



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
 ENVIRONMENT
 Directorate B - Natural Capital
 ENV.B.2 – Biodiversity

Second meeting of the Working Group Invasive Alien Species Tuesday 6 September 2016

Scoping document for the working sessions

The aim of this document is to frame the discussion in the working sessions and highlight where the expertise of the members is sought. The proceedings and results of the working sessions will be summarised in a report. It might also lead to further cooperation on specific aspects of the IAS policy. The final aim is to provide support to the Member States and the European Commission in the application of Regulation 1143/2014 and Implementing Regulation 2016/1141.

Working session 1: Management of pathways of introduction and spread of IAS of Union concern

Participants: *European Anglers Alliance, Birdlife, WWF Spain, EEB, Woodland Trust, European Boating Association, EPPO, Sweden, Denmark*

Article 13: Action plans on the pathways of invasive alien species

1. Member States shall, by 15 January 2018, carry out a comprehensive analysis of the pathways of unintentional introduction and spread of invasive alien species of Union concern, and identify the pathways which require priority action ('priority pathways') because of the volume of species or of the potential damage caused by the species entering the Union through those pathways.
2. By 15 July 2019, each Member State shall establish and implement one single action plan or a set of action plans to address the priority pathways. Action plans shall include timetables for action and shall describe the measures to be adopted and, as appropriate, voluntary actions and codes of good practice, to address the priority pathways.
3. Member States shall ensure coordination with the aim of establishing one single action plan or a set of action plans coordinated at the appropriate regional level. Where such regional action plans are not established, Member States shall establish and implement action plans for their territory and as far as possible coordinated at the appropriate regional level.
4. The action plans shall include, in particular, measures based on an analysis of costs and benefits, in order to:
 - (a) raise awareness;
 - (b) minimise contamination of goods, commodities, vehicles and equipment by specimens of invasive alien species, including measures to tackle transportation of invasive alien species from third countries;
 - (c) ensure appropriate checks at the Union borders.

1. **Identification of pathways:** Which IAS of Union concern are introduced and/or spread unintentionally? Which pathways are involved?
2. **Prioritisation of pathways:** Which pathways of unintentional introduction and/or spread of IAS of Union concern need prioritisation and why? How could Member States prioritise pathways?
3. **Identification of measures:** What best practices of effective pathway management are available? Consider the different types of pathways.

4. **Selection of measures:** How can measures be prioritised based on risk evaluation and their cost effectiveness? What good practices of cost benefit evaluation of pathway management measures are available? When would measures be considered not cost effective?
5. **Stakeholder involvement:** What stakeholder initiatives are available? What other stakeholders need to be involved? How do stakeholders perceive existing pathway management measures? How could stakeholders and Member States cooperate on pathway management?
6. **Transboundary cooperation:** Are there best practices on transboundary cooperation on pathway management?

Working session 2: Surveillance of IAS of Union concern

Participants: *Argyro Zenetos, National Biodiversity Data Centre (Ireland), FACE, Coalition Clean Baltic, INBO (Belgium)*

Article 14: Surveillance system

1. By 15 January 2018, Member States shall establish a surveillance system of invasive alien species of Union concern, or include it in their existing system, which collects and records data on the occurrence in the environment of invasive alien species by survey, monitoring or other procedures to prevent the spread of invasive alien species into or within the Union.

2. The surveillance system shall:

(a) cover the territory, including marine territorial waters, of the Member States to determine the presence and distribution of new as well as already established invasive alien species of Union concern;

(b) be sufficiently dynamic to detect rapidly the appearance in the environment of the territory or part of the territory of a Member State of any invasive alien species of Union concern, whose presence was previously unknown;

(c) build upon, be compatible with, and avoid duplication of relevant provisions for assessment and monitoring laid down by Union law or under international agreements and make use of the information provided by the existing systems of surveillance and monitoring set out in Article 11 of Directive 92/43/EEC, Article 8 of Directive 2000/60/EC and Article 11 of Directive 2008/56/EC;

(d) take into account the relevant transboundary impact and transboundary features, to the extent possible.

Article 19(4): The surveillance system shall be designed and used to monitor the effectiveness of eradication, population control or containment measures in minimising the impact on biodiversity, the related ecosystems services and, where applicable, on human health or the economy. The monitoring shall also assess the impact on non-targeted species, as appropriate.

1. **Surveillance:** What best practices on IAS surveillance are available? Consider all IAS of Union concern and the ecosystems where they may be found.
2. **Stakeholder involvement:** What stakeholder initiatives are available? What other stakeholders need to be involved? How do stakeholders perceive existing surveillance systems? How could stakeholders and Member States cooperate on surveillance?
3. **Citizen science:** What IAS citizen science initiatives are available? How could stakeholders and Member States cooperate on citizen science?
4. **Transdisciplinary cooperation:** Are there best practices on transdisciplinary surveillance available? Which data on IAS can be extracted from the surveillance in the framework of Directive 92/43/EEC, Article 8 of Directive 2000/60/EC and Article 11 of Directive 2008/56/EC? Are there other surveillance systems that could generate data on IAS?

5. **Transboundary cooperation:** Are there best practices of transboundary cooperation on IAS surveillance?
6. **Monitoring effectiveness:** Are there best practices on the monitoring of the effectiveness of IAS eradication or management programmes?

Working session 3: Management of IAS of Union concern

Participants: *Giuseppe Brundu, Pete Robinson, United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Austria, CABI, Eurogroup for animals, European Pet Organisation, Heidelberg Cement, International Fund for Animal Welfare*

Article 19: Management measures

1. By 4 February 2018, Member States shall have in place effective management measures for those invasive alien species of Union concern which the Member States have found to be widely spread on their territory, so that their impact on biodiversity, the related ecosystem services, and, where applicable, on human health or the economy are minimised.

Those management measures shall be proportionate to the impact on the environment and appropriate to the specific circumstances of the Member States, be based on an analysis of costs and benefits and also include, as far as is feasible, restoration measures. They shall be prioritised based on the risk evaluation and their cost effectiveness.

2. The management measures shall consist of lethal or non-lethal physical, chemical or biological actions aimed at the eradication, population control or containment of a population of an invasive alien species. Where appropriate, management measures shall include actions applied to the receiving ecosystem aimed at increasing its resilience to current and future invasions. The commercial use of already established invasive alien species may be temporarily allowed as part of the management measures aimed at their eradication, population control or containment, under strict justification and provided that all appropriate controls are in place to avoid any further spread.

3. When applying management measures and selecting methods to be used, Member States shall have due regard to human health and the environment, especially non-targeted species and their habitats, and shall ensure that, when animals are targeted, they are spared any avoidable pain, distress or suffering, without compromising the effectiveness of the management measures.

5. Where there is a significant risk that an invasive alien species of Union concern will spread to another Member State, the Member States in which that species is present shall immediately notify the other Member States and the Commission. Where appropriate, the Member States concerned shall establish jointly agreed management measures. Where third countries may also be affected by the spread, the Member State affected shall endeavour to inform the third countries concerned.

1. **Identification of management measures:** What best practices of effective IAS management are available? Consider all IAS of Union concern and the ecosystems where they may be found.
2. **Identification of restoration measures:** Are there any best practices of restoration in the framework of IAS management? Consider all IAS of Union concern and the ecosystems where they may be found.
3. **Selection of measures:**
 - How can it be assessed whether measures are proportionate to their impact on the environment? When would measures be considered not proportionate?
 - How can it be assessed whether measures are appropriate to the specific circumstances? When would measures be considered not appropriate?
 - How can measures be prioritised based on risk evaluation and their cost effectiveness? What good practices of cost benefit evaluation of management measures are available? When would measures be considered not cost effective?

4. **Commercial use:** How can commercial activities be integrated into IAS management measures, without undermining the objectives of these measures?
5. **Stakeholder involvement:** What stakeholder initiatives are available? What other stakeholders need to be involved? How do stakeholders perceive existing IAS management measures? How could stakeholders and Member States cooperate on IAS management?
6. **Transboundary cooperation:** Are there best practices on transboundary cooperation on IAS management?
7. **Eradication versus management:** When can an IAS be considered non-eradicable? (shift from Article 17 to Article 19)