

Bioinvasion and Global Environmental Governance: The Transnational Policy Network on Invasive Alien Species

France's Actions on IAS

Description¹

The French Republic is located in Western Europe, bordered from the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean to the English Channel and the North Sea, and is comprised of various overseas islands and territories located in other continents. The main territory of about 64 million people is bordered by Spain to the Southeast, United Kingdom to the North, Belgium and Luxemburg to the Northeast, German, Switzerland and Italy to the east. France is a semi-presidential system created by the French Constitution of the Fifth Republic. The territory of mainland France is mostly flat plains or gently rolling hills in north and west; remainder is mountainous.

France is a developed country and possesses the sixth largest economy in the world (GDP figures). France is the largest country in the European Union, and one of its founding members. France is a member of the Francophonie, the G8, NATO, and the Latin Union. It is one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Overview of Biodiversity

France is composed of various ecosystem types, notably wetlands, lakes, costal habitats, prairies, and forests. Agricultural zones cover more than half of the French territory. Metropolitan France (excluding overseas territories), covering less than 12% of the European continent, comprises 40% of Europe's flora. This flora is characterized by a high rate of endemism, especially in the Mediterranean and Pyrenean parts of the country.

- [CBD Country Profile](#)
- [Earth Trends Country Profile on Biodiversity and Protected Areas](#)

Legislation relating to IAS

- Code de l'environnement: [Chapitre III : Etablissements détenant des animaux d'espèces non domestiques.](#)
- Code de l'environnement: Section 1: Préservation du patrimoine biologique. [Article L411-1](#) Other than particular scientific interests, the conservation of non-domestic and non-cultivated animals and plants is prohibited. [Article L411-3](#) It is prohibited to introduce non-native species to natural environments, either by negligence or imprudence. [Article L411-4](#) The prohibited actions mentioned in the previous article is the responsibility of the Ministers of agriculture, forests and the environment. Also, Article L432-10 (control of aquaculture), [Article L415-3](#) (punishments for violations) and [Article L415-5](#) (agents in charge).

Government Agencies/Programs/Ministries dealing with IAS

- [Ministère de l'Écologie, de l'Énergie, du Développement durable et de l'Aménagement du territoire](#) (Minister of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Territorial Development)
- [Ministère de L'Agriculture et de la Pêche](#)

Major Invasive Alien Species (on [Delivering Alien Invasive Inventories for Europe](#))

Aedes albopictus (insect)	Mustela vison (mammal)
Agapornis personatus (bird)	Oxyura jamaicensis (bird)
Alectoris chukar (bird)	Potamopyrgus antipodarum (aquatic)
Anser brachyrhynchus (bird)	Procyon lotor (mammal)
Athelia rolfsii (fungi)	Psittacula krameri (bird)
Callosciurus erythraeus (mammal)	Puccinia malvacearum (fungi)
Castor canadensis (mammal)	Rhabdocline pseudotsugae (fungi)
Ceratocystis platani (fungi)	Seiridium cardinale (fungi)
Corbicula fluminalis (aquatic)	Speleomantes ambrosii (amphibian)
Cronartium ribicola (fungi)	Tamias sibiricus (mammal)
Dendrocygna bicolor (bird)	Threskionis aethiopicus (amphibian)
Dreissena polymorpha (aquatic)	Trachemys scripta (reptile)
Erysiphe flexuosa (fungi)	Triturus carnifex (amphibian)
Erysiphe platani (fungi)	Xenopus laevis (amphibian)

Native Species Exported/Introduced to Non-Native Environments

Acer platanoides (tree)	Euphorbia esula (herb)
Anas platyrhynchos (bird)	Hylastes ater (insect)
Bromus inermis (grass)	Lachnellula willkommii (fungus)
Bubulcus ibis (bird)	Lotus corniculatus (herb)
Camelina sativa (herb)	Melilotus alba (herb)
Centaurea biebersteinii (herb)	Orthotomicus erosus (insect)
Centaurea melitensis (herb)	Perca fluviatilis (fish)
Columba livia (bird)	Rhamnus cathartica (tree)
Cotinus coggygria (tree, shrub)	Sabella spallanzanii (annelid)
Cytisus scoparius (shrub)	Setaria verticillata (grass)
Didymosphenia geminata (algae)	Ulex europaeus (tree, shrub)

Table 1 Actions to prevent, detect and manage IAS categorized into three themes: biodiversity, human health, and economic

Note: Actions (such as projects, publications and programs) are classified according to the most obvious theme but may also fit into the dimensions of another.

Theme	Action
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts to create a Marine Park on the estuary of the Gironde and Carente Pertuis that will infuse tourism with habitat conservation are under official review by the Ministry of Ecology, Energy, sustainable Development and the Territorial Development.³

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France has succeeded in identifying major IAS threats and has established a detection system.² • French Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism: lists national legislature relating to invasives and specific legislature for Guyana, La Réunion (islands off the coast of Madagascar), and French Polynesia. • The French Committee for IUCN has launched an initiative against invasive exotic species overseas (2006). • National Biodiversity Strategy: Agriculture Plan (2005) Action 10 states the development of a program to control IAS in cultivated areas • National Biodiversity Strategy: Forest Plan (2006) Action 1.3.2. sets up the development of networks and online databases, including gathering data pertaining to the evolution of invading species as it effect forest biodiversity.
Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species protected by Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) cannot be exported or imported without a certificate issued at the time of purchase of the plant/animal.⁴ • As of June 2008, the French Government moved to make CITES fully enforceable in the French Pacific Territories of French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna.⁵ • Round table meeting on hunting brought together environment ministers and members of the hunting community to forge an agreement on the protection of wildlife and resources. The resultant program seeks to enhance wetlands, mobilize an operational frame on hunting issues, and enhance cooperation with European and African countries, which host migratory birds.⁷ • A European Phytosanitary Passport may be required for importing of plants that are subject to carrying diseases and parasites.⁶ • Ministry of Ecology, Energy, sustainable Development and the Territorial Development will study the feasibility of creating 10 marine protected areas and its sustainable use by 2012.⁸

References

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