

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



Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

THE CBD LIFEWEB INITIATIVE AND CITES

1. The following information is provided at the request of Spain, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States\*. The EU and its Member States wishes to inform Parties about an innovative financing mechanism for protected areas administered by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the possible inclusion of CITES and species conservation project aspects in those projects.
2. The United Nations declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity and all nations are encouraged to develop strategies for the effective implementation of the 2010 biodiversity target. Germany holds the current presidency to the CBD and has helped to initiate the LifeWeb Initiative at CoP 9 of the CBD in Bonn 2008. The objective of this Initiative is to support the implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the CBD by strengthening financing for the creation and management of protected areas. LifeWeb is thought to become a powerful tool to conserve biodiversity, address climate change, maintain ecosystem services, and sustain livelihoods. The initiative is not a funding mechanism by itself, but serves as a platform that connects recipient expressions of interest with potential donors (governmental and private). Detailed information on eligibility criteria and donor commitments is available on the official website of the LifeWeb initiative (<http://www.cbd.int/lifeweb/>).
3. The platform of the LifeWeb Initiative offers possibilities for finding the necessary funding for programmes and projects with an additional focus on CITES issues and species protection in protected areas or development of their buffer zones.
4. Germany is one of the main donors participating in the LifeWeb platform and wishes to invite more Parties to also join the LifeWeb Initiative as donors and to select proposals from the LifeWeb Platform for funding.
5. Parties are kindly encouraged to submit relevant proposals for support of their national systems of protected areas to the LifeWeb-Initiative's website. The LifeWeb Secretariat will then facilitate contact with potential donors for support to the submitted proposals. For any further questions and draft project descriptions it is proposed to address Mr. Jason Spensley who is in charge of the LifeWeb Initiative and posted with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada (jason.spensley@cbd.int, Tel: +1.514.287.8704; Fax: +1.514.288.6588).

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*