

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 17 and 20-23 July 2020

Strategic matters

TREE SPECIES PROGRAMME

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.14 to 18.17 on *Tree Species Programme* as follows:

18.14 Directed to Parties

Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding their experiences, lessons learned and recommendations on:

- a) *past work under the ITTO-CITES programme for implementing CITES for tropical timber species and its contribution to their implementation of the Convention; and*
- b) *work under the CITES Tree Species Programme for implementing CITES for tree species listed in Appendix II.*

18.15 Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall consider any reports by the Secretariat on the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme and provide recommendations as appropriate to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee.

18.16 Directed to the Standing Committee

Standing Committee shall consider reports by the Secretariat and the Plants Committee on the CITES Tree Species Programme, and, taking into account other discussions relating to capacity-building activities, provide recommendations to the Secretariat, Parties and organizations, on the CITES Tree Species Programme and its long-term future.

18.17 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *collect information on Decision 18.14 and make it available to the Plants Committee;*
- b) *report progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee;*
- c) *report, in consultation with the Standing Committee, on progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and*

- d) *continue cooperation with organizations working on forest related matters, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to strengthen the support to Parties for implementing the Convention for listed tree species.*

3. In the present document, the Secretariat reports progress to the Plants Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.14 and 18.17, paragraphs a) and b). The Secretariat will subsequently report to the Standing Committee, taking into account the Plants Committee's considerations and recommendations.

Background

4. On 14 July 2017, the European Union agreed to fund a two-component project entitled [Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant](#), managed and implemented by the CITES Secretariat in association with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It was initiated in June 2017 and scheduled to end in June 2021 with the possibility for a no-cost extension. The present document focuses on the component of the project aimed at supporting the sustainable management of CITES-listed tree species. The Secretariat has previously submitted progress reports on this component at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee (see document [PC24 Doc. 9.2](#)), and the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see document [CoP18 Doc. 16](#)).

Objectives of the CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP)

5. The CTSP aims to provide direct financial assistance to selected Parties in taking conservation and management measures to ensure that their international trade in timber, bark, extracts and other products from CITES-listed tree species is sustainable, legal and traceable, and in compliance with CITES provisions.
6. The specific objectives of the CTSP are to:
 - a) ensure the sustainable management of rare tree species and their products;
 - b) contribute to legal, traceable, and fair trade in products from CITES-listed tree species;
 - c) improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure long-term benefit; and
 - d) contribute to rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation.
7. The anticipated outcomes and outputs can be summarized as follows:
 - a) improved technical and technological capacity for the development of non-detriment findings, including: forest inventory, distributional mapping, and CITES-listed species-specific management plans;
 - b) improved silvicultural and ecological knowledge resulting in improved management of CITES-listed tree species;
 - c) capacity-building for timber and non-timber forest products identification, effective information and tracking systems;
 - d) identification tools for CITES-listed tree species improved and developed using IT applications and other training support to identify and follow CITES-listed species tree products;
 - e) market studies produced and forest product information systems in place;
 - f) establishment and support of national fora, regional and international working groups, effective outreach;
 - g) stable or increased employment in the forest sector; and
 - h) long-term support for sustainable forest and tree management in key range States.

Implementation of Decision 18.14 and Decision 18.17, paragraph a)

8. On 20 February 2020, the Secretariat published Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/013](#) on the *CITES Tree Species Programme* (see) and the previous ITTO-CITES programme (2006-2016). The Secretariat received responses from 23 Parties (13% of all Parties; see Annex 1). Three CTSP projects involve three countries; they submitted a single response representing the three Parties concerned. These were: 1- Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda; 2- Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador; and 3- Benin, Togo and Nigeria. Further to the combined responses received from the tri-national project leads, Nicaragua, Nigeria and Togo also submitted a separate second response with further information. The original responses submitted are available in an electronic file from the Secretariat upon request.
9. The Secretariat's summary of responses to the Notification is presented in Annex 2. Since the responses addressed different aspects of the ITTO-CITES programme and the CITES Tree Species Programme, and since Parties were involved in one or both programmes in different capacities, the Secretariat grouped the replies under three categories:
 - a) CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP; 2017 to date);
 - b) ITTO-CITES Programme (2006-2016); and
 - c) Responses from Parties that were not beneficiaries under the CTSP or the ITTO-CITES programme.
10. Based on the responses received, the following summarizes the experiences of countries:

Regarding past work under the ITTO-CITES programme (2006-2016):

- Eight Parties responded, of which six benefited from the ITTO-CITES Programme.
- Parties appreciated the opportunity for inter-agency cooperation at national and international levels that resulted from the work under the ITTO-CITES Programme.
- Most respondents valued the production of scientific data that allowed them to formulate non-detriment findings.
- All respondents reported having strengthened awareness and implementation of the Convention for trade in tree species.
- One Party highlighted the lifting of a trade suspension by the Standing Committee as result of the activities implemented under the programme.
- The regional meetings organized in the context of the ITTO-CITES Programme were mentioned as a highlight for capacity-building and regional coordination.

Regarding work under the CTSP (2017-ongoing)

- Twenty-three Parties responded, of which 21 benefit at present from the CTSP.
- Most respondents recognized the increased opportunity for inter-agency cooperation at national and international levels that resulted from the work under the CTSP.
- Most stressed the importance of producing scientific data to be used for formulating non-detriment findings, and hence encouraging the sustainability of harvest and trade.
- Most respondents mentioned that the regional meetings were important for capacity-building and regional coordination.
- The role of the CTSP regional coordinators was highlighted as essential to the projects, from facilitating the production of project documents to their implementation.
- Some Parties expressed their wish to continue the work of the CTSP beyond its present term.

Implementation of Decision 18.17, paragraph b)

CTSP project activities

11. From 2019 to early 2020, the 22 CTSP beneficiary Parties began the implementation of a total of 17 projects.
12. Annex 3 provides an overview of the current status of the 17 CTSP projects that are being implemented. It includes information on the measures taken since early 2020 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how they are expected to impact the projects. This situation is likely to evolve in the coming months, and the Secretariat is aware that continued workplan adjustments will be needed to ensure that the projects can be executed effectively and in a timely manner.

Management and coordination of the CTSP

13. The three regional coordinators (for Africa, Asia, and Central/South America) are in regular communication with the beneficiaries and monitor progress closely. They are organizing meetings with stakeholders; address queries; assist with reporting requirements; facilitate the submission of information and documents; help to compile materials; and actively contribute to the CTSP work.
14. The CTSP programme coordinator organizes all substantial work relating to planning, monitoring, evaluation, communication, visibility, human resource management and reporting, while ensuring to the extent possible a harmonized approach for the three participating regions. The coordinator identifies challenges and takes corrective actions to ensure that all projects remain on track and meet established timeframes.

CTSP activities and CoP18

15. Annex 4 shows 16 Decisions adopted at CoP18 that are linked to the CTSP and the 17 projects. The Decisions focus on tropical tree species or relevant CITES processes. Annex 5 shows for example that projects in 13 Parties are contributing to the implementation of Decision 18.234, paragraph a) ii) on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]*, with activities amounting to a monetary value of USD 1,874,114. Most CTSP-supported projects will also directly or indirectly contribute to the implementation of Decisions 18.132 and 18.134 on *Capacity-building* (see Annex 4).

Collaboration with ITTO

16. In the context of their continued collaboration through the CTSP, the Secretariats of ITTO and CITES concluded financial agreements. ITTO undertook three regional trade studies on timber products trade-trends in Africa, Asia and Central and South America and the Caribbean regions. ITTO also organized three regional inception meetings of the CTSP. The studies can be found at [here](#). Discussion is underway to allow the ITTO Secretariat to continue providing targeted support to Parties in their implementation of CTSP activities and relevant CITES decisions.
17. While the main donor of the CTSP is the European Union, the United States of America contributed funds to ITTO that could in part be allocated to the CTSP through the ITTO Secretariat (ITTO can provide further funding to the CITES Tree Species Programme through the ITTO Biennial Work Programme PP-A/52-320 on *Enhance Collaboration between ITTO and CITES*). The Secretariats of ITTO and CITES are coordinating possible actions to use part of these funds in the context of the CTSP.

Future activities on the CTSP

18. The Parties to the Convention have requested the Secretariat to provide technical and financial support to help them overcome challenges when implementing the Convention for listed tree species. Numerous interventions in this regard were expressed at CoP18 [see summary record [CoP18 Com. I Rec. 6 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. Thanks to the generous contribution of the European Union to the CTSP, the Secretariat has been able to address a number of Parties' needs for scientific, legal and traceability tools and knowledge for trade in CITES-listed tree species. By monitoring implementation and evaluating the results and impacts of the CTSP and the projects it supports, the Secretariat will assess whether the CTSP's small grants mechanism is efficient and achieves the desired aims, or if additional or alternative modalities could be considered in the future.

19. The CTSP and the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants ([MIKE](#)) Programme are at present examining the feasibility of developing a joint pilot project in an African site where activities can be undertaken that meet the objectives of both programmes. The two programmes agreed that a country in Central Africa or West Africa, would probably be most suitable for such a project. The final site selection will take into account the geographic locations of the CTSP projects, and the focal sites of the MIKE Programme under the recently initiated EU funded MIKES+ Project. The aim is to ensure complementarity of activities wherever possible, building on synergies, and harmonization relating to visibility and outreach.
20. Regarding joint activities, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime ([ICWC](#)), MIKE and the CTSP worked together on the production of joint outreach material (banners, etc.) shared among all three programmes during the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
21. Regarding Decision 18.15, through intersessional decision-making, the Plants Committee has approved its workplan for 2020-2022 (CoP18 to CoP19), outlined in document [PC25 Doc. 7.2](#) (see also Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/056](#)). The PC leads for the implementation of Decision 18.15 are: Aurélie Flore Koumba Pambo (Africa, PC Chair), César Augusto Beltetón Chacón (Central and South America and the Caribbean), and Daniel Wolf (alternate for Europe).

Recommendations

22. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) consider the present report on the implementation of the CTSP, and make recommendations to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee, as appropriate; and
 - b) report any relevant recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Overview of Parties that responded to Notification to the Parties No. 2020/13

1- Argentina *	9- Democratic Republic of the Congo **	17- Mexico ***
2- Brazil **	10- El Salvador *	18- Nicaragua *
3- Burundi *	11- Gabon *	19- Nigeria (2 responses) *
4- Cambodia *	12- Guatemala (2 responses) **	20- United Republic of Tanzania *
5- Cameroon **	13- Indonesia **	21- Togo *
6- Côte d'Ivoire *	14- Kenya *	22- Uganda *
7- Cuba *	15- Madagascar **	23- United States of America ***
8- Benin *	16- Malaysia **	*Parties with projects under the CTSP **Parties that benefited under the ITTO-CITES programme and have projects under the CTSP ***Parties with no projects under the CTSP

Summary of responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2020/13

a) On the CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP; 2017 – to date):

It should be noted that the CTSP-funded projects are all ongoing and in their early stages of implementation, which is reflected in the responses received. The Secretariat grouped the replies in 13 'categories' for ease of reference and analysis.

Party	Strengthening; supporting; creating the following:	Inter – agency cooperation	National Plans and Strategies	Research; inventories; timber identification; collections; revision of laws	Plantations management and regulations. Pests control experience. Nurseries	Compendium of technical specifications to apply the legislation on harvesting areas	Learning during regional meetings or project work	National, regional and international networks	Protocols for procedures of regional collaboration between CITES authorities	CITES awareness and compliance	Scientific data and tools for a robust formulation of NDF	Regional coordination	Grateful for support received under the CTSP	Call to support continuation of the CTSP
1- Argentina		√	√	√		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2- Burundi				√							√	√	√	
3- Benin		√		√			√	√			√	√		√
4- Brazil				√			√					√	√	√
5- Cambodia		√			√		√	√		√		√	√	√
6- Cameroon							√	√			√	√	√	
7- Côte d'Ivoire		√		√			√			√				
8- Cuba		√		√	√		√	√		√	√			

Party	Strengthening; supporting; creating the following:	Inter – agency cooperation	National Plans and Strategies	Research; inventories; timber identification; collections; revision of laws	Plantations management and regulations. Pests control experience. Nurseries	Compendium of technical specifications to apply the legislation on harvesting areas	Learning during regional meetings or project work	National, regional and international networks	Protocols for procedures of regional collaboration between CITES authorities	CITES awareness and compliance	Scientific data and tools for a robust formulation of NDF	Regional coordination	Grateful for support received under the CTSP	Call to support continuation of the CTSP
9- Democratic Republic of the Congo		√		√						√				
10- El Salvador		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
11- Gabon												√	√	
12- Guatemala		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
13- Indonesia		√		√		√					√			√
14- Kenya		√					√	√	√	√		√	√	√
15- Madagascar		√		√			√	√				√		
16- Malaysia		√		√	√		√	√				√	√	√
17- Nicaragua		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
18- Nigeria		√	√	√			√	√	√	√	√	√		√
19- United Republic of Tanzania		√					√	√	√	√		√	√	√
20- Togo		√	√	√			√	√			√	√	√	√
21- Uganda		√					√	√	√	√		√	√	√

b) On the ITTO-CITES Programme (2016 – 2016):

Party	Strengthening; supporting; creating the:	Collaboration between government agencies	National Management Plans and Strategies	Research, inventories, timber identification work	Plantations management data and regulations. Pests control experience.	Compendium of technical specifications to apply the legislation on harvesting areas	Capacity building and lessons learned from regional meetings or project work	National, regional and international networks	CITES awareness and compliance	Scientific data and tools for a robust formulation of NDF	Regional Coordination	Suspension lifted thanks to the ITTO – CITES programme work
1- Brazil			√	√	√		√		√	√		
2- Cameroon	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√	√		
3- Democratic Republic of the Congo	√	√	√	√			√		√	√	√	√
4- Guatemala	√			√			√	√	√			
5- Indonesia	√			√			√		√			
6- Madagascar							√		√			

c) **Responses from Parties not having implemented projects funded under the CTSP or the ITTO-CITES programme:**

Party	Matters raised	Followed up work of the ITTO-CITES programme	Difference between the ITTO-CITES Programme and CTSP is the difficulty for CITES to disburse funds	For the CTSP: Stress the importance of the Advisory Committee, ITTO and the CITES Secretariat in the selection of projects and development of proposals; interpretation services for meetings when funding is available; mid-point review on the ground based on launching date	Appreciates the CTSP website Recommends to produce videos and multimedia products from the field as good outreach	Appreciates the value of CTSP in supporting NDFs, legislation and enforcement	Participated in meetings of the ITTO Council and of CITES	Commends collaboration between ITTO and CITES	Highlights difficulties for Parties when listing tree species in the CITES Appendices	Calls for a continuation of the collaboration of CITES and ITTO
1- Mexico	√				√	√	√	√	√	
2-United States of America	√	√	√	√						

Note: The original responses submitted and presented in this Annex, are available in an electronic file from the Secretariat upon request.

**Status of project activities implemented under the CITES Tree Species Programme
(April 2020)**

Africa

Title of project	Country	Date funds from CITES received	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Next steps; Planned way forward
Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> au Bénin, au Nigéria et au Togo	Benin	13/11/2019	01/12/2019 – 12 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalization of the agreement process for the implementation of the project in Togo and Nigeria, 2. Establishment of the management team, 3. Establishment of the Committee of Scientific Experts, 4. Project kick-off meeting with forestry and university managers, 5. Validation of the Terms of Reference on the inventory of <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> in Benin, 6. Selection of the team of consultants, 7. Methodological framework meeting for the conduct of studies 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collection of data on the inventory of the species accompanied by an action plan. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> au Bénin, au Nigéria et au Togo	Togo	28/01/2020	01/12/2019 - 12 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signature of the contract with the lead country in December 2019; 2. Exchange meetings to explain the project to the various authorities of the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Nature Protection (MEDDPN); 3. Development of terms of reference and consultant contract in February 2020; 4. Organization of the national project start-up workshop to solicit the participation of all stakeholders so that they can share information and data with the consultant to be appointed. This workshop took place on March 05, 2020; 5. Request for access to national forest inventory data for the consultants. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study on the inventory, accompanied by an action plan by the consultants. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Nigeria	28/01/2020	01/12/2019 - 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common progress made under Benin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common activities under Benin. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>

Title of project	Country	Date funds from CITES received	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Next steps; Planned way forward
au Bénin, au Nigéria et au Togo					
Projet de plan d'action et d'actualisation de l'avis de commerce non préjudiciable en vue de la gestion durable de <i>Prunus africana</i> (Rosaceae), espèce d'arbre listée en annexe II de la CITES au Cameroun (Projet S-567)	Cameroon	09/01/2020	10/01/2020 – 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of the Coordination team and the National Technical Committee for monitoring the project (October 2019) 2. Establishment of the Restricted Scientific Committee for monitoring the project (February 13, 2020) 3. Organization of the first session of the National Technical Committee with the aim of launching the project and examining the calendar of activities for the first 6 months (February 28, 2020) 4. Organization of the mission to raise awareness and introduce Experts as part of the implementation of the Project (March 13 to 23, 2020). 	<p>- Development of the Terms of Reference for the programmed activities:</p> <p>Several RDTs are being validated by the authorities, in particular the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the ToRs on the Control of inventories made on the different exploitation sites of <i>Prunus africana</i>; 2. the TORs on the study of the current state of the procedures for the management, exploitation and processing of <i>Prunus africana</i>. 3. RDTs on the state of research on <i>Prunus africana</i>. <p>- It is the same for several research projects which are in the process of validation among which they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the project to study the exploitation of <i>Prunus africana</i> in agrosystems in the Adamawa, Central and West regions, Cameroon; 2. the project of rational exploitability standards and modeling of <i>Prunus africana</i> management in three regions of Cameroon; 3. the comparative study project on the exploitation of <i>Prunus africana</i> in natural and planted areas and sustainable management standards in Cameroon. <p>- Consultancy contracts are being drawn up and concern all the projects of the terms of reference and studies which are prepared.</p> <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Projet de Sauvegarde de <i>Pericopsis elata</i> (Assamela) et de	Côte d'Ivoire	01/04/2019	01/11/2019 - 24 months	The activities were devoted to the drafting of regulatory texts to govern the project, namely:	<p>Elaboration in progress of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ToR of the inventory;

Title of project	Country	Date funds from CITES received	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Next steps; Planned way forward
<i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> (Bois de vène) en Côte d'Ivoire				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The decree creating the project; 2. The decree establishing the Steering Committee; 3. The decree establishing the National Technical Committee; 4. The decree establishing the Restricted Scientific Committee; 5. The decree establishing the project team. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. RDT of the mapping of the two stands; 3. TOR for the drafting of the NDFP document. 4. TDR for procurement for inventory and mapping. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Conservation and Sustainable Management of <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> , for Economic Development in East Africa	Kenya	22/02/2019	22/02/2019 – 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project inception held in Nairobi Kenya, June 2019. 2. Project launch in the United Republic of Tanzania (November 2019) and in Uganda (February 2020) and commenced subcontract award processes. Subsequently, CVs reviewed and appointment letters sent. 3. Project office disbursed funds to the United Republic of Tanzania (USD 3000) and Uganda (USD 7,320). 4. Annual technical and Interim Financial Reports prepared and submitted end of January 2020. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commenced process to transfer funds for the United Republic of Tanzania subcontracts (output 2). 2. Preparations for funds transfer to Uganda for work on subcontracts (output 2). 3. Kenya, send out solicitations for experts for subcontracts (output 2). <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of three months.</p>
Conservation and Sustainable Management of <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> , for Economic Development in East Africa	Uganda	22/02/2019	22/02/2019 – 24 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common progress made under Kenya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common ongoing activities under Kenya. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Conservation and Sustainable Management of <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> , for Economic Development in East Africa	United Republic of Tanzania	22/02/2019	22/02/2019 – 24 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common progress made under Kenya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See common ongoing activities under Kenya. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
« Gestion durable de la population de <i>Prunus africana</i> de Madagascar : évaluation de stock, agroforesterie, technique de	Madagascar	03/09/2019	03/09/2019 - 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Madagascar was able to attend regional technical meetings on the CITES programme; 2. Finalization of the study on the state of the research on <i>Prunus africana</i> 3. Finalization of the methodology document for activities 1.1. (Take stock of the current management tools for <i>P. africana</i> in Madagascar and identify their faults) and 1.2. (Make an 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State of play on: (i) management, (ii) regulatory framework, (iii) research concerning the <i>Prunus africana</i> species in order to guide the governance of the species in Madagascar; 2. The establishment of a regional coordinator allowed us to harmonize the management of prunus in the distribution areas;

Title of project	Country	Date funds from CITES received	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Next steps; Planned way forward
<i>prélèvement et cadre réglementaire ».</i>				inventory of the exploitation by noting the degree of compliance with current standard and taking into account the needs of local community).	<p>3. The regional coordinator supports us in the implementation of the program: from writing, monitoring progress, validation of ToRs and reports, international expertise.</p> <p>4. The involvement of the regional coordinator is at least 70%.</p> <p>- Current activities under the CTSP programme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. activity 1.1. Take stock of the current management tools for <i>P. africana</i> in Madagascar and identify their faults 2. activity 1.2. Make an inventory of the exploitation by raising the level of compliance with current standards and considering the needs of local community. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>

Asia

Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
Integrating the Development of Guidelines and Incentives for Piloting the Establishment of Small-scale Private <i>Dalbergia</i> Plantations with the Determination of a Non-detriment Findings Report in Preah Vihear Province in Cambodia.	Cambodia	06/11/2019	06/11/2019 - 18 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A coordination structure for the project and a Project Technical Committee were established. 2. Contract with private nursery to procure and distribute 50,000 seedlings of <i>D. cochinchinensis</i> to local communities was signed. 3. Six meetings were organized to collect information on raising awareness and distribution of seedlings, current management and conservation practices, and harvest control and monitoring of <i>D. cochinchinensis</i> and <i>D. oliveri</i>, and reports had been prepared. 4. Flora inventory of 86 systematic sampling plots to collect data on the distribution, structure, and populations of the two species was conducted. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize consultations on the guidelines and incentives to stimulate the establishment of small-scale private plantations, including registration procedures. 2. Conduct training of private sector entities and small-scale farmers and procure and distribute 50,000 seedlings. 3. Conduct a detailed review on the taxonomy, biology, ecology, population dynamics, harvest control and monitoring of the two species. 4. Assess the effectiveness of the current management practices and conservation status of the two species and continue to undertake systematic field surveys. <p>No delay in the implementation of the project is envisaged in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.</p>
A Non-Detriment Findings Report and A DNA database for <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> in Java and West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.	Indonesia	18/03/2020	18/03/2020 – 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Internal coordination between implementing and collaborating agencies (virtual meeting). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct literature review on the taxonomy, biology, ecology, and the status, trend and population structure and dynamics of <i>D. latifolia</i>, including its current harvest control, management practices, and conservation status. 2. Conduct internal coordination among team members (virtual meeting). <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of three months.</p>

Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
Establishment of Arboreta and Strengthening Institutional Network for the Conservation of <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> in Peninsular Malaysia.	Malaysia	14/06/2019	14/06/2019 - 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Several meetings and site visits were engaged with the Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia and the Selangor State Forestry Department to identify the arboretum site. These two agencies are the project's collaborators. Twelve trips to collect seedlings were conducted in 2019 and another 6 in 2020. At the moment, it is estimated that approximately 2,000 seedlings are being raised at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) nursery. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the arboretum site in the State of Selangor. Discuss with FRIM researchers to establish the arboretum in the State of Perak. Conduct field trips to collect adequate seedlings. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Strengthening the management and conservation of <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> and <i>Dalbergia oliveri</i> in Vietnam.	Viet Nam	19/07/2019	19/07/2019 - 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recruited a Forest management specialist, a Plant conservation specialist, a Timber management specialist and a GIS specialist. Conducted two field trips to six provinces to assess the current management practices and conservation status of <i>D. cochinchinensis</i> and <i>D. oliveri</i>, including threats, harvest, trade, and law enforcement in September and October 2019. Convened a technical meeting in January 2020 to discuss the reviewed findings of taxonomy, biology, ecology, status, trend and population structure of the two species in Vietnam. Conducted two field surveys on population distribution of the two species in March and April 2020. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Two more field surveys on the population distribution of the two species will be conducted in the Cat Tien and Yok Don national parks. Conduct spatial analysis and prepare distribution maps of the two species, including holding three technical discussions. Prepare a draft non-detriment finding (NDF) report of the two species and organize a consultation workshop to finalize the report, as well as a training workshop. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>

Central, and South America and the Caribbean

Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
Bases para la gestión sostenible de la especie <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> “palo santo” en la Región del Gran Chaco de Argentina.	Argentina	23/12/2019	23/12/2019 - 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The technical specifications for the use of the species were agreed between the 4 jurisdictions involved, updating and improving those already established in the past. 2. Arrangements done for consultants recruitment. 3. Production of letters of agreement between research organizations and the MAYDS (CITES-MA) for the execution of consultancies. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Waiting for proposals of three experts, for analysis and selection. 2. Submitting documentation on agreements between the parties, for analysis and validation by legal entities of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of three months. Argentina is experiencing the longest time of Government lockdown of all Parties implementing work under the CTSP.</p>
Rapid-Field Identification of <i>Dalbergia</i> Woods and Rosewood Oil by NIRS Technology – NIRS ID	Brazil	11/09/2019	11/09/2019 – 24 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition of international and national <i>xylaria</i> with significant number of <i>Dalbergia</i> species and specimens to be visited. 2. The <i>Dalbergia</i> species, which will be collected in the Brazilian savannah, are already selected. Dr Peter Gasson, expert in this genre, agreed to participate in the mission. 3. Two students are being trained with project grants. 4. The strategy for collecting 40 samples or more of rosewood oil is being developed. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiating the survey and mapping of Amazon communities producing rosewood oil and contacting researchers in the area from other institutions. 2. Hiring a wood anatomy consultant for: 3. a) update the pre-selected collections already mentioned in the project. 4. b) finalize the selection of wood collections with a significant number of <i>Dalbergia</i> specimens to be visited. 5. c) Preliminary contact with the curators of the international and national wood collections to be visited and schedule dates. 6. Initiating the construction of a spectrum data bank in the near-infrared that will be made available to the public.* 7. Contact people/ associations to identify Amazonian communities that produce rosewood oil. <p>*This is an extra activity</p> <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>

Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
Fomento de la capacidad para lograr una más efectiva implementación de la CITES em Cuba para especies maderables del género <i>Guaiaacum</i>	Cuba	30/03/2020	30/03/2020 – 12 months	<p>Using national funds as in-kind contribution, some actions foreseen in the project have been carried out, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seed collection started and, in some sites, finished. 2. National projects have been prepared (by province) to access the National Forest Development Fund, which allows obtaining national financing for the activities foreseen in the CITES project. 3. Coordination has been established with other forestry projects (Ecovalor and Project OP15). The project team has participated in provincial meetings and workshops in order to present the CITES project and promote synergies. The OP15 project has started the activities in the improvement of the nurseries that were planned in conjunction with the CITES project. 4. Work meetings have been held with all project participants. 	<p>Activities related to objective 2 of the project are ongoing as follows:</p> <p>Obj.2 <i>The cooperation between the scientific authorities and the competent authorities in the fight against illicit timber trafficking (Customs, Ranger Corps, Police, prosecution) is expanded and the information exchange network is designed and established.</i></p> <p>During March, the Operational group for the prevention and control of wildlife crime, and other illegal activities on natural resources, has been created.</p> <p>This Group was created to implement the Government Plan for the Prevention and Control of Crimes on Forest Resources, Wild Flora and Fauna and other natural resources.</p> <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
Análisis integral de las especies arbóreas del género <i>Dalbergia</i> y similares a través del laboratorio forense de maderas para el fortalecimiento de la aplicación de la CITES em Guatemala	Guatemala	28/08/2019	01/07/2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phenological, phytogeographic, botanical, dasometric and current status studies of the species. 2. Organoleptic, physical, macroscopic and microscopic studies of woods. 3. Progress done on the molecular characterization of <i>Dalbergia</i> tree species in Guatemala, the Accreditation of processes in the Laboratory through the ISO 17025 Standard, as well as their link to the Environmental Justice System. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exploration, location of populations and elaboration of maps. 2. Establishment of plots, dasometric and photographic records. 3. Registration of physiographic, phenological data and tree evaluation. 4. Collection of botanical samples and preparation of Herbarium Vouchers. 5. Administrative procedures, search, selection and purchase or donation of trees for the studies; cutting and transporting wood. 6. Preparation of boards, tablets, rounds, test tubes and cubes. 7. Organoleptic and physical studies of woods. 8. Microscopic and macroscopic studies of the woods. 9. Preparation of splints, boards, wood rounds and test tubes. 10. Data Analysis, preparation of reports and the Manual.



















Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
					<p>11. Procedures in CONAP for license of molecular studies of <i>Dalbergia</i> and location of populations to obtain samples.</p> <p>12. Preparation of the Laboratory for the implementation of the Quality System according to ISO 17025, and Coordination with Forest Governance Institutions.</p> <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
<p>Generación de capacidades y lineamientos técnicos de manejo para elaborar dictámenes de extracción no perjudicial orientados a las especies del género <i>Dalbergia</i> en Guatemala, El Salvador y Nicaragua</p>	<p>Guatemala – Nicaragua –El Salvador</p>	<p>24/07/2019</p>	<p><u>24/07/2019 – 24 months</u></p>	<p><u>Guatemala:</u> Guatemala has 25% progress in the objectives, products and activities of the project. The progress of the project was restricted, due to the suspension of consultation meetings and workshops with the governmental entities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Currently, the collections and extraction of seeds have been carried out specifically for the species of <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i>, <i>Dalbergia retusa</i> and <i>Dalbergia melanocardium</i>, which will be used to evaluate the different practices of agronomic management in nurseries and production of the 5,000 established plants. 2. In reference to the establishment of Permanent Sampling Plots –PPM-, all the equipment, materials, and databases necessary for the implementation of this activity have been acquired. 3. The hiring process for the following short consultancies is in its final phase: a) Preparation of technical guidelines for <i>Dalbergia</i> in the wild, b) Fustal analysis of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus, c) Analysis of the DENP emission guidelines; The consultancy is only pending Preparation of the Web application. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Systematize existing information in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, to generate the information baseline. 2. Implementation of workshops and systematization and integration of the information generated. 3. Document on the final proposal of the tool for the conservation and sustainable management of <i>Dalbergia</i> species. 4. Remeasurement of 15 permanent measurement plots -PPM- of species of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i> in the wild, established in Guatemala in 2016. 5. Collection and analysis of samples to determine the annual current increase –ICA- and average annual increase –IMA- of timber species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus, for the construction of models that support the final determination of growth of the species (fustal analysis) in Guatemala El Salvador and Nicaragua. 6. Analysis of statistical information contained in management plans drawn up and implemented in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, focused on the existence, distribution and density of <i>Dalbergia</i> species in the wild, pre and post-harvest. 7. Determination and proposal of a minimum cutting diameter for species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 8. Determination and proposal of cutting intensity for species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in the wild in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua.


Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Determination and proposal of the annual allowable cut for species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in the wild in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 10. Determination and proposal of the cutting cycle for species of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i> in the wild in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 11. Determination of technical guidelines on seed trees for species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 12. Preparation, presentation and validation of the Proposal of technical guidelines for sustainable forest management in the wild, for timber species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 13. Systematization of existing information on reproduction systems and establishment of tree species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in plantations and agroforestry systems in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 14. Determination of agronomic management practices in nurseries for species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, and assembly of at least one pilot nursery. 15. Determination of agronomic management practices for the establishment of species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus in plantations and agroforestry systems in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. 16. Establishment of experimental plots to evaluate propagation methods and establishment of plantations and agroforestry systems with tree species of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i> in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of three months.</p>
Generación de capacidades y lineamientos técnicos de manejo para	Guatemala – Nicaragua	24/07/2019	<u>24/07/2019 – 24 months</u>	<u>El Salvador:</u>	<p>Beyond the common activities mentioned above:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of three Permanent Measurement Plots -PPM- in El Salvador.


Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
<p>elaborar dictámenes de extracción no perjudicial orientados a las especies del género <i>Dalbergia</i> en Guatemala, El Salvador y Nicaragua</p>	<p>–El Salvador</p>			<p>El Salvador has 25% progress in the objectives, products and activities of the project.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A multidisciplinary technical committee was organized with the participation of the majority of related institutions in the areas of research, management, conservation of natural resources and commercialization, among others. This Committee aims to provide and validate the information that will result from the different studies of the project. 2. The proposal for the <i>Dalbergia</i> gender monitoring tool for El Salvador is being prepared. 3. Work is underway on collecting the country's own information related to the management, marketing, location of natural populations, plantations and agroforestry systems, information that served to create the first population distribution map and occurrences through the use of the MaxEnt program. 4. Work is also carried out on training, collection, drying process and scarification of seeds of five species collected in natural populations, while conducting research activities for the propagation of the species in a sexual and asexual way. It has the best site for the installation of forest nurseries, assembly and production of seedlings, as well as the supply of materials and equipment, and the contracting of the Nurseryman. 5. The three sites for the establishment of Permanent Sampling Plots -PPM- were identified, already having the equipment and funds for it. 	<p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>
<p>Generación de capacidades y lineamientos técnicos de manejo para elaborar dictámenes de extracción no perjudicial orientados a las especies del género <i>Dalbergia</i> en Guatemala, El Salvador y Nicaragua</p>	<p>Guatemala – Nicaragua –El Salvador</p>	<p>24/07/2019</p>	<p><u>24/07/2019 – 24 months</u></p>	<p>Nicaragua</p> <p>Nicaragua has 40% progress in the objectives, products and activities of the project.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Significant progress was made on the drafting of a national strategy for the conservation and sustainable management of tree species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. 2. The assembly of the first Permanent Sampling Plot -PPM- in an Agro-Forest System -SAF- was achieved. 3. The second PPM, it was accepted that it be installed in the Genetic Improvement Center & Forest Seed Bank of the National Forest Institute -INAFOR-. 	<p>Joint activities are described above.</p> <p>Current COVID-19 Government measures affected mostly the planned activities on field work and meetings and resulted in a project delay expected of two months.</p>


Title of project	Country	Funds from CITES received on	Initiation date – duration in months	Progress made until April 2020	Current status and planned way forward
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The third Permanent Sampling Plot -PPM- in natural forests, the Support Committee for the Project oriented to be made under a General Forest Management Plan - PGMF- approved by INAFOR and will be identified by this institution. 5. Three Terms of reference of the consultancies were prepared and delivered, Fustal Analysis, Technical Guidelines for the management of <i>Dalbergia</i> species in Nicaragua and Guide for the preparation of the Non-Harmful Extraction Opinion –DENP- for the tree species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. 6. Work is being done on the content scheme of Technical Guidelines for broadleaf forests for the Conservationist Forest Management of <i>Dalbergia</i> species and Guide for the preparation of the Non-detrimental extraction report, for tree species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. Present in Nicaragua. 7. The document Characterization of the reproduction systems and plantations of the species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. was developed in its entirety. 8. The document Determination of agronomic management practices in nurseries for <i>Dalbergia</i> species in Nicaragua, is 100% complete, the implementation of the trial is missing, which will be installed during the month of April. 9. The document Guide and protocol for determining agronomic management practices for the establishment of species of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i> spp., In pure plantations and agroforestry systems, is 100% complete; making it necessary to define the plots on farms, where the plantations will be established in different modalities and in different statistical designs. 	

Overview of Decisions adopted at CoP18 to which projects funded under the CITES Tree Species programme can contribute


Africa	# Burundi - <i>Prunus africana</i> Σ 	Gabon - <i>Guibourtia</i> spp. Σ 	Kenya – <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> Σ 	# Madagascar - <i>Prunus africana</i> Σ 
	# Cameroon - <i>Prunus africana</i> Σ 	Benin – Togo and Nigeria* - <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> Σ 	# Côte d'Ivoire - <i>Pericopsis elata</i> - <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> Σ 	# Democratic Republic of the Congo - <i>Pericopsis elata</i> , - <i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> - <i>Prunus africana</i> Σ 
Central and South America and the Caribbean	# Nicaragua – Guatemala and El Salvador <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. Σ 	Brazil <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. – <i>Aniba rosaedora</i> Σ 	Guatemala <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and look alike spp. Σ 	Cuba <i>Guaiacum</i> spp. Σ 
	Argentina - <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> Σ 			
Asia	Viet Nam - <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> Σ 	-	Indonesia - <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> Σ 	Cambodia - <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. Σ 
	Malaysia - <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> Σ 			
ITTO projects	- Review of Trade in Selected CITES-listed Tree Species: Σ 			
<p>Symbol Key: # (Currently under the Review of Significant Trade (RST) in line with Resolution Conf. 12.8; species/country combinations subject to trade suspensions or that have conditions/zero quota resulting from RST); * country subject to NDF and compliance related issues under Article XIII of the Convention; Σ (project contributing to the implementation of CoP18 decisions and color code of those Decisions. as follows:</p>				

 Dec. 18.14 to 18.17 CTSP ¹

 Dec. 18. 132 - 18.134 Non-detriment findings ²


 Dec.18.140 - 18.142 & 16.58 (Rev. CoP18) Identification of timber and other wood products ³

 Dec. 18.234 a) ii) – 18.236 Rosewood tree species ⁴

 Dec. 18.321 a) on Annotation #15 ⁵

 Dec. 18.178 Guidance on the term ‘artificially propagated’ ⁶

 Dec. 18.203 - 18.204 Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinos* spp.) ⁷

 Dec. 18.39 a), c) and e) Capacity Building ⁸

¹ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42020>

² <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42056>

³ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42058>

⁴ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42089>

⁵ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42114>

⁶ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42073>

⁷ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42082>

⁸ <https://cites.org/eng/taxonomy/term/42030>

CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP) funding dedicated to build capacities for strengthening implementation of the Convention for rosewood species - Decision 18.234 a) ii)⁹ – 18.237 on *Rosewood tree species**

**Caesalpinia, Cassia, Dalbergia, Dicorynia, Guibourtia, Machaerium, Millettia, Pterocarpus and Swartzia.*

Work area Region	NDFs	Marking & traceability	Identification	Capacity building	Total USD per region
Africa	Benin, Togo, Nigeria (150,140 USD)	Gabon (80,000 USD)		Democratic Republic of the Congo (200,000 USD) Côte d'Ivoire (155,840 USD)	585,980
Central and South America and the Caribbean	Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador (250,000 USD)	Brazil (246,355 USD)	Guatemala (199,999 USD)		696,354
Asia	Viet Nam (249,980 USD)		Indonesia (192,000 USD)	Cambodia (149,800 USD)	591,780
Total USD by work area	650,120	326,355	391,999	505,640	1,874,114

⁹ ii) taking into consideration the existing information (including that developed under the ongoing CITES Tree Species Programme), and based on the available lists of species in trade, compile available data and information to address information gaps on the biology, population status, management, use and trade for CITES- listed rosewood tree species as a first priority; and as a second priority, non- CITES listed rosewood tree species, in particular those that are highly sought after for the timber trade;...