

## **Alien species impact reduction**

An alien species is an animal, plant or other organism that is introduced by humans, either intentionally or accidentally, into places outside its natural range. Some alien species classed as ‘invasive’, become established and negatively impact native biodiversity, as well as ecosystem services on which humans depend. Biological invasions are a major threat to global food security and livelihoods, with developing countries being the most susceptible. These countries, which have high levels of subsistence and smallholder farming, often lack the capacity to prevent and manage biological invasions.

### **Objectives**

- To understand alien species and their impact on biodiversity.
- To take effective measures for eradication of alien species.

### **UCP focuses on**

1. Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities.
2. Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.
3. Introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.
4. Take urgent and significant action to protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
5. Monitor biological invasions are among the top drivers of biodiversity loss and species extinctions.
6. Ecosystems need to be prioritised according to their vulnerability to climate change.
7. Establishing effective biosecurity measures to manage priority pathways of introduction, supported by early warning and rapid eradication to tackle alien species before they become invasive. International cooperation is key.

8. Alien species that are likely to become invasive due to climate change ('sleepers') need to be identified and eradicated or controlled before they spread and become invasive.