

# Reducing the Impact of Non-native Species in Europe









RINSE (Reducing the Impact of Non-native Species in Europe) is an exciting new European project seeking to improve the management of invasive non-native species (INS) across four partner countries in western Europe. RINSE will also increase awareness of the threats posed by INS, and the most effective methods to address them. The project has been part-funded by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund) delivered through the Interreg IVA 2 Seas Programme.

### Did vou know?

Invasive non-native species are one of the greatest causes of biodiversity loss worldwide (second only to habitat destruction).









RINSE will work across borders to share best practice and adopt strategic approaches to tackle the threats posed by INS. The project will deal with invasive non-native plants, birds, fish and mammals, across a range of habitats.

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Inside pages - Callosciurus prevosti (Commons Licence, Karakal)

Azolla filiculoides (Corin Pratt, CABI), Alopochen aegyptiacus (Geert Spanoghe).

#### What are invasive non-native species and why do they matter?

An invasive non-native (or 'alien') species is any non-native animal or plant that has the ability to spread causing damage to the environment, the economy, our health and the way we live. Many of these impacts are caused as INS upset the natural balance within an ecosystem. INS can cause this disruption by outcompeting native species (by growing faster or being more aggressive), by being a vector for an exotic disease, through genetic impacts or by directly predating and grazing native species, which have no defence against the new threat.

#### **RINSE has three Work Packages:**

#### **Targeting and Prioritisation**

RINSE will audit the distribution of current INS in the project area and make predictions about non-native species that might be problematic in the future . This will enable limited resources to be directed towards the

species and sites of greatest concern.

#### **Training and Awareness Raising**

RINSE will deliver a wide range of training and communication materials for different target groups, enhancing their capacity to tackle INS.

#### **Field Trials and Demonstration Projects**

RINSE will seek to control INS at priority sites using a range of proven and novel techniques, evaluate the most effective approaches and develop decision-making and support tools for the management of INS.

## Did you know?

Invasive non-native species cost the global economy £1.4 trillion per year. Within Europe, the costs are estimated at some EUR 12 billion annually.

# RINSE will be delivered over three years until the end of 2014 and has a total of nine partners from France, England, Belgium and the Netherlands as follows:

- Norfolk County Council (NCC) <u>www.norfolk.gov.uk</u> Lead Partner
- Bournemouth University (BU) www.bournemouth.ac.uk
- CAB International (Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International) <a href="https://www.cabi.org">www.cabi.org</a>
- **CPIE Authie Valley** (Centre Permanent d'Initiatives pour l'Environnement) <u>www.cpie-authie.org</u>
- National Plant Protection Service (Nederlandse Voedsel-en Warenautoriteit, Divisie Landbouw & Natuur) www.vwa.nl
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust <u>www.hwt.org.uk</u>
- INBO (Instituut voor Natuur en Bosonderzoek) www.inbo.be
- Inagro (Onderzoek and Advies in Land & Tuinbouw) www.inagro.be
- RATO (Rattenbestrijding Oost-Vlaaderen vzw)

The INTERREG IVA 2 Mers Seas Zeeën Programme promotes crossborder cooperation between the coastal regions of four Member States: France (Nord-Pas de Calais), England (SW, SE, E), Belgium (Flanders) and The Netherlands (South coastal area).

<u>www.interreg4a-2mers.eu</u> www.europa.eu



For further information about RINSE, its aims and partners, please see www.rinse-europe.eu or alternatively contact the Lead Partner on 0344 800 8020