



RINSE Best Practice Workshops—two down, two to go!

We have now held two of our four Best Practice Workshops aiming to review and share the most effective methods in the control and management of invasive non-native species across Europe.

The first Workshop - **'Managing Invasive Mammals and Birds'** - was hosted by RINSE partners RATO and INBO in Ghent on the 3 & 4 July 2013. The workshop was a huge success highlighting several important projects across the RINSE area including the coypu eradication in the UK, Egyptian goose control in Flanders and ruddy duck management across Europe.

The second RINSE Best Practice Workshop - **'Managing Invasive Aquatic Plants'** was hosted by Norfolk County Council in October 2013. Highlights included the presentation from Paul Sims (Native Landscapes) on the eradication of floating pennywort and Dr Jonathon Newman's fascinating insights into the optimal way to use herbicides to control aquatic invasive plants.

The second day of both Workshops included a field trip, allowing delegates to experience invasive species management first hand. In Ghent, delegates were given the chance to participate in rounding-up Canada geese during the moult season.



In Norfolk, over 25 delegates joined RINSE and the RSPB on a boat trip along the River Yare to visit some sites affected by invasive non-native plants including giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam.

RINSE are now looking forward to their next Best Practice Workshop – **'Encouraging Community Engagement, Volunteering and Citizen Science in the control of Invasive non-native species'** hosted by RINSE Partner Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust in March 2014.



Photo Credits: GBNSS, RINSE

NEXT BEST PRACTICE WORKSHOP



"Investing in your future"
Crossborder cooperation programme
2007-2013 Part-financed by the European Union
(European Regional Development Fund)

Reducing the impact of
Non-native Species in Europe

www.rinse-europe.eu

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust Training Day

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) hosted a half-day training session on 28 October 2013 to raise awareness amongst local authority countryside managers about the problems caused by invasive non-native plants. The event was attended by forty-seven staff from local authorities throughout Hampshire, including the County Council, District Councils and Parish Councils.

Delegates heard presentations given by Catherine Chatters (New Forest Non-Native Plants Officer at HIWWT) focusing on identification and control of invasive non-native plants including Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*). Dr Ben Rushbrook of HIWWT highlighted the importance of bio-security to prevent the spread of invasive non-native weeds, pests and diseases. People attending the event were able to examine samples of New Zealand pygmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*), parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) and creeping water

primrose (*Ludwigia grandiflora*); further improving their identification skills.

Folders containing advisory booklets and identification sheets were handed out to each delegate and people were able to discuss problems involving invasive non-native plants on their sites during the question and answer sessions. For further information contact catherine.chatters@hiwwt.org.uk



RINSE gets a visit from an MEP!



Photo Credit: Vicky Ford

This summer, RINSE got a special visit from Vicky Ford, an MEP for the East of England. Hosted by the River Waveney Trust (Norfolk, UK), Lead Partner NCC introduced Vicky to the RINSE project and our work to date. Following this, Vicky was taken out by boat to see where our recent floating pennywort control work had been taking place.

This was an excellent opportunity to raise the profile of the RINSE project and highlight the importance of the upcoming EU Regulation on invasive non-native species to someone who will be directly involved in the legislative process.



EPPO Workshop: How to Communicate on Pests and Invasive Alien Plants?

As part of the RINSE project and as lead on Work Package 2 (Training and Awareness Raising), the CPIE Val d'Authie participated in an international Workshop organised by EPPO and the IUCN - How to communicate on pests and invasive alien plants?

With a total of 80 attendees from twenty countries, the Workshop was an excellent opportunity to discuss the challenges of communicating INS messages to a variety of different audiences. The format allowed stakeholders to present their current and past projects along with their chosen communication tools, discussing the success and failures of these tools in achieving the project's aims.

During the Workshop, CPIE presented RINSE and the variety of communicative tools utilised by the project, including the RINSE Smartphone App 'That's Invasive!' and its potential role in citizen science – a key theme of the workshop.

The CPIE also presented the recently completed posters (which focus on invasive species of Northern France), training sessions and volunteer action days. This presentation greatly increased the profile of the RINSE project, and our Partners, amongst a diverse audience comprising representatives of numerous countries, particularly in Europe, and research institutions involved in the management of INS.

On the second day of the Workshop, the Portuguese hosts organised an 'Invasive Plants Clean Up Day' where the CPIE had the chance to discover the Natural Park of Sintra, learn about the current management of INS taking place and get involved in the practical management of cutting Acacia.

The Workshop highlighted the importance of sharing and explaining the measures being taken against INS with the general public, and not just people in the field. However, perhaps the most important message from the Workshop was the need to carefully plan communication efforts, and ensure they are properly evaluated. For more details contact celine.fontaine@cpie-authie.org



Smartphone App 'That's Invasive' available for Android and iPhone

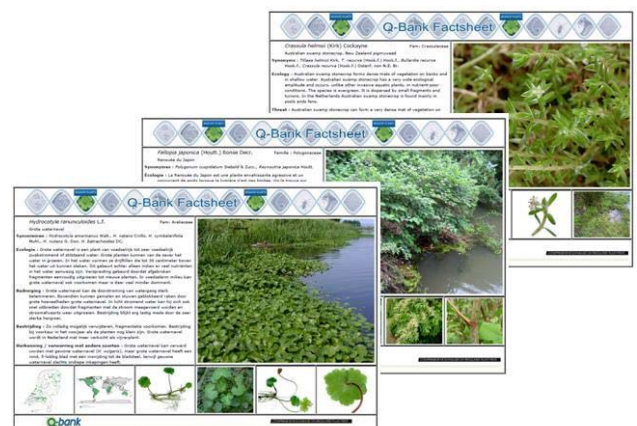
Our Smartphone app – 'That's Invasive!' – is now available to download for iPhone and Android devices. Visit our website for more information and download links.

Q-Bank Update

Through RINSE, Q-Bank has made several important updates to its already extensive library of plant pests and pathogens. Species factsheets are now available in English, Dutch and French for 53 different invasive non-native plants. For these 53 species, Q-Bank has produced updated distribution maps for the plants across the RINSE area, an invaluable resource for stakeholders in The Netherlands, Belgium, France and the UK.

To help users identify these invasive plants, Q-Bank has added a new collection of photographs for these 53 invasive plant species and five new full species records as well as five new interactive keys which are each available in our three languages. These interactive keys allow users to easily identify invasive aquatic plants which they may encounter in the horticultural trade, or in the wider agricultural and natural environment.

[Click here for an example](#)



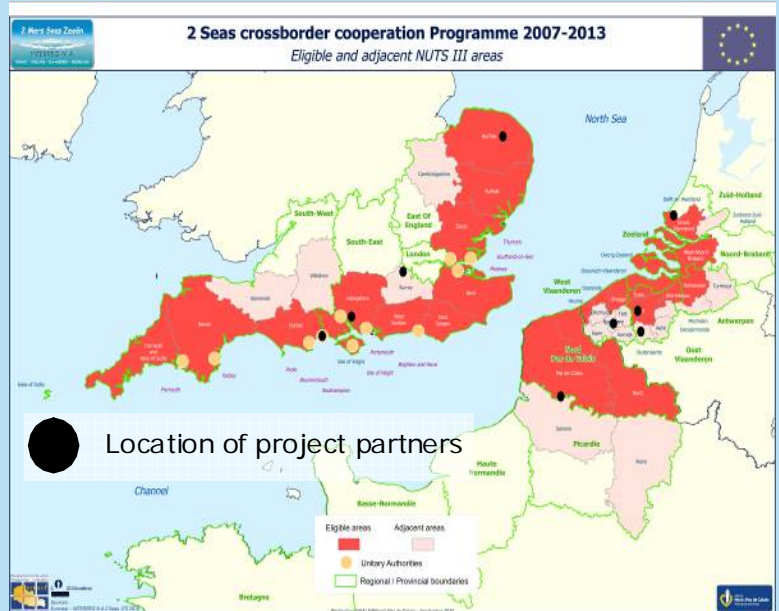
About RINSE

Our project has been funded by the European Union - Interreg IVA 2 Seas programme and has a total of nine partners from France, England, Belgium and the Netherlands.

RINSE will look at ways of managing invasive non-native species (INS) across the project area. It will also seek to improve awareness of the threats posed by INS, and the methods to address them.

For more about projects approved by the 2 Seas Programme, see the Project Directory (RINSE features on page 53)

http://www.interreg4a-2mers.eu/admin/page_ext_attachments/753

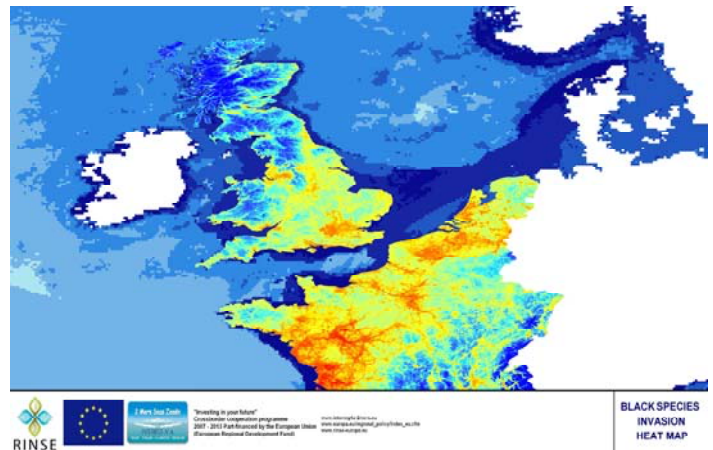


Horizon Scanning Report Published!

RINSE are thrilled to publish the results of Work Package 1 - 'Targeting and Prioritisation of INS in the RINSE Area'. The study, which was carried out by researchers Dr. B. Gallardo, Dr. A. Zieritz and Dr. D. C. Aldridge at the University of Cambridge, has produced several important outputs which could influence future policy and facilitate more strategic planning against invasive non-native species across Europe.

As part of this work a series of Species Distribution Models (SDMs) were created for 72 non-native species. These maps combine data on environmental preferences and socio-economic factors to predict the potential distribution of each INS across the RINSE countries. For the majority of INS, coastal and urban areas of the RINSE countries were revealed to be at the highest risk of invasion.

The full report and all associated outputs are available to download from the [RINSE website](http://www.rinse-europe.eu).



Dates for your Diary

- ◆ 19 March 2014 Best Practice Workshop 'Encouraging Community Engagement, Volunteering and Citizen Science in the control of Invasive non-native species', Brockenhurst, UK
- ◆ 24 April 2014 Best Practice Workshop 'Strategic Catchment Management of INS', northern France

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