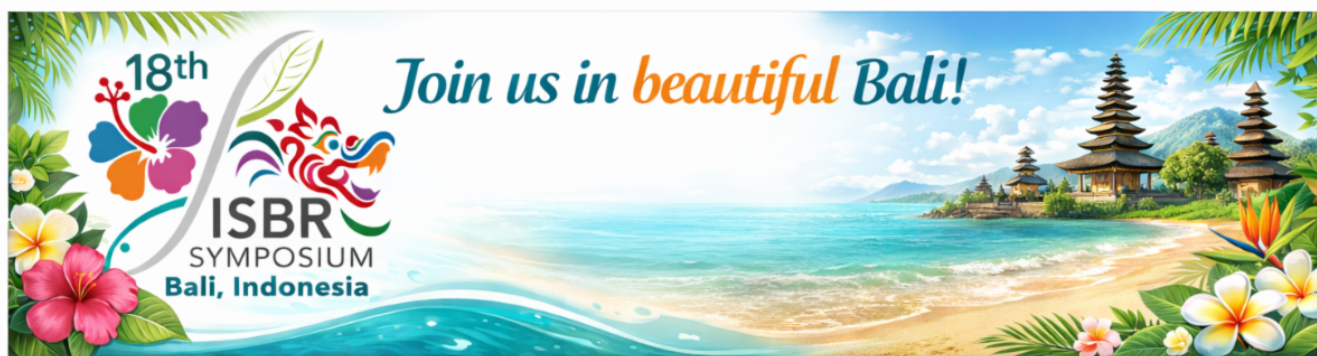




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ISBR2027 NEWSLETTER

Nr 2, 31 July 2026

THE ISBR2027 PROGRAM IS TAKING SHAPE!

Planning for ISBR2027 is well underway, and we're pleased to share an early look at the exciting scientific program that is being developed. In this edition, you'll find the themes for our four plenary sessions, **an invitation to propose Topic-Specific Parallel Sessions and Workshops**, and information on how you can contribute to what promises to be a dynamic and engaging symposium.



Whether you are interested in organizing a scientific session, suggesting a keynote speaker, or simply following the program as it develops, we encourage you to become involved. Remember, the final conference venue and symposium dates will be announced by the end of August 2026.

FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE BIOINNOVATION



A partnership between [Science](#), [Policy](#), and [Society](#)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO ORGANIZE PARALLEL SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS

One of the greatest strengths of every ISBR Symposium is that the scientific program is shaped by the ISBR community. **We invite members and colleagues to contribute their expertise** by proposing Topic-Specific Parallel Sessions (TSPS) or Workshops for ISBR2027.

We are now accepting proposals for:

- **Topic-Specific Parallel Sessions (90 minutes)** – Each with five invited speakers presenting the latest scientific developments, regulatory advances, or practical applications around a common theme.
- **Workshops (3 hours)** – Interactive sessions that may include presentations, panel discussions, case studies, training activities, hands-on exercises, or other engaging formats.

Proposals should align with the ISBR2027 Symposium theme, **"Fostering Sustainable Bioinnovation: A Partnership between Science, Policy, and Society,"** and address one or more of the [official scientific topics](#). Organizers are encouraged to develop innovative, interdisciplinary sessions that promote discussion, knowledge exchange, and international collaboration.

Applications include a proposed title, session chair/facilitator(s), a 300-word abstract, and an outline of the proposed program, including speakers or activities. Organizers of accepted proposals will work closely with the Scientific Program Committee to finalize the program and moderate their session during the Symposium.

Proposal guidelines, [the application templates](#), and [the list of relevant topics](#) are available on the ISBR website.

Submission deadline: 15 November 2026

We look forward to receiving your proposals and seeing your ideas become part of ISBR2027's scientific program.



Looking for inspiration?

Proposals are encouraged in areas such as

- *Risk Analysis*
- *Genome Editing*
- *Science Communication*
- *Global Regulations & Governance*
- *Agricultural Biologicals*
- *Animal Biotechnology*
- *Genetic Biocontrol, incl. gene drives*
- *Sustainability & Food Security*
- *Biosafety Capacity Building*
- *Industrial Biotechnology*
- *Synthetic Biology*
- *AI-enabled Bioinnovation and related topics.*

Refer to the ISBR website for [a complete list of relevant topics](#).

PLENARY SESSION OVERVIEW

The Scientific Program Committee has developed the four Plenary Session themes for ISBR2027 and has begun inviting Keynote and Plenary speakers. **If you have suggestions for potential speakers, please contact the Committee at admin@isbr.info.** The four Plenary Sessions will explore different aspects of the Symposium theme, "*Fostering Sustainable Bio-Innovation: A Partnership between Science, Policy, and Society*".

PS 1. From Lab to Field: The Real-World Impact of Bio-Innovation

Chairs: Feyza Selcuk Meers and John McMurdy

How is bio-innovation delivering measurable benefits beyond the laboratory? This plenary follows the journey from scientific discovery to real-world application, exploring impacts across the agricultural value chain - from input development and farming to processing, markets, and consumers. Speakers will discuss productivity, resilience, livelihoods, biodiversity, technology transfer, and equitable access to innovation, drawing on case studies from Southeast Asia and other emerging economies. Bringing together farmers, researchers, innovators, and industry, the session will examine how science, collaboration, and policy can maximize the contribution of bio-innovation to food security, sustainability, and economic development.

PS 2. Engaging Society to Drive Trust and Acceptance

Chairs: Reimond Corona and Oluwafemi Falade

Public trust is essential if bio-innovation is to realize its full potential. This plenary will explore how science is communicated, understood and debated, and how effective engagement can build confidence in emerging technologies. Experts in science

communication, media, regulation and social research will discuss practical approaches to risk communication, transparency and stakeholder engagement. By examining the roles of scientists, policymakers, producers, consumers and the media, the session will identify evidence-based strategies that encourage informed dialogue and strengthen public trust in sustainable bio-innovation.

PS 3. Enabling Bio-Innovation Through Scientific Advancements

Chairs: Marco Pupin and Mitscheli Sanches da Rocha

Scientific advances are creating new opportunities to address global challenges. This plenary highlights developments in genetic modification, genome editing and other enabling technologies that are reshaping agriculture, industrial biotechnology, animal biotechnology and food systems. Speakers will demonstrate how these innovations are moving from research into practical applications that improve efficiency, resilience and sustainability. Bringing together leading scientists from around the world, the session will showcase emerging technologies, explore their real-world potential, and examine how scientific discovery continues to drive sustainable bio-innovation.

PS 4. Future-Ready Governance for Converging Technologies

Chairs: Felix Moronta and Leah Buchman

Emerging technologies are increasingly crossing traditional scientific and regulatory boundaries, creating new challenges for governance. This plenary will examine how policy and regulatory systems can remain science-based, proportionate and responsive while enabling responsible innovation. Discussions will cover technologies including genome editing, synthetic biology, agricultural biologicals, genetic biocontrol, industrial biotechnology and AI-enabled bio-innovation. Policymakers, regulators and biosafety experts will explore regulatory preparedness, international collaboration, capacity building and future-ready governance approaches that can support sustainable bio-innovation in an increasingly interconnected world.

The [Symposium website has more information on the plenary sessions](#) and will be updated as speakers are confirmed.

STILL TO COME

- Announcement of **EXACT DATES** for ISBR2027 by the end of August 2026.
- **SPONSORSHIP** opportunities.
- The open call for **ABSTRACTS** for oral and poster presentations will open in January 2027.
- Applications for Student **SCHOLARSHIPS** will open in December 2026.



DISCOVER INDONESIA - WHERE AGRICULTURE MEETS BIO-INNOVATION!

Indonesia is one of the world's leading agricultural nations, with millions of people relying on farming for their livelihoods and food security. As the country works to strengthen agricultural productivity, sustainability, and climate resilience, bio-innovation has become an important national priority. This makes Indonesia a fitting host for ISBR2027, bringing the global biosafety community together where scientific innovation, policy, and practical application intersect.

Join us in Southeast Asia to exchange ideas, build new collaborations, and experience the warmth and hospitality for which Indonesia is renowned. We look forward to welcoming you to an engaging and memorable ISBR Symposium.

SEE YOU IN **BEAUTIFUL** BALI!



The ISBR

Promotes the practice and application of science in applied biotechnology and risk analysis. In particular, the ISBR aims to encourage research, development, and communication that support the safe and sustainable use of biotechnology and facilitate the development of appropriate policy and regulation.

Visit our website for more information - <https://isbr.info/home>

Or contact us at admin@isbr.info



Stay connected, get involved, and be part of the conversations that are shaping the future of sustainable bio-innovation.



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