

Estimating the cost of Invasive Alien Species to Africa: A Survey

Who are we?

CABI (www.cabi.org) is an international, inter-governmental, not-for-profit organization that improves people's lives worldwide by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment.

The problem

Invasive Alien Species have broad ranging impacts across Africa including those on biodiversity, crop yields, water resources, pasture production and more. Data relating to the economic impact of IAS is available for relatively few species and countries in Africa, therefore it is important to take steps to fill the gaps in these data. This information is important, as economic impact information may be used by policy makers to prioritise work to prevent, manage and control invasive species, and to mitigate the economic impact they have.

The survey

The survey aims to collate information on

- direct expenditure e.g. spending on materials used for managing species and costs of labour
- indirect costs such as yield loss due to invasive species (and thus reduced profit), reduced visitor income etc.
- qualitative information on species impact where costs are difficult to estimate.
- For those involved with research, there is a section which aims to capture the cost of research activities related to IAS in Africa.

How can you help?

We have prepared an online survey which aims to capture all aspects of costs relating to invasive alien species in Africa. If you have any information relating to this, we would greatly appreciate you completing this survey for those fields or sectors which are of relevance to you. There are two options for completing the survey, as follows:

Guided interview

If you prefer, we can book an appointment with you to help guide you through the survey.

Prior to the appointment, the type of information that will be useful to know for the species or sector you are reporting on are:

- Approximate size of area you manage or are responsible for, or are reporting on
- An estimate of yield losses or management costs incurred by invasive alien species (IAS) on your land, for any crops you manage, or other activity that is impacted by IAS. This could be first hand or from research you are aware of.

- Any other income loss you have encountered or are aware of due to invasive alien species
- An estimate of research costs your organisation spend on invasive alien species projects (if applicable)

If you would like to arrange a guided appointment, please email Adewale Ogunmodede A.Ogunmodede@cabi.org to arrange an appointment.

Independent survey completion

If you prefer, you can complete the survey outside of a pre-arranged interview. You are able to view the survey and return to it later if you wish to go away and gather the required information. You will need to input your email address and a link will be sent to allow you to complete the survey in another session. If you would prefer this approach, please use the following link:

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO LINK TO THE SURVEY](#)

We do not expect everyone to answer all questions, therefore please only complete those questions for which you have information. **Please note that the survey will close on June 30th 2020.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to complete this very important survey – your expertise and opinion are of great value to the goal of calculating the cost of IAS to Africa.

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