



Invasive Alien Species: the Urban Dimension

Strengthening local action in Europe's urban areas

5 September 2013, IUCN Global Headquarters, Gland, Switzerland

Agenda

Moderator: Piero Genovesi, Chair IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group

- 9.00 – 9.30** **Registration** and welcome coffee/tea for participants and speakers
- 9.30 – 9.40** **Welcome** by *Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General of IUCN*
- 9.40 – 9.50** **Opening speech** by *Gian-Reto Walther, Scientific expert, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment*
- 9.50 – 10.00** **Opening speech** by *Ulrich Witte, Head of Communications and International Relations Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt*

The problem: the spread of invasive alien species

- 10.00 – 10.15** **Invasive alien species, a serious threat to Europe's biodiversity**
Jonathan Jeschke, Assistant Professor, Department of Ecology and Ecosystem Management, Technische Universität München
- 10.15 – 10.30** **The main impacts of invasive alien species in cities**
Riccardo Scalera, Programme Officer, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group
- 10.30 – 10.45** **The economic cost of invasive and non-native species: a case study from Ireland and Northern Ireland**
John Kelly, Globally Threatened Species Programme Manager, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- 10.45 – 10.55** **Questions and answers**
- 10:55 – 11:15** **Coffee break**

The response: tackling the impact of invasive alien species

- 11.15 – 11.30** **An EU legislative instrument for invasive alien species**
Myriam Dumortier, Policy Officer, European Commission, Environment Directorate General
- 11.30 – 11.45** **Financial support for the management of invasive alien species**
Angelo Salsi, Head of Unit Life Nature, European Commission, Environment Directorate General
- 11.45 – 12.00** **The role of voluntary codes of conduct to combat invasive alien species in Europe: the case of horticulture and invasive alien plants**
Sarah Brunel, Scientific Officer, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization
- 12:00 – 12:10** **Questions and answers**

Examples of local action

12.10 – 12.25 London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI)

Karen Harper, Manager LISI

12.25 – 12.40 Private gardens, a pathway for spread of invasive plant species

*Jan Pergl, Scientist Department of Invasion Ecology, Institute of Botany,
Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic*

12.40 – 12.55 The New Zealand flatworm, a predator of European earthworms

Brian Boag, Soil Ecologist, James Hutton Institute

12.55 – 13.10 Eradicating Eastern grey squirrels in Genoa Nervi urban park

*Luc Wauters, Scientist, Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences University of
Insubria, Varese*

13:10 –13:20 Questions and answers

13.20 – 14:15 Lunch buffet

Connecting with European society

14.15 – 14.30 The need to involve stakeholders to combat IAS in cities

Neil McIntosh, Deputy Executive Director, European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC)

14.30 – 14.45 Making invasive alien species understood by citizens

Lesley Dickie, Executive Director, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria

14:45 –15:00 Questions and answers

Thematic break-out sessions for exchange between speakers and participants

15.00 – 16.30

- **Communication strategies for invasive alien species, how to increase awareness and mobilise action**

Chair: *Lesley Dickie, Executive Director, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria*

Rapporteur: *Liza Drius, Communications Officer, IUCN EU Representative Office*

- **Voluntary versus legislative approaches to deal with invasive alien species in urban areas**

Chair: *Riccardo Scalera, Programme Officer, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group*

Rapporteur: *Chantal van Ham, European Programme Officer, IUCN EU Representative Office*

- **Regional cooperation and responsibility for action to minimise the risk of invasive alien species**

Chair: *Neil McIntosh, Deputy Director, European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC)*

Rapporteur: *Ana Nieto, Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer, IUCN EU Representative Office*

16.30 – 17.00 Presentation of conclusions from breakout sessions (by chairs) and final recommendations

Piero Genovesi, Chair, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group

17.00 – 17.10 Closing statement, by *Piero Genovesi*

17.10 – 18.30 Reception