

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



Twenty-first meeting of the Plants Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 2-8 May 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Trees

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ITTO-CITES
TREE SPECIES PROGRAMME (RESOLUTION CONF. 14.4)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Resolution Conf. 14.4 on *Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber* directs the Secretariat to cooperate closely with the Secretariat of ITTO on matters related to tropical timber species threatened by international trade and the sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests. In view of the close linkage with the work of the Plants Committee, the present document summarizes this cooperation since the last similar report to Parties, which can be found in document CoP16 Doc. 13 on *Cooperation with organizations and multilateral environmental agreements*.
3. The *ITTO-CITES programme for implementing CITES listings of tropical timber species* (Phase I) ran from 2006-2011. In view of its success a Phase II entitled *CITES Implementation for Tree Species and Trade/Market Transparency (TMT)* was agreed by the European Union through the European Commission (EC).
4. Phase II of the Programme has an approved budget of about USD 10 million and has so far received funding pledges from the European Union (through the EC), United States of America, Germany, Norway, the Netherlands and the private sector. The second pre-financing of EUR 1.2 million under the ITTO-EC contract, which currently accounts for two-thirds of the Phase II budget, was received from the EC in April 2013. The United States pledged USD 180,000 and the Netherlands USD 70,000 during the 48th Session of the ITTC in November 2012; these funds were made available during the first half of 2013. ITTO will encourage donors to continue providing funds to meet the co-financing provisions of the ITTO-EC contract as requests for support under the Programme continue to exceed available resources.
5. The Advisory Committee of the Programme has met on two occasions in 2013. The first meeting (AC7) took place on 7 March in Bangkok, Thailand, during the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16); and the second (AC8) was held on 26 November in Libreville, Gabon, during the 49th meeting of the ITTC. These two meetings were attended by about 20 participants from the participating countries, donors, NGOs and representatives from the Secretariats of ITTO and CITES.
6. Concrete examples of the positive impact of the Programme were provided in document CoP16 Doc. 13. However, it is worth stressing the importance of the following few cases:

- a) Peru strengthened its capacity to make non-detriment findings (NDFs) for trade in bigleaf mahogany, and provided relevant information to the Plants Committee at its 17th meeting (Geneva, April 2008), leading the Committee to determine that it was not necessary to include the country in its Review of Significant Trade for this species;
 - b) Cameroon strengthened its capacity to make NDFs for afrormosia and submitted a report on the management plan that it was implementing for this species at PC19; on the basis of this report, the Committee determined that it was not necessary to include the country in its Review of Significant Trade for this species;
 - c) Cameroon established a voluntary zero export quota for the African cherry tree in 2009, after the Standing Committee began assessing Cameroon's compliance with recommendations made under the Review of Significant Trade in this species. Under the ITTO-CITES programme, Cameroon has since established a scientifically-sound NDF that has allowed it to re-open a management area for producing dry bark of this species in a sustainable manner. Since lifting its voluntary zero export quota, Cameroon has been able to reopen other production areas in the country;
 - d) In 2009, the Standing Committee issued a recommendation to suspend trade in the African cherry tree from the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a result of this country's failure to implement recommendations made by the Plants Committee under the Review of Significant Trade. At the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee, the Democratic Republic of the Congo provided information which demonstrated that support under the ITTO-CITES Programme had enabled it to strengthen its capacity to make NDFs for this species. Consequently, the Standing Committee agreed to withdraw its recommendation to suspend trade on the condition that future exports were managed under an annual export quota. The country now continues to make progress in re-establishing the sustainable harvest of and trade in this species; and
 - e) Both Indonesia and Malaysia continue to make progress in ensuring the conservation, management and sustainable use of ramin species, and they have been able to set annual harvest and export quotas for these species that are consistent with the provisions of Article IV of the Convention.
7. An updated list of activities under the programme is presented in the Annex to this document. More information on all national, regional and international outputs can be found at the programme's website at following URL: http://www.itto.int/cites_programme/.
 8. About 300 species of tree were listed in Appendix II of CITES during CoP16, For most of these species, there are action plans and Decisions of the CoP that direct the range States to undertake activities to strengthen their capacities to implement this Convention. In this context, the demand to participate in the programme continues to increase and the ITTO and CITES Secretariats are coordinating the implementation of projects that support the efforts of Parties to implement the Convention for these species.
 9. The CITES Secretariat has taken the lead on the following activities:
 - a) Preparation of outreach materials, including banners, leaflets and posters.

The *leaflets* present an overview of Phase I and Phase II and specific information on the target species and on target themes, and are available in the three working languages. Three *posters* – one per region – have also been produced in English, French and Spanish and show the target species of Phase II. Three *banners* have been produced to provide information on the overall programme, non-detriment findings and timber tracking technologies.
 - b) Preparation of a toolkit.

The first draft of a "toolkit" is ready and compiles of all technical outputs from Phase I, and will be made available to range States and trading partners. It is hoped that a final version of this toolkit will be launched at the 65th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (Geneva, July 2014).
 - c) Video production.

Seven videos were produced from three longer versions covering: Latin America (on the management of *Swietenia macrophylla* from Peru); Africa (*Prunus africana* from Cameroon); and Asia (on

Gonystylus spp. from Indonesia). These videos are available in the three working languages on the ITTO-CITES programme website.

- d) Agarwood: Information on the implementation of Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16) can be found in document PC21 Doc. 18.5 on *Agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.)*.
 - e) Madagascar action plan on *Diospyros* spp and *Dalbergia* spp.: Assistance to Madagascar with the overall implementation of the action plan on *Diospyros* spp (ebonies) and *Dalbergia* spp. (rosewood and palisander), with elements on scientific surveys, identification, a training workshop on non-detriment findings, marking and tracking systems, taxonomy and nomenclature, etc. Information on the implementation of Decision 16.152 on *Malagasy ebonies (Diospyros spp.) and Malagasy rosewoods (Dalbergia spp.)* can be found in documents PC21 Doc. 18.3.1 and PC21 Doc. 18.3.2.
10. The Committee is invited to note this report.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES AS OF 11 SEPTEMBER 2013 FOR PP-A/39-162A

No.	Starting date	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
AFRICA							
1	August 2012	Settlement of a monitoring system for logging and processing of Assamela and training control agents on the use of CITES Tools and Procedures in Cameroon	Cameroon	Agence Nationale d'Appui Developpement Forestier (ANAFOR)	309 555.60	340 511.11	12
2	September 2013	Law enforcement and management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in production forests in Cameroon	Cameroon	Agence Nationale d'Appui au Developpement Forestier (ANAFOR)	198 666.7	218 533.33	18
3	September 2013	Sustainable Management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> towards the implementation of the simple management plan of the Bidou II plantation, in the Kienke South Forest Reserve, Cameroon	Cameroon	Agence Nationale d'Appui au Developpement Forestier (ANAFOR)	164 907.51	181 398.26	18
4	May 2011	Non-detriment findings for <i>Prunus africana</i> (Hook.f.) Kalman in North and South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN)	215 500	236 550	10
5	August 2013	Elaboration d'un avis de commerce non préjudiciable pour <i>Pericopsis elata</i> en République Démocratique du Congo	Democratic Republic of Congo	Direction de la Conservation de la Nature (Organe de gestion CITES)	264 200	290 620	12
6	July 2012	Provision de Données Taxonomiques, Validation et Mise au Point des Méthodes de Quantification pour la Gestion Durable des Bois Precieux Malgaches	Madagascar	L'Université Antananarivo	65 034	70 034	15

No.	Starting date	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
7	September 2012	Dissemination of the CITES convention and its implementation texts in Republic of Congo.	Congo	Centre National d'Inventaire et d'Aménagement des Ressources Forestières et Fauniques(CNIAF)	160 331.523	176 365.00	8
8	September 2013	Promotion of the sivilculture of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in North Congo	Congo	Centre National d'Inventaire et d'Aménagement des Ressources Forestières et Fauniques(CNIAF)	219 222.22	241 144.44	18
ASIA							
1	September 2012	The assessment of ramin plantation requirement and the establishment of ramin genetic resources conservation gardens	Indonesia	FORDA	108 935	169,659	12
2	September 2013	Managing Agarwood Plantation in Indonesia	Indonesia	Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation	73 855	93 240	12
3	September 2013	Capacity Building on Seedling Propagation Techniques and Awareness Raising on CITES Implementation and Ramin Roadmap	Indonesia	Directorate of Biodiversity Conservation	102 500	124 750	12
4	September 2013	Promoting Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources of <i>Aquilaria</i> and <i>Gyrinops</i> species in Indonesia	Indonesia	FORDA	96 170	117 787	12
5	September 2012	Use of DNA for identification of <i>Gonystylus</i> species and timber geographical origin in Sarawak	Malaysia	Sarawak Forestry Corporation & Forest Department Sarawak	123 000	255 600	12
6	September 2012	<i>In vitro</i> propagation of <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> (ramin) in Sarawak	Malaysia	Sarawak Forestry Corporation & Forest Department Sarawak	105 000	192 500	12

No.	Starting date	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
7	August 2013	Reproductive and Genetic Studies towards the Conservation and Management of <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> in Peninsular Malaysia	Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)	141,570.00	231,267.00	24
8	August 2013	Development of an Information Database for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> (Ramin) and <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> (Karas) in Malaysia	Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)	90,480.00	169,128.00	22
LATIN AMERICA							
1	September 2012	Big-leaf mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) in the Brazilian Amazon: long-term Studies of population dynamics and regenerations ecology towards sustainable forest management (2 nd extension)	Brazil	IFT/Yale University/ James Grogan with support Brazilian Forest Service (SFB)	193,500	210,000	22
2	September 2012	Assessment of regeneration of natural big-leaf mahogany and cedar populations in Peru	Peru	Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina (UNALM)	129 729	220 722	12
3	September 2013	Confirmatory assessment of forest inventories for cedar and bigleaf mahogany	Peru	Cámara Nacional Forestal Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina	133 580	245 280	9

PROPOSALS PENDING FOR APPROVAL AS OF 17 OCTOBER 2013 FOR PP-A/39-162A

No.	Date submitted	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
AFRICA							
1	October 2011	Non-detrimental findings for <i>Prunus africana</i> in Cameroon II	Cameroon	Agence Nationale d'Appui au Developpement Forestier (ANAFOR)	235 800	259 380	12
2	January 2013	Listing African key tree species in Appendix III of the CITES	Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congo, Central African Republic		780 400	858 440	12
3	October 2013	Pilot DNA Chain-of-Custody	Cameroon, Congo	DoubleHelix	235 500	258 050	12
4	November 2012	Sauvegarde de <i>Pericopsis elata</i> en Côte d'Ivoire	Côte d'Ivoire	Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)	203 400	355 300	12
ASIA							
1	August 2013	Developing an integrated pest and diseases control on agarwood producing species	Indonesia	FORDA	65 000	81 500	12
2	August 2013	Establishment of an integrated agarwood cluster in Bintan Island, Indonesia	Indonesia	FORDA	99 070	120 977	12
3	August 2013	Enhancing ex situ conservation and sustainable management of <i>Gonystylus</i> species	Indonesia	Forestry Research Institute of Kuok	108 950	151 845	12
4	August 2013	Setting up ramin conservation concept (<i>Gonystylus spp</i>) for plantation forest concessions (IUPHHK-HT)	Indonesia	Directorat of Biodiversity Conservation	99 345	129 345	12

No.	Date submitted	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
5	August 2013	Ensuring genetic diversity of ramin seed sources and ramin population from rooted cuttings	Indonesia	FORDA	124 350	147 785	24
6	August 2013	Identification of essential compounds related to the establishment of biosynthesis pathway of agarwood production in <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i>	Indonesia	FORDA	46 700	51 370	12
LATIN AMERICA							
1	January 2010	Ecology, distribution, supply and forest potential for determining population viability for making non-detriment findings for cedar (<i>Cedrela</i> spp.) in Bolivia	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Viceministerio de Medio Ambiente, Biodiversidad y Cambios Climáticos (MMayA)	264 500	324 500	18
2	August 2008	Preliminary execution of the national inventory of <i>Cedrela odorata</i> in Brazil	Brazil	IBAMA	49 950	235 355	11
3	January 2010	Evaluation of the status of natural regeneration of shade-intolerant timber species of tropical forests under forest management	Brazil	Universidade Federal Rural da Amazônia (UFRA) and Associação das Indústrias Madeireiras do Estado do Pará (AIMEX)	129.398,36	219,860	12
4	September 2012	Using the Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS) technique on a pilot scale, as a potential tool for the monitoring of Mahogany trade	Brazil	Brazilian Forest Service / Forest Products Laboratory (SFB/LPF)	124,800	474,800	24
5	September 2013	Establecimiento de un laboratorio forense para la identificación y descripción de maderas para la aplicación de los procesos legales y de los sistemas de trazabilidad de los productos incluidos en CITES	Guatemala	Fundación Naturaleza para la Vida (FNPV)	257,891.23	463,415.23	24
6	September 2013	Inventario de la población y abundancia de las especies de <i>Dalbergia retusa</i> y <i>D. stevensonii</i> en las áreas de ocurrencia natural de Guatemala	Guatemala	Fundación Naturaleza para la Vida (FNPV)	187,429.49	203,378.21	24

No.	Date submitted	Title	Country	Agency	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
7	March 2013 revised	Age, growth rate and periodicity in cedar trees (<i>Cedreia odorata</i>) through dendrochronological methods to implement sustainable forest management in the Peruvian Amazon	Peru	UNALM Peru and ESALQ/USP Brazil	48 322	69 054	6

LIST OF COMPLETED ACTIVITIES (2007-2013)

Region	Country	Activity title	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
Asia	Indonesia	Improving inventory design to estimate growing stock of <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> (ramin) in Indonesia (2008)	111,900	129,835	12
		Identification of Information Gaps towards the SFM of Ramin and Thematic Programs to be Included in the 2009 and 2010 Work Program of the ITTO-CITES Project - "Ensuring International Trade in CITES-listed Timber Species is Consistent with their Sustainable Management and Conservation" (2008)	19,940	23,500	2 days
		Exploratory assessment on the population, distribution and potential uses of non- <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> species in Indonesia (2008)	128,600	161,690	12
		Assessing silvicultural system on Ramin: Review of the current practice and re-visualization of existing permanent sample plots (2008)	97,455	125,873	12
		Review on ramin harvest and trade: CITES compliance, Tri-national Task Force on Trade in Ramin, trade control and monitoring (2010)	55,000	67,430	12
	Malaysia	Generation of spatial distribution maps of <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> (ramin) using hyperspectral technology and determination of sustainable level of harvest of ramin in production forests of Peninsular Malaysia (2008)	131,000	183,050	24
		Developing DNA database for <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> in Sarawak (2008)	52,670	111,883	12
		Non-detriment findings report on <i>Gonystylus bancanus</i> – A quantitative assessment of <i>G. bancanus</i> in two selected permanent forests of Sarawak (2008)	24,900	55,315	12
		The development of <i>Gonystylus</i> spp. (ramin) timber monitoring system using radio frequency identification (RFID) in Peninsular Malaysia (2008)	103,200	174,110	8
		The Quantification of Dry and Wet Inland <i>Gonystylus</i> spp. (Ramin), <i>Aquilaria</i> spp. (Agarwood) and <i>Intsia</i> spp. (Merbau) in Peninsular Malaysia (2008)	131,800	198,030	15
		Sawn timber and plywood recovery study of ramin (<i>Gonystylus bancanus</i>) in Peninsular Malaysia (2010)	8,478.00	9,325.00	12
		National workshop on enforcement compliance for trade in ramin (<i>Gonystylus</i> spp.) (2010)	25,030.00	44,820.00	4 days

Region	Country	Activity title	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
		Regional Workshop on sharing of findings from the activities implemented in Indonesia and Malaysia under the ITTO-CITES programme on ensuring international trade in CITES-listed timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation (2010)	47,315.00	66,315.00	3 days
	China	CITES Timber Identification Manual	55,000.00	55,275.00	24
	Regional	Asian workshop of the ITTO-CITES programme on ensuring international trade in CITES-listed timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation: <i>Gonystylus</i> spp. (Ramin) (held in July 2009)	21,110	21,110	2 days
Africa	Cameroon	Non-detrimental findings on <i>Prunus africana</i> (Hook.f.) Kalman in Cameroon	352,600.00	35,260.00	
		Sustainable management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in forest concessions in Cameroon	152,500.00	15,250.00	26
		Rehabilitation of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> plantation in Cameroon	88,980.00	8,898.00	24
	Congo	Inventory of <i>afromosia</i> in a production forest of Congo to manage it sustainably	140,350.00	14,035.00	20
	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Training interested parties on the verification of CITES permits and the use of the "CITES Wood ID" in the Democratic Republic of Congo	87,516.00	8,752.00	Initially scheduled for 6 months and finally completed in one year
		Workshops on CITES dissemination texts and implementation tools in Kinshaha, Kisangani and Matadi (February 2011)	56,009.00	5,601.00	Initially scheduled for 4 months and finally completed in one year
	Regional	1st African regional workshop on <i>afromosia</i> (April 2008)	41,763.21		3 days
		2nd African regional workshop on <i>afromosia</i> (September-October 2010)	30,455.76		3 days
		1st African regional workshop on <i>Bubinga</i> or <i>Guibourtia</i> sp.) and <i>Wengé</i> or <i>Millettia laurentii</i> and 2nd meeting on <i>Pygeum</i> or <i>Prunus africana</i> (June 2012)	46,647.35		3 days

Region	Country	Activity title	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
Latin America	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Population density and forest harvesting impact on natural regeneration and diameter growth of mahogany in the Plurinational State of Bolivia	126,300.00	152,000.00	12
	Brazil	Management of <i>Hypsipyla grandella</i> in <i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King plantations in the States of Para and Sao Paulo	120,016.00	321,522.00	24
		Ecology and silviculture of mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King) in the western Brazilian Amazon	100,980.00	2,247,293.00	24
		Bigleaf mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) in the Brazilian Amazon: long-term studies of population dynamics and regeneration ecology towards sustainable forest management	93,550.00	133,550.00	18
		Bigleaf mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) in the Brazilian Amazon: long-term studies of population dynamics and regeneration ecology towards sustainable forest management (First extension)	65,940.00	85,940.00	12
		Ecology and silviculture of mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King) in the western Brazilian Amazon	101,400	2,385,535	24 (completed in July 2013)
	Peru	ITTO Project PD 251/03 Rev.3 (F) Evaluation of commercial stocks and strategy for the sustainable management of mahogany—extension to cedar	209,520.00	-	12
		Design, validation and adjustment of methodology for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of mahogany and cedar sample plots in Peru	128,290.00	203,040.00	12
	Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil and Peru	Market study of <i>Cedrela odorata</i> in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil and Peru	40,000.00	-	5
	Guatemala and Peru	Support compliance of CITES Convention in Guatemala and Peru: In-country technical assistance for the development of the National Timber Yield Tables for mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) Standing Volume & Export Grade Sawn Wood	20,000.00	-	12

Region	Country	Activity title	ITTO budget (USD)	Total budget (USD)	Duration (in months)
	Regional	4 th Meeting of the Mahogany Working Group and 1 st Latin-America Workshop of the ITTO-CITES Program (Nov. 2008)	27,000.00	42,000.00	3 days
		II Latin-America Workshop of the ITTO-CITES Programme - Experiences in the application of conversion factors to control and monitor forestry activities in Latin America (April 2009)	25,000.00	28,300.00	3 days
		III Latin American Workshop of the ITTO—CITES Programme (February 2011)	44,884.00	-	3 days