

# Invasives and biofuel production: report back from workshop



IUCN Nairobi  
20-22nd April 2009

[http://www.iucn.org/about/work/initiatives/energy\\_welcome/energy\\_impacts/energy\\_bioenergy/invasives\\_biofuels\\_workshop.cfm](http://www.iucn.org/about/work/initiatives/energy_welcome/energy_impacts/energy_bioenergy/invasives_biofuels_workshop.cfm)

# Alien alert!!!!



GLOBAL | WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

## Alien alert

Biological invasions are caused by animals, plants and micro-organisms that are introduced to new areas, ecosystems or countries where they find the right conditions to spread and cause havoc. ... ▶

25 Aug 2008 | News - News story

RELATED INFORMATION

- [Bioenergy Business article](#) 65KB
- [Global Invasive Species Programme](#)
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ENERGY

## Don't let invasive biofuel crops attack your country, warn top scientists

Bonn, Germany, May 20, 2008 (IUCN/GISP) – Countries should avoid planting crops for biofuels that stand a high risk of becoming invasive species, according to a report released today. ... ▶

20 May 2008 | News - Press Release

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- [Interview with invasives expert Geoffrey Howard](#)
- [the Global Invasive Species Programme](#)
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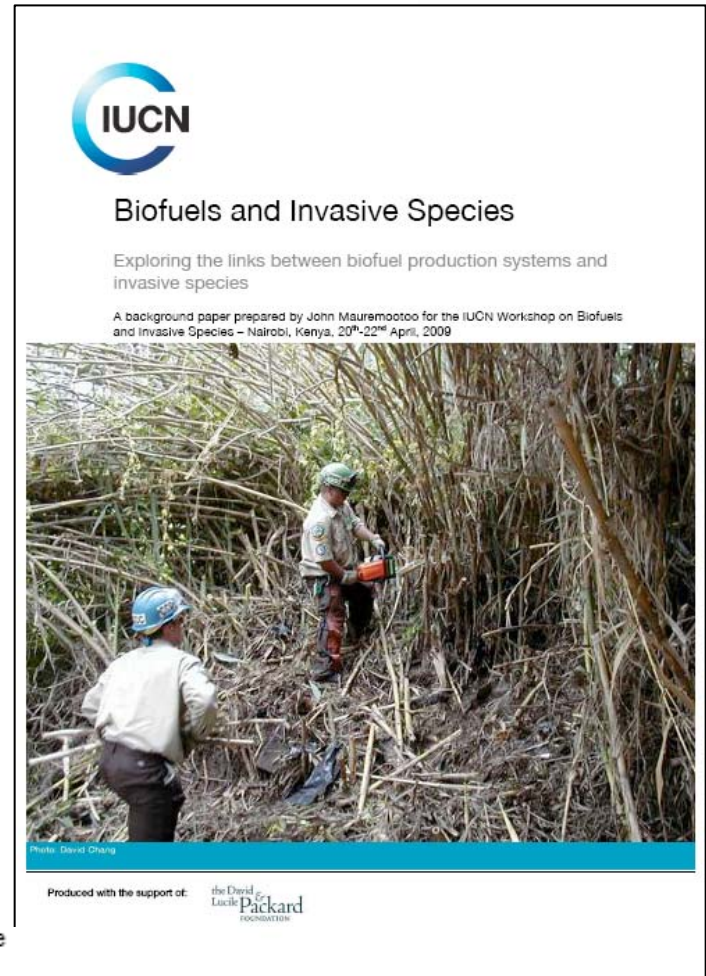
- Press release at the CBD
- Identified potential biofuel feedstock with invasive potential
- Follow up work funded by Packard Foundation

# Linking biofuel production with invasive species



- fast growth
- high productivity
- adaptability to a range of soil and climatic conditions
- resistance to pests and diseases
- All new biofuel feedstock has a potential to become invasive

Photo Credit: David Chang – *Arundo donax* (Giant Reed) being removed from a riverbank in California by the California Invasive Plant Council



# Overall context

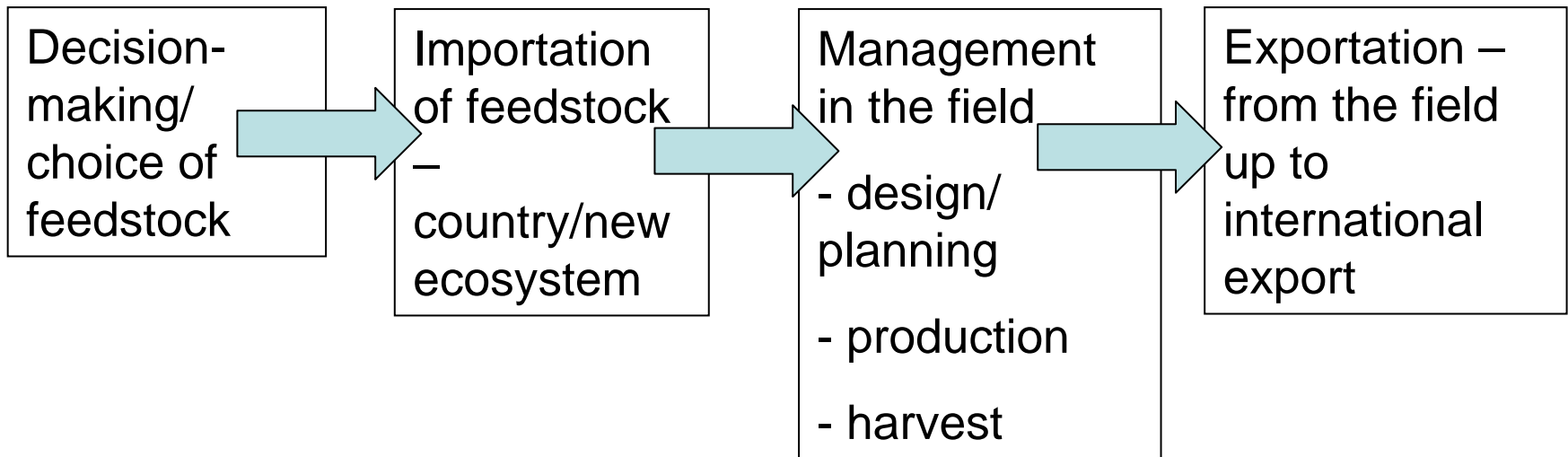


- Land tenure
- Economic incentives
- Low capacity for assessments and taxonomy



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# Managing risks along the supply chain



PREVENTION

CONTAINMENT/  
MANAGEMENT/  
ERADICATION

Source: International Water Association

# Next steps



1. Recommendations to the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels
2. Workshop report
3. Draft guidance document
4. Input into other processes – European Council on Invasives, COMPETE workshop, etc.
5. Follow up workshop – September 2009