

18 December 2019 - Brussels Environment
86C Havenlaan/Avenue du Port
Brussels 1000



Bristol Zoological Society



Exchanging Experience on the Management of IAS (Invasive Alien Species) in Europe

A joint event between RAPID Life and the Belgian Forum on Invasive Species (BFIS)



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Exchanging Experience on IAS Management in Europe

A joint event between RAPID Life (Reducing and Preventing IAS Dispersal) and the Belgian Forum on Invasive Species (BFIS)

Background

Invasive alien species (IAS) are considered to be one of the most significant causes of biodiversity loss worldwide. The economic impacts are also severe, with an estimated annual cost of at least 12 billion Euros across Europe. IAS are being introduced at increasing rates, in tandem with the global movement of people and goods. Once established, IAS can be extremely difficult to remove.

Given the interconnectedness of our modern world, it is important that we work together, across borders, to develop ways of preventing and managing IAS. The EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species obliges all EU member states to take steps towards managing and preventing the spread of invasive alien species.

The RAPID Life Project (Reducing and Preventing IAS Dispersal) and the Belgian Forum on Invasive Species (BFIS) are co-organising an event in Brussels to facilitate the exchange of information on IAS prevention and management between stakeholders in different European countries. The event will look at the ways in which the EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species is being implemented in different EU member states, and will bring together EU Life Projects working on IAS in different European countries in order to share information and encourage collaboration.

Objectives

- To explore how the EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species is being interpreted and implemented in different EU member states; to encourage discussion, information exchange, and collaboration on this.
- To showcase some of the many different EU-Funded Life projects that are currently working on IAS management and prevention in Europe and to explore some of the problems and solutions encountered by these projects, in the hope that this may prove useful to other such projects.
- To bring together EU Life Projects working on IAS in Europe, and other stakeholders working on IAS management and prevention in Europe in order to facilitate information exchange and promote collaboration.

Participants

The event will bring together stakeholders working on IAS prevention and management in different EU countries. These will include: scientific researchers, project managers, conservation organisations, national and regional government, and representatives of the European Commission. EU Life Projects currently working on IAS will be invited to attend. The event will bring together a variety of stakeholders from as many EU Member States as possible.

Duration and Programme

The event will last one day, divided into a morning and an afternoon session.

A **keynote speech** will be given by Andy Sheppard (CSIRO Australia) on novel technologies for the prevention, surveillance and control of IAS.

The **morning session** will feature representatives from different EU member states talking about how the EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species is being implemented in their countries. This will be followed by a discussion in which all attendees are welcome to participate.

The **afternoon session** will feature a series of presentations from different Life Projects working on IAS in different European countries about the lessons they have learned that may be useful to other projects.

Lunch and coffee will be provided.

Registration

To register for this event, please use the online registration form at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEhANa5AyUqXE7kjLns6uEMew-iIWWqmzImFBI5xLzibRlrw/viewform>

Practical Details

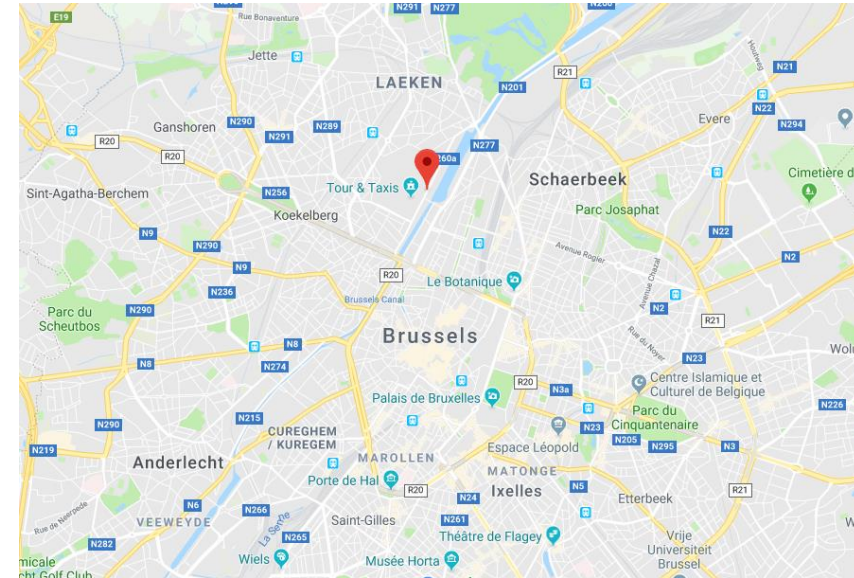
Date: 18 December 2019

Location: Brussels Environment
86C Havenlaan/Avenue du Port
Brussels 1000
BELGIUM

Access map: <https://bel.brussels/en/content/access>

Number of participants expected: approximately 200.

Languages: The exchanges will take place in English, French, and Dutch. There will be simultaneous translation services available for these languages.



Contacts

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The RAPID Life Project

RAPID Life (Reducing and Preventing IAS Dispersal) is part of the EU's Life program, is a 3-year project (2017-2020) that aims to bring an innovative, holistic approach to the management of IAS in aquatic ecosystems (freshwater, riparian, and coastal) in England, whilst demonstrating the efficacy of this approach for replication across Europe. RAPID has engaged regional stakeholders in the production and implementation of five Regional IAS Management Plans (RIMPS) that aim to deliver consistent, regionally tailored prevention, early warning, rapid response, eradication and control of IAS throughout England. RAPID has also produced education and awareness-raising resources on IAS prevention and management for a variety of user groups, and has helped to update and promote the "Check, Clean, Dry" biosecurity campaign. The RAPID Life project is being led by Great Britain's Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).

For more information, visit www.nonnativespecies.org/rapid



The Belgian Forum on Invasive Species (BFIS)

The Belgian Biodiversity Platform facilitates science-policy processes on IAS through activities of the Belgian Forum on Invasive Species (BFIS), a community of practice on invasive alien species in which scientists, policy-makers and stakeholders interested in biological invasions are involved. The experts of this community of practice are involved in key activities supporting decision-making on IAS, actively participating in the implementation of the EU Regulation on IAS in Belgium and being a key partner in Belgian initiatives related to IAS such as the TriAS project.

For more information, visit <https://ias.biodiversity.be>.

