



Marine Biofouling Guidelines for the prevention and management of invasive marine species.

Marine Biofouling occurs when living organisms attach to any submerged structure in the marine environment. When these structures are mobile and move between geographic areas e.g. ships, oil rigs, barges, marine equipment and marine debris, they provide a pathway for the introduction of invasive marine species which are detrimental to the global economy, fisheries and mariculture, marine ecosystems and biodiversity, coastal infrastructure, human livelihoods and human health.

Invasive marine species constitute one of the greatest threats to marine and coastal ecosystems but unlike other major pathways such as ballast water, biofouling is not yet adequately addressed under international policy and law. As a step towards addressing this gap, GISP in partnership with UNEP Regional Seas, has recently published 'Biofouling Guidelines' for the prevention and management of invasive marine species, available as a downloadable PDF at www.gisp.org/resources/ and www.unep.org/regionalseas/publications/

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