LOGISTICAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CITES

The Conference of the Parties, in Decision 16.30, directed the Secretariat to seek information from the Parties related to needs identified in the Annex to document CoP16 Doc. 22 (Rev. 1), entitled *Technological, Logistical and Equipment Needs Assessment to Strengthen the Implementation of CITES in Developing Countries*. It further directed the Secretariat to report its findings at SC65.

The questionnaire was circulated with Notification 2014/013 to CITES Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and Enforcement Authorities. This document is a review of the information submitted by Parties and is intended to provide a guide to discussions on strengthening the capacity of the Parties in implementation of CITES.

It may not be possible to undertake an in-depth analysis of the logistical, technological and equipment needs of ICTES Parties due to the small number of submissions and the under-representation from many regions, particularly Asia and Oceania. Nevertheless, the results from the survey do provide insights on the many challenges faced by some Parties and may offer suggestions for the development and implementation of capacity building projects. Below is a summary of responses.

Questionnaire to CITES Management Authorities

With regard to CITES Management Authorities, a total of 31 submissions out of 180 Parties were received. Representation was skewed in favour of Africa (13 out of 31 submissions). Seven submissions came from Parties in Europe. Parties in Central and South America and the Caribbean accounted for 6 submissions while Parties in Asia counted for 4 submissions. There was one submission from North America and none from Oceania.

Submissions by Parties in response to Questionnaire to Management Authority

Region	Parties	Total of submissions	% of submissions
Africa (53 Parties)	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Comoros, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Tunisia	13	42%
Asia (37 Parties)	China, Japan, Pakistan and Viet Nam	4	13%
Central and South America and the Caribbean (31 Parties)	Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guyana and Uruguay	6	19%
Europe (48 Parties)	Austria, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	7	23%
North America (3 Parties)	United States of America	1	3%
Oceania (8 Parties)		0	0%
Total	**31 out of 180 Parties (17%)**	**31**	

1. Logistics and infrastructure

i. Does your Management Authority have sufficient numbers of staff to fulfill its responsibilities?

Yes (49% of respondents)

No (35%)

No answer (16%: 5 Parties)

ii. Are the training levels of staff sufficient? If no, type of training needed:

Yes (48% of respondents)

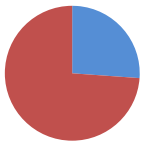
No (49%)

No answer (3%: 1 Party)

According to the comments submitted by the Parties, types of training needed are indicated below in order of preference.

1. General CITES information
2. Identification of specimens
3. Enforcement skills (ex. Inspection procedures, Managing confiscated specimens, etc.)
4. Permits and certificates
5. News and updates
6. Other : Advanced technologies, CITES Database and Wiki identification manual, NDFs, etc.

iii. Does your Management Authority have the necessary resources to potentially inspect, house and store confiscated specimens? If no, type of facility/resource needed:



Yes (26% of respondents)

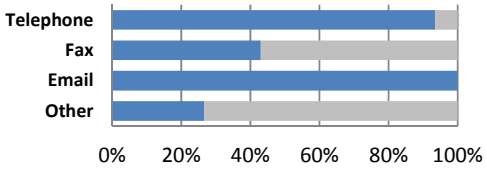
No (74%)

No answer (0%)

According to the comments submitted by the Parties, types of necessary facility/ resource are indicated below in order of preference. Among the items presented, there was a high need for storage facilities for confiscated specimens. Approximately 90% of Parties answering "No" stated storage facilities for confiscated specimens are needed.

1. Storage facilities for confiscated specimens
2. Inspection equipment (ex. Field equipment, office equipment, marking tools, etc.)
3. Vehicles
4. Identification equipment (ex. Forensic detection facilities, DNA identification methods, etc.)
5. Human resources
6. Financial resources

iv. Does your Management Authority have a well-functioning system of communication with other CITES Authorities and relevant government officials at the national and international level? (Check all applicable boxes)



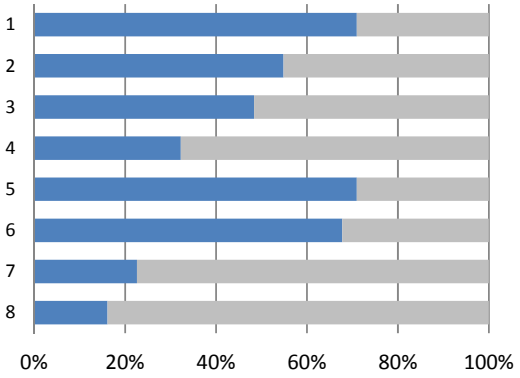
Telephone (94% of respondents)

Fax (43%)

Email (100%)

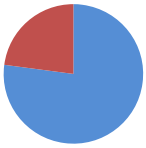
Other (26%) : mail, video conferencing, Skype, etc.

v. Does the Management Authority share permit and other relevant data on CITES with other government ministries and departments? (check all applicable boxes)



1. Other ministries (71% of respondents)
2. Other government agencies, institutions (55%)
3. Research institutions (Universities, etc.) (48%)
4. NGOs (32%)
5. Customs (71%)
6. Police and other enforcement bodies (68%)
7. Commerce (23%)
8. Other (16%) : Local authorities

vi. Does your Management Authority have sufficient resources to ensure timely and secure CITES permit/certificate issuance?



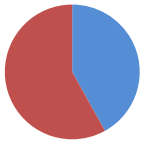
Yes (77% of respondents)

No (23%)

No answer (0%)

2. Technologies and equipment

i. Does your Management Authority have adequate computer and networking technologies and equipment to carry out its responsibilities?



Yes (42% of respondents)

No (58%)

No answer (0%)

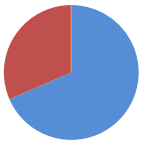
ii. Does your staff have access to office computers?

Yes (90% of respondents)

No (10% - 3 Parties)

No answer (0%)

a. Are the technical specifications of the workstations sufficient to meet your work needs (memory, disk storage, speed, etc.)? If no, what specifications need to be improved?

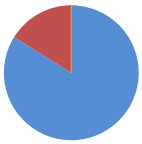


Yes (68% of respondents)

No (32% of respondents)

No answer (0%)

b. Do staff have access to the Internet?

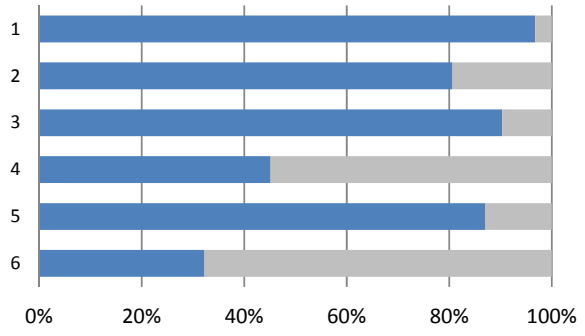


Yes (84% of respondents)

No (16% of respondents)

No answer (0%)

c. Are the computers configured with the necessary software to allow you to complete your tasks? (check all that apply)



1. Word processing (97%)

2. Spreadsheets (81%)

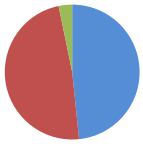
3. Email (90%)

4. Skype (or other similar software) (45%)

5. Internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.) (87%)

6. Other (32%)

iii. Is a database system used to maintain relevant data on CITES meet the CITES requirements, including electronic management tools and electronic trade documentation?
If yes, what type of database:



Yes (48% of respondents)

No (48%)

Under development (3% – 1 Party)

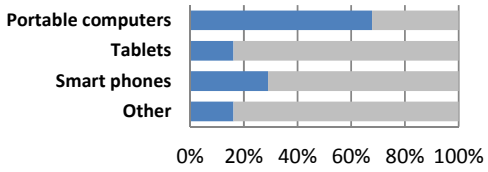
No answer (0%)

According to the comments submitted, Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet is used most widely as a database software for permit forms.

Other types of database available in Management Authority:

- Web-Application for permit issuing
- SISCITES (electronic system for permit issuing)
- SQL Database (Wildlife Trade Management Software)
- Asset Management System for management of data on Ivory and Rhino horn stockpiles
- *ePhorte* (electronic archive in Norway)

iv. Does staff have access to new information and communication devices?



Portable computers (68% of respondents)

Tablets (16%)

Smart phones (29%)

Other (16%)

Questionnaire to CITES Scientific Authorities

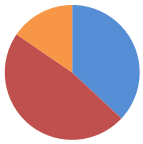
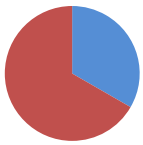
With regard to CITES Scientific Authorities, a total of 26 submissions out of 180 Parties were received. Representation was skewed in favour of Africa (9 out of 26 submissions). Six submissions came from Parties in Europe. Parties in Central and South America and the Caribbean accounted for 6 submissions while Parties in Asia counted for 4 submissions. There was one submission from North America and none from Oceania.

Submissions by Parties in response to Questionnaire to Scientific Authority

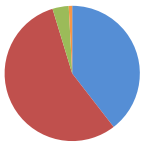
Region	Parties	Total of submissions	% of submissions
Africa	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, and Tunisia	9	35%
Asia	China, Japan, Pakistan and Viet Nam	4	15%
Central and South America and the Caribbean	Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guyana and Uruguay	6	23%
Europe	Austria, Croatia, Greece, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6	23%
North America	United States of America	1	4%
Oceania		0	0%
Total	**Scientific Authorities from 26 Parties**	**26**	

1. Logistics and infrastructure

i. **[Type 1]** In case you have a permanent Scientific Authority with dedicated staff, does it have sufficient numbers of staff to fulfill its responsibilities?
[Type 2] In case your Scientific Authority consists of non-permanent experts or a committee of experts, do the members of the Scientific Authority have the expertise and resources to function and advise effectively?

Type 1. Permanent Scientific Authority **(23 Parties)**		**Type 2.** Non-permanent experts or a committee of experts **(3 Parties)**	
	**Yes** (37% of respondents)		**Yes** (33% of respondents)
	No (48%)		**No** (67%)
	No answer (15%)		**No answer** (0%)

ii. Do members of your Scientific Authority have access to scientific training programmes to update their skills and to introduce them to new methodologies and equipment?



Yes (40% of respondents)

No (56%)

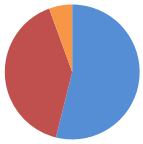
Under development (4% – 1 Party)

No answer (1%)

According to several comments, the EU offers various training sessions to Scientific Authorities in EU Member States. Below are identified training needs in order of preference.

1. NDFs information and related procedures (ex. Population survey, Evaluation of status of species, etc.)
2. Information on General CITES and CITES specimens
3. Advanced identification tools (ex. Forensic Techniques)
4. Informatics and data management
5. Use of software and new equipment (ex. Using GIS)
6. Other : Chains of custody, legislation, monitoring methodology, etc.

iii. Does your Scientific Authority have the necessary resources to organize and undertake studies on population surveys and other activities to make non-detriment findings or establish quotas?



Yes (54% of respondents)

No (41%)

No answer (6%)

Majority of the needs specified are focused on resources needed to implement population surveys (especially *in situ* population) and monitoring.

iv. Does your Scientific Authority have the means of transportation to conduct population surveys or other relevant field work, visit or consult stakeholders, and other activities associated with non- detriment findings?

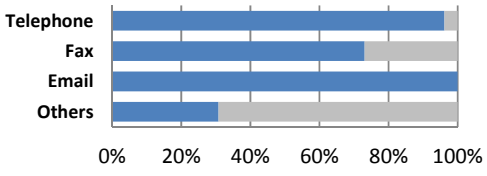
Yes (49% of respondents)

No (46%)

No answer (4%)

33% of the respondents who answered “Yes” to the question added to specify the limitedness of the means of transportation.

v. Does your Scientific Authority have a well-functioning system of communication with CITES Authorities and relevant government officials at the national and international levels? (check all applicable boxes)



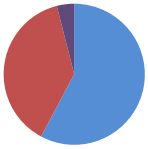
Telephone (96% of respondents)

Fax (73%)

Email (100%)

Others (31%)

vi. Does your Scientific Authority have the necessary expertise and resources to collect, analyse and store data and information used for and derived from non-detriment findings?

	**Yes** (58% of respondents)
	No (38%)
	Y/N (4% - 1 Party)
Needs were identified with regard to database and software for analysis of scientific information, training and financial/human resources.	

2. Technologies and equipment

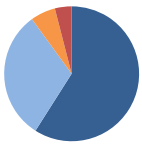
i. Does your Scientific Authority have access to computers in the office?

	**Yes** (85% of respondents)
	No (12% - 3 Parties : Burkina Faso, Comoros and Guinea)
	No answer (4% - 1 Party)

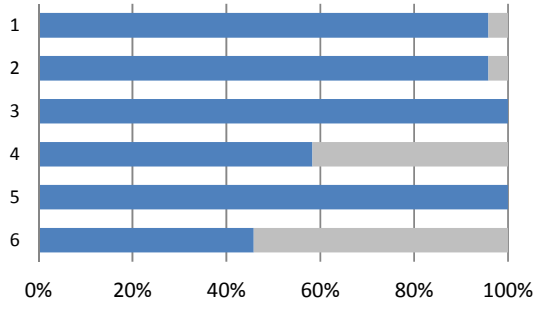
a. Are the technical specifications of the workstations sufficient to meet your Scientific Authority's work requirements (memory, disk storage, speed, etc.), particularly with regard to manipulating and analysing data, downloading and storing information, using modelling software and other software applications that may require specific computer specifications?

	**Yes** (59% of respondents)
	No (37%)
	No answer (4%)

b. Do staff have access to the Internet? If yes, is the bandwidth sufficient for your needs?

	**Yes (sufficient bandwidth)** (59% of respondents)	**Yes** (90%)
	Yes, but in limited extent (insufficient bandwidth) (31%)	
	No (6% : 2 Parties : Guinea and Madagascar)	
	No answer (4%)	

c. Are the computers configured with the necessary software to allow you to complete your tasks? (check all that apply)



1. Word processing (96%)
2. Spreadsheets (96%)
3. Email (100%)
4. Skype (or other similar software) (58%)
5. Internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.) (100%)
6. Other frequently used software (please specify): (46%)

v. Do you have a database system to store and maintain relevant data on CITES and does it meet your department's needs with respect to electronic management tools and electronic trade documentation? If yes, what type of database:

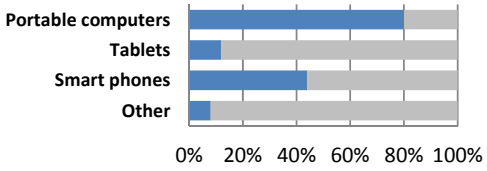
Yes (30% of respondents)

No (66%)

No answer (4% – 1 Party)

MS Office Excel Spreadsheet is used the most in lieu of database software. There are less than 5 cases in which other database software are used. One Party commented that a more comprehensive and dedicated database system is required.

vi. Do members of your Scientific Authority have access to new electronic information and communication devices such as :



Portable computers (80% of respondents)

Tablets (12%)

Smart phones (44%)

Other (8%)

Questionnaire to CITES Enforcement Authorities

With regard to CITES Enforcement Authorities, a total of 22 submissions out of 180 Parties were received. Representation was skewed in favour of Africa (9 out of 22 submissions). Five submissions came from Parties in Europe. Parties in Central and South America and the Caribbean accounted for 4 submissions while Parties in Asia counted for 3 submissions. There was one submission from North America and none from Oceania.

Submissions by Parties in response to Questionnaire to Enforcement Authority

Region	Parties	Total of submissions	% of submissions
Africa	Algeria, Chad, Comoros, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali and Mauritania	9	41%
Asia	China, Japan and Pakistan	3	14%
Central and South America and the Caribbean	Bahamas, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay	4	18%
Europe	Austria, Croatia, Greece, Norway and Switzerland	5	23%
North America	United States of America	1	5%
Oceania		0	0%
Total	**Enforcement Authorities from 22 Parties**	**22**	

1. Logistics and infrastructure

i. Do you have sufficient numbers of staff to fulfill your responsibilities?

Yes (34% of respondents)

No (34%)

No answer (32% : 7 Parties)

7 out of a total of 22 Parties omitted t answer to this question possibly due to difficulty in providing exact number/size of staff.

ii. Does your staff have access to enforcement training programmes specifically related to illegal wildlife trade to update skills and to introduce new methodologies and equipment?

Yes (38% of respondents)

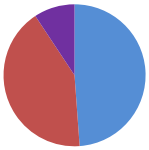
No (63%)

No answer (5% : 1 Parties)

Most of the training programmes available in the Parties may be provided to Custom officers in cooperation with other authorities and regional agencies. According to comments submitted by the Parties, training needs are presented below in order of demand.

1. Identification and detection of specimens
2. Crime management (Controlled deliveries, anti-poaching, INTERPOL
3. Use of specific equipment and technology
4. Customs controls and prosecution

iii. Does your Enforcement Authority have the necessary resources to undertake inspections, border controls, seizures, investigations, and other enforcement-related activities?



Yes (49% of respondents)

No (42%)

Y/N (9%)

No answer (0%)

Investigation equipment and training on identification of specimens have high demanded. Some Parties stated that cooperation with relevant bodies is necessary to implement enforcement-related activities.

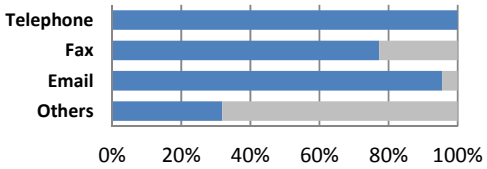
iv. Does your Enforcement Authority have the means or transportation to reach areas to conduct inspections, border controls, seizures, investigations, and other enforcement-related activities?

Yes (55% of respondents)

No (34%)

No answer (11% : 2.5 Parties)

v. Does your Enforcement Authority have a well-functioning system of communication with other CITES Authorities and relevant government officials at the national and international level? (check all applicable boxes)



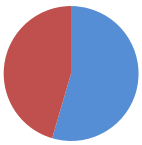
Telephone (100% of respondents)

Fax (77%)

Email (95%)

Others (32%)

vi. Does your Enforcement Authority have the necessary expertise and resources to collect, analyse and store data and information used for and derived from enforcement-related activities?



Yes (55% of respondents)

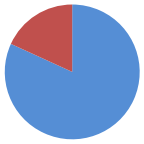
No (45%)

No answer (0%)

One of the comments expressed is the need for a common or interconnected database(s)e across institutions to manage information of total specimens seized.

2. Technologies and equipment

i. Does your staff have access to office computers?

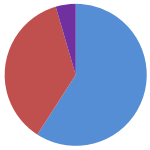


Yes (82% of respondents)

No (18%)

No answer (0%)

a. Are the technical specifications of the workstations sufficient to meet your work requirements (memory, disk storage, speed, etc.)



Yes (59% of respondents)

No (36%)

Y/N (5%)

No answer (0%)

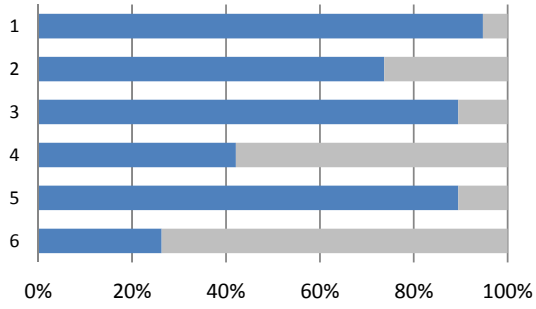
b. Does your staff have access to the Internet?

Yes (86% of respondents)

No (14%)

No answer (0%)

c. Are the computers configured with the necessary software to allow you to complete your tasks? (check all that apply)



1. Word processing (95%)

2. Spreadsheets (74%)

3. Email (89%)

4. Skype (or other similar software) (42%)

5. Internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.) (89%)

6. Other frequently used software (26%)

ii. Do you have a database system to store and maintain relevant data on CITES and does it meet your requirements, including ease of use and access and security? If yes, what type of database:

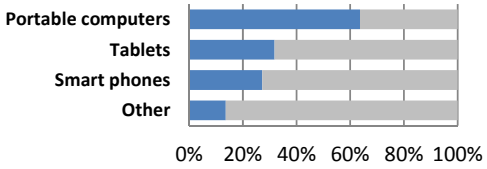
Yes (45% of respondents)

No (50%)

No answer (5% : 1 Party)

Databases available in Enforcement Authorities:
- Excel Spreadsheet database
- Internal secure database to register CITES infringements
- SISCITES, SICAFI
- CITES web application database
- RHODIS (Rhino DNA Index System)
- Intelligence Data System
- Customs Enforcement Database
- Microsoft SQL Server

iii. Does your staff have access to new electronic information and communication devices such as:



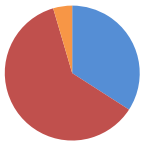
Portable computers (64% of respondents)

Tablets (32%)

Smart phones (27%)

Other (13%)

iv. Does your Enforcement Authority have access to DNA technologies and laboratories to assist in the prosecution of wildlife crimes?



Yes (34% of respondents)

No (61%)

No answer (5% : 1 Party)

v. Does your Enforcement Authority have a system through which intelligence can be shared with the police or other enforcement authorities in your country?

Yes (50% of respondents)

No (45%)

No answer (5% : 1 Party)