

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Geneva, Switzerland from 16 to 28 August 2019

Strategic matters

CITES TREE SPECIES PROGRAMME

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. On 14 July 2017, the Secretariat and the European Commission announced the financial contribution of 8 million Euro by the European Union (EU) towards a project entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant*¹. The contribution included 7 million Euro earmarked to support the CITES Tree Species Programme to be implemented by the CITES Secretariat, and 1 million Euro for the African Elephant Fund to be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme. The project began in June 2017 and will end in June 2021. The funds for the work on the African Elephant Fund have been allocated to the United Nations Environment Programme and this matter will not be addressed further. The present document will focus on the part of the project supporting sustainable management of CITES-listed tree species.
3. Concerned that the long-term survival of commercially valuable tree species may be threatened by over-exploitation, the Conference of the Parties has agreed to include more than 900 tree species in the CITES Appendices, such as the species of rosewood recently listed in Appendix II from the genus *Dalbergia*, *Guibourtia* and *Pterocarpus*. The CITES Tree Species Programme aims to provide direct financial assistance to selected Parties in taking conservation and management measures to ensure that their trade in timber, bark, extracts and other products from CITES-listed tree species is sustainable, legal and traceable, and in compliance with CITES provisions.

Objectives of the CITES Tree Species Programme

4. The specific objectives of the CITES Tree Species Programme, to which the EU-funded project largely contributes, are to:
 - a) ensure the sustainable management of rare tree species and their products;
 - b) contribute to legal, traceable, and fair trade in products from CITES-listed tree species;
 - c) improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure long-term benefit; and
 - d) contribute to rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation.

¹https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/EU_contributes_8_million_Euro_support_CITES_tree_species_programme_protection_African_elephants_14_072017

5. The CITES Tree Species Programme is expected to have a significant impact by improving the management and conservation of CITES-listed tree species, which, in turn, will have a positive impact on local economies. The anticipated outcomes and outputs can be summarized as follows:
- a) improved technical and technological capacity for development of non-detriment findings, including: forest inventory, distributional mapping, and CITES-listed species-specific management plans;
 - b) improved silvicultural and ecological knowledge resulting in improved management of CITES-listed tree species;
 - c) capacity-building for timber and non-timber forest products identification, effective information and tracking systems;
 - d) identification tools for CITES-listed tree species improved and developed using IT applications and other training support to identify and follow CITES-listed species tree products;
 - e) market studies produced and forest product information systems in place;
 - f) establishment and support of national fora, regional and international working groups, effective outreach;
 - g) stable or increased employment in the forest sector; and
 - h) long-term support for sustainable forest and tree management in key range States.

Structure and *modus operandi* of the CITES Tree Species Programme

6. The structure of the CITES Tree Species Programme is shown in Annex 2.

Funding

7. Although the main donor of the CITES Tree Species Programme is the European Commission, the Secretariat of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) communicated in April 2018 to the CITES Secretariat that the United States of America contributed to the Programme through the ITTO Secretariat. In the context of their continued collaboration, the ITTO and the CITES Secretariats concluded a Small Scale Funding Agreement and a Project Cooperation Agreement to support the CITES Trees Species Programme. ITTO can provide further funding to the CITES Tree Species Programme through the ITTO Biennial Work Programme PP-A/52-320 on *Enhance Collaboration between ITTO and CITES*. The CITES Secretariat will continue strengthening its collaboration with ITTO, forged over ten years of joint work under the *ITTO-CITES Programme for implementing CITES for tropical timber species*, and in line with Resolution Conf. 14.4 on *Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber*.

Regional support

8. To facilitate the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme, three Regional Coordinators were appointed. The overall Programme Coordinator also has the role of regional coordinator for Central and South America and the Caribbean, while two other coordinators were recruited to assist Africa and Asia. Their tasks include:
- a) assisting with the formulation of national projects' needs and priorities;
 - b) assisting with the design of projects or activities;
 - c) monitoring the progress of the implementation of approved activities and budgeting by implementing agencies;
 - d) assisting in convening meetings as relevant;
 - e) providing technical advice to avoid duplication of efforts; and
 - f) interacting with other projects and programmes of the CITES Secretariat as requested.

Advisory Committee

9. Under the terms of the financial agreement with the European Commission, an Advisory Committee was established in the course of October – November 2017. Its first meeting was organized on 27 November 2017 on the margins of the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC69, Geneva, November 2017). A second meeting was held electronically from 12 to 16 March 2018, and a third one in Yokohama, Japan on 7 November 2018. The minutes of these meetings will be made available early in 2019 on the programme's dedicated webpage.
10. Further details on the Advisory Committee's terms of reference, membership, and *modus operandi* are contained in Annex 3.

First call for project proposals

11. The first call for proposals was launched in August 2017 for Parties from Africa, Asia and Central and South America and the Caribbean through [Notification No. 2017/059](#) of 22 August 2017. The conditions and requirements for submission of proposals for which funding was requested are shown in Annex 4. Proposals needed to be submitted by 15 October 2017.
12. In response to this first call, the Secretariat received 68 summary proposals, amounting to a total of 14 million dollars (USD). Taking account of the selection criteria and available funding, 16 were prioritized by the Secretariat under guidance from the Advisory Committee. Two groups of three Parties were asked to work together, resulting in two new tri-national proposals. Thus, the total number of projects selected for funding was 18. Fifty-two proposals could potentially be further developed to become eligible and remained in the waiting list until new funds are available.
13. The Secretariat prioritized eight proposals from Africa, five from Asia and five from Central, South America and the Caribbean (see Annex 6). The Parties concerned received an invitation to develop full project proposals with support of the three Regional Coordinators, which were to be submitted by 31 January 2018. Following the submission of 18 "full" project proposals, the Secretariat recruited in February 2018 two experts with extensive experience in forestry project design to technically review the proposals. During that month, they provided detailed assessments and recommendations for each project proposal. ITTO also provided assessments and recommendations for proposals submitted by ITTO Member countries. Taking into account the experts' assessments and the priorities set by the Conference of the Parties, the Coordinator provided a final recommendation on the projects to the Advisory Committee, which allowed the Regional Coordinators to assist Parties in their respective regions in finalizing the project documents. The issuance of contracts for the accepted proposals is ongoing and the first batch of eight proposals are expected to be signed by all involved parties in late January / early February 2019.
14. Three regional meetings were planned to provide training on how the Convention works for tree species, focusing on the formulation of non-detriment findings and other key aspects of the work of Parties on tree species and under the CITES Tree Species Programme. Two of the regional meetings have already taken place. Those meetings provided opportunities to interact with the regional coordinators, and partially implement some tree-related Decisions adopted at CoP17. Further details are shown in Annex 5.

Lessons learnt to date

15. As mentioned earlier, along the last decade, the number of listing proposals agreed by the Conference of the Parties to include more tree species in the CITES Appendices created many challenges. Between 2006 and 2016, some Parties received support through the ITTO-CITES *Programme for implementing CITES for tropical timber species*. The Parties benefiting from the programme welcomed the assistance, as frequently expressed in reports and oral interventions at CITES and ITTO meetings. The ITTO-CITES Programme funded inventories and guidance on harvest techniques of certain CITES-listed trees that allowed selected Parties to formulate non-detriment findings. It supported work on identification of species (by e.g. financing timber laboratories, technological developments, the issuance of manuals and staff training, identification of experts on target taxa), and controls of chains of custody. The programme funded market studies for target taxa i.e. *Swietenia*, *Gonystylus*, *Aquilaria* and *Prunus*. Finally, the ITTO-CITES Programme helped certain exporting countries comply with recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade, and take measures allowing the lifting of trade suspensions. The ITTO-CITES Programme ran over two 4-year phases, an experience that greatly benefited the CITES Tree Species Programme. The internal process within the Secretariat related to legal and administrative support are catered for core activities of the CITES Secretariat and are not fully adequate for large external funded programmes. This is the first time CITES is

implementing a small grant programme and internal processes and procedures needed to be established. Lessons learned from the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme and the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) have also allowed the Secretariat to move forward with this new programme on tree species.

Longer term perspectives

16. As mentioned in paragraph 12 above, the Secretariat received 68 requests for support in response to its project call, amounting to USD 14 million, only 18 of which can be funded through the CITES Tree Species Programme. The Secretariat has initiated preliminary discussions with donors, ITTO and the Plants Committee about the possibility of continuing the work being undertaken under the CITES Tree Species Programme beyond June 2021.
17. At the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC24, Geneva, July 2018), the Secretariat presented document PC24 Doc. 9.2 on the *CITES Tree Species Programme* which described in detail the origin, objectives, structure and preliminary outcomes of the Programme. The Plants Committee “*encouraged the Secretariat to explore the future of the CITES tree species programme to ensure its continuation*”.
18. The Secretariat highlights the high demand for technical and financial support from Parties to help them overcome challenges when implementing the Convention for listed tree species. The CITES Tree Species Programme directly supports nine CoP17 tree-related Decisions (see Annexes 5 and 6) and contributes to several other Decisions and Resolutions that are relevant to trees. While the new CITES Tree Species Programme can assist certain Parties and stakeholders in the next few years, the Secretariat is of the opinion that Parties need longer-term, coherent and comprehensive technical and financial support to create capacities to implement the Convention for listed tree species.

Other CITES programmes hosted by the CITES Secretariat

19. At the moment, the Secretariat manages two longer-term programmes in support of the implementation of CITES. These are Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) in addition to the CITES Tree Species Programme. For further information, Parties are invited to see documents CoP18 Doc. 69.2 on *Report on Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)* and CoP18 Doc. 15.5 on *International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC)*. MIKE and ICWC were agreed by the Conference of the Parties to provide Parties more permanent support on elephant conservation work, and on enforcement to combat wildlife and forest crime. The CITES Tree Species Programme, MIKE and ICWC are coordinating and collaborating in different areas within the Secretariat so the three programmes aim to ensure complementarity of activities wherever possible, and harmonization related to visibility and outreach.

Scope

20. Annex 7 provides an overview of the current structure, scope and resources of the CITES Tree Species Programme that will operate until June 2021.
21. Annex 8 describes the tentative budget and sources of funding for the implementation of draft decisions contained in Annex 1.

Non-timber forest products under the CITES Tree Species Programme

22. It is important to note that the CITES Tree Species Programme includes work on tree species that are not mainly used for their timber, but rather goods found in international trade such as extracts or bark. A good example is *Prunus africana* which is utilized as a medicinal tree and from which the main export is the dry bark. Compounds extracted from the bark are used in the pharmaceutical industry. Any future tree species programme could more fully target those tree species used for non-timber production purposes.
23. With the support of Germany and of the Republic of Korea, the Secretariat conducted research to shed light on the trade in medicinal non-timber forest products. The results were presented in information document (see [PC23 Inf. 10](#), [PC24 Inf. 7](#) and [SC70 Inf. 36](#)) and at side events during PC23 and PC24, and were discussed in bilateral consultations with various Parties and relevant institutions. This analysis demonstrated the relevance of medicinal uses as one of the most important classes of non-timber forest products in terms of trading volume, trading value and species conservation. It also illustrated the limited attention that these trade flows had received and their importance for species conservation and local livelihoods; and highlighted

general characteristics warranting a holistic approach by CITES to this class of taxa, as outlined in document CoP18 Doc. 55. This document further explores potential synergies and coordination between strengthening CITES implementation for tree listed species and for medicinal plant species.

Conclusions

24. The Secretariat has developed draft decisions in order to assess with the Parties the progress made during the intersessional period between CoP18 and CoP19 and, depending on the outcomes and results of the programme, to consider continuing this programme or not in the future beyond 2021.

Recommendations

25. The Conference of the Parties is invited to:

- a) consider adopting the draft decisions on the CITES Tree Species Programme contained in Annex 1; and
- b) share views on further recommendations for future work under this programme.

Draft decisions on a CITES Tree Species Programme

Directed to Parties

- 18.AA Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding their experiences, lessons learned and recommendations on:
- a) past work under the ITTO-CITES programme for implementing CITES for tropical timber species and its contribution to their implementation of the Convention; and
 - b) work under the CITES Tree Species Programme for implementing CITES for tree species listed in Appendix II

Directed to the Plants Committees

- 18.BB The Plants Committee shall consider any reports by the Secretariat on the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme, and provide recommendations as appropriate to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee.

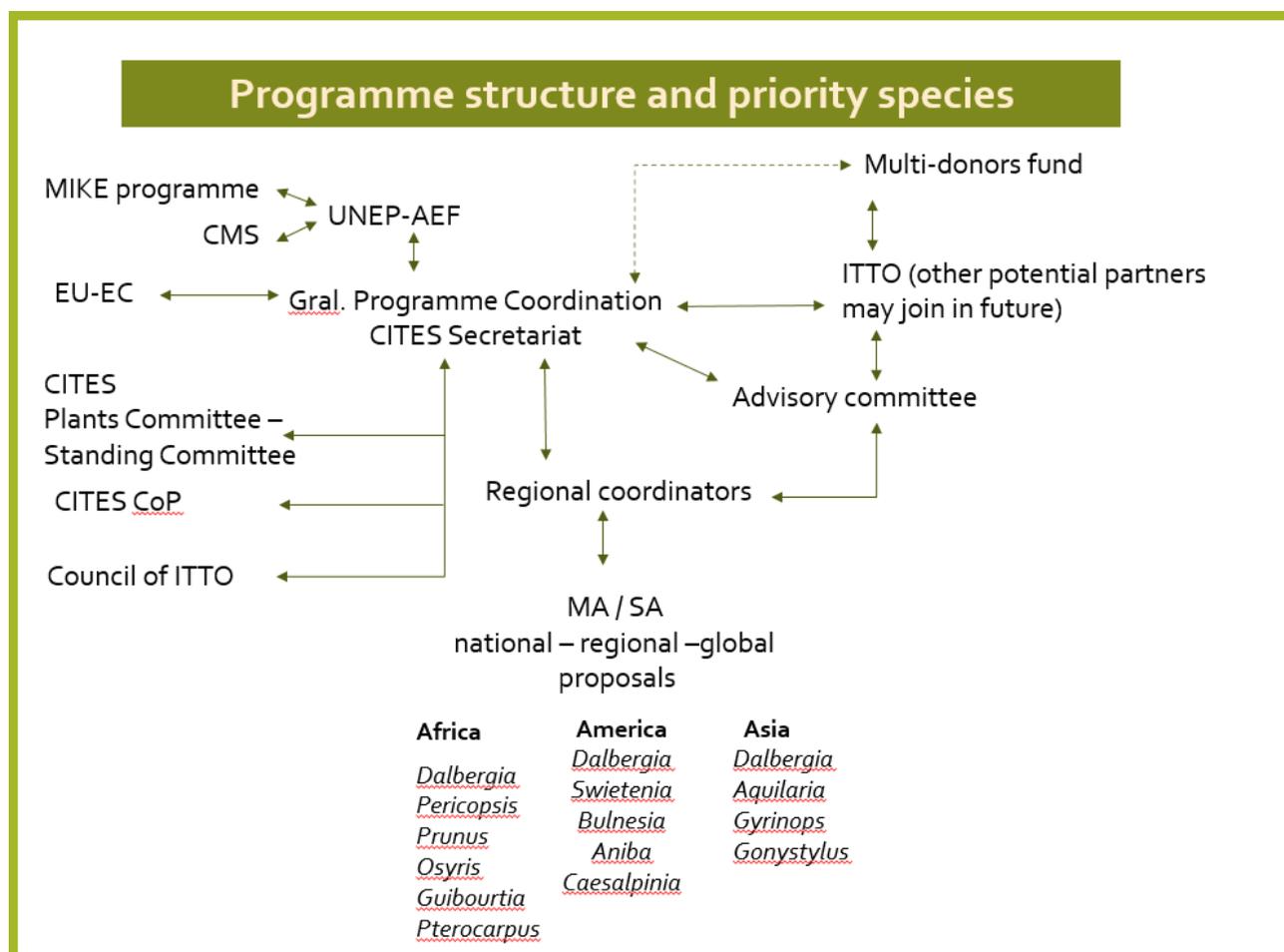
Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.CC The Standing Committee shall consider reports by the Secretariat and the Plants Committee on the CITES Tree Species Programme, and, taking into account other discussions relating to capacity-building activities, provide recommendations to the Secretariat, Parties and organizations, on the CITES Tree Species Programme and its long-term future.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.DD The Secretariat shall:
- a) collect information on Decision 18.AA and make it available to the Plants Committee;
 - b) report progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee;
 - c) report, in consultation with the Standing Committee, on progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
 - d) continue cooperation with organizations working on forest related matters, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to strengthen the support to Parties for implementing the Convention for listed tree species.

Structure of the CITES Tree Species Programme



CITES Secretariat: the CITES Secretariat is the implementing agency of the EU-project entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* (for more details and it directs the overall work and expenditures of the 7 million Euro earmarked to support the CITES Tree Species Programme).

Regional Coordinators (RCs): the three Regional Coordinators assist participating Parties for 6 months a year of work spread in a year calendar. There is insufficient funding for recruiting the Regional Coordinators full time. The RCs liaise directly with Management and Scientific Authorities in their respective regions and facilitate the work on target species that have been identified as priority species for work under the CITES Tree Species Programme.

Advisory Committee (AC): The CITES Secretariat does not have funding for organizing physical meetings of the Advisory Committee so it does that on an opportunistic basis when delegates attend other CITES official meetings. When physical meetings are not possible, the Committee works by electronic means. (See Annex 4 for more details).

EU-EC: the main donor of the CITES Tree Species Programme is the European Union through the European Commission. In this regard the CITES Secretariat reports regularly to the EC and holds meetings as necessary.

CITES Plants Committee, CITES Standing Committee and CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP): the CITES Secretariat will regularly report to the CITES official meetings and to other organizations official meetings as necessary.

ITTO Secretariat, Council of ITTO: ITTO remains the main partner of the CITES Tree Species Programme. The ITTO Secretariat reports annually on CITES activities to its Council and gives the opportunity to the CITES Secretariat to complement that report. The participation of the CITES Secretariat at the ITTO Council also provides an opportunity to ITTO Member countries and donors to feed the current work under the CITES Tree Species.

Multi-donors fund: further contributions can be received through the CITES or through the ITTO Secretariats.

UNEP-AEF, MIKE, CMS: the EU-project entitled *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* earmarked 1 million Euro for the African Elephant Fund to be implemented by UNEP although that work is overseen by the CITES Secretariat. The Secretariat MIKE is a member of the AEF Steering Committee and as a permanent programme of the Secretariat assists in informing the latter on latest developments and work under the AEF. The CMS Secretariat could be involved in future work of the AEF.

Terms of Reference of the CITES Tree Species Programme Advisory Committee

1. Mandate and key tasks

An Advisory Committee is established to support the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme, and provide non-binding strategic and technical advice.

The tasks of the Advisory Committee will include the following:

- Provide guidance on the roadmaps produced by the regional coordinators.
- Provide advice and input on proposal applications.
- Be informed about and comment on the overall progress of the implementation of programme.
- Discuss issues and challenges identified by the programme team and implementers, and propose remedial actions, as appropriate.

The Advisory Committee findings and recommendations may be reported by the CITES Secretariat to both donors and to the CITES official bodies.

2. Composition

The Advisory Committee consists of the following:

- Three Party representatives from each of the three CITES regions concerned by the programme (Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean).
- Programme donor representatives
- Two scientists
- CITES Secretary General (Chair)²
- CITES Tree Species Programme Coordinator and Programme Assistant (Secretary to the Advisory Committee)
- Three Regional Coordinators
- ITTO Secretariat (*ex officio*).

Effort will be made to ensure that the Advisory Committee remains small and flexible, whilst ensuring effectiveness and regional balance. A minimum of one-Party representative from each of the three CITES regions concerned by the programme (Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean); one donor, and the CITES Secretariat will form a quorum for conducting physical meetings.

Additional members to the Advisory Committee may join at a later stage by agreement. The number of donors present in each meeting cannot outnumber the number of Party representatives.

All members to the Advisory Committee will contribute on a voluntary basis and will self-finance their participation at physical meetings.

3. Modus operandi

The Advisory Committee will conduct its work mostly through email exchange. The CITES Tree Species Programme Coordinator will ensure that information is shared among the Advisory Committee members. A dedicated programme webpage will be created in early 2019 and maintained to share relevant programme information and to facilitate communication with the Advisory Committee.

² For the entire duration of this project and to be reconsidered at a later stage.

These will be closed meetings. In the case that another Party observer would like to attend a particular meeting, that will need to be considered in advance by the Advisory Committee members and, on a case by case basis.

Subject to financial availability, the Advisory Committee will aim to meet face-to-face on an opportunistic basis in the margins of CITES official and other relevant meetings.

At the beginning of each Advisory Committee meeting, the Chair will present the agenda and invite a round of self-introduction of participants. The assistant of the programme will take notes of discussions and prepare minutes that will be shared with all participants.

Rules of procedure may be adopted, if necessary, to help with a smooth running of each meeting.

CITES Tree Species Programme Advisory Committee
Members and contact information

Asia		
Cambodia*	Indonesia*	Vietnam*
Mr. Ty Sokhun Chairman CITES Management Authority of Cambodia Secretary of State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)	Indra Exploitasia (Mrs) - Director of Biodiversity Conservation CITES Management Authority of Indonesia Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation	Mr. Vuong Tien Manh Deputy Director Viet Nam CITES Management Authority Administration of Forestry Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
India*	Malaysia*	Thailand*
Mr. Tarun Kathula Wildlife Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)	Mr. Dato' Wan Mazlan Wan Mahmood Undersecretary Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources (KATS)	Mr. Somkiat Soontornpitakool Director of CITES Management Authority of Thailand Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
Africa		
Gabon*	Tanzania	Côte d'Ivoire*
Mr. Brice Léandre Meyé Directeur Général de la Faune et des Aires Protégées	Dos Santos Silayo Tanzania Forest Agency CE	Ms. Salimata Kone, Ministère des Eaux et Forêts - Direction de la Faune et des Ressources Cynégétiques
Cameroon*	Madagascar*	Senegal
Mr. Daniel Amendé	Mr. Liva Ramiandrivo, Organe de Gestion CITES, Secrétaire Général du Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Ecologie et des Forêts	Mr. Abba Sonko, Direction des Eaux et Forêts, Chasses et de la Conservation des Sols/Organe de Gestion C ITES au Sénégal

Central, South America and the Caribbean		
Brazil*	Guatemala*	Argentina
Ms. Claudia M. C. de Mello Autoridad Administrativa CITES Claudia M. C. de Mello Diretoria de Uso de Biodiversidade e Florestas Coordenação de Comércio Exterior Coordenadora	Mr. César Augusto Beltetón Scientific Authority CITES Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas	Mr Eduardo Manghi Coordinator 26.311 National Law Implementation Unit National Native Forest Dept. Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development
Perú*	Bahamas	Nicaragua
Ms. Irma Betty Romero Rodriguez Autoridad Administrativa CITES Dirección de Gestión Sostenible del Patrimonio Forestal	Ms. Danielle Hanek MSc.Forest Officer Forestry Unit Ministry of the Environment and Housing	Mr. René Salvador Castellón Autoridad Administrativa CITES Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARENA)
Programme donor representatives		
European Commission		
Mr. François Busson Policy Officer - Forestry and Biodiversity European Commission International Cooperation and Development Unit C2 – Environment, Natural Resources, Water		
United States of America		
Ms. Anne St. John Biologist Division of Management Authority U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		
CITES TREES SPECIES PROGRAMME TEAM		
Evaluators/Scientists		
Mr. Ian Thompson Thompson Forest Consulting Inc.	Mr. Jorge Malleux Consultor forestal Internacional Profesor Emérito Universidad Nacional Agraria - La Molina Lima Perú	
CITES Secretary General		
Ms. Ivonne Higuero		
CITES Secretariat Tree Species Programme Coordinator and Programme Assistant		
Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt CITES Tree species programme Coordinator	Vacant Programme Assistant	

Three Regional Coordinators		
Mr. Jean Lagarde BETTI Regional Coordinator for Africa, CITES Tree Species Programme,	Mr. Thang Hooi Chiew, Regional Coordinator for Asia, CITES Tree Species Programme,	Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt Regional Coordinator for Central and South America and the Caribbean
ITTO Secretariat (ex officio)		
Mr. Steven E. Johnson Assistant Director Division of Trade and Industry International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)		
Observers		
<u>European Union</u> Hélène PERIER Forest and Wildlife Policy Officer Unit F3 - Multilateral Environmental Cooperation DG Environment - European Commission Michaela SCHWEDELER Policy Officer DG Environment - European Commission	<u>Argentina</u> Mr Maximiliano Azcona CITES Scientific Authority on Forest Products National Native Forest Department Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development <u>United States of America</u> Ms. Aysha Ghadiali, Policy Analyst Forest Service International Programs	

Member
Alternate member

* ITTO member country

Extra contacts

The United States of America has requested that in the event that the Member and the Observer of that delegation are not available, to please contact Mr. Luke Thompson at:

Mr. Luke D. Thompson,
Foreign Affairs Officer
Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs
Office of Conservation and Water (OES/ECW)
U.S. Department of State
Tel: +1-202-647-0658

European Union
Dagmar Zíková
CITES Scientific Officer
Unit F3 - Multilateral Environmental Cooperation
DG Environment - European Commission
Tel + 32 2 296 32 93
Av. Beaulieu 9 - office 3/124
1160 Brussels

Conditions and requirements for submission of proposals for which funding is requested

1. Geographical and taxonomic scope:

Considering efforts to assist Parties to implement the Convention for CITES listed tree species, the financial support will be available for the implementation of activities in three target CITES regions: Africa, Asia, and Central and South American and the Caribbean. The tentative list of candidate species for the programme is as follows (* are the target key species):

Asia: *Dalbergia cochichiniensis**, *Pterocarpus sanctalinus**, *Taxus* spp., *Aquilaria* spp., *Gyrinops* spp., *Gonystylus* spp.

Africa: *Diospyros* spp. (Madagascar)*, *Dalbergia* spp. (Madagascar), *Pericopsis elata*, *Osyris lanceolata**, *Pterocarpus erinaceus**, *Prunus Africana*, *Guibourtia demeusei*; *G. pellegriniana*; *G. tessmsnii*.

Central and South America and the Caribbean: *Swietenia* spp. (3 species) (Central American spp.*), *Dalbergia nigra**, *Dalbergia granadillo*, *Dalbergia stevensonii**, *Dalbergia retusa**, *Aniba rosaedora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi*.

2. Organizational eligibility:

Project proposals can be submitted and implemented directly by the CITES Management Authority, or by other entities in cooperation with the CITES Management Authority. In the case of the latter, the proposal must be accompanied by an official letter of endorsement issued by the relevant Management authority.

3. Project budget:

The maximum funds available is USD 250,000 per project, but smaller project proposals are also invited. All applicants are strongly encouraged to include in-kind contributions or co-funding.

4. Subject areas:

Project proposals can cover a range of CITES priority areas, considering that the core areas of work are:

- 1) formulation of non-detriment findings;
- 2) marking and traceability;
- 3) tree products identification; and
- 4) capacity building.

5. Duration:

The EU Project - *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* will end in early 2020. Project proposals funded under the *CITES tree species programme* must therefore have a maximum duration of 2 years. Proposals for follow-up activities may be considered exceptionally at a later stage.

6. Criteria to assess eligibility of the proposal:

Questions related to selection criteria		Additional information
1. Is the implementing country a range State of CITES tree species? If yes, please specify the year when your country ratified CITES.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2. Is the project linked to CITES Decisions or Resolutions agreed by the CITES Conference of the Parties? If yes, please indicate the Decisions and Resolutions that justify the implementation of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
3. Is the implementing country an exporter of CITES tree species products?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
4. Is the implementing Party an exporter of CITES tree species products to EU member countries?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5. Does the proposed project relate to the following core areas of work? If yes, please describe.		
5.a- non-detriment findings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.b- marking and traceability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.c- identification	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.d- capacity building	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
6. Does the implementing country have a suspension in place agreed by any CITES body; or does it have a zero export quota recommended by the CITES Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee or the Plants Committee?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a trade suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a zero export quota <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7. Is your country currently under the Review of Significant Trade for the target taxa of the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
8. In which CITES Appendix is the target taxon of the project included?	<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix I <input type="checkbox"/> Appendix II <input type="checkbox"/> Appendix III	
9. What is the scale of the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> small: 1- 30,000 USD <input type="checkbox"/> medium: 30,001 - 100,000 USD <input type="checkbox"/> large: 100,001 - 250,000 USD	
10. Has your country submitted other project proposals to seek funding from donors, where CITES has been a partner (e.g. the ITTO-CITES Programme)? If yes, please list the previous projects that your country has implemented in the past and indicate whether it was funded by the ITTO-CITES programme or other donors.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
11. Is this project proposal a continuation of the work started with a project funded under the ITTO-CITES Programme (2006-2015)? If yes, indicate which ITTO-CITES project set the bases for this new project proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

12. Is the project involving the private sector? If yes, please explain the roles and responsibilities of the industry in the activities implementation.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
13. Has your country signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) in the context of the EU-Forest Law for Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plant (FLEGT) of the European Commission? If yes, please explain how you plan to liaise with the FLEGT local branch in order to strengthen the implementation of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
14. Does your country have a national strategy for the sustainable use of trees species? If yes, are the proposed activities part of the national strategic plan (please elaborate)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
15. Does your country have a peer review and a quality control mechanism in place (if yes, please elaborate)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Regional Meetings and CoP17 Decisions on tree species

The CITES Tree Species Programme will invite participating Parties to one of the following three regional meetings:

Regional meeting	Dates	Venue
CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Asia	25 to 29 June 2018	Yogyakarta - Indonesia
CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Central and South America and the Caribbean	17 to 21 September 2018	Buenos Aires - Argentina
CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa	11 to 15 March 2019	Dar es Salaam - Tanzania

The CITES Secretariat has worked to accommodate an extra meeting per region that would assist in implementing specific CoP17 Decisions. The team is blocking a full week in each region and will work actively with the ITTO Secretariat to accommodate the best possible all three ambitious programmes of work.

The regional meeting in Indonesia dedicated one day and a half to run the Second Regional Workshop on the Management of Wild and Planted Agarwood Taxa, dedicated to implementation of Decision 17.197 on *Agarwood producing – taxa*. More information is available at the following link https://cites.org/eng/news/experts-meet-indonesia-review-progress-made-implementing-cites-tree-species-programme-asia-enhancing-trade-regulation-agarwood_27082018

The regional meeting in Buenos Aires accommodated two days of training on various fronts on timber identification and trade routes. Those two days run in liaison with INTERPOL, and notably with the team of INTERPOL Project LEAF for Central and South America and the Caribbean. More information is available at the following link https://cites.org/eng/news/cites-tree-species-programme-regional-meeting-for-central-and-south-america-and-the-caribbean_27092018

Finally, the regional meeting in Africa will have at least one day dedicated to the discussion of Decision 17.255 on *Prunus africana* (see document [PC24 Doc. 20](#)) and on Decision 16.154 (Rev. CoP17) paragraph a) that addresses work on Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17).

National/tri-national activities prioritized for funding and presented per work category and per region under the CITES Tree Species programme

Region	NDFs (including STR countries)	Marking & traceability (including Livelihoods)	Identification	Capacity building (including Governance)
Africa (Out of 39 proposals from)	# BI Renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes en vue d'une gestion durable de <i>Prunus africana</i> ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST	GA Assessing the ecological dynamic, conservation status, and trade traceability of Kewazingo (<i>Guibourtia</i> spp.) timber species as first step for making non-detriment findings (NDFs) in Gabon. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 - SST	* KE-TZ-UG Conservation and sustainable management of <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> for economic development in East Africa. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 – SST; 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) – SST;	+ # MG Gestion durable de la population de <i>Prunus africana</i> de Madagascar : évaluation de stock, agroforesterie, technique de prélèvement et cadre réglementaire. ∑ Dec. 6.53 - SST
	+ # CM Projet de plan d'action et d'actualisation de l'avis de commerce non préjudiciable en vue de la gestion durable de <i>Prunus africana</i> (Rosaceae), espèce d'arbre listée en annexe II de la CITES au Cameroun ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST			+ DRC Avis de Commerce Non Préjudiciable de <i>Pericopsis elata</i> , <i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> , et <i>Prunus africana</i> en République Démocratique du Congo. ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST
	* NG BJ TG Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> (Fabaceae) au Bénin Nigeria, et Togo ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST			* CI Projet de sauvegarde de <i>Pericopsis elata</i> (Assamela) et de <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> (Bois de vène) en Côte d'Ivoire. ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST
Central and South America and the Caribbean (Out of 18 proposals)	+* NI- + * GT-SV Generación de capacidades y lineamientos técnicos de manejo para elaborar dictámenes de extracción no perjudicial orientados a las especies del género <i>Dalbergia</i> en Guatemala, Nicaragua, y El Salvador. ∑ Dec. 16.53 - SST	+ * BR Rapid-field identification of <i>Dalbergia</i> woods and rosewood oil by NIRS technology. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 - SST	+ * GT Análisis integral de las especies arbóreas del género <i>Dalbergia</i> y similares a través del laboratorio forense de maderas para el fortalecimiento de la aplicación de la CITES en Guatemala. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 - SST	CU Fomento de la capacidad para lograr una más efectiva implementación de la CITES para especies maderables en Cuba. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 – SST Dec. 16.53 - SST
	# AR Bases para la gestión sostenible del palo santo o <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> en la Región del Gran Chaco de Argentina. ∑ Dec. 17.166-69 – SST; Dec. 16.53 - SST			

Asia (Out of 14 proposals)	+ * VN Strengthening the Management and Conservation of <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> and other Rosewood Species in Vietnam.	TH Development of DNA Markers to Identify Species and Origin of <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> Wood in Selected ASEAN Member States	+ ID A Non-detriment Findings Report and a DNA Database for <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> in Java and West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.	+ * KH Integrating the guidelines and incentives for piloting of small-scale private <i>Dalbergia s</i> plantations with the determination of a Non-detriment Findings Report in Preah Vihear province in Cambodia.
	Σ Dec. 16.53 - SST	Σ Dec. 17.166-69 - SST	Σ Dec. 16.53 - SST	
	MY Establishment of Arboreta and Strengthening Institutional Network for the Conservation of <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> in Peninsular Malaysia.			
Σ Dec. 16.53 - SST				

Symbol Key: # (Currently under RST process, or have conditions/zero quota resulting from RST); + (Indicative list of target Parties under the project document. All species are possible candidate species under the project document and those with '*' appear as key target species); Σ (project contributing to the implementation of CoP17 Decs. and numbers of those Decs.). SST (Scientific Support Team leading).

Current structure, scope, resources and options for Parties with respect to the CTSP

	CTSP 2017 – 2021	Could Parties consider the following options or propose different ones?
Programme		Continue or discontinue the CITES Tree Species Programme
Structure	See Annex 2 to the present document	Same, similar or different structure?
Expected outcomes	1 – Ensure the sustainable management of rare tree species and their products; 2 – Contribute to legal, traceable, and fair trade in products from CITES tree species; 3 – Improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure benefit from long-term; and 4 – Contribute to the rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at a country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation.	1 – Ensure the sustainable management of <u>CITES listed</u> tree species and their products; 2 – Contribute to legal, traceable, and fair trade in products from CITES tree species; 3 – Improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure benefit from long-term; and 4 – Contribute to the rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at a country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation.
Submission of project proposals	By the Management Authorities or endorsed by that Authority although submitted by the Scientific Authority	Should a small-grants structure whereby selected Parties should submit proposals be maintained?
Subject areas	Types of activities: 1 – formulation of non-detriment findings; 2 – marking and traceability; 3 – tree products identification; and 4 – capacity-building.	Types of activities to which the programme could contribute: 1 – formulation of non-detriment findings; 2 – marking and traceability; 3 – tree products identification; 4 – formulation of legal acquisition findings; 5 - monitoring and controls; and 6 – capacity-building
Target Parties	Range States of target Species in: Africa; Asia; and Central and South America and the Caribbean. Notably: Africa (Demoratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, Mozambique, Madagascar); Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Viet Nam); and Latin America [Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Peru, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay]	All
Target species	Africa: <i>Diospyros</i> spp. (Madagascar)*; <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (Madagascar) <i>Pericopsis elata</i> ; <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> * <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> *; <i>Prunus africana</i>	All tree species listed in Appendix II that need the formulation of a non-detriment finding and the verification of legal acquisition prior to the issuance of CITES export permits hence requiring national

	<p><i>Guibourtia demeusei</i>; <i>G. pellegriniana</i>; <i>G. tessmannii</i>.</p> <p>Asia: <i>Dalbergia cochichiniensis</i>*; <i>Pterocarpus sanctalinus</i>* <i>Taxus</i> spp.; <i>Aquilaria</i> spp. <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.; <i>Gonystylus</i> spp.</p> <p>Central and South America and the Caribbean: <i>Swietenia</i> spp. (3 species) (Central American spp.)* <i>Dalbergia nigra</i>*; <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i> <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i>*; <i>Dalbergia retusa</i>* <i>Aniba rosaedora</i>; <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i></p>	authorities to strengthen scientific and management capacities on various fronts.
Regional support	To facilitate a smooth implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme, three Regional Coordinators have been appointed.	Considering the impact of the regional assistance experienced during the ITTO-CITES Programme and now during the CITES Tree Species Programme it would be highly recommended to keep the design with regional coordinators.
Criteria	A set of criteria used for the pre-selection of the project summaries and another set of criteria used for the evaluation of draft proposals before their revision and completion.	Should the programme's content be based on project proposals from selected Parties, and criteria for their selection? Or would criteria for the programme's activities have to be based on CoP Decisions and Resolutions, and advice from an advisory committee?
Partnerships	ITTO	Organizations or national institutions working towards a sustainable on forest management
Advisory Committee	Established to support the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme and provide non-binding strategic and technical advice.	Considering the impact of the regional assistance experienced during the ITTO-CITES Programme and now during the CITES Tree Species Programme it would be highly recommended to keep a functional Advisory Committee.
Resources	Currently the European Union is the unique donor of the CTSP through the CITES Secretariat. The United States of America has contributed further through the ITTO Secretariat.	Multiple options could be possible, Parties are invited to recommend their preference.

Possible candidate species for the CITES tree programme (CITES listed timber and wood products species). Key target species are marked with an *

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

Regarding the draft decisions contained in Annex 1:

No extra funding would be required to implement the proposed draft decisions in Annex 1. That proposed work can be implemented as part of the regular work of the Parties, the Plants and Standing Committees and the Secretariat.