

# START



As a stand-alone, dialog-driven Excel-based application, TAS-ISK v2.3 requires a spreadsheet located on the Assessor's local computer to be opened (or created) as the assessment database source file. Note that as many new sessions (i.e. spreadsheets opened, created or imported) can be run as desirable by simply returning from the *Main Assessment Workspace* to the *Start* dialog.

## Information

### Overview

Clicking this button opens the pdf Help file (TAS-ISK\_v2\_3\_3\_Help\_Overview.pdf) that provides an overview of the program's general features. Note that the TAS-ISK v2.3 Help files must be in the same folder as the TAS-ISK v2.3 program.

### Credits

Clicking this button opens the pdf Help file with the credits (TAS-ISK\_v2\_3\_3\_Help\_Credits.pdf). Note that the TAS-ISK v2.3 Help files must be in the same folder as the TAS-ISK v2.3 program.

## Language

Currently, TAS-ISK v2.3 is available in 32 languages (Copp et al. 2021): English, Czech, German, Spanish, Filipino, French, Croatian, Italian, Hungarian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Albanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Swedish, Vietnamese, Turkish, Greek, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Russian, Georgian, Hebrew, Urdu, Arabic, Persian, Thai, Korean, Japanese, and Chinese (simplified). Note that the order of the languages is based on the language's native spelling, which is also used in the corresponding drop-down list. The list of *Language contributors*, who can be contacted for any queries about the language-specific program's interface, is provided at the end of this document. Importantly, any inconsistencies/errors in translation of the GUI from the original English language lie entirely with the corresponding language contributors (contactable at the corresponding email addresses).

Depending on the local computer's Excel language version, TAS-ISK v2.3 will default to the local (i.e. Office/Excel) language if supported, otherwise to English. However, should a TAS-ISK v2 database spreadsheet (noting that a database spreadsheet generated by TAS-ISK v2.3 still retains the v2 format and notation) in a language different from the one selected from the list be opened, then, following the required checks, a message will be issued whether the Assessor wants to change the TAS-ISK v2.3 interface language to the one of the spreadsheet being opened.

Note that as many more languages as desirable can be added to the TAS-ISK v2.3 toolkit in view of future releases. To this end, the supporting language templates will be provided for translation upon request to any interested contributors.

## Colour scheme

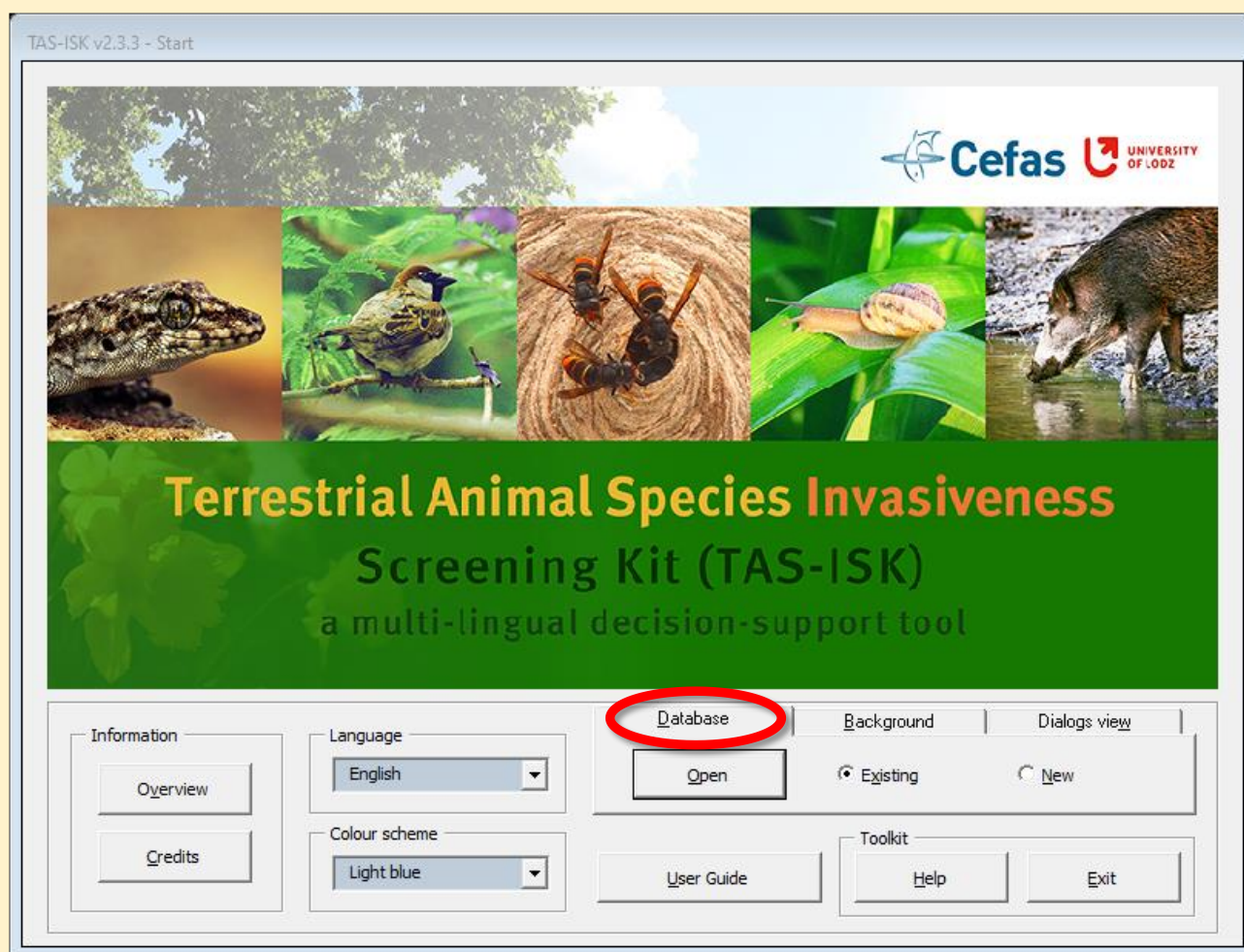
The TAS-ISK v2.3 GUI is available in ten colours: four light-shade colours including 'blue' (default), 'green', 'brown' and 'grey'; one 'neutral' colour; four dark-shade colours including 'blue', 'green', 'brown' and 'grey'; and 'black'.

The colour scheme of choice applies to all 'active' (i.e. editable fields) and 'semi-active' (i.e. non-editable fields, labels, drop-downs) controls making up the TAS-ISK v2.3 GUI.

Because active controls in TAS-ISK v2.3 also behave as 'smart' controls (see *Main Assessment Workspace*, *Wizard*, *New/Edit*, *Replicate* and *Q&A* dialogs) by changing aspect/behaviour depending on the Assessor's interaction with the GUI and the assessment database features, the 'light yellow' and 'light red' colours are reserved for the GUI only.

The *Colour scheme* of choice can be changed by the Assessor at any time during a session.

## Database (tab)



### Open

Clicking this button will open either an *Existing* or a *New* database, depending on the option selected.

### Existing

Before opening an existing database, which is selected from the corresponding (pop-up) dialog window, a series of checks is performed to ensure that the TAS-ISK v2 spreadsheet being loaded meets all requirements for formatting and consistency and whether it contains any duplicates entries (which are automatically removed). If any formatting issues or inconsistent/duplicate entries are detected during this 'screening' phase, then the Assessor is notified at any stage of the process through a (series of) (error) message(s), which, whenever applicable, include(s) reference to the row and column of the cell in the spreadsheet where the (first) error occurred. Notably, an existing spreadsheet cannot be loaded into TAS-ISK v2.3 unless it meets all necessary formatting and consistency requirements. Note that the TAS-ISK v2 spreadsheet prevents any such editing/tampering-related issues due to password protection.

Following the screening phase, the spreadsheet data are loaded into TAS-ISK v2.3 and: (i) a check is done to ensure that for each assessment all Q-wise corresponding entries for *Response*, *Confidence* and *Justification* are present (if not, the corresponding 'orphaned' entries are cleared from the

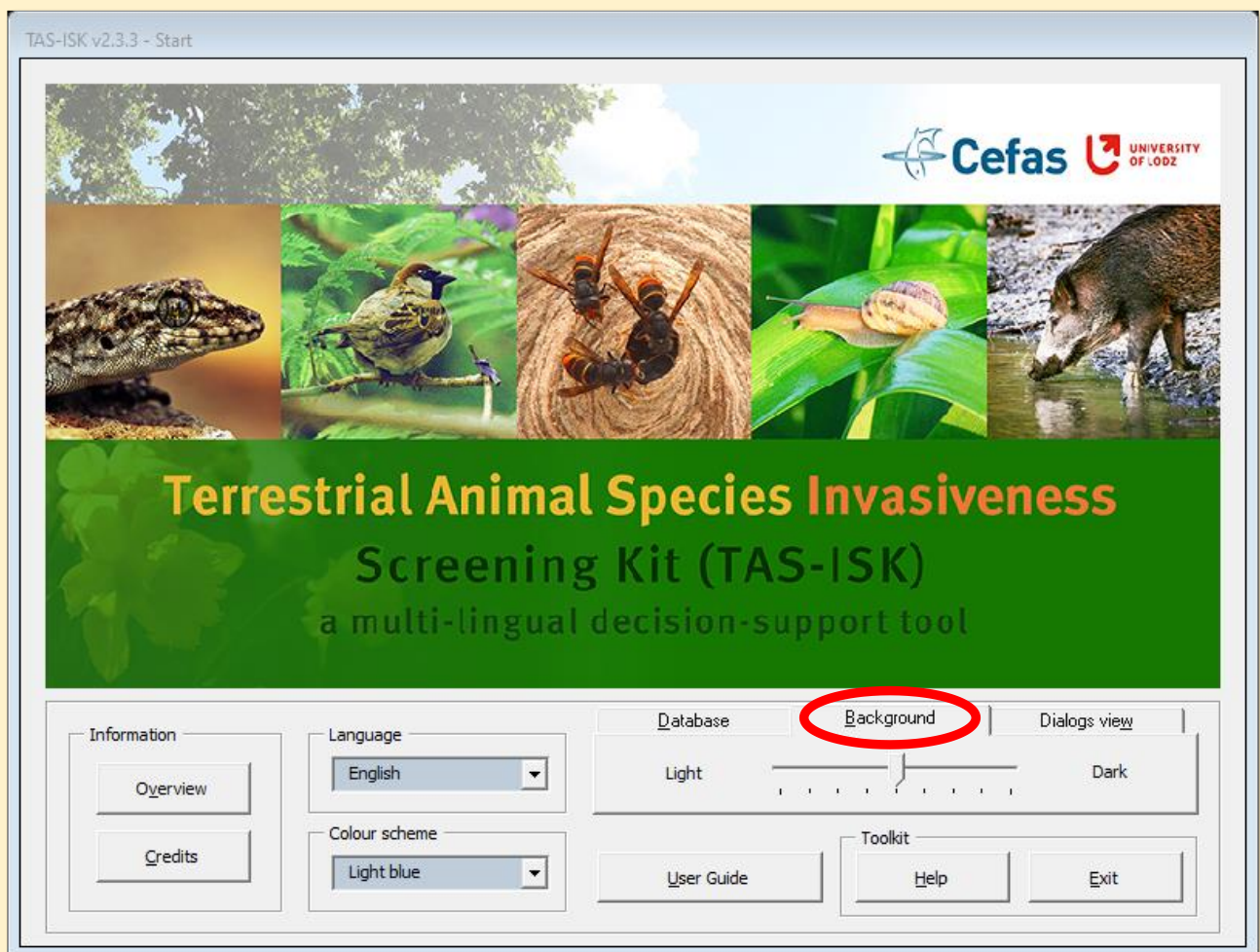


assessment, and the Assessor is notified in regard); and (ii) each assessment in the database is re-scored to generate all relevant statistics for scores, outcomes and thresholds (the latter, if applicable), but with the original assessment time and date of creation preserved if already present (see also *Main Assessment Workspace – Utilities (tab) – Re-score*). The status bar (located at the bottom left of the Excel window) will indicate progress with both the checking and re-scoring phases should the process take some time (i.e. in case of large to very large databases). The *Main Assessment Workspace* dialog is then opened with the *Assessment List* populated with the existing assessment(s).

## New

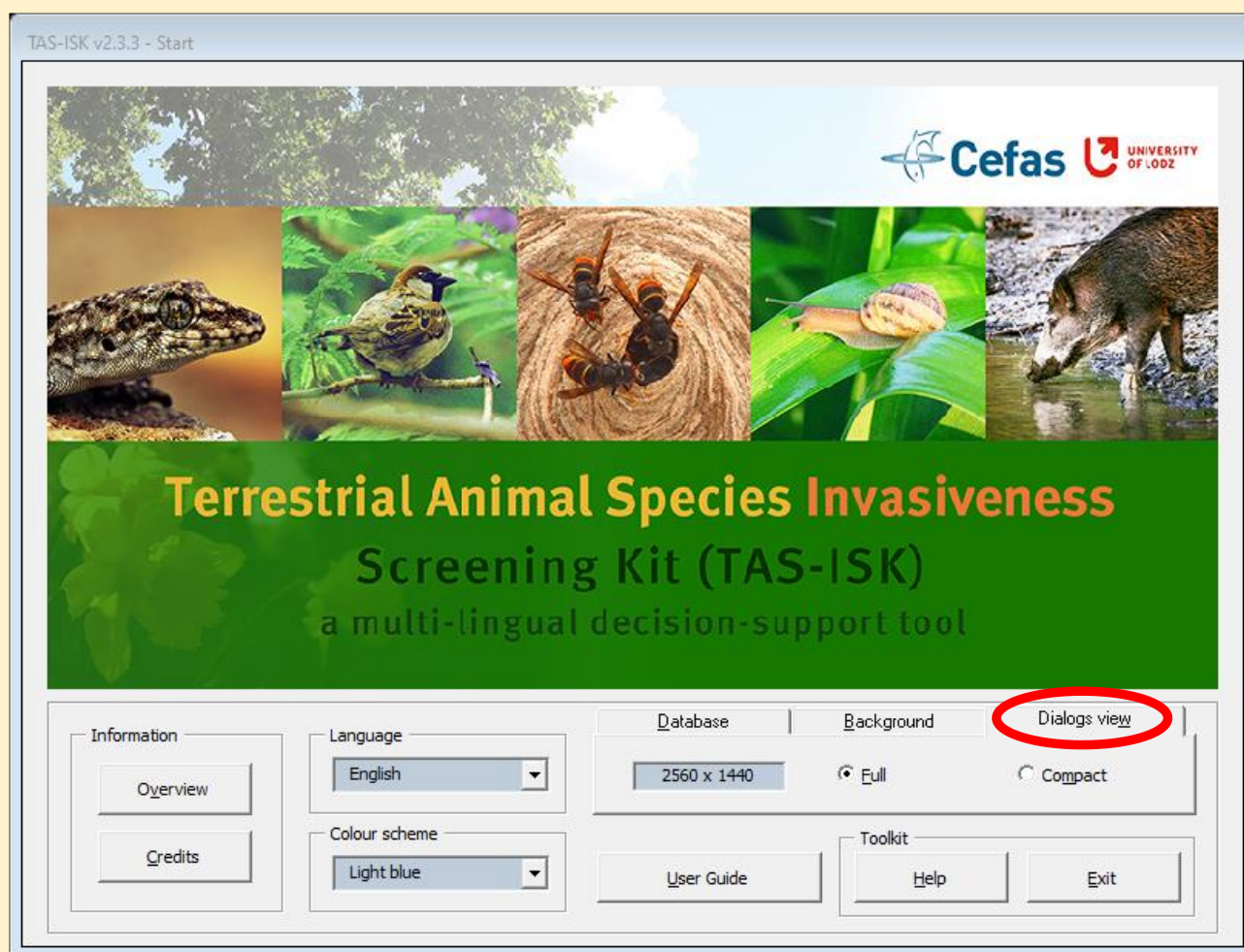
In case a *New* database is created, then the *Main Assessment Workspace* dialog is opened showing a blank *Assessment List*.

## Background (tab)



Dragging this slider changes the background colour of the Excel window in which the AS-ISK is running. Nine shades are available as combinations of white and black: 100% white, 0% black; 85% white, 15% black; 75% white, 25% black; 65% white, 35% black; 50% white, 50% black (default); 35% white, 65% black; 25% white, 75% black; 15% white, 85% black; 0% white, 100% black.

## Dialogs view (tab)



Depending on the screen resolution of the computer where TAS-ISK v2.3 is being run, the *Main Assessment Workspace* and *Q&A* dialogs will display in either *Full* or *Compact* view. In *Full* view, the *Assessment List* in the *Main Assessment Workspace* will display up to 26 rows (i.e. assessments, if available) at a time, and the *Justification* field in the *Q&A* dialog up to nine lines of text at a time. In *Compact* view, the *Assessment List* in the *Main Assessment Workspace* will display up to 16 rows (i.e. assessments, if available) at a time, and the *Justification* field in the *Q&A* dialog up to two lines of text at a time.

The threshold resolution below or equal to which TAS-ISK v2.3 will display in *Compact* view is 1440 pixels in width and 900 pixels in height. As the screen resolution is automatically identified by TAS-ISK v2.3 upon opening (and indicated in the corresponding screen resolution label), the *Full* or *Compact* view are selected by default as applicable.

### Full

This option is automatically selected (i.e. by default upon opening TAS-ISK v2.3) if the screen resolution is greater than 1440 pixels in width and 900 pixels in height.

### *Compact*

This 'option' is the only one available if the screen resolution is less than or equal to 1440 pixels in width and 900 pixels in height. However, under a screen resolution greater than 1440 pixels in width and 900 pixels in height this option can still be selected if desired.

### **User Guide**

Clicking this button opens the pdf Help file (TAS-ISK\_v2\_3\_3\_Help\_UserGuide.pdf) for the current dialog. Note that the TAS-ISK v2.3 Help files must be in the same folder as the TAS-ISK v2.3 program.

### **Toolkit**

#### *Help*

Clicking this button opens the pdf Help file (TAS-ISK\_v2\_3\_3\_Help\_Start.pdf) for the current dialog. Note that the TAS-ISK v2.3 Help files must be in the same folder as the TAS-ISK v2.3 program.

#### *Exit*

Clicking this button quits the current session and Excel.