
 <p>ICELAND LIECHTENSTEIN NORWAY <b>eea grants</b></p>	<p>FINANCIAL MECHANISM OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA 2009-2014</p> <p>Programme BG03 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p> <p>East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species – A tool to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria ESENIAS-TOOLS, Д-33-51/30.06.2015</p>	 <p>IBER</p>
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## INVITATION

### **ESENIAS-TOOLS Workshop on Effective Networking Two-Way: Local to Global and Global to Local**

#### **ESENIAS-TOOLS WG10 Networking and dissemination of project results**

**9 – 11 December 2015, Istanbul, Turkey**

Dear colleagues,

We would like to invite you to participate in the **ESENIAS-TOOLS Workshop on Effective Networking Two Way: Local to Global and Global to Local**, which will be held within the international project **East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species – A tool to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria (ESENIAS-TOOLS), WG10 Networking and dissemination of project results**, on 9–11 December 2015, in Istanbul, Turkey.

The workshop is organised by the Duzce University, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and the East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species (ESENIAS) and supported by the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area 2009-2014, BG03 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

#### **Background**

Invasive alien species (IAS) threaten biodiversity in unmanaged and managed areas as well as ecosystem services. Their introductions and expansions have been increasing due to intensive human activities and global change. Networking on IAS in different scales is needed to halt new introductions. ESENIAS Network (East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species) was established in 2011 to facilitate solving IAS issues at regional level. ESENIAS has organized yearly workshops (Zagreb 2010, Sofia 2011, Belgrade 2012, Çanakkale 2013, Antalya 2014, and Sofia 2015) aiming to promote capacity building initiatives and increase awareness and knowledge on IAS within all countries in the region.

A recent activity of ESENIAS is an international project: “East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species – a tool to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria (ESENIAS-TOOLS)”. The project, funded under the Programme BG03 “Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services” within the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area (2009-2014), will result in networking and development of IAS tools within the framework of ESENIAS to support the management of alien species in Bulgaria and in the overall region.

#### **Workshop and meeting objectives:**

The ESENIAS-TOOLS Workshop and WG10 Networking and Dissemination Meeting will bring together participants of the ESENIAS-TOOLS project; colleagues from other networks and related organisations; and scientists, stakeholders and authorities from ESENIAS network member countries to:

- Share information on ESENIAS and ESENIAS-TOOLS project;

- Discuss the importance of networking and role of regional networks on awareness raising, data collection, management and distribution, and implementation and research activities on IAS;
- Share information and experience on early warning activities;
- Look for role of ESENIAS in the new EU IAS regulation, either as EU member countries or as non EU countries;
- Seek further opportunities for cooperation and networking on IAS in the region and collaboration with other regional, pan-regional and global networks and projects.

## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**

### **09 December 2015**

Opening (10 am)

Presentation of ESENIAS - history, achievements, future development

Presentation of ESENIAS-TOOLS - goals and tasks, partners, working plan

Presentation of ESENIAS-TOOLS WG10 - role and activities in the project

WORKSHOP effective networking: Data collection, standardisation, management and exchange

(Contributions by participants and discussion)

### **10 December 2015**

WORKSHOP effective networking: Early warning

(Contributions by participants and discussion)

WORKSHOP effective networking: EU Regulation and the role of ESENIAS

(Contributions by participants and discussion)

WORKSHOP effective networking: other areas of ESENIAS collaboration with other networks

(Contributions by participants and discussion)

Discussion on ESENIAS-TOOLS book

### **11 December 2015**

ESENIAS-TOOLS participants' business meeting

Closure

Field tour (optional)

**Please indicate your attendance before 15 November 2015**

**Please send a title of your contribution by 25 November 2015.**

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Yours sincerely,

Ahmet Uludag  
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Teodora Trichkova  
ESENIAS-TOOLS Project Coordinator

On behalf of the Organisers