



## **7<sup>th</sup> ESENIAS Workshop with Scientific Conference**

### **Networking and regional cooperation towards Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management in Europe**

**28–30 March 2017  
SOFIA, BULGARIA**

**Organised by:**

**INSTITUTE OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH  
BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (IBER-BAS)**

**EAST AND SOUTH EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR INVASIVE ALIEN  
SPECIES (ESENIAS)**

**DANUBE REGION INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES NETWORK (DIAS)**

**Funded by:**

**FINANCIAL MECHANISM OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA 2009-2014**

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**ESENIAS-TOOLS PROJECT, D-33-51/30.06.2015**

**[www.esenias.org](http://www.esenias.org)**





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## Conference Overview

Networking and cooperation on invasive alien species (IAS) in different scales is crucial for the prevention and management of IAS and can facilitate the implementation of existing IAS instruments, such as the EU Regulation 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of IAS, which entered into force in 2015. There are several joint regional initiatives in Europe. The **East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species (ESENIAS)** was established in 2011 to facilitate solving IAS issues in the Balkan countries. Currently, 12 member countries and three invited countries have been involved in the ESENIAS activities: exchange and sharing of IAS information, capacity building, research, policy development and harmonisation. In 2014 the **Danube Region Invasive Alien Species Network (DIAS)** was established within the frames of Priority Area 06 of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region, International Association of Danube Research (IAD), and ESENIAS. Countries from the Upper, Middle and Lower Danube River basin, as well as adjacent Black Sea region participate in the network. DIAS strategy and work plan have been under development. Since 2015 a joint project: *East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species – A tool to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria (ESENIAS-TOOLS)* has been implemented. The project is funded by the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area 2009-2014, and aims at networking and development of IAS tools (harmonisation of definitions and standards, listing and prioritisation of alien species, data collection, database development, education) within the frame of ESENIAS to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria and in the overall region.

The ESENIAS Conference entitled '*Networking and regional cooperation towards Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management in Europe*' will provide a forum for presentation of multidisciplinary research activities on various topics related to invasive alien species, highlighting the importance of regional cooperation for finding solutions at national, regional and European scale.

## Scientific Topics

- 1. Invasive alien species traits and trends** – invasive alien species introductions and spread, biological and ecological characteristics; characteristics of recipient environment; invasive alien species and climate change
- 2. Vectors and pathways for invasive alien species introductions** - trade, transport, horticulture, aquaculture, agriculture, forestry, hunting, etc.
- 3. The Danube River as invasive alien species corridor** – priority species for the Danube Region, impact on threatened species, specificity of biological invasions in Lower, Middle and Upper Danube River sections
- 4. Invasive alien species impact** – environmental impact, impact on ecosystem services, socioeconomic impact and impact on human health; pests and pathogens
- 5. Invasive alien species prevention and management** - early detection and rapid eradication, surveillance systems; risk assessment and horizon scanning; control measures; restoration of damaged ecosystems; education, citizen science, strategies, policy and legislation; IAS networks and information systems, databases, data planning and management.

## **Important Information**

The official language of the conference will be English.

Authors are invited to submit their contributions related to one or more of the scientific topics given above. The scientific presentations will be oral or poster. Each presentation should indicate the most appropriate topic. There will be no limitation of the number of scientific contributions by an author.

All contributions will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to change the scientific topic and form of presentation (oral/ poster) in case of thematic consideration or timing.

## **Publications**

Abstracts accepted for presentation will be published in a **Book of Abstracts**.

The authors are invited to submit full papers for publishing in **Transylvanian Review of Systematical and Ecological Research (TRSER)**, <http://stiinte.ulbsibiu.ro/trser/index.html>. A **Special Issue (Supplement) of Acta zoologica bulgarica (AZB, with IF)**, <http://www.acta-zoologica-bulgarica.eu/>, is planned and more details will be announced later.

All instructions for publishing are available at the corresponding journal websites and at the ESENIAS website [www.esenias.org](http://www.esenias.org). Only manuscripts prepared according to the instructions, revised (if necessary) according to the review and duly submitted by the deadline will be published.

## **Registration**

The registration form can be downloaded from the ESENIAS website [www.esenias.org](http://www.esenias.org). Please, send your filled form to: [esenias2017@gmail.com](mailto:esenias2017@gmail.com).

**Registration Fee is Not Required!**

## **Abstract Submission**

The abstract form can be downloaded from the ESENIAS website [www.esenias.org](http://www.esenias.org). Abstracts prepared according to the instructions for publishing should be sent to: [esenias2017@gmail.com](mailto:esenias2017@gmail.com).

## **Key dates**

<b>Registration:</b>	<b>15 February 2017</b>
<b>Abstract submission:</b>	<b>15 February 2017</b>
<b>Full paper submission:</b>	<b>15 March 2017</b>

**More information about publishing and information about accommodation and travel will be available at the ESENIAS website [www.esenias.org](http://www.esenias.org).**

## **Contact:**

[esenias2017@gmail.com](mailto:esenias2017@gmail.com)

For registration, abstract submission, full paper submission, accommodation and travel information