

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



Seventy-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 3-8 February 2025

Strategic matters

COOPERATION WITH THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM  
ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES –  
IPBES ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF WILD SPECIES

1. This document has been submitted by Switzerland as the Chair of the Standing Committee working group on the *Review of the IPBES Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species*.\*
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 19.28 and 19.29 on *IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species* as follows:

***Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees***

**19.28** *The Animals and Plants Committee shall review the scientific aspects of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES); consider their relevance to the implementation of the Convention; and provide the results of their review and any associated recommendations to the Standing Committee.*

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

**19.29** *The Standing Committee shall consider the review of the IPBES thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species and associated recommendations prepared by the Animals and Plants Committees; make additional recommendations as appropriate; and submit the resulting conclusions and any recommendations as appropriate to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.*

3. At its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023), the Standing Committee considered document [SC77 Doc. 19](#) that highlighted the *IPBES Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species* and, in its Annex, contained key findings from the Summary for Policymakers along with relevant CITES Resolutions, Decisions and processes that the Standing Committee considered. The Committee established an intersessional working group to facilitate the review of the IPBES Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species with the following mandate (see summary record [SC77 SR](#)):
  - a) review the summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);
  - b) consider the recommendations related to Decision 19.29 of the joint session of the 33rd meeting of Animals Committee and the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee;
  - c) using the Annex to document SC77 Doc. 19 as the starting point, identify aspects relevant to CITES implementation that are not adequately covered in existing Resolutions and Decisions, and may require further consideration by the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties; and

- d) prepare a draft report of the results of the review and possible recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting.
4. The WG worked electronically before the AC/PC meetings in summer 2024 on mandates a) and c) as listed in paragraph 3 above. Inputs on the following aspects were received from members of the IWG on the table shared with SC77 in the annex to document SC77 Doc. 19:
    - a) General observation: The definition of “wild” used in the assessment is reflected by the source code system in CITES as contained in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Permits and certificates*.
    - b) Finding A.1.4 – highlights “plants, fungi and algae” and since fungi are within the scope of the Convention (included in reference to paragraph 1 of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* in Annex 1 to the present document).
    - c) Finding A.3.2 and B.1.4 – the threat overexploitation poses to wild species includes both marine and terrestrial and therefore the CITES Resolutions and Decisions referenced relating to this finding should include those on marine/aquatic species as well as terrestrial species (relevant resolutions provided included in the table in Annex 1 to the present document).
    - d) Finding D.1.3 – a number of provisions in CITES Resolutions and Decisions on wildlife crime linked to the Internet and on e-permits are relevant to this finding (relevant resolutions provided included in the table in Annex 1 to the present document).
  5. With regards to paragraph b) of the intersessional working group mandate, the Joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee (PC27/AC33) considered document [PC27 Doc. 10 / AC33 Doc. 11](#) that included the list of scientific aspects in Chapter 3 and 4 of the [thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species](#) relevant to the CITES implementation and contained in Annex 1 to document PC27 Doc. 10/AC33 Doc. 11. Annex 2 to document PC27 Doc. 10/AC33 Doc. 11 contained the CITES processes relating to the scientific aspects identified in Annex 1 and included Resolutions and Decisions relevant to each scientific aspect added through the intersessional working group process. Aspects relating to drivers of sustainable use and knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities to be considered by the Standing Committee were included in Annex 3 document PC27 Doc. 10/AC33 Doc. 11.
  6. PC27/AC33 agreed to provide to the Standing Committee through its intersessional working group the results of the review of the scientific aspects of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of IPBES, as well as the specific aspects relating to drivers of sustainable use and knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities.
  7. The results of the joint sessions of AC33/PC27 were shared with the WG electronically. Further inputs were obtained from members of the intersessional working group, including the following:
    - a) Aspects from the IPBES assessment identified in Annexes 1, 2, and 3 in document [PC27 Doc. 10/AC33 Doc. 11](#) could be informative to Parties as they consider possible draft Decisions and Resolutions for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In particular, the analysis of CITES' effectiveness on pages 507-515 of the [full IPBES document](#) is particularly helpful in highlighting challenges and gaps in CITES implementation (This is noted in the Annexes 1, 2, and 3 under the headings "Drivers of sustainable use".)
    - b) Any possible draft decisions brought forward by the WG should be directly tied to improving CITES implementation. The IPBES report highlights a few concerns or uncertainties with CITES implementation. The following areas identified in the Annexes to document [PC27 Doc. 10/AC33 Doc. 11](#) could be considered in terms of developing draft decisions:
      - i) the application and effectiveness of NDFs is hard to assess; the IPBES report notes that there is no global summary of progress on NDFs (e.g., whether Parties are making NDF standard operating procedures), and it is difficult to assess whether NDFs are effectively keeping trade at biologically sustainable levels; and
      - ii) implementation of CITES for timber species continues to be very difficult, and it is very challenging to distinguish illegal from legally harvested timber.

8. Annex 1 to the present document contains the preliminary list of relevant CITES Resolutions/Decisions/processes considered by the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee and updated based on inputs received from the members of the Standing Committee intersessional working group. Annex 2 to the present document includes the aspects relating to drivers of sustainable use and knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities with the amendments by PC27/AC33 referred to the Standing Committee for consideration.
9. The next step in the process could be to identify Resolutions that could benefit from revision to address the findings in the IPBES Thematic assessment on the sustainable use of wild species. If the Standing Committee sees merit in making this next step, the following draft decisions could be considered by the Standing Committee:

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

**20.XX** The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the Resolutions and specific aspects relating to drivers of sustainable use and knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities identified by the Animals and Plants Committees in document PC27 Doc. 10 / AC33 Doc. 11 and the Standing Committee in document SC78 Doc. 17 on the IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species relevant to the implementation of the Convention;
- b) propose amendments to the Resolutions, as appropriate, to incorporate aspects that will enhance the implementation of the Convention;
- c) submit the results of the review and proposed amendments as they relate to scientific aspects for consideration to the Animals and Plants Committee; and
- d) consider the inputs received from the Animals and Plants Committee and finalize proposed amendments to the Resolutions for consideration to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees**

**20.YY** The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the results of the review conducted by the Standing Committee and proposed amendments as they relate to scientific aspects and provide inputs to the Standing Committee to finalize the review.

10. The Chair of the Standing Committee intersessional working group was not able to undertake another round of consultation with the members of the working group on the updated table in Annex 1 and the draft decisions in paragraph 9 of the present document before the deadline for submission of documents for consideration at the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Recommendations:

11. The Standing Committee is invited to:
  - a) note the Annexes to the present document;
  - b) review and submit the draft decisions in paragraph 9 for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties
  - c) agree that Decision 19.28 and 19.29 have been implemented and can be deleted.

PRELIMINARY LIST OF RELEVANT CITES RESOLUTIONS/DECISIONS/PROCESSES CONSIDERED BY THE 77TH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE AND UPDATED BASED ON INPUTS RECEIVED FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP

IPBES Thematic assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species – summary for policymakers

(New text underlined)

<b>IPBES finding</b>	<b>CITES Resolutions, Decisions, processes (etc.)</b>
<b>A. Sustainable use of wild species is critical for people and nature</b>	
<b>A1. Billions of people in all regions of the world rely on and benefit from the use of wild species for food, medicine, energy, income and many other purposes.</b>	
<p><i>(A.1.1) The use of wild species directly contributes to the well-being of billions of people globally on a day-to-day basis and is particularly important to people in vulnerable situations (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(A.1.2) About 50,000 wild species are used for food, energy, medicine, materials and other purposes through fishing, gathering, logging and terrestrial animal harvesting globally.</i></p> <p><i>(A.1.3) Wild species are important sources of subsistence resources and income. Uses of wild species form the basis for economically and culturally important activities worldwide (established but incomplete)</i></p> <p><i>(A.1.4) Gathering wild plants, fungi and algae takes place in both developed and developing countries worldwide. Such a practice is closely associated with cultural and subsistence practices, and can also supply global markets (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and livelihoods</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 13.2 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Recognition of the benefits of trade in wildlife</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.30 and 19.31 on <i>World Wildlife Trade Report</i></p> <p>CITES Trade Database</p> <p>Decisions 19.186 to 19.188 on <i>Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade</i></p> <p><u>Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Standard nomenclature</i> (paragraph 1: <i>AGREES that species of fungi are covered by the Convention</i>)</u></p>
<p><i>(A.1.5) Wild tree species are currently the major source for wood and wood products and will continue to be so in the coming decades (well established)</i></p>	<p>Decisions 19.32 to 19.34 on <i>CITES and Forests</i></p> <p>CITES Tree Species Programme</p>

<p><i>(A.1.6) Nature-based tourism, including wildlife watching, supports mental and physical well-being, raises awareness and facilitates connections to nature, in addition to bringing local benefits such as direct income generation to local communities (well established)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and livelihoods</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 13.2 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Recognition of the benefits of trade in wildlife</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.30 and 19.31 on <i>World Wildlife Trade Report</i></p>
<p><i>(A.1.7) Potential contributions from sustainable use of wild species to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals are substantial, but largely overlooked (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision</i></p>
<p><b>A2. Sustainable use of wild species is central to the identity and existence of many indigenous peoples and local communities.</b></p> <p><i>(A.2.1) Wild species play essential roles in the well-being of many indigenous peoples and local communities. Loss of opportunity to engage in sustainable use of wild species represents an existential threat to indigenous peoples and local communities (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(A.2.2) Sustainable use of wild species contributes to the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities through subsistence, as well as trade in informal and formal markets (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(A.2.3) Knowledge, practices and worldviews guide sustainable uses of wild species by many indigenous peoples and local communities (well established)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and livelihoods</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 13.2 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Recognition of the benefits of trade in wildlife</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.30 and 19.31 on <i>World Wildlife Trade Report</i></p>
<p><b>A3. Ensuring sustainability of the use of wild species, including by promoting sustainable use and halting overexploitation, is critical to reverse the global trend in biodiversity decline</b></p> <p><i>(A.3.1) Effective management systems that promote the sustainable use of wild species can contribute to broader conservation objectives (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Non-detriment findings</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></p>
<p><i>(A.3.2) Overexploitation has been identified as the main threat to wild species in marine ecosystems and the second greatest threat to those in terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems (well established)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i></p> <p><u>Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i></u></p>

*(A.3.3) Indigenous peoples manage fishing, gathering, terrestrial animal harvesting and other uses of wild species on more than 38 million km<sup>2</sup> of land in 87 countries (well established)*

Resolution Conf. 11.4 (Rev. CoP12) on Conservation of cetaceans, trade in cetacean specimens and the relationship with the International Whaling Commission

Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation and management of sharks

Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

Resolution Conf. 13.11 (Rev. CoP18) on Wild meat

Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings

Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) on Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species

Resolution Conf. 18.3 on CITES Strategic Vision: 2021 – 2030

Resolution Conf. 19.5 on Conservation of and trade in marine turtles

Species specific resolutions, Including:

Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses

Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on Trade in elephant specimens

Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species

Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation of and trade in great apes

Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in pangolins

Resolution Conf. 17.11 on Conservation of and trade in helmeted hornbill

Resolution Conf. 17.12 on Conservation, sustainable use of and trade in snakes.

Decisions 18.292 (Rev. CoP19) to 18.295 (Rev. CoP19) & 19.74 to 19.76 on Totoaba

Listing proposals (marine species included in Appendix II)

Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 on Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices

Decisions 19.140 to 19.141 on Introduction from the sea

	<p>Decisions 19.222 to 19.227 on <i>Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.135 to 19.139 on <i>Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction</i></p>
<b>B. Status and trends in uses of wild species</b>	
<b>B1. Status and trends in uses of wild species vary depending on types and scales of use, and social ecological contexts.</b>	
<i>(B.1.1) Recent global estimates indicate that approximately 34 per cent of marine wild fish stocks are overfished and 66 per cent are fished within biologically sustainable levels, but this global picture displays strong heterogeneities (well established)</i>	<p>Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Conservation and management of sharks</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i></p>
<i>(B.1.2) Unintentional bycatch of threatened and/or protected marine species is unsustainable for many populations, including wild sea turtles, seabirds, sharks, rays, chimaeras, marine mammals and some bony fishes. Reducing unintentional bycatch and discards is progressing, but still insufficient (well established)</i>	<p>Resolution Conf. 19.5 on <i>Conservation of and trade in marine turtles</i></p> <p>Listing proposals (marine species included in Appendix II)</p> <p>Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 on <i>Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.140 to 19.141 on <i>Introduction from the sea</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.222 to 19.227 on <i>Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.135 to 19.139 on <i>Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction</i></p>
<i>(B.1.3) Trade in wild plants, algae and fungi for food, medicine, hygiene, energy, and ornamental use is increasing (well established)</i>	<p>Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Regulation of trade in plants</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.186 to 19.188 on <i>Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade</i></p> <p>Decisions 19.246 to 19.248 on <i>Products containing specimens of Appendix II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)</i></p>
<i>(B.1.4) Terrestrial animal harvesting takes place in a variety of governance, management, ecological and socio-cultural contexts, which affect the outcomes for sustainable use. Globally, populations of many terrestrial animals are declining due to</i>	<u><i>Please refer to Resolution and Decisions under finding A.3.2</i></u>

<i>unsustainable use, but the impacts of use on wild species and society can be neutral or positive in some places (well established)</i>	
<i>(B.1.5) Large-bodied mammals are the most targeted species for subsistence and commercial hunting, as these animals provide more meat for consumption and sale to generate more economic benefits for hunters' households (well established)</i>	Resolution Conf. 17.9 on <i>Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II</i>  Resolution Conf. 13.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Wild meat</i>
<i>(B.1.7) Destructive logging practices and illegal logging threaten sustainable use of natural forests (established but incomplete)</i>	Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Implementation of the Convention for tree species</i>
<i>B.1.8) Nature-based tourism is an important nonextractive practice and recreational use of wild species. Demand for media (e.g., documentaries) and in situ observing (e.g., wildlife watching tourism) related to wild species was growing up to 2020 (well established)</i>	
<b>B2.The sustainability of the use of wild species is influenced negatively or positively by multiple drivers.</b>	
<i>(B.2.1) Multiple drivers affect the sustainability of the use of wild species and these interact with one another (well established)</i>  <i>(B.2.2) Drivers such as landscape and seascape changes, climate change, pollution and invasive alien species impact the abundance and distribution of wild species, and can increase stress and challenges for the human communities who use them (well established)</i>  <i>(B.2.3) Climate change is an increasingly strong driver affecting sustainable use, creating many challenges (well established)</i>	<i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030 and its indicators</i>
<i>(B.2.4) Regulations, together with market forces, have resulted in a shift from wild species to specimens derived from farmed stocks (established but incomplete)</i>	Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i>  Decision 19.181 on <i>Review of Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i>  Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i>



<p><i>(B.2.5) Throughout the world, where people living in poverty rely on the use of wild species, environmental degradation and resource depletion threaten their livelihoods and well-being (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(B.2.6) Multiple drivers threaten indigenous peoples' and local communities' ability to maintain and restore practices associated with sustainable use of wild species (well established)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and livelihoods</i></p>
<p><i>(B.2.7) Land tenure and resource rights can contribute to sustainable use (well established)</i></p>	
<p><i>(B.2.8) Inequitable distribution of costs and benefits from the use of wild species often undermines sustainability (well established)</i></p>	
<p><i>(B.2.9) Gender is seldom taken into account in the governance of wild species, leading to inequities in the distribution of costs and benefits from their use. There are often gender inequities in how the costs and benefits of wild species' uses are distributed, with women bearing more of the costs and receiving fewer benefits of use (well established)</i></p>	
<p><i>(B.2.10) Urbanization is a dominant global trend which has negative impacts or indirect positive influences on sustainable use (well established)</i></p>	<p>-</p>
<p><i>(B.2.11) Global trade in wild species is a major driver of increased use. When not effectively regulated, it can become a driver of unsustainable use. Global trade in wild species has expanded substantially over the past 40 years in terms of volumes, value and trade networks (well established)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030 and its indicators</i></p>
<p><i>(B.2.12) Illegal harvesting and trade in wild species occur across all practices, involving numerous species, and often lead to unsustainable use (established but incomplete)</i></p> <p><i>(B.2.13) Conflict, including armed conflict, can have significant and diverse impacts on sustainable use. Indigenous peoples and local communities and other people in vulnerable situations can be displaced from territories, severing their relationships to valued species. This can result in unsustainable use in other areas due to the migration and settlement of displaced peoples (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i></p> <p><i>International Consortium for Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC)</i></p>

<p><i>(B.2.14) Culture, comprising language, knowledge, religion, food habits, values and philosophies, influences people's interactions with wild species and the extent to which particular practices and uses are acceptable and sustainable (well established)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030 and its indicators</i></p> <p><i>Decision 19.38 and 19.39 on Language strategy for the Convention</i></p>
<p><i>(B.2.15) Education, communication and public awareness are key drivers of sustainable use as they provide knowledge and capacity for improved decision-making regarding the sustainability of wild species' uses (established but incomplete) but are seldom prioritized as policy options (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Virtual College</i></p> <p><i>Resolution Conf. 18.6 on Designation and role of Management Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Resolution Conf. 17.5 (Rev. CoP18) on Youth engagement</i></p>
<p><i>(B.2.16) Science, research and technology create conditions that can support or undermine sustainable use of wild species, and local livelihoods based on them by, for example, setting quotas or harvest levels (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p><i>Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15) on Management of nationally established export quotas</i></p> <p><i>Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings</i></p>
<p><b>B3. Key elements of sustainable use of wild species have been identified in relevant international and regional standards, agreements and certification schemes but indicators are incomplete, most notably for social components.</b></p>	
<p><i>(B.3.1) Conceptualizations of sustainable use are evolving over time. Nevertheless, statements in international and regional agreements continue to maintain a common emphasis on not causing irreversible harm to biodiversity and supporting the material and non-material contributions of biodiversity to human well-being (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(B.3.2) Available indicators provide a fragmented view of wild species' use in social-ecological systems across the globe and within each practice, impeding both full evaluation of sustainability of practices in many instances and comparisons of sustainability across practices (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(B.3.3) Many of the ecological, economic and governance indicators in global and regional indicator sets have low sensitivity or specificity for the sustainability of individual practices, thus requiring substantial contextual information to be interpreted reliably (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030 and its indicators</i></p>
<p><b>C. Key elements and conditions for the sustainable use of wild species</b></p>	

**C1. Policy instruments and tools are most successful when tailored to the social and ecological contexts of the use of wild species and support fairness, rights and equity**

*(C.1.1) Conceptualizations of sustainable use of wild species influence policymaking by determining the ecological and social elements that are considered, monitored, assessed and used in policy (established but incomplete)*

**NOTE: Box SPM.2 page 26 – CITES**

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora was established in 1973 to protect wild species from overexploitation associated with international trade and to avoid utilization that is incompatible with their survival. As at April 2021, the Convention had 183 parties.

The assessment found that the Convention has been an important instrument for driving global coordination of regulations and enforcement regarding international trade in wild species, as well as the establishment of institutions and tools to ensure sustainable use (*well established*). As a result of those efforts, 101 countries now have the legislation and institutions in place to fully implement the Convention and a further 43 countries are in a position to partially implement it.

Tools for assessing whether trade is detrimental to the survival of a species in trade (termed non-detriment findings) have been developed for a wide range of taxa with different life histories and vulnerabilities to trade. As at 2021, over 38,700 species were listed in the appendices to the Convention and subjected to regulation by the parties. Based on these operational indicators, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora is a successful policy instrument.

Nevertheless, based on trends of continuing decline in the status of species affected by international trade, these species continue to be affected by unsustainable levels of use and illicit trade (*established but incomplete*).

The Convention focuses on regulating international trade but other factors affecting the use of wild species fall outside the scope of the Convention and can continue to drive unsustainable and/ or illegal trade both from the supply and demand sides of trade. These issues also affect domestic trade in wild species, which can be significant, and so species can continue to decline despite international trade restrictions.

*CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030 and its indicators*

Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*

Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings*

Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*

Decisions 19.132 to 19.134 on *Non-detriment findings*

Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) on *Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species*

Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*

ICCWC

Successful outcomes for the species listed in the appendices to the Convention have often been linked to complementary actions that either reduce demand for wild species, achieve greater coherence between domestic policies and the decisions of the Convention, involve local communities affected by decisions relating to international trade, or reduce illegal trade (*established but incomplete*). Durable outcomes from Convention decisions are more likely if there is a good fit between the regulatory options available to the Convention and the specific contexts in which they are applied. There is a growing body of evidence that can support better outcomes for species and complement biological information to inform decisions, including for economics, consumer behaviour, the structure of legal and illicit markets, impacts on livelihoods and the role of communities in promoting sustainable use and combating illegal trade.

*(C.1.2) Policy instruments and tools commonly fail when they are not tailored to local ecological and social contexts (established but incomplete)*

*(C.1.3) Fairness, rights and equitable distribution of benefits are essential to ensure the sustainable use of wild species (well established)*

*(C.1.4) Effectiveness of market-based incentives, such as certification and labelling, is mixed and mostly limited to high-value markets (established but incomplete)*

**C2. Policy instruments and tools are more effective when they are supported by robust and adaptive institutions and are aligned across sectors and scales. Inclusive, participatory mechanisms enhance the adaptive capacity of policy instruments.**

*(C.2.1) Robust governance systems tend to be adaptive to changes in social and ecological conditions and include participatory mechanisms (well established)*

*(C.2.2) Aligning and coordinating policies across sectors and scales of governance can create enabling conditions for sustainable use of wild species (well established)*

*(C.2.3) Policies that support secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests, as well as poverty alleviation, create enabling conditions for sustainable use of wild species (well established)*

*(C.2.4) Strengthening customary institutions and rules often contributes to the sustainable use of wild species (well established)*

CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and indicators

<p><b>C3. Effective monitoring of social, including economic, and ecological outcomes supports better decision-making. Scientific evidence is often limited, and indigenous and local knowledge is underutilized and undervalued.</b></p>	
<p><i>(C.3.1) Monitoring of the ecological and social, including economic, aspects of uses of wild species is critical for sustainable use (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(C.3.2) Policy instruments and tools are more effective when they are inclusive of plural knowledge systems (well established) Bringing together scientists and holders of indigenous and local knowledge improves decision-making (well established)</i></p>	<p>Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></p>
<p><b>D. Pathways and levers to promote sustainable use and enhance the sustainability of the use of wild species in a dynamic future</b></p>	
<p><b>D1. The sustainability of the use of wild species in the future is likely to face challenges due to climate change, increasing demand and technological advances. Addressing and meeting these challenges will require transformative changes.</b></p>	
<p><i>(D.1.1) According to most scenarios and models, climate change is expected to lead to multiple changes, such as changing wild species distribution and population dynamics, increasing frequency of extreme events and altering nutrient cycles, as well as ecological changes, which will affect wild species and their use across all practices, through multiple impacts. There is uncertainty however about future trajectories. Climate change may further exacerbate social, including economic, vulnerabilities and inequalities (well established)</i></p>	
<p><i>(D.1.2) For many practices, demand is linked to demographic trends and consumption patterns. Growing human populations and consumption will result in greater pressure on wild species (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(D.1.3) Technological advances will affect future uses of wild species both negatively and positively (well established)</i></p> <p><i>(D.1.4) Scenarios projecting the future use of wild species are few in number (well established), but they indicate that transformative changes are needed to ensure</i></p>	<p><u>Decisions 19.81 to 19.83 on <i>Wildlife crime linked to the Internet</i></u></p> <p><u>Resolution 11.3 (Rev CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i>, in particular paragraphs 13.f, 16 and 17.</u></p> <p><u>The CITES wildlife crime linked to the webpage on the CITES website - INTERPOL guidelines for Law Enforcement</u></p> <p><u>Pactitioners: <a href="https://cites.org/eng/prog/imp/wildlife_crime_linked_to_the_internet">https://cites.org/eng/prog/imp/wildlife_crime_linked_to_the_internet</a></u></p>

<p><i>sustainable use and to enhance the sustainability of the use of wild species (established but incomplete)</i></p>	<p>Decisions 19.150 to 19.152 on <i>Electronic systems and information technology</i> and the various tools referred to on the eCITES webpage: <a href="https://cites.org/eng/prog/eCITES">https://cites.org/eng/prog/eCITES</a></p>
<p><b>D2.To address current and projected future pressures, concerted interventions will be needed to implement and scale up policy actions that have been shown to support the sustainable use of wild species.</b></p>	
<p><i>(D.2.1) Key elements (sets of policy actions) that support sustainable use of wild species have been identified. However, with the exception of fishing, these key elements are poorly integrated into binding agreements and this limits progress towards their implementation (established but incomplete)</i></p> <p><i>(D.2.2) These seven key elements [Table SPM 1] have been deployed in limited contexts and could be used as levers of changes to promote sustainable use and enhance the sustainability of the use of wild species in the future if they are scaled up across practices, regions and sectors (well established)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and indicators</i></p>
<p><b>D3.The world is dynamic and to remain sustainable, use of wild species requires constant negotiation and adaptive management. It also requires a common vision of sustainable use and transformative change in the human nature relationship.</b></p>	
<p><i>(D.3.1) Successful adaptation and negotiation require attention to the dynamics of both the social and ecological contexts of uses (well established)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and indicators</i></p> <p>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i></p>
<p><i>(D.3.2) Intensification of existing uses and/or the emergence of new uses for wild species have often led to the rapid and substantial reconfiguration of trade-offs and synergies within and among practices, with negative impacts on the sustainability of the use (well established)</i></p>	<p><i>CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and indicators</i></p>
<p><i>(D.3.3) Achieving transformative change relating to the use of wild species requires moving towards a common vision while recognizing different value systems and conceptualizations of sustainable use (established but incomplete)</i></p>	
<p><i>(D.3.4) The sustainable use of wild species will benefit from a transformative change in the prevailing conceptualization of nature, shifting from the human nature dualism</i></p>	

*deeply rooted in many (but not all) cultures, to a more systemic view that humanity is part of nature (well established)*

DRIVERS OF SUSTAINABLE USE AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS, CHALLENGES AND RESEARCH  
PRIORITIES:  
LIST OF RESOLUTIONS/DECISIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE 27TH MEETING OF THE PLANTS COMMITTEE  
AND THE 33RD MEETING OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE STANDING  
COMMITTEE

IPBES Thematic assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species – summary for policymakers

The joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee PC27/AC33 recommended that the Standing Committee consider the following aspects relating to drivers of sustainable use and knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities:

1. *Knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities*
  - a) Logging: Timber are supplied to markets, however it is unclear to estimate which come from legal or illegal sources as well as differentiate timber from wild vs plantation sources. Determining the levels of logging that will secure long-term viable populations of difference species as well as most cost-efficient implementation of conservation measures are emerging challenges
2. *Drivers of sustainable use (Chapter 4) – CITES role in supporting more sustainable levels of use of wild species:*
  - i. *Practices in CITES procedures and practices addressed in the Chapter that could address sustainable use:*
    - a. Legal provisions and compliance monitoring: Requirements in terms of legislative provisions and monitoring of levels of non-compliance.
    - b. Review of Significant Trade: Concerns that the implementation of the Review of Significant Trade could fail to prevent trade not compliant with the provisions of the Convention if effective enforcement is lacking.
  - ii. *Unintended outcomes*
    - a. Increased demand (linked to proposals to list species).

<i>Knowledge gaps, challenges and research priorities</i>	
<p>a) Logging: Timber are supplied to markets, however it is unclear to estimate which come from legal or illegal sources as well as differentiate timber from wild vs plantation sources. Determining the levels of logging that will secure long-term viable populations of difference species as well as most cost-efficient implementation of conservation measures are emerging challenges.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Legal acquisition findings</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.128 to 19.131 on <i>Legal acquisition findings</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.145 to 19.148 on <i>Identification of timber and other wood products</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.182 to 19.183 on <i>Guidance on the term 'artificially propagated'</i></li> </ul>



<i>Drivers of sustainable use</i>	
<i>i. Practices in CITES procedures and practices addressed in the Chapter that could address sustainable use</i>	
a) Legal provisions and compliance monitoring: Requirements in terms of legislative provisions and monitoring of levels of non-compliance ( <i>Standing Committee</i> ).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Legal acquisition findings</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>National reports</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.44 to 19.46 on <i>Compliance Assistance Programme</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.58 to 19.62 on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 8.3 on <i>Recognition of the benefits of trade in wildlife</i></li> </ul>
b) Review of Significant Trade: Concerns that the implementation of the review of significant trade could fail to prevent trade not compliant with the provisions of the Convention if effective enforcement is lacking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i></li> <li>• Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></li> <li>• Decisions 19.44 to 19.46 on <i>Compliance Assistance Programme</i></li> </ul>
<i>ii. Unintended outcomes</i>	
a) Increased demand (linked to proposals to list species).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species</i></li> <li>• Decision 18.151 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Implications of the transfer of a species</i></li> </ul>