

The 1st Mediterranean Workshop on *Solanum elaeagnifolium* (Silverleaf nightshade)

04-06 July 2013, Thessaloniki, Greece

The role of ESENIAS on SOLEL research and management

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ESENIAS (the East and South European Network on Invasive Alien Species) was established in 2011 in order to create regional cooperation, with the aim to aid in early detection, eradication, control and mitigation of invasive alien species (IAS). Current members of the network are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo under UNSC Resolution 1244/99, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey. It is expected that the network will in the future include neighboring countries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea area. ESENIAS brings together experts on biodiversity, environmental management and pest control from national and regional, environmental and agriculture departments, and governmental and public organizations. *Solanum elaeagnifolium* (SOLEL) has already been introduced to current ESENIAS countries and prospected members. However, there is not a clear enough picture of its distribution in the area and of control measures that have been taken. ESENIAS can use citizen science to detect the distribution of SOLEL, which can then lead ESENIAS to initiate control measures. Region-wide pathway analyses can be another approach for managing SOLEL. Depending on distribution studies, containment activities can be researched and implemented.