



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Working session 3: Invasive species and wetlands

Guide to available guidance



**2013 Asia Regional Workshop
on Scientific and Technical Support for
Implementation of the Ramsar Convention**
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Invasive Alien Species



- **Alien species:** introduced, non-indigenous, foreign, exotic; a species occurring outside of its natural range and dispersal potential (i.e., outside the range it occupies naturally or could not occupy without direct or indirect introduction or care by humans)
- **Invasive species:** an alien species which becomes established in natural or semi-natural ecosystems or habitats, is an agent of change, and threatens native biodiversity (species, populations and/or ecosystems).



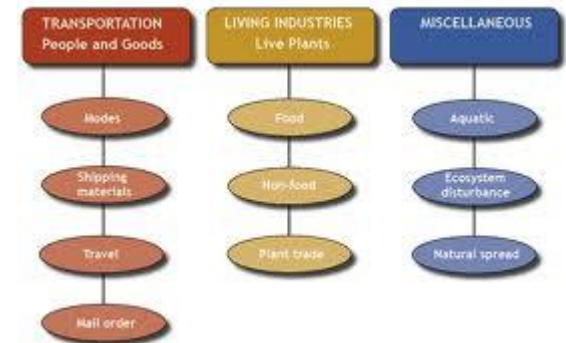
Adapted from COP7, Doc.24

- Keeping IASs out of ecosystems in the first place.
- Most cost-effective way to deal with introduced species.
- The ability of new species to invade can be reduced by monitoring common invasion pathways and the ecosystem itself.



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- Total elimination of an IAS from an ecosystem.
- Discover IAS early and eradicate quickly when population levels are low.
- Even if total elimination is impossible, early intervention can keep the population sizes of IAS at acceptably low levels.



Limiting the population size/coverage/impact of the IAS through one of the following methods:

- **Mechanical Control:** removing, destroying, trapping, catching or otherwise physically removing IASs from the ecosystem.
- **Chemical Control:** using pesticides, herbicides and poisons.
- **Biological Control:** introducing a range of parasites, pathogens and predators.
- **Ecosystem Manipulation:** includes watershed management, water management, and pollution control.
- **Integrated Management:** using some or all of the above in strategic combinations.



Discussion



- What guidance has your wetland managers, communities and/or policy-makers found to be helpful and effective with respect to IAS prevention, eradication, control, or management?
- What case studies demonstrate the effective application of such guidance?
- Where are the gaps in guidance for your wetland managers, communities and policy-makers?

Thank you for your contributions!

