

< Main Points of the Invasive Alien Species Act >

➤ **Official Announcement of the Basic Policy**

- The Japanese Cabinet shall announce the basic policy for implementation of relevant measures to prevent various damages caused by invasive alien species.

➤ **Invasive Alien Species**

- Alien species that have facts or pose risks to cause damages against biodiversity, human safety, or agriculture in Japan will be designated as the Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in the Cabinet Ordinance of this Act.
- The listing will be made by taking into account comments from experts in the field.
- Tens of species are considered to be designated as IAS at the beginning of the enforcement of the Act.

< Examples of the damages >

- Java mongooses (*Herpestes javanicus*) are preying on endangered native animals such as Okinawa rails (*Rallus okinawae*) on southern islands in Japan.
- Snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) that are not under control of the pet owners have risks to bite and injure humans.
- Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) that are not under control of the pet owners are extending their habitats resulting in eating away agricultural products.

➤ **Regulation of various actions regarding IAS**

- Actions such as raising, planting, or importing IAS are to be prohibited in Japan without permission from the competent ministers. The permission will be issued only for scientific or other reasonable purposes.
- Authorized owners of IAS must secure them inside appropriate facilities and make clear that the owners obtain the permissions through taking measures such as implanting microchips into IAS.
- Discarding IAS is prohibited under any condition.

➤ **Mitigation**

- Competent ministers and other relating national administrative organs shall publicly announce mitigation plans of IAS clarifying the target, area, period, and method and implement the mitigation.
- Local government, NGOs, and etc. are able to participate in the above mitigation plans when authorized by competent ministers that they are eligible for the operation.

➤ **Uncategorized Alien Species (UAS)**

- Alien species that have the possibility to be categorized as IAS through detailed investigation shall be designated as UAS in the ministerial ordinance of this Act.
- When received requests from importers or exporters to bring UAS into Japan, competent ministers shall decide whether the UAS should be categorized into IAS or other alien species, which require no restriction.

Potential IAS of this Act

(1) **Java mongooses (*Herpestes javanicus*)**



(2) **Snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*)**



(3) **Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*)**

