Integrating invasive species data into a European early warning information system: experiences from DAISIE and NOBANIS

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Developing a European Early Warning System requires a common information system for the region and ready access to scientific expertise, environmental managers and policy makers. Experiences from the DAISIE (Delivering Alien Invasive Species Inventories for Europe) and the NOBANIS (European Network on Invasive Alien Species) projects have shown that there are challenges with integrating information from many databases into a central database. The basic approach to developing the databases affects the outcome and has advantages and disadvantages. Basic requirements for integrating information from many sources into a central database are uniformity in use of terms, broad agreement on how to solve taxonomy issues and how to achieve regular updating of information as well as long-term funding and dedicated resources. How can we integrate the NOBANIS and DAISIE approaches to obtain the best possible information system for Early Warning? How can we influence the ongoing process toward a European Early Warning and Rapid Response System?