

4. development and evaluation of technology and methods, including genetic techniques, that improve the ability to detect potential AIS at low levels of abundance;
5. determination of potential AIS habitat requirements and additional factors that would affect the establishment and spread of AIS;
6. assessment of the ecosystem impacts of both established and high-risk AIS in order to inform management regarding decisions for rapid response and control programs;
7. assessment of the potential impact of climate change on the introduction, survival, establishment, and spread of AIS; and
8. Risk Assessments of species, Pathways and Vectors as determined to be appropriate by the Parties.

D. Reporting

The Parties shall report on progress toward implementation of this Annex every three years through the Progress Report of the Parties.

E. Definitions

In this Annex:

1. "Aquatic Invasive Species" (AIS) means any non-indigenous species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that threatens or may threaten the diversity or abundance of aquatic native species, or the ecological stability, and thus water quality, or water quality of infested waters, or commercial, recreational, or other activities dependent on such waters;