

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



Sixty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 November - 1 December 2017

Strategic matters

Livelihoods

REPORT ON THE CITES AND LIVELIHOODS WORKSHOP

1. This document has been prepared by China, Peru and South Africa in consultation with the CITES Secretariat.*

Background

2. The CITES and livelihood working group conducted a workshop that was held in Cispatá, Colombia in February 2015, but with a broader focus, to review the progress made and to discuss possible intentions and resulted in the development of the CITES and Livelihoods Handbook for the implementation of the toolkit and guidelines as mentioned in Decision 16.20 and Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP17). The Handbook comprises of two documents:
 - Part I: How to rapidly assess the effects of the applications of CITES decisions on livelihoods of the poor rural communities. This part is used as a tool intended for Management Authorities that are carrying out rapid rural appraisal of the positive and the negative effects resulting from the implementation of the inclusion of the Appendices of CITES on livelihoods of poor people.
 - Part II: Addressing and mitigating the effects of the application of CITES decisions on livelihoods in poor rural communities. This part proposes mitigation and sustainable measures that attempt to address the findings of the appraisal which are carried out in Part I.
3. As a follow-up to the above meeting and with a focus to implement CoP17 decisions on CITES and livelihoods, a workshop on CITES and livelihoods was held in George, South Africa from 23 to 25 November 2016. The workshop was co-organized by the CITES Secretariat and the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa.
4. The workshop was attended by representatives from 13 Parties to CITES (Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Namibia, Peru, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe) as well as representatives from the following organisations: Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Conservation Force, International Trade Centre (ITC), IUCN and TRAFFIC.
5. The overall purpose of the workshop was:
 - To promote the use of the CITES and Livelihoods Handbook;
 - To exchange successful experiences in the evaluation of both positive and negative impacts of the application of CITES decisions on livelihoods in poor rural communities, namely to analyse the positive

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

impacts of the listing of species in CITES Appendices on the livelihoods of poor rural communities and to identify measures to mitigate the possible negative impacts within the CITES framework.

- To discuss the implementation of CoP17 decisions on CITES and livelihoods;
 - To discuss the future work of the CITES and livelihoods.
6. The Day 1 and Day 3 of the workshop were devoted to the presentations by participants and discussions in breakout groups. Details of the presentations can be in the full report of the workshop which is the annex of this document. On Day 2, , participants to the workshop undertook a field trip to visit various communities involved in the harvesting and manufacturing of products of *Aloe ferox*, a medicinal plant species listed in CITES Appendix II.
7. The following key recommendations were concluded on the basis of the presentations by all participants, findings and recommendations of the three break-out groups as well as discussions at plenary sessions on the implementation of CoP17 decisions on livelihoods and funding needs.
- i) Efforts should be made by both the Parties and the Secretariat to enhance the recognition of the conservation and livelihood benefits from legal and sustainable trade in wildlife in line with Resolution Conf. 16.6 and to make livelihoods considerations part of decision making processes, including in the preparation of amendment proposals and the issuance of CITES permits.
 - ii) The CITES Secretariat should organize training workshops for Parties to ensure the proper understanding and use of the Handbook and that the Handbook is adaptable to national and local realities.
 - iii) The Handbook, which is currently available in English and Spanish, should be translated into other languages when possible, and a simplified version that cater to the needs of different countries will be desirable.
 - iv) A template with standard methodologies for future case studies should be established in order to ensure consistency and the quality of the case studies.
 - v) As a concrete step to truly “take into account socio-economic factors” as envisaged in the pre-ambler paragraph of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17), the “Format for proposals to amend the Appendices” (Annex 6 of the resolution) should be revised to include a new section on socio-economic considerations, where the importance of the species concerned for the livelihoods of rural communities and possible impacts of the proposed listing should be analysed; sound solution and justification should be provided.
 - vi) A Non-detriment Finding (NDF) report on the livelihoods of rural communities should be requested by national CITES authorities when considering the issuance of CITES permits.
 - vii) Information on livelihoods implications should be incorporated in the process of Periodic review and review of significant trade of species included in the CITES Appendices.
 - viii) To develop an evaluation mechanism to consider the effects on the livelihoods of rural communities when new resolutions and decisions are to be proposed or adopted.
 - ix) To promote the collaboration between future Standing Committee working groups on rural communities and livelihoods including by convening joint meetings of the two working groups during the SC meetings.
 - x) Lastly, participants suggest that South Africa, Peru and China, the former co-chairs of the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group of the Standing Committee, should jointly submit a report with all the recommendations made in the workshop to the 69th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee to be held in Geneva from 27 November to 1 December 2017.

Recommendations

8. The Standing committee is requested to consider the recommendations highlighted in paragraph 7 and propose possible way forward.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Report on the Workshop on CITES and Livelihoods

23-25 November 2016

George, South Africa



1. INTRODUCTION

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and Livelihoods workshop was held in George, South Africa from 23 to 25 November 2016 with the attendance of representatives from 13 Parties to CITES, i.e. Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Namibia, Peru, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Representatives from the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Conservation Force, International Trade Centre (ITC), IUCN and TRAFFIC were in attendance. Co-organized by the CITES Secretariat and the Department of Environment of South Africa, this was conducted as a follow-up of previous workshops in Colombia (2015) and Peru (2013), framed with a focus on the implementation of decisions adopted at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17) on livelihoods

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the workshop was:

- To promote the use of the CITES and Livelihoods Handbook;
- To exchange successful experiences in the evaluation of both positive and negative impacts of the application of CITES decisions on livelihoods in poor rural communities, namely to analyse the positive impacts of the listing of species in CITES Appendices on the livelihoods of poor rural communities and to identify measures to mitigate the possible negative impacts within the CITES framework.
- To discuss the implementation of CoP17 decisions on CITES and livelihoods;
- To discuss the future work of the CITES and livelihoods.

3. OPENING

The workshop was officially opened by the CITES Secretary-General, Mr John E. Scanlon, via a video message, who amongst other things, emphasised that illegal trade decimate wildlife populations, deprives local people from their livelihoods and in some instances impacts on national economies. Parties to CITES have long recognized that well-regulated legal trade can benefit both local communities and conservation of species. He highlighted the significance of engaging rural communities and enhancement of their livelihoods as an essential part of CITES' three-pronged approach to addressing illegal trade in wildlife. This is in line with the outcomes and resolutions of CITES CoP17 held in Johannesburg, South Africa. He noted that bold decisions adopted at CoP17 are now being translated into concrete actions on the ground, and that the CITES and Livelihoods Workshop serves to entrench this notion.

In welcoming delegates of the workshop, the representative of the host country, South Africa, the Chief Director of Biodiversity Planning and Development of the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa, Ms Thea Carroll underscored the need to ensure that the rights of the communities and the natural resource base that underpins their livelihoods and economic opportunities, are protected.. She further stressed that the sharing of information, best practices and lessons learnt relating to livelihoods programmes and initiatives across the world and is valuable. This must be done with the overall aim of ensuring that CITES processes fully integrate socio-economic considerations.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms Olga Kumalo the Director responsible for the implementation of CITES at the Department of Environmental Affairs in South Africa.

The workshop was conducted over 3 days, with proceedings reflected as follows:

4. PRESENTATIONS

Day 1 of the workshop was devoted to the presentations by participants and group discussions.

In setting the scene, Mr Liu Yuan, the Programme and Communications Officer of the CITES Secretariat who leads the work on livelihoods, provided an overview of CITES and livelihoods, the CITES and Livelihoods Handbook, the various decisions made at CoP17 and Resolution Conf. 16.6 as amended at CoP17.

During the presentations, participants shared their unique experiences on a wide range of subjects, from artificial propagation of CITES-listed plants and livelihoods of rural communities, the sharing of tourism revenue with communities as an incentive for conservation, the determinants of sustainable sourcing and livelihood benefits of the wildlife trade, to vicuñas and livelihoods of the High Andean people in Peru, the bushmeat case study in Colombia, case studies on *Crocodylus acutus* and hammerhead shark and current initiatives of IUCN and linkages with CITES processes. The workshop also addressed funding needs, the mandate of the future working group of the Standing Committee on CITES and livelihoods, the support needed by rural communities to benefit from legal and sustainable trade in wildlife, the criteria to determine a successful CITES and livelihoods experience and best practices and future case studies.

Summaries of the presentations can be found below, which are shown in alphabetical order of countries and organizations, as they were conducted during the workshop.

1) Artificial propagation of CITES-listed plants and livelihoods of rural communities - two examples in China

The *Aquilaria spp.* & *Gyrinops spp.* have been listed in the CITES Appendices in 1995 and are currently used in the aromatics. The *Aquilaria sinensis* is distributed in Hainan, Fujian, Guangxi, Guangdong, Yunnan, Taiwan provinces in the South and Southern China. The agarwood is used in the manufacturing of products such as oils, tea, medicines and bracelets. China has since exported thousands of agarwood to various countries of which 85% are from artificially propagated plants and 15% from the wild. The Chinese government is currently promoting the propagating of agarwood and since 2010, they have seen an increase in the proportions of land that are used for propagation. There is currently a company + base + farmer's household module and the Jingna township of Yunnan province is used as an example. The Qingsong Forestry Co. Limited planted more than 6,000 acres along with 37 local households teaching them how to plant and harvest the agarwood species of which they end up selling the products to the company in Jingna township of Yunnan province. Furthermore, in the Dalu Township of Guangxi Province, 3,000 acres of agarwood are propagated which belong to the rural cooperatives and this is an investment for all the villagers. In terms of benefits for conservation, the artificial propagation reduces the chances for the communities to harvest from wild in China and it meets the reasonable demand for the products from the species in the whole world.

In addition to the agarwood, rural communities are also propagating the *Cistanche deserticola* which is a perennial parasitic herb which grows in desert areas of fine sandy, slightly acidic soil, at elevations of 225-1150m. It is commonly used in traditional Chinese medicine for several thousand years to treat a wide variety of conditions such as kidney problems, constipation, impotence, and infertility. Most of the exports of this species are to Japan. The cultivation of this species covers an area of approximately 9810 hectares and about 5700 tonnes have since been harvested. Xijiang Wesong Ecological co. Ltd plants 1000 000 acre of *C. deserticola* and have commissioned the college of pharmacy in Jinan University to train 1500 local farmers and herdsman. This has resulted in the stabilization of the wild sourced *C. deserticola* and has improved the income of the local farmers who have since stopped propagating cotton and are now propagating *C. deserticola*. They have much higher returns as this can be harvested twice a year every two years.

Key issues:

- Need for funding of community livelihoods initiatives
- Cooperation between countries and coordination between international organizations
- The willingness of rural communities to take part in case studies
-

2) *Saussurea costus* and Livelihoods in India

Within the Government of India, the management of Forests/Wildlife is with the State Wildlife/Environment Departments. The utilization and cultivation of *Saussurea costus* (Kuth) is authorized through issuance of permits with wild occurrence of the species reported to be found in Jammu & Kashmir. In terms of the IUCN listing, the *Saussurea costus* is classified as critically endangered species and was initially listed in CITES App II from 1975-1985 but later up-listed from App II to App I in 1985. The kuth species is naturally found in India and Pakistan and it is used mainly for its medicinal properties. A kilogram of kuth roots is sold at about \$3. In addition to CITES, there are various domestic legal provisions that are used in the management of utilisation and cultivation of Kuth in India. The cultivation of kuth per hectare is \$400 of which the government subsidises up to 50%. There are about 500 farmers that cultivate kuth and 90 registered nurseries. In terms of institutional support, the Herbal Research and Development Institute (HRDI) is nodal agency for conservation, development and sustainable

utilisation of medicinal & aromatic plants. The institution develops cultivation techniques and transfers the technology to farmers. They also provide quality seeds for nurseries. It is important to note that the seeds that are being used now were collected in the wild in 1989 and currently no seeds are being collected in the wild.

3) CITES and Livelihoods – a Kenyan perspective

The Wildlife Conservancy Model A (2013) recognizes and acknowledges meaningful participation of landowners and local communities in wildlife management and conservation in Kenya. 75% of wildlife populations are found outside protected areas, which cover 60 % of the land mass in Kenya. There exist over 140 community conservancies in Kenya covering 7.5 million acres of land and benefit over 2 million people with a very harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife. Due to various conservation issues that are found in the Northern dry part of Kenya such as human-wildlife conflict, lack of benefits from natural resource as well as overgrazing, the government and NGOs initiated a cooperative that assisted the women of the area to benefit in aloe farming. These women export aloe leaves and managed to generate \$20 000 in the year 2014. Furthermore they manufacture products such as soaps that are sold in the local market. The cultivation of these species enables local communities to sustain their livelihoods.

Key issues:

- Community conservancies are built around natural parks and the government funds. The focus is mainly on conservation of The Big 5 and other endangered species. They promote non consumptive use of the species and attempt to find ways to reduce the human wildlife conflict.
- The minimum that a household can make will depend on how many individuals are employed from one family and the area. It ranges from \$1000- 1500.
- In addition to the above, the sport hunting of various bird species plays an important role in improving the livelihoods of the individuals in the particular area as the fees are paid directly to the communities.

4) Sustainable use of wildlife and livelihoods

While many conservation efforts tend to separate wildlife and communities, Namibia has a great success story to tell on how conservation in the country plays a role in the improvement of the livelihoods of the communities and recognises that long term conservation can only be successful if it involves the local communities. A legal framework that empowers communities and creates incentives for sustainable development and co-existence with wildlife through the community based natural resource management programme is in place. In 2015, there was a total of 82 registered conservancies covering a total area of 162 million hectares. These conservancies benefit the community through creating employment, Improvements to rural water supplies, human/wildlife conflict mitigation and creation of a voice for rural people amongst others. In Namibia, joint tourism ventures recovers the most to the livelihoods of communities followed by sustainable use of wildlife. Remarkable wildlife recoveries have occurred across Namibia, in communal areas, on freehold land and in state protected areas of species such as the black rhino, cheetah and elephants although Namibia still face a rhino poaching challenge.

5) Vicuñas and livelihoods of the High Andean people in Peru

With the highest population of the species, vicuñas are the livelihoods of the High Andean people in Peru as they play an essential role in the livelihoods of the people in Peru. All species are currently listed on App II of CITES and constitute a socio-economic alternative for the high Andean settler. The vicuñas inhabit a highly marginal and semi desert area where other animals or livestock do not prosper and has the ability to make use of its native pastures by not trampling on it and destroying it. Although each animal produces 198g of fibre per year, Peru is able to produce about 9, 222.45kg of fibre. The fibre is exported to Europe where it is used to make products like coats and blankets.

6) The determinants of sustainable sourcing and livelihood benefits of the wildlife trade – experience from ITC's cooperation with CITES: ITC support to CITES Parties: Strengthening sustainability and livelihood outcomes

The project has been going on for the past 5 years and the main factor that drives the successful conservation of livelihoods is for governments to develop tools that are clear and useful for the utilisation of wildlife. ITC is looking to find ways to work with governments and NGOs to find ways to cooperate and secure funds for research. The ITC has been established to support parties to enhance the livelihood benefits of rural communities involved in global wildlife trade, to increase the understanding of international markets for wildlife products, and

bridge the widening information gap between harvesters, producers, regulators, retailers and consumers by mapping and preparing in-depth analyses of the dynamics of value chains for selected species listed in CITES Appendix II. Species level factors, governance, supply chain factors and end market factors play a critical role in determining livelihoods sustainability and benefits.

7) Bushmeat, CITES and Livelihoods: Handbook for assessing and mitigating the impact of CITES regulations on local livelihoods: Example from Colombia

A handbook on bushmeat and livelihoods was developed in a workshop held in Cispatá in Colombia with the aim of proposing a methodology for applying the Handbook on CITES and Livelihoods to the case of bushmeat. The scale of international bushmeat trade is unknown and it mostly occurs as a transboundary trade. Bushmeat is not clearly defined by CITES which poses a challenge with its management. Bushmeat hunting and national trade are illegal or unclearly regulated in many countries. The approach in the handbook involves three aspects namely; (a) national level diagnosis of bushmeat trade across borders, (b) assessment of the impacts of CITES regulations on the local livelihoods of rural communities, and (c) addressing and mitigating the impacts of CITES regulations on the livelihoods of rural communities. Bushmeat in Colombia is important not only for the local people but also to the local hunters for their food security and livelihoods. CIFOR made various recommendations to both the Secretariat and Parties including a clear definition of the term bushmeat as well as differentiate between local international trade from long distance international trade.

Key issues:

- The trade is concentrated on very specific border towns, but volumes seem significant
- Bushmeat remains an important component of local cultures despite rapid social changes and contributes to the diversity of diets and income.
- Law enforcement is weak in border areas and focuses on other illegal products
- Alternatives to the international trade of bushmeat species listed in CITES need to be carefully discussed with stakeholders involved in the trade
- The formalization of the sector would allow regulating national and international trade for species in Appendix III and II. More efficient law enforcement is needed to protect species from Appendix I

8) Enhancing conservation and community livelihoods through wildlife trade and wildlife trade regulation: Current IUCN SULi initiatives and linkages

The presentation focused on the following key issues: (a) the importance of CITES and Livelihoods (in particular to combat illegal wildlife trade); (b) How should approaches to wildlife trade that deliver positive conservation and livelihood outcomes be supported; and (c) How can community voices be strengthened in this discussion? These issues are explained below as follows:

(a) The importance of CITES and Livelihoods:

For three linked reasons we need to ensure that CITES interventions support rather than undermine community livelihoods:

- (i) Equitable governance: poor rural communities shouldn't bear the costs of addressing illegal wildlife trade;
- (ii) Poverty alleviation: enhancing livelihood benefits from wildlife trade chains; and
- (iii) Conservation incentives: generating benefits from wildlife trade that motivate conservation efforts.

In the current illegal trade in wildlife context, these arguments remain critically important. We need to combat illegal trade in wildlife, but local communities shouldn't bear the costs; illegal trade in wildlife can undermine poverty alleviation strategies based on natural resources; and benefits from sustainable legal trade can motivate anti-illegal trade in wildlife efforts.

IUCN SULi and partners have been working on understanding where and how community-based approaches can help combat illegal trade in wildlife, through symposia, workshops and research articles. Based on understanding the various costs and benefits for community members of [supporting conservation vs supporting illegal trade in wildlife](#), we have developed a "[Theory of Change](#)" for how community-based approaches can reduce illegal trade in wildlife. This framework includes recognition of the importance of increasing the benefits

to be gained from wildlife and conservation by community members. Legal, sustainable trade is one way of doing this.

(b) How should approaches to wildlife trade that deliver positive conservation and livelihood outcomes be supported?

ITC and SULi have developed an analytical [framework](#) to help managers and decision-makers decide wildlife trade chains have the potential for legal, sustainable trade with positive impacts, and which do not; and what kind of interventions are needed to increase positive conservation/livelihood benefits. It draws attention to factors at the level of the resource, governance factors, supply chain factors and demand factors as important in making these decisions, and notes that there may often be inherent trade-offs between conservation and livelihood benefits.

Key priorities for action can be as follows:

- Increasing learning and awareness, through targeted, clear case studies of positive examples legal / sustainable wildlife trade, and through targeted research on key underlying questions, such as whether and when shifting to *ex situ* production is positive/negative for conservation and livelihoods.
- Developing more supportive policy/practice – we need to produce a more enabling governance and regulatory environment.

(c) How can community voices be strengthened?

The first CITES “Communities Day” was convened at CoP 17, by Resource Africa, IUCN SULi and partners. The intention was to support CITES process on increasing representation of rural communities at CITES. In order to advance this, structures and strategies to empower community participation (implementation of Rural Communities decisions) should be established.

9) CITES and Livelihoods case studies: *Crocodylus Acutus* and Hammerhead Shark.

This presentation was presented *in absentia* of the presenter and *technical* challenges were experienced as the sound was not audible. The presentation indicated that regulation of legal wildlife trade is an important tool for the management of wild species. The participatory decision-making that build accountability, transparency and inclusiveness gives local communities the reason to conserve the species in their area. Maintaining the relationship between communities and legal wildlife trade remains an important aspect as it increases the incentives for the communities willing to protect their wildlife as they will be benefiting from the resources. Additionally, it is important to bear in mind that what is better for livelihoods is not always better for conservation and what is better for conservation is not always better for livelihoods therefore it is essential to strike a balance between the two aspects as both are important. Each listing of a species in CITES should be accompanied by recovery strategies. It is important to develop indicators for monitoring and evaluations. The monitoring is key to building trust between the communities and authorities and academia.

The CITES and Livelihoods handbook is indeed a practical tool for decision makers and other key stakeholders aiming to identify and address the impacts on livelihoods of CITES decisions. There is a need to establish funding towards development of more case studies and it should be considered other species instead of only focusing on CITES listed species in order to broaden the scope of the case studies

10) Sharing tourism revenue with communities as an incentive for conservation - the Uganda experience

The Government of Uganda shares the revenue generated from wildlife related activities with the communities as they are mostly suffering from human-wildlife conflict (such as loss of access to park resources, crop and property damage and livestock depredation). Uganda shares up to 20% revenue generated from the entrance fees into reserves with the communities which gives them incentives for conservation and has ensured that the community members give support to conservation. The conservation parks have generated a total of \$ 4,734,365 revenue from 2005-2015. These revenues have since been used to develop infrastructure in the communities. Its legislation identifies communities that are situated within 2 km from the park as mostly affected hence they benefit most. The government has since implemented measures to ensure that human-wildlife conflict is minimized for example, building walls around community areas. Due to the conservation efforts that are being implemented, the wildlife has increased in numbers over the years.

11) Legal trade, conservation and rural livelihoods: a Zimbabwean perspective

Zimbabwe's conservation efforts are based on the sustainable use principle and it is the major source of funding for conservation efforts in the country. The country supports consumptive and non-consumptive tourism practises. As a result of implementing the sustainable use approach, the elephant population has grown from 46000 in 1980 to 80 000 in 2014. As a Party to CITES, it use a quota system as a management tool to ensure that the wildlife is used sustainably (500- Elephant, 500: leopard, 200 Crocodile and 50: cheetah). Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) has a combined 2.4 million beneficiaries, made up of 200,000 households that actively participate in the program, and another 600,000 households that benefit indirectly from social services and infrastructure supported by CAMPFIRE income within districts. They are given user rights over wildlife to generate income, some of these districts partake in hunting and some in photographic tourism. 55% of the income generated is allocated to the communities to support the costs of running the CAMPFIRE

5. GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Group discussions took place on the third day of the workshop. Three groups were formed to discuss and report back on the following topics:

- Group 1: Support needed by rural communities to benefit from legal and sustainable trade in wildlife
- Group 2: Criteria to determine a successful CITES and livelihoods experience and best practices
- Group 3: Future case studies

Findings of Group 1 - Support needed by rural communities to benefit from legal and sustainable trade in wildlife

1) Promoting conservation and livelihood benefits from legal, sustainable trade

Rationale

CITES Resolutions (8.3, 16.6) have recognized that legal, sustainable trade can contribute to livelihoods and to conservation, so enhancing these benefits should be an important priority for CITES. However, the strong message from CITES on reducing demand for illegally sourced wildlife products and combating illegal trade in wildlife has not been balanced by corresponding positive messages and initiatives that

- support and raise awareness of the benefits of legal, sustainable trade where this supports community livelihoods, and
- ensure the demand for products from these sources is maintained and strengthened rather than reduced.

A major problem for initiatives that support community livelihoods is that CITES listing (including Appendix II) is seen in many audiences as a red flag for trade. For example, exporters of Cape *Aloe ferox* products, the harvest of which supports livelihoods of rural communities, cannot access markets in Japan as importers will not import Appendix II listed species as they perceive them as endangered.

Recommendations

International level

- a) Establish an award, given at each CoP, for the best example of sustainable and legal trade providing community/conservation benefits. Awarding panel to include CITES Secretariat, Parties, relevant IGOs, and awarding of the prize should be accompanied by media and communications outreach;
- b) Explore and encourage labelling/marketing approaches that employ CITES as a form of certification that the wildlife product is sourced in a legal and non-detrimental way. For example, sale of CITES listed Appendix II species could carry a label stating that products are sourced legally and sustainably according to CITES regulatory procedures;

- c) Establish a CITES sustainable trade promotion mechanism: analogously to the various (important) processes/initiatives focused on combating illegal trade in wildlife because CITES needs to establish a mechanism to promote and encourage legal, sustainable trade in listed products;
- d) Include prominent positive messages regarding the potential for wildlife trade to deliver important livelihoods benefits for communities in a conservation-friendly manner and in high level CITES policy statements and meetings, such as APEC, G20 summit, Shanghai Cooperation Organization or US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue;
- e) Bilateral meetings which currently often refer to combating illegal trade in wildlife and reducing demand with no recognition of the importance of legal and conservation-friendly wildlife trade;
- f) Establish a new international consortium (roughly analogous to ICCWC), bringing together relevant groups to mobilise and coordinate efforts to support community and conservation benefits from legal, sustainable wildlife trade. The consortium could include CITES, CBD, UNDP, UNCTAD, ITC, FAO, IUCN, CIFOR and TRAFFIC;
- g) Build stronger links with FAO and UNDP, in order to draw on their expertise in areas such as community development and use/trade of NTFPs and fisheries products, to assist CITES implementation in a manner that is positive for community livelihoods.

National

- h) At national level, encourage authorities to provide forms of certification or recognition of positive, well managed community-based wildlife trade programmes. This can provide communities with security regarding future livelihood/trade prospects, and enable them to gain a price premium. For instance, in Peru, the CITES Management Authority certifies certain positive programmes, enabling them to command a higher price for their wildlife products.

2. Making livelihoods issues part of CITES decision making processes

Rationale

It is important for CITES Parties and Committees to understand the livelihoods context of wildlife trade regulation, in order for implementation of CITES listings and other relevant CITES decisions to effectively achieve conservation objectives while minimizing or enabling compensation of any negative livelihood impacts and, where possible, maximizing positive impacts.

Recommendations

International level

- a) Amend the formal template for proposals to amend the CITES Appendices, to include a new section requesting details of the livelihoods context. This could include, for example, information on livelihood impacts of existing legal/illegal trade. This would fulfil the objective noted in the Preamble of Res Conf. 9.24 that listing decisions take into account socio-economic factors, an objective which is not currently reflected in the operative text of this resolution. It would be appropriate and helpful for Parties to have information on the livelihoods dimensions of implementation of listing decisions at the time of making these decisions, as indeed highlighted by Scanlon 2011¹. This change would require a minor amendment to the proposal template set out in Annex 6 of Res Conf. 9.24 (Rev CoP16) in order to add an additional paragraph.
- b) Continue the operation of the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group. This is an important group with a great deal of further work to do. So, as relevant/necessary, the Standing Committee should be requested to continue the operation of the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group.
- c) Increase representation of communities in CITES decision-making, as highlighted at CoP 17, and articulate a clear role for them to play. To support this, carry out a study (involving IUCN, Parties, and

¹ <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/14616IIED.pdf>

other IGOs/NGOs) to learn lessons from practices of engaging communities in decision-making from other conventions and at national level, to help understand the options available and the pros and cons of different approaches. *NB. This study has now been completed.*

- d) Promote cooperation and dialogue between the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group/process and the new Working Group established under the Standing Committee on increasing participation of rural communities in CITES processes. This could include convening a joint meeting at SC 69 and at other relevant meetings.
- e) As called for in Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev CoP 17), para 7, include community representatives in national, regional and international initiatives to combat illegal trade in wildlife, including ICCWC, regional WENs, and national anti-illegal trade in wildlife initiatives, bodies, and taskforces
- f) Incorporate information on livelihoods dimensions of wildlife trade in the Periodic Review of Appendices process.

National level

- g) At national level, develop mechanisms to effectively connect the community development and CITES arms of government. These are quite separate in many countries, despite the clear linkages between their subject matter and the impact of CITES decisions on community livelihoods.

Findings of Group 2 - Criteria to determine a successful CITES and livelihoods experience and best practices

It was discussed that increase in local people's ownership should be encouraged since some members from rural communities are involved in poaching. The communities should be involved in processing of natural resources, for example, through big companies establishing processing plants for finished products rather than only coming into the communities to come and collect the resources. There should be wider community benefits through forming a cooperative, with 30% of benefit going to infrastructure and 70% distributed to cultivators.

There should be a clear understanding of the impact on land use in policy-making. For example, if hunting is banned, it is likely that there will be more agricultural practices and fewer habitats for wildlife. Patterns of poaching – the community may be driven by commercial interests, thus resulting in poaching. This may turn into a revengeful nature due to human-wildlife conflict.

Germany intended to list devils claw in CITES. Many people are dependent on this species for income. The community opposed this listing proposal as they solely depend on this species for income.

Instead of the communities focusing on one species for exploitation, there are alternative plants to collect. However, there should be an implementation of methodologies to use when practising this. There is also a feeling that Res Conf 9.24 (Rev CoP17) (socio-economic) should be unpacked further. There is a need for linkage to the Biodiversity Economy Strategy and the role for government to broaden distribution of benefits (equity stake).

Findings of Group 3 - Future case studies

The CITES and livelihoods handbook should be actively used in case studies to assess the impacts of the implementation of CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of rural communities and the identification of measures to mitigate any negative impacts.

Case studies on sustainable- and legal trade should also be encouraged in order to find out how legal and sustainable trade can generate economic incentives for the conservation of wildlife and improvement of livelihoods of poor rural communities.

The following criteria may be used for the development and selection of future case studies:

- Human/wildlife conflict species: conserve endangered/symbolic species but reducing human/wildlife conflict
- Important for livelihoods, food security and cultural

- Important for income particularly for women (gender)
- Cases where international trade is disconnected from rural communities and potentially harming resources used by rural communities
- Cases where the fairness in international trade chains is questionable
- Cases where the CITES permit processing is difficult due to the fact that communities do not have the capacity and institutional support to apply for such permits
- Split-listing species: species that are listed in two Appendices at a time which may create potential impacts on other countries
- Species whose status has recently changed in the CITES listing
- Species that are representative of different ecosystems

Some of the case studies that may be considered in the future are as follow:

- The African lion Appendix II; impact of trophy hunting on rural livelihoods
- The implications of Appendix I-listing of African Grey Parrots and pangolins
- The *Aloe cicundiflora* inclusion in Appendix II

Some Parties will require funding for the development of the case studies as well as capacity building on implementation of the Handbook.

6. TECHNICAL TOUR TO ALBERTINIA

On the second day of the workshop, participants to the workshop undertook a field trip to visit various communities involved in the harvesting and manufacturing of products of *Aloe ferox*, a medicinal plant species listed in CITES Appendix II.

Albertinia is a peaceful little town within the Eden District Municipality in the Western Cape Province that covers approximately 5.76 km². *Aloe ferox* grows prolifically in the area where both raw ingredients and a variety of final products are manufactured for local and international markets. The Albertinia area is known as the hub of the *A. ferox* products.

A. ferox is a vascular plant also known as Bitter Aloe or Cape Aloe in South Africa. It reaches a height of 2-3 metres, with erect racemes of red, orange or yellow flowers, and thorny leaves arranged like a rosette. The *A. ferox* species is amongst the most commercially utilised and traded plant species in the country.

The field visit provided an excellent opportunity for the participants to have first-hand knowledge on the production chain of medicinal products from a CITES-listed plant species, to understand how rural communities in South Africa are benefiting from the trade as well as the various obstacles they are facing to maximize their share from the benefits from such legal trade.

7. KEY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

The following key recommendations were concluded on the basis of the presentations by all participants, findings and recommendations of the three break-out groups as well as discussions at plenary sessions the implementation of CoP17 Decisions on livelihoods and funding needs.

- 1) Efforts should be made by both the Parties and the Secretariat to enhance the recognition of the conservation and livelihood benefits from legal and sustainable trade in wildlife in line with Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev CoP17) and to make livelihoods considerations part of decision making processes, including in the preparation of amendment proposals and the issuance of CITES permits.

- 2) The CITES Secretariat should organize training workshops for Parties to ensure the proper understanding and use of the Handbook and that the Handbook is adaptable to national and local realities.
- 3) The Handbook, which is currently available in English and Spanish, should be translated into other languages when possible, and a simplified version that caters to the needs of different countries will be desirable.
- 4) A template with standard methodologies for future case studies should be established in order to ensure consistency and the quality of the case studies.
- 5) As a concrete step to truly “take into account socio-economic factors” as envisaged in the preamble paragraph of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17), the “Format for proposals to amend the Appendices” (Annex 6 of the resolution) should be revised to include a new section on socio-economic considerations, where the importance of the species concerned for the livelihoods of rural communities and possible impacts of the proposed listing should be analysed; sound solution and justification should be provided.
- 6) A Non-detriment Finding (NDF) report on the livelihoods of rural communities should be requested by national CITES authorities when considering the issuance of CITES permits.
- 7) Information on livelihoods implications should be incorporated in the process of Periodic review and review of significant trade of species included in the CITES Appendices.
- 8) To develop an evaluation mechanism to consider the effects of new resolutions and decisions on the livelihoods of rural communities while they are proposed or to be adopted.
- 9) To promote the cooperation between the working groups on rural communities and livelihoods under the Standing Committee and convene the joint meeting of the two working groups during SC meetings.

Lastly, participants suggest that South Africa, Peru and China, the former co-chairs of the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group of the Standing Committee, should jointly submit a report with all the recommendations made in the workshop to the 69th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee to be held in Geneva from 27 November to 1 December 2017.