Assessment of the capacity of selected countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to implement the new **CITES** listings of **Sharks and Manta Rays**

Summary of a study commissioned by CITES - August 2014

Sphyrna lewini Sphyrna zygaena Scalloped hammerhead shark Smooth hammerhead shark At the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, Thailand, March 2013), the Parties decided to include a number Carcharhinus longimanus Lamna nasus of sharks and rays in CITES Oceanic whitetip shark Porbeagle shark Appendix II, with a deferred date of implementation of 14 September 2014. Manta spp. Sphyrna mokarran Great hammerhead shark



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Capacity needs assessment: methodologies and results

Analytical framework :

Evaluating exporting Parties' readiness to implement CITES listings *

EXPORT PERMIT (for the CITES-listed species)

- Export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species (non-detriment finding or NDF)
- Compliance with the local laws for the protection of fauna and flora (legal acquisition finding or LAF)

INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA CERTIFICATE

- Species caught beyond national jurisdictions can only be brought into a CITES Party (introduced from the sea) with a certificate from a Management Authority of the State of introduction
- Introduction will not be detrimental to the survival of the species

Assessment methodology

3 sources of information



CITES-FAO **Regional Consultations** and other workshops

Questionnaire (National CITES and fisheries authorities)

Literature and existing FAO work (e.g. IPOA- and NPOA-sharks)

Summary of the **Results**

Several focal countries have a management network in place that could support the regulation of shark fisheries

• Many focal countries have established national mechanisms of institutional collaboration between CITES and fisheries authorities

 Good examples for improving institutional collaboration exist in all focal regions

There are different requirements for : - re-exporting Parties - importing Parties Please see www.cites.org

http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/shark/index.php

FAO Criteria to select Focal countries







Importance of shark catches and trade

Occurrence of the listed species in their waters



Level of socio-economic development

Focal countries of this assessment, identified through the FAO study *Priority regions* and countries impacted by the recent CITES listings of marine elasmobranchs.

• Capacity to identify listed species in catches and in commodities is insufficient

 Fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance is unevenly developed and often poor

• The available information (fisheries and biological) to support the making of an NDF is in general very poor

Requirements and needs

SHORT TERM

HIGH PRIORITY :

- Strenghten public information and outreach
- Improve institutional arrangements for CITES implementation
- Develop Identification and fields guides
- Enforce compliance measures
- Establish or strenghten management regimes for shark fisheries

MID-LONG TERM

- Strengthen national or regional management regimes for shark fisheries
- Enforce compliance measures
- Improve monitoring, control and surveillance
- Establish or improve mechanisms and capacity to ensure traceability of sharks in catches and in trade
- Improve engagement of fisheries sector in CITES processes
- Support measures for fisheries livelihoods (e.g. diversification of fishing activities, value chain)

Actions

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL LEGISLATION, ENFORCEMENT (MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE) AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

