relating to the Award.

**Form 2: Reasoning**

The recommended length of the reasoning, excluding attachments, is indicated under each question. Please answer the questions and provide reasons for your choice of nominee, as both the answers and the reasons will be taken into account in the evaluation of the applications received.

The Golden Bee Award takes into account projects or achievements in relation to the conservation of bees and other pollinators that were published in the seven years prior to the application.

**2.1 Originality and visibility of the project or the achievement in society.** In a short description, summarise what the project or the achievement is about and why it is relevant to the topic of the Award. Briefly highlight the results and indicate whether the project or the achievement is inspiring or original, whether it can motivate the society or offers a visionary look to the future.

**2.2 Contribution to raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators.** Describe your contribution to or the (planned) impact on raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators in restoring nature and its resources.

**2.3 Promoting the conservation of bees and other pollinators.** Describe whether your activities or achievements help reverse the decline in the numbers of bees and the diversity of pollinators. Summarise all the key communication elements of the project or the achievement that contribute to improving the general knowledge of the general or professional public on the conservation of bees and other pollinators. Indicate whether the project or the achievement has the potential to become universally applicable, create a catalytic effect (e.g. transfer of the project idea to other fields) and strengthen partnerships in the context of networking.

**2.4 New methods and (non-)technological developments and the scientific and research contribution of the project or the achievement with regard to bees and other pollinators.** Briefly describe how (a method or a model) you are bridging the gap concerning knowledge on the diversity and condition of bees and other pollinators. Describe your contribution to the further development of science or the profession or indicate your impact on the good practices of pollinator management.

**2.5 Impact on the recognition and protection of the role of bees and other pollinators in ensuring food security, sustainable agriculture and nature conservation.** Briefly describe your achievements in the conservation and protection of pollinators and indicate how you would improve the activities for the protection of bees and other pollinators, taking into account the main drivers of decline in the numbers of bees and other pollinators. Describe the possible impact of the project or the achievement on ensuring food security or promoting green infrastructure and its contribution to nature conservation.

**2.6** **Horizontal effects on cultural heritage conservation, health, tourism promotion and economic stimulation.** Describe how the project or the achievement contributes to cultural heritage conservation in the context of sustainable urban or rural development. What are your next steps? Indicate whether your achievements have a direct or indirect positive impact on human health and medicine or green economy.

**2.7 Further information on the project or the achievement.** Provide links to more detailed information on the project or the achievement and indicate any awards won.

**Form 3: Nominee’s statement**

This consists of a written statement by the nominee that their data relating to the nomination may be processed and stored for the purpose of the procedures set out in Article 4 of the Act.

**Form 4: Statement of support**

It is a written support to the nomination by the co-applicants. Each co-applicant briefly explains the reasons for supporting the nomination. The statement(s) of support must be obtained from the co-applicant(s) prior to submitting an application.

**III. A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Applications are evaluated by the Committee, which reviews only applications that are complete and were submitted on time. Each member of the Committee evaluates each application based on measures and indicators and gives a brief oral presentation of the application. This is followed by a vote to choose the most appropriate nominee. The Committee chooses the Award Recipient with a majority vote of all members and states the reasons for the decision in writing. In the event of an equal number of votes for and against a nominee, the Chair has the decisive vote (as laid down in Article 7 of the Act).

The Golden Bee Award takes into account projects or achievements in relation to the conservation of bees and other pollinators that were published in the seven years prior to the application (as laid down in paragraph two of Article 7 of the Act).

If the Committee receives more than 20 applications for the Award, it will appoint an Award Application Review Panel that will make a priority list of up to ten nominees for the Award, based on more detailed criteria determined by the Committee (as follows from Article 6 of the Act).

When evaluating applications, the Committee and the Panel refer to the following detailed criteria and indicators:

* **originality and visibility in society**

of which:

* the originality, importance, visionary character and visibility of the creative work
* **contribution to raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators**

of which:

* the success and impact in raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators in restoring nature and its resources
* **promoting the conservation of bees and other pollinators**

of which:

* + the produced effects that help reverse the decline in the numbers of bees and the diversity of pollinators
	+ better general knowledge of the general or professional public on the conservation of bees and other pollinators
	+ networking, catalytic effects
* **new methods and (non-)technological developments and the scientific and research contribution of the project or the achievement with regard to bees and other pollinators**

of which:

* bridging the gap concerning knowledge on the diversity and condition of bees and other pollinators
* good practices of pollinator management
* **impact on the recognition and protection of the role of bees and other pollinators in ensuring food security, the protection of bees and other pollinators, the impact on sustainable agriculture and nature conservation**

of which:

* + the conservation and protection of pollinators
	+ the impact on the main drivers of decline in the numbers of bees and other pollinators
	+ the contribution of agriculture and forestry to biodiversity, food security, green infrastructure and the conservation or restoration of ecosystems
* **horizontal effects on cultural heritage conservation, health, tourism promotion and economic stimulation**

of which:

* + activities that influence urban and rural development (good agricultural and urban practices)
	+ the possible effect on human health, the promotion of green economy.

**IV. FORMS**

The applicant must submit the application either in electronic or paper format by the deadline.

The application is complete only if it contains all the forms that are completed in full and signed (as indicated below), or signed and stamped by the legal representative (if the applicant uses a stamp).

If the application is incomplete or does not contain all the elements listed below and required in the Call even after the request for supplementation, the application will not be considered.

An application is considered to be complete if it contains the following forms:

* **form 1:** **Application form** (completed and signed)
* **form 2: Reasoning** (completed)
* **form 3:** **Nominee’s statement** (completed and signed)
* **form 4: Statement of support** (completed and signed)

Forms 1, 3 and 4 must also be stamped if the applicant is a legal person.

***Form 1: APPLICATION FORM***

**Please read the conditions and criteria carefully before filling in the application form. The application should be completed carefully and provide key information.**

* 1. **I hereby confirm that I understand the conditions and criteria of the Call and have attached to my application, in addition to this form, the following completed forms (mark with an X):**

***Reasoning***

***Signed statement by the nominee for the Award***

* 1. ***General information:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Achievement/project title |  |
| Timeframe |  |
| Country  |  |
| Person responsible for the achievement/project |  |
| Partner(s) |  |
| Field  |  |
| Financial resources |  |

* 1. ***Applicant****[[1]](#footnote-1)****:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of the natural or legal person or body governed by public law  |  |
| Address  |  |
| Country  |  |
| Telephone |  |
| E-mail |  |

* 1. ***Person responsible for supplementing the application – if the applicant is a legal person***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contact person |  |
| Address  |  |
| Country  |  |
| Telephone |  |
| E-mail |  |

* 1. ***Nominee for the Award***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of the natural or legal person or body governed by public law |  |
| Academic title (if any) |  |
| Permanent residence of the natural person or address of the legal person |  |
| Date and place of birth of the natural person or establishment of the legal person |  |
| Correspondence address |  |
| Telephone |  |
| E-mail |  |

* 1. ***Field for which the Award will be given in 2022***

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| --- |
| In 2022, the Award will be given for achievements in the field of: **conservation of bees and other pollinators** |

(Please mark the box of the field for which the Award is given with an X – this is to confirm that you are aware of the topic of the Award)

* 1. ***Brief introduction of the nominee for the Award***

*(a maximum of 700 characters or 100 words)*

* 1. ***Verification***

By signing the application form, I/we, the applicant(s) under point 1.3., declare and confirm that I/we have understood and complied with the general conditions and award criteria in preparing the application (in paper/electronic format).

I/we also declare and confirm that the information provided in the application form is true and complete and can be substantiated.

Name (and surname) of the applicant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date and place: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (and stamp, if the applicant is a legal person)

***Form 2: REASONING***

**Please answer all the questions in the criteria section, as they are also evaluated and scored.**

**2.1. Originality and visibility of the project or the achievement in society**

*Summarise the main points. How is the project or the achievement relevant to the topic of the Award? Briefly indicate the results, the inspiration for the idea, future prospects, etc. (a maximum of 1,300 characters or 200 words)*

**2.2. Contribution to raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators**

*Indicate your contribution to or the (planned) impact on raising awareness of the importance of bees and other pollinators in restoring nature and its services. (a maximum of 700 characters or 100 words)*

**2.3. Promoting the conservation of bees and other pollinators**

*Describe whether your activities or achievements help reverse the decline in the numbers of bees and the diversity of pollinators. Summarise the key communication elements that you use for improving the general knowledge of the general or professional public on the conservation of bees and other pollinators. Indicate the potential universal applicability and catalytic effect of the project or the achievement, and the partnerships established through networking. (a maximum of 1,300 characters or 200 words)*

**2.4. New methods and (non-)technological developments and the scientific and research contribution of the project or the achievement with regard to bees and other pollinators**

*How do you bridge the gap concerning knowledge on the diversity and condition of bees and other pollinators? Do your actions contribute to the further development of science or the profession or do you influence the good practices of pollinator management? (a maximum of 700 characters or 100 words)*

**2.5. Impact on the recognition and protection of the role of bees and other pollinators in ensuring food security, sustainable agriculture and nature conservation**

*Briefly describe your achievements in relation to the conservation and protection of pollinators. Describe how you would improve the protection of bees and other pollinators, taking into account the main drivers of decline in the numbers of bees and other pollinators. Does your work contribute to ensuring food security, promoting green infrastructure or preserving and restoring ecosystems? (a maximum of 1,300 characters or 200 words)*

**2.6. Horizontal effects on cultural heritage conservation, health, tourism promotion and economic stimulation**

*What is your contribution to cultural heritage conservation in the context of sustainable urban or rural development? What are your next steps? Do your achievements have a direct or indirect positive impact on human health and medicine or green economy? (a maximum of 700 characters or 100 words)*

***2.7. Further information on the project or the achievement***

*Provide website links with further information (on the project, work, awards won, etc.) (a maximum of 700 characters or 100 words or a maximum of one page and a half of the attachment)*

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***Form 3: NOMINEE’S STATEMENT***

With my/our signature, I/we declare and confirm that the information provided in the application form is true and complete and can be substantiated.

I/we declare and confirm that my/our data relating to the nomination may be processed and stored for the purpose of the procedures set out in Article 3 of the Act.

I/we declare and confirm that, in the event I/we receive the Award, my/our data can be kept permanently.

(Name and surname of the nominee for the Award) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date and place: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (stamp, if the nominee is a legal person)

***Form 4: STATEMENT OF SUPPORT***

Information on the co-applicant who supports the nomination for the 2022 Golden Bee Award of the nominee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Information on the co-applicant

 Name and surname of the co-applicant (if the co-applicant is a natural person):

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of the co-applicant (if the co-applicant is a legal person): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Registered office (street name, street number, postcode, city, country): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name and surname of the legal representative): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Place and date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the co-applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (stamp, if the nominee is a legal person)

### Short justification of the support for the nomination (up to 500 characters)

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1. The applicant is obliged to obtain the nominee’s personal data with their consent, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)