

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



Seventy-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 6–10 November 2023

Administrative and financial matters

ACCESS TO FUNDING

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties maintained Decision 18.4 and adopted Decisions 19.4 to 19.9 on *Access to funding* as follows:

Directed to the Parties

18.4 *Parties are invited to provide non-reimbursable loan of personnel services to the CITES Secretariat noting that the salary and administrative fee of non-reimbursable loan personnel shall be covered by the Party, with such personnel remaining under the administrative authority of the sending Party. Non-reimbursable loan personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.*

19.4 *Parties are encouraged to:*

- a) *engage with their Global Environment Facility (GEF) national focal points in order to take part in the national GEF processes and facilitate use of allocated GEF funding through the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program;*
- b) *contribute to the development and implementation of GEF projects, in line with existing GEF procedures and guidelines, that may have components related to the implementation of CITES, by communicating with their national GEF counterparts and informing them of relevant CITES requirements and processes; and*
- c) *monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and the discussion on the establishment of the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program under the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (GEF-8) and ensure that national projects, where applicable, can enhance the beneficiary Parties' ability to meet their obligations under CITES.*

Directed to the Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities

19.5 *All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance for ensuring the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.*

19.6 *In providing financial assistance, Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to take into consideration the administrative and financial management support needed to ensure that the funded activities are managed in an efficient, effective and accountable manner, and that they do not affect the Secretariat's core administrative tasks.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.7 The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue to participate in the Program Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms as appropriate, to ensure that GEF projects under the program are, as far as possible, aligned with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention; and
- b) provide technical advice and in-kind support to Parties in the development and implementation of their GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms as appropriate.

Directed to the Parties

19.8 The Secretariat shall report on the progress on the implementation of Decisions 19.5 and 19.7 and make any recommendations, as necessary, to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.9 The Standing Committee shall review the Secretariat's report and make recommendations, as necessary, to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Implementation of Decision 18.4

3. Since CoP19, the CITES Secretariat has not received any non-reimbursable loan of personnel services. However, Switzerland has provided, through the [Syni programme](#) of the City of Lausanne, three professionals who worked on programme management and resource mobilization, meeting services, and legal support, for periods ranging from four to six months each.

Implementation of Decision 19.5

4. Extrabudgetary financial support provided for the implementation of the Convention since CoP19 amounts to over USD 4 million. The donors for the confirmed funds at the time of writing include the following Parties: China, European Union, Germany, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Japan, Monaco, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. In addition, the Animal Welfare Institute has provided extrabudgetary support. A pledge for external support has recently been made by China and Safari Club Foundation and the transferring of funds is underway. Document SC77 Doc. 8 on *Financial matters* provides more information on the extrabudgetary financial contributions.
5. To facilitate the efforts of Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities in considering their financial or technical assistance to support the effective implementation of CITES Decisions and Resolutions, the Secretariat issued Notification to Parties [No. 2023/024](#) of 10 March 2023 to inform on the status of funding for the implementation of valid Decisions after CoP19, and to highlight where funding gaps remain. The Secretariat is currently in the process of preparing a second Notification on the updated status of funding. Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to continue their consideration of financial or technical assistance.

Implementation of Decision 19.6

6. The European Union and the United States of America have allowed for staff costs to be included in their project budgets in recognition of the need for project management support as the portfolio of activities implemented by the Secretariat have been increasing over time. This has allowed a new associate project management officer to be brought on board to provide dedicated support for efficient, effective and accountable management of these projects, in addition to the continuation of one project assistant. Furthermore, recruitment of an associate fund management officer is underway, combining several sources of funds, to address the additional administrative and financial management support needed for the projects.

Implementation of Decision 19.7

7. The [Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program](#) (WCD IP) is one of the 11 Integrated Programs of the eighth replenishment cycle of the [Global Environment Facility](#) (GEF-8) and aims to support countries to secure terrestrial, freshwater, and marine wildlife populations and key landscapes through an integrated approach that includes “combatting the illegal and high-risk consumption and trade”. At the time of writing, expressions of interest from 15 countries were selected to proceed with the preparation of the ‘Program Framework Document’ (see Annex), which will be considered at the GEF Council in December 2023.
8. WCD IP will be fully integrated into the ‘[Global Wildlife Program](#)’ (GWP) by the end of 2023. This will allow the new projects under GEF-8 to join the portfolio of more than 30 GWP projects of the previous GEF replenishment cycles (GEF-6 and GEF-7). Details regarding the ongoing programmes can be found at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/global-wildlife-program/partners>.

Recommendations

9. The Standing Committee is invited to note this report.

SUMMARY OF THE 15 COUNTRIES PREPARING THE 'PROGRAM FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT'
UNDER THE GEF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT INTEGRATED PROGRAM
(AS OF APRIL 2023)

	Country	Implementing Agency	Geographic focus	Target species	Project title
1	Colombia	UNDP	Colombian Amazon: Guaviare, Meta, Caquetá, and Putumayo, biological corridors connecting with the Andes and Orinoquia Magdalena Medio: Antioquia, Bolívar, Boyaca, and Santander, connecting the Serranía de Los Yariquíes NP and the RAMSAR site Complejo Cenagoso Zapatosa	jaguar	The Jaguar Corridor
2	Eswatini	UNDP	Lubombo Trans Frontier Conservation Area (TFCA)	lion, elephant, rhinoceros, giraffe	Establishment of Big 5 Nature Reserve
3	Ethiopia	UNDP	Babile Elephant Sanctuary, Chebera Churchura NP, Choke Mountain Community Conservation Area, Menz Guassa Community Conservation Area, Hallaydeghe Asebot NP, Mago NP, Omo NP, Majang Forest biosphere reserve, Guraferda Forest Reserve, Medabo Forest	elephant, buffalo, leopard, lion, cheetah, wild dog, white-eared kob, giraffe, common eland, topi, etc.	Promoting Integrated Conservation of Wildlife and Landscapes for Sustainable Development of Ethiopia
4	Guinea	UNDP	Folonigbè Natural Reserve	hippopotamus, buffalo, zebu	Protection of wildlife in the Folonigbè reserve through participatory and integrated management
5	Indonesia	UNDP	Sumatra (Bukit Barisan Selatan NP, Dolok Surungan Wildlife Reserve, Bukit Rimbang Bukit Baling Wildlife Reserve, Dolok Sibual-buali Nature Reserve, Bukit Tiga Puluh NP)	Sumatran tiger, elephant, orangutan, rhinoceros, pangolin, helmeted hornbill, etc.	Law Enforcement for Sustainable Viable Ecosystems and Biodiversity Resilience through Multi Sectors Engagement (LEVERAGE)
6	Kenya	Conservation International	Amboseli NP, E/W Tsavo NP, Shimba	elephant and others	Advancing Human-Wildlife Conflict Management

			Hills National Reserve, Kajiado, Lakipia, Samburi Counties		Effectiveness in Kenya through an integrated approach
7	Malawi	World Bank	Kasungu NP, Chimaliro Forest Reserve, Dwambazi Forest Reserve	African elephant, zebra, waterbuck, buffalo, wild dog etc.	Central Region Wildlife and Landscapes Project
8	Mexico	WWF-US	Pacific Sierra (Coast of Nayarit, Jalisco and Michoacan); Yucatan Peninsula (Campeche and Yucatan); Northern Sierra Madre Occidental (Sonora and Chihuahua); Northern Sierra Madre Oriental (Coahuila and Nuevo León)	jaguar, bear	From conflict to coexistence, safeguarding wildlife corridors in Mexico for sustainable development
9	Mozambique	UNDP	Rovuma-Lugenda landscape, Gorongosa-Marromeu landscape	African elephant, African wild-dog, lion, etc.	Transforming wildlife conservation and livelihoods at the landscape scale in Mozambique (TRANSFORM)
10	Nepal	WWF-US	Terai Arc Landscape	tiger	Managing The Human Tiger Interface In Nepal
11	Paraguay	Conservation International	Chaco Biosphere Reserve (Médanos del Chaco NP, Teniente Enciso NP, Defensores del Chaco NP)	jaguar	Conserving the Paraguayan Chaco for the benefit of jaguars and for people
12	Philippines	ADB	Tbc (Palawan)	pangolin, hornbill, marine turtles, giant clams, etc.	Investing in Wildlife Conservation through Enforcement, Livelihoods and Tourism (WildINVEST)
13	Thailand	IUCN	Western Forest Complex, Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai	Tiger	Recovering tigers in Thailand through prey recovery, forest restoration, and community participation
14	Uganda	UNEP	Kidepo landscape (Kidepo Valley NP, Karenga Community Wildlife Area, Zulia, Murongole, Lomeji, Lwara, Rom, Nyangeya-Napore, Timu, Lotim-puta, and Lopech-chebei Forest Reserves)	elephant, lion, cheetah, buffalo, etc.	Kidepo Landscape Integrated Conservation and Development Project (KLICDP)
15	Zambia	WWF-US	Nkala Game Management Area (GMA) and its Transition Zone, the Kafue Flats GMA and its Transition Zone, the Lochinvar and Blue Lagoon NPs,	elephants buffalo, zebra, lion, wild dog, etc.	Securing the species, habitat, health, and livelihoods of the Lower Kafue Ecosystem

		connectivity area between the Nkala GMA and the Kafue Flats GMA		
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