

COMBATING INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

Invasive alien species (IAS) pose a significant threat to biodiversity in the EU, and this threat is likely to increase in the future unless robust action is taken at all levels to control the introduction and establishment of these species and address those already introduced. IAS cause some €12.5 billion worth of damage each year in the EU.

Although the challenges posed by IAS are common to many Member States, with the exception of legislation concerning the use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture there is currently no dedicated, comprehensive EU policy to address them.

This strategy proposes filling this gap with a dedicated EU legislative instrument which could tackle outstanding challenges relating *inter alia* to IAS pathways, early detection and response and containment and management of IAS.

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Target 5:

By 2020, Invasive Alien Species and their pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and pathways are managed to prevent the introduction and establishment of new IAS.

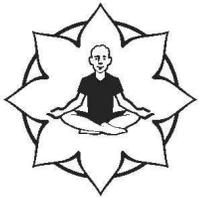
Action 15: Strengthen the EU Plant and Animal Health Regimes

15) The Commission will integrate additional biodiversity concerns into the Plant and Animal Health regimes by 2012.

Action 16: Establish a dedicated instrument on Invasive Alien Species

16) The Commission will fill policy gaps in combating IAS by developing a dedicated legislative instrument by 2012.

The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity



TEEB approach to “valuation”



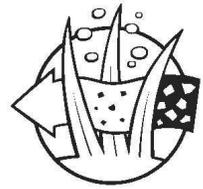
1. Recognizing value: a feature of all human societies and communities



2. Demonstrating value: in economic terms, to support decision making



3. Capturing value: introduce mechanisms that incorporate the values of ecosystems into decision making



Provisioning services:

- food crops,
- fibre,
- water,
- plant based medicines,

Regulating services:

- climate regulation,
- water purification,
- flood,
- disease control,

Cultural services:

- spiritual,
- recreational,
- education,
- cultural values,

Supporting services

- nutrient cycling,
- photosynthesis production of atmospheric oxygen,
- soil formation,
- water cycling,
- provisioning of habitat.