



# ALIENS

## Italian Network LIFE and IAS

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*Platform Meeting LIFE on Invasive Alien Species  
Milan, 29-30 Nov. 2017*



# The LIFE as an instrument for IAS management



The LIFE programme has always funded projects whose objectives were the contrast to Invasive Alien Species (IAS).

Most of the projects are implemented in **Italy** and **Spain** (over 35% of the total, 1992-2013)



# The LIFE as an instrument for IAS management



In Italy, since 1996 about 50 projects have been funded to tackle issues related to invasive alien animals and plants.

In the last 10 years:

- more than 20 projects
- budget of about 60 million € (with EU co-financing > 50%)



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- to make better use of the technical skills acquired through the LIFE program, firstly aimed at optimising the use of financial and human resources



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The Network is coordinated by the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)





# First Steps

✓ to perform a detailed analyses of data included in the European database on Italian LIFE projects on IAS (database Italian Environment Ministry; <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/>)



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❑ to inform the EASME group and the DG ENV IAS Group of the European Commission about the networking initiative

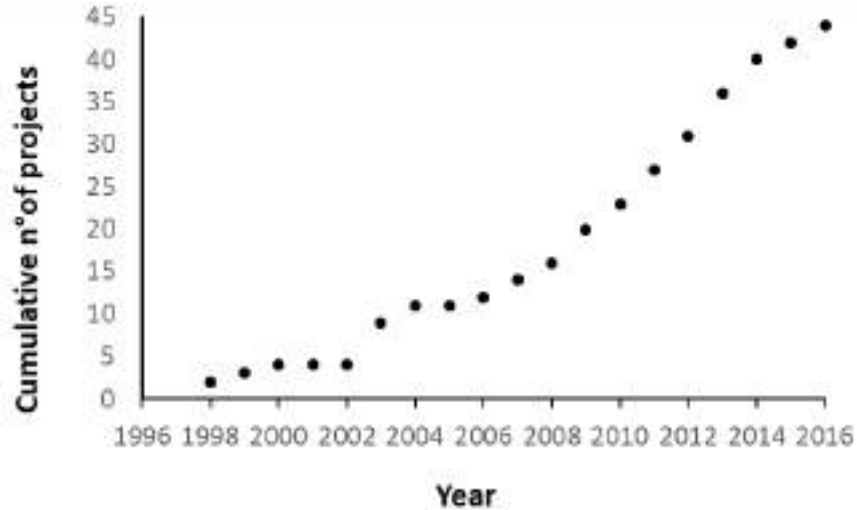


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- ❑ to perform a web survey involving the enlarged Network, in order to collect detailed data and to identify specific topics to be explored by the Network



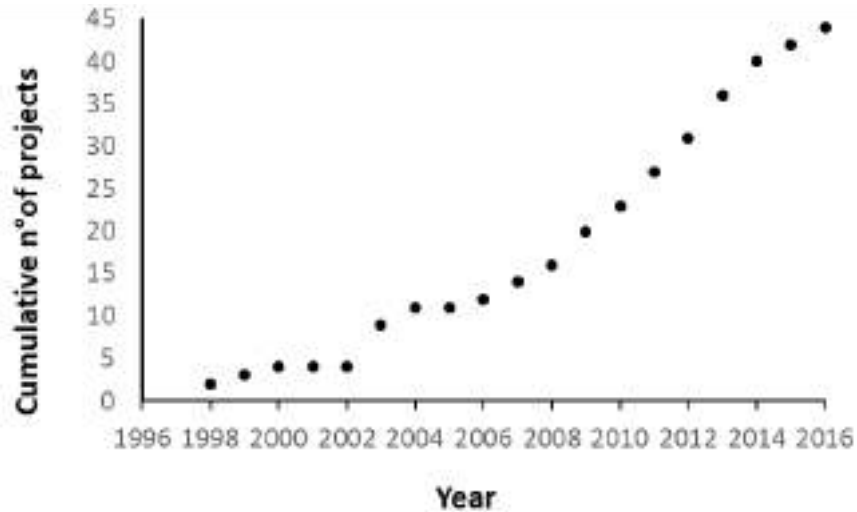
# Increase in the number of LIFE Projects on IAS



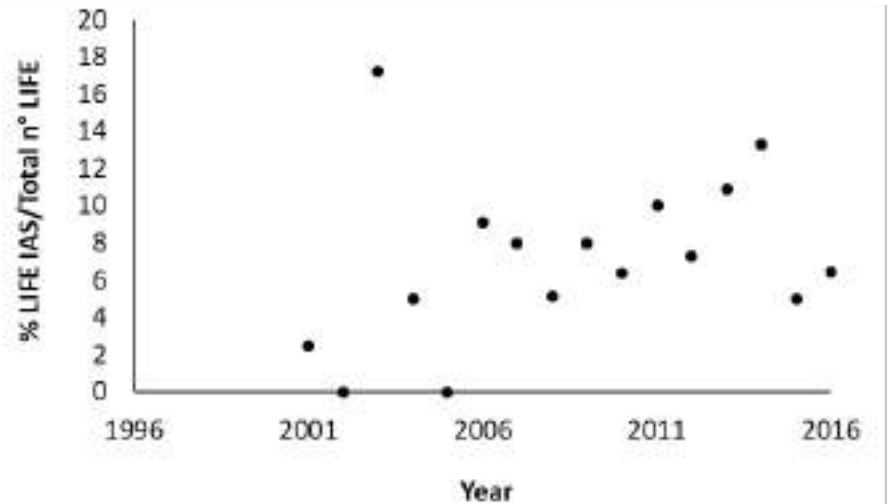
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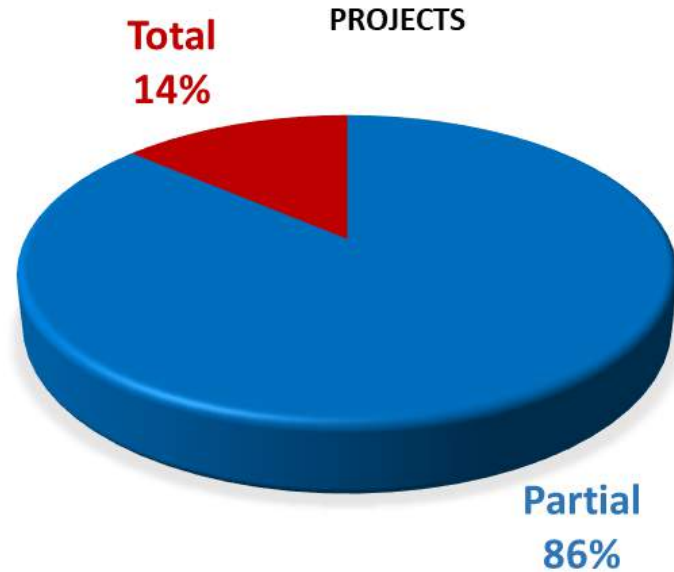


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# The focus on IAS



## Total budget

Partly focused on IAS:  
**92,647,747.87 €**

Entirely focused on IAS:  
**12,061,364.00 €**



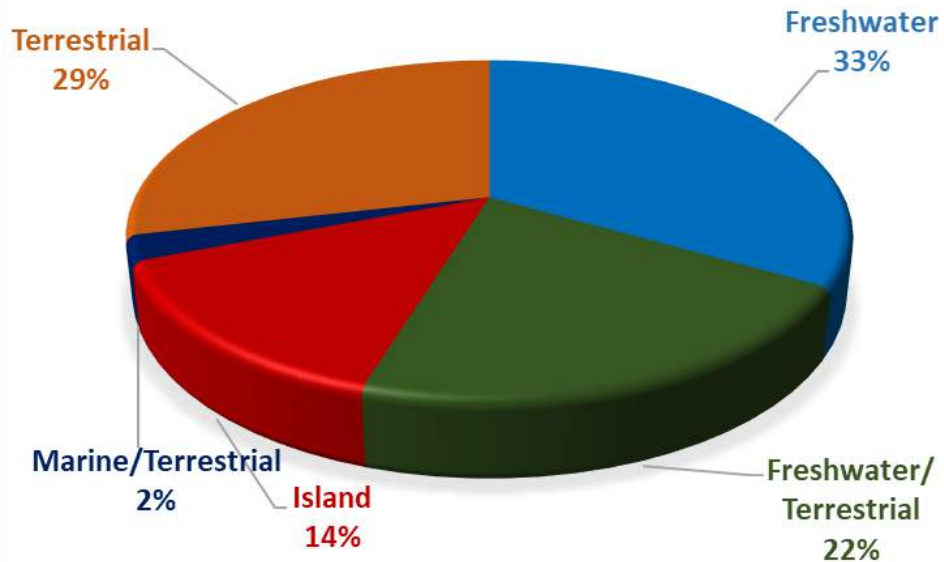
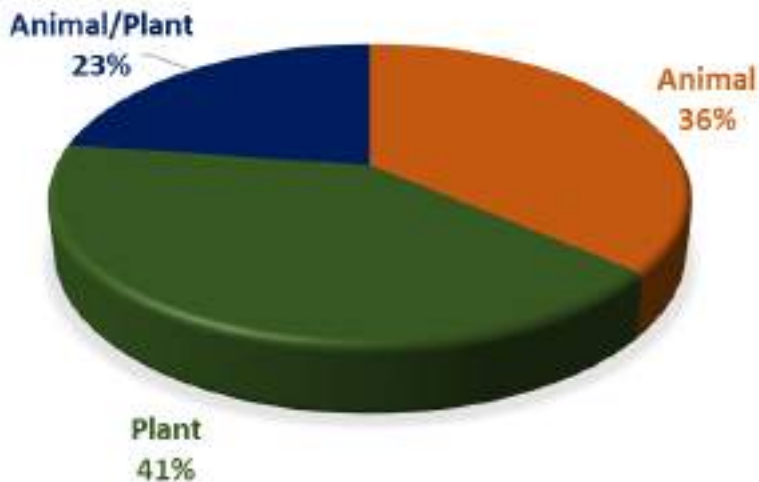
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# Taxa and Habitats

## Habitats involved in LIFE projects



Species involved in LIFE projects



# Top animal species

*Procambarus clarkii* (7/44)

*Rattus* spp. (5/44)

*Sciurus carolinensis* (3/44)

*Trachemys scripta* (3/44)

*Silurus glanis* (3/44)

# Top plant species

*Carpobrotus* spp. (6/44)

*Robinia pseudoacacia* (4/44)

*Amorpha fruticosa* (3/44)

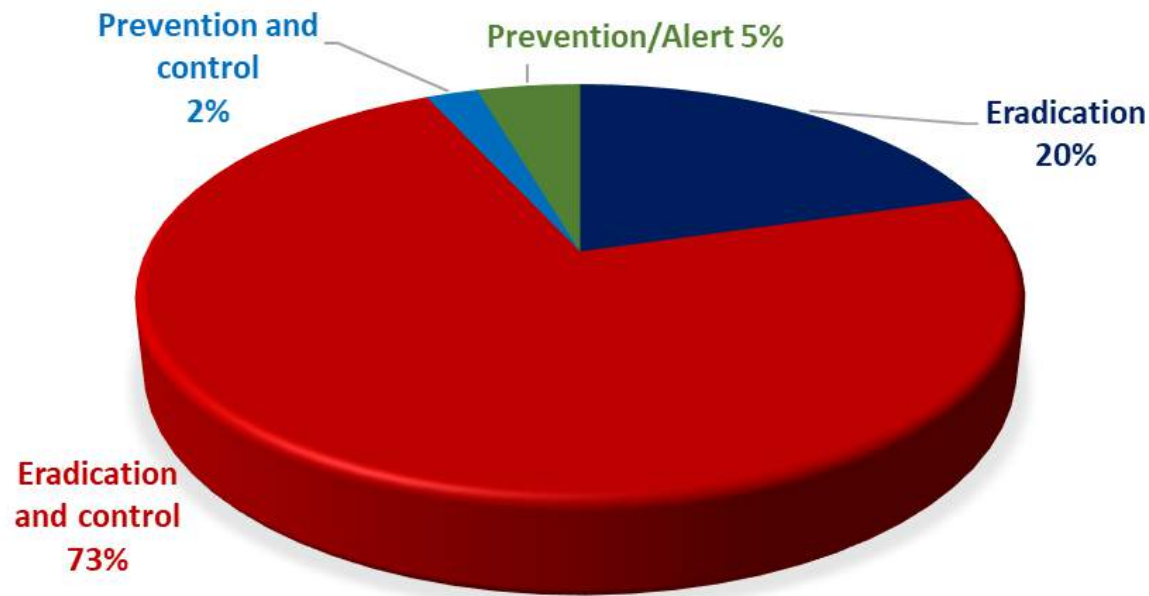
*Ailanthus altissima* (2/44)

*Pinus halepensis* (2/44)

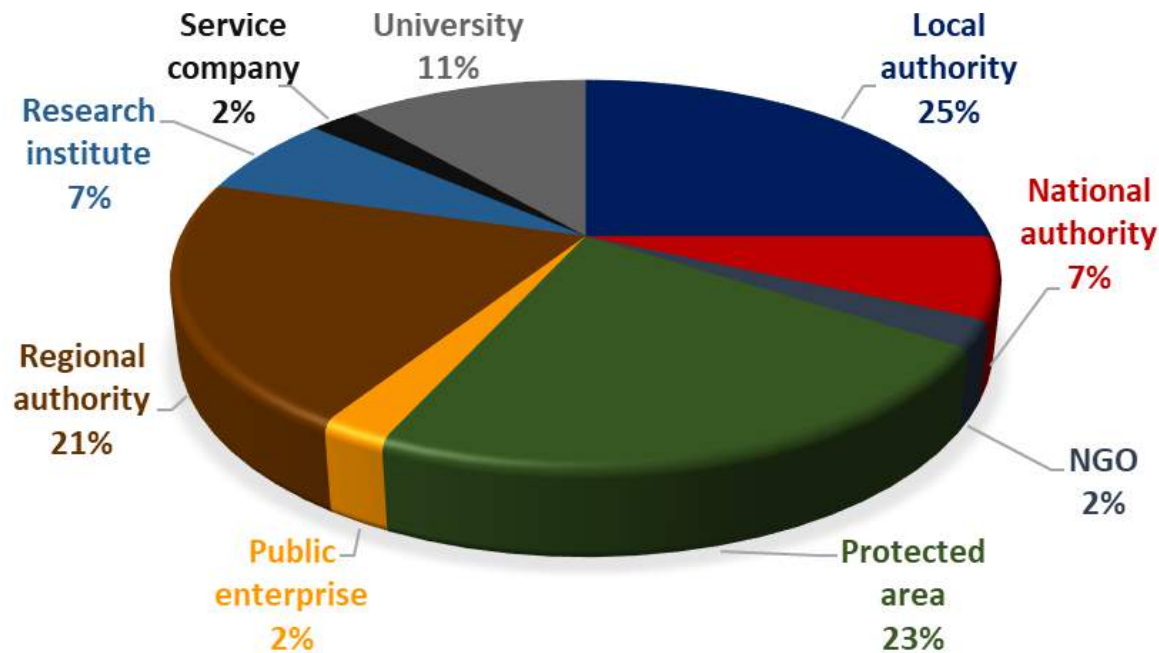




# Main activities



# Coordinating and Associated Beneficiaries



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# General Network objectives

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- ❑ Share knowledges and experiences in order to improve communication tools and actions and raise awareness on IAS



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- ❑ Develop technical reports and organize information events for local authorities involved in IAS management



# Network proposals

## National level

- ❑ Is the Italian Government interested in exploring the possibility of new regulations for enhancing the effectiveness of IAS contrasts?

The IAS LIFE projects could contribute with their experiences!



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❑ Is the Italian Government interested in exploring the possibility of new regulations for enhancing the effectiveness of IAS contrasts?

- Revise national laws to ensure homogeneous regulations for all animal species? (e.g. l. 157/92)
- Access to private properties (not only for urban invaders!)
  - are land stewardship agreements enough?

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## European level

- ❑ An *ad hoc* financial tool should be identified to ensure the after-LIFE sustainability of the results of LIFE projects on IAS

The recovery of native species is one of the main objectives of LIFE-IAS projects  
We need long-term perspectives to obtain, maintain and appreciate significant results





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- ❑ WHAT ABOUT A EUROPEAN-WIDE NETWORK?





The Italian Network LIFE and IAS

# THANKS YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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