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Conference Abstract

EU Biodiversity Strategy: Knowledge support and monitoring for Global Biodiversity Framework Target 6

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Abstract

The Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD) of the European Commission plays a key role in tracking progress towards the 2030 targets of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF). At the same time, it plays a key role in providing capacity building support to European countries in helping monitor and implement the KM GBF. The KCBD serves indeed as main entry point for support requests sent to the European Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre (TSCC) of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The KCBD has been appointed to host and coordinate the European TSCC, in partnership with the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN Med) and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS). Because the TSCC is developing a network of knowledge hubs to support 45 parties (44 countries + the EU as a party) in implementing the KM GBF, this new technical and scientific cooperation mechanism of the CBD provides a unique opportunity to engage with local authorities and stakeholders through knowledge hubs that can provide technical advice, capacity building and governance support.

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Regarding invasive alien species (IAS), target 6 of the KM GBF calls for a 50 % reduction in the introduction of IAS and for action to limit their impacts. The EU has already incorporated this goal into Target 12 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and into the EU IAS Regulation (Regulation 1143/2014), which obliges Member States to take action on IAS of Union concern. In this context, JRC supports the development of indicators for Target 6 and uses the European Alien Species Information Network (EASIN) - the official support system for the IAS Regulation- to provide technical and scientific resources for EU-level and global monitoring. JRC has been appointed to manage the knowledge hub focusing on Target 6 where EASIN, an online platform that collects, validates and shares first introduction dates, distribution records and pathway information for IAS of Union concern, is a key component. By analysing these data, EASIN maps trends over time and space, assesses pressure on European ecosystems and provides the evidence needed to track progress towards the EU and global biodiversity targets. Several examples across environments will be showcased during the presentation.

Keywords

invasive alien species, Europe, governance, framework

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Conflicts of interest

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.