ALIEN Challenge

Data for invasive species research, policy making and management — 16–17 Feb 2016

February 16-17, 2016 | Location: Belgian Science Policy Office, Avenue Louise 231, Brussels, Belgium

Aim

To examine ways to improve the interoperability, accessibility and openness of invasive species data for all its different uses. This includes examining aspects such as biodiversity informatics standards suitability for invasive species assessment; improving data flows; exploring ways to make invasive species research more reproducible and ways to resolve the fragmentation of invasive species information.

Output

As a way to frame our discussions we would like to use the concept of a Data Management Plan (DMP) for invasive species data. The intention is to create guidelines for such a plan. DMPs are a relatively new phenomenon, but are now required by many funding agencies. Data are assets, they are valuable from a scientific, management and political perspective. A DMP ensures that data are well organized, supports data re-use and helps us improve research reproducibility.

Day One: outlining the problems and setting the scene

Introduction
- 09:00 — Registration and coffee
- 09:30 — Introductions and welcome
- 09:40 — What are the problems with invasive species databases? (Quentin Groom)
- 10:00 Presentations from the major initiatives;
    - Daisie (Helen Roy)
    - CABI Invasive Species Compendium (Lucinda Charles)
    - GISIN (Annie Simpson)
- 11:00 — Coffee
- 11:15 continuation of the presentations from the major initiatives;
    - GBIF (Donald Hobern)
    - EASIN (Ana-Cristina Cardoso)
    - Data sources questionnaire (Jan Pergl)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:00 Discussions in groups: What data do we need? Who are the stakeholders that need these data? Where do you get it? What are the pros & cons of those sources? What is missing?
    - for monitoring and surveillance

- ○ for horizon scanning
- ○ for risk assessment
- ○ for management (prevention, rapid response, control)
- 13:30 Group discussion on data needs
- 14:30 — Coffee
- 14:45 Open data publication: opportunities for IAS data (Peter Desmet)
- 15:15 Discussions in groups: How does a data provider make data more useful to users?
  - ○ standards
  - ○ What standards are available and how compliant are current databases.
  - ○ findability
  - ○ licencing
  - ○ sensitive data
  - ○ data preservation
  - ○ file formats
- 16:00 Group discussion
- 17:00 Round up of day one

Day Two: envisaging the future and the way to get there

We will keep some flexibility in the activities of day two so that we can address issues raised in day one.

- 09:30 — Introduction to day two
- 09:40 — Introduction to data management planning (Aaike De Wever)
- 10:10 — Data flow and its sustainability
  - ○ The RINSE app and an outlook into apps for management (Tim Adriaens)
- 10:30 — Coffee
  - ○ Data flow in the USA (Annie Simpson)
  - ○ NOBANIS (Melanie Josefsson)
- 11:25 — How can we ensure that there are up-to-date and accurate checklists of alien species for European countries?
  - ○ Maintaining data (How can the curation of data be motivated?)
  - ○ Feedback systems (dealing with conflicting information)
  - ○ Citation/traceability (giving credit to contributors)
- 12:00 — Lunch
- 13:00 — Writing the ideal data management plan for invasive alien species data
- Data collection
  - ○ What data should be collected?
  - ○ What data can be federated from other sources?
  - ○ What standards will you use to store/share data?
- Data Sharing
  - ○ What licences/norms will data be shared under?
  - ○ What restrictions will you put on data sharing?
  - ○ How will you share data so it can be found and used?
- Describing data
  - ○ What metadata are required?
  - ○ How will metadata be created?
  - ○ What metadata standards will be used?

- Longevity of data
  - How are data stored?
  - How can we ensure data and their metadata are not lost?
- 15:00 — Coffee
- 15:15 — Round up of the workshop
- 15:30 — The End

FAQ

How do I find the venue?
The workshop will take place in the Belgian Science Policy Office (BeLSPO), Avenue Louise 231.
Full details of the location and how to get there can be found on the BeLSPO website
(http://www.belspo.be/belspo/organisation/contact_en.stm)

Trains
There are fast rail links with France, the United Kingdom, Germany and the Netherlands using trains from Thalys, Eurostar, TGV and ICE. The main railway station is Bruxelles-Midi / Brussel-Zuid.

Planes
The nearest airport is Brussels Zaventem. Details of transport to and from the airport can be found on the airport website http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/passngr/to_from_brussels_airport/.
Taxis are expensive in Brussels, but public transport is cheap and abundant.

When should I arrive?
The workshop has been arranged so that participants can arrive on the evening of Monday (15th Feb) and leave either on the evening of Wednesday (17th Feb) or Thursday (18th Feb) morning.

Local Organisers

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Tim Adriaens Research Institute for Nature and Forest INBO	Peter Desmet Lifewatch; INBO & Biodiversity Information Standards, TDWG
Aaike De Wever BioFresh Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences Belgium	

Participants

1. Alain Roques — INRA, France
2. Ana Cristina Cardoso — EASIN, European Commission Joint Research Centre
3. Anastasia Christopoulou — National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
4. Anna Gazda — University Of Agriculture in Krakow, Poland
5. Annie Simpson — USGS Core Science Analytics, Synthesis, and Libraries program), USA
6. Argyro ZENETOS — Institute of Marine Biological Resources and Inland Waters, Greece
7. Céline Prévot — SPW-DEMNA, Belgium
8. Diemer Vercayie — Natuurpunt, Belgium
9. Donald Hobern — Global Biodiversity Information Facility
10. Dragana Marisavljevic — Institute for Plant Protection and Environment, Serbia
11. Elena Tricarico — Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy
12. Frances Lucy — Institute of Technology, Sligo, Ireland
13. Gareth Richards — CAB International, UK
14. Hans Peter Ravn — University of Copenhagen, Denmark
15. Harry Helmisaari — Finnish Environment Institute, Finland
16. Helen Roy — Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UK
17. Ioannis Bazos — University of Athens, Greece
18. Jan Pergl — Institute of Botany, Czech Republic
19. Lucinda Charles — CAB International, UK
20. Mafalda Quintas — Science Officer at COST
21. Marie-Anne Auger Rozenberg — INRA, France
22. Melanie Josefsson — Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Sweden
23. Olivera Petrovic-Obradovic — University of Belgrade, Serbia
24. Riccardo Scalera — Italy
25. Spyridon Flevaris — European Commission DG Environment
26. Teodora Trichkova — Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgaria
27. Tomasz Oszako — Forest Research Institute, Poland