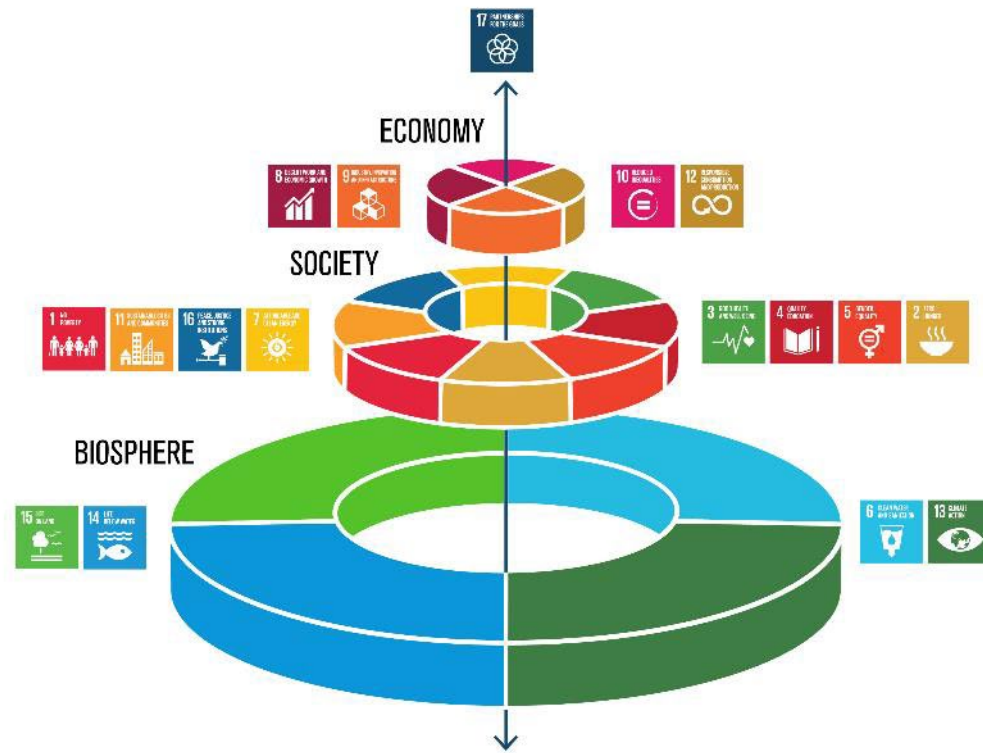


CITES AFRICA Regional Workshop on e-permitting systems

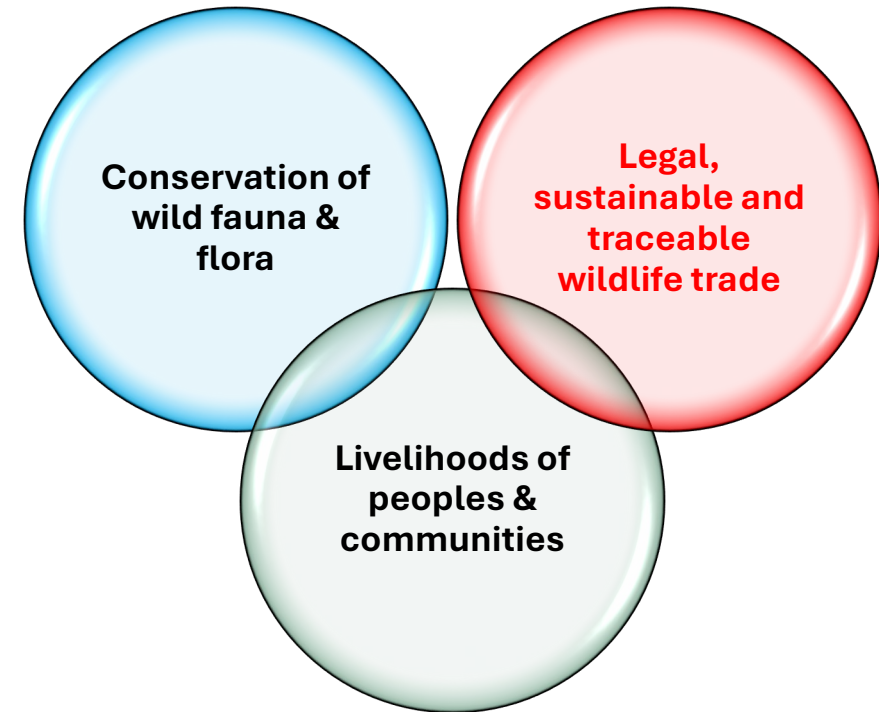
Juan Carlos Vasquez

Head, Biodiversity, People and Landscapes

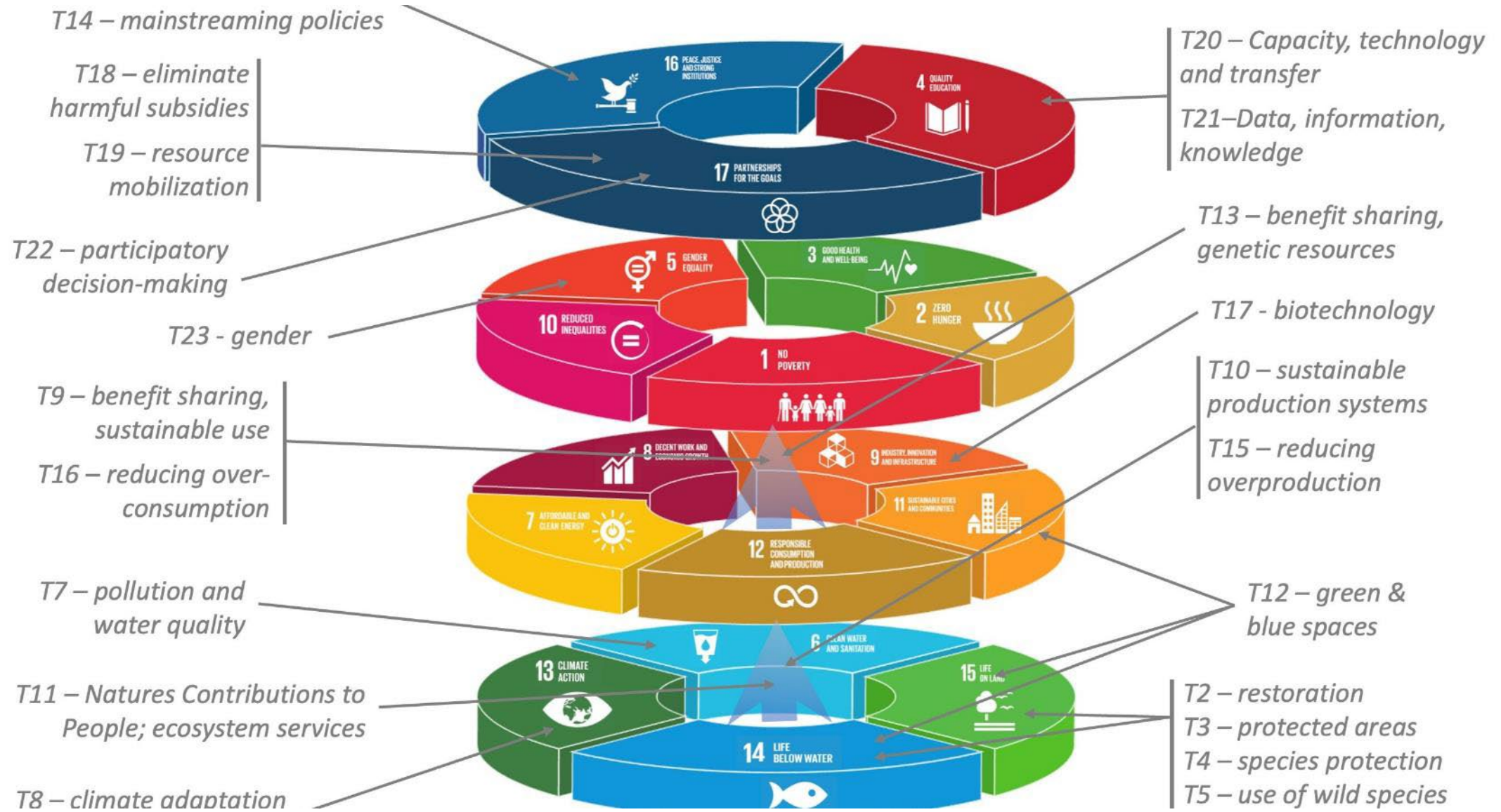
SDGs



CITES objectives



GBF targets & SDGs



Introduction:

Facts and figures on the global wildlife trade

AFRICA – “Big Five” set of Wildlife Economy Activities

Tourism



USD 42.9 billion
estimated total value of the wildlife
safari industry



Tourism contributes close to,
or more than,
10% of GDP



Vulnerability of a
heavy reliance
of conservation authorities
on tourism for funding



State of the
Wildlife Economy
in Africa

ALU
SCHOOL OF WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION

Carbon



total social value of carbon generated from
**Natural Climate
Solutions (NCS)**
for tropical African nations can be estimated at
USD 190 billion



Opportunity
for countries to
**pursue natural
climate solutions**



Mangrove
conservation, protection, and rehabilitation
are incredibly important in order to
**avoid the loss of
irrecoverable carbon**



**Prioritising
investments in
nature**
will help
**capitalise on
carbon market
opportunities**



Carbon markets
can play an important role in
**advancing global
climate action**



There are significant
**climate finance
opportunities**

Roadmap



Wildlife Utilization (Ranching & hunting)



Wildlife ranching is
**poorly developed
across Africa**



**Ranchers who
utilised wildlife**
in addition to crop farming and/or
livestock farming
**boosted their
income by an
average of 23%**



Estimated
USD 26 - 40 million
contributed to conservation through fees
paid to landowners by hunters each year

Fisheries



Contributes
USD 24 billion
to the African economy



**1.3% of the total
African GDP**



Employing over
**12 million
people**

Forest Products



Estimated
**67% of the African
population use
non-timber
forest products
for income or
subsistence**



Charcoal
generates income for over
40 million people



Policy options
are required to formalize and
**create a
sustainable
charcoal sector**



**Ethiopia is the
largest producer
of Arabica coffee**
in Africa



There is
huge opportunity
for Africa to
**increase honey
production**
to close the productivity gap



Argan oil
is the most expensive edible oil in the
world, earning Morocco approximately
USD 32 million
per year

Figures on the global trade of CITES species:

- CITES Parties have recorded over 20 million transactions <http://trade.cites.org/>
- Trade in individual species or derivative products valued in the millions, even billions of US dollars:

Queen conch:
\$60 million/year



Pythons
\$1billion/year



Bigleaf Mahogany
\$33million/year



Entire economic sectors rely on wildlife:

Food:



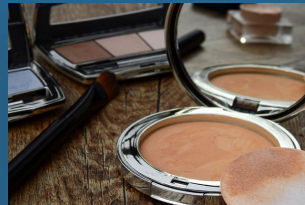
Fish, wild meat & plant foods

Housing & Furniture:



Wood, timber & other materials

Health & Beauty:



Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, fragrances

Leisure:



Musical instruments,
pets, ornamentals

Tourism:



Museums, souvenirs,
botanical gardens

Fashion:



Leather, furs, fibers,
jewelry

Illegal trade: a lucrative crime

USD 5-20 billion /year*

Illegal trade can involve:

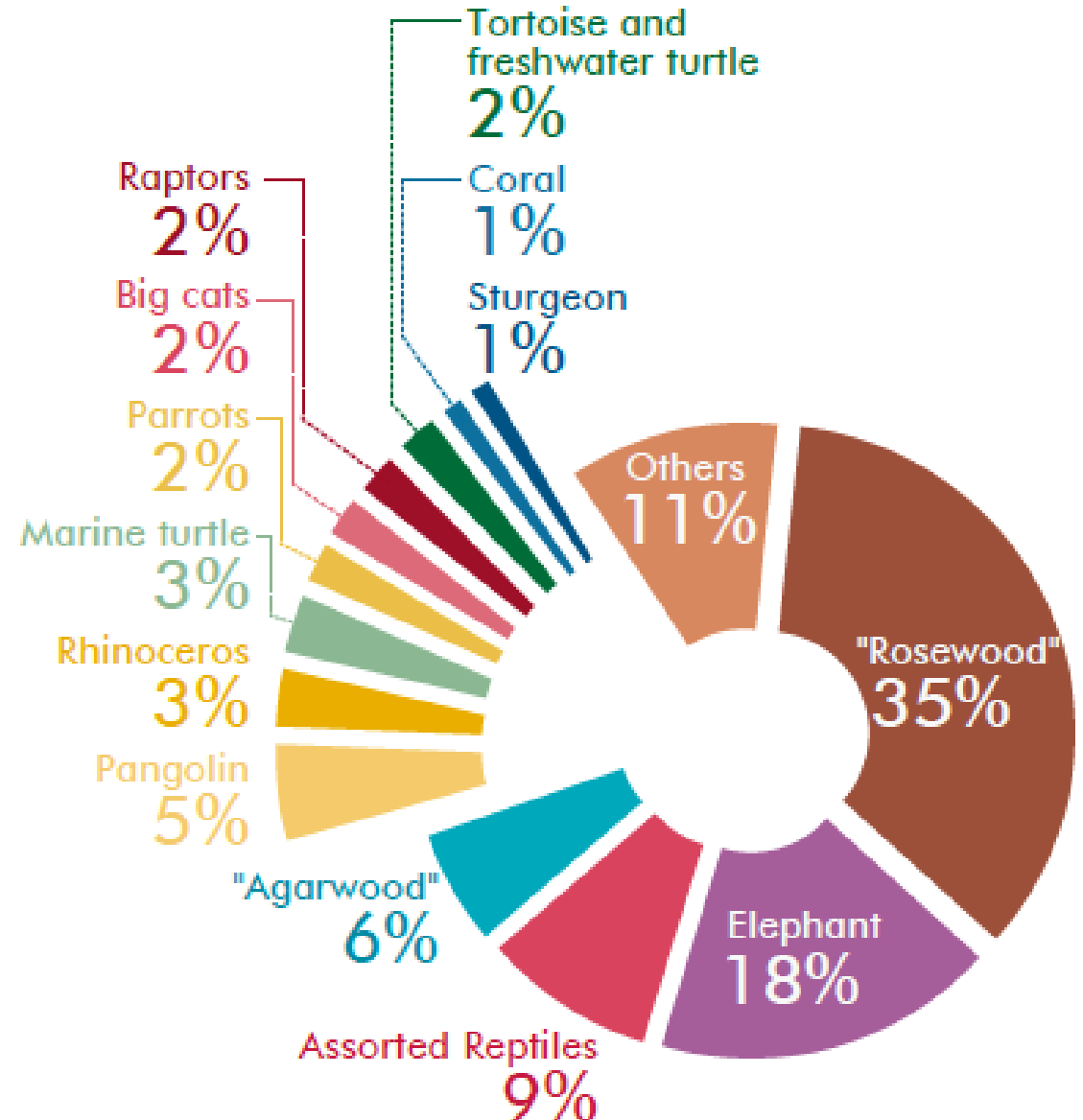
Specimens that cannot be commercially traded

Specimens that can be lawfully traded, but not in accordance with CITES

* Estimated, excludes marine & timber

Illegal Wildlife Trade :

- Undermines legal trade
- Involves transnational organized crime groups
- Threatens conservation of wild species & biodiversity
- Goes beyond 'popular' species



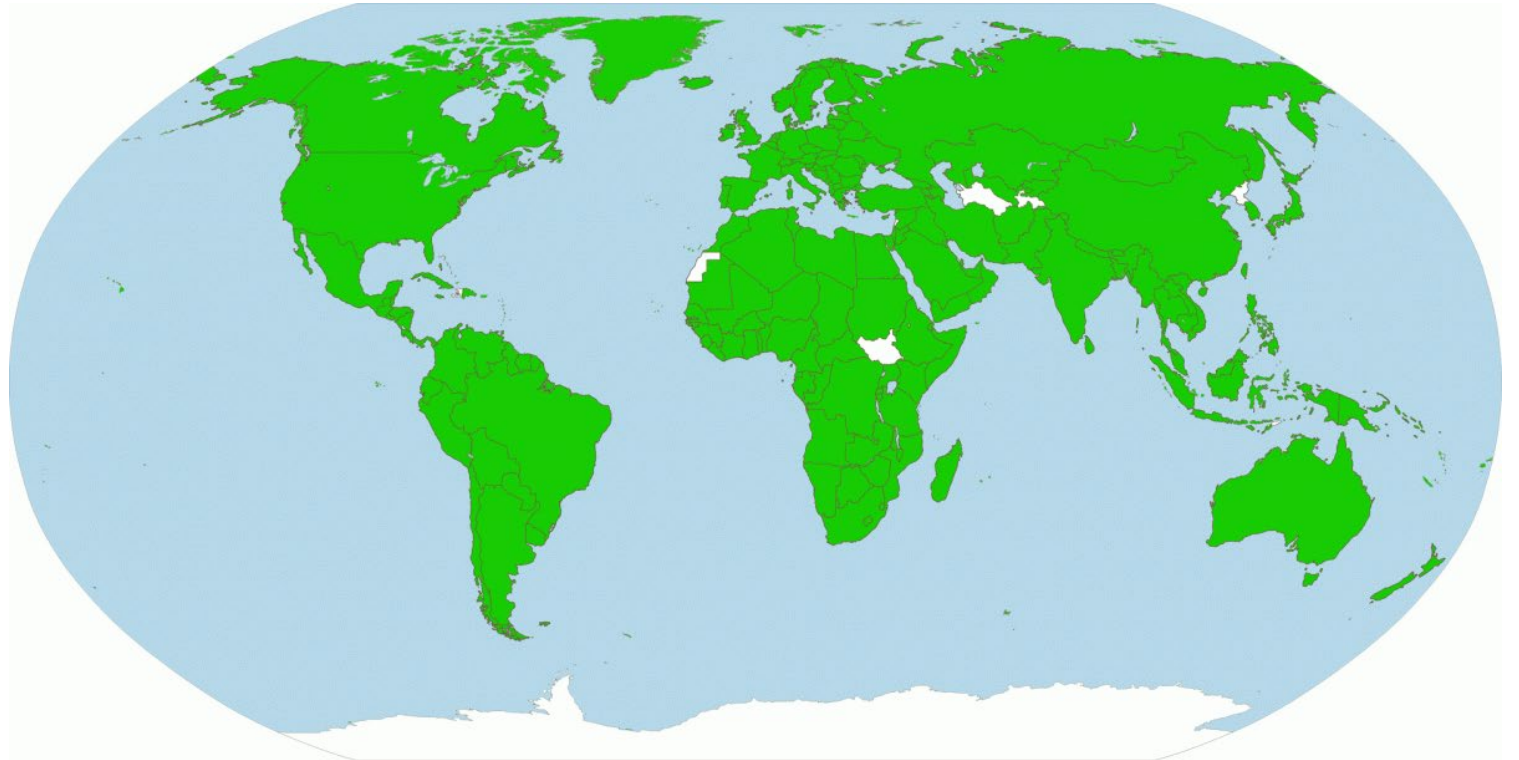
What is CITES?

What does 'CITES' mean?

- **C**onvention on **I**nternational **T**rade in **E**ndangered **S**pecies of Wild Fauna and Flora
- Signed on 3 March 1973, entered into force in 1975
- Over 40,000 species listed in Appendices

Who is involved in CITES?

CITES has 184
signatory Parties:
183 States and the
EU.



What is CITES?

- CITES is a multilateral agreement that operates through an **intergovernmental process**
- Combines **wildlife and trade** themes within a **legally binding instrument**
- It is aimed at achieving **conservation and sustainable use** objectives



The signing of the CITES Convention. Washington, D.C., 3 March, 1973.

The CITES Vision:

Ensuring that wild fauna and flora in international trade are not exploited unsustainably by keeping this trade:



LEGAL



SUSTAINABLE



TRACEABLE

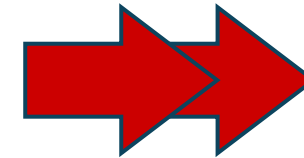
How is CITES implemented?

- Nationally appointed authorities deliver **certificates and permits...**
- ... for the trade of **listed animals and plants** (live, dead, parts or derivatives)
- ... in of these four cases:

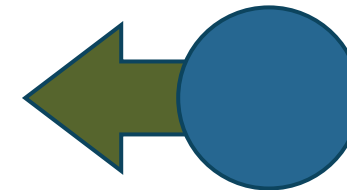
IMPORT & EXPORT:



RE-EXPORT



INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA



App. 4 - CITES Permit and Certificates:

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA		TRAVELLING-EXHIBITION CERTIFICATE	
		Original	
3. Owner of specimen(s) (name, permanent address and country of registration)		1. Certificate no.	2. Valid until
Signature of owner		4. Name, address, national seal/stamp and country of issuing Management Authority	
5. Special conditions: a) Valid for multiple cross-border movements. Owner to retain original form b) The specimen/s covered by this certificate may not be sold or otherwise transferred in any State other than the State in which the exhibition is based and registered. This certificate is non-transferable. If the specimen/s dies/die, is/are stolen, destroyed, lost, sold or otherwise transferred, this certificate must be immediately returned by the owner to the issuing Management Authority c) This certificate is not valid unless accompanied by a continuation sheet If for live animals, this certificate is valid only if the transport conditions comply with the IATA Live Animals Regulations; if for live plants, with the IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations; or, in the case of non-air transport, with the CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants			
6. Country of import Various	7. Purpose of the transaction Q	8. Security stamp no.	
9. Scientific name (genus and species) and common name of species	10. Description of specimen/s, including identifying marks or numbers, age, sex	11. Quantity	
		12. Appendix no. and source	
13. Country of origin	14. Permit no. and date	15. Exhibition registration number	16. Date of acquisition, if pre-Convention
17. This certificate is issued by: Place _____ Date _____ Security stamp, signature and official seal _____			
18. Additional conditions			
19. Customs endorsement (see Continuation sheet)			

Provides records on:

Legality

Origin & sourcing,
duration of validity

Sustainability

Non-Detriment
Findings (NDFs)

Traceability

Trade data (purpose,
quantity, etc.)

How does CITES work?

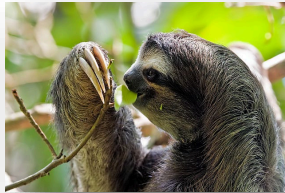
The CITES Appendices:

Species* subject to CITES regulations are divided into **three Appendices**:

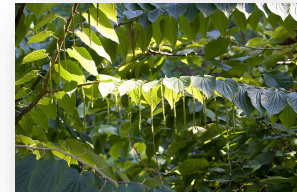
Appendix I



Appendix II



Appendix III



* “Species” means any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population thereof

CITES Appendices: which species go where?

Appendix I

Species threatened with extinction.

Appendix II

Species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but for which trade must be controlled to avoid threats to their survival.

Appendix III

Species for which a single country is asking other Parties to help with its protection.

CITES Appendices: what about trade?

Appendix I

Trade is generally **prohibited**.

Appendix II

Trade is generally **permitted**, but **controlled**.

Appendix III

Trade is generally **permitted**, but **controlled**.

Most trade is permitted:

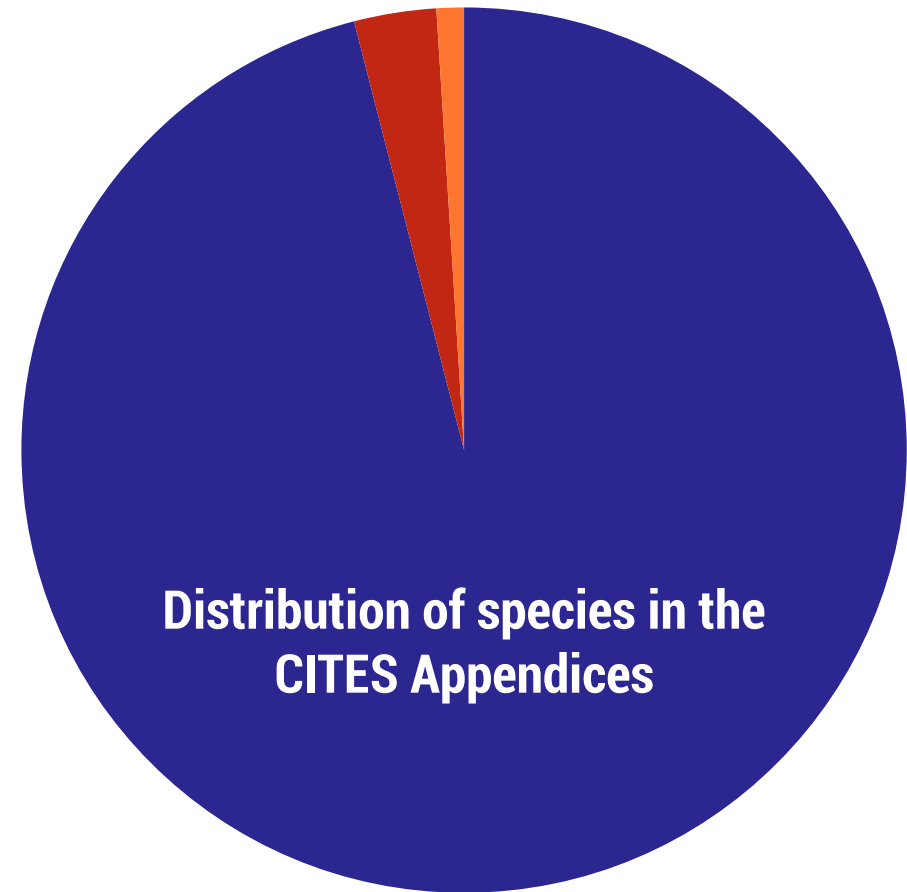
Of the 40,000+ CITES-listed species:

 3% are listed in Appendix I – *international commercial trade in specimens is **prohibited***

 96% are listed in Appendix II

 1% are listed in Appendix III

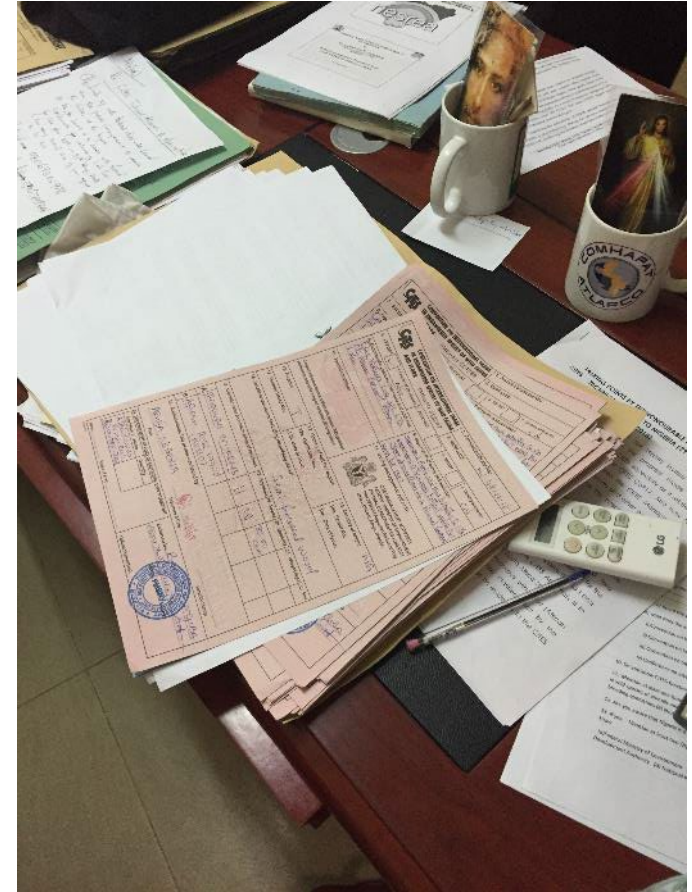
97% of trade of international trade is **controlled, but legal.**



Border control overview

Out of 12 Parties:

- 5 have a Customs “single window” platform in place, 1 has a “single window” in development. 1 unknown.
- 12 have no special border control procedures for e-commerce.
 - Comment: the growth of e-commerce and the creation of fulfillment networks has presented some new challenges.



Border control (export)

Out of 12 Parties:

- In 4, EAs have access to the CITES permit database (3 are the same agency/department).
- In 7, EAs do not have access (1 will with new system being developed).
- 1 unknown.
- 3 have established policy for data requests by EAs. 3 are in the same agency/department. 4 do not have policy. 2 unknown.
- In 10, EAs are not alerted when export permits are issued. 2 unknown.

Border control (export)

Out of 12 Parties:

- In 7, export permits are endorsed by Customs at export. 4 are endorsed by other EA. In 1 they are endorsed by either.
- In 5, all exports are physically examined. In 2, exports usually inspected (if possible). In 2, inspection is based on risk-based analysis. In 1 live exports are always inspected, yes, dead may be. 2 unknown.
- In 7, export quantities are reported to MA. In 3 export quantities are not reported. 2 unknown.
- In 8, copies of endorsed CITES permits are submitted to the CITES MA (or retained, if same agency). In 2, copies are not forwarded. 2 unknown.

Countries overview

Out of 13 Parties:

- 10 have a single Management Authority (MA), 3 have multiple MAs.
- 7 have a single Scientific Authority (MA), 6 have multiple SAs.
- 10 have Enforcement Authority (EA) in addition to Customs. 6 have multiple EAs. Jurisdictions and powers not always clear.
- Unclear how EAs coordinate in most Parties. 2 have multi-agency working group/steering groups. 1 has individual “focal points”.

Permit issuance

Out of 12 Parties:

- Most issue permits from a single office, but 4 have multiple permitting offices.
 - 1 has a central database, 2 do not, 1 unknown.
- 5 have automated permit issuance, 6 allow email application, 1 requires paper application in person.
- 11 offer application forms downloadable from the internet and allow electronic submission of supporting docs.
- 10 charge fees for permits.
 - 7 may be paid electronically. 1 must be paid in person, one sends a bill, and 1 unknown

Permit issuance

Out of 12 Parties:

- 6 use security stamps on permits.
- None use QR code, 1 incorporates a 2d barcode.
 - 2 are testing/exploring QR code, 2 are considering/planning to move to them.
- All export permits are English or bilingual.
- No countries have special procedures for ecommerce.

Reporting

Out of 12 Parties:

- 11 indicated annual reports are generated manually, or if automated, are then edited manually.
- 10 submit annual reports as Microsoft Excel files. 1 submits reports as pdf. 1 unknown.
- 7 report permit issuance data. 5 report verified import/export data.
- 3 do not report foreign export data. 8 do but 2 responses not clear and need to be confirmed. 1 unknown.

Inter-country data exchange

Out of 12 Parties:

- 2 indicate they exchange data with other countries.
- 3 are participating in Electronic CITES Permit Information Exchange (EPIX projects)—all with European Parties.
- Cross-border use of permits cannot currently be tracked electronically by any of the Parties.

Border control (import)

Out of 12 Parties:

- For 2 Customs is solely responsible for enforcement on import. 1 unknown.
- For 9 import control is up to Customs + a designated wildlife/environmental EA.
 - The basic system is that if wildlife is detected/suspected by Customs, then the wildlife agency is called in to inspect & identify the wildlife.
 - Unclear for most Parties what the officer powers are and which authority will respond to offenses.
- For most, it is unclear how authorities coordinate and what (if any) policy is in place.
- 7 communicate non-compliance to exporting country (formal or informal). 2 do not. 3 unclear/unknown.

Key takeaways: CITES is ...

- an intergovernmental agreement on international trade in wild fauna and flora
- tasked with overseeing the legality, traceability, and sustainability of trade
- a legal framework and a set of procedural mechanisms
- a system of permits and certificates managed by Parties



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