



The Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species



International
Plant Protection
Convention



ICAO

6



Reduce the
Introduction and
Impact of Invasive
Alien Species

An example of cross-sectoral collaboration to support the achievement of Target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

WHY IS CROSS-SECTORAL COLLABORATION IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES?

Invasive alien species (IAS) are among the main direct drivers of biodiversity loss worldwide, and addressing their negative impacts requires coordinated action across countries, sectors, and levels of government. The impacts of IAS extend beyond the environment, affecting food security, human and animal health, and economic development more broadly. The Convention on Biological Diversity provides a global framework for cooperation, policy guidance and collective action to prevent, manage and reduce the impacts of IAS which threaten ecosystems, habitats and species, as embodied in Article 8 (h) of the Convention, which is also highlighted through Target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).

As a cross-cutting challenge, IAS cannot be effectively addressed by a single sector or actor alone; it requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to ensure timely and effective progress to eliminate, minimize, reduce and/or mitigate the impacts posed by IAS.

In addition, IAS may be introduced and spread through a variety of pathways associated with global trade and travel, including maritime transport, civil aviation, trade logistics, tourism, and the general movement of goods and people across borders and within States. Therefore, identifying these pathways and strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration is essential to achieving sustainable and long-term outcomes.



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Kunming-Montreal
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

THE INTER-AGENCY LIAISON GROUP ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES: FOSTERING CROSS-SECTORAL COLLABORATION

The Inter-Agency Liaison Group* on Invasive Alien Species is an international coordination mechanism established under the Convention on Biological Diversity to enhance cooperation and coherence among relevant international organizations working on issues related to IAS. The Group brings together organizations with mandates related to biodiversity, agriculture, plant and animal health, fisheries, data and information, forestry, trade and transport, reflecting the cross-sectoral nature of IAS.

The Liaison Group provides a platform for information exchange, policy and programme alignment, and the identification of complementarities among international processes. It enables the Convention on Biological Diversity to solicit information and technical advice on issues related to IAS, and inform recommendations to the Conference of the Parties with the aim of supporting Parties to address IAS in a more integrated and effective manner.

The group further promotes harmonized approaches, reduces duplication of efforts, and strengthens synergies across sectors and institutions. Through joint work, technical inputs and guidance, its members support the development and implementation of international standards, tools and best practices for the prevention, early detection and rapid response, and management of IAS. By linking biodiversity policy with measures regulating trade, data management and sharing, sanitary and phytosanitary standards, transport and environmental management instruments, among others, the Liaison Group contributes to more coherent and cost-effective global action in support of Target 6 of the Framework.

Working across sectors to address pathways: an example from the transportation sector

Transport sectors are critical to global connectivity and economic development but may also contribute to the unintentional movement of organisms across borders. Civil aviation, for example, can act as a pathway for pests and pathogens through aircraft, cargo and passenger baggage. In response, international aviation standards, including those prescribed in Annex 9 – Facilitation of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, support measures to help prevent the introduction and spread of IAS. These measures include aircraft disinfection and coordination among aviation, customs, immigration and public health authorities

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

The Liaison Group supports collaboration across many areas, for example:

Supporting the implementation of Target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Aligns policies, standards and operational tools to reduce the rate of introduction and establishment of IAS and their impacts, including through prevention, early detection, rapid response, and long-term management.

Implementation of Article 8(h) of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Promotes coordinated action to *prevent the introduction and to control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species*, through complementary mandates and joint initiatives.

Addressing gaps in international legal and policy frameworks

Contributes to identifying and addressing gaps, inconsistencies and overlaps in international legal and policy frameworks relevant to IAS, and promotes greater coherence, complementarity and mutual supportiveness among existing international instruments, standards and processes, in line with the objectives of the Convention.

Information exchange and knowledge sharing

Facilitates the sharing of data, scientific information, best practices and lessons learned, including through joint assessments, interoperable information systems and common indicators.

Awareness-raising, capacity-strengthening and technical assistance

Jointly supports Parties to strengthen national capacities for the prevention and management of IAS by developing coordinated communication strategies and outreach materials to increase awareness of the impacts of IAS and the importance of prevention measures.

Manstreaming actions into multiple sectors

Promotes cross-sectoral collaboration to integrate IAS considerations into relevant sectors such as environment, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, trade, transport, tourism and health.

Transport and connectivity sectors

Strengthens cooperation with transport sectors, including civil aviation and maritime transport, to prevent the unintentional movement of IAS through international travel and trade. This includes promoting the implementation of international standards, operational guidance and coordinated border biosecurity measures at ports, airports and other points of entry.

Policy coherence and alignment of international instruments

Enhances synergies and avoids duplication of efforts among international agreements, standards and organizations relevant to IAS.

No single sector can tackle invasive alien species alone. Achieving Target 6 requires coordinated action across all sectors.

This document was developed by the following members of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species.



This document was developed with financial support from the European Union

Learn more at the [CBD website on invasive alien species](#)

* Current members of the Inter-agency Liaison Group on invasive alien species are CABI, Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Food and Agriculture Organization, Global Biodiversity Information Facility, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Maritime Organization, International Plant Protection Convention, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, World Organisation for Animal Health, World Customs Organization and World Trade Organization.

