



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



GOZDARSKI INŠTITUT SLOVENIJE
SLOVENIAN FORESTRY INSTITUTE

When: 13-17 October 2025

Where: Slovenian Forestry Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Format: Hybrid (in person and online via Zoom)

Interpretation (RU/EN) will be provided via Zoom.

Zoom webinar link for 14 and 15 October:

<https://fao.zoom.us/j/98247525999>, Passcode: REUFIS2025

**COMBATING INVASIVE PLANTS IN FORESTS AND URBAN LANDSCAPES:
STRATEGIES FOR EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

Organizers:

**FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)
Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS)
Slovenian Forestry Institute**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

REUFIS Webinar and Annual Meeting	
13-17 October 2025	
13 October	Monday – Arrival of participants
14 October	Tuesday – Webinar & REUFIS Annual Meeting
9:00-10:30	Welcome and opening (00:30): - Primož Simončič, Slovenian Forestry Institute - Alenka Korenjak, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia - Shiroma Sathyapala, FAO - Ferenc Lakatos, REUFIS, University of Sopron
	Keynote lectures: - Ferenc Lakatos & Ágnes Csiszár (REUFIS): Invasive plants in the Hungarian forests (30:00) - István Szidonya (CEO, SM Consulting): Experiences in controlling invasive woody plants in Hungary (30:00)
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>



11:00-12:30	Presentations – host country Slovenia - Aleš Poljanec (assistant director, Slovenia Forest Service): Overview of forests and forestry in Slovenia - Lado Kutnar (Slovenian Forestry Institute): Alien plant species in Slovenian forest ecosystems - Maarten de Groot (Slovenian Forestry Institute): Citizen science approaches in addressing alien species – the LIFE ARTEMIS project - Discussion (Q&A)
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00-15:30	Presentations – member countries: current and emerging problems, solutions and good practices I. (15 min/each) - Elsa Ahmesula (National Forest Agency, Albania): tbc. - Stefan Bojic (Ministry of Trade and Economic Relation, Bosnia-Herzegovina): tbc - Danilo Ostojic (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Montenegro): tbc - Kalina Altandjieva (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, North Macedonia): tbc. - Leopold Poljaković Pajnik & Mara Tabakovic-Tosic (Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, Serbia): Invasive forest plants in Serbia - Petru Ciorchină (Moldsilva, Moldova): tbc - Discussion (Q&A)
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00-17:30	Presentations – member countries: current and emerging problems, solutions and good practices II. (15 min/each) - Petya Dimitrova (Executive Forest Agency, Bulgaria) (online): Invasive plants in Bulgarian forests - Cornelia Amon (BFW, Austria): Invasive plant management in Austrian forests - Slavomir Rell (Forest Protection Service, Slovakia): Major invasive plants in forests of Slovakia - Bjorn Okland (NIBIO, Norway): Major invasive plants in Norwegian forests - Flavius Bălăcenoiu (National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry, Romania): Top invasive forest plant species in Romania - Małgorzata Czyżewska (General Directorate of the State Forests, Poland): Current situation of invasive plants in Polish forests - Discussion (Q&A)
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>



15 October	Wednesday – REUFIS Annual Meeting
9:00-10:30	Presentations – member countries: current and emerging problems, solutions and good practices III. (15 min/each) - Bakhodir Kuziyev (Uzbekistan) (online): Current high-impact invasive plants in Uzbekistan - Kyrgyzstan (online) - Vladimir Kirakosyan & Lusine Aleksanyan (Ecopatrol Service, Armenia) - Giorgi Berechikidze (National Forest Agency, Georgia) - Cuma Uykun & Mehmet Ridvan Çörtü (General Directorate of Forestry, Türkiye) - Discussion (Q&A)
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
	REUFIS activities - Shiroma Sathyapala & Ferenc Lakatos: REUFIS activities 2025-2026 - Discussion and conclusion
11:00-12:30	Panel discussion
12:30-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00-15:30	Visit of the Slovenian National Reference Laboratory in Plant Health (Fungi, Insects)
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00-17:30	Roundtable
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
16 October	Thursday – Field trip
8:45-18:00	Field trip to Cerje (SW Slovenia) showing invasive plant problems
17 October	Friday – Departure of participants

In case of questions regarding the agenda, please contact:

prof. Ferenc Lakatos

REUFIS Secretariat

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