

**Global biodiversity mechanisms:
a thematic review of recent developments and future evidence needs**

Strand Palace Hotel, London 20th May 2009

MEA Summary Presentations

Invasive Alien Species and Wildlife Diseases Working Group

May 2009

Visit: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/MEA-event>



Invasive Alien Species and Wildlife Diseases Working Group Conclusions

Key implementation requirements

- IAS in OTs and CDs – need for immediate action/
- World Trade/regional trade systems – economics of trade versus cost of not considering environmental issues
- Economic awareness of action versus inaction
- Tractability
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities
- Resource limitation – funding and capacity
- Developing public and political understanding and support for strategic approach and actions
- Lack of effective science and policy maker dialogue

Key emerging issues

- Climate change and interactions
- New invasives/non natives/natives and associated disease threats
- Contingency planning
- Globalisation and managing the consequences
- Effects of economic change
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Evidence and research

- Better links with academia and research funding bodies
- Biocontrol information
- Transferability to developing countries
- Improving surveillance as component of risk assessment
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Science-policy interface

- Better dissemination of science – links with academia and research funding bodies
- Differences in timescales- policy short term, science long term – need to improve understanding
- Managing media –
- Removing language barriers - translation between science and policy makers – includes taxonomy issues
- Scientists engaged earlier and having more influence
- Policy development without perfect science-risk based approach

Priorities from global European & UK perspective

- Funding for IAS work in OTS high importance – have to deal with the realities metropolitan versus OT issues – need to be creative in accessing funding opportunities – reality TV!
- Implementation of strategies and action plans -
- EU legislative framework – have input to development
- Sharing best practice and capacity building globally
- Integrating into other policy sectors e.g. agriculture, transport, trade, fisheries
- Develop effective Communication streams
- Improving biosecurity considerations including raising awareness of travel implications – personal imports, integrating into trade regulations
- Creativity of thinking – links across conventions e.g. using CITES to deliver some trade restrictions

Thank you