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



ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

CZECH REPUBLIC

Zpráva o implementaci CITES za období 2018 - 2020

CITES Implementation Report for the period 2018 - 2020

Ministerstvo životního prostředí

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT ODBOR DRUHOVÉ OCHRANY A IMPLEMENTACE MEZINÁRODNÍCH ZÁVAZKŮ DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIES PROTECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS VÝKONNÝ ORGÁN CITES CITES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Praha, 2021

Party	Czech Republic
Period covered in this report	2018 - 2020
Department or agency preparing this report	Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic Compiler: Ondrej Kloucek. Ph.D. (email: Ondrej.Kloucek@mzp.cz)
Contributing departments, agencies and organizations	Nature Conservation Agency (CITES Scientific Authority), Czech Environmental Inspectorate (CITES Enforcement Authority), Police Presidium

GOAL 1 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH AND IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONVENTION

Objective 1.1Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through appropriate policies,
legislation and procedures.
All Aichi Targets relevant to CITES, particularly Aichi Target 2, Target 6, Target 9, Target 12,
Target 17 and Target 18.

Indicator 1.1.1: The number of Parties that are in category 1 under the national legislation project.

1.1.1a	Have any CITES relevant policies or legislation been developed during the period covered in this report? Yes No I If 'Yes', have you shared information with the Secretariat? Yes No Not Applicable I If 'No', please provide details to the Secretariat with this report: Please see the separate Annex to the Report for the Action plan to combat illegal trade with endangered species of wild fauna and flora adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic in 2020.
1.1.1b	Does your legislation or legislative process allow easy amendment of your national law(s) to reflect changes in the CITES Appendices (e.g. to meet the 90 day implementation guidelines)? Yes No X If 'No', please provide details of the constraints faced: Changes have to be implemented into the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations. There are sometimes delays in adopting the relevant legislation.

Objective 1.2 Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens. Aichi Target 3.

Indicator 1.2.1: The number of Parties that have adopted standard transparent procedures for the timely issuance of permits in accordance with Article VI of the Convention.

		Yes	No	No information
1.2.1a	Do you have standard operating procedures for application for and issuance of permits?	\boxtimes		
	Are the procedures publicly available?	\boxtimes		
1.2.1b	Do you have:			
	Electronic data management and a paper-based permit issuance system?	\boxtimes		
	Electronic permit information exchange between Management Authorities of some countries If 'Yes', please list countries			

Electronic permit information exchange to Management Authorities of all countries?				
Electronic permit data exchange between Management Authorities and customs?				
Electronic permit used to cross border with electronic validation by customs?				
If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide information on challenges faced or issues overcome: Unifying of procedures between CITES and Customs with respect to the electronic systems used.				
If 'No', do you have any plans to move towards e-permitting ¹ ?	\square			
If you are planning to move towards e-permitting, please explain what might help you to do so: Cooperation with other Parties (e.g. Switzerland), UNEP-WCMC and European Commission.				

Indicator 1.2.2: The number of Parties making use of the simplified procedures provided for in <u>Resolution</u> <u>Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16)</u>.

1.2.2a	A Has your country developed simplified procedures for any of the following?			
		Tick all applicable		
		Yes	No	No information
	Where biological samples of the type and size specified in Annex 4 of <u>Resolution Conf. 12.3</u> (Rev. CoP16) are urgently required.			
	For the issuance of pre-Convention certificates or equivalent documents in accordance with <u>Article VII</u> , paragraph 2.		\boxtimes	
	For the issuance of certificates of captive breeding or artificial propagation in accordance with Article VII, paragraph 5.		\boxtimes	
	For the issuance of export permits or re-export certificates in accordance with Article IV for specimens referred to in Article VII, paragraph 4.			
	Are there other cases judged by a Management Authority to merit the use of simplified procedures? If 'Yes', please provide details:			

Objective 1.3 Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties. All Aichi targets relevant to CITES, particularly Target 9, Target 14 and Target 18.

Indicator 1.3.1: The number of Parties that have implemented relevant reporting under Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties and/or Standing Committee recommendations.

1.3.1a	Has your country responded to all relevant special reporting requirements that are active during the period covered in this report, including those in the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, Standing Committee recommendations, and Notifications issued by the Secretariat (see [link to location on the CITES website where the reporting requirements are listed])?
	Responses provided to ALL relevant reporting requirements
	Responses provided to SOME of the relevant reporting requirements
	Responses provided to NONE of the relevant reporting requirements
	No special reporting requirements applicable

¹ e-permitting refers to the electronic (paperless) management of the permit business process, including permit application, Management Authority – Scientific Authority consultations, permit issuance, notification to customs and reporting.

1.3.1b	Were any difficulties encountered during the period covered in this report in implementing specific Resolutions or Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties? Yes No Xestarrow Yes
	If 'Yes', please provide details of which Resolution(s) or Decision(s), and, for each, what difficulties were / are being encountered?

Objective 1.4 The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species. Aichi Target 1, Target 12, Target 14 and Target 19.

1.4.1: The number and proportion of species that have been found to meet the criteria contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 or its successors. This includes both the periodic review and amendment proposals.

1.4.1a	Have you undertaken any reviews of whether species would benefit from listing on the CITES Appendices? Yes 🛛 No 🗌
	If 'Yes', please provide a summary here, or a link to the report of the work (or a copy of that report to the Secretariat if the work is not available online): We investigated the population status of <i>Syrmaticus reevesii</i> (Reeves's Pheasant) in the Czech Republic in relation to proposal for inclusion of this species into CITES App. II, which was submitted at CoP18 by China. This species is considered as introduced in the Czech Republic and is kept and captive bred by facilities in the Czech Republic, but has not viable population in this country. However, escapes of specimens from the facilities and their survival in the wild nature are not rare. Based on investigations and reviews, the Czech Republic was supporting listing of <i>S.</i> <i>reevesii</i> into App. II.
	The Czech Republic also has been participating in investigations and reviews of other species, which do not naturally occur in territory of the Czech Republic. We can mention for example <i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i> (listed into CITES App. II at CoP18), <i>Smaug giganteus</i> (potential candidate for uplisting into App. I) or family <i>Hystricidae</i> (porcupines as potential candidates for listing into CITES App. II).

Objective 1.5 Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings. Aichi Target 2, Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 12 and Target 14.

- Indicator 1.5.1: The number of surveys, studies or other analyses undertaken by exporting countries based on the sources of information cited in Resolution Conf. 16.7 on Non-detriment findings related to: a) the population status of Appendix-II species;
 - b) the trends and impact of trade upon Appendix-II species; and
 - c) the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species and the impact of any recovery plans.

1.5.1a	Have any surveys, studies or other analyses been undertaken <u>in your country</u> in relation to:	Yes	No	Not Applicable	If Yes, How many?
	- the population status of Appendix II species?	\boxtimes			
	 the trends and impact of trade on Appendix II species? 		\boxtimes		
	 the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species? 	\boxtimes			
	 the impact of any recovery plans on Appendix I species? 	\boxtimes			
	Have the surveys, studies or analyses integrated relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities?			\boxtimes	

	If there are such studies that you are willing	to share, please provide:
	Species name (scientific)	A brief summary of the results of the survey, study or other analysis (e.g. population status, decline / stable / increase, off-take levels etc), or provide links to published reference material.
	Lutra lutra	accepted Management Plan
	Canis lupus	accepted Management Plan
	Lynx lynx	Management Plan in preparation
	Ursus arctos	Management Plan in preparation
	Otis tarda	Action Plan in preparation
	Falco cherrug	Action Plan in preparation
	Athene noctua	accepted Action Plan
		more info at: https://www.zachranneprogramy.cz/en/
	other NATURA 2000 species naturally occurring in the Czech Republic	
		ongoing monitoring of NATURA 2000, management plans preparation, evaluation, updates
		more info about species: <u>https://portal.nature.cz/nd</u>
		lists of species: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-
		content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:01992L0043- 20130701&from=CS
		https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal- content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02009L0147- 20190626&from=CS
1.5.1b		s or other analyses used in making non-detriment
	findings (NDFs)? Please tick all that app	
		Revised harvest or export quotas Banning export
		Stricter domestic measures
		Changed management of the species \boxtimes
		Discussion with Management Authorities \boxtimes
		Discussion with other stakeholders?
		ther (please provide a short summary):
	are not (with very rare exemptions) exported	d sourced specimens of naturally occurring species d from the Czech Republic. In the vast majority of bred (source codes "F" or "C") are exported from the
	Czech Republic. Because of that, NDFs are	not ordinarily made for these species.
1.5.1c	Do you have specific conservation measure	
	plans for naturally occurring Appendix-I liste	
		Not Applicable
	If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, incl	
	impact: accepted Management Plan for Lutr	
1.5.1d	Have you published any non-detriment findi	ngs that can be shared? Yes 🗌 No 🔀

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	If 'Yes', please provide links or examples to the Secretariat within this report:		
1.5.1e	Which of the following (A to F of paragraph a) x) of <u>Resolution Conf. 16.7</u>) do you use in making non-detriment findings?	Yes	No
	A. relevant scientific literature concerning species biology, life history, distribution and population trends.	\bowtie	
	B. details of any ecological risk assessments conducted.		\boxtimes
	C. scientific surveys conducted at harvest locations and at sites protected from harvest and other impacts.	\bowtie	
	D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.		\boxtimes
	E. consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts.	\boxtimes	
	 F. national and international trade information such as that available via the CITES trade database maintained by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), publications on trade, local knowledge on trade and investigations of sales at markets or through the Internet for example. note: Thee above given answers concern making NDFs for species which do not naturally occur in the Czech Republic and which are imported into 		
	Czech Republic. As mentioned in point 1.5.1b, we do not make NDFs for naturally occurring species, because these are not exported from the wild of the Czech Republic.		

Indicator 1.5.2: The number of Parties that have adopted standard procedures for making non-detriment findings.

1.5.2a		Yes	No	No information		
	Do you have standard procedures for making non-detriment findings in line with <u>Resolution Conf. 16.7</u> ?	\boxtimes				
	If 'Yes', please briefly describe your procedures for making non-detriment findings, or attach as an annex to this report, or provide a link to where the information can be found on the internet:					
	When NDFs are conducted, it is usually for specimens of the sp the wild nature of other countries into the Czech Republic. Spece exported from the Czech Republic are mainly of captive bred or Wild specimens are not exported, and if so, it is an exceptional exports are usually some kind of "higher purposes" e.g. for bree gardens etc. Moreover, conducting of NDF is coordinated at the the EU CITES Implementation Report or EU CITES Reference https://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/legis_refguide_en.htm.	cimens of the rigin (source of situation and eding in licens EU level, for	species codes "F purpos ed zool	which are -" or "C"). es of such ogical		
1.5.2b	When establishing non-detriment findings, have any of the follow guidance been used?	-				
	•		ase tick	all that apply		
	Virtual C IUCN Ch	•				
	Resolution Con			\boxtimes		
	2008 NDF wor					
	Species specific gui	•		\square		
	Species specific gui	Other				
	If 'Other' or 'Species specific guidance', please specify details: A used, we can mention for example "Visual Identification Guide to the World (Genus <i>Varanus</i>)", published by Bundesamt für Natur	o the Monitor	Lizard	Species of		
1.5.2c		Case by case	1	\boxtimes		
		Annually				
		Every two yea Less frequent				
		A mix of the a	-			
	Please describe the circumstances under which non-detriment findings would be changed:					

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Indicator 1.5.3: The number and proportion of annual export quotas based on population surveys.

1.5.3a	Do you set annual export quotas?	Yes	\square
		No	
	If 'Yes', do you set quotas based on population survey, or by other means? Please specify, for each species, how quotas are set:		
			Other,
	Species Name (scientific)	Population Survey?	please specify
	Anguilla anguilla	\boxtimes	

1.5.3b	Have annual export quotas been set at levels which will ensure sustainable production and consumption?	Yes No	
	If 'Yes', please describe how this fits into your non-detrimer Zero export quotas set for the species <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> bas conservation status and serious situation with the population possible to conduct NDF)	sed on the evaluation	

Objective 1.6Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources.
Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

Indicator 1.6.1: The number of bilateral and multilateral agreements that specifically provide for comanagement of shared CITES listed species by range States.

1.6.1a	Is your country a signatory to any bilateral and/or multilateral agreements for co-management of shared species?Yes 🛛 No 🗌
	If 'Yes', please provide brief details, including the names of the agreements, and which other countries are involved: Memorandum of understanding on protection of Central European population of Great Bustard (<i>Otis tarda</i>). Memorandum entered into force in 2001, and the Czech Republic accede to the memorandum on 18 th February 2008.
	Since 2017 - Interreg Central Europe 3Lynx project has been launched for monitoring od population of Eurasian Lynx <i>(Lynx lynx)</i> in the region of the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria, for details please visit https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/3Lynx.html

Indicator 1.6.2: The number of cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, in place for shared populations of CITES-listed species.

1.6.2a	Do you have any cooperative in place for shared population	management plans, including recovery plans, ns of CITES-listed species?	Yes 🗌 No 🔀
	If 'Yes', please list the species to a published plan for each s	s for which these plans are in place and provide a lini species.	k or reference
	Species Name (scientific)	Link or reference to a published plan	

Indicator 1.6.3: The number of workshops and other capacity-building activities that bring range States together to address the conservation and management needs of shared, CITES listed, species.

1.6.3a	Have the CITES authorities <i>received or benefited</i> from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?						
	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity. Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	What were the external sources ¹ ?
	Staff of Management Authority						
	Staff of Scientific Authority						Experts from reputable czech ZOOs; colleagues from Center of environmental forensic sciences (Charles University in Prague)
	Staff of enforcement authorities						
	Traders						

Please provide the names of Parties, and any non-Parties, involved.

	NGOs						
	Public						
	Other (please specify):						
1.6.3b	Have the CITES authorities been the other range States?	provide	rs of any	of the f	ollowi	ng ca	pacity-building activities to
	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	
	Target group		as as	as Ti	н	ō	Details
	Staff of Management Authority						TAIEX CITES workshop for Balcan countries in 2020
	Staff of Scientific Authority Staff of enforcement authorities						TAIEX CITES workshop
	Stan of enforcement authonties						for Balcan countries in 2020
	Traders						
	NGOs						
	Public						
	Other Parties/International meetings						
	Other (please specify)						
1.6.3c	In what ways do you collaborate with	other C	ITES P	arties?			
				ş	_		
			~	time	Offer	S	
		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very Often	Alwavs	Further detail / examples
	Information exchange						
	Monitoring / survey						
	Habitat management						
	Species management			\boxtimes			verification of
							declared captive breeding (source codes "F" and "C") by Scientific Authority (in both exports from and imports into the Czech Republic)
	Law enforcement						
	Capacity building		\square]
	Other (please provide details)						

Objective 1.7Parties are enforcing the Convention to reduce illegal wildlife trade.
Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

Indicator 1.7.1: The number of Parties that have, are covered by, or engaged with:

- an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan;
- formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network;
- a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan; and
- formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement

committee.

1.7.1a	Do you have, are you engaged in, or covered by:	Yes	No	No Information		
	- an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	\boxtimes				
	– formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network?	\boxtimes				
	– a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	\boxtimes				
	 formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement committee? 	\boxtimes				
	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please specify the level of engagement and provide additional details: CZ is engaged in the EU Action Plan, international cooperation is based on active participation in the EU Wildlife Enforcement Group, the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group, EU-TWIX etc. The National Action Plan for Combat Wildlife Trafficking was adopted in January 2020. Concerning national inter-agency cooperation the Enforcement Working Group incl. representatives of the Czech Environmental Inspectorate and the Customs Administration.					

Indicator 1.7.2: The number of Parties with a process or mechanism for reviewing their enforcement strategies, and the activities taken to implement their strategies.

1.7.2a	Do you have a process or mechanism for reviewing your enforcement strategy(ies) and the activities taken to implement your strategy(ies)?	Yes No, but review is under consideration No No information			
	If 'Yes', what do you do?				
	If 'Yes' or 'No, but review is under consideration', which tools do yo	ou find of value?			
1.7.2b	Have you used the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, or equivalent tools?	YesImage: ConstructionNoImage: ConstructionNoImage: ConstructionNo informationImage: Construction	r J		
If 'Yes', please provide feedback on the parts of the toolkit used and how useful the toolkit or equivalent tools have been. Please specify improvements that could be made:					
If 'No', please provide feedback on why not or what is needed to make the toolkit or equiv tools useful to you:					
So far ther strategy too	e has been a limited personal capacity to incorporate the toolkit in ols.	nto national CITES enforcer	ment		

Indicator 1.7.3: The number of Parties that have criminal (penal) law and procedures, capacity to use forensic technology, and capacity to use specialized investigation techniques, for investigating, prosecuting, and penalizing CITES offences.

1.7.3a	Do you have law and procedures in place for investigating, prosecuting, and penalizing CITES offences as a crime? If 'Yes', please provide the title of the legislation and a summary of the penalties available - Act No. 40/2009 Coll., the Criminal Code (summary of penalties available already submitted)	Yes No No information	
1.7.3b	Are criminal offences such as poaching and wildlife trafficking	Yes	\square

	recognized as serious crime ¹ in your country?			No No informatio	n 🗌		
	If 'Yes', please explain what criteria must be met for poaching or wildlife trafficking offences to be treated as serious crimes: Unauthorized handling with Annex A/ CITES Appendix I specimens or more than 25 Annex B/CITES Appendix II specimens						
1.7.3c	Do you have capacity to use forensic technology ² to s investigation of CITES offences?	Yes No No informatio	n N				
	If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary of any samples from CITES-listed species that were collected and submitted to an appropriate forensic analysis facility (located in your country and/or another country) during the period covered in this report: For example DNA analysis of liquids containing protected species, paternity testing, etc. A new Environmental Forensic Sciences Centre has been established at the Charles University in Prague in 2020. The centre is focused on animal morphology, genetics, radiocarbon dating, analyses stable isotopes, chemical analyses as carbofuran or pesticides analyses etc. There work experienced wildlife forensic experts and also judiciary experts. The main task is support of wildlife crime investigation and research in the field of wildlife forensic methods (inter alia, the continuation of the TigrisID project and its extension for other big cat species).						
	If 'Yes', and your country has an appropriate forensic please indicate which species it applies to: variety of			ity for CITES-li	sted species,		
1.7.3d	Did your authorities participate in or initiate any multi- law enforcement operation(s) targeting CITES-listed s during the period covered in this report?			Yes 🛛 No 🗍 No information			
	If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, including any other Parties: All law enforcement authorities participa targeting illegal trade in tiger products, in Operation H (lynxes, bears, wolves etc.) for hunting trophies and the	ated to lunter t	gether argetir	e.g. in Operations of the second s	on Trophy		
1.7.3e	Do you have a standard operating procedure among agencies for submitting information related to CITES INTERPOL and/or the World Customs Organization?	offence		Yes No No informatio	n 🗌		
1.7.3f	Do you have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?	Yes	No	No information	If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered by this report?		
	General crime ⁴	\square					
	Predicate offences⁵	\square					
	Asset forfeiture ⁶	\square					
	Corruption ⁷	\square					

¹ The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines serious crime as conduct constituting an offence punishable by imprisonment for at least four years or a more serious penalty.

² Capacity to use forensic technology means the ability to collect, handle and submit samples from crime scenes involving CITES-listed species to an appropriate forensic analysis facility, located either in your country or in another country(ies).

³ A multi-disciplinary law enforcement operation is one that involves officers from all relevant enforcement disciplines as appropriate, for example officers from Police, Customs and the wildlife regulatory authority. It could be either sub-national, national or international in scope.

⁴ General crime laws relate to offences such as fraud, conspiracy, possession of weapons, and other matters as set out in the national criminal code.

⁵ Article 2, paragraph (h) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines a predicate offence is an offence whose proceeds may become the subject of any of the money-laundering offences established under the Convention.

⁶ Asset forfeiture is the seizure and confiscation of assets obtained from criminal activities to ensure that criminals do not benefit from the proceeds of their crimes.

⁷ Provisions against corruption include national laws to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption covering offences such as bribery of officials, embezzlement or misappropriation of public funds, trading in influence and abuse of functions by public officials.

	International cooperation in criminal matters ¹						
	Organized crime ²	\square					
	Specialized investigation techniques ³	\square					
	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please explain how each is used for CITES offences? Please provide brief summary, including any lessons learned which might be helpful for other Parties: No details available						
1.7.3g	Do you have institutional capacity to implement the le provisions listed in question 1.7.3f against CITES off			Yes No No informatio	on		
	If 'No', please provide a brief summary of your major capacity-building needs:						

Indicator 1.7.4: The number of Parties using risk assessment and intelligence to combat illegal trade in CITESlisted species.

1.7.4a	Do you use risk assessment to target CITES enforcement effort?	Always Very often Sometimes Rarely Never	
		No information	
1.7.4b	Do you have capacity to analyse information gathered on illegal trade in CITES-listed species?	Yes No No information	
1.7.4c	Do you use criminal intelligence ⁴ to inform investigations into illegal trade in CITES-listed species?	Always Very often Sometimes Rarely Never No information	
1.74d	Have you implemented any supply-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?	Yes No, but activities are under development No No information	
1.7.4e	Have you implemented any demand-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?	Yes No, but activities are under development No No information	

¹ International cooperation in criminal matters includes legislation through which a formal request for mutual legal assistance and/or extradition of a person for criminal prosecution can be forwarded to another country.

² Article 2, paragraph (a) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines an organized criminal group as a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with the Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

³ Specialized investigation techniques are techniques that are deployed against serious and/or organized crime when conventional law enforcement techniques fail to adequately address the activities of crime groups. Examples include controlled deliveries and covert operations.

⁴ Criminal intelligence is information that is compiled, analyzed and disseminated in an effort to anticipate, prevent and/or monitor criminal activity. Examples include information on potential suspects held in a secure database and inferences about the methods, capabilities and intentions of specific criminal networks or individuals that are used to support effective law enforcement action.

Indicator 1.7.5: The number of administrative measures, criminal prosecutions and other court actions for CITES-related offences.

During th	e period co	overed in this re	eport:		Yes	No	No Information			
1.7.5a			e measures (e.g. fi osed for CITES-re							
	If 'Yes', please indicate how many and for what types of offences. If available, please details:									
		n types of frau	d were smuggling	and not proving th	e legal orig	in of CITES	specimen in			
	trade. Summary of the report by the Czech Environmental Inspectorate:									
		Penalties		Confiscations	Specimer	าร				
		No	CZK value	Cases	No living/	non living				
	2018	206	649 400,-	148		947 / 1261				
	2019	174	919 050	111		162* / 2027				
						bout 70,000 ens of glass				
						eels)				
	2020	125	737 800,-	92		485 / 3177				
1.7.5b	Have there been any criminal prosecutions of CITES-related offences? If 'Yes', how many and for what types of offences? If available, please attach details: For details, please see the attachment.									
1.7.5c	Have the		her court actions a	against CITES-						
		what were the of see the attachm		d what were the resu	Ilts? Please	attach detail	s: For details,			
1.7.5d	How we	re any confisca	ted specimens dis	posed of?		Tick	all that apply			
	– Retu	rn to country of	export							
	– Publi	c zoos or botar	nical gardens				\boxtimes			
	– Desię	gnated rescue of	centres							
		oved private fac	cilities							
	– Euthanasia									
 Other (please specify): release into the wild 							\boxtimes			
		to place confis		disposing of confiso (big cats, bears) ar						
	practise confisca	was cooperation of smuggle	on with the fisherm	d like to share with o an´s association in s were released into ance for survival).	the case of	:				

Objective 1.8 Parties and the Secretariat have adequate capacity-building programmes in place. Aichi Target 1, Target 12 and Target 19.

Indicator 1.8.1: The number of Parties with national and regional training programmes and information resources in place to implement CITES including the making of non-detriment findings, issuance of permits and enforcement.

1.8.1a	Do you have information resources or training in place to support: Yes The making of non-detriment findings? Permit officers? Enforcement officers?	No	
1.8.1b	Is the CITES Virtual College used as part of your capacity building work? What improvements could be made in using the Virtual College for capacity building?	Yes No No information	
1.8.1c	Is the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Toolkit used in the development of capacity-building programmes, or does it form part of the curriculum of such programmes? What improvements could be made in using the ICCWC Toolkit for capacity building?	Yes No No information	

GOAL 2 SECURE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MEANS FOR THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Objective 2.1 Financial resources are sufficient to ensure operation of the Convention.

Information to be provided through records held by the Secretariat on financial management of the Convention.

Objective 2.2 Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention. Aichi Target 1, Target 2, Target 3, Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.

Indicator 2.2.1: The number of Parties with dedicated staff and funding for Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and wildlife trade enforcement agencies.

2.2.1a	Do you have an approved service standard(s) ¹ for your	Yes	\boxtimes
	Management Authority(ies)?	No	
	If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.		
	If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards?	Generally, there is a period of 30 days prescribed according to the Act No. 500/2004 Coll., Administration Code for processing the applications for CITES permits	
	If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards ² ?	Yes	
	If 'Yes', what are your performance targets?	No	\boxtimes
	Do you publish your performance against service standard targets?	Yes No	\square
	If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:		
	If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:	Yes	No

¹ For example, a time frame in which you are required to provide a response on a decision to issue or not issue a permit, certificate, or re-export certificate.

² For example, 85% of all decisions will take place within the service standard.

	 availability 	of funding?		\boxtimes		
	 number of 	staff?		\boxtimes		
	 a shortage 	of skills?				\boxtimes
	If 'Yes' to a sh	ortage of skills, which skills	do you need more of?			
2.2.1b	Authority(ies)	an approved service standa ? go to Question 2.2.1d.	ard(s) ⁴⁷ for your Scientific		Yes No	
	If 'Yes', for wh standards?	ich services are there stand	dards, and what are those	Opinions for import, export, opinions for intr EU certificates, weeks		
	•	u have performance targets are your performance targe			Yes No	\square
		ease provide your performa ing the period covered in th				
	If you did not a result of:	meet your performance targ	gets then was this shortfall	Yes		No
	 availability 	of funding?		\boxtimes		
	 number of 	staff?		\boxtimes		
	 a shortage 					\boxtimes
	If 'Yes' to a sh	ortage of skills, which skills	do you need more of?			
2.2.1c	enforcement a		ard(s) ⁴⁷ for your		Yes No	\square
		go to Question 2.2.1d. ich services are there stand	dards, and what are those	Approved standards according to th Czech national legislation (e.g. Administration Code, Act on offences etc.)		
	•	u have performance targets are your performance targe		,	Yes No	\square
		ease provide your performa ing the period covered in th	5			
	If you did not a result of:	meet your performance tar	gets then was this shortfall	Yes		No
	 availability 	of funding?		\boxtimes		
	 number of 	staff?		\boxtimes		
	 a shortage 	of skills?				
	lf 'Yes' to a sh	ortage of skills, which skills	do you need more of?			
2.2.1d			r answered 'No' to the first p e of approved service standa			:
		-	your authorities to function	-		
		Management Authority(ies)	Scientific Authority(ies)	Enforcen Authority		

	Funding?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
	Staff?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
	Skills?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌	Yes 🗌 No 🗌
			•	

Indicator 2.2.2: The number of Parties that have undertaken one or more of the following activities:

- changed the budget for activities;
- hired more staff;
- developed implementation tools;
- purchased technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement.

2.2.2a	 Have any of the following activities been undertaken during the period covered in this report to enhance the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level? 						
	, Hiring of more staff				\boxtimes		
	Development of implementation tools						
	Purchase of technical equipment for im	nplementati	on, monitorin	g or enforcement	t 🛛		
	Other (please specify):						
2.2.2b	During the period covered in this repor budget for your:	t, was the	Increased	Stable	Decreased		
	Management Authority(ies)			\boxtimes			
	Scientific Authority(ies)			\square			
	Enforcement authorities		\boxtimes				
2.2.2c	Have you been able to use internationa development funding assistance to inc level of implementation of your	Yes	No	Not applicable			
	Management Authority(ies)?			\boxtimes			
	Scientific Authority(ies)?			\boxtimes			
	Enforcement authorities?			\square			
2.2.2d	What is the respective level of priority f the national level through the following		ng the effectiv	veness of CITES	implementation at		
	Activity	High	Medium	Low	Not a Priority		
	Hiring of more staff		\boxtimes				
	Development of implementation tools		\square				
	Purchase of new technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement		\boxtimes				
	e-permitting		\boxtimes				
	Other (please specify):						
2.2.2e	Do you have a operational system (e.g. electronic database) for managing		Yes	Under development	No		
	Species information		\square				
	Trade information						
	Non-detriment findings				\boxtimes		

Indicator 2.2.3: The number of Parties raising funds for CITES implementation through user fees or other mechanisms.

2.2.3a Does the Management Authority charge fees for:

Tick all that are applicable

	 Administrative procedures 		\boxtimes					
	 Issuance of CITES documents (e.g. for import, exports, re-export, or introduthe sea) 	ction from	\square					
	 Shipment clearance (e.g. for the import, export, re-export, or introduction fro of CITES-listed species) 	m the sea						
	 Licensing or registration of operations that produce CITES species 							
	 Harvesting of CITES-listed species 							
	 Use of CITES-listed species 							
	 Assignment of quotas for CITES-listed species 							
	 Other (please specify): 							
2.2.3b	Is a fee schedule publicly available? Yes 🖂							
	If 'Yes', please provide an internet link, or a copy of the schedule to the Secretariat: https://www.mzp.cz/C1257458002F0DC7/cz/informace_pro_verejnost_cites/\$FILE/ODOIMZ- Info_poplatky_20200428.002.pdf							
2.2.3c	Have revenues from fees been used for the implementation of CITES or wildlife	conservation	ı?					
		Entirely						
		Partly						
		Not at all	\boxtimes					
		Not relevant						
2.2.3d		Yes	No					
	Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?		\boxtimes					
	Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?		\boxtimes					
	Do you have case studies on charging or using fees?		\boxtimes					
	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details:							
	Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?		\boxtimes					
	If 'Yes', please provide brief details:							

Indicator 2.2.4: The number of Parties using incentive measures as part of their implementation of the Convention.

2.2.4a	Do you use incentive measures ¹ such as those described in <u>CoP14 Doc 14.32</u> to implement the Convention? YesNo
	Due diligence
	Compensatory mechanisms 🛛 🗌
	Certification
	Communal property rights 🛛 🗌 🖂
	Auctioning of quotas
	Cost recovery or environmental charges 🖂 🗌
	Enforcement incentives
	If 'Yes' to any of the above, or if you use other measures, please provide a summary or link to further information: Compensatory mechanisms and cost recovery in place for harms caused by selected protected species incl CITES species. Canis lupus, Lutra lutra, Ursus arctos according to the Act No. 115/2000 Coll.
2.2.4b	Have incentives harmful to biodiversity been eliminated? Not at all
	Very little
	Somewhat
	Completely

¹ Defined as 'Social and economic incentives that promote and regulate sustainable management of and responsible trade in, wild flora and flora and promote effective enforcement of the Convention'. The intent of such measures is not to promote wildlife trade as such, but rather to ensure that any wildlife trade undertaken is conducted in a sustainable manner.

Objective 2.3 Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to implement capacitybuilding programmes. Aichi Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.

Indicator 2.3.1: The number of capacity building activities mandated by Resolutions and Decisions that are fully funded.

2.3.1a	you run during the period covered in this report?				Withou from th Secreta	-	tance Conducted or assisted by the Secretariat
	None						
				1			
				2-5		Ц	
				6-10 1-20			
		r	י More tha	-			
	Please list the Resolutions or Decisions						
2.3.1b							
2.3.1c	What capacity building needs do you ha	ave?				-	-
	Please tick all boxes which apply to indicate which target group and which activity.	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	
	Target group	adjo	Tecass	Fin ass	Tra	ð	Details
	Staff of Management Authority		\square	\square	\square		
	Staff of Scientific Authority		\square	\square	\square		
	Staff of enforcement authorities		\square	\square	\square		
	Traders / other user groups						
	NGOs						
	Public						
	Other (please specify)						

¹ An activity might be a single day training e.g. for a group of staff from the Management Authority, or a longer course / project undertaken by an individual.

GOAL 3CONTRIBUTE TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THE RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND TO ACHIEVING RELEVANT GLOBALLY-AGREED GOALS AND TARGETS BY ENSURING THAT CITES AND OTHER MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS AND PROCESSES ARE COHERENT AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE

- **Objective 3.1** Cooperation between CITES and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support CITES-related conservation and sustainable development projects, without diminishing funding for currently prioritized activities. Aichi Target 2 and Target 20.
- Indicator 3.1.1: The number of Parties funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

3.1.1a	Has funding from international financial mechanisms and other related institutions been used to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements? If 'Yes', please provide brief details: EHP Funds – rescue plan for Falco management plan for Lutra lutra	Yes No Not applicable No information o cherrug and	
3.1.1b	During the period covered in this report, has funding for your country from international funding mechanisms and other related institutions:	Increased Remained stable Decreased	$\square \square$

Indicator 3.1.2: The number of countries and institutions that have provided additional funding from CITES Authorities to another country or activity for conservation and sustainable development projects in order to further the objectives of the Convention.

3.1.2a	Have you provided technical or financial assistance to another country or countries in relation to CITES?						Yes□No⊠No information□		
	If 'Yes', please tick boxes to indicate type of assistance provided Country(ies)	Species Management ¹	Habitat Management²	Sustainable use	Law Enforcement	Livelihoods	Other (specify)	Details (provide more information in an Appendix if necessary)	

¹ Use species conservation column for work directly related to species – e.g. population surveys, education programmes, conflict resolution, etc.

² Use habitat conservation column for work that will indirectly support species conservation – e.g. habitat management, development of policy frameworks for how land is managed, etc.

Objective 3.2 Awareness of the role and purpose of CITES is increased globally. Aichi Target 1, Target 4, Target 12 and Target 18.

Indicator 3.2.1: The number of Parties that have been involved in CITES awareness raising activities to bring about better awareness by the wider public and relevant user groups of the Convention requirements.

3.2.1a	Have CITES authorities been involved in any of the following activities to bring about better awareness of the Convention's requirements by the wider public and relevant user groups?	Wider public	Relevant User
			Groups
	 Press conferences 	\bowtie	
	 Press releases 	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
	 Newspaper articles, brochures, leaflets 	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
	 Television appearances 	\boxtimes	
	 Radio appearances 	\boxtimes	
	- Presentations	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
	 Public consultations / meetings 	\boxtimes	
	 Market surveys 	\boxtimes	
	– Displays	\boxtimes	
	 Information at border crossing points 	\boxtimes	
	 Telephone hotline 	\boxtimes	
	 Website(s) – if so please provide link(s) cites.cz 	\boxtimes	
	 Other (specify): 		
	Please attach copies of any items or describe examples:		

Indicator 3.2.2: The number of visits to the CITES website.

3.2.2a	How regularly do your Authorities consult the CITES website?					
	Please tick boxes to indicate the most frequent usage (decide on an average amongst staff if necessary). Target group	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less frequently	Not known
	Staff of Management Authority	\square				
	Staff of Scientific Authority		\boxtimes			
	Staff of enforcement authorities		\square			
3.2.2b	What has been your experience with using the	CITES w	vebsite?	Exc	ellent	
				Goo	d	\boxtimes
				Ave	rage	
				Poo	r	
	Very Poor					
				No i	nformation	
	Any further comments on the CITES Website? (e.g. useful aspects, any difficulties encountered, which authorities find which functions/tools most useful, what is missing, etc):					

Indicator 3.2.3: The number of Parties with web pages on CITES and its requirements.

A question relating to this indicator is within question 3.2.1a.

Objective 3.3 Cooperation with relevant international environmental, trade and development organizations is enhanced.

Indicator 3.3.1 The number of Parties which report that they have achieved synergies in their implementation of CITES, other biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental, trade and development agreements.

3.3.1a	Have measures been taken to achieve coordination and reduce duplication of activities between the national CITES authorities and national focal points for other multilateral environmental agreements (e.g. the other biodiversity-related conventions: CBD, CMS, ITPGR, Ramsar, WHC) ¹ to which your country is party? If 'Yes', please give a brief description:	Yes No No information	
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Indicator 3.3.2: The number of biodiversity conservation or sustainable use projects, trade and development goals, or scientific and technical programmes that integrate CITES requirements.

3.3.2a	How many international projects which integrate CITES issues has your country contributed towards?					
3.3.2b	In addition to 3.2.2a, how many national level projects has your country implemented which integrate CITES issues?					
3.3.2c	Have there been any efforts at a national scale for your CITES Management or Scientific Authorities to collaborate with:	Yes	No			
	Agencies for development?		\boxtimes			
	Agencies for trade?		\boxtimes			
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities?	\square				
	Local authorities or communities?	\square				
	Indigenous or local peoples?		\boxtimes			
	Trade or other private sector associations?	\square				
	NGOs?	\square				
	Other (please specify) Universities	\square				
3.3.2d	Are CITES requirements integrated into?	Yes	No			
	National and local development strategies?		\square			
	National and local poverty reduction strategies?		\square			
	Planning processes?	\square				
	National accounting?		\boxtimes			

¹ CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity; CMS = Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, ITPGR = International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Ramsar = The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, WHC = World Heritage Convention.

Indicator 3.3.3: The number of Parties cooperating / collaborating with intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to participate in and/or fund CITES workshops and other training and capacity-building activities.

3.3.3a	Has funding been provided or received to facilitate CITES workshops, training or other capacity building activities to / from:	Tick if applicable	Which organizations?
	Inter-governmental organizations?		
	Non-governmental organizations?		

Objective 3.4 The contribution of CITES to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the relevant *Aichi Biodiversity Targets,* and the relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels.

This objective may also be assessed by a variety of means beyond the reporting format, including action taken to implement many of the CITES resolutions and decisions. Aichi Target 1, Target 2, Target 3, Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 12, Target 14, Target 17, Target 18 and Target 19.

Indicator 3.4.1: The conservation status of species listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved.

3.4.1a	Do you have data which shows that the conservation status of naturally occurring species in your country listed on the		
	CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved? Yes	s No	Not Applicable
	Appendix I 🛛 🖂		
	Appendix II 🛛 🖂		
	Appendix III 🛛 🖂		
	If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:		
	Species name (scientific) Link to the data, or a brief summary		
3.4.1b	Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or	Yes	
	emerging problems with any CITES listed species?	No	
		No informati	ion 🖂
	If 'Yes', please provide details:		

Indicator 3.4.2: The number of Parties incorporating CITES into their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

3.4.2a	Has CITES been incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)?	Yes No No information	
3.4.2b	Have you been able to obtain funds from the Global Environment	Yes	
	Facility (GEF) or other sources to support CITES aspects of NBSAP implementation?	No No information	

- **Objective 3.5** Parties and the Secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited. Aichi Target 2, Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 10, Target 12, Target 14 and Target 19.
- Indicator 3.5.1: The number of cooperative actions taken under established bilateral or multilateral agreements to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade.

3.5.1a	Has your country taken action under established bilateral or multilateral agreements other than CITES to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade? If 'Yes', please provide details:	Yes No No information	
--------	---	-----------------------------	--

Indicator 3.5.2: The number of times other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources are consulted on issues relevant to species subject to unsustainable trade.

3.5.2a	Average number of times per year that international organizations or agreements have been consulted by CITES Authorities	Once	2-5 times	6-20 times	More than 20 times	No consultation	Optional comment about which organizations and issues consulted on
	Management Authority(ies)					\boxtimes	
	Scientific Authority(ies)					\square	
	Enforcement Authority(ies)					\square	

General feedback

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make, including comments on this format.

Item		
Copy of full text of CITES-relevant legislation if changed	Enclosed	
Web link(s)	Not available	
	Previously provided	\boxtimes
Please list any materials annexed to the report, e.g. fee schedules	, awareness raising materi	als, etc:
Have any constraints to implementation of the Convention arisen in	n Yes	
your country requiring attention or assistance?	No	\boxtimes
	No Information	
If 'Yes', please describe the constraint and the type of attention or a	assistance that is required.	
Are there examples of good practice you would like to share with o	ther Yes	
Parties?	No	
	No Information	\boxtimes
If 'Yes' please provide details / links:		
How could this report format be improved?		

Thank you for completing the report. Please remember to include relevant attachments referred to in the report when it is submitted to the Secretariat.

ANNEX TO THE CITES QUESTIONNAIRE, 1.7.5B, 1.7.5C

Survey of criminal prosecutions and court actions of CITES-related violations in the Czech Republic in period 2018-20*)

Case	Criminal	Court action*)
	prosecution (Police)	
	2018	
KRPS-365092/TČ-2018010181 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (<i>Buteo buteo, Falco tinnunculus, Strix</i> <i>aluco</i>)	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPA-418303/TČ-2018-001393 Unauthorized sale of ivory products (<i>Elephantidae</i> sp.)	3 persons charged with criminal offence.	3 persons were sentenced to 2 years in prison on 30 months probation, confiscation of specimens
KRPT-80598/TČ-2020-070281 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (<i>Parnassius apollo</i>)	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.
KRPP-139967/TČ-2018-030581 Illegal offer for sale of stuffed specimen of <i>Lynx lynx</i>	Investigation finished.	Forwarded for further processing as administration offence.
KRPL-90566/TČ-2018-180481 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including stuffed CITES specimens (<i>Lutra lutra, Asio otus, Puma</i> <i>concolor</i>)	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPE-28014/TČ-2019-170981 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (Lutra lutra, Accipiter gentilis)	2 persons charged with criminal offence.	Fine - 10 000,- CZK
KRPL-62413/TČ-2018-180181 Unauthorized management of tiger body (Panthera tigris)	2 persons charged with criminal offence.	Forwarded for court action.
KRPA-309167/TČ-2018-001179 Illegal import of <i>Corallium japonicum</i> (jewlery)	Investigation finished.	Forwarded for further processing as administration offence.
KRPA-296808/TČ-2019-001179 Unauthorized management of tiger body (Panthera tigris)	2 persons charged with criminal offence.	Forwarded for court action (court of appeal).
KRPM-67898/TČ-2018-140581 Unauthorized sale of ivory products (<i>Elephantidae</i> spp.) – 3 items	2 persons charged with criminal offence.	2 persons were sentenced to 10 months probation, confiscation of specimens
KRPP-76943/TČ-2018-030181 Unauthorized management of CITES specimens (<i>Testudo hermanni</i>)	Investigation finished.	Forwarded for further processing as administration offence.
KRPZ-57323/TČ-2018-150581 Unauthorized sale of ivory products (<i>Elephantidae</i> spp.)	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPC-52791/TČ-2018-020881 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (Falco tinnunculus, Buteo buteo, Strix aluco, Athene noctua, Accipiter gentilis, Circus aeruginosus, Lutra lutra, Accipiter nisus, Tyto alba)	1 person charged with criminal offence.	1 person was sentenced to 6 months probation, confiscation of specimens, fine - 16 000,- CZK
Illegal offer for sale of wolf skin (<i>Canis lupus</i>)	Investigation finished.	Forwarded for further processing as administration offence.
KRPU-56751/TČ-2018-040972 Unauthorized sale of ivory products (<i>Elephantidae</i> spp.)	3 persons charged with criminal offence.	1 person was sentenced to 6 months in prison on 12 months probation, fine - 20 000,- CZK 1 person was sentenced to 2 years in prison on 36 months probation, fine – 50 000,- CZK Confiscation of specimens
KRPH-15671/TČ-2018-050281 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (Ursus arctos, Bubo bubo, Pandion haliaetus)	1 person charged with criminal offence.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPH-45222/TČ-2018-050281 Illegal import of 2 live specimens of <i>Ursus</i> <i>arctos</i> from Russia	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.

Case	Criminal	Court action*)
	prosecution (Police)	
	2019	
KRPJ-27236/TČ-2019-161681 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>)	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.
KRPB-39224/TČ-2019-060282 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (<i>Papilio hospiton</i>)	1 person charged with criminal offence	1 person was sentenced to 4 months in prison on 12 months probation
KRPA-11017/TČ-2019-001179 Illegal import of glass eels (Anguilla anguilla)	2 persons charged with criminal offence	1 person was sentenced to 30 months in prison 1 person was sentenced to 24 months in prison
KRPA-321052/TČ-2019-001274 Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.) – 29 specimens	1 person charged with criminal offence	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPT-131705/TČ-2019-070281 Unauthorized sale of CITES specimen (Strix uralensis)	Investigation finished.	Forwarded for further processing as administration offence.
KRPA-320902/TČ-2019-001274 Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.) – 43 specimens	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPA-367090/TČ-2019-001274 Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.) – 53 specimens	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPA-283104/TČ-2019-001274 Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.) – 114 specimens and Euphorbia specimens (<i>Euphorbiaceae</i> spp.) – 15 specimens	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPH-13210/TČ-2020-050281 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including stuffed CITES specimens (<i>Bubo bubo</i>)	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	The case postponed.
KRPH-117454/TČ-2019-050281 Unauthorized sale of CITES specimens (<i>Testudo hermanni</i>)	1 person charged with criminal offence.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPA-74350/TČ-2020-001274 Illegal trade in products containing CITES specimens (<i>Saussurea costus</i>)	1 person charged with criminal offence.	Fine - 7 000,- CZK
KRPA-381913/TČ-2019-001274 Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.) – 98 specimens	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
	2020	
KRPA-318518/TČ-2020-001274 (318537, 318541, 318543) Illegal trade in Cacti specimens (<i>Cactaceae</i> spp.)	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.
KRPB-223356/TČ-2020-060282 Illegal offer for sale of brown bear skin (Ursus arctos)	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.
KRPS-287486/TČ-2020-010181 Illegal trade in parts of rhinoceros specimen (<i>Diceros bicornis</i>)	2 persons charged with criminal offence.	Court action has not started yet.
KRPK-62295/TČ-2020-190981 Illegal trade in hunting trophy of Ursus arctos	Forwarded to public prosecutor.	Public prosecutor stopped the prosecution conditionally.
KRPC-58574/TČ-2020-020781 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (Nyctea scandiaca, Lynx lynx, Felis silvestris, Branta ruficollis)	Investigation is ongoing.	Not forwarded to public prosecutor and for court action yet.
KRPH-13210/TČ-2020-050281 Unauthorized management of protected wild fauna, including CITES specimens (<i>Bubo bubo</i>)	Investigation finished.	The case postponed.

*) Data in the table are based mainly on information on criminal prosecutions provided by the Police Presidium and not from courts.

ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT ILLEGAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA to 2023

Contents

Contents	1
Introduction	2
Analytical Part: The Current Situation in Combating Wildlife Trafficking in the Czech Republic	3
Identified Problems (SWOT Analysis)	9
Vision	10
Objectives	10
Implementation Part: Proposed Measures	11
Clear Summary of Measures	17
List of Abbreviations	18
Note	18

Introduction

Trading in and other uses of wild fauna and flora, including endangered species and products from them, are growing areas of the economy and offer wide scope and motivation for illegal activities. It is often an organized activity and frequently associated with other types of criminality (tax evasion, money laundering, fraud, forgery of documents, threats to public health, animal cruelty), and in some cases there is a connection with the drugs and arms trades. According to data from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), illegal trading in endangered species, including illegal trading in timber and related activities, is currently one of the world's most important areas of criminality (along with drugs, arms and human trafficking) with an estimated value in the tens of billions of dollars. With highvalue commodities (ivory, rhino horns, etc.), there is evidence of links to terrorist groups who trade in these goods as a source of funding.¹ This type of criminality, generally internationally termed "wildlife crime" or "wildlife trafficking" (note: the two terms are used interchangeably for this type of criminality in the text below), has long been an underestimated problem. However, this approach has recently been rapidly changing. Globally speaking, more and more attention is being paid to this area, and the vast majority of countries and international institutions (the UN, the EU and its institutions) today consider it a serious problem that needs to be addressed and prioritized. The Action Plan to Combat Illegal Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to 2023 (the "AP") reflects the requirements of the CITES international convention and the individual priorities of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking² and also the Council's conclusions on this plan adopted on 20 June 2016, while taking into account the specific situation and needs of the Czech Republic.

The AP was prepared by law enforcement authorities (CEI, GDC, PP PCR, HPO) and affected ministries (ME, MI, MJ, MFA, MEYS, MF) in accordance with the task of the Action Plan against Organized Crime for 2018 and 2019³ approved by Government Resolution No 325 of 23 May 2018. The AP was prepared on the basis of the identification of the needs of stakeholders, especially environment protection authorities (General Directorate of Customs, Czech Environmental Inspectorate, Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation of the Police Presidium of the CR), with the document *Analysis of the Investigation and Prosecution of Criminal Activity Associated with Protected Species of Fauna and Flora* prepared by the MI in 2018 being taken into account during its preparation.

The individual measures in the AP will be evaluated using the following scale: fulfilled - partially fulfilled - not fulfilled. The course of fulfilment of the AP will be evaluated at the end of each year of effect of the AP, and the final evaluation of fulfilment, including impacts and proposals for the subsequent updating of the AP, will be carried out by the submitter by 31/7/2024. The AP itself does not establish direct claims on the state budget, however its individual measures may establish such claims during their implementation, depending on the implementation method.

¹ The financial link between terrorist groups and international organized crime in wildlife trafficking is mentioned, for example, in the EU Action Plan for Strengthening the Fight against Terrorist Financing of 2/2/2016.

² The EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking approved by the European Commission in 2016.

³ The Action Plan against Organized Crime for 2018 and 2019 is the first action plan of the Concept for Combating Organized Crime to 2023.

Analytical Part: The Current Situation in Combating Wildlife Trafficking in the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic plays an important role in wildlife trafficking as both a destination and transit country. In terms of the European Union, the Czech Republic has one of the highest levels of trade in live fauna and flora - this is also reflected in the level of illegal activity in this field. In addition, there is a problematic situation in the Czech Republic regarding Asian communities focused on, inter alia, trade in profitable types of goods or specific products in demand on the Asian market. In terms of wildlife trafficking, ivory, rhino horns and tiger products are involved. Cases uncovered in the Czech Republic indicate that not only individual traffickers, but also organized groups focusing on this type of crime may also be directed against species occurring in the Czech Republic and may be associated with the illegal killing of wild fauna in the Czech countryside.

The numbers of cases at administrative law level are increasing, while the number of registered offences at criminal law level is relatively low, although this does not include latent criminality. Despite all efforts at improvement, the effectiveness of prosecuting this type of crime have revealed shortcomings, namely a low emphasis on international cooperation and inconsistencies in the assessment of individual cases, including penalties imposed by individual courts. These shortcomings are due to the low awareness of the seriousness of this crime, and also a lack of specialization at some relevant state authorities.

In the majority of addressed cases, the possible impacts of this crime and other risks are not sufficiently investigated and assessed. Wildlife crime cases involve more than only illegal gain for the perpetrators - it can directly threaten the populations of endangered species in terms of their survival in nature or in certain areas, disrupt natural population dynamics (e.g. in the case of targeted selective hunting), threaten ecological stability, and have negative effects on biodiversity. In addition, there may also be indirect threats to populations in the wild, for example in the form of stimulating further trade and illegal activities, increasing demand, etc. There may be tax evasion, money laundering, and links to other criminal activities. The risks of introducing infectious diseases, parasites or invasive non-native species that can cause significant economic damage, are also very important in the context of the illegal and therefore uncontrolled trade in fauna and flora.

Objective 1: Increase the Importance of the Topic of Wildlife Crime at Government Level

The issue of wildlife crime has not yet received sufficient attention from individual central administrative authorities compared with other types of illegal activity. The cause may be, inter alia, the fact that the associated risks and impacts of this illegal activity have not been sufficiently assessed. Overall, this approach can be reflected, for example, in an insufficient number of authorized staff (table positions), insufficient opportunities for specialization in this type of crime, poor access to financial resources, unsatisfactory equipment, the impossibility of trips abroad, etc. One reason for the insufficient financial resources is that the issue of wildlife crime has not been sufficiently promoted in any environmental strategic document or policy (e.g. Strategic Framework of the Czech Republic 2030, State Environmental Policy, State Program for Nature and Landscape Protection, Strategy for

Biodiversity Protection, etc.), even though it is already a priority at international level (e.g. the inclusion of environmental crime as an EU priority). For these reasons, it is also difficult to obtain funding for research, awareness-raising and other activities. It is necessary to modify strategic documents and policies at government level and make combating wildlife crime a priority area.

Objective 2: Strengthen Cooperation between Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities

The detection of wildlife crime cases is not possible without close cooperation among all the affected state authorities, i.e. bodies with sufficient competences to detect and prosecute crime (Customs Administration, Police of the Czech Republic, judicial authorities) and bodies with expert (biological) knowledge and experience (Czech Environmental Inspectorate, Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic). It is not possible to effectively detect and punish this type of crime without effective and efficient cooperation between the executive and expert components of state administration. The exchange of information, rapid communication, coordination, and the sharing of competencies are key factors for the successful detection and documentation of wildlife crime. Here too, however, there are problems due to legislation restricting the sharing of information, a conservative approach to cooperation, an inappropriately set up structure of state bodies, and a reluctance to adopt new and innovative measures and change traditional approaches.

According to the EU Action Plan, EU member states were to establish an "inter-agency task force" by mid-2017, and here there is also correlation with Interpol's NEST (National Environment Security Task Force) strategy, which has required the establishment of similar teams in Interpol member countries since 2010. In the Czech Republic, there is currently only the Permanent Special Working Group for CITES, established on the basis of an agreement between the CEI and the Customs Administration (there is no other inter-ministerial group addressing the detection of wildlife trafficking in the Czech Republic). This group serves as a platform for cooperation - members of the group meet regularly to share information. However, the functioning of the group is limited in many ways, mainly due to legislative and procedural restrictions and the fact that the group members are not all state law enforcement authorities. The Police of the Czech Republic is not yet an official member. Nor does the group officially include a representative of the prosecuting attorney's office structure. It is necessary to involve all institutions enforcing law in the field of the environment - control, expert, investigative and judicial. In this context, it is important to emphasise the need to improve the coordination of international activities in combating wildlife crime at national level, and the need to ensure the participation of institutional representatives in international meetings within the EU, Interpol and Europol, including cooperation in international operations and information sharing in investigations of organized groups in multiple states.

Objective 3: Improve International Cooperation in Wildlife Crime Investigation

In addition to cooperation at national level, there is a need for international cooperation in relation to wildlife trafficking cases, which is not currently entirely effective and adequate. Many cases have an international character and their investigation requires cooperation with foreign authorities and institutions, verification of information, additional investigations in other countries, and the provision of information to foreign colleagues. This is rather demanding and requires considerable effort, experience and, last but not least, language skills.

The lack of international cooperation when resolving cases is a problem affecting many other states, and is often discussed at international level. With regard to the complexity, respectively the frequent dysfunction or lengthiness of international cooperation through official channels, or the difficulty of obtaining information from another state (or, on the contrary, providing information), many countries and law enforcement authorities prefer to deal with cases only within their own state and neglect the international aspects. Cases with an international character are thus addressed as isolated cases - there is no uncovering and punishment of entire organized networks, only the elimination of certain parts of them that can be replaced. The state authorities of the Czech Republic proceed in a similar fashion - in cases with an international overlap, they often focus only on the Czech aspect.

Objective 4: Improve the Education System and Raise Awareness of the Seriousness of Wildlife Crime in Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities

Detecting wildlife crime requires a high degree of expertise and sufficient information about the specific operation of this type of trade. At present, there is no single system of training for environmental law enforcement authorities. The current education system is unsystematic and inadequate. It is necessary to establish a functional and functioning system of education in the issue of wildlife crime. For this reason, the necessary first step is to evaluate the current state of the education system in all environmental law enforcement authorities as regards wildlife crime, and to design a suitable education system (e.g. a two-level training course (basic + specialization course), the use of existing e-learning education, etc.). The second step will be the implementation of the proposed education system and its use at the relevant authorities.

Objective 5: Improve and Streamline the Working Conditions of Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities in Investigations

Most state law enforcement institutions in the Czech Republic do not have a specialized unit focused on detecting and investigating cases of wildlife crime. Cases are handled by regional departments that do not have nationwide competence, which complicates the investigation of organized groups operating throughout the state or with foreign links. Even if some departments have nationwide competence (e.g. GDC search units in individual regions), there are problems with the scope of operations and searches if cases extend to more distant regions, and with the competence of public prosecutor's offices if they are larger groups of perpetrators. Above all, however, regional departments do not have enough experience and knowledge in the field of wildlife crime. Their staff deal with a wide range of cases of various types of crime and, in terms of expertise, cannot investigate deeper for capacity reasons. Wildlife cases are often addressed by staff without any previous relevant experience and who have yet to get acquainted with the specifics of this type of crime, legislation, methods of breaking the law, evidence proceedings, etc. This model of operation lacks sufficient effectiveness. Centralised methodical management cannot fully replace specialization and experience.

Due to the absence of specialized units or specialists in the police and the lack of experience and knowledge at regional workplaces, it is necessary to evaluate the existing structures and capacities of law enforcement authorities, analyse the individual law enforcement authorities, and then propose further measures. One suitable solution seems to be, for example, the introduction of a two-level system (see, for example, the model applied in Great Britain, the Slovak Republic, etc.) - specialized unit - the investigation of cases of national and international character (performance, not only the methodical management of regional departments), strategic matters, determination of procedures, coordination, etc. Such workplaces require specialization and professional training for staff, including language skills. + regional workplaces - less serious regional cases, regular staff training will be sufficient.

The control activities of environmental law enforcement authorities are not always sufficiently effective. Key priorities in this area need to be identified, and there needs to be a focus on serious crime (organized groups and distribution networks, international cases), continuous data collection and risk assessment (target group identification), searches for and detection of possible crime (a proactive approach), joint operations targeted at selected high-risk areas, elaboration of methodologies for the approach to be taken during control activities and when securing the proceeds of crime.

At present, law enforcement and criminal justice often has no idea whether the accused perpetrator has already been fined (even repeatedly) in the past by the CEI, or whether specimens have been seized, which may influence the punishment to be imposed. Difficulties may also arise when handling inquiries from foreign authorities about certain persons, when the Czech Republic's response may not be complete. The central record of offences kept in the CITES Register, available to all law enforcement authorities, will enable the staff at individual institutions to check a person's history - whether the person under investigation has already been punished in the past for a similar wildlife crime offence (especially the sanction that was applied with regard to the circumstances at the time, and whether there was more significant illegal activity, etc.). Access to the CITES Register will also be facilitated by mandatory reporting for the Czech Republic as regards international institutions. The legislative basis for information sharing is given in Section 35(6) of Act No 100/2004. With regard to repeated offences of perpetrators, it will also be necessary to consider and properly set the period for which records of a person's punishment are kept.

There is currently no overview of forensic departments in the Czech Republic capable of performing analyses in the area of wildlife crime and that meet the quality requirements for research and evaluation. Therefore, state authorities obtain opinions from various other entities, experts, external persons (often even found only on the Internet), without any possibility of verifying the quality of the work. Unfortunately, the main criterion for ordering an analysis is usually the price, so the cheapest supplier is chosen regardless of the quality of the result, meaning that there have been cases in which analyses and evaluations have been given to completely inappropriate entities, with the results being unreliable and easily challenged by the defence. Orders are often given to multiple experts, making the whole evidence process considerably more expensive. A list of recommended proven workplaces, their qualifications, the type of analyses they can perform, output samples, etc. would greatly improve the forensic evidence process. The aim should be to create a network of high-quality and reliable forensic workplaces or, in the future, to create a specialized forensic wildlife workplace. Another important aspect in relation to the necessary improvement is support for applied research into forensic evidence in wildlife crime.

The Customs Administration currently outsources digital analysis expertise to external forensic experts, which is time-consuming and often costly. Cooperation with the police does not appear an appropriate solution, as police experts in this area are overworked and analyses for another institution are not a priority for them. Digital data analysis is also important for investigating wildlife trafficking. Therefore, to make activities more effective, it will be necessary for the Customs Administration to build its own capacities for this type of analysis.

As part of its wildlife-crime related activities, the CEI often encounters extensive and complex cases that involve considerable amounts of information and volumes of data and which are very difficult to process. These cases tend to overlap with criminal offences (the

CEI cooperates with law enforcement and criminal justice), and there are often several perpetrators, organized groups, and international cases. The information obtained in such investigations relating to the entities involved, links, transactions, movement of goods, controls, timing, etc., needs to be evaluated, and the context, interconnections and the time required to fully clarify and understand the case and obtain relevant evidence need to be established. It is very inefficient to perform such evaluation without a computer, because with large volumes of data there is a risk of omitting some links and contexts (which may not initially be apparent), and there is also a risk of subjective evaluation. Above all, however, manual evaluation is highly time consuming and can tie up experts for many days or even weeks. For the purposes of modern investigations, it is appropriate to use special software designed to search for and process information, which allows the collection, interconnection, analysis, visualization and distribution of information; ideally, it can analyse complex cases, including large amounts of data. Clear graphical outputs can show relationships between the involved (suspicious) persons and their activities, and it is also possible to process time sequences and frequencies of activities. Such graphical representation is very important when bringing a case to court, as it facilitates the understanding of the case and thus significantly contributes towards successful conviction. In the case of the CEI, obtaining analytical software and working with it would mean a significant streamlining of activities and an improvement in the quality of outputs. Another benefit would be the possibility of sharing and transferring information in a unified environment with other state administration components with competence to search and investigate, as well as the possibility of searching in legislation, case law, Supreme Court judgments, databases, etc. Graphical data processing would also be a better basis for appeals bodies.

At present, all state administration control system components, i.e. the Customs Administration, the CEI and the Police of the Czech Republic at Václav Havel Airport, work from leased premises. Although their activities are absolutely necessary for the operation and existence of the airport, all these institutions pay large sums of rent to the airport or to private building owners. It is an uneconomical and completely non-systemic solution resulting in large financial losses and which also causes many problems. To ensure a better foundation for control activities and to reduce operating costs, the Customs Administration proposes the construction of its own building at the airport with sufficient facilities for control activities (including e.g. dog handlers, a shooting range, a materials warehouse, equipment, direct access to the airfield, etc.). At the same time, it is considered desirable that the intended Customs Office building also includes a workplace for CEI inspectors, including a warehouse of seized inanimate specimens (a secure warehouse for valuable goods such as ivory), and space for the initial placement of live specimens before their transport to a rescue centre. First of all, it is necessary to analyse the possibilities and advantages of such a plan and then take further steps on its basis.

Objective 6: Improve Care for Secured Items

Based on its commitments arising from the international CITES convention, the state has an obligation to care for secured and seized items. At present, CITES rescue centres are appointed by the ME and are located in several zoological and botanical gardens. The capacities of the rescue centres differ (they are appointed for different animal taxa). Each time a larger number of animals is captured (e.g. 250 turtles were seized in the summer of 2017), the problem of where to place the animals has to be addressed as the rescue centres have limited capacity, there are insufficient quarantine facilities, there is a lack of space for large

animals (predators), etc. A problem occurs, for example, when the quarantine capacity of a rescue centre (zoo) is blocked by its own imported animals that cannot be placed in the same area as animals of unknown origin. The biggest problem seems to be potential imports of birds of unknown origin from third countries, for which there is no approved quarantine facility in the Czech Republic at all. In the case of such imports, a situation may arise where the State Veterinary Administration will require the preventive killing of the imported birds, even if they are protected species. If they are rare species threatened with extinction in the wild, there would be a conflict between two legal approaches (the protection of endangered species x the risk of introducing diseases). At the international airport in Prague and the customs post, there are also situations where specimens not protected by CITES are seized (e.g. for veterinary reasons or when no one collects the animals). The placement of such exotic animals is not addressed by legislation or proceedings at all, and is highly problematic. The construction is being considered of an area at the international airport in Prague for the initial placement of secured live specimens before their transport to a rescue centre, and also the construction of a smaller rescue centre to house live specimens caught at the international airport in Prague and the customs post (or specimens not immediately requiring intensive specialized care, e.g. due to poor health or specific care conditions). It is also necessary to consider the construction of a central rescue centre with sufficient capacity to accommodate even problematic types (e.g. predators).

Objective 7: Raise Public Awareness of Wildlife Crime

The fact that the general public's awareness of wildlife crime is very low and the general public's attitude to this problem is rather lax can also be considered a big problem. The public also has misconceptions about the seriousness of this type of crime. This can lead both to crimes of negligence and the trivialisation of this criminal activity. The creation and subsequent implementation of a media plan is proposed to improve public awareness of wildlife crime, and due to the need to change the public's attitude towards combating wildlife crime (including the creation of positive images of the state institutions working in the field),

In view of the above, we can conclude that despite the efforts made so far, some progress and some successes, the Czech Republic still has a long way to go in the area of detecting and punishing wildlife trafficking.

Identified Problems (SWOT Analysis)

Strengths (S)

- high levels of professionalism and motivation of some law enforcement authority staff
- an existing inter-ministerial CITES working group
- experience with the inter-ministerial exchange of information (CITES national educational seminar, cooperation between the CEI and the Customs Administration)
- legal regulation of this type of crime, the qualified forms of which classify it as a serious crime according to international standards⁴

Weaknesses (W)

- low priority of this issue at government level
- insufficient cooperation among law enforcement authorities
- inconsistent international cooperation in the investigation of wildlife crime
- non-systemic and often insufficient education, lack of awareness of the seriousness of wildlife crime, and insufficient language skills of people at environmental law enforcement authorities
- absence of specialized units or specialists in the police, and a lack of experience and knowledge at regional workplaces
- ineffective control activities by the authorities
- inadequacies in determining whether a similar offence has already been committed by the perpetrator, repeatedly inconsistent imposition of (low) sanctions
- lack of specialized forensic workplaces
- poor quality facilities for the performance of control activities by the CEI and the Customs Administration, and insufficient facilities for the performance of control activities at international airports
- inconsistent decision-making practices
- imperfect system of care for secured specimens
- low levels of public awareness about wildlife crime

⁴ The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime considers it a serious offence with an upper term of imprisonment of at least 4 years. The detection and investigation of serious crime allows police authorities, for example, to analyse Passenger Name Records (PNR).

Opportunities (**O**)

- close cooperation with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (at formal level)⁵
- international support for combating wildlife trafficking⁶
- representation of the Czech Republic in the international EnviCrimeNet, Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group, IMPEL, networks etc.
- the possibility of using financial support from

Threats (T)

- a strong Vietnamese community with ties to its country of origin⁷
- the enticement of high profits and low risk increases the motivation of the perpetrators
- a lack of cooperation by foreign entities⁸

Vision

Illegal trade in endangered species of flora and fauna and related types of crime are effectively detected, investigated and sanctioned.

OBJECTIVE		MEASURE
1.	Increase the Importance of the Topic of Wildlife Crime	1.1
	at Government Level	
2.	Strengthen Cooperation between Environmental Law	2.1, 2.2
	Enforcement Authorities	
3.	Improve International Cooperation in Wildlife Crime	3.1
	Investigation	
4.	Improve the Education System and Raise Awareness of	4.1
	the Seriousness of Wildlife Crime in Environmental Law	
	Enforcement Authorities	
5.	Improve and Streamline the Working Conditions of	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4,
	Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities in Terms	5.5, 5.6, 5.7
	of Investigations	
6.	Improve Care for Secured Items	6.1
7.	Raise Public Awareness of Wildlife Crime	7.1

Objectives

⁵ In November 2015, a Declaration on Cooperation in the Area of CITES Implementation was concluded between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Czech Republic; the Agreement between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Czech Republic on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons and the Agreement between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Czech Republic on Cooperation in Combating Crime in June 2016. In 2015, a delegation of senior police officers from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam visited the Czech Republic, spending several weeks there, the Czech-Vietnamese Society operates in the Czech Republic, a Czech police liaison officer operates in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, etc.

⁶ EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking - environmental crime is an EU priority in the 2018-2021 policy cycle.

⁷ The Czech Republic has a large Vietnamese community (over 60,000 legally resident, about 30,000 citizens of Vietnamese nationality), while CITES-protected commodities are in great demand in the Asian community (especially traditional Chinese medicine products and rhino horns).

⁸ Bad experience especially with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (repeat requests needed, etc.).

Implementation Part: Proposed Measures

Number and Name of the	1.1 Combating Wildlife Crime as a Government Priority
Measure	
Performance Method	Inclusion of the fight against wildlife crime among the priority areas of activity of individual institutions enforcing the law and environmental protection.
Performance Indicators	Strategic documents and policies supplemented with the wildlife crime issue (for the ME, e.g. the State Environmental Policy, the State Program for Nature and Landscape Protection, the Strategy for the Protection of Biological Diversity, etc.)
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.
Responsible Entity	ME
Cooperating Entities	all central administrative authorities + PCR, CEI, PGO, CA
Completion Date	Ongoing to 12/2023

Objective 1: Increase the Importance of the Topic of Wildlife Crime at Government Level

Objective 2:	Strengthen	Cooperation	between	Environmental	Law	Enforcement
Authorities						

Number and Name of the Measure	2.1 Creation of a Functional Interdepartmental Team		
Performance Method	Creation of a functional interdepartmental team with the involvement of all law enforcement authorities.		
Performance Indicators	Approval of the Statute and Rules of Procedure / Agreement on the Functioning of the Team, nomination of team members, actual cooperation, joint meetings and outcomes from them.		
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.		
Responsible Entity	MI		
Cooperating Entities	PCR, CEI, CA, ME, MF, PGO		
Completion Date	12/2020		

Number and Name of the Measure	2.2 Improve the Coordination of International Activities in the Fight against Wildlife Crime at National Level			
Performance Method	Increased involvement of law enforcement authorities in international cooperation, participation in meetings and forums, study tours and internships.			
Performance Indicators	Linking team activities (see Measure 2.1) with Interpol/Europol/WCO/CITES/RILO.			

Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets
	of the responsible entities.
Responsible Entity	PCR, CEI, CA, PP
Cooperating Entities	MI, MF, ME, MJ
Completion date	ongoing to 12/2023

Objective 3: Improve International Cooperation in Wildlife Crime Investigation

Number and name of the	3. 1 Improving international cooperation in wildlife crime	
measure	investigation	
Performance method	Intensify international cooperation in wildlife trafficking cases	
	with an international aspect,	
Performance indicators	Investigations into cases with an international aspect at	
	international level.	
Financing method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budget of	
	the responsible entities.	
Responsible entity	PCR, CEI, CA, PP	
Cooperating Entities	MI, MF, ME, MJ	
Completion Date	Ongoing to 12/2023	

Objective 4: Improve the Education System and Raise Awareness of the Seriousness of Wildlife Crime in Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities

Number and Name of the Measure	4.1 Evaluate the Existing System for the Education of Staff at Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities in the Issue of Wildlife Crime and Proposals for Further Measures	
Performance Method	An analysis of the existing system for the education of staff at environmental law enforcement authorities in the field of the environment with proposals for further measures and their implementation.	
Performance Indicators	Proposal for the modification, preparation and implementation of basic and specialized courses for selected police, Customs Administration and justice target groups.	
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.	
Responsible Entity	MI in coordination with PCR, CEI, CA, Justice Academy and PP	
Cooperating Entities	MF, MJ, ME	
Completion Date	Analysis by 12/2021	
	System implementation 12/2023	

Objective 5: Improve and Streamline the Working Conditions of Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities in Investigations

Number and Name of the 5.1 Evaluation of the Current Structure and Capacity of

Measure	Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities and Proposals for Further Measures (Possible Creation of Specialized Units)	
Performance Method	Elaboration of an analysis within individual law enforcement bodies (identification of units' needs), proposal for structural modifications, creation of sufficient capacity, criteria for staff selection (qualification requirements), elaboration of work methodology.	
Performance Indicators	Proposal for structural modifications, the creation of specialized units if necessary.	
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.	
Responsible Entity	MI in coordination with PCR, CEI, CA	
Cooperating Entities	ME, MF	
Completion Date	12/2020	

Number and Name of the	5.2 Streamlining Control Activities	
Measure		
Performance Method	Identification of weaknesses in control activities or insufficiently covered areas, analysis and selection of risk areas, proposals for improvement (optimization of control activities).	
Performance Indicators	List of weaknesses in control activities and implementation	
	of improvements.	
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets	
	of the responsible entities.	
Responsible Entity	CEI, CA, PCR	
Cooperating Entities	ME, MF, MI	
Completion Date	Ongoing to 2023	

Number and Name of the	5.3 Shared Records of Wildlife Trafficking Offences	
Measure		
Performance Method	Access to the CITES Register for law enforcement authorities, training of responsible persons with access to the CITES	
	Register.	
Performance Indicators	The sharing of records of wildlife trafficking offences or an	
	agreement between the police, the PGO and the ME on the	
	form of sharing information on administrative proceedings	
	conducted in the past.	
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets	
	of the responsible entities.	
Responsible Entity	PP PCR, PP, ME	
Cooperating Entities	CEI, MJ	
Completion Date	12/2021	

Number and Name of the	5.4 Evaluation of the Current Situation in Forensic Analysis		
Measure			
Performance Method	Creation of an analysis of wildlife forensic workplaces and a		
	list of recommended and tested workplaces that can carry out		
	forensic wildlife analyses at the required standard.		
Performance Indicators	The existence of an analysis of forensic workplaces and a		
	list of recommended and tested workplaces.		
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets		
	of the responsible entities.		
Responsible Entity	CEI		
Cooperating Entities	PP, CA		
Completion Date	analysis 12/2020		
	a list of recommended workplaces 12/2022 with regular		
	annual updates		

Number and Name of the Measure	5.5 Creation of Digital Forensic Analysis Capacities at the Customs Administration		
Performance Method	Procurement of a qualified computer expert in digital analysis		
	(the workplace will be part of the Customs Technical Laboratory)		
Performance Indicators	Approved table position for a digital analysis expert at the		
	Customs Administration.		
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets		
	of the responsible entities.		
Responsible Entity	CA		
Cooperating Entities	MF		
Completion Date	12/2022		

Number and Name of the	5.6 Support for Analytical Activities at the Czech		
Measure	Environmental Inspectorate		
Performance Method	Acquisition of a license for analytical software for use and		
	training.		
Performance Indicators	Acquisition and use of analytical software		
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets		
	of the responsible entities.		
Responsible Entity	CEI		
Cooperating Entities	ME		
Completion Date	12/2022		

Number and Name of the	5.7 Evaluation	of the	Needs	of	CEI	and	Customs
Measure	Administration W	orkplac	es				

Performance Method	Evaluation of the needs of control body workplaces at Václav
	Havel Airport.
Performance Indicators	An analysis of the advantageousness of and need for
	changes.
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets
	of the responsible entities.
Responsible Entity	CA, CEI
Cooperating Entities	MF, ME
Completion Date	12/2021

Objective 6: Improve Care for Secured Items

Number and Name of the Measure	6.1 Evaluate the Existing Capacities of Rescue Centres for Living Specimens and Storage Facilities for Inanimate Specimens, Design and Implement Measures to Ensure the Required Capacities.	
Performance Method	Evaluate the existing capacities of rescue centres and the needs relating to care for seized specimens and possible modification or construction of additional centres.	
Performance Indicators	An analysis of the existing capacities of rescue centres and the needs relating to care for seized specimens containing a proposal for possible modification or construction of additional centres.	
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.	
Responsible Entity	ME	
Cooperating Entities	CEI, CA, PCR, MA	
Completion Date	 12/2020 (analysis and measure proposal) 12/2023 (possible implementation of measures to increase the capacities of rescue centres) 	

Objective 7: Raise Public Awareness of Wildlife Crime

Number and Name of the Measure	7. 1 Raise Public Awareness of Wildlife Crime		
Performance Method	The main administrator, in cooperation with other entities, will create a media plan to include proposals for individual activities to raise public awareness of wildlife crime, a timetable for their implementation, and a quantification of costs, and this plan will then be implemented.		
Performance Indicators	Media plan and its subsequent implementation.		
Financing Method	The costs of the measures will be addressed from the budgets of the responsible entities.		
Responsible Entity	ME		
Cooperating Entities	MI, MF, MEYS, CEI, CA, PCR		
Completion Date	media plan by 12/2021		

to be implemented continuously to 2023

Objective	measure	name of measure	responsible entity
			(cooperating entities)
1	1.1	Combating wildlife crime as a government priority	ME (all central administrative authorities + PCR,
			CEI, PGO, CA)
2	2.1	Creation of a Functional Interdepartmental Team	MI (PCR, CEI, CA, ME, MF, PGO)
	2.2	Improve the Coordination of International Activities in the Fight against Wildlife Crime at National Level	PCR, CEI, CA (MI, MF, ME)
3	3.1	Improve International Cooperation in Wildlife Crime Investigation	PCR, CEI, CA, PP (MI, MF, ME, MJ)
4	4.1	Evaluate the Existing System for the Education of Staff at Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities in the Issue of Wildlife Crime and Proposals for Further Measures	MI in coordination with PCR, CEI, CA, Justice Academy and PP (MF, MJ, ME)
5	5.1	Evaluation of the Existing Structure and Capacity of Environmental Law Enforcement Authorities and Proposals for Further Measures (Possible Creation of Specialized Units)	MI in coordination with PCR, CEI, CA (ME, MF)
	5.2	Streamline Control Activities	CEI, CA, PCR (ME, MF, MI)
	5.3	Shared Records of Wildlife Trafficking Offences	PP PCR, PP, ME (CEI, MJ)
	5.4	Evaluation of the Existing Situation in Forensic Analysis and a Proposal of Measures	CEI (PP, CA)
	5.5	Creation of Digital Forensic Analysis Capacities at the Customs Administration	CA (MF)
	5.6	Support for Analytical Activities at the Czech Environmental Inspectorate	CEI (ME)
	5.7	Evaluation of the Needs of CEI and Customs Administration Workplaces	CA, CEI (MF, ME)
6	6.1	Evaluate the Existing Capacities of Rescue Centres for Living Specimens	ME (CEI, CA, PCR, MA)

Clear Summary of Measures

		and Storage Facilities for Inanimate	
		Specimens, and a Proposal of Measures	
7	7.1	Raise Public Awareness of Wildlife	ME
		Crime	(MI, MF, MEYS, CEI,
			CA, PCR)

List of Abbreviations

AP	Action Plan to Combat Illegal Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna
	and Flora to 2023
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CA	Customs Administration
CEI	Czech Environmental Inspectorate
GDC	General Directorate of Customs
RPO	Regional Prosecutor's Office
MF	Ministry of Finance
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MA	Ministry of Agriculture
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ME	Ministry of the Environment
PGO	Prosecutor General's Office
LECJ	law enforcement and criminal justice
PCR	Police of the Czech Republic
PP PCR	Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
С	crime
CC	Criminal Code
HPO	High Prosecutor's Office
WCO	World Customs Organization

WCO World Customs Organization

Note

Wildlife crime - an illegal activity consisting in the illegal handling of endangered species of wild fauna and flora, including crimes and offences in this area (Act No 100/2004).