

BIOVERSITY2026



Photography contest for University of Pisa students

On the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity 2026, the University Committee for Sustainable Development (CoSA) is launching, on a non-profit basis, a nature photography competition aimed at raising awareness of the importance of biodiversity in the area surrounding the University of Pisa.

Rules

Participation is open to students enrolled in degree programmes, PhD programmes, and postgraduate specialisation schools at the University of Pisa, with no age limit and/or year-of-study restriction.

Five prizes will be awarded across several categories:

Category I – Best nature photograph (two prizes for the shot that best combines scientific and aesthetic aspects), with prizes in two subcategories:

- **MiniBIOVERSITY** – best nature photograph of a small-sized organism; photographs portraying organisms that are approximately smaller than 2 cm at the adult/mature/reproductive stage will be considered for this category.

- **MacroBIOVERSITY** – best nature photograph of an organism larger than 2 cm at the adult/mature/reproductive stage.

Category II – How much biodiversity do you see around you? (a prize for the participant able to photograph the highest number of different organisms), with prizes in two subcategories:

- **BIO Area** – reserved for University of Pisa students enrolled in degree programmes in the fields of natural sciences, biology, and/or agriculture.

• **NON-BIO Area** – reserved for University of Pisa students not enrolled in degree programmes in the fields of natural sciences, biology, and/or agriculture.

Special Category – Best nature photograph.

A prize will be awarded to the photograph that captures and highlights a relationship between at least two living organisms.

All the organisms portrayed must be identifiable and must all be uploaded as observations on the iNaturalist platform.

The photograph must depict an interaction between one organism and another belonging to a different species. Examples of interactions include competition, pollination, play, parasitism, predation, and symbiosis.

Each participant may submit more than one photograph and compete in all categories. For Category II, each participant may upload an unlimited number of photographs, provided that they portray clearly recognisable organisms identified also through the options available on the iNaturalist platform.

In order to take part in the competition, prior registration is required through a dedicated form, in which participants will be asked to provide their personal details, with particular reference to the degree programme/PhD programme/postgraduate specialisation course they are enrolled in, and to accept the statement included for the photo release. It is possible to register for the competition by 5:00 p.m. on 22/05/2025 by completing the form at the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MWtFxyCi9Ue-Ukc4KGcKoeEfaeIA6xAvRPVVEbIM6xUMlhUN0NCQVBPENUSkITVDBKVDJOVUZUVi4u>

Each photograph must be uploaded to the external platform iNaturalist, following prior registration by participants on the website and acceptance of its terms of use, including those concerning copyright. Participants must also ensure that the uploaded geolocation corresponds to the actual location where the photograph was taken.

Each participant must request to join the specific project “BIOVERSITY2026”, specially created at the following link:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/bioversity2026>

Tutorials and guides are available at the following link:

<https://help.inaturalist.org/en/support/solutions/folders/151000552105>

Please note that on **20 May 2026**, from **3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**, **Laboratory 2 at Polo Nobili**, located at **Via Alessandro Volta 4 bis, Pisa**, will be made available to those taking part in the competition, with the opportunity to use microscopes to photograph organisms and microorganisms and upload them to the iNaturalist platform.

In order to be eligible for selection, each photograph must meet the following requirements:

- it must have been taken between **12:00 a.m. on 16 May 2026** and **11:59 p.m. on 23 May 2026**, and uploaded to the platform no later than that same date and time;
 - it must depict a **wild plant** (not cultivated), a **wild animal** (not farmed or captive-bred), a **fungus**, or a **microorganism** (the latter two not cultivated);
 - it must be **correctly georeferenced** and fall within the areas indicated by the “**BIOVERSITY2026**” project on the iNaturalist platform, within the territories of the municipalities of **Altopascio, Bientina, Buti, Calci, Calcinaia, Capannori, Casciana Terme Lari, Cascina, Castelfranco di Sotto, Collesalvetti, Crespina Lorenzana, Fauglia, Lucca, Pisa, Ponsacco, Pontedera, Porcari, San Giuliano Terme, Santa Croce sull’Arno, Santa Maria a Monte, Vecchiano, and Vicopisano**;
 - it must not depict any human subject.
- Photographs that fail to comply with even one of these requirements will be excluded from evaluation.

3. Prizes by category:

Category I

- **MiniBIOVERSITY**

1st prize: print of the winning photograph, a €150 voucher to be spent on the “Il Fotoamatore” website, and gadgets;

2nd prize: print of the winning photograph and a gadget kit;

3rd prize: print of the winning photograph and a tote bag.

- **MacroBIOVERSITY**

1st prize: print of the winning photograph, a €150 voucher to be spent on the “Il Fotoamatore” website, and gadgets;

2nd prize: print of the winning photograph and a gadget kit;

3rd prize: print of the winning photograph and a tote bag.

Category II

- **BIO Area**

1st prize: print of the finalist photograph, €100 in cash, and gadgets;

2nd prize: print of the finalist photograph and a gadget kit;

3rd prize: print of the finalist photograph and a tote bag.

- **NON-BIO Area**

1st prize: print of the finalist photograph, €100 in cash, and gadgets;

2nd prize: print of the finalist photograph and a gadget kit;

3rd prize: print of the finalist photograph and a tote bag.

Special Category

1st prize: print of the winning photograph, a €150 voucher to be spent on the “Il Fotoamatore” website, and gadgets.

No 2nd or 3rd prize will be awarded in this category.



The **cash prizes** are funded by the Tuscan Society of Natural Sciences.

**SOCIETÀ TOSCANA DI SCIENZE
NATURALI**

<http://www.stsn.it/>



Commissione
per lo Sviluppo
Sostenibile
di Ateneo
Università di Pisa

The **vouchers** to be spent on the “Il Fotoamatore” website

<https://www.ilfotoamatore.it/home.asp>

and the gadgets are funded by the University Committee for Sustainable Development.

**Commissione per lo Sviluppo
Sostenibile di Ateneo**

<http://www.unipi.it/sostenibile>

The Evaluation Committee, which will assign the prizes at its sole discretion, will be composed of:

- **Dr Valentina Serra** – Researcher in Zoology at the Department of Biology. CoSA representative for Biodiversity and coordinator of the Scientific Degree Programme Plan for the Bachelor’s Degree in Natural and Environmental Sciences.
- **Prof. Daniela Ciccarelli** – Associate Professor of Environmental and Applied Botany at the Department of Biology. CoSA representative for Biodiversity, with a focus on plant biodiversity, natural and human-modified ecosystems, and nature conservation.
- **Prof. Lorenzo Peruzzi** – Full Professor of Systematic Botany at the Department of Biology, Director of the Botanical Garden and Museum, and President of the University Museum System.
- **Prof. Giulio Petroni** – Full Professor of Zoology at the Department of Biology; Deputy Director of the Department of Biology.
- **Prof. Gianni Bedini** – President of the Tuscan Society of Natural Sciences.
- **Irene Tatini** – PhD candidate at the Department of Biology and member of the organising committee..

- **Simone Contardi** – Winner of Category II, NON-BIO Area, BIOVERSITY2025.
- **Nicola Bonassin** – Winner of Category II, BIO Area, BIOVERSITY2025.

□ **A selection of the photographs submitted to the competition** will be published on the University of Pisa website (<https://www.unipi.it>), on the website of the University Committee for Sustainable Development <http://www.unipi.it/sostenibile>, and on its Instagram channel (@unipisostenibile).

□ **All participants in the competition**, by completing the registration form, simultaneously grant the University of Pisa the right to use, now and in the future, all the information requested in order to publicise the event on its website or through other forms of communication permitted by law.

Moreover, having read the privacy notice, applicants authorise the organisers to process their personal data in accordance with EU Regulation 2016/679 and any subsequent amendments and additions.

□ **Participants in the competition**, when registering on the external platform iNaturalist, must also consent to the processing of their personal data. By participating in the competition, they authorise the University of Pisa to use, free of charge, their photographic works, including in partial and/or modified or adapted form, created and submitted via upload to the iNaturalist platform between **16 May 2026** and **23 May 2026** (inclusive), for participation in the “**World Biodiversity Day / International Day for Biodiversity 2026 – BIOVERSITY2026 Photography Contest**”, regardless of the licence indicated on iNaturalist.

Please note that iNaturalist involves the transfer of personal data for registration purposes to the United States, a country not subject to the application of EU Regulation 2016/679.

With regard to the reproduction rights of the photographs, please note that, when uploading them to the iNaturalist platform, participants in the competition must choose the appropriate licence.

For the sake of transparency and information, we provide below the descriptions of the different types of licence available on iNaturalist from which participants may choose:

No Copyright (CC0)

Allows the following platforms to use and redistribute observation data: GBIF and Wikimedia.

This licence places your work in the public domain, so that others may copy, modify, and distribute it, including for commercial purposes, without being required to ask permission or give credit. This is the most permissive type of licence. It is recommended for the widest possible dissemination and use of licensed materials, in full open access.

CC-BY Attribution

Allows the following platforms to use and redistribute observation data: GBIF and Wikimedia.

This licence allows others to distribute, modify, adapt, and build upon your work, including for commercial purposes, provided that they give you credit as the original creator.

CC-BY-NC Attribution-NonCommercial

Allows the following platforms to use and redistribute observation data: GBIF.

This licence allows others to modify, improve, and build upon your work for non-commercial purposes, and although their new works must acknowledge you and remain non-commercial, they are not required to license their derivative works under the same terms.

CC-BY-NC-SA Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike

This licence allows others to modify and build upon your work, without exploiting it commercially, provided that you are credited and that their new creations are licensed under the same terms.

CC-BY-NC-ND Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives

This licence is the most restrictive of the six main licences: it only allows others to download and share your works, provided that you are credited, but it does not allow them to modify them in any way or use them commercially.

CC-BY-ND Attribution-NoDerivatives

This licence allows the redistribution of your work, both commercially and non-commercially, provided that it remains unchanged and complete, and that you are credited.

CC-BY-SA Attribution-ShareAlike

Allows the following platforms to use and redistribute observation data: Wikimedia.

This licence allows others to modify and build upon your work, including for commercial purposes, provided that you are credited and that they license their new creations under the same terms. All resulting new works will carry the same licence, and derivative works may therefore also be used commercially.

No licence (all rights reserved)

You retain full copyright over your content, except for those rights granted to iNaturalist under its Terms of Use.

**PRIVACY NOTICE PROVIDED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 13 OF REGULATION (EU) No.
2016/679**

Dear Participant,

we wish to inform you that Regulation (EU) No. 679/2016, the **General Data Protection Regulation**, provides for the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data. According to the aforementioned legislation, such processing will be based on the principles of lawfulness, fairness and transparency, adequacy, relevance and limitation, accuracy and updating, data minimisation, and accountability.

Your personal data are processed, pursuant to Article 6(1)(a) of the GDPR, subject to your consent.

We therefore provide you with the following information:

1. The personal data you provide (first name, surname, email address, degree programme/PhD programme/postgraduate specialisation course attended, geographical area of residence) will be processed exclusively for the purposes of registration via the form for the **“BIOVERSITY2026” photography contest**, for research purposes in order to evaluate the effects achieved by the **BIOVERSITY2026** contest and bioblitz, and for dissemination and promotional purposes connected with the exhibition of the winning photographs at University premises and the publication of the photographic material in question on the University of Pisa websites and social media channels.
2. The processing of personal data will be carried out in the following manner: **automated processing**. The data will be stored for the time necessary to fulfil the purposes for which they were collected and deleted **7 years after publication**.
3. Participation in the **“BIOVERSITY2026” photography contest** is free and voluntary, while the provision of personal data is mandatory. Any refusal to provide your data will result in the impossibility of participating in the photography contest, of being selected among the winners, and of having your photograph exhibited/published at University premises and on the websites and social media channels mentioned above. You may also decide to withdraw your consent at any time, by prior notification via email to the contest organising committee, without affecting the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal.
4. The data you provide will not be disclosed to other parties; your first name and surname will be made public through the exhibition of your photograph at University premises and the publication of the photographic material in question on the University of Pisa websites and social media channels.

By participating in the contest, you authorise the University of Pisa to use, free of charge, your photographic works, including in partial and/or modified or adapted form, created and submitted via upload to the iNaturalist platform between **16 May 2026 and 23 May 2026** (inclusive), for participation in the **“World Biodiversity Day / International Day for Biodiversity 2026 – BIOVERSITY2026 Photography Contest”**, regardless of the licence indicated on iNaturalist, for the University’s dissemination purposes, in particular for publication on dedicated websites and on the University of Pisa social media channels, on the website (<https://sostenibile.unipi.it/>) and on the Instagram channel (@unipisostenibile) of the **University Committee for Sustainable Development**, as well as in printed materials (posters, brochures, notices, etc.), and on the social media channels of the project collaborators serving on the Evaluation Committee, as well as for display at specially organised exhibitions.

This authorisation entails the granting of a **non-exclusive licence**, limited to a duration of **7 years** and without territorial limitation, for the use of the work, and includes the rights

provided for under Law No. 633/1941, including, by way of example: the right of publication; the right of reproduction in any form; the right of transcription, adaptation, processing and reduction; the right of communication and distribution to the public, including the rights of projection, transmission and dissemination; and the right to retain a copy, including in electronic form and on any medium, for the purposes indicated above.

This authorisation does not permit the use of the work in contexts that may prejudice the Author's personal dignity, honour, or reputation.

Please note that, once made public, audio/video material may be acquired by third parties beyond the control of the University, and that the University of Pisa shall be released and held harmless from any liability arising from improper and/or unlawful use of the aforementioned material.

5. The **Data Controller** is the **University of Pisa**, with registered office in Pisa, Lungarno Pacinotti 43, in the person of the **Rector pro tempore**.
6. The persons authorised to process the data shall be the representatives of the **University Committee for Sustainable Development** and the members of the Competition Organising Committee (**Irene Tatini, Dr Valentina Serra, Prof. Daniela Ciccarelli**).
7. The Data Controller has appointed a **Data Protection Officer**, pursuant to Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679. The Data Protection Officer may be contacted at the following addresses:
e-mail: **responsabileprotezionedati@unipi.it**
certified e-mail (PEC): **responsabileprotezionedati@pec.unipi.it**
8. At any time, you may exercise your rights under Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No. 679/2016 (e.g. rights to information and access, rectification and erasure, restriction of and objection to processing, and data portability).
9. You have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority (in Italy, the **Italian Data Protection Authority**, www.garanteprivacy.it, e-mail: **protocollo@gdp.it**, certified e-mail (PEC): **protocollo@pec.gdp.it**, switchboard tel. **06696771**).