



15th Let's Liberate Diversity! & 72h of Biodiversity

23 - 25 May 2026, Scandicci, Italy

Key information

The 15th edition of the Let's Liberate Diversity! (LLD) Forum will take place in Scandicci, Italy, from 23 to 25 May 2026. This year's Forum will be hosted as part of the 5th edition of the "72 Hours of Biodiversity" festival, a three-day event dedicated to cultivated biodiversity and organised by Rete Semi Rurali (RSR). The Forum will combine:

- **internal EC-LLD moments** reserved for members and invited participants,
- a **public opening and celebration** on Saturday evening,
- a full day of **workshops, exchanges, market activities and tastings** on Sunday,
- and an **optional field visit** on Monday for participants who booked in advance.

At a glance

Dates: 23–25 May 2026

Location: Scandicci (Florence area), Italy

Main venue: [Castello dell'Acciaio, Scandicci, Florence](#)

Additional venue: [RSR/ECLLD Head Quarter](#)

Field visit on 25 May: [Azienda Agricola Floriddia](#)

The programme includes both **closed** and **open** moments.

For EC-LLD members and invited participants only	Open to all Forum participants	Available only upon prior booking during registration
<p>EC-LLD members are expected to arrive in time for the internal programme linked to the General Assembly on Saturday 23 May</p> <p>the General Assembly on Saturday morning</p> <p>the internal workshops with Eco-PB on Saturday afternoon</p>	<p>the official opening ceremony of the LLD Forum and ECO-PB anniversary celebration on Saturday evening at Castello dell'Acciaio</p> <p>Workshops, market, tasting and events will take place at Castello dell'Acciaio on Sunday all day</p>	<p>the field visit to Azienda Agricola Floriddia on Monday 25 May with dinner included</p>

EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY - AISBL

Legal office Rue Salmon, 1 1332 Genval (Belgium)

% Piazza Brunelleschi, 8 Scandicci (Florence) 50018 - Italia

www.liberatediversity.org - info@liberatediversity.org - tel: + 39 3473503792

TVA BE 0521-783-982

Draft agenda

Saturday, 23 May 2026

Internal EC-LLD programme

Venue: [RSR/ECLLD Head Quarter](#)

Time	Activity	Participation
09:00 – 13:00	<i>Let's Liberate Diversity! General Assembly</i>	<i>EC-LLD members only</i>
14:00 – 18:00	<i>Internal workshops</i>	<i>EC-LLD members and Eco-PB only</i>

Official opening of the Forum

Venue: [Castello dell'Acciaiuolo, Scandicci, Florence](#)

Time	Activity	Participation
18:00 – 18:30	Opening Ceremony of the LLD Forum & 72h of Biodiversity	Open to all Forum participants
18:30 – 19:30	Celebration of the 25th anniversary of ECO-PB with keynote speakers	Open to all Forum participants
19:30 – 22:00	Social dinner and concert	Open to all Forum participants

This Saturday evening marks the **official opening of the Forum for all participants**.

Participants not involved in the EC-LLD internal sessions should therefore plan to arrive in time for the opening ceremony at **18:00 at Castello dell'Acciaiuolo**.

Sunday, 24 May 2026

Venue: [Castello dell'Acciaiuolo, Scandicci, Florence](#)

Sunday will be the main shared day of the Forum. The programme will run throughout the day and will include workshops, exchanges and networking activities, a farmers' market, conference moments, and food tastings, with lunch and dinner provided.

Time	Activity
08:30	Registration opens
09:00 – 10:45	Workshop Session 1
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:45	Workshop Session 2
12:45 – 15:00	Free time for lunch, market visit, tastings, and informal exchange
15:00 – 16:45	Workshop Session 3
17:00 - 17:30	Plenary
17.30 - late	Dinner and theatre

Throughout the day, the Forum will also host a market and tasting area, including products and thematic spaces linked to cultivated biodiversity, such as beer, pasta, legumes, and crop wild relatives.

Sunday is structured around three parallel workshop rooms, each with a distinct thematic focus.

- **Room 1** is dedicated to the Horizon project **LiveSeeding** and will present a series of sessions sharing key outcomes and reflections emerging from the project as it comes to a close. These sessions will focus in particular on **local food policy**, the **right to food**, and **living labs** in relation to organic breeding and agroecological transition.
- **Room 2** is dedicated to **seed policy and political framing**. Sessions in this room will address broader questions around **seeds as commons**, **democratic seed systems**, the **EU seed law reform**, and current debates on **NGTs and patents**.
- **Room 3** focuses primarily on **community-based experiences and movement building**. It brings together local and regional experiences from different countries and contexts, including urban and rural initiatives, regional exchange in **Central Asia and Eastern Europe**, and a concluding session with an international perspective on coalition-building.

The title of workshops, organisers and speakers reported in the schedule below are provisional and subject to change. A final version will be shared shortly together with the web version of the programme where is going to be possible to reserve your place at each workshop.

EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY - AISBL

Legal office Rue Salmon, 1 1332 Genval (Belgium)

% Piazza Brunelleschi, 8 Scandicci (Florence) 50018 - Italia

www.liberatediversity.org - info@liberatediversity.org - tel: + 39 3473503792

TVA BE 0521-783-982

DRAFT Workshop schedule

Time	Room 1 – LiveSeeding	Room 2 – Policy	Room 3 – Community Experiences
08:30 – 09:00	Registration		
09:00 – 10:45	<p>Local Food Policy</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: LiveSeeding, Red de Municipios por la Agroecología, Rete Semi Rurali (Maria Carrascosa, Francesca Gori)</p>	<p>Seeds in Common: Genebanks, Breeding Innovation, and the Future of Democratic Seed Systems</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: Organic Seed Alliance, University of Wisconsin–Madison, CIMMYT</p>	<p>Community Seed Networks in Urban Areas / Seed Stewardship from Isolation to Population: Increasing Genetic Diversity of Common Crops in Rural Croatia</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: Cosmic Gardeners, Magház Association (Hungary), Forum Urbanes Gärtnern (Austria)</p>
10:45 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:45	<p>Right to Food</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: LiveSeeding (Mariano Iossa and others TBC, potentially including IFOAM and Good Food For All)</p>	<p>EU Seed Law Reform – What Does It Mean for Fields and Plates, and How Can We Safeguard Seed Diversity?</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: Arche Noah, KVANN, others TBC</p>	<p>Farmers' Seed Systems in the Region of Central Asia and Eastern Europe: Experience, Challenges and Future Directions</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: Seed Community of East Europe and Central Asia (hosted by ADI)</p>
12:45 – 15:00	Lunch break / Market / Tastings / Informal exchange		

<p>15:00 – 16:45</p>	<p>Living Labs Supporting Organic Breeding and the Agroecology Partnership</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: LiveSeeding, Rete Semi Rurali, Agroecology Partnership (Francesca Gori)</p>	<p>NGTs and Patents: How Can We Grow Without Them? Updates on Political Debates and Cooperation Amongst Organic Breeders and Growers</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: No Patents on Seeds!, APREBES, Arche Noah, IG Saatgut, Nordic Maize Breeding</p>	<p>Affectionate Alliances and Exploratory Mindsets: Building a Global Coalition of Agroecological Seed Networks for Evolutionary Radical Futures</p> <p>Organisers / speakers: Organic Seed Alliance, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Gaia Foundation Seed Sovereignty Programme, Federatie van Agro-ecologische Boeren, SeedChange, ECO-PB, EC-LLD, Seed Guardians Network of Colombia (Red de Guardianes de Semilla de Colombia)</p>
<p>16:45 – 17:15</p>	<p>Short plenary</p>		
<p>From 17:15</p>	<p>Social programme, dinner and theatre</p>		

Monday, 25 May 2026

Field visit (booking available during the online registration process)

On Monday, participants who booked in advance during registration will join a field visit to **Azienda Agricola Floriddia**, in the Tuscan countryside. The visit will include time at the farm, a shared lunch, and a concluding dinner before returning to Scandicci.

Draft schedule

Time	Activity
08:00	Departure from Scandicci to Pontedera
13:00	Lunch at the farm
19:00	Dinner at Artusino in Cerbaia, featuring typical Tuscan products
22:00	Return to Scandicci

Please note that this activity is **optional** and **available only for participants who selected it during registration**.

EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY - AISBL

Legal office Rue Salmon, 1 | 1332 Genval (Belgium)

% Piazza Brunelleschi, 8 Scandicci (Florence) 50018 - Italia

www.liberatediversity.org - info@liberatediversity.org - tel: + 39 3473503792

TVA BE 0521-783-982



Organizers



With the Support of



Funded by the European Union, the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).



EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY - AISBL

Legal office Rue Salmon, 1 1332 Genval (Belgium)

% Piazza Brunelleschi, 8 Scandicci (Florence) 50018 - Italia

www.liberatediversity.org - info@liberatediversity.org - tel: + 39 3473503792

TVA BE 0521-783-982