



# ASIA-PACIFIC FOREST INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK

## Origin , Goals and Achievements

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**APFISN Coordinator**

10-16 June, Tokyo, Japan

3rd meeting of IUFRO Working Unit 7.03.12 "Alien invasive species and international trade"

## APFISN – why and when established?



Established in 2004 during the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Asia - Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) held in Fiji

In response to the immense costs and threats posed by invasive species to the sustainable management of forests in the Asia -Pacific region

APFISN is linked to the Asia - Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) - a statutory body of the FAO of the UN.

**APFISN focuses on cooperation among its 33 member countries to:**

- ❑ Detect and prevent new incursions of FIS**
- ❑ Monitor and control spread of existing FIS**
- ❑ Exchange Information on FIS**
- ❑ Strengthen capacities to deal with FIS issues**
- ❑ Raise awareness on the ecological, economical and social damages due to invasions**



*Sphagneticola trilobata*

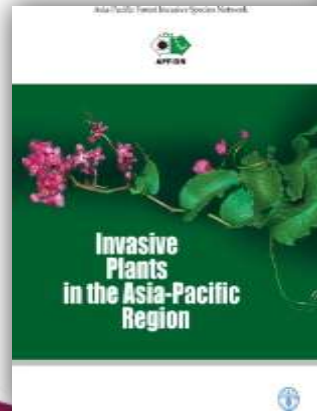
# Action plans

## 1. Awareness raising

Monthly newsletter 'INVASIVES' published bimonthly since July 2006.  
Published 33 issues so far – disseminated widely

APFISN Fact Sheets on Coconut leaf beetle, *Mikania micrantha*, *Parthenium hysterophorus*, *Mimosa diplotricha*, *Lantana camara*, *Achatina fulica*, *Leptocybe invasa* and *Paracoccus marginatus* produced and released

A pictorial book entitled 'Invasive plants in the Asia-Pacific region' is in press



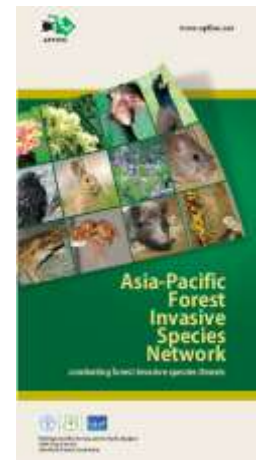
A documentary film entitled “Major Invasive Weeds in the Asia-Pacific region” produced and released

New APFISN brochure produced; Calendars showing important IAS in the region produced and disseminated

Posters on activities of APFISN produced and exhibited in Conferences/Meetings

Published a handbook entitled “Major Invasive Alien Plants in India: Biology and control”

Press releases and radio programs



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## 2. Database and information sharing

- ❖ Production and dissemination of workshop proceedings and reports – 6 proceedings / reports so far
- ❖ APFISN Website – [www.apfisin.net](http://www.apfisin.net) launched
- ❖ E-mail networking
- ❖ Links established with Forest Invasive Species Network for Africa and Pacific Invasive species Learning Network
- ❖ Helped establishing a Forest Health and Invasive Species Network in the Near East



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### 3. Stock taking of national activities

APFISN helps member countries to produce stock taking reports on FIS

15 countries produced stock taking reports on FIS so far  
 – these are posted in the web page

Helped Vietnam, Cambodia and Bhutan to prepare reports

Other countries have been urged to produce stocktaking reports



Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)  
 A Report on the Stocktaking of National Forest Invasive Species (NFIS)  
 Activities in the Philippines  
 Agustin A. Pined, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>  
 E.S. Perino, M.T. Palleon, M.D. Jose Valentin and M.V. Pacheco<sup>2</sup>

**I. Country background**

The Philippines forms part of the Southeast Asian region. It is the archipelago between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea, east of Vietnam. The archipelago character has given the country extensive territorial waters and a long coastline about twice that of continental United States of America. Because of extensive territorial water, the Philippines adopted the Archipelago Doctrine as a basis in determining the inland and territorial waters of the country. With its total land area of 343,686 sq. km, 130,000 sq. km is considered 2% of the total land area of the world and is classified as a medium-sized country.

Geographically, the Philippines is about 1,000 km. From the southeast coast of the mainland of Asia lying on the western margin of the Pacific Ocean. It lies between 125° east and 127° west longitude. Its boundaries are formed by three large bodies of water on the west and north by the South China Sea, on the east by the Pacific Ocean, and on the south by the Cebu Sea and the coastal waters of Borneo. The country's location makes it strategically important not only as the meeting ground of various cultures but also as the distribution center of goods within the region.

The country's 7,107 islands and islets is clustered into three major groups: Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Of these, Luzon and Mindanao comprise the two largest islands with land area of 103,000 and 95,000 square kilometers, respectively, which together represent two-thirds of the total land area of the country. Fifty-five of the islands have an area of 100 square kilometers or more and their aggregate area comprise 98% of the total area of the archipelago.

**Climate**

The climate of the Philippines is tropical and maritime. It is characterized by relatively high temperature, high humidity and abundant rainfall. The country has two marked seasons, dry and wet on the western shores facing the South China Sea, where the dry season generally begins in December and ends in May, with the wet season covering

<sup>1</sup>Report released during the APFISN pre-conference workshop of the Asia-Pacific Invasive Species Network (APFISN), April 16, 2006 at Davao, Davao.

<sup>2</sup>Division, Environment Research and Development System, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-EDRS), Cebu, Laguna 4011, Philippines

<sup>3</sup>Research, Environment Research and Development System, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-EDRS), Cebu, Laguna 4011, Philippines

## 4. Capacity building

Organized/Co-organized 16 Workshops so far

Four workshops held during 2004 - 2006

Five workshops held during 2007 - 2008 and

Seven workshops held during 2009 - 2011



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## Recent capacity building workshops

1	International workshop and training course on Invasive Species	Wuhan, China	Oct. 2008
2	Forest Health in a Changing World	Kuala Lumpur	Dec.2008
3	Invasive plants in the Tropics: Ecology, Management & Livelihoods	Bangalore, India	Jan. 2009
4	Plant invasion and Forest Ecology: Concerns & Solutions	Chandigarh India	Mar. 2009
5	Restoration after Ice Snow Disaster and Forest Health Restoration	Lijiang, China	May 2009
6	Pathways of Biological Invasions into Forests	Thimphu, Bhutan	June 2010
7	Forest Health Technologies and Phytosanitary standards	Beijing, China	Nov. 2011

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## Stakeholder workshops

1	<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Kurunegala	April 2010
2	<b>Maldives</b>	Mali	April 2010
3	<b>South India</b>	Peechi	May 2010



*A. mearnsii*

## 5. Organizational structures

**Executive Committee, National Co-ordinators, APFISN Co-ordinator**

**Executive Committee – 6 members; 4 nominated and 2 ex-officio**

**Reconstitution of the Executive Committee due**

**The EC provides strategic guidelines to the network activities**

**National Co-ordinators function as a link between the network and member countries. They are also expected to do in-country networking**

**APFISN Co - ordinator organizes activities**



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## Member Countries and National Coordinators

As of date, 33 countries in the region are members of the APFISN

24 countries have nominated National Coordinators

### Member countries

Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, P.R. China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, United States of America, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Tuvalu, Kiribati, France, Russia



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## Major activities during 2010 - 2012

Organized APFISN Workshop on “Pathways of Biological Invasions into Forests”, Bhutan, 08 and 11 June 2010

New focal points for Thailand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu nominated

Collaboration agreed with CABI in a large GEF project on invasive species in South Asia. APFISN was offered financial support of US\$ 70,000 to develop its website and for technical help

Work on APFISN Pictorial book on ‘Forest Invasive Plants in the Asia-Pacific Region’ completed



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# A new Fact Sheet on 'Papaya mealybug' and a new brochure of APFISN produced and released

Survey for the spread of Giant African Snail in South India  
A 'Look out Notice' was published in Newspapers.

Work in progress to develop a non-toxic control measure

APFISN Coordinator participated in the VIII IOBC International Workshop on "Biological Control and Management Of *Chromolaena* and other eupatoriae" held in Nairobi, Kenya during 01-05 November 2010.



## Workshop on Forest Health Technologies and Phytosanitary Standards held in Beijing, November 2011

A major projects on ' Invasive plants in South Asia' was developed and submitted to FAO for funding

Helped dissemination of information on phytosanitary standards in forestry developed by FAO



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# Future plans

## *Priority areas of work*

Identify taxonomic expertise in the region and make the expertise available widely

Produce a target pest list for each country/region

Map current activities on FIS in the region

Develop the database on FIS

Organize a series of regional workshops involving neighboring countries to identify major invasive species and to develop action plan to contain them

### Forthcoming workshop

Tree Invasions into Forests : Causes, Pattern & Management

10-16 June, Tokyo, Japan



# Tasks

**Access to resources – a major challenge**

**Better engagement of member Countries and National Co ordinators**

**Improve coordination and pace of activity implementation**

**Improve communication and linkage between networks**

**Sharing of information through website and newsletters**

**E-mail networking between networks**

**Joint workshops on FIS: frequent meeting of coordinators of different networks**

**Collaborative programs between countries and networks**



*Pinus pinaster*

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## Expected outcomes from APFISN activities

- Improved coordination and cooperation among member countries to combat the IAS menace
- Improved capacities to deal with FIS
- Rapid sharing of information and through all these:

## Prevention and mitigation of FIS in the Asia-Pacific region

## **Support to APFISN activities**

**FAO**

**USDA Forest Service**

**APFC**

**APAFRI**

**State Forestry Administration, China**

**Chinese Academy of Sciences**

**Kerala Forest Research Institute**



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*Combating forest invasive species threats*

[www.apfisin.net](http://www.apfisin.net)

**Thank You**

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