



Policy to reduce the impact of alien species on the university Campus

Policy Title: *Management and Mitigation of Alien and Invasive Species on Alexandria University Campus*

Effective Date: 2019

Responsible Office: Environmental Affairs Office, Alexandria University

Policy Statement

Alexandria University is committed to maintaining a sustainable and ecologically balanced campus environment. This policy aims to mitigate the impacts of alien and invasive species that pose threats to local biodiversity, disrupt ecosystem services, and hinder the university's sustainability goals.

By implementing this policy, Alexandria University reaffirms its commitment to biodiversity conservation and sustainable campus management.

Objectives

1. **Identification and Monitoring:** Establish protocols to identify and monitor the presence of alien species on campus.
2. **Control and Eradication:** Implement safe, effective, and ecologically responsible measures to control and, where necessary, eradicate invasive species.
3. **Prevention and Risk Management:** Prevent the introduction of new alien species through proactive planning and management.
4. **Education and Awareness:** Promote awareness of invasive species issues among students, staff, and the local community.

Scope

This policy applies to all individuals, activities, and operations on Alexandria University's properties, including academic, administrative, and maintenance functions.

Key Actions and Strategies

1. Alien Species Identification and Assessment

- Conduct baseline surveys of flora and fauna on campus to determine the presence and distribution of alien species.
- Collaborate with local and national experts to classify species as invasive based on their ecological impact and behavior.

2. Monitoring and Reporting

- Establish a monitoring system to track changes in populations of alien species and evaluate their impacts on local ecosystems.

- Create a reporting mechanism for staff and students to notify the Environmental Affairs Office about sightings of suspected alien species.

3. Control and Eradication Programs

- Develop species-specific management plans to control and eradicate harmful alien species without adversely affecting native biodiversity.
- Utilize ecologically responsible methods, such as mechanical removal, biological controls, or targeted chemical treatments under expert supervision.

4. Prevention of New Introductions

- Implement strict biosecurity measures to minimize the introduction of alien species through landscaping activities, construction materials, and campus operations.
- Require all suppliers of plants and materials to certify that they are free from invasive species.

5. Restoration of Native Habitats

- Replace removed alien species with native or non-invasive plants that support local biodiversity and ecosystem functions.
- Create buffer zones with native vegetation to minimize the encroachment of alien species.

6. Education and Capacity Building

- Integrate alien species management into academic programs and research opportunities.
- Conduct workshops, seminars, and campaigns to educate the university community about the risks of invasive species and the importance of native biodiversity.

7. Partnerships and Collaboration

- Partner with local environmental authorities, NGOs, and research institutions to ensure the implementation of best practices.
- Align efforts with national and international biodiversity frameworks, such as the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and Egypt's *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)*.

Roles and Responsibilities

- **Environmental Affairs Office:** Oversee the implementation and compliance of this policy; coordinate monitoring, control, and restoration activities.
- **Campus Maintenance Team:** Ensure landscaping and campus operations adhere to biosecurity protocols.
- **Students and Staff:** Participate in awareness campaigns and report sightings of invasive species.
- **Academic Departments:** Conduct research and provide scientific insights to inform management strategies.

Evaluation and Reporting

- Regularly assess the effectiveness of control measures and update management plans accordingly.

- Publish an annual *Invasive Species Report* detailing actions taken, outcomes achieved, and plans for future interventions.

Policy created September 2019

Policy reviewed October 2022


Prof. Abdel Aziz Konsowa,

University President



References and Supporting Documents

1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Guidelines on Invasive Alien Species.
2. Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) – *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*.
3. IUCN Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Invasive Alien Species.