



ALIENS

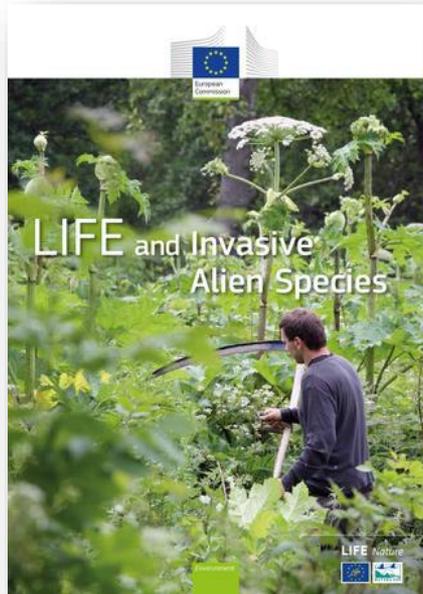
Italian Network LIFE and IAS

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Lazio Region

Perugia, 11 Apr. 2018



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%)



Italian Network - LIFE and IAS

In May 2017 it was decided to establish the Italian Network of LIFE projects dealing with IAS issues, with the following main aims:

- to facilitate the implementation of some of the pillars of the LIFE program (replication, networking)
- to improve circulation of information, experiences and solutions
- to make better use of the technical skills acquired through the LIFE program, firstly aimed at optimising the use of financial and human resources

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

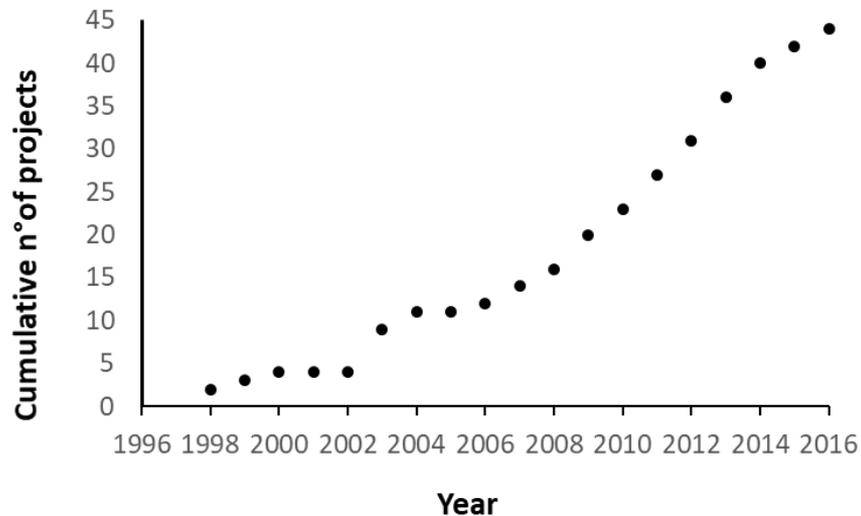


First Steps

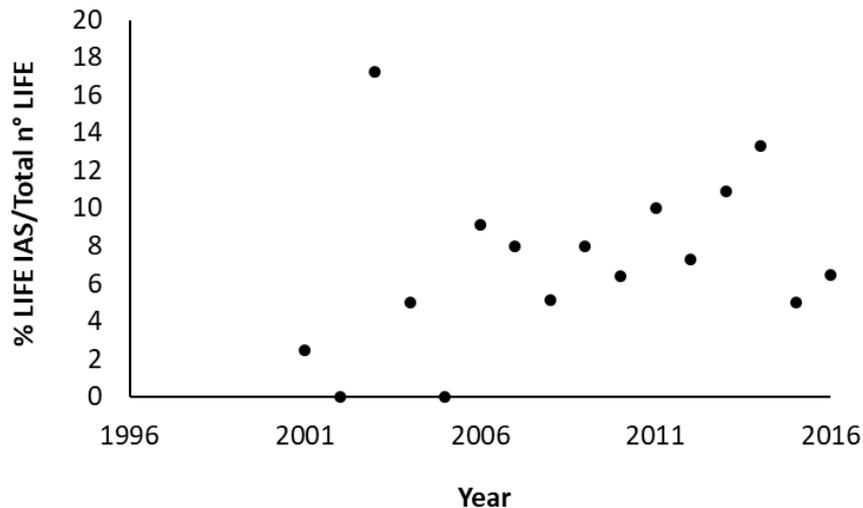
- ✓ to perform a detailed analyses of data included in the European database on Italian LIFE projects on IAS (database Italian Environment Ministry; <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/>)
- ❑ to enlarge the Network inviting the coordinators of all Italian LIFE projects on IAS to join us
- ❑ to inform the EASME group and the DG ENV IAS Group of the European Commission about the networking initiative
- ❑ 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



1996-2016: 44 projects

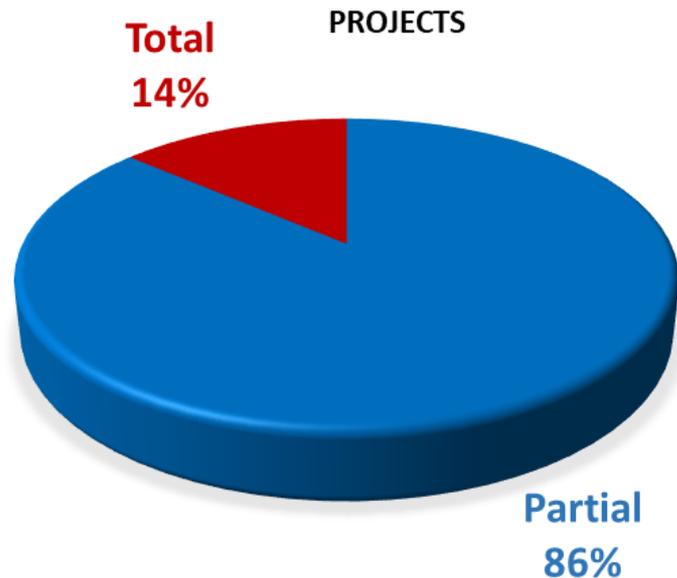


STOP VESPA ASIATICA



- Fermiamo le specie invasive -

The focus on IAS



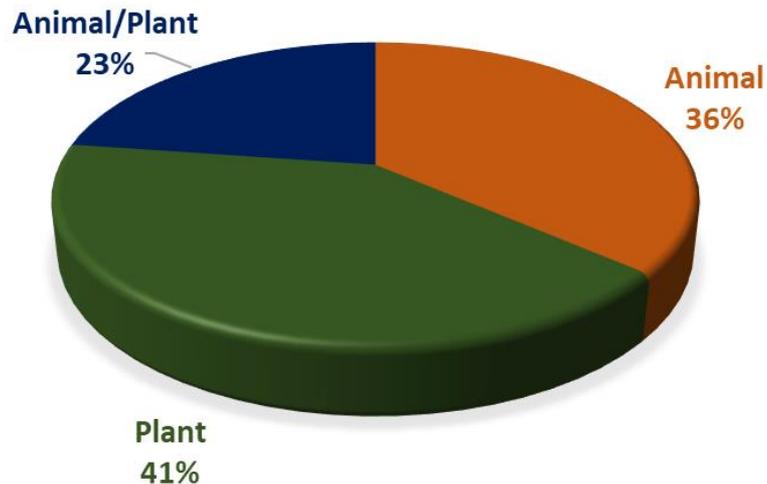
Total budget

Partly focused on IAS:
92,647,747.87 €

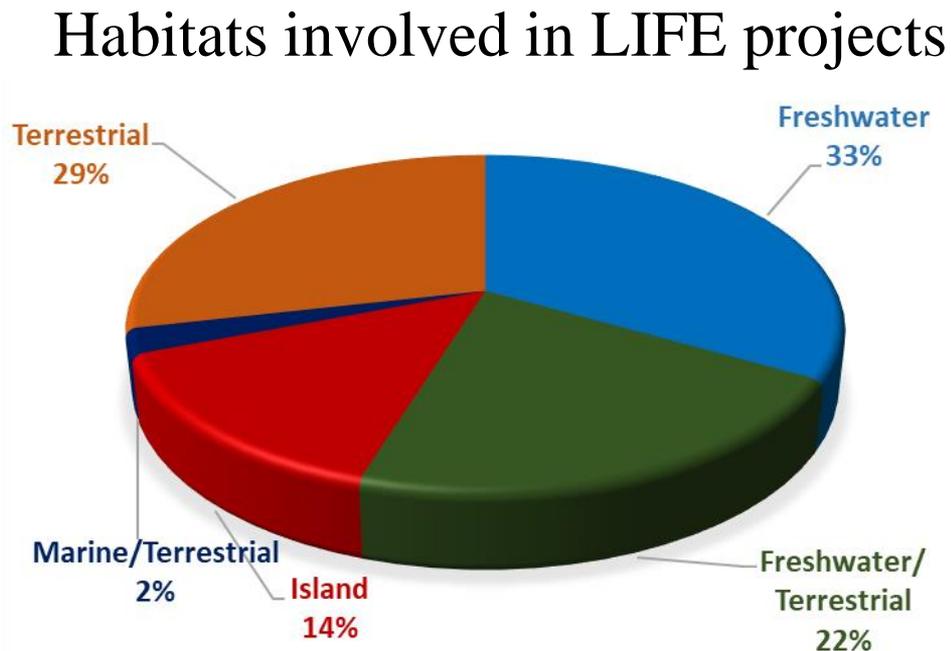
Entirely focused on IAS:
12,061,364.00 €



Taxa and Habitats



Species involved in LIFE projects



Habitats 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)

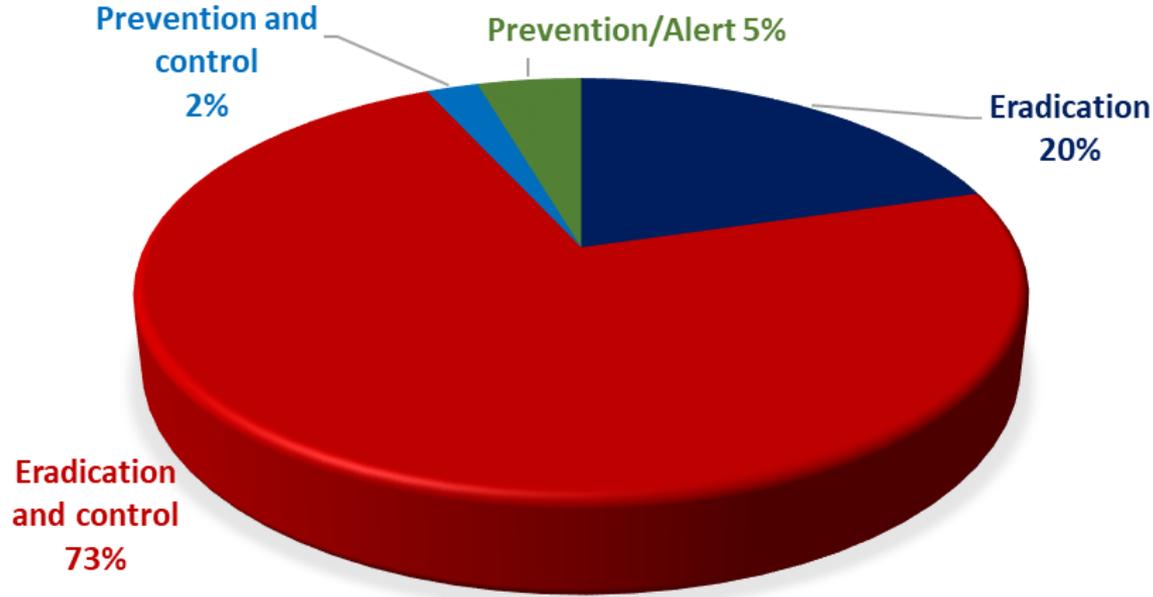
Amorpha fruticosa (3/44)

Ailanthus altissima (2/44)

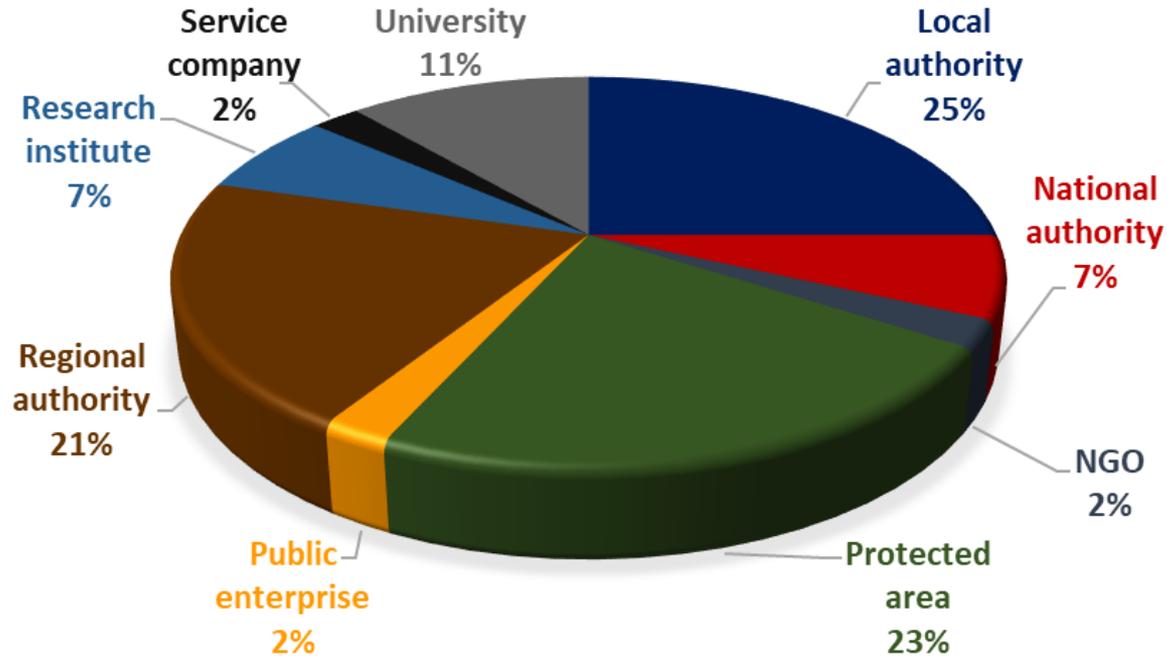
Pinus halepensis (2/44)



Main activities



Coordinating and Associated Beneficiaries



General Network objectives

- ❑ Collect evidences of the impact of IAS on biodiversity and human activities, management costs and effects of LIFE Programme investment in a national context
- ❑ Share knowledges and experiences in order to improve communication tools and actions and raise awareness on IAS
- ❑ Develop technical reports and organize information events for local authorities involved in IAS management



Network proposals

National level

□ Support the Italian Government to implement the EU Regulation at all level

- 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?

The IAS LIFE projects could contribute with their experiences!



Network proposals

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

- ❑ WHAT ABOUT A EUROPEAN-WIDE NETWORK?





The Italian Network LIFE and IAS

THANKS YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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