ALIEN IMPACT

1. A project to quantify and explain biodiversity impacts of highly invasive plant species (HIPS)

Programme
“Science for sustainable development”
(2007-2010)
Network:  
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(15 scientists)
Title: Biodiversity impacts of highly invasive alien plants: mechanisms, enhancing factors and risk assessment
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Little quantitative data on impact (both magnitude and type)

- policy makers
- legislators
- public
Questions:

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• Impact modulators: eutrophication, climate warming?
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**Methods:**

Large-scale field surveys  ↔  Controlled environments

Integration: shared species, sites, and protocols, and mirror experiments for terrestrial and aquatic
Expected outcomes:

- patterns of impact across scales
- identify sensitive native species
- identify native communities most at risk
- terrestrial vs. aquatic impact
- effects of climate change on impact
- carry-over effects on soil
- probability of successful restoration
- monitoring networks
- policy makers: setting priorities
- policy makers: future evolution of invasion
- nature managers: prioritisation of habitats
- protective measures

ecosystem management and restoration