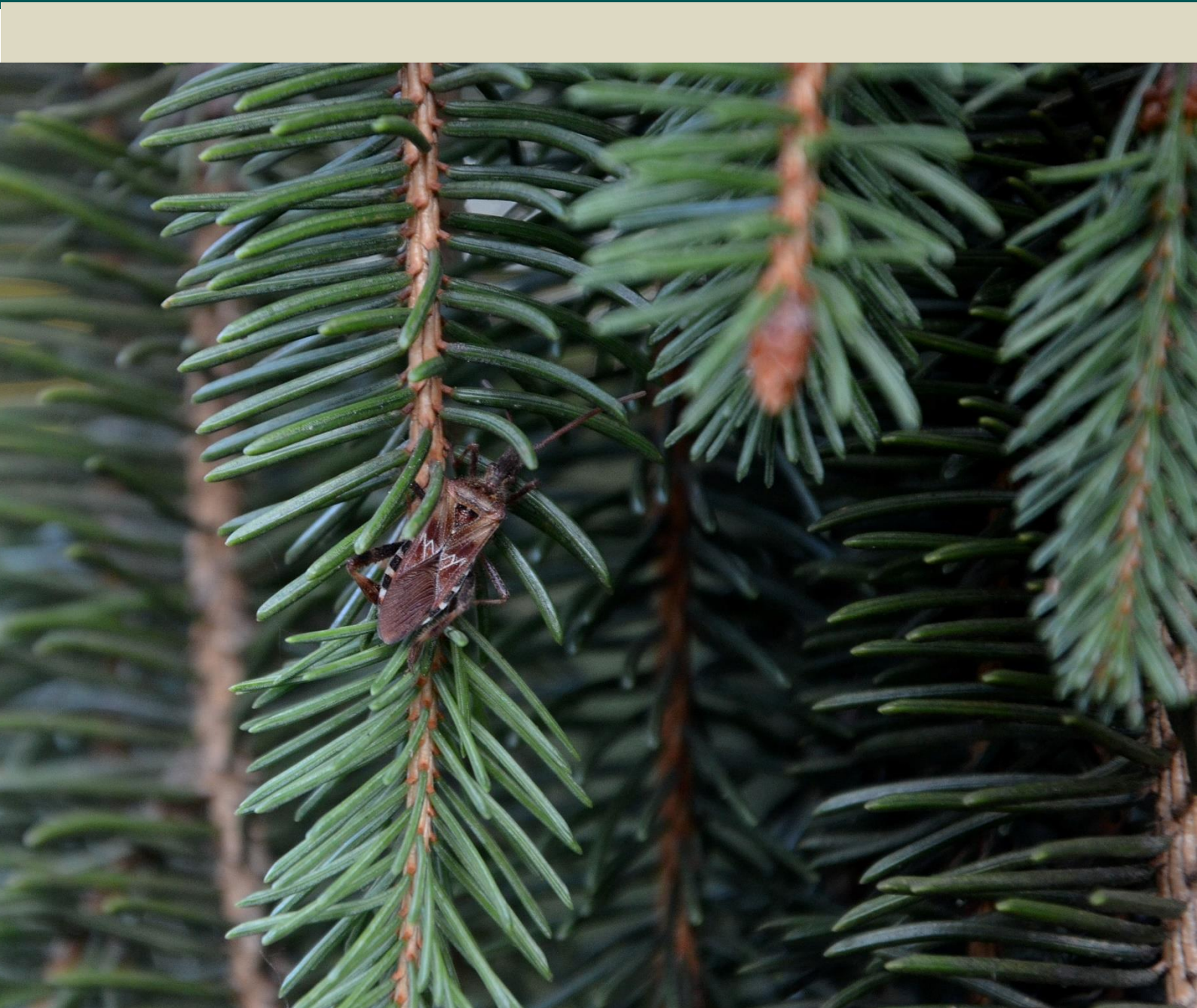




After LIFE Plan of the LIFE ARTEMIS project

output of the action E.1.2



COLOPHON

After LIFE Plan of the LIFE ARTEMIS project, output of the action E1.2

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INDEX

1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. ACTIVITIES OF THE AFTER LIFE PLAN	5
2.1 A.2 Establishment of the EWRR institutional framework.....	5
2.1.1 The EWRR institutional framework for IAS in forests	5
2.1.2 Proposals of example rapid response plans for IAS	6
2.2 A3. Development of the EWRR Training Programme.....	6
2.2.1 Alert List on IAS and priority pathways	6
2.2.2 A field guide to invasive alien species in forests	7
2.3 B.1 National raising awareness campaign on IAS.....	7
2.3.1 Popular brochure on IAS.....	7
2.3.2 Travelling exhibition	8
2.3.3 Lectures and guided walks for general public and forest owners, media relations	8
2.3.4 Educational movie.....	9
2.4 B2. EWRR training of professionals and volunteers	9
2.5 B3. Engaging foresters and citizen scientists in collecting IAS data	10
2.5.1 Centralized IAS information system	10
2.5.2 Promotion of the information system among professional users and volunteers	11
2.6 B4. Involving volunteers in the management of invasive alien plants in urban forests	12
2.6.1 Platform for IAS management initiatives.....	12
2.6.2 Development of the IAS Action Plan	12
2.7 B5. Canker of maple awareness campaign.....	13
2.7.1 Lectures and excursions for private forest owners	13
2.7.2 Popular brochure on Eutypella	13
2.8 D1. Razširjanje rezultatov projekta LIFE ARTEMIS do splošne javnosti.....	14
3. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE AFTER LIFE PLAN	15

1. INTRODUCTION

In Slovenia, forests cover as much as 58% of the country's surface, which ranks the country on the 3rd place among European countries considering the forest cover. In recent years, the majority of Slovenian forests have changed significantly, as natural disturbances (windbreaks, icebreaks) were followed by outbreaks of bark beetles. Forestry today faces new challenges, including invasive alien species (IAS). In some places, they already have a strong effect on individual tree species because of diseases or pests, and in some places invasive alien plants inhibit the natural rejuvenation of forests. In addition to various negative impacts on biodiversity, invasive alien species can also have serious economic impacts, and some of the species also have impacts on human health.

In the LIFE ARTEMIS project, we strengthened Slovenia's capacity for successful action upon the introduction of new invasive alien species (IAS) into Slovenian forests through various activities. We have contributed to raising awareness and educating the general public about the problems posed by invasive alien species and how we can take action against them. Tools and proposals for systemic solutions for the establishment of an effective Early Warning and Rapid Response system (EWRR) for invasive alien species have been developed in order to reduce the negative impacts of invasive alien species in forests.

In the "After LIFE" plan of the LIFE ARTEMIS project, in addition to a brief overview and description of the state of actions at the end of the project, we define activities and results of the project that will continue after its completion in October 2020. We also give possible sources of (co)financing for the continuation of these activities and results. With the After-LIFE plan, we want to ensure the continuation of information and awareness-raising about IAS and to continue the activities that will enable the establishment of the EWRR system for IAS. With the plan, we also want to ensure the continuation of the project outputs, such as the IAS information system "Invazivke", the platform for IAS management initiatives and IAS awareness-raising channels (project website and social media).

2. ACTIVITIES OF THE AFTER LIFE PLAN

2.1 A.2 Establishment of the EWRR institutional framework

2.1.1 *The EWRR institutional framework for IAS in forests*

One of the main goals of the LIFE ARTEMIS project is to establish an effective institutional system of early warning and rapid response (EWRR) for invasive alien species in forests. The EWRR system is a key tool for reducing the negative impacts of IAS, as it enables response to new alien species when they occur are therefore still in a limited area and can still be successfully limited and stopped with relatively little efforts and costs.

In the project, we prepared the ***Proposal of the Early Warning and Rapid Response System (EWRR) for invasive alien species in forests***, which was coordinated and presented to the competent institutions. An appropriate legal framework is paramount for the effectiveness of the EWRR system. However, the public and private partners involved in the EWRR system must have clearly defined authorities and tasks. The EWRR proposal defines the institutions involved, the steps of an organized rapid response and the tasks of the central body, which coordinates and supervises the entire action process and provides the necessary financial resources. Until the completion of the LIFE ARTEMIS project, the system proposal had not yet been included in the relevant legislation.

Plan for continuation

Further communication with the relevant institutions and policy-makers will be required to ensure the adoption of the proposed EWRR system and the integration of the tasks related to EWRR into the work of all partner organizations in the LIFE ARTEMIS project. The goal of the After-LIFE activities is to continue to promote and emphasize the importance and need to establish an effective EWRR system for IAS. Based on the report of this activity, the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning will be able to amend and expand the legislation and set tasks for all key institutions. **The partner organizations** involved in the LIFE ARTEMIS project will add additional tasks related to the new institutional framework of the EWRR system for IAS in forests to their annual work programs only after this change. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute (SFI)** and the **Slovenia Forest Service (SFS)**, as authorized institutions, are already included in the system of surveying quarantine pests according to the plant health regulations, as part of early warning system for alien pests and diseases. The **Slovenia Forest Service** also ensures the protection of forests in accordance with forestry regulations by regularly monitoring the condition of forests, ensuring sanitary felling and maintaining or directing the tree composition of forests similar to the natural tree composition.

In the first half of 2021, some activities to improve the alien species management system will continue within the Interreg project Sava TIES (Preserving Sava River Basin Habitats through Transnational Management of Invasive Alien Species). The **Institute Symbiosis (ZS)** participates in the project as an external contractor and oversees preparing proposals for strengthening policies in the field of management of IAS in the Sava River Basin countries (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia). As part of the project, trainings for the implementers of measures will also take place, and the promotion of proposals by decision-makers will also include a meeting with decision-makers, which will promote, among other things, the introduction of the proposed EWRR system prepared in the LIFE

ARTEMIS project. **All partner organizations** will monitor the preparation of the new legislation in the field of IAS and based on their expertise and practical experience, propose appropriate solutions for the effective management of IAS.

2.1.2 Proposals of example rapid response plans for IAS

In the project, we have prepared proposals for rapid response plans for 5 IAS, based on the prepared EWRR system for IAS. The plans address the competencies and organizations involved in a rapid and coordinated response when a particular alien species is found. Proposals of plans for rapid response were prepared for selected alien plant species - kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*) and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), alien mammals - gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) and raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonator*) and alien insect species - the Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*).

Plan for continuation

The proposed rapid response plans will serve as model examples based on which plans for other IAS can be prepared. The proposed rapid response plans will need to be aligned with any changes when new IAS legislation is adopted and the EWRR system is set up, so that they can be applied directly. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will take care of the adaptation of prepared rapid response plans when the EWRR system will be adopted.

2.2 A3. Development of the EWRR Training Programme

2.2.1 Alert List on IAS and priority pathways

As part of the preparation of a training programme for the involvement of various stakeholders in the EWRR system, we prepared an alert and observation list of IAS for Slovenian forests. The warning list includes species that potentially pose a threat to our forests, as there is a possibility that they will settle in Slovenian forests in the future and cause ecological and economic damage. We selected species that are associated with forest area, are considered invasive in other countries with similar environmental and climatic conditions, or even occur in the vicinity of Slovenia. We also included some plant species that are already present in Slovenia, but their populations are small and localized and can therefore still be completely eradicated. The original IAS alert list, created in 2017, was updated in 2019 and new species were added to it. The current IAS alert list for the forest includes: 58 alien plants, 14 alien species of fungi, 15 alien species of insects and 7 alien species of mammals. For the species on the list, also an analysis of the main pathways was prepared. In addition, an observation list was prepared which includes some more common and already widespread alien species that are known to people and through which we can check the functionality of the IAS reporting information system, while also motivating the public to report data on present species. Data on these species also allow us to monitor their spread and invasiveness. The alert lists are regularly updated. The lists were prepared based on a review of relevant literature and based on the lists of IASs and obtained current data from experts from neighboring countries. For these IAS, a high probability of spreading into Slovenia exists.

Plan for continuation

In the next 5 years we will update the IAS alert lists for forests in cooperation with external experts, considering the European and Slovenian IAS alert lists. If necessary, an updated alert list for IAS in forests will be prepared by the **Slovenian Forestry Institute**. Based on the signed agreements on long-term cooperation with 4 neighboring countries, the **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will maintain regular contacts with institutions from all neighboring countries and exchange information on the emergence of new IAS as part of regular cooperation and potential joint projects.

2.2.2 A field guide to invasive alien species in forests

IAS from the alert and observation lists were presented in the ***Field guide for the Identification of alien species in forests***. In the field guide the species are described, presented with photographs and illustrations of important determination characteristics, and similar species with which they could be confused. For each species, the most important pathways are also presented. The field guide was produced and published in 2017 in a total circulation of 1,400 copies. In 2019, when updated IAS alert list was prepared, we reprinted it in the second edition in a circulation of 2,000 copies. In 2020, due to the demand among users, we prepared the third updated edition, which was published in a circulation of 1,500 copies.

Plan for continuation

The field manual proved to be a very useful tool in the field and was very well received among users. The field manual will remain available in the online version on the project website for at least 5 years after the end of the project: <https://www.tujerodne-vrste.info/projekt-life-artemis/publikacije-porocila/>. Printed copies of the third edition of the field guide will be available even after the end of the project. Printed copies are available at the **Slovenian Forestry Institute**, who will take care of free distribution to those interested.

2.3 B.1 National raising awareness campaign on IAS

2.3.1 Popular brochure on IAS

In May 2017, we published the brochure ***Alien Species in Slovenian Forests***, which presents alien species on 32 pages, their pathways of introduction, negative impacts on nature, the economy and human health, and ways to prevent their spread. The EWRR system for IAS in forests and the web and mobile application Invazivke are described. The LIFE ARTEMIS project and its activities in which readers can get involved are also presented. It was printed in a circulation of 40,000 copies. We distributed the brochure at all project events. The brochure was also sent as a supplement to the subscribers of the newspaper "Kmečki glas". It was sent also to all forest owners in the Landscape Park Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška hill, where IAS in the inventory action were found and later removed in eradication actions. The brochure is available on the project website: <https://www.tujerodne-vrste.info/projekt-life-artemis/publikacije-porocila/>.

Plan for continuation

The remaining copies of the popular brochure will continue to be distributed to the interested public and it will stay available on the project website for another 5 years.

2.3.2 Travelling exhibition

One of the main goals of the LIFE ARTEMIS project is to raise awareness of the general public about the issue of IAS in forests. The traveling exhibition entitled ***Invasive species on the way*** on 12 stand-alone roll-up posters presents alien species, their impacts on the environment, the economy and human health, possible measures to prevent damage and the activities of the LIFE ARTEMIS project. In addition to posters, we also prepared 3 interactive elements, through which visitors of the exhibition can actively learn about the influences of alien species and with which we urge them to prevent their introduction and spread. During the project, the exhibition toured on 29 locations across Slovenia. In 2020, the exhibition was renovated due to wear and damage of the panel holders (roll-up cassettes were replaced), thus ensuring its further use even after the end of the project.

Plan for continuation

At the end of the project, the traveling exhibition will be available to secondary and primary schools in Slovenia. The schools will agree among themselves to move the exhibition from one school to another, which means no additional costs or work for the project team. It will also be available to other interested institutions or exhibition venues. The **Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation** (IRSNC) will continue to manage the administration and the list of additional exhibition locations.

2.3.3 Lectures and guided walks for general public and forest owners, media relations

To raise awareness of the general public, we carried out several activities. At the opening of the exhibition or later during the exhibition, we prepared a lecture at each location, in which we presented the alien species, their influences, methods of action and project activities. The event was mainly attended by locals and forest owners. We also raised public awareness in the field and conducted guided walks, where we introduced the participants to alien species found in their home surroundings. Participants learned how to identify invasive alien species and how to be included in the EWRR system. After guided walks in the first project year we focused on more specific target audiences, to whom topics of IAS and nature protection were closer or organized guided walks together with other nature related events. We were also raising awareness about IAS through media, namely through press releases, preparation of articles in newspapers and magazines, participation in interviews, the organization of press conferences and answers to journalists' questions. Between 2017 and 2020, we conducted 25 lectures for local communities together with exhibition and 25 additional lectures for the interested public. The lectures were attended by a total of 1337 people. We have organized 27 guided walks, which were attended by a total of 947 participants. We have sent out 42 press releases, organized 3 press conferences and participated in interviews about 30-times or with prepared statements to the media.

Plan for continuation

Public awareness activities on IAS issues will be continued by the **Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation**. Every year, the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation will carry out at least 5 IAS awareness raising events as part of its awareness-raising activities, through lectures, guided walks, participation in nature conservation days, alien species removal campaigns, media work, etc. The **Slovenia Forest Service** will include the field of work with IAS in its educational activities for forest owners. The general public will also be made aware of the IAS issues through articles in media, e.g., while providing ornamental Christmas trees from forests, new IAS findings, etc.

2.3.4 Educational movie

To raise public awareness, we made a 20-minute educational film in which we presented the importance of Slovenian forests, the issue of IAS and ways to take action to prevent negative effects, and the LIFE ARTEMIS project. The film has been released bilingually (in Slovene and with English subtitles) on 300 DVDs and is also freely available on the LIFE ARTEMIS profile on YouTube via link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QnbK911IFo0&t=12s>.

Plan for continuation

The educational film will continue to be available on the YouTube channel of the LIFE ARTEMIS project. The distribution of the DVDs to interested audiences and schools will continue even after the end of the project. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will take care of the free distribution of DVDs with the movie.

2.4 B2. EWRR training of professionals and volunteers

The goal of the Action B.2 was to build capacity through training of target groups for the implementation of the system of early warning and rapid response (EWRR) for IAS in forests. The trainings were conducted adjusted to different target groups. First, workshop for EWRR trainers was prepared. Trained regional coordinators then conducted regional EWRR trainings for forestry professionals and other professional fields related to forests and forestry. We focused on educating the public and forest owners at regional EWRR trainings for private forest owners and volunteers. We also organized trainings for employees in forestry related businesses.

Plan for continuation

The **Slovenia Forest Service** will continue to train foresters, professional workers and forest owners and will add trainings to their regular educational programmes. In the next 5 years, the Slovenia Forest Service will provide training related to the EWRR system for employees in internal workshops and lectures.

The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will communicate important updates of the EWRR system for forests (e.g., the arrival of a new IAS, new methods) to the experts of the Slovenia Forest Service at regular annual meetings, which set priorities in the field of forest protection (within the Public Forestry Service and plant health tasks, Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection). Important innovations related to the EWRR system for IAS in forests, especially for alien diseases and

pests, will be presented to the general professional public at seminars and workshops on forest protection, organized annually by the **Slovenian Forestry Institute** and the **Slovenia Forest Service**. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will maintain international cooperation with professional institutions in the field of IAS in forests from neighboring countries based on signed memoranda of cooperation.

The **Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation** plans to prepare recommendations for the handling of construction machinery to not promote or even prevent the inadvertent spread of iAS, which may also be helpful for recommendations in forestry. Some of these recommendations have already been prepared by the Slovenian Forestry Institute. Within the framework of these guidelines, the Slovenia Forest Service will be able to provide information to employees and implement these lessons in the guidelines for work in the forest.

2.5 B3. Engaging foresters and citizen scientists in collecting IAS data

2.5.1 Centralized IAS information system

In the LIFE ARTEMIS project, the Slovenian Forestry Institute has developed a publicly available electronic information system for collecting data on invasive alien species (IAS), which includes the web and mobile application called *Invazivke*. The Invazivke Information System also connects and integrates several existing information systems that already collect IAS data. By the end of October 2020, over 17,500 IAS observations had been entered into the system via the mobile and web application. The Information System also brings together 9 other databases that collect IAS data, and the exchange of data from many of them takes place regularly and automatically. At the end of October 2020, a total of more than 75,000 data on IAS in Slovenia were collected in the information system. The information system also enables public viewing of data and their export in the desired form. The system enables the possibility of individual notification when selected IAS has been entered and confirmed, which is important for early warning of key stakeholders and institutions involved in the EWRR system.

Plan for continuation

The IAS information system is established and well accepted among users. Until the end of the project, no planned funds were provided for the further maintenance of the Invazivke system within the Public Forestry Service, so it will probably be necessary to provide funding from the partners' own funds for the necessary maintenance of the system. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will cover the costs incurred by ensuring the operation of the server, electricity and updating the operating system for at least another 5 years. Until the end of the project no financial resources were provided for the regular verification of the entered data and the involvement of IAS experts from various institutions. If no systemic funds are obtained for this purpose, the verification of the IAS findings will be carried out only voluntarily and to a limited extent. In the future, we encourage and look for the opportunities of regular financing from various possible sources. It was planned that funds for the control of invasive species and also for the maintenance of the Invazivke system would be allocated from the Climate Change Funding Programme, but by the end of the project the final decision on this option has not yet been made.

2.5.2 Promotion of the information system among professional users and volunteers

In the course of the project, we carried out a series of activities to encourage and involve both professionals and the general public in submitting IAS observations into the Invazivke Information System. It turned out that **promotional activities** are crucial for gaining entries into the system, as increased promotional activity strongly impacted the increased number of entries. We acquainted the professional public with the Invazivke system at special workshops and trainings, as well as through professional articles in forestry journals and magazines. The **Record an Alien Species** campaign was aimed at encouraging the general public through yearly media publications and leaflets, in which we promoted the submission of observations of one selected alien species per year: Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), oak lace bug (*Corythucha arcuata*), ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) and tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). We also prepared printed promotional material explaining the operation of the Invazivke system, its involvement in the EWRR system and the importance of citizen science. A lot of IAS information was contributed by the **Invasive Species Survey Week** campaign, in which we encouraged schools to actively survey alien species in their home environment.

Plan for continuation

The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** and the **Slovenia Forest Service** will continue to promote the use of the information system at all education and awareness-raising events and in professional articles. Data collection in the Invazivke information system is a key part of the EWRR system for IAS, so it is necessary to ensure continued communication of observations to the system through different promotional activities.

In the coming years, the only national park in Slovenia that has also been declared a biosphere reserve within the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere programme, the **Triglav National Park** (TNP) will promote the use of the Invazivke Information System as part of its activities. At the end of 2020, TNP was also included in the verification of IAS data entered in the national park area.

The **Public University of Škofja Loka** (Ljudska univerza Škofja Loka) will continue to implement the Active Against Alien Species (Aktivno proti invazivkam) project by the end of March 2022, which is taking place in the Selška and Poljanska valleys. The goal is to activate local residents to observe invasive alien species and submit findings into the Invazivke system. On the basis of this data their removal would be organized.

The **Naklo Biotechnical Center** will introduce the Invazivke application into their higher education program "Nature conservation engineer" for the purpose of invasive alien species reporting.

In the coming years, the promotion of the use of the Invazivke system will be focused primarily on target groups who are close to nature and nature conservation efforts. Over the next five years, the **Symbiosis Institute** will participate in three activities to promote the observation of alien species, which will take place within the Alpine Association of Slovenia, which has many members who could be more actively involved in submitting IAS observations.

2.6 B4. Involving volunteers in the management of invasive alien plants in urban forests

2.6.1 Platform for IAS management initiatives

As part of the B4 action, we created an online platform called **Alien Oracle** (Tujerodni vedež) for the exchange of information in the management of invasive alien species. The purpose of the activity is to combine in one place the experience from the activities of IAS eradications. With this, we want to offer various IAS removal campaign organizers a tool through which they can share and gain experience in IAS management. Through this, it will be possible to gather useful information on which IAS removal and management methods have proven successful and which have not. By gathering this information in one place, we will also enable greater success in the following IAS management activities. We named the platform Alien Oracle because we want it to become an effective exchange of knowledge and used approaches to the eradication of alien species (<https://www.tujerodnevrste.info/tujerodnivedez/>). The experiences given in the platform are arranged by individual alien species. In addition to user experience, for some alien species we also provide additional useful links to foreign sources and additionally we also included instructions for organization of eradication actions. By the end of October 2020, 30 initiatives had been entered into the database.

Plan for continuation

The IAS management initiative exchange platform on the project website will be maintained and managed by the **Symbiosis Institute** for at least 5 years after the end of the project. The Symbiosis Institute will continue to be the platform administrator and will promote this tool among alien species removal organizers.

2.6.2 Development of the IAS Action Plan

In the project, we prepared an **IAS Action Plan** for the protected area of the Landscape park Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška hill in Ljubljana. The purpose of the action plan was to prepare a medium-term plan for the management of invasive alien plant species in a protected area, which would represent a model example for the preparation of similar action plans for other protected areas or similar urban forests in Slovenia and Europe. Numerous stakeholders were actively involved in the preparation making the action plan itself an important awareness-raising activity of key stakeholders in the area. The action plan determines priority measures in preventing the introduction of new invasive alien plants, their spread, as well as their removal and continued monitoring of the situation.

Plan for continuation

The action plan was transferred to the management body of the Landscape park Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška hill, the **Public Company Voka Snaga** (JP VOKA SNAGA), which will include it in the management plan of the protected area. The plan specifies the scope of further measures for the eradication and control of invasive alien plants and the further involvement of the public in management activities. The plan also includes the continuation of activities at the locations, where we already started the removal of selected IAS as part of the project, in order to achieve the permanent eradication of selected invasive plants at certain locations.

2.7 B5. Canker of maple awareness campaign

The purpose of the campaign was to present an awareness campaign example that focuses on a specific species including its management from detection in the environment to control measures. The species of choice is the alien Canker of maple (*Eutypella parasitica*), which originates from North America. The fungus causes wounds on the trunks of maples and causes degradation of the wood, which can also lead to the collapse of otherwise healthy trees. The aim of the campaign was to make foresters and forest owners aware of this alien fungus and to inform them about possible measures to prevent its spread. By the end of October, around 450 finds of maple cancer had been reported to the Invasive Information System, of which 239 infected trees had already been cut down.

2.7.1 Lectures and excursions for private forest owners

As part of the campaign, we organized **lectures** and **field excursions for forest owners**, where we educated them about IAS in forests, about Canker of maple and appropriate course of action when it is detected. We held a total of 13 events in 6 regional units of the Slovenia Forest Service. A total of 273 participants attended lectures and excursions.

Plan for continuation

The regional coordinators of the **Slovenia Forest Service** will continue to inform forest owners about Canker of maple and as part of their regular work also ensure that the potential for the spread of this disease is reduced. As part of its regular work the Slovenia Forest Service will continue to mark infected trees for felling and enforce the felling upon forest owners. Advising on regular felling will continue - Decision A will be continued to be used, as this is an established disease that spreads slowly and is not very dangerous, with an average of 3-5 % of maples infected in the stands.

The **Slovenia Forest Service** will urge the City of Ljubljana to also remove infected maples in the urban environment (tree-lined avenues, parks). The Slovenia Forest Service will provide expert advice to the City of Ljubljana on the removal of infected trees, yet the felling relies completely on the City of Ljubljana, which takes care of the city's trees.

2.7.2 Popular brochure on *Eutypella*

To raise awareness regarding the Canker of maple, we published a popular brochure entitled **Let's Stop the Canker of maple!** in a circulation of 25,000 copies. Most copies of the brochure were distributed as an appendix to the newspaper Kmečki glas (21,500 brochures), while the rest were distributed among project partners and other institutions at various events and fairs, as well as during training and field trips for forest owners. The brochure is also available on the project website: <https://www.tujerodne-vrste.info/projekt-life-artemis/publikacije-porocila/>.

Plan for continuation

The distribution of the brochure *Let's Stop the Canker of maple!* will continue after the end of the project and will be taken care of by the **Slovenia Forest Service**. An online version of the brochure will also be available on the project website after the project.

2.8 D1. Razširjanje rezultatov projekta LIFE ARTEMIS do splošne javnosti

We disseminated the results of the LIFE ARTEMIS project to the general public and all key stakeholders through various project activities and outputs. At the beginning of the project, we technically updated the **website www.tujerodne-vrste.info**. We have added descriptions of IAS which are on the alert and observation list of IAS in forests. We have also added descriptions of alien species regulated by the European IAS Regulation. On the page, we have expanded the subpages on legislation, where we draw special attention to the provisions of the European regulation on alien species. We were also regularly informing about project activities through project news on the website. All publications and main outputs prepared in the project are also available on the Publications subpage.

In the project, we set up **two information boards**. The first, with general information about the project, was placed at the beginning of the project in front of Slovenian Forestry Institute. The second board was set up in October 2017 in Mostec in the Landscape park Tivoli Rožnik and Šiška hill. Due to mechanical damage, we replaced the board in Mostec in autumn 2020 with a new one.

We also prepared the **Layman's report**, in which we presented all results of the project in a popular way. The report is also available on-line: <https://www.tujerodne-vrste.info/projekt-life-artemis/publikacije-porocila/>.

We also informed and educated the public via the LIFE ARTEMIS **Facebook** profile (<https://www.facebook.com/LIFEARTEMIS>), the **Twitter** account (https://twitter.com/lifeartemis_si) and via the e-mail **newsletter**.

We also presented the project at **fairs** and prepared **press conferences** at the beginning and end of the project.

In order to disseminate the results of the project to decision-makers at the local and national level, in September 2020 we organized the **Consultation meeting** in the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia. We were also networking with other LIFE projects dealing with invasive alien species and / or citizen science. Among other things, we carried out study visits to the CSMON-LIFE (LIFE13 ENV/IT/842) project in Italy and the LIFE ObservaTREE (LIFE 12ENV/UK/000731) in the United Kingdom.

Plan for continuation

The project website will be maintained by the **Symbiosis Institute** for at least 5 years after the end of the project and the contents will be updated in cooperation with other project partners. All project publications will continue to be available on the website.

The **Symbiosis Institute** will continue to manage the e-mail list and will send e-newsletters to subscribers at least twice a year.

The information boards will raise public awareness in both places for at least 5 years after the end of the project. After the end of the project, the Facebook group will continue to be edited with relevant information by representatives of the **Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation**, the **Slovenian Forestry Institute** and the **Symbiosis Institute**. Above all, current and important new information on ITV in the forest area will be published on social networks. The **Slovenian Forestry Institute** will continue to use the project's Twitter profile. Informing policy makers about ITV will continue to be carried out by all project partners in various meetings with the relevant ministries as part of their regular work.

3. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE AFTER LIFE PLAN

Table 1: List of objectives of the "After LIFE" plan of the LIFE ARTEMIS project.

Action	»After LIFE« objective	Temporal plan	Possible sources of funding	Organization responsible for implementation	Target value (5 years)
A2. Establishment of the EWRR institutional framework					
The EWRR institutional framework for IAS in forests	- to participate in the preparation of the legislative solutions for adoption of the proposal of the EWRR system by the competent institutions	untill 2025	regular work, other projects	all project partners	
Proposals of example rapid response plans for IAS	- to update the proposals for rapid response plans for 5 IAS in line with the new legislation	untill 2025 (if necessary)	own resources	SFI	
A3. Development of the EWRR Training Programme					
Alert list on IAS and priority pathways	- to update the alert and observation list of IAS in forest	untill 2025	own resources	SFI	
A field guide to invasive alien species in forests	- electronic version available on the project website	untill 2025	own resources	ZS	
	- distribution of printed material to interested parties	untill available	own resources	SFI	
B1. National raising awareness campaign on IAS					
Popular brochure on IAS	- electronic version available on the project website	untill 2025	own resources	ZS	
	- distribution of printed materials to interested parties	untill available	own resources	SFI	
Lectures and guided walks for general public and forest owners, media relations	- conducting lectures, guided walks for the general public and forest owners, articles in the media	2021 - 2025	regular work	IRSNC, ZS, SFS	300 participants of public lectures and guided walks

Action		»After LIFE« objective	Temporal plan	Possible sources of funding	Organization responsible for implementation	Target value (5 years)
	Travelling exhibition	- to offer the exhibition to primary and secondary schools and other institutions, the exhibition is set up and collected by exhibitors	2021 - 2025	regular work, other projects	IRSNC	5.000 visitors
	Educational movie	- movie available on the LIFE ARTEMIS YouTube channel	untill 2025	no additional costs	ZS	
		- distribution of DVDs to interested parties	until available	own resources	SFI	
B2.	EWRR training of professionals and volunteers					
		- to continue education / trainings on the EWRR system for district foresters, professional workers and forest owners	2021 - 2025	as part of regular training programme	SFS	500 participants
		- to inform SFS professional workers about important updates of the EWRR system for forests (e.g. emergence of a new IAS, new methods)	untill 2025 (at least 1x per year)	public forestry service, plant health service (Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection)	SFI	
		- presentation of new topics related to the EWRR system for IAS in forests to the general professional public at Seminars and workshops on forest protection	2021 – 2015 (1x per year)	public forestry service	SFS and SFI	altogether 300 participants
B.3	Engaging foresters and citizen scientists in collecting IAS data					
	Centralized IAS information system	- technical maintenance and updating of the information system »Invazivke«	untill 2025	public forestry service, own resources, Climate Change	SFI	20.000 novih vnosov najdb ITV iz vseh podatkovnih zbirk

Action		»After LIFE« objective	Temporal plan	Possible sources of funding	Organization responsible for implementation	Target value (5 years)
		- verification of data entries by experts	untill 2025	Funding Programme voluntary, Climate Change Funding Programme, other projects	SFI, ZS, TNP	1.000 new downloads of the application
	Promotion of the information system among professional users and volunteers	- to ensure further entry of observations by promoting the information system among professionals and volunteers through promotional activities	2021 - 2025	public forestry service, own resources, other projects	all partners	
B4. Involving volunteers in the management of invasive alien plants in urban forests						
	Platform for IAS management initiatives	- to maintain the platform and ensure further submission of the initiatives/experiences through promotional activities	untill 2025	own resources	ZS	30 submitted initiatives
	IAS Action Plan for Landscape park Tivoli, Rožnik and Šiška hill	- to include the action plan in the protected area management plan - to ensure the removal of invasive alien plants in accordance with the action plan	2021 - 2025		JP VOKA SNAGA	IAS removed from 10 ha area 50 volunteers involved
B5. Canker of maple awareness campaign						
	Lectures and excursions for private forest owners	- to include the topic of Canker of Maple (identification and eradication) in regular training programme for forest owners	untill 2025	regular training programme	SFS	250 trees with canker marked and felled
	Popular brochure on <i>Eutypella</i>	- distribution of printed material to interested parties	dokler ne poide	own resources	SFS	
		- electronic version available on the project website	untill 2025	own resources	ZS	
	Control of <i>Eutypella</i>	- to continue to mark trees for felling and felling of trees infected with <i>Eutypella</i> Canker of Maple	untill 2025	within regular activities	SFS, forest owners	

Action		»After LIFE« objective	Temporal plan	Possible sources of funding	Organization responsible for implementation	Target value (5 years)
D1.	Dissemination of project results to the general public					
	Obligatory dissemination actions	- to maintain and update the project website	2021 - 2025	own resources	ZS	150.000 visits 80.000 visitors
		- to maintain two information boards	untill 2025	no additional costs	SFI	
		- distribution of printed Layman's report to interested parties	untill available	own resources	SFI	
	Additional dissemination actions for wider audiences	- to maintain and post relevant information on social media (Facebook, Twitter)	2021 - 2025	own resources	SFI, ZS, IRSNC	together 2.000 followers
		- sending e-mail Newsletters	do 2025 (2x per year)	own resources	ZS	10 e-Newsletters
	Additional dissemination actions for national and local policy makers	- informing policy makers about relevant new and important information on IAS in forest	untill 2025	own resources	all partners	
	Study visits and networking	- study visits in the neighbouring countries	2021 - 2025	in other projects, public forestry service	SFI	4 visits