



Abstract

Awareness and Prevention of Aquatic Invasive Alien Species in the Iberian Peninsula by LIFE INVASAQUA: Midterm Outcomes [†]

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- [†] Presented at the IX Iberian Congress of Ichthyology, Porto, Portugal, 20–23 June 2022.
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Citation: Oliva-Paterna, F.J.; Olivo del Amo, R.; Torralva, M.; Anastácio, P.M.; Banha, F.M.S.; Barca, S.; Casals, F.; Cobo, F.; Guillén, A.; López-Cañizares, C.; et al. Awareness and Prevention of Aquatic Invasive Alien Species in the Iberian Peninsula by LIFE INVASAQUA: Midterm Outcomes. *Biol. Life Sci. Forum* **2022**, *13*, 47. <https://doi.org/10.3390/blsf2022013047>

Academic Editor: Alberto Teodorico Correia

Published: 7 June 2022

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Abstract: The Iberian society has a limited understanding of the threats posed by invasive alien species (IAS) in aquatic ecosystems. This lack of knowledge and awareness about IAS problems hampers any management policy proposed by public administration and stakeholders, contributing to missing an IAS management strategy. We present the midterm outcomes of the Environmental Governance and Information LIFE project—LIFE INVASAQUA—that will run between 2018 and 2023 in the Iberian Peninsula. The main goal of INVASAQUA is to increase the Iberian public and stakeholders' awareness of aquatic IAS problems and to develop tools that will improve an efficient early warning and rapid response (EWRR) framework for new IAS in freshwater and estuarine habitats in the Iberian Peninsula. We focus on new challenges and outcomes of the project to explore some of the problems and solutions encountered in the project implementation.

Keywords: invasive; exotic species; LIFE projects; prevention

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, F.J.O.-P. and R.O.d.A.; writing, F.J.O.-P.; funding acquisition, F.J.O.-P., R.O.d.A., F.R., P.M.A., F.C. (Fernando Cobo), A.P., R.M., C.N. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding: This project received funds from the LIFE Programme (LIFE17 GIE/ES/000515).

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement: Informed consent was obtained from all subjects involved in the study.

Data Availability Statement: Not applicable.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.