

# **Developing an early warning system for invasive alien species (IAS) based on the NOBANIS database**

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## **EU Strategy on IAS and cooperation between the DGs**

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**Abstract:** EU institutions formally committed to develop an EU Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in 2006. The European Commission published a dedicated Communication in 2008 and intends to introduce a sub-target on IAS in the Biodiversity Strategy (autumn 2010) and develop a 'daughter' IAS Strategy in 2011. The first phase of technical support assessed IAS impacts in Europe and the existing EU/Member State policy baseline for both terrestrial and aquatic environments. The second phase involves more targeted analysis of the evolving EU framework, taking account of ongoing work by other DGs (e.g. SANCO reevaluation of the EU plant health regime) as well as tools, capacity and best practices developed at national/subregional level that could be suitable for broader application. The study will suggest outline Strategy components, based on a comparison of costed options for prioritisation, species listing, information exchange, early detection and rapid response and taking account of the EEA report *Towards an early warning and information system for invasive alien species (IAS) threatening biodiversity in Europe*. Key objectives include flexibility to deal promptly with emerging threats (taking account of climate change), more systematic coordination between relevant sectors, avoidance of duplication and choice of the most appropriate level for efficient action.