



EIFAAC PROJECT

TITLE¹: Management/Threat of Aquatic Invasive Species in Europe

PRELIMINARY	
a. Owner	EIFAAC
b. Role of EIFAAC²	EIFAAC is uniquely positioned to address the issues associated with aquatic invasive species and to offer advice to its member states, who are geographically and climatically spread and manage diverse aquatic environments. Information gleaned through EIFAAC projects can be disseminated to a wider audience, including the EU.
1. OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOME	
1.1 Purpose	<p>To develop, process and provide guidelines to support member states in addressing the threat and reality of aquatic invasive species, using best international processes and practice. These guidelines will take the form of published conference proceedings, best practice publications and other relevant aids. The project goals listed below are closely allied to EIFAAC Strategic Objectives I to IV in Appendix A. Specific project goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the development of a coordinated European policy to tackle the threats to fisheries and to native biodiversity posed by aquatic invasive species; the compilation of a Europe-wide expert network to provide assistance regarding identification, control and management, and possibly economic aspects associated with aquatic invasive species; - the development of a Europe-wide inventory of existing aquatic invasive species and a coordinated strategy to provide timely alerts in respect of imminent threats to member states where some of these invasives do not occur; - the development of best practice in relation to rapid reaction protocols; - the sharing of research results relating to the control or

¹ Please use Annex 1 to list all acronyms used in this template

² ² Explain what is the specific, unique role of EIFAAC compared to other groups/organisations that may deal with this subject, too? Has EIFAAC the role of being “lead agency”, “participant” or other role?

	<p>eradication of aquatic invasive species;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the development of international best practice for biosecurity, with particular emphasis on the specific needs of island nations viz. border controls and free passage of goods. - consideration will be given to the development of tools to quantify the impact of aquatic invasive species on fisheries ecosystems.
<p>1.2 Objectives³</p>	<p>1: To convene a conference of aquatic invasive species managers, scientists and policy makers from EIFAAC countries and from farther afield to drive the objectives below, by Q2 2013.</p> <p>2: To inform the development of the pending EU Invasive Species Strategy (which may result in the development of a European Directive), by Q2 2013. The conference proceedings will detail the outcomes from detailed workshop sessions and will aim to directly influence the draft Strategy. In addition, an oral presentation of the outcomes from the conference and workshops will be offered to the authors of this document.</p> <p>3: To develop a coordinated approach to forecasting (using best Risk Analysis practice) aquatic invasive species invasions, by Q4 2015.</p> <p>4: To produce an effective deterrent to the advance of aquatic invasive species. This will involve harmonising alert, rapid reaction, control and management, and mitigation programmes that currently exist in member countries, by Q4 2015.</p> <p>5: To develop and coordinate international biosecurity protocols and approaches within Europe, by Q4 2015.</p>
<p>1.3 Rationale⁴</p>	<p>In Europe there is currently no concerted strategy to tackle aquatic invasive species. Many European countries have their own alert, rapid reaction, control and management, and overall mitigation programmes but no attempt to harmonize these in order to produce an effective and efficient deterrent to the advancing plight of aquatic invasive species has been made. Ireland is uniquely placed to host an international conference on aquatic invasive species as we are an island nation on the western edge of Europe and, currently have a relatively small number of high priority aquatic invasive species. The proposed conference will provide the mechanism or conduit to establish a network of European invasive species experts, with support from EIFAAC. This should take the form of an EIFAAC panel that be an integral part of this</p>

³ Statement of the objective(s) (PLEASE NOTE: objectives need to be **SMART**: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound).

⁴ Reason for the project; why the project is important and key outcomes and stakeholders.

	<p>group. This expert network will contribute to the attainment of the above objectives.</p> <p>In addition, this expert group will assist in the development and coordination of international biosecurity protocols.</p> <p>The EU Invasive Species Strategy may result in development of a Directive in this area and, using the international expertise garnered from the conference and beyond, EIFAAC should be in a position to play a major role in its development and implementation. Towards this end, the project team will engage with the EU to assess what role it (and EIFAAC) can play.</p>
1.4 Benefits	<p>Emerging from this conference, in addition to peer-reviewed papers that were presented at the event, will be a collective expertise and commitment to tackle aquatic invasive species in a concerted and Europe-wide manner. It is intended that international committees (network in 1.1), with direct EIFAAC involvement, will be established to deliberate on targeted problems, with specific timelines for delivery of results.</p>
2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT	
2.1 Project Manager or Chair	Marina Piria
2.1.1 Management responsibilities ⁵	Coordinate the development of the project team and the detailed project plan. Responsible for the conference delivery.
2.2 Participants⁶ and stakeholders	
2.2.1 Identify potential participants	Establish an Organising Committee for the conference, to represent acknowledged aquatic invasive species scientists, managers and policy makers within Europe. This committee will identify potential participants.
2.2.2. Identify stakeholders concerned and involved (answer not immediately needed but think about it and address it in the course of the project)	<p>European Anglers Alliance (EAA)</p> <p>EU</p> <p>Boating Federations</p> <p>Customs</p> <p>Forticulture</p> <p>Fish trade</p> <p>Fishery owners</p> <p>Aquaculture</p> <p>Water Managers</p> <p>Clean Baltic Coalition</p>

⁵ e.g., serve as chair, report to appropriate bodies, set agenda and work plan, coordinate country reports and running of the meeting, edit report, edit draft advice.

⁶ Identify potential participants; include details of relevance of the participant to the project and the capacity in which participation is carried out.

2.3 Time frame⁷	Q2 2012 to Q4 2015: Review at this stage for full project implementation
2.4 Expected deliverables⁸	<p>Plan and deliver an international conference on aquatic invasive species that will bring together leading experts from Europe and farther afield. Establish a committee of experts to coordinate the conference and ensure that all relevant delegates are invited to attend. At the conference workshops, led by leading world experts, key themes relating to the threats and management of aquatic invasive species will be discussed. A document that includes the speakers addresses to the conference and the outcome from the two days of workshops will issue in Q3 2013 and it is anticipated that this will inform policy development on invasive species in Europe.</p> <p>An expert group will be established following the conference, with significant input from EIFAAC countries, and will help steer the harmonisation of invasive species policy through Europe.</p>
2.5 Outline of Working Methodology⁹	Establish an international organising committee that will input into the focus of the conference, the list of keynote and guest speakers and the delegate list. Hold a number of meetings, including one on-site meeting, to set up the conference and to agree on deliverables. At the conference agree on a committee that will drive the aquatic invasive species issue, particularly on behalf of EIFAAC, into the future. This committee should either contain key personnel from EIFAAC's MC or TSC, or be actively supported by a panel from within EIFAAC.
3. BUDGET	
3.1 Budget¹⁰	
3.1.1 available	Some fund and resources will be available from for the conference from within Ireland. Conference fees will help defray some of the costs of the conference
3.1.2 possible	
3.1.3 required	An EIFAAC budget is not required.

⁷ Expected/intended duration of the project

⁸ List potential project deliverables; e.g. Policy guidelines; best-practice guidelines; recommendations; scientific report; project report; etc

⁹ How the project work to be is conducted e.g. meetings, workshops, literature review, research. A methodology should be provided for and closely linked with each of the objectives.

¹⁰ In relation to budget, answer each of the three categories with "yes" or "no", and provide details if appropriate/needed

EIFAAC STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Select one of below list:

I.	Management-related issues and principles for inland fisheries and aquaculture	
II.	Interactions and avoidance or resolution of conflicts in inland fisheries and aquaculture	
III.	Harmonization of cross-border and cross-sectoral governance and legal aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
IV.	Protection and restoration of the environment and species	
V.	Trade and economic aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VI.	Development of databases on inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VII.	Climate change	

Annex 1

Please list ACRONYMS used in the above template