OVERVIEW

The TAS-ISK is based on questions adapted from the AS-ISK (Copp et al. 2016b, 2021), which is a second-generation decision-support tool derived from the Weed Risk Assessment (Pheloung et al. 1999) in the following sequence: i) the WRA was adapted to create the FISK v1 (Copp et al. 2009); ii) the FISK v1 was enhanced to create the FISK v2 (Lawson et al. 2013); and (iii) the AS-ISK (Copp et al. 2016b), which is a combination of the generic screening module (adapted from the FISK) of the ENSARS and the FISK v2 architecture (Copp et al. 2016a), was adapted to create the TAS-ISK (Vilizzi et al. 2022). The TAS-ISK complies with the 'minimum standards' (Roy et al. 2018) for the assessment of non-native species under the EC Regulation No. 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species (European Commission 2014).

Launching TAS-ISK v2.4

TAS-ISK v2.4 consists of a Microsoft Excel macro-enabled worksheet (.xlsm). Depending on the default security settings in the local computer's Excel installation, upon launching TAS-ISK v2.4 the Assessor might be warned whether they want to 'Enable Editing' and then 'Enable Macros'. These two steps are necessary for TAS-ISK v2.4 to open successfully. Upon opening, a preliminary check is done by the program for the Excel version compatibility. In this respect, TAS-ISK v2.4 will run without issue under Windows® 10/11 with Microsoft Office 365. However, the TAS-ISK will not run under the Mac OS unless a (third-party) Windows virtualisation software is used.

Any workbooks open in the Excel instance in which TAS-ISK v2.4 is being launched will be automatically closed upon launching the program. This is an 'enforced' procedure due to the lack of dynamic data exchange (DDE) support since release of Excel 2016, which will also cause other Excel workbooks to not open within the instance of Excel in which TAS-ISK v2.4 is running (but which can still be opened in a separate instance of Excel launched from the Windows Start Menu by typing "Excel /x" or "Excel.exe /x").

Following a preliminary compatibility check, the *Start* dialog is opened and the program's graphical user interface (GUI) will default to the local *Language* of the Assessor's Office/Excel version (if available), else to the English language. Also, the 'light blue' *Colour scheme* is selected by default.

To ensure that the TAS-ISK will open and display properly (cf. GUI and information/error messages) in the user's local language, the following settings are needed:

1. The language of Microsoft Excel (Office) must match the user's local language: *File* → *Options* → *Language* → *Office display language*, then select the desired language and move it up to the top of then list, then press *OK* and restart Excel;
2. The language of the Windows OS (note that this refers to Windows 10/11) must not necessarily match that of the user's local language [but to do so: *Start* → *Settings* → *Time & Language* → *Region* → *Country or region* and scroll to select, then click on *Additional time, date & regional settings* → *(Region) Change date, time or number formats* → in the *Administrative (tab)* click on *Change system locale*, then scroll to select]. However, for most languages other than English, the box reading *Beta: Use Unicode UTF-8 for worldwide language support* must be ticked, then press *OK* and *Restart now* (whilst the System locale can remain in English).