Invasive alien species impoverish global biodiversity

An app to locate them

One of the main reasons of the loss of biodiversity around the world is the appearance of animal and plant species in never seen before locations out of its natural habitat. This invasion affects all the development of the occupied ecosystems.

Distribution is unknown and, sometimes, it is necessary to know it in order to avoid its expansion- IASTracker is a mobile app to locate invasive species in each defined region and allow to check the location around the world in a geoportal.

The mobile application IASTracker allows to identify exotic invasive species (IAS) in a territory, based on the comparison of the species with the images and contents of the application. For example in Catalonia we can identify the agave in the limits between two grounds, fields and gardens, the Argentinean parrot in the gardens of the big cities or the zebra mussel in our hydrographic network, as some emblematic cases.

The application has been conceived in the way that anybody can introduce not only the IAS but also the needed regions for every zone that will be studied.

The pilot zones at the moment are Europe, Belgium, Catalonia, El Montseny and the Ebro Delta, although other regions around the world can be added at any time.

The experts, the investors, the students and general citizens will be able to enter any observation oh IAS. The increase of observations and their location give important information to the authorities and investor groups that during many years have been working on the conservation of the biodiversity and to detect the IAS affected zones.

IASTracker is a mobile application designed for Android and iOS and with a geoportal to share the observations of any user. It contains the cartography in different scales to obtain the best geographic references to make the observation. In the case of Catalunya, the cartography and the ortoimages are yield by the Insitut Cartogràfic I

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Geològic de Catalunya. The application is available in four languages, English, French, Spanish and Catalan. Each user can easily make his observation georeferenced with GPS, photos and notes and, if he wants, he can manage his own observations as a registered user and analyze and see the observations of other registered users.

The IASTracker project has been developed by the IC5team, a five expert team formed by Blanca Botey, Thomas Cernocky, Ariadna Just, Martí Pizarro and Anna Tardà.

The public presentation of the app will be the 28th of January in the Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya. You can find the timetable of the day in http://ic5team.org. The contact mail is ic5@ic5team.org

Jornada amb la col·laboració i el patrocini de: