

CBD COP16 side event

Whole-of-society approach to achieve GBF Target 6

Regarding IPBES assessment reports, G7 statement on IAS and NBSAPs

October 29th, 2024, at 13:20–14:40 (Colombia Time (COT): GMT-05:00),

Nuqui(Academia and Research), Plaza One, Centro de Eventos Valle del Pacifico

Host: Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Office for Alien Species Management)

Co-hosts: SCBD, IUCN, KNCC, the United States, France (MTECT & Muséum of Natural History, Paris)

Summary

Outline

Invasive alien species (IAS) are identified as one of the main direct drivers of global biodiversity loss, and their negative impact has been intensifying globally.

IPBES launched the thematic assessment report on invasive alien species and their control¹ in 2023, clarifying that IAS and their negative impacts can be prevented and mitigated through effective management. Preventing the introduction of IAS is considered to be the most cost-effective management option, and it is important to collaborate closer and coordinate across sectors and countries in order to effectively manage increasing intentional and unintentional transport of IAS across borders and prevent introduction of IAS.

Regarding this, in order to strengthen international cooperation and accelerate efforts, Japan held 3 events² as the G7 initiative on IAS in 2023. In G7 Workshop, G7 members, relevant international institutions and IAS experts discussed IAS measures to achieve Target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), and “G7 statement on invasive alien species³” was released. In this statement, “outreach and mainstreaming through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach” was focused as one of the G7 members’ initial actions toward the achievement of Target 6, and it was reached a common recognition that the G7 members will work for engaging the general public through awareness raising and education, and engaging the private sector, especially business involved in the use of natural resources, the transport of goods and means of transportation. This side event aims to contribute to deepen discussions at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the achievement of GBF through thinking together about cross-sectoral cooperations by sharing good practices and discussing by various stakeholders including business, taking into account the CBD/SBSTTA/REC/25/6⁴ body, Annex II⁵, Annex VI⁶, etc.



Speakers of the Event

¹ The thematic assessment report on invasive alien species and their control: <https://www.ipbes.net/ias>

² 3 events hosted by Japan in 2023: https://www.env.go.jp/en/nature/gairai_inter-conf_2023.html

³ G7 statement on invasive alien species: <https://www.env.go.jp/content/000173656.pdf>

⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/REC/25/6: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-25/sbstta-25-rec-06-en.pdf>

⁵ Identification and minimization of additional risks associated with cross-border e-commerce in live organisms and the impacts thereof

⁶ Additional advice and technical guidance on invasive alien species management

Opening

Introduction

**Ms. MATSUZAKI Hana, JPO at IUCN, Former deputy director,
Office for Alien Species Management, Ministry of the Environment, Japan**

Ms. Matsuzaki introduced the background and the outline of this event and invited Mr. Matsuzawa and Mr. Church for their opening remarks.



Ms. MATSUZAKI Hana

Opening remarks

Mr. MATSUZAWA Yutaka, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Mr. Matsuzawa emphasized that IAS are one of the five major threats to biodiversity. He referred to the IPBES assessment report, which shows that effective management can prevent and mitigate the impacts of these species, and highlighted prevention is the most cost-effective method in IAS measures. Japan has worked to prevent the introduction of Red Imported Fire Ant and launched the G7 Initiative on IAS to promote international cooperation in 2023. He also mentioned Japan's success in eradicating the small Indian mongoose from Amami-Oshima Island after over 25 years of effort, underscoring the difficulty of eradicating IAS once they are established. He introduced the newly updated toolkit on IAS⁷ compiled by the CBD Secretariat and IUCN, which is funded by Japan and EU. He also noted the importance of private sector participation. He expressed his hope that this event would promote international and cross-sectoral cooperation to prevent the damage caused by IAS.



Mr. MATSUZAWA Yutaka

Mr. Jon Marco Church, Senior Expert at the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, Italy, the current G7 presidency

Mr. Church announced Italy, as the G7 presidency of 2024, is organizing a G7 workshop on November 26 focused on IAS to strengthen international cooperation. He emphasized the importance of addressing IAS for the conservation of nature and the well-being of communities, economies, and ecosystems. Italy has prioritized IAS in its environmental policy, undertaking successful eradication projects and raising public awareness through initiatives like the Life ASAP project⁸. And he introduced that Italy hosts two major tools on IAS, the Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) and the Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT), which support global decision-making. He welcomed the Toolkit on Invasive Alien Species from CBD, which provides useful information for developing strategies for managing IAS, especially for countries with limited resources.



Mr. Jon Marco Church

⁷ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/b53d/3fe1/ade3fe0f3545dfadcf156c00/cop-16-inf-28-en.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.lifeasap.eu/index.php/en/project/asap-project>

Presentation by institutions and countries

IUCN: Brief summary of GBF. The content of IAS Toolkit and how to make use of it. The importance of multisectoral efforts against IAS and what we can do.

Mr. Kevin Smith, Programme Head, Invasive Species and Wildlife Health, The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Mr. Smith mentioned IAS are a significant threat to biodiversity, addressed in Article 8(h) of the CBD. CBD-COP has recognized IAS as a cross-cutting issue and adopted guiding principles for their management. In December 2022, GBF was adopted, including goals and targets to manage IAS. Target 6 of the GBF focuses on: Identifying and managing pathways for alien species introduction, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority IAS, reducing their rates of known or potential IAS by at least 50% by 2030 and eradicating or controlling IAS especially in priority sites such as islands. He explained voluntary guidance for CBD-COP16 includes cost-benefit analysis, managing risks from cross-border e-commerce, and addressing climate change impacts.



Mr. Kevin Smith

COP Decision 15/27 also called for updating the IAS toolkit and developing training materials. He introduced that the IAS toolkit provides essential information, including definitions, a glossary, and guidance for developing National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plans (NISSAP), and the training materials provide detailed information on specific topics in the toolkit to assist Parties in developing actions such as how to understand pathways of introduction and how to prioritize them.

Effective IAS management requires a whole-of-society approach, involving various sectors such as customs, agriculture, and health. It will link some important elements such as prioritization of IAS, pathway management, resource mobilization and data sharing. He highlighted this comprehensive strategy ensures actions are based on the best available evidence and are more effective in preventing and managing IAS.

Japan: The introduction of G7 initiative on IAS. The measures against Red Imported Fire Ant and the achievement of the eradication of mongooses in Amami-Oshima Island.

Mr. MURASAWA Kazuki, Office for Alien Species Management, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Mr. Murasawa introduced the G7 Workshop on IAS, which was held in November 2023, in response to the 2023 G7 Ministers' Meeting on Climate, Energy, and Environment⁹, held in Sapporo. G7 members discussed at the workshop such issues as strengthening international cooperation on IAS and compiled a statement towards achieving Target 6 of the GBF. He highlighted the increasing risk of unintentional introduction of IAS due to the expansion of global trade, with the example of Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA). Japan has developed innovative technologies like wasabi sheets and silicone resin to combat RIFA. He also mentioned regional collaboration such as the Tripartite IAS Experts Meeting with China and the Republic of Korea, and involvement of businesses using the TNFD indicator. Finally, he shared a recent successful case of eradication of alien



Mr. MURASAWA Kazuki

⁹ G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Ministers' Communiqué: <https://www.env.go.jp/content/000127828.pdf>

mongooses in Amami-Oshima Island with continuous efforts, which restored native species and the value of the islands as a tourist destination. In conclusion, he mentioned that cooperation with countries that have strong ties in trade and a whole-of-society approach are essential to achieve GBF Target 6 and emphasized the importance of a preventive approach.

The United States: Sharing efforts of cross-sectoral cooperations to achieve GBF Target6 as a G7 country

Ms. Jenna Shinen, Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Conservation and Water, U.S. Department of States, the U.S.

Ms. Shinen mentioned, the U.S. has no single legislation for IAS; instead, laws are specific to agencies and topics. To improve coordination, Executive Orders in 1999 and 2016 established the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) and an advisory committee for federal and non-federal stakeholder input. She explained NISC's main roles include providing a government-wide approach, facilitating interagency coordination, clarifying agency roles, and engaging stakeholders. It involves 12 federal departments and 4 White House offices, focusing on public lands, various sectors, and international efforts. NISC ensures alignment with administration priorities and has developed strategic plans and annual work plans to address IAS issues.



Ms. Jenna Shinen

Indonesia: Sharing the NBSAP and efforts of cross-sectoral cooperations to achieve GBF Target6 as an ASEAN country.

Ms. Lu'lu' Agustina, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia

Ms. Agustina discusses the approach to managing IAS to achieve Target 6. Indonesia faces challenges with 187 invasive species threatening ecosystems. The Indonesian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (IBSAP) 2025-2045 outlines goals and targets to manage IAS, including prevention, control, and policy strengthening. The strategy involves multiple government entities and emphasizes stakeholder collaboration. She mentioned Indonesia works with ASEAN countries on IAS management and stressed Indonesia is working in line with international frameworks to reduce IAS impact and protect biodiversity through coordinated efforts and public engagement.



Ms. Lu'lu' Agustina

Chile: Sharing the NBSAP and efforts of cross-sectoral cooperations to achieve GBF Target6

Ms. Paulina Stowhas Salinas, Ministry of the Environment, Chile

Ms. Stowhas introduced Law 21.600, published in September 2023. This law, currently being implemented, empowers public services to define and manage IAS including developing, coordinating and implementing plans for their prevention, control and eradication and to monitor the implementation. It also grants the authority over IAS management to the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Service and allows the Ministry to create a list of IAS. Therefore, this law is expected to grant public authorities new powers to manage IAS and their impact on biodiversity.

She explained Chile's National Biodiversity Strategy acknowledges the negative impacts of IAS and includes IAS as a key priority in its National Action Plan. The plan outlines necessary activities to achieve biodiversity goals and includes a catalogue of alien species needing management. She also shared a success story from Choros and Chañaral islands, where removing IAS restored healthy ecosystems.



Ms. Paulina Stowhas Salinas

Keidanren Nature Conservation Council (KNCC): The roles of business sector on IAS. Good practices shared by Azbil Corporation.

Mr. Toru Sasaki, Senior Director GLOBAL HEAD, Sustainability Promotion, Azbil Corporation, Japan

Mr. Sasaki introduced KEIDANREN (Japan Business Federation) is a major economic organization in Japan with 1,542 companies and 106 industrial associations. The KEIDANREN Nature Conservation Council (KNCC), established in 1992, supports conservation of biodiversity in the Asia-Pacific region through the KEIDANREN Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF) as well as supporting NGOs, raising awareness among Japanese businesses, and making policy recommendations.

On marine biodiversity, he explained about the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM) adopted in 2004. BWM sets standards for managing ballast water to prevent the spread of harmful organisms, including the ballast water exchange standard (Regulation D-1) and the ballast water performance standard (Regulation D-2). He mentioned Azbil corporation has developed technologies related to ballast water utilizing knowledge and know-how cultivated in the ship business with the idea of "Human-centered automation". To protect marine biodiversity, Azbil collaborates with other companies, academia, and government, and, in order to meet the standards of BWM, provides solutions for ballast water treatment systems, such as the MagneW 3000 PLUS⁺ electro-magnetic flowmeter. In this way, Azbil has promoted biodiversity through a cross-sectoral approach, involving industry, academia and government.

He shared the Azbil also encourages value chain partners to engage in biodiversity conservation initiatives, explaining the concept of biodiversity conservation and the relationship between business activities and biodiversity. This united approach aims to address the danger to the Earth effectively.



Mr. Toru Sasaki

Closing

Ms. Clarissa Arida, Director, Programmes Department, ASEAN Centre of Biodiversity (ACB)

In closing, Ms. Arida highlighted the key messages from each presentation and welcomed the sharing of cases from Indonesia, Chile, the United States and Japan, including from a private sector company bringing in various perspectives on the management of invasive alien species (IAS). She emphasized the importance of further strengthening cooperation across sectors and countries to promote measures against IAS, including the use of the IAS Toolkit introduced in this event by the IUCN.



Ms. Clarissa Arida