ARPHA Conference Abstracts 9: e201571
doi: 10.3897/aca.9.e201571

OPEN ACCESS

Conference Abstract

Supporting progress towards global invasive species targets

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Received: 28 May 2026 | Published: 17 Aug 2026

Citation: Mill A, Smith K (2026) Supporting progress towards global invasive species targets. ARPHA Conference Abstracts 9: e201571. https://doi.org/10.3897/aca.9.e201571

Abstract

All Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) are committed to achieving the 23 targets of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) by 2030. Target 6 of the KM-GBF specifically addresses invasive alien species (IAS), emphasising prevention, early detection and rapid response, and long-term management. Realising the ambition of this target requires its effective integration into national, regional and local policy and practice.

While Target 6 is a negotiated global policy text, it articulates a clear overarching objective for coordinated and comprehensive IAS management. We describe the role of international CBD processes and bodies, including the Conference of the Parties (COP), the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), and the Inter-Agency Liaison Group, both in shaping Target 6 through multilateral negotiation and in supporting its implementation.

Key to supporting action towards Target 6 was the adoption of the CBD Invasive Alien Species toolkit (Fig. 1) at COP16 in Cali, Colombia, which presents key guiding principles, the minimal data and information needs, and guidance for developing actions and identifying gaps. We outline the basic steps parties can implement to make progress towards Target 6 and outline how these can be embedded within a holistic and strategic approach to IAS management. We demonstrate how the toolkit can be applied to develop invasive alien species strategies and action plans across multiple spatial scales -

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national, regional and local- and how progress can be achieved even in resource-limited contexts.

Figure 1.

CBD Invasive Alien Species toolkit.

The value of global databases and shared resources, such as those developed by the IUCN and its Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) are examined. Recognising the need to scale up global action, the IUCN will, for the first time, adopt a specific IAS strategy highlighting opportunities for the international IAS community to enhance delivery through improved data access and interoperability and opportunities for working across sectors. Using examples from capacity-building activities, training events and regional workshops, we illustrate how Target 6 is already being used to guide and accelerate action on the ground.

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Presented at

Neobiota 2026, the 14th International Conference on Biological Invasions

Conflicts of interest

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.