

Issue: Invasive Alien Species

Section: Assessment - Obligations for Parties

Introduction

Activity 1: Develop assessment methods

Activity 2: Carry out assessments

- Carry out risk analysis and in some cases environmental impact assessment before introducing potentially invasive species to islands and isolated ecosystems: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(1\)](#)
- Assess the feasibility of eradicating those populations representing a threat to biological diversity: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(3\)](#)

Activity 3: Monitor and research

Component 1: Monitor invasive alien species

- Monitor introduced populations of non-native terrestrial vertebrate species and assess the potential threat to biological diversity both within their territory and elsewhere: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(2\)](#)
- Monitor invasive alien species and update inventories: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(1\)](#)

Component 2: Undertake research on invasive alien species

- Promote scientific research on invasive alien species and on their role in ecological processes; improve existing databases; carry out long-term monitoring programmes: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(11\)](#)

Activity 4: Implement impact assessments

Component 1: Provide information on impact assessment

Component 2: Implement impact assessments

Activity 5: Develop and implement indicators

Component 1: Develop indicators for invasive alien species

Component 2: Provide information on indicators

Component 3: Implement indicators

Component 4: Report on the implementation of indicators

Component 5: Implement indicators for the tourism industry

Component 6: Implement indicators for agricultural biodiversity

Component 7: Implement indicators for wetlands

Activity 6: Assess tourism

Activity 7: Assess taxonomic needs

Activity 8: Assess technology

Activity 9: Implement the GSPC

Activity 10: Assess protected areas

Activity 11: Assess dry and sub-humid lands

Activity 12: Assess wetlands

Component 1: Develop assessment processes

Component 2: Provide information on assessments

Component 3: Implement assessment processes

Activity 13: Assess marine and coastal biodiversity

Activity 14: Assess mountain biodiversity

Activity 15: Assess agricultural biodiversity

Activity 16: Assess forest biodiversity

Section: Communication, education and public awareness - Obligations for Parties

Activity 1: Communicate IAS with stakeholders

- Approach relevant stakeholders to look for their collaboration in the measures to avoid new introductions and in the eradication of invasive alien species: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(10\)](#)

Activity 2: Communicate IAS with the wider public

- Gain public acceptance and inform the general public of the threats represented by introduced non-native species: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(7\)](#)
- Disseminate information through appropriate networks, and national and regional clearing-house mechanisms: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(6\)](#)

Activity 3: Provide training on IAS

- Carry out specific education campaigns; actively promote and publicise the benefits for biodiversity of preventing, controlling or eradicating IAS: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(10\)](#)
- Promote education and public awareness on the problems that invasive alien species cause and the need to take precautionary and eradication measures [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(10\)](#)

Section: Cooperation - Obligations for Parties

Introduction

Activity 1: Promote cooperation on IAS

- Promote capacity building on IAS and sharing of experiences on eradication and prevention: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(6\)](#)
- Make formal links between the Ballast Water Management Strategy for North West Europe and the work HELCOM are undertaking: [NEWSLETTER for the Ballast Water Management Strategy for North West Europe \(Sept 05\)](#)
- Co-operate with other Contracting Parties and Observer States in the prevention of introduction of invasive alien species: [23rd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 99](#)
- Collaborate with other states on the issue of prevention, control and eradication of invasive alien species in islands and isolated ecosystems: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 96](#)
- Set up mechanisms for inter-State co-operation, notification and consultation in order to coordinate precautionary and control measures for invasive species: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(5\)](#)

Activity 2: Support cooperation on IAS across sectors

- Seek the involvement and co-operation of all interested parties, including organisations and operators who were at the origin of the voluntary release: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(6\)](#)

Activity 3 Cooperate on IAS transboundary issues

Component 1: Share knowledge on IAS

Component 2: Develop regional activities

Component 3: Implement regional activities

Activity 4: Cooperate to address issues relating to wetlands regionally

Component 1: Share knowledge on IAS

Component 2: Develop management programmes

Component 3: Implement management programmes

Section: Legislative measures and national policies – Obligations for Parties

Introduction

Activity 1: Ratify international conventions

Component 1: Ratify appropriate international conventions

Component 2: Provide experts to international conventions

Activity 2: Harmonize regional approaches

- Within the EU, issue a wildlife import permit only if it would not have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species or their territory: [EU Regulation 338-97, Article 4 \(1ai & 6d\)](#)

Activity 3: Develop and implement national legislation

Component 1: Develop national legislation

Component 2: Implement national legislation

Component 3: Establish appropriate legal capacity and structure

- Assess the need for stricter legislation to prevent unwanted introductions between distinct regions of the same state or islands of the same archipelago: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91](#)

Activity 4: Develop and implement national strategies

Component 1: Develop national strategies

- Draw up and implement national strategies on invasive alien species taking into account the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species: [23rd meeting of the Bern Convention Standing Committee, Recommendation 99](#)

Component 2: Implement national strategies

Activity 5: Develop national trade legislation

Activity 6: Develop national ballast water legislation

Section: Provision of resources

Introduction

Activity 1: Ensure funding for the management of IAS

Activity 2: Ensure funding for assessments involving IAS

- Within the EU, designate adequately staffed customs offices for carrying out checks and formalities for the introduction to and export of flora and fauna: [EU Regulation 338-97, Article 12 \(1, 2\)](#)

Activity 3: Ensure funding for Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)

Activity 4: Ensure funding for CEPA activities

Activity 5: Ensure funding for the development and implementation of indicators

Activity 6: Ensure funding for the implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI)

Activity 7: Ensure funding for the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative

Activity 8: Ensure funding for the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

Activity 9: Ensure funding for protected areas

Activity 10: Ensure funding for forest biodiversity

Activity 11: Ensure funding for dry and sub-humid lands

Activity 12: Ensure funding for marine and coastal ecosystems

Activity 13: Ensure funding for agricultural ecosystems

Activity 14: Ensure funding for mountain biodiversity

Activity 15: Ensure funding for the transfer of technology

Activity 16: Facilitate capacity building on IAS

Section: Management

Introduction

Activity 1: Prevent the introduction of IAS

- Prohibit the deliberate introduction of non-native species in the wild, except in particular circumstances where they have been granted prior authorisation by a regulatory authority: [17th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 57 \(1\)](#)
- Endeavour to prevent the accidental introduction of non-native species with the potential to establish populations, where they use anthropogenic routes of dispersal: [17th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 57 \(2\)](#)
- Regulate or even prohibit the deliberate introduction and trade of certain species of non-native terrestrial vertebrates: [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(1\)](#)
- Within the EU, issue a wildlife import permit only if it would not have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species or its territory: [EU Regulation 338-97, Article 4 \(1ai & 6d\)](#)
- EU Commission may establish restrictions on the introduction of species whose introduction presents an ecological threat: [EU Regulation 338-97, Article 4 \(6d\)](#)
- EU States shall see that any introduction of non-native bird species does not prejudice the local flora and fauna: [EU Birds, Article 11](#)
- Each Contracting Party undertakes to strictly control the introduction of non-native species: [Bern Convention, Article 11 \(2\)](#)

- All parties will ensure that the culture of genetically modified marine organisms is confined to secure, self-contained, land-based facilities in order to prevent their release to the marine environment: [JMM 2003/3 Oscar/Helsinki \(no. 19\)](#)
- Establish special mechanisms to prohibit intentional introduction of alien species into and between islands and isolated ecosystems: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(1\)](#)

Activity 2: Eradicate IAS

- Eradicate populations for which eradication is deemed feasible and monitor the effect of the eradication on native fauna and flora [19th meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 77 \(4\)](#)
- Implement plans to eradicate or control species of highest concern and draw-up a precise plan for eradication of target invasive species: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(1\)](#)

Activity 3: Control the damage of IAS

- Implement the Pan European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species by at least half of the countries of the region by 2008: [Kiev Resolution no. 6](#)
- Promote containment measures for those invasive alien species that cannot be technically eradicated: [22nd meeting of the Bern Convention Steering Committee, Recommendation 91 \(1\)](#)

Activity 4: Share information on IAS

Activity 5: Manage IAS during trade

- Within the EU, designate adequately staffed customs offices for carrying out checks and formalities for the introduction to and export of flora and fauna: [EU Regulation 338-97, Article 12 \(1, 2\)](#)

Activity 6: Manage ballast water

- Harmful, non-indigenous species dispersal through ballast water within the OSPAR Region is not acceptable: [NEWSLETTER for the Ballast Water Management Strategy for North West Europe \(Sept 05\)](#)
- Dispersion of native species and non-indigenous species from one bio-province to another through ballast water is not acceptable: [NEWSLETTER for the Ballast Water Management Strategy for North West Europe \(Sept 05\)](#)

Component 1: Implement management programmes

- Continue progress towards the adoption of the International Convention on Ballast Water Management to control the unintentional introduction of non-native species: [JMM 2003/3 Oscar/Helsinki \(no. 30d\)](#)

Component 2: Research management options for alien species

Activity 7: Manage dry and sub-humid lands

Activity 8: Manage marine and coastal biodiversity

Activity 9: Manage mountain biodiversity

Activity 10: Manage wetlands

Component 1: Provide information on the management of IAS

Component 2: Implement management programmes

Component 3: Report on actions

Activity 11: Manage agricultural biodiversity

Component 1: Implement management programmes

Component 2: Provide information on managing IAS

Activity 12: Manage forest biodiversity

Component 1: Implement management programmes

Component 2: Report on actions

Component 3: Provide information on the management of IAS

Activity 13: Manage protected areas

Activity 14: Manage technology