



EUROPEAN WORKSHOP ON CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT SPECIES

19-21 April 2016, Budapest, Hungary

CALL FOR PAPERS and SAVE THE DATE

Invasive alien species are one of the major threats to Europe's biodiversity. Tackling the problem of IAS has been and remains a huge challenge for nature conservation sector and protected area management bodies. In order to support these efforts, the Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate and WWF Hungary will organise an international workshop on best practices in invasive plant management within Natura 2000 sites and protected areas.

We are honoured to invite interested professionals (protected area managers, foresters, land users, field experts, researchers and practitioners, etc.) from all over Europe to exchange experiences and to discuss the most important issues of nature conservation efforts to stop the spreading of invasive alien plant species.

Date: 19-21 April 2016 (including field programme)

Place: Budapest, Hungary

Exact venue TBC. For updates visit the website of the event:
http://turjanvidek.hu/?/invasive_plants_workshop

Workshop theme

Several LIFE projects and other initiatives have been targeting the issue of IAS, generating an ever growing pool of first-hand experience, lessons learnt and best practices. The legislative background on both European and Member State levels has recently been evolving for a better support to tackle this serious problem. In parallel, new efforts in communication, awareness raising and stakeholder engagement are made. Keynote speakers will include some of the leading researchers and responsible public officials in these areas.

The goal of the Workshop is to collect, exchange and discuss working experiences from different countries in order to foster capitalization of lessons learnt and to support active IAS management in nature conservation. The Workshop aims to be an interactive meeting and to serve as a vivid platform that encourages exchange of opinions amongst professionals of different countries and sectors. The event will contribute to the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process, as well.

Call for papers

We are inviting proposals for paper and poster presentations addressing the IAS issue through one of the following topics:

- Overall situation in European countries regarding invasive plant threats in nature conservation. Lists and databases of invasive alien plant species. Early detection systems, risk assessment, prevention practices and monitoring of biological invasions.
- Aspects of legal regulation on EU and national levels regarding import, marketing and plantation of alien species (incl. horticulture, forestry), production of species with a significant economic interest, introduction of new management protocols and practices of invasive plants.



- Available funding sources for IAS management for public bodies and private actors.
- Communication and engaging the public in invasive alien species management. Stakeholder involvement and intersectoral communication on invasive alien plants. Land use conflicts, critical issues, citizens' role and cooperation of different sectors.
- Field experiences, best practices in IAS management. Working methods for eradication of invasive plant species, mechanical and chemical control technologies applicable in protected areas/Natura 2000 sites. Mechanical eradication methods (incl. land use regimes), gentle chemical techniques, landscape level eradication strategies, special management problems in wetlands.
- Special focus will be on the following species but presentations concerning other terrestrial and aquatic invasive plant species are also welcome:
 - *Acer negundo*
 - *Ailanthus altissima*
 - *Amorpha fruticosa*
 - *Asclepias syriaca*
 - *Celtis occidentalis*
 - Others, e.g. *Heracleum spp.*, *Fallopia spp.*, *Xanthium spp.*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, *neophyton aquatic plants*, etc.
 - *Elaeagnus angustifolia*
 - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
 - *Prunus serotina*
 - *Robinia pseudoacacia*
 - *Solidago spp.*

Registration

Participation is free of charge for maximum one participant per organisation and for all presenters (both paper and poster authors). Should there be more participants per organisation cost-based registration fees apply. In case of a request for exception, decision will be made on a case by case basis about providing more free-of-charge places.

Deadline for registration with presentations: 20 January 2016

Please fill in and submit the registration form through a google form at:
<http://goo.gl/forms/1BehuXE0QI>

Registration with presentations (paper and poster) is now open. Registration without presentations will open at the beginning of 2016.

For more information on submission of papers, registration fees and other details please visit the website:
http://turjanvidek.hu/?/invasive_plants_workshop

Preliminary programme and further information

Updates on the programme and practical information will be published on the website:
http://turjanvidek.hu/?/invasive_plants_workshop

Contacts

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The Workshop is organised in the frame of the LIFE+ Nature project "Conservation of Priority Natural Values in Turjánvidék Natura 2000 Area Southern Unit", with the financial support of the European Union and the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary. Project partners are the Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate, Defence Economic Office of the Ministry of Defence of Hungary, Budapest Forestry Company and WWF Hungary.