LIFE RIPARIAS: A BLUEPRINT FOR COORDINATED AND EVIDENCE-BASED INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES MANAGEMENT

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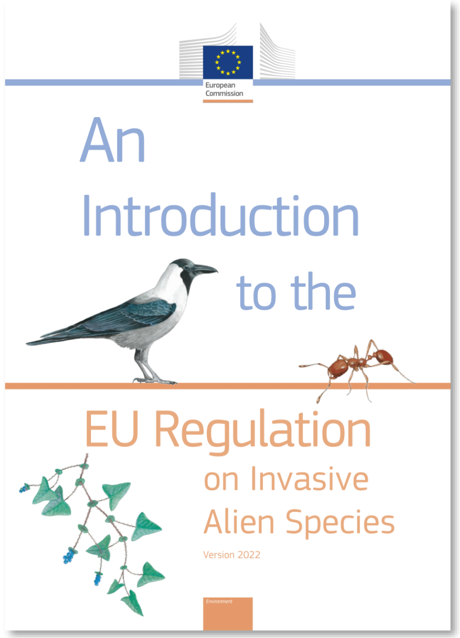
NATURA 2000

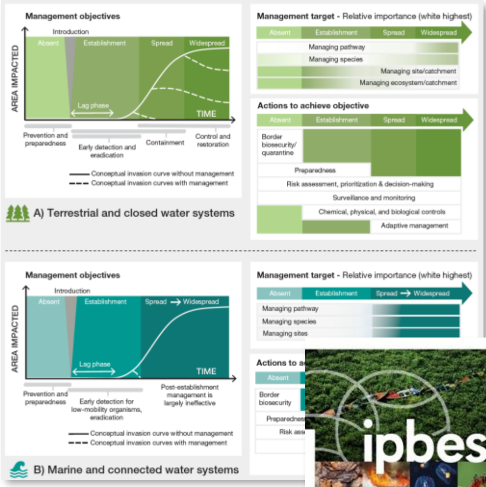
The RIPARIAS project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union

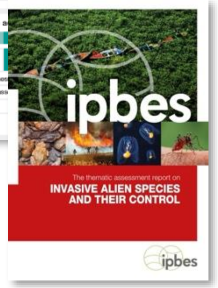
RIPARIAS

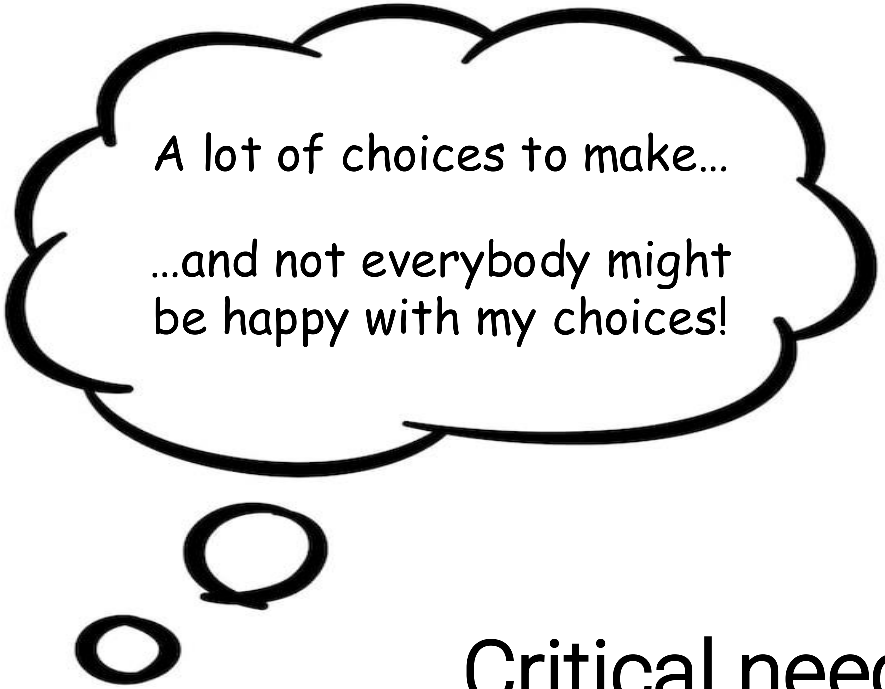
Reaching Integrated and Prompt Action in Response to Invasive Alien Species

RIPARIAS


European Commission
An Introduction to the
EU Regulation
on Invasive Alien Species
Version 2022


Management objectives
Management target - Relative importance (white highest)
Actions to achieve objective
AREA IMPACTED
TIME
Lag phase
A) Terrestrial and closed water systems
B) Marine and connected water systems


ipbes
The thematic assessment report on
INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES AND THEIR CONTROL
ipbes



Critical need to underpin IAS management with a coherent, replicable and transparent framework for decision making

Objectives

Improve data flows from existing early warning and surveillance systems

Develop guidelines and objective criteria for prioritizing management actions and apply priority actions in the pilot area.

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Reaching Integrated and Prompt Action in Response to Invasive Alien Species

Objectives

Improve the monitoring of IAS management efficiency

Promoting the replication of the workflow in Europe

Resources

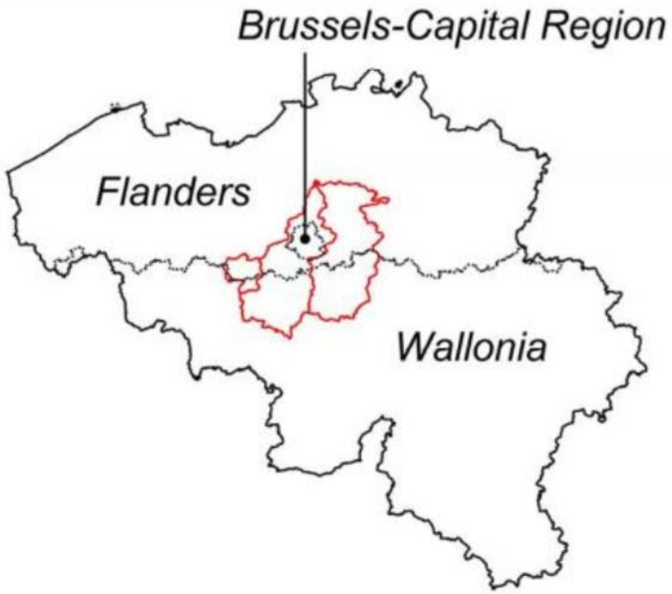
Project reference: LIFE19 NAT/BE/000953

Project location: Belgium – 3 river basins as pilot areas

Duration: 6 years (01/01/2021 – 31/12/2026)

Total budget: 7,010,389.00 €

EU contribution: 3,855,714.00 €



Partners

- Belgian competent authorities
- NGOs – river managers
- Scientific support

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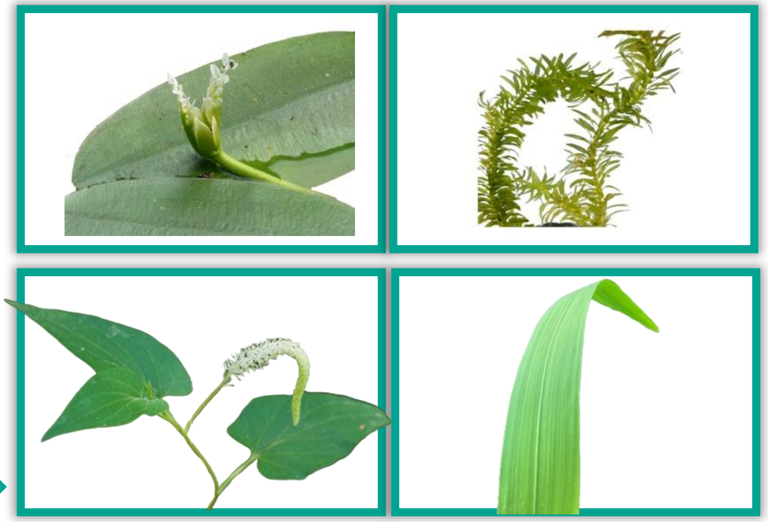
Reaching Integrated and Prompt Action in Response to Invasive Alien Species

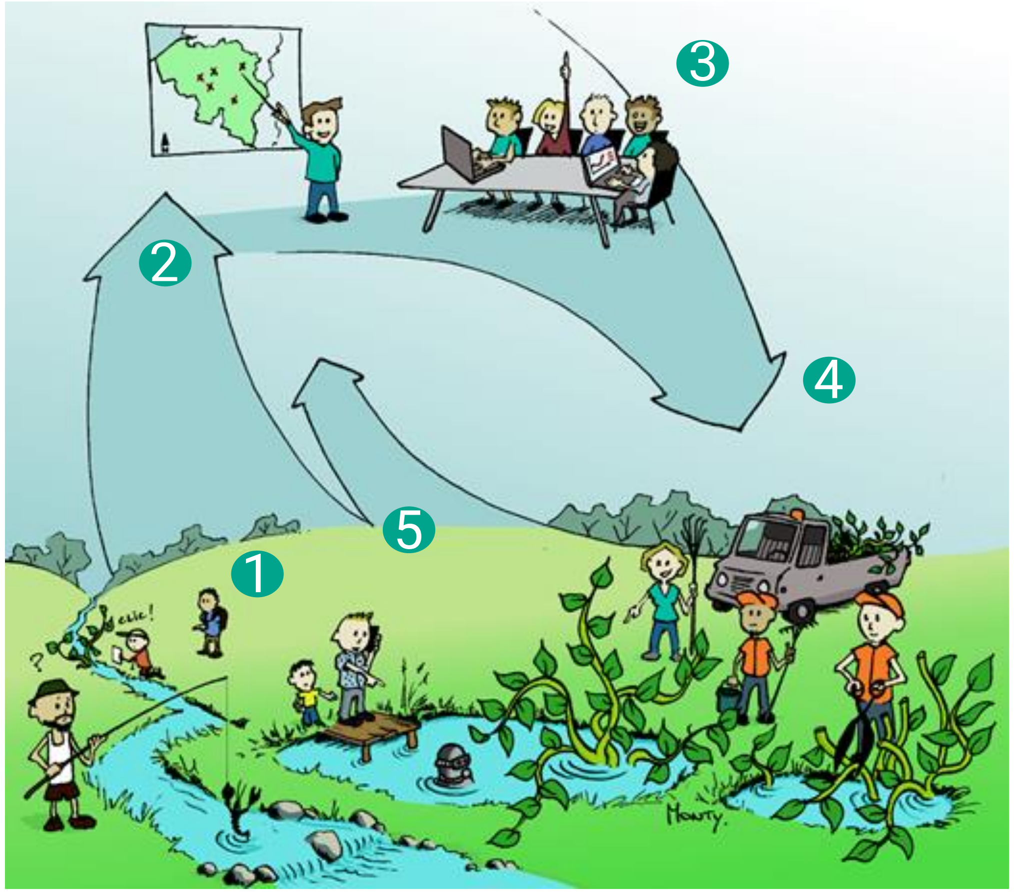
Species

← EU List

Alert List →

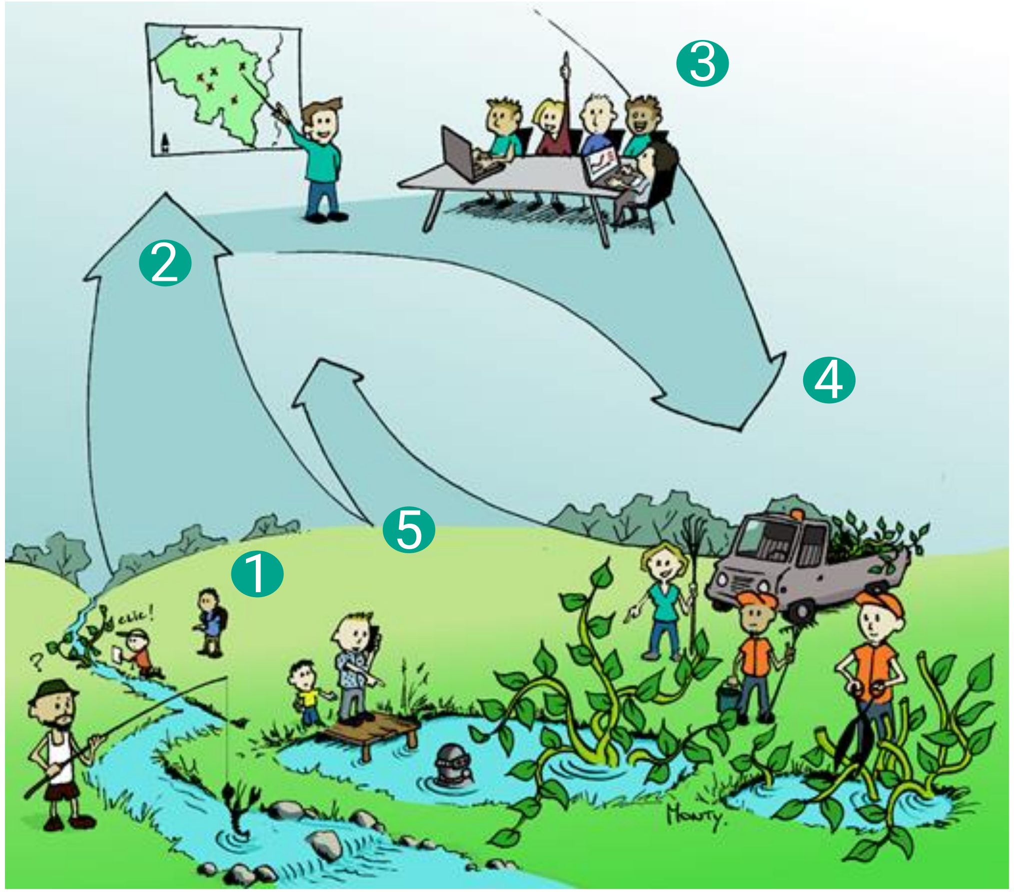


The workflow



❶ Observations are made by citizens and key stakeholders in private properties and the public domain.

The workflow



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❷ Data are promptly made available for the use of the project.

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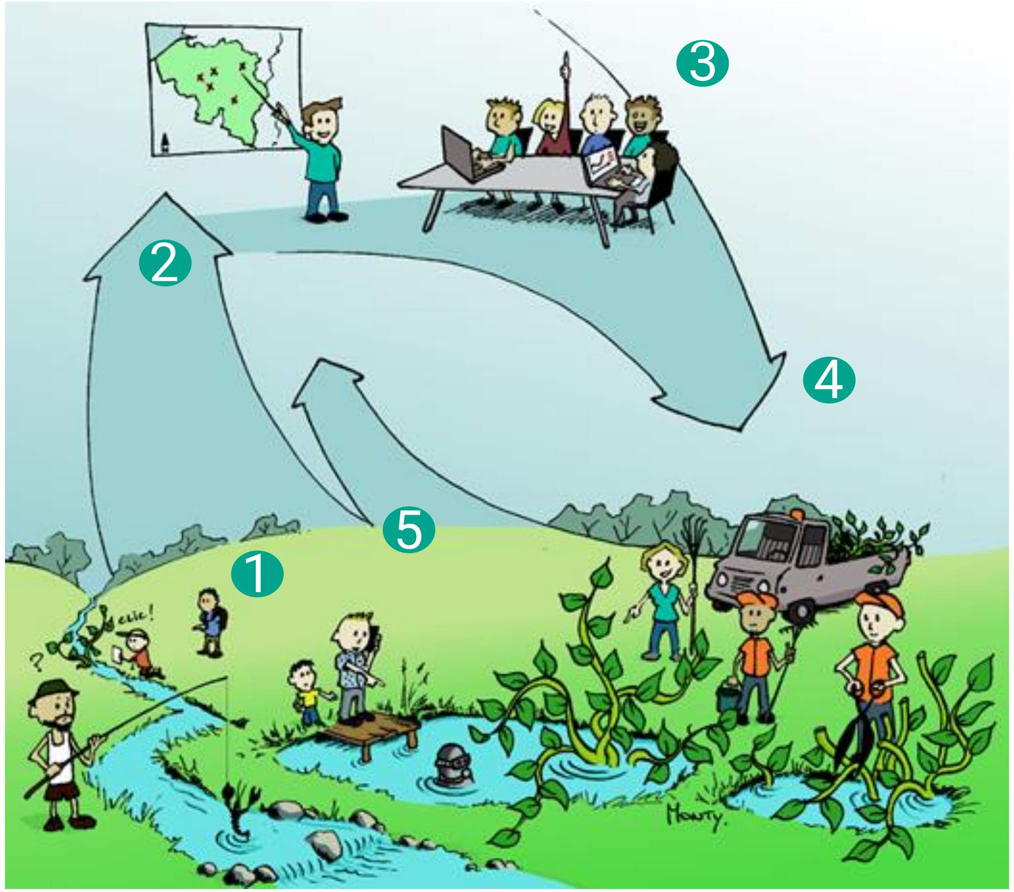

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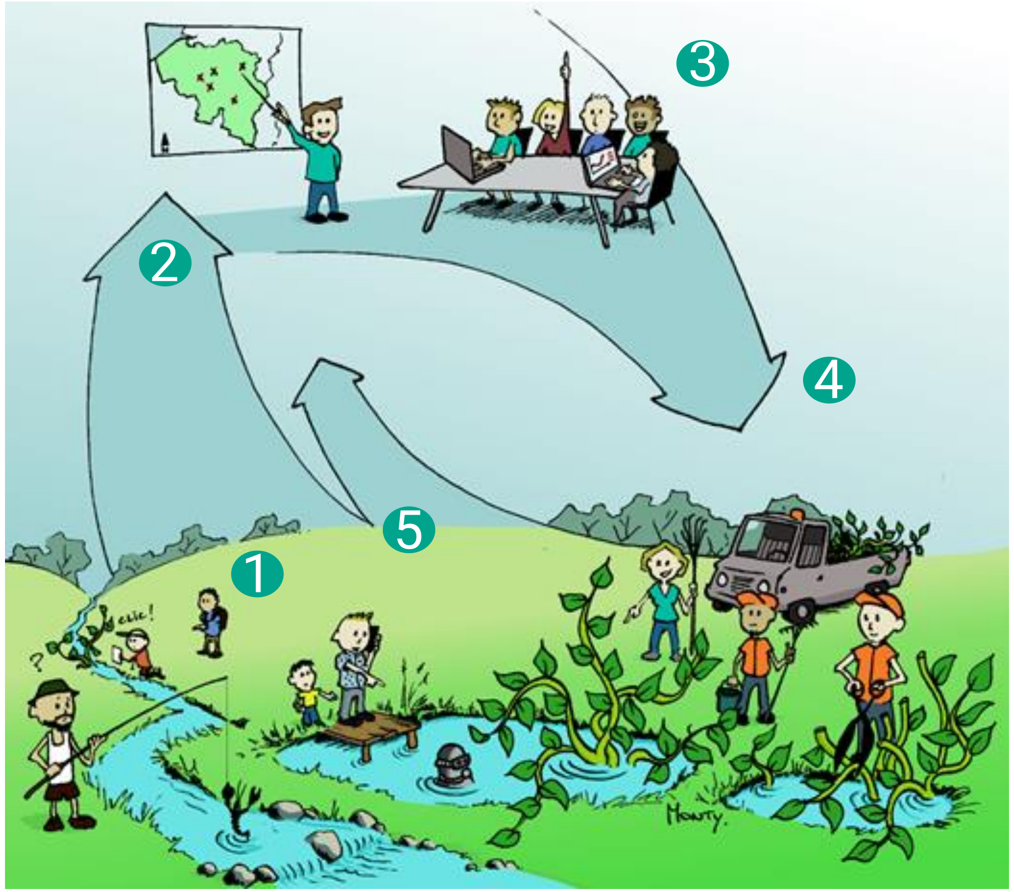
➋ Data are promptly made available for the use of the project.

➌ Using a dedicated decision-support tool, project partners and stakeholders agree on priorities for action based on the available data. River basin management strategies are developed to inform about where to act in priority, how, and on which species.

The workflow



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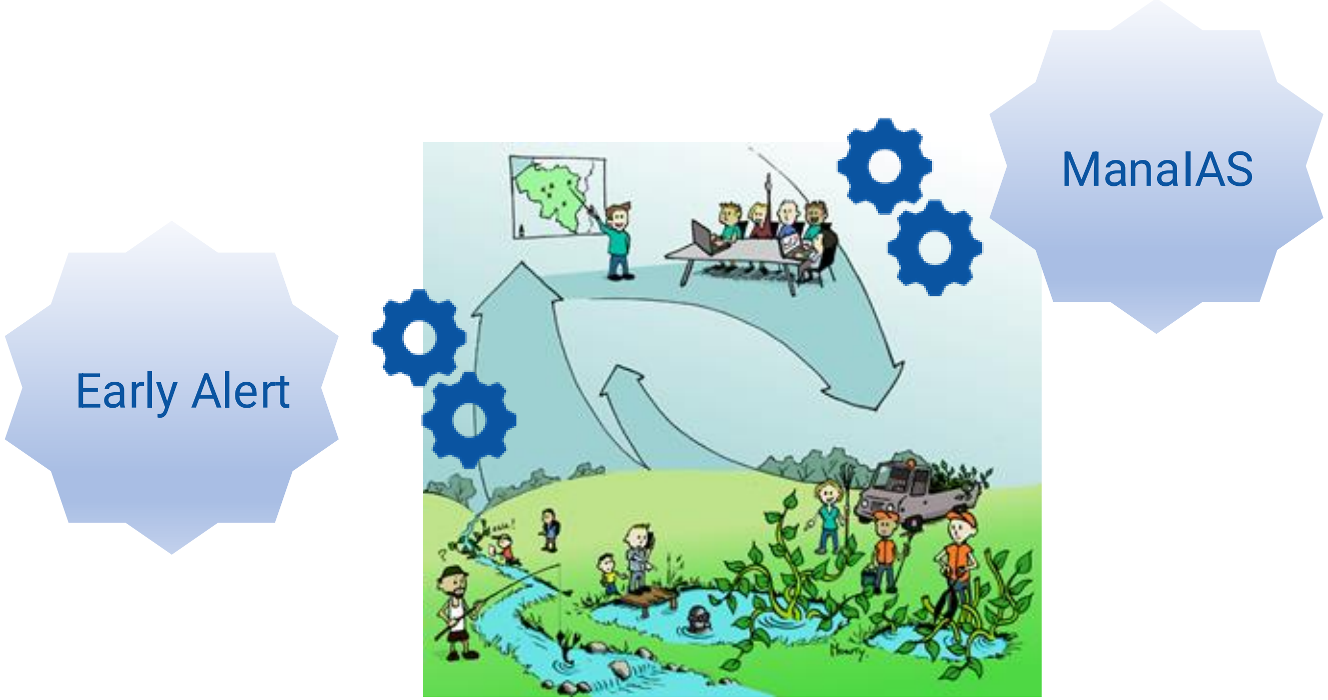
❹ Field managers implement strategies, helped by the LIFE RIPARIAS team and volunteers.

❺ Management efficiency is monitored.

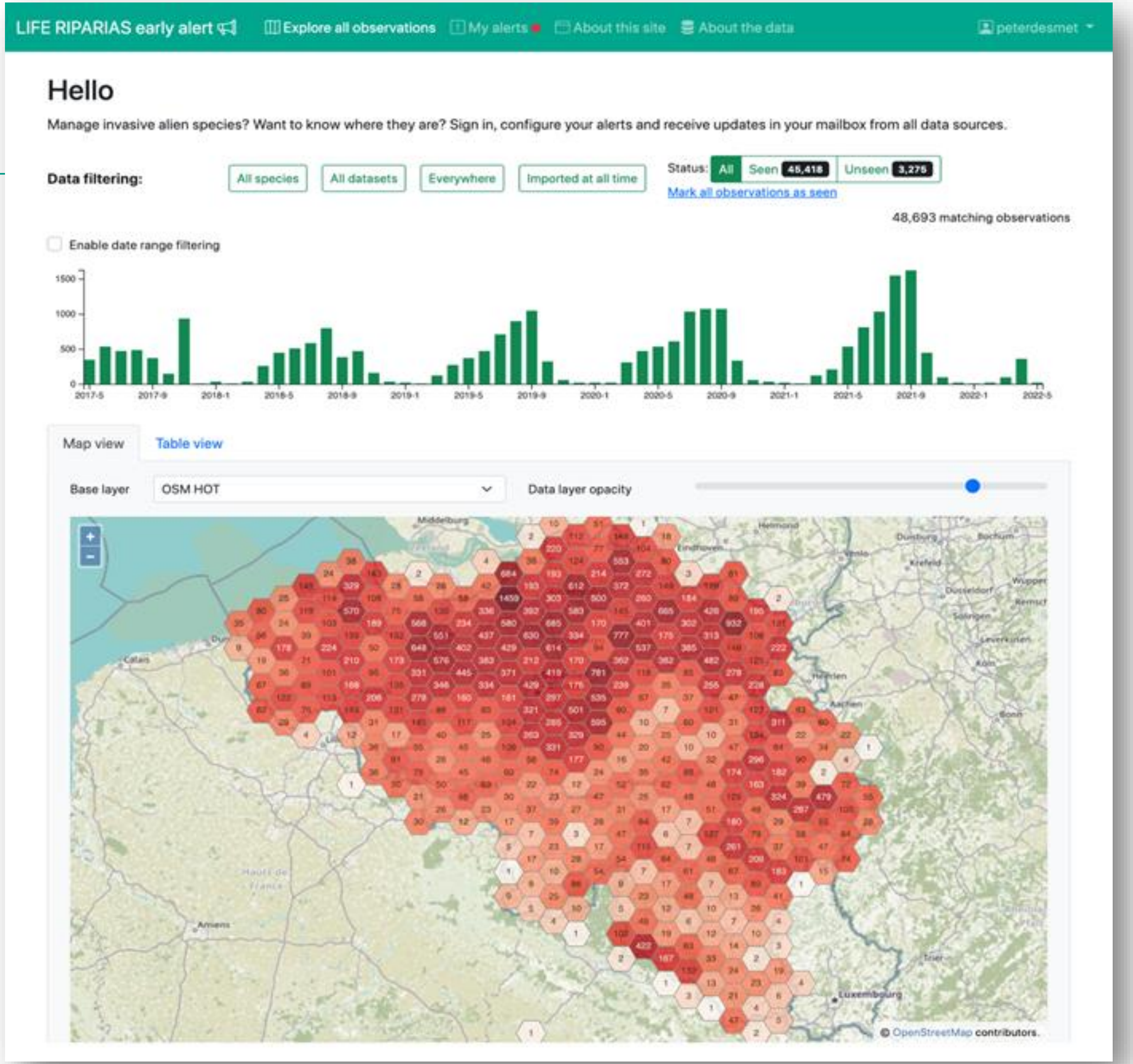
Technical tools to optimize the workflow



Early Alert

Belgian early warning hub

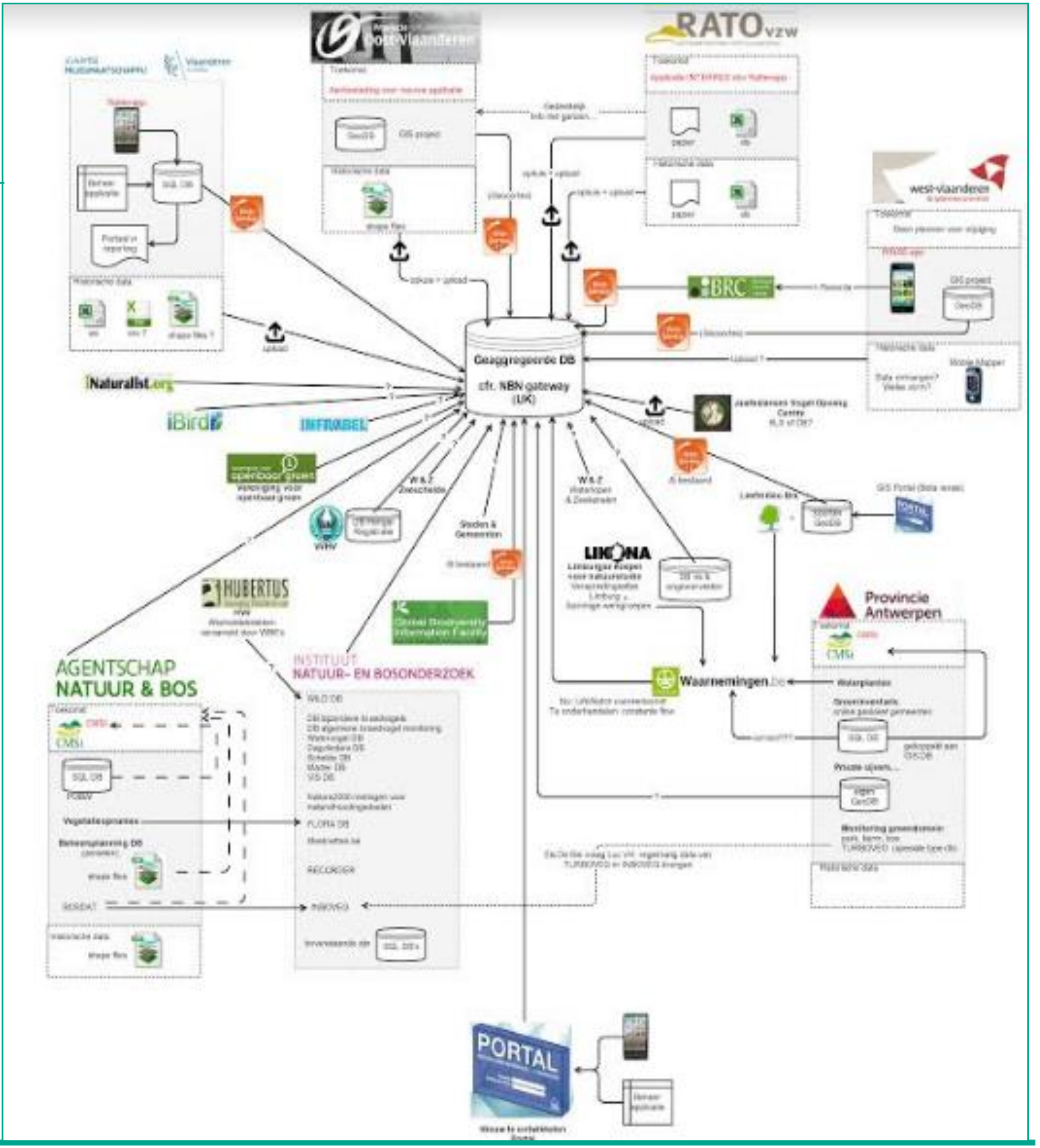
alert.riparias.be



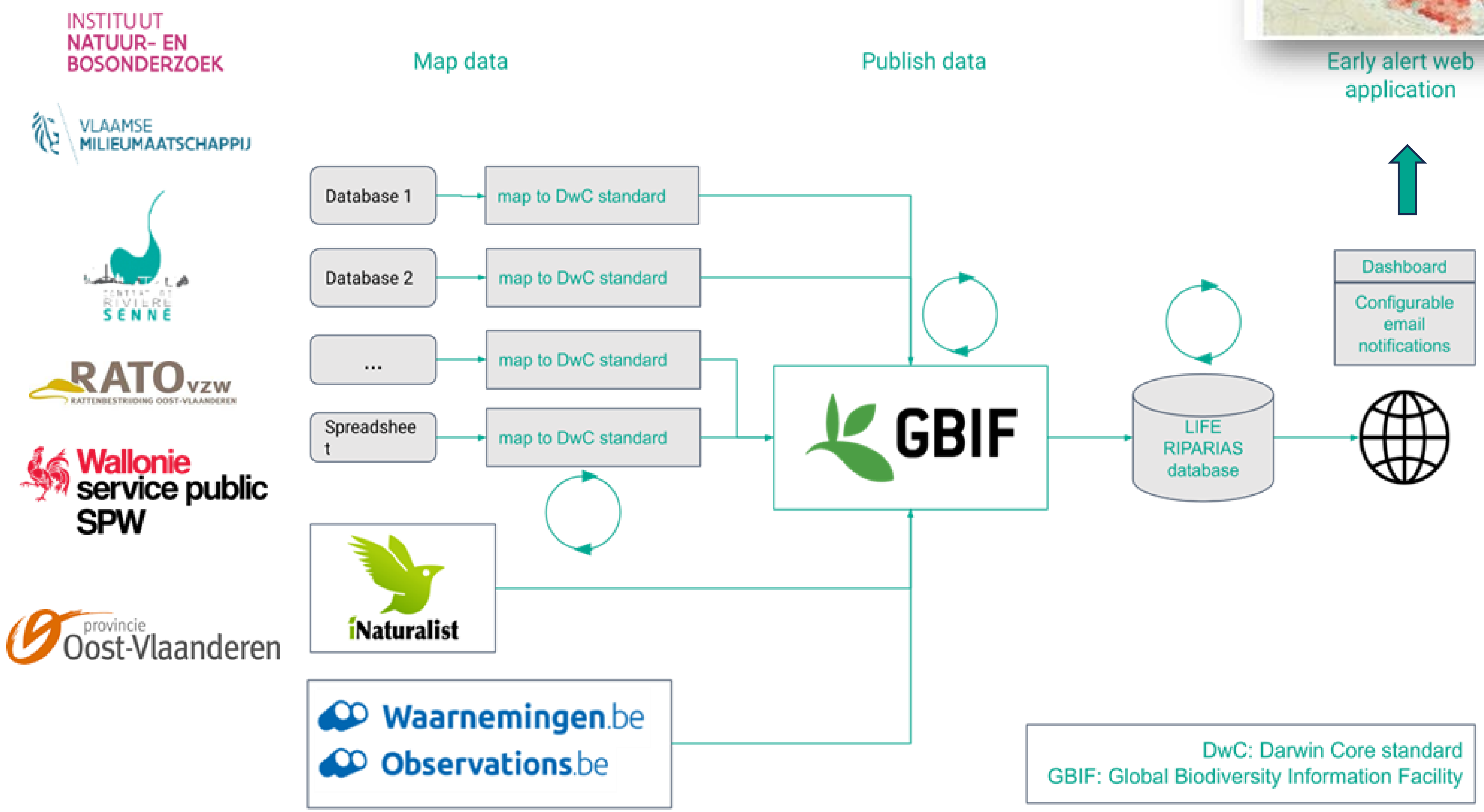
RIPARIAS

Early Alert: data sources

- Fragmented: ngo's, management actors, public authorities, projects and their apps
- Often in isolation, rarely entirely open, rarely standardized
- Technically a very complex ecosystem !



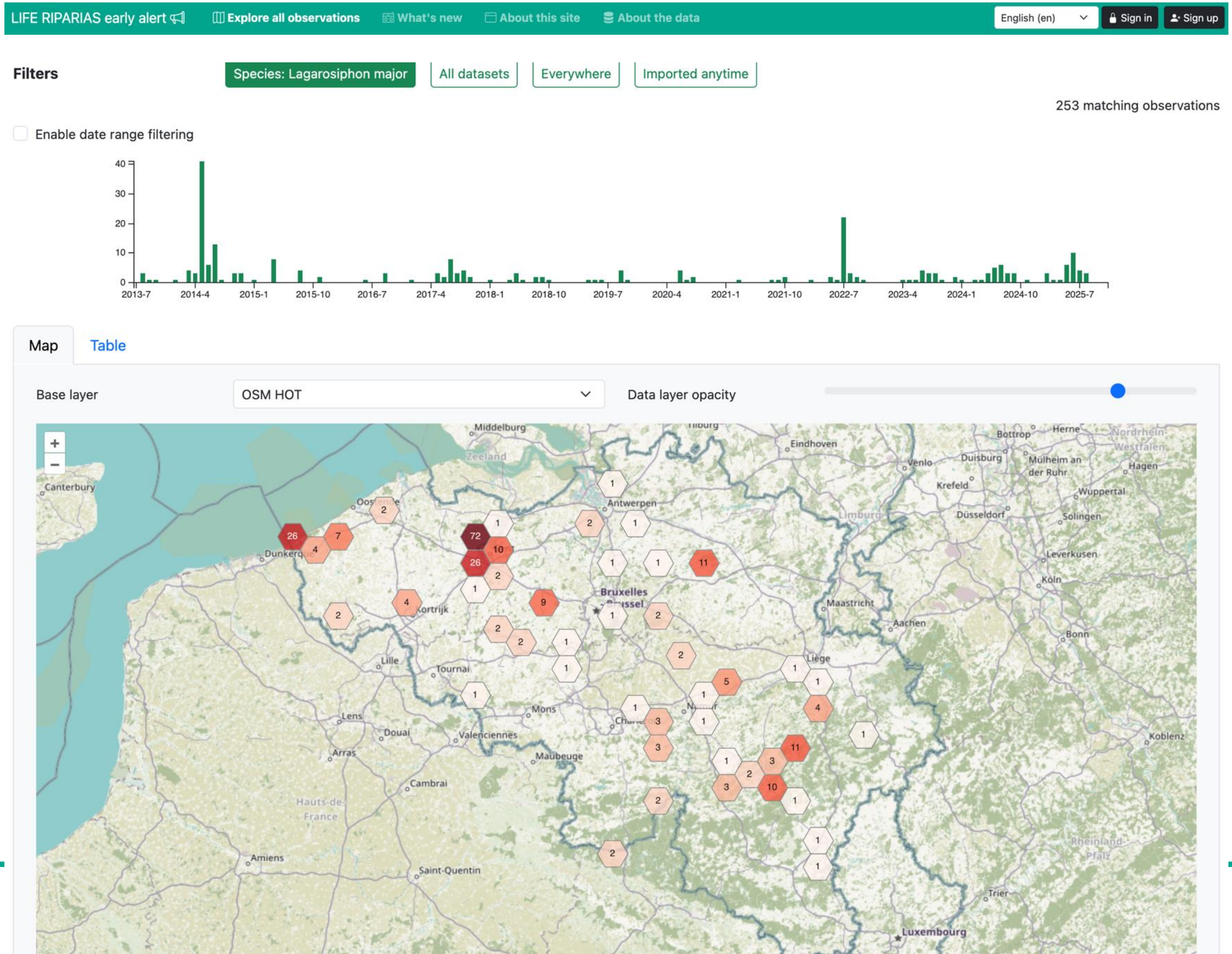
Early Alert: the data flow



Early Alert: web application

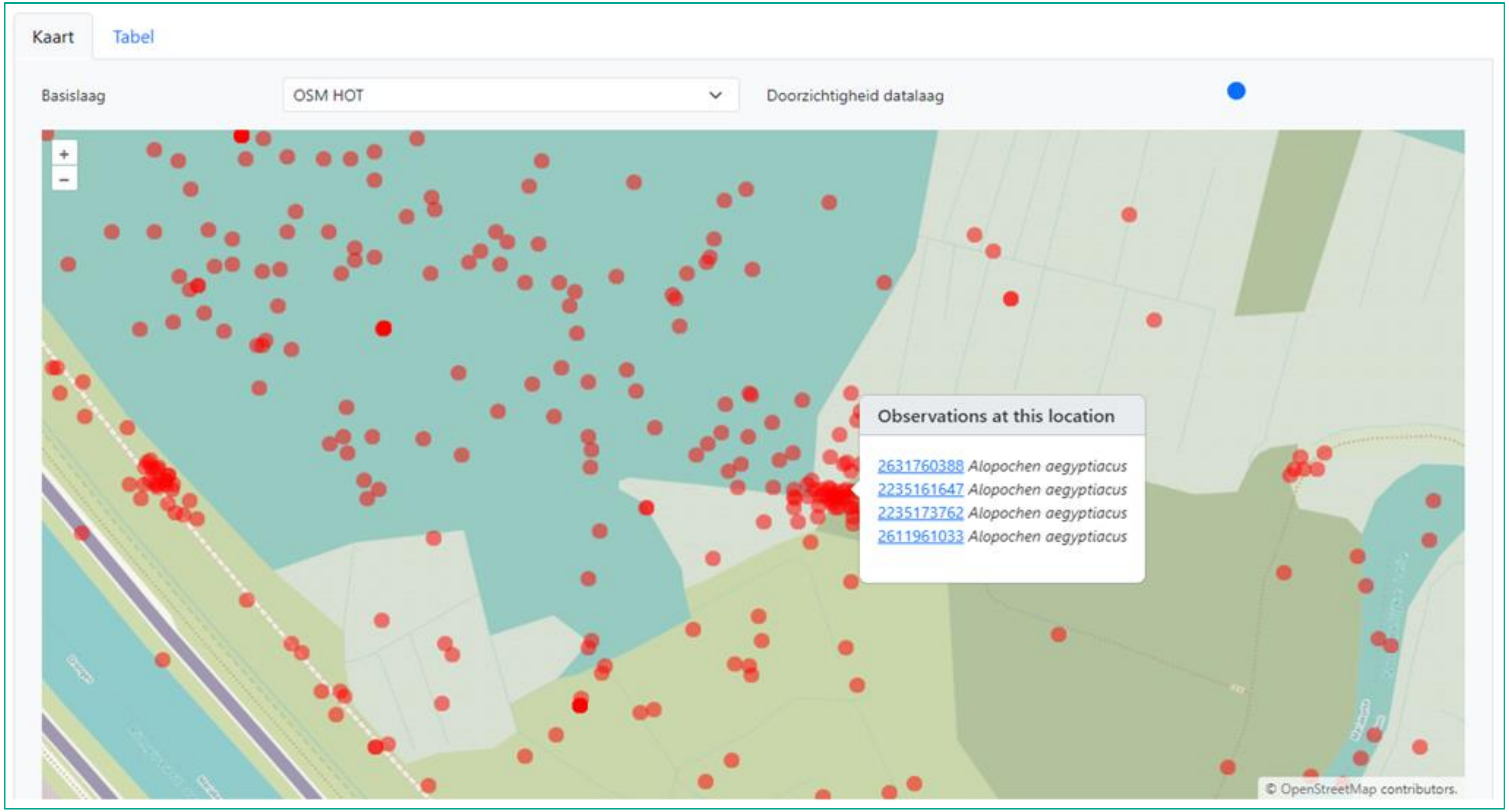
Open science lab for biodiversity

We make biodiversity research open and reproducible



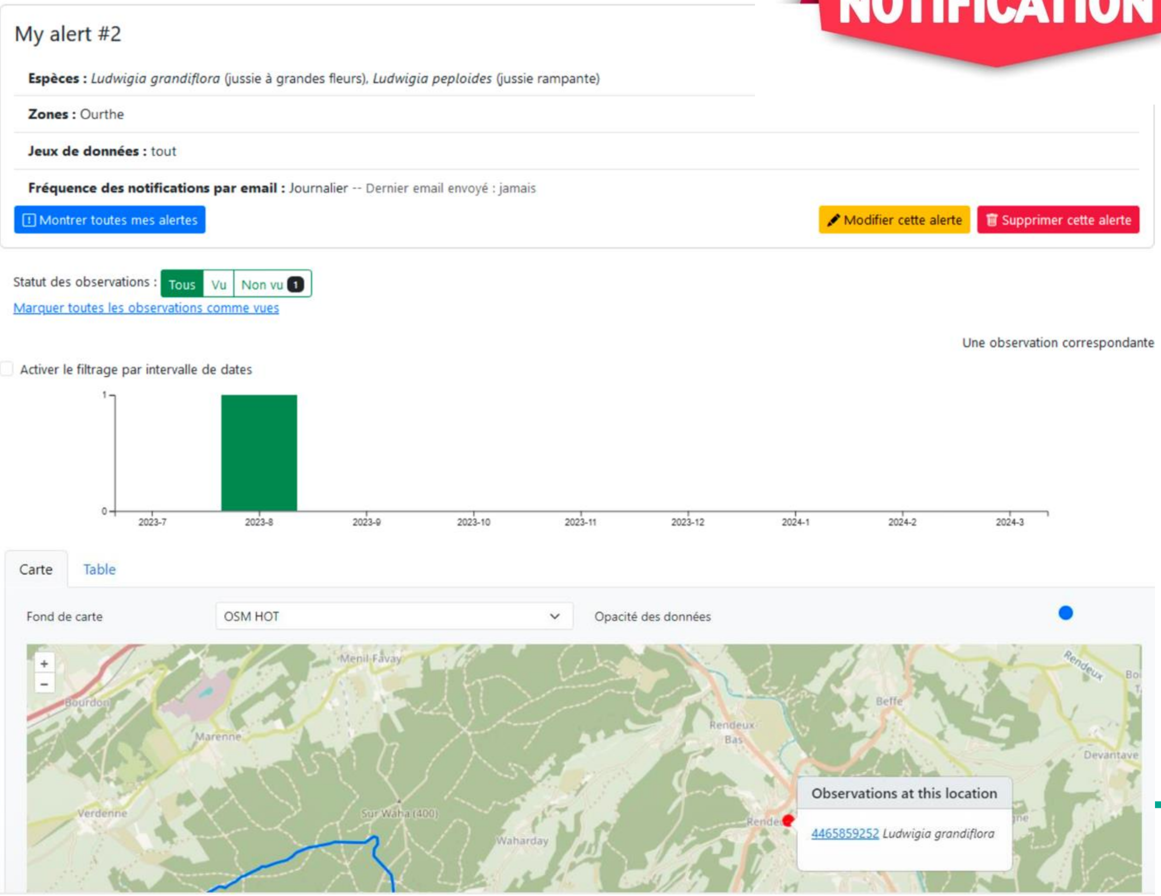
RIPARIAS

Early Alert: web application



Early Alert: web application

Possibility to receive a notification when a new record is made on a given area

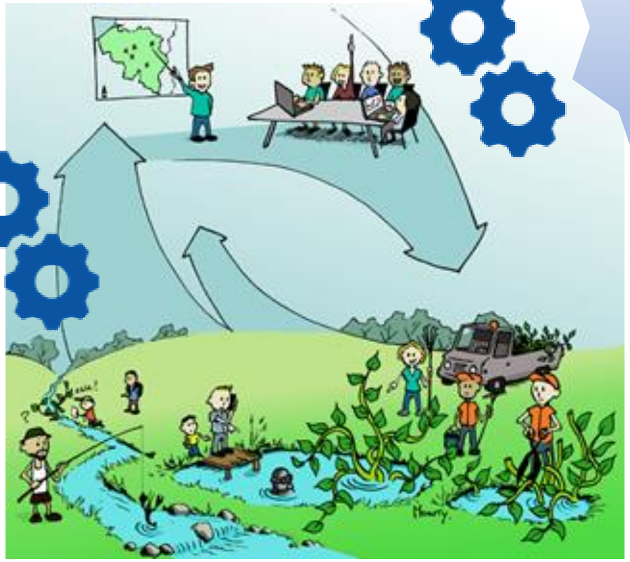


Rapid response

RIPARIAS

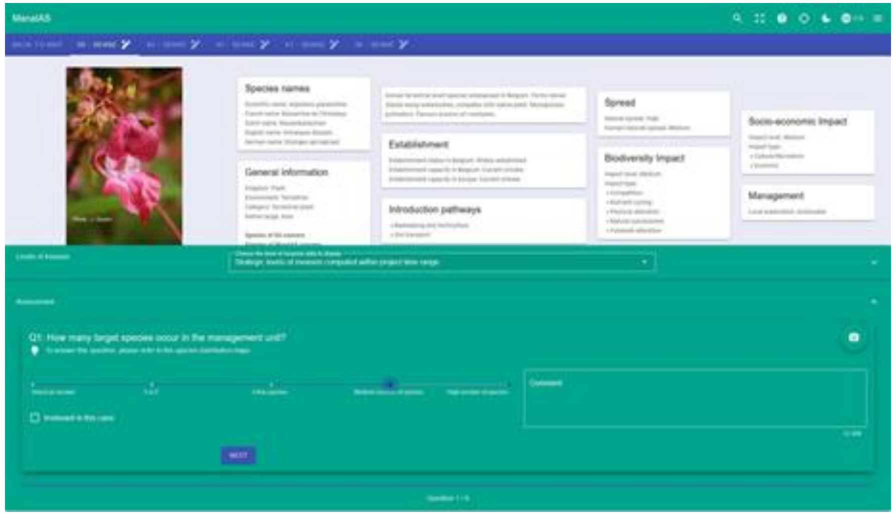
Technical tools to optimize the workflow

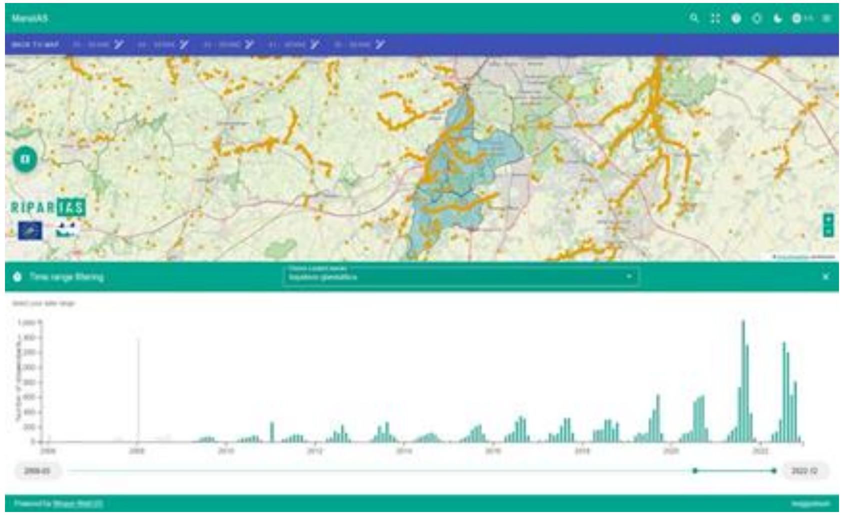
Early Alert



ManaIAS

ManaIAS: supporting decision making on management





- Common decision framework
- Spatially explicit
- Generic across diverse taxonomic groups
- Open source

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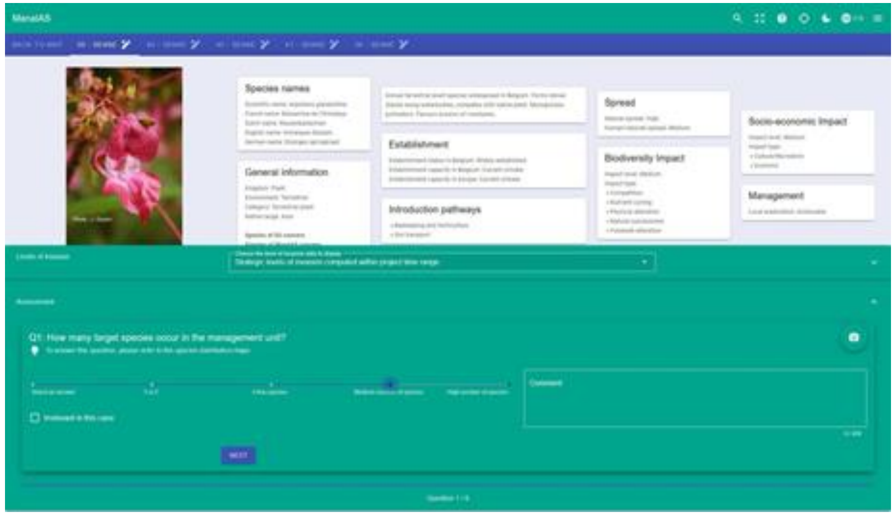

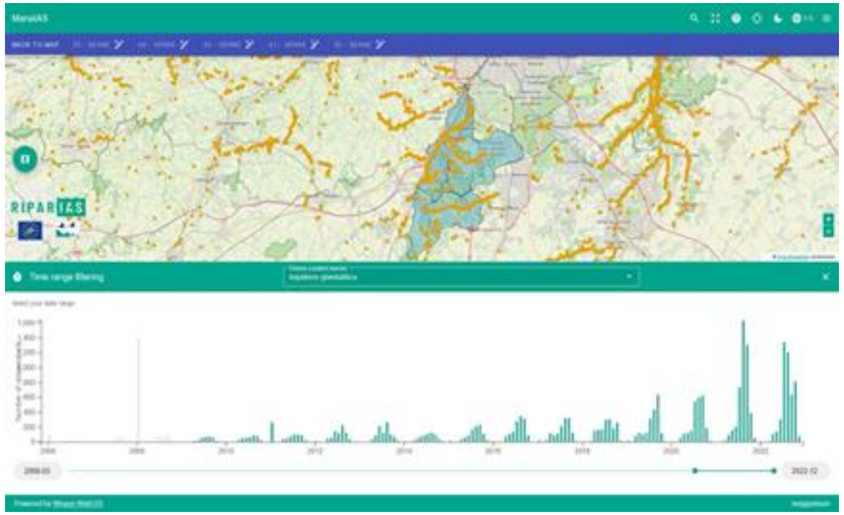

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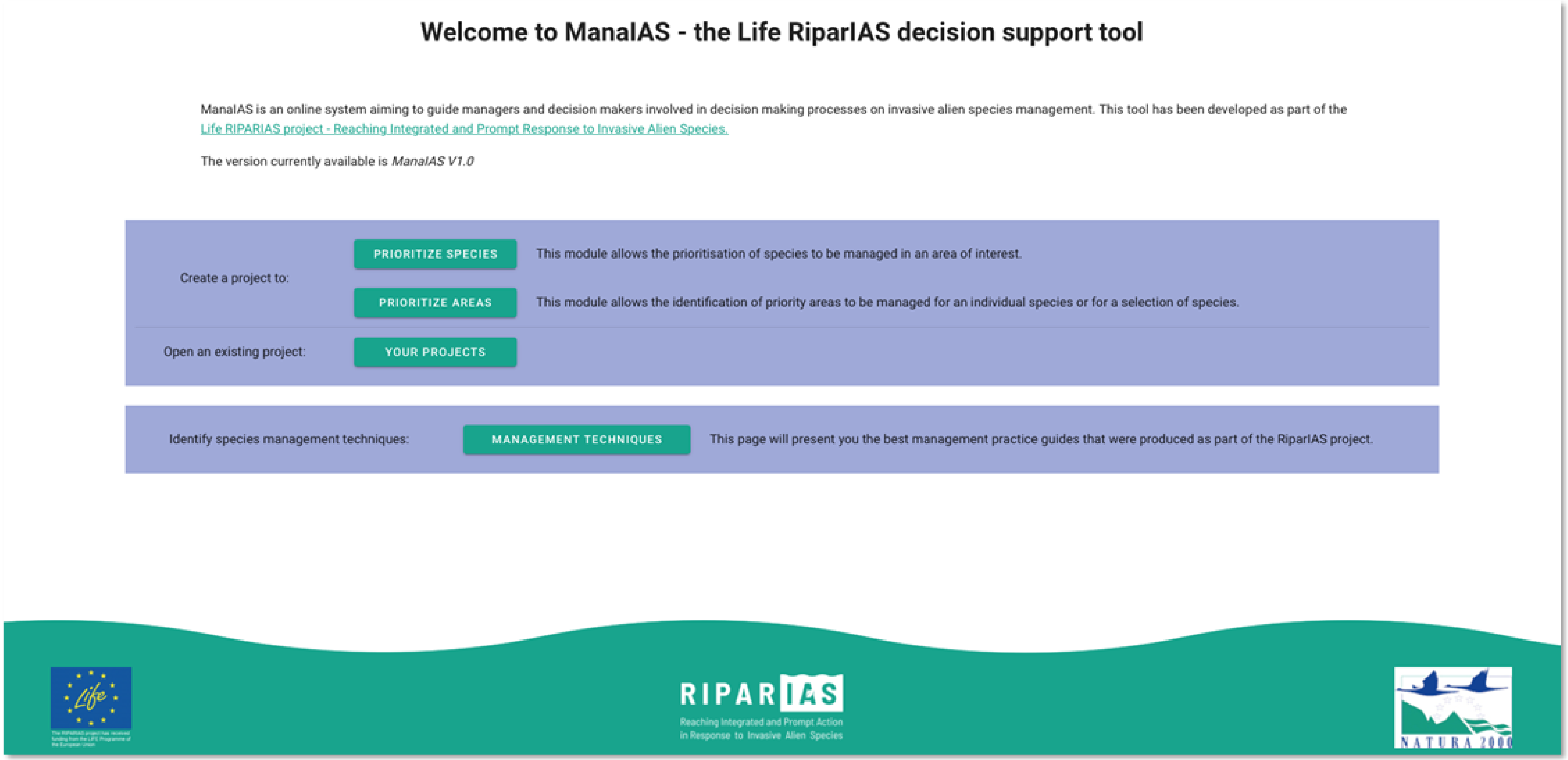
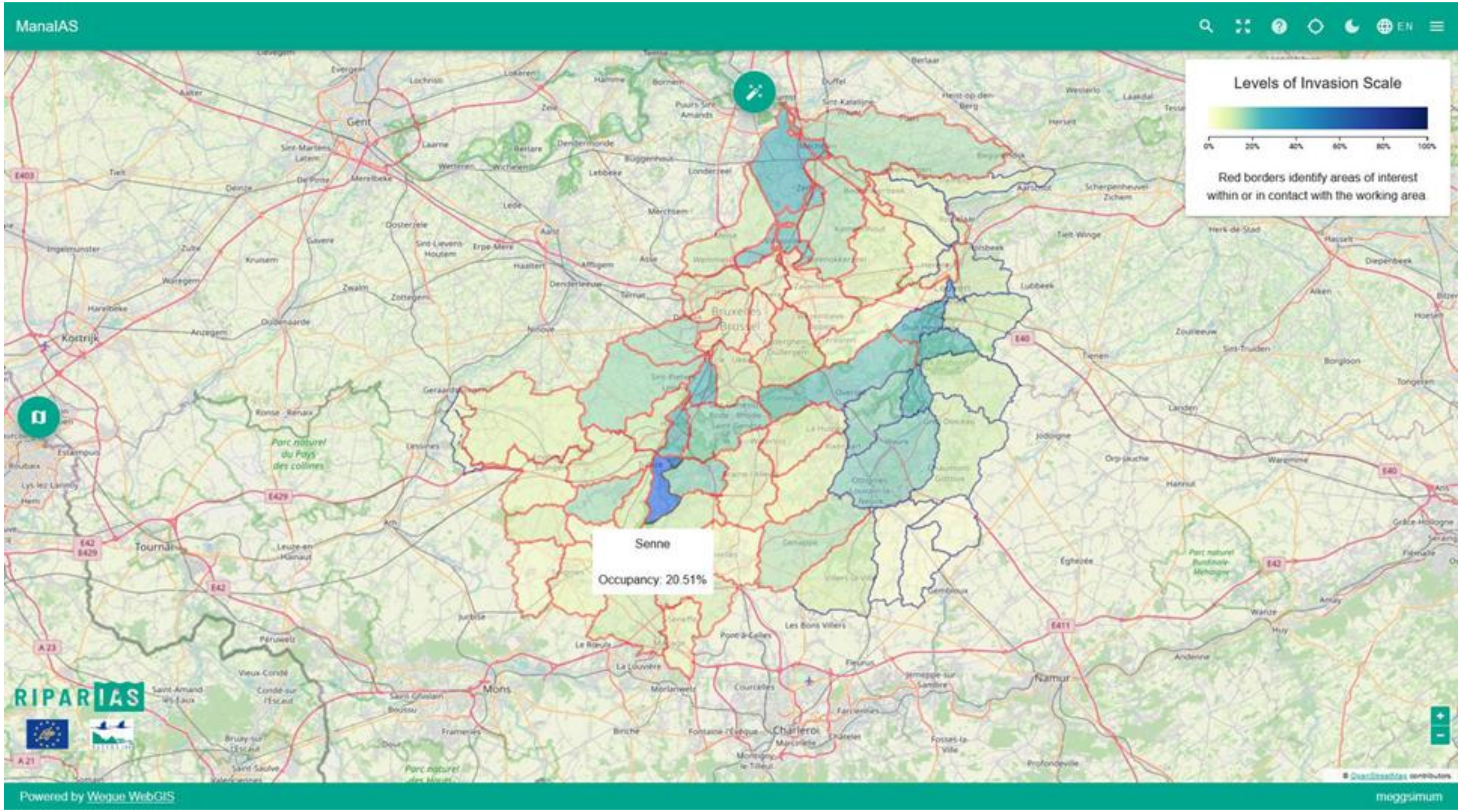
Prioritisation of actions:

- ➢ Which species?
- ➢ Where?
- ➢ How?

ManaIAS: web application

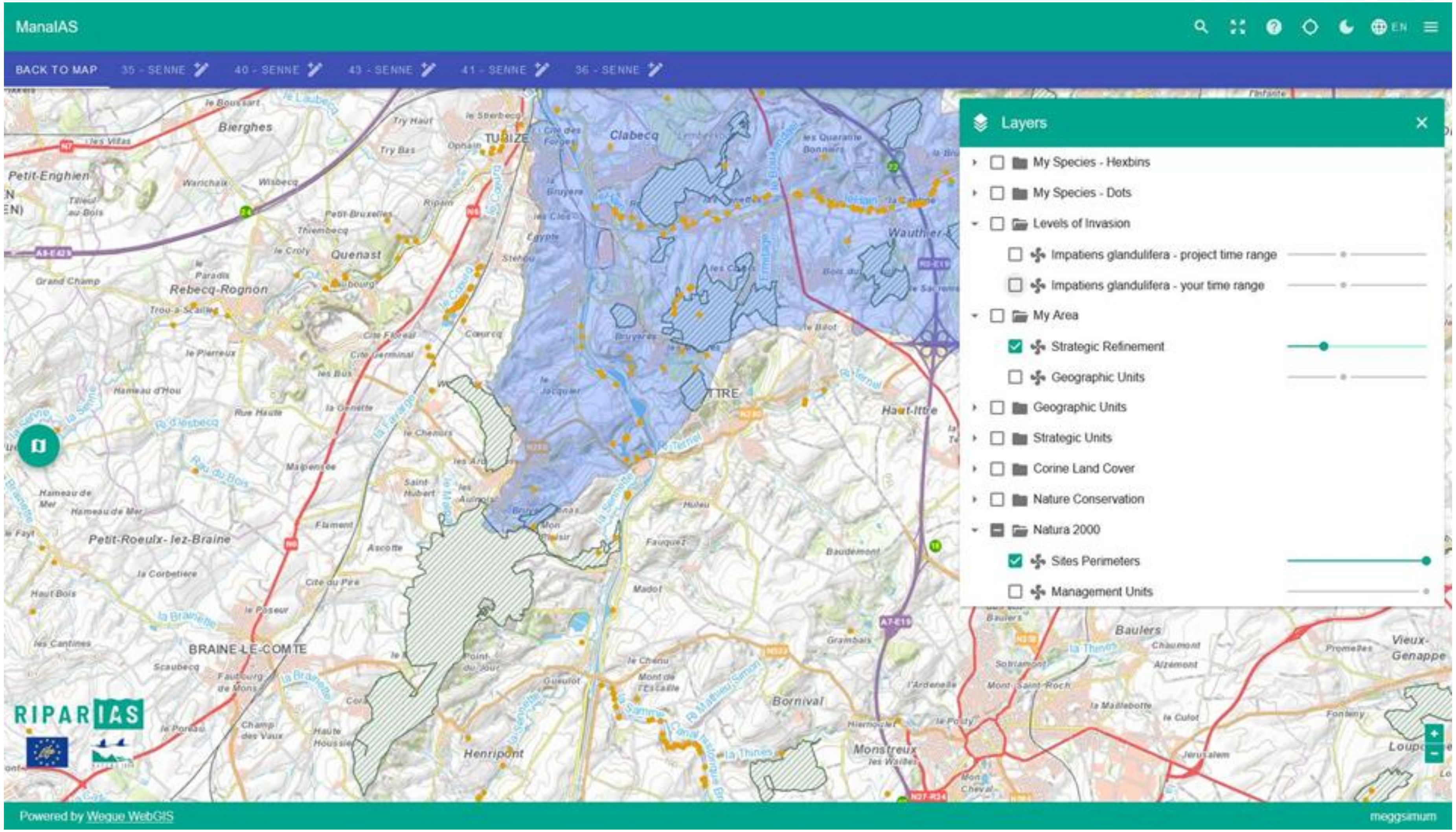


ManaIAS: web application – Invasion levels

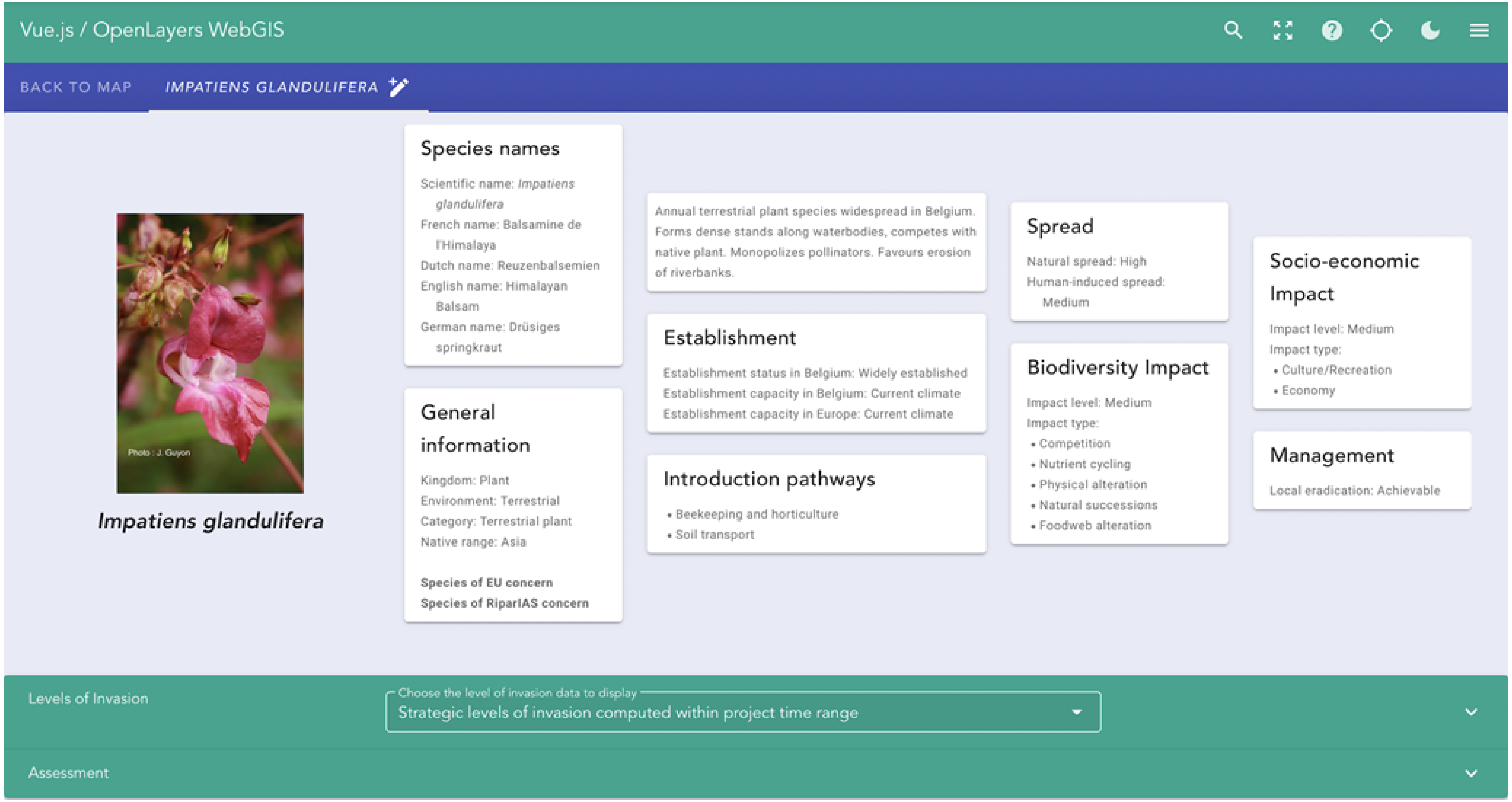


RIPARIAS

ManaIAS: web application - Layers

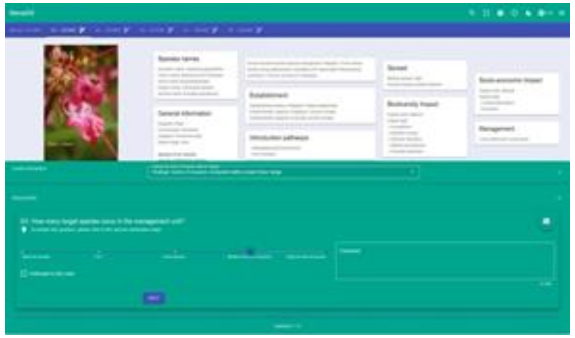


ManaIAS: web application – species ID sheets



ManaIAS: species management techniques

ManaIAS: web application – questionnaire

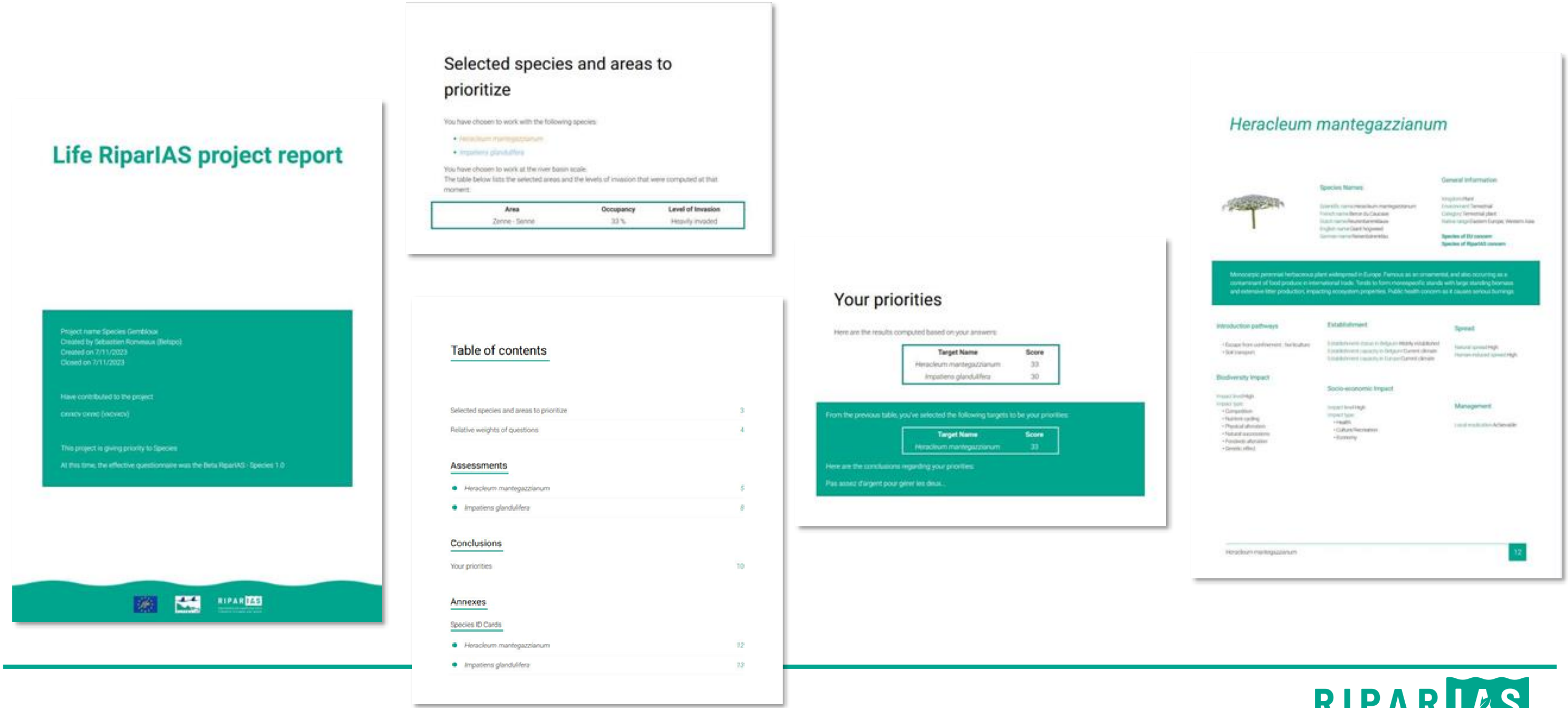


Criteria

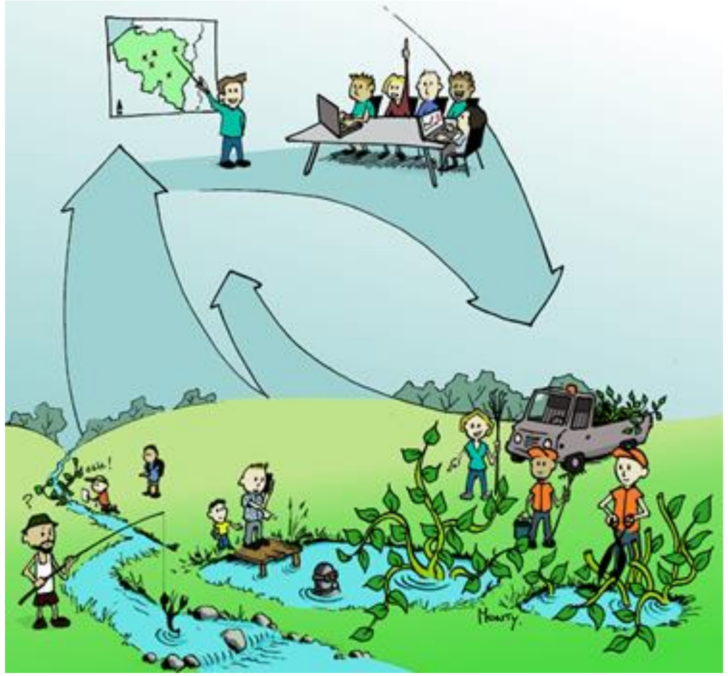
Possibility to weight differently

- Species of EU concern
- Regional concern
- Level of infestation
- Level of environmental impact
- Level of socio-economic impact
- Risk of further spread
- Risk of spread in neighbouring areas/countries
- Risk of re-invasion
- Invasion in high conservation areas
- Feasibiity of eradication

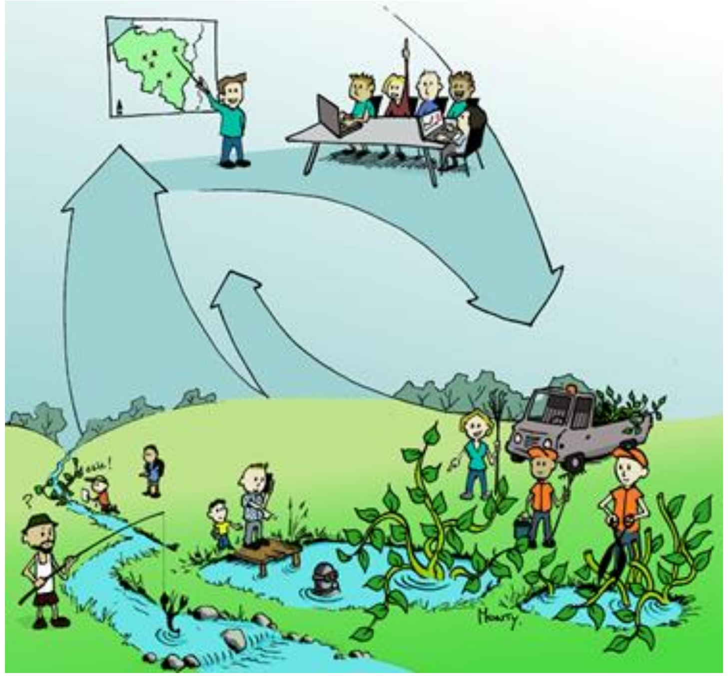
ManaIAS: reporting, transparency and replicability



From concept to reality: does it work?



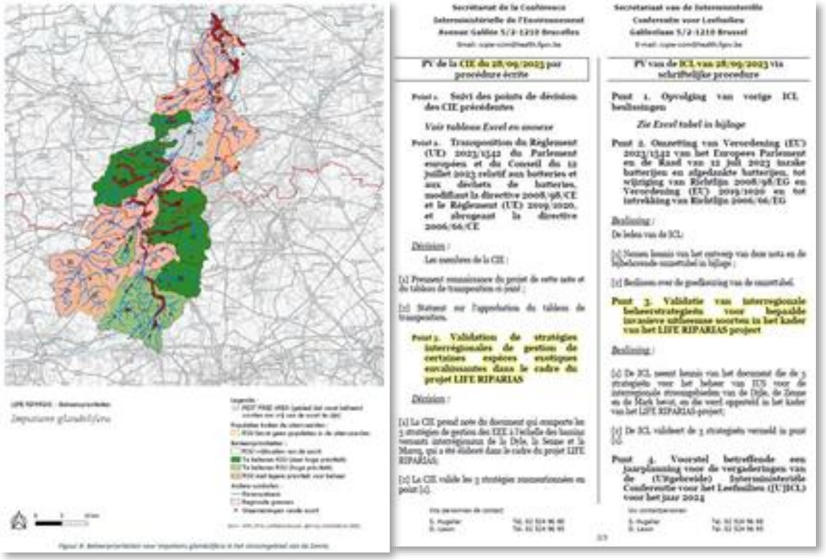
From concept to reality: it works in the pilot area



- Improved surveillance (x4 increase)
- Consistent and accepted management strategies
- Upstream to downstream ‘cleanup’ of widespread species
- > 40 local eradication of emerging species achieved in priority sites







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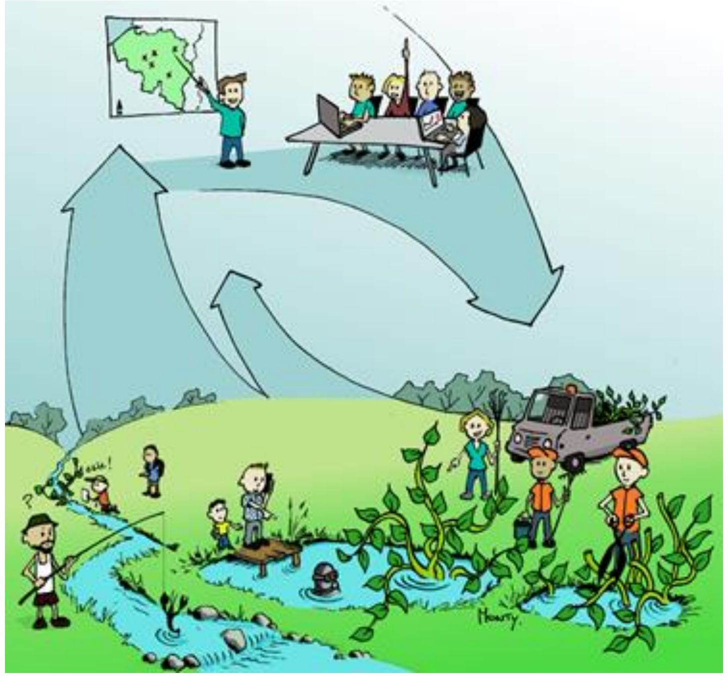

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Promoting the replication of the workflow in Europe

SAVE THE DATE

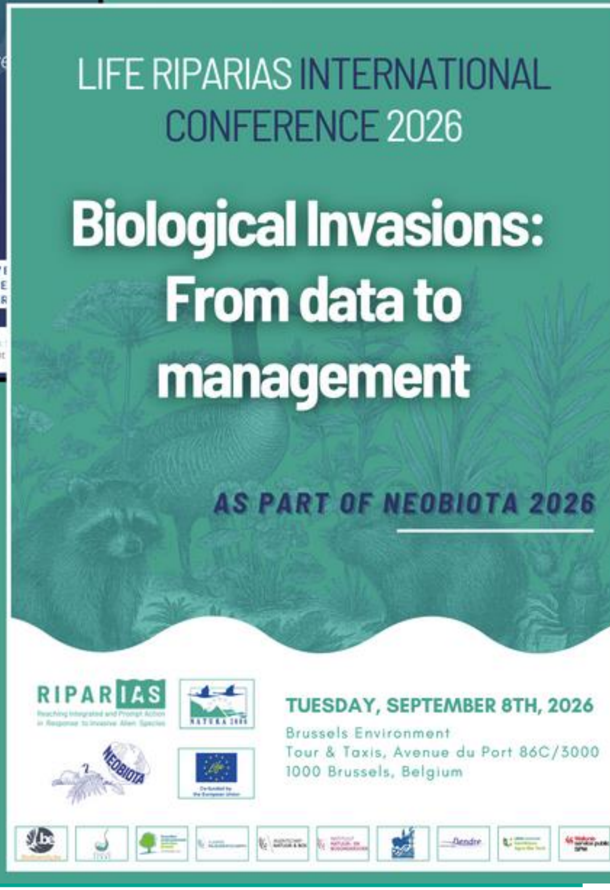
LIFE RIPARIAS International conference

BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS:
From Data to Management

As part of NEOBIOTA 2026

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2026

Brussels Environment
Tour & Taxis, Avenue du Port 86C/3000
1000 Brussels, Belgium



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