

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September - 5 October 2016

Administrative and financial matters

Administration, finance and budget of the Secretariat and  
of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

ACCESS TO FINANCE, INCLUDING GEF FUNDING

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties revised Resolution Conf. 16.2 on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2014-2016* to include the following paragraphs:

*ENCOURAGES Parties, in the revision of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, to integrate CITES objectives and priorities in order to facilitate identification of opportunities for GEF-eligible projects relevant for CITES, including species-based projects;*

*INVITES the GEF Council to note relevant Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in the development of the GEF Biodiversity Strategy consistent with the GEF's mandate and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;*

*DECIDES to convey to the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP) the CITES objectives and priorities in support of the Aichi Targets, and INVITES the CBD CoP to take these into account in providing the broad strategic guidance to the GEF;*

*Within the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, CALLS upon Parties, established financing mechanisms, donors, international organizations, academia, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to provide adequate and timely support for the relevant CITES objectives and priorities;*

*DECIDES that:*

- c) *the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, shall continue to explore a closer working relationship with the GEF to address CITES priorities within the context of its Biodiversity Strategy, and consistent with the mandates of CITES and the GEF;*
3. The Conference also adopted Decision 16.2 on *Access to Global Environment Facility funding* and Decisions 16.3 to 16.8 on *Access to other sources of funding* as follows:

***A financial mechanism for CITES***

*The Conference of the Parties has decided to defer consideration of a financial mechanism for CITES, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to its 17th meeting, taking into account the progress achieved under the following Decision.*

### **Directed to the Secretariat**

16.2 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and in consultation with the GEF Secretariat, explore the necessity and feasibility as well as the legal and other implications of the GEF becoming a financial mechanism for CITES;*
- b) *report on progress on its findings at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee, for consideration of the risks, benefits, necessity and implications, in order to get further guidance in preparation for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;*
- c) *convey Resolution Conf. 16.2 and Decision 16.2 to the GEF Council, through the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the GEF;*
- d) *continue, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, to explore a closer working relationship with the GEF to enhance its biodiversity strategy in GEF-6 by strengthening the species-based component; and*
- e) *convey CITES priorities to the GEF for it to take them into account when developing the biodiversity strategy in GEF-6, consistent with the mandate of the GEF.*

### **Directed to Parties**

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

16.4 *Parties are invited to second staff to the CITES Secretariat. The salary of such seconded personnel shall be covered by the Party. All seconded personnel shall remain under the administrative authority of the sending Party and shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.*

### **Directed to the Secretariat**

16.5 *Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and other relevant financial institutions, cooperation agencies and potential donors, shall organize a Wildlife Donor Roundtable to:*

- a) *share information on existing funding programmes on wildlife;*
- b) *understand the long-term financial needs of developing countries to implement the Convention; and*
- c) *explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife and to tackle wildlife crime.*

16.6 *The Secretariat shall present a report of its findings and recommendations at the 66th and 67th meetings of the Standing Committee, as necessary, and at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 16.5.*

### **Directed to the Standing Committee**

16.7 *The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 16.5 and 16.6 at its 66th and 67th meetings, as necessary.*

16.8 *The Standing Committee shall continue its intersessional working group on Access to finance, including GEF funding and innovative mechanisms. This group shall provide guidance on how to secure funding to support the provision of technical assistance to CITES Parties and the Secretariat.*

## Implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.2

4. At CoP16, Parties recognized the importance of aligning CITES priorities to the *Strategic Plan on Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets*, and the inclusion of their CITES national and regional actions in the revised and updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as a way of reflecting them in their GEF programming and activities<sup>1</sup>. The adoption of the revised *CITES Strategic Vision* at CoP16<sup>2</sup>, with its extended mandate to 2020 and adjustments made to provide explicit links to the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity has enabled these linkages to be strengthened.
5. In compliance with Resolution Conf. 16.2, paragraph c) under the second "DECIDES that", as well as Decision 16.2, paragraph d), the Secretariat has communicated with the CBD Secretariat to explore how the GEF could best address CITES priorities.

## Implementation of Decision 16.2 on Access to Global Environment Facility funding

6. By way of background, during the first ever intervention made by CITES to the GEF Council in 2011<sup>3</sup>, the CITES Secretary-General drew the attention of the Council to the immediate threats posed by the overexploitation of biodiversity through illegal and unsustainable international trade in wildlife, and to the need for the GEF to direct funding towards tackling it. Following this intervention, the GEF Council decided, "that the GEF Secretariat would organize a meeting of Biodiversity-related conventions with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the coordination of their priorities for possible inclusion in the GEF-6 programming strategy." This meeting took place in Geneva, in September 2013<sup>4</sup>, and was co-Chaired by the Executive Director of the CBD and the Secretary-General of CITES.
7. As stated above, it was the CITES Secretariat that drew this issue to the attention of the GEF Council, and it has pursued the issue through its relationship with GEF and the CBD in many ways, including the development of the first GEF-approved project on a CITES-related issue, namely a project to strengthen wildlife forensic capabilities in South Africa to combat wildlife crimes, which was initiated by the Secretariat with the use of funding provided by Norway. The final project<sup>5</sup>, for USD 2.69 million, was developed in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and with in-kind support to the value of USD 800,000 from the CITES Secretariat. The Secretariat welcomed the approval of this project in a media release issued on 13 June 2012<sup>6</sup>.
8. With regard to the implementation of Decision 16.2, paragraphs a) and b), the Secretariat communicated with the GEF Secretariat, GEF Implementing Agencies and other stakeholders with the aim of commissioning a study to explore the "necessity and feasibility as well as the legal and other implications of the GEF becoming a financial mechanism for CITES". However, at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, January 2016), the Committee decided to recommend to the Conference of the Parties at the present meeting that it not proceed with the implementation of Decision 16.2 paragraph a) regarding exploring the necessity and feasibility as well as the legal and other implications of the GEF becoming a financial mechanism for CITES. Consequently, the Secretariat does not have any additional information to report on the "risks, benefits, necessity and implications", with the exception of the GEF Global Wildlife Program as described below.
9. In implementation of Decision 16.2, paragraphs c) and e), on 2 April 2013 the CITES Secretary-General conveyed Resolution Conf. 16.2 on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2014-2016*, and Decision 16.2 to the GEF Council, through the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the GEF.

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<sup>1</sup> See document CoP16 Doc. 8.4 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-08-04.pdf>)

<sup>2</sup> See document CoP16 Doc. 12 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-12.pdf>)

<sup>3</sup> [https://cites.org/eng/news/sg/2011/20111108\\_GEF.php](https://cites.org/eng/news/sg/2011/20111108_GEF.php)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/cooperation/doc/blg-2013-09-09-en.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.thegef.org/gef/project\\_detail?projID=4937](https://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=4937)

<sup>6</sup> [https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/2012/20120613\\_rhino\\_project.php](https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/2012/20120613_rhino_project.php)

10. Subsequent discussions contributed to the overall advancement of making GEF finances accessible to CITES-related activities.<sup>7</sup> The final GEF-6 programming, which covers the period July 2014 to June 2018, contains a programme<sup>8</sup> that focuses on “hunting, poaching and illegal trade of endangered species” within the context of Aichi Biodiversity Target 12, and particularly focusing on making a “concerted effort to respond to the threat of extinction of species that are critical for the ecological and economic sustainability of many protected areas in sub-Saharan Africa”. Activities under this programme will include: strengthening national legislation, institutions and law enforcement to reduce poaching; strengthening science-based wildlife monitoring, education and awareness; and reducing demand for illegal wildlife products. This is a major milestone for the GEF and CITES and for targeting species-related issues under the GEF. The GEF and the CITES Secretariat issued a joint media release on 28 May 2014, welcoming it<sup>9</sup>.
11. In order to develop and implement this new area of work as a pilot to evaluate the future direction of the GEF, the GEF Council approved, at its 48th meeting (Washington, DC, June 2015), a new global wildlife programme - the Global Partnership on Wildlife Conservation and Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development (also called the GEF Global Wildlife Program) of USD 90 million<sup>10</sup>. The CITES Secretariat formally welcomed this GEF funding by media release issued on 4 June 2015<sup>11</sup>. This new programme, funded by GEF and partner organizations, draws upon existing GEF programmes and is aimed at promoting wildlife conservation, wildlife crime prevention and sustainable development in order to reduce the impacts of poaching and illegal trade on protected species.
12. The GEF Global Wildlife Program mainly targets the GEF-6 Biodiversity Strategy Program 3, *Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species*, but also addresses other focal areas and strategic objectives of GEF-6, and aims to provide a coordinated, programmatic framework for the current and future GEF projects addressing illegal wildlife trade. The CITES Secretariat is a non-implementing member of the programme steering committee, and provides technical advice, shares its knowledge and experience, and enriches the programme by bringing in the partnerships from ICCWC and MIKE. The CITES Secretariat was the first agency that provided the outcome of a mapping exercise to link the project to national obligations for CITES implementation. A copy of the mapping exercise is attached to the present document as Annex 1.
13. There are nearly 20 projects that are already accepted as part of the programme, or are planned for inclusion. For these projects, national governments, in partnership with non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations act as executing agencies, while the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) act as implementing agencies. The Global Wildlife Program coordination office has provided a summary overview of the program to the Secretariat, which is attached to the present document as Annex 2.
14. Although the CITES Secretariat is not a GEF Implementing Agency and does not intend to seek to become one, it has a strategic role in the programme as the sole regulatory body in the programme steering committee. Furthermore, many of the components of the Global Wildlife Program are naturally aligned with CITES's priorities and projects<sup>12</sup>. It is therefore vital that Parties are aware of the current and potential GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program, and ensure that effective linkages are made with their legal obligations under the Convention. Parties may also wish to consider that there may be other ongoing GEF projects, under GEF-5 or GEF-6 programming, which may have components related to combating illegal wildlife trade.<sup>13</sup> Furthermore, Parties may also be interested in participating in the national planning exercise for GEF-7 programming, which covers the period July 2018-June 2022.
15. The above-mentioned developments in the GEF Global Wildlife Program, coupled with aligning CITES priorities to the *Strategic Plan on Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets* referred to in

<sup>7</sup> For details, see document SC65 Doc. 17 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/65/E-SC65-17.pdf>)

<sup>8</sup> BD2 *Reduce Threats to globally significant biodiversity*, Program 3: *Preventing the extinction of known threatened species*. See GEF-6 programming directions for more details on this programme.

([https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/webpage\\_attached/GEF6\\_programming\\_directions\\_final\\_0.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/webpage_attached/GEF6_programming_directions_final_0.pdf))

[https://cites.org/eng/CITES\\_welcomes\\_GEF-6-biodiversity-strategy](https://cites.org/eng/CITES_welcomes_GEF-6-biodiversity-strategy)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/11263>

<sup>11</sup> [https://cites.org/eng/gef\\_wildlife\\_prog\\_2015](https://cites.org/eng/gef_wildlife_prog_2015)

<sup>12</sup> See information document SC66 Inf. 14 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/Inf/E-SC66-Inf-14.pdf>)

<sup>13</sup> For example, see SC66 Doc.29 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/E-SC66-29-Rev1.pdf>) Annexes 1 and 2 for a list of relevant UNDP-GEF projects that can potentially support the National Ivory Action Plans.

paragraph 4 above, has effectively opened the opportunity for GEF to finance CITES-related activities, and significantly advanced the discussion related to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.2, paragraph c) under the second "DIRECTS that", and Decision 16.2. At SC66, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to invite the GEF Secretariat to participate in CoP17 to raise the awareness of Parties on accessing GEF funding<sup>14</sup>, and to provide guidance. An invitation letter was sent from the Secretary-General to the Chief Executive Officer of GEF on 4 February 2016.

16. The CITES Secretariat has also provided inputs to the assessment of funding needs for the implementation of CBD and its Protocols for the seventh replenishment period of the GEF. The summary report of this exercise is available as a working document of the first meeting of the Subsidiary body on Implementation of the CBD (Montreal, 2016).<sup>15</sup> Among the nine preliminary conclusions of the assessment, the need for countries to “elaborate synergies with other biodiversity related conventions”, including CITES, is highlighted as a way to more efficiently use the funds under GEF-7, which will cover the period from July 2018 to June 2022. This is a major achievement for CITES in enabling Parties to access GEF funding for CITES priorities.

#### Implementation of Decisions 16.3 to 16.8 on Access to other sources of funding

17. With regard to Decision 16.3, document CoP17. Doc.7.3 on *Financial reports for 2014-2016*<sup>16</sup> provides a summary of extrabudgetary financial support provided for the implementation of the Convention during the period since CoP16.
18. During the period 2013-2015, the Secretariat was successful in mobilizing external funds and managed to raise contributions amounting to USD 11,909,805 for the implementation of the Convention, which the Secretariat is managing directly. As seen in Figure 1 below, there has been a considerable increase in the extrabudgetary contributions over the years. Although not shown in the graph below, an amount of USD 705,141 was raised in the first quarter of 2016, which is mainly for the CoP17 Sponsored Delegates Project. The external funds raised during the period 2013-2015 are summarized in Table 2 and Figure 2, below.

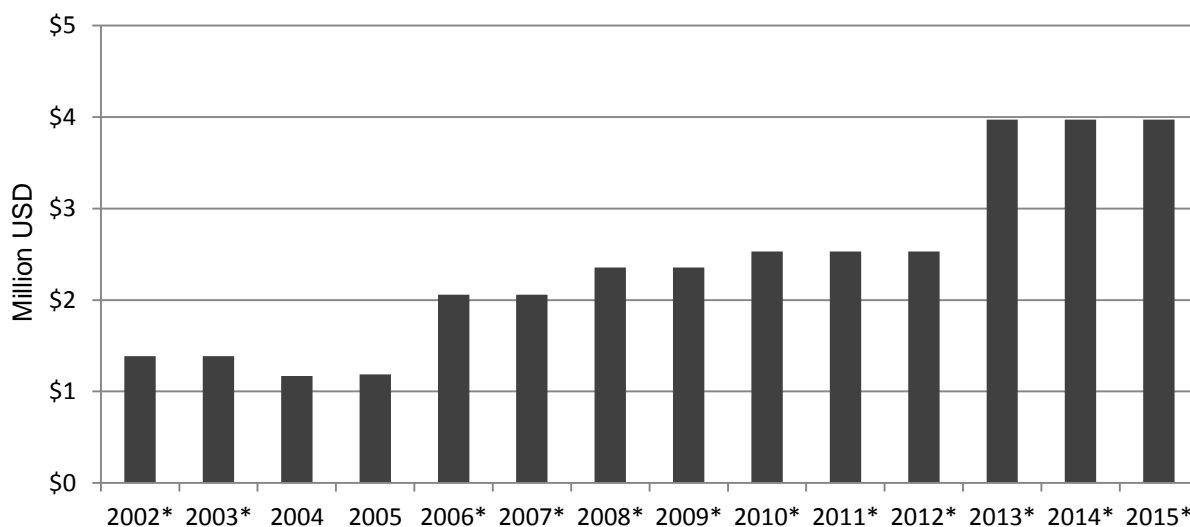


Figure 1. Evolution of extrabudgetary cash contribution to CITES, by year (averaged)<sup>17</sup>

<sup>14</sup> See SC Sum.10 (Rev.1) (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/ExSum/E-SC66-Sum-10.pdf>), and also SC66 Com.5 (Rev. by Sec.) (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/Com/E-SC66-Com-05%28RevbySec%29.pdf>).

<sup>15</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/8/ADD2 (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbi/sbi-01/official/sbi-01-08-add2-en.pdf>)

<sup>16</sup> <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/17/WorkingDocs/E-CoP17-07-03.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> Years marked with \* show the average amount raised over a reported biennium/triennium. The figures are taken from: CoP13 Doc. 8.4 CoP14 Doc.7.1 (Rev. 1) Annex 10, CoP15 Doc.6.2 (Rev.1) Annexes 8b) and 9b), and CoP16 Doc.8.5.

Table 1 & Figure 2. Funds received and managed by the CITES Secretariat (2013-2015)

Main donors 2013-2015	USD	%
European Union	8,599,516	72.21
United Kingdom	887,666	7.45
United States of America	858,827	7.21
Norway	305,446	2.56
Japan	220,994	1.86
Hong Kong, SAR (China)	103,122	0.87
International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)	100,000	0.84
Switzerland	96,602	0.81
Australia	40,000	0.34
Germany	27,931	0.23
Botswana	20,000	0.17
Other	649,701	5.46
<b>Total:</b>	<b>11,909,805</b>	

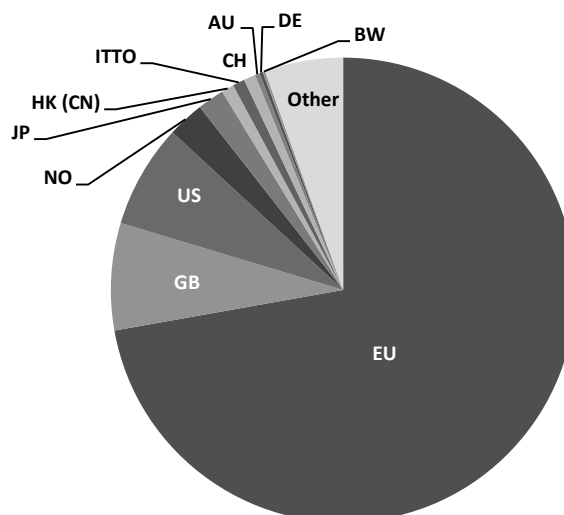


Table 2. Breakdown of the funds received from the European Union (2013-2015)

Project name <sup>18</sup>	USD	%
Marine species & captive bred specimens	2,625,995	30.54
MIKE project phase II	2,595,456	30.18
MIKES	2,104,032	24.47
CoP16 Decisions	965,517	11.23
Capacity-building phase II (final payment)	308,516	3.59
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8,599,516</b>	

19. The Secretariat views an important part of its role as helping to mobilize additional financial resources to support Parties to implement the Convention. These funds do not come to the Secretariat. In this context, the Secretariat has contributed towards raising a further USD 102.9 million for CITES implementation through its wider resource mobilization efforts and partnerships with other organizations during the period 2013-2015 (see Table 3, below). These funds include amounts raised under: the GEF project *Strengthening law enforcement capabilities to combat wildlife crime for conservation and sustainable use of species in South Africa (target: rhinoceros)*; the World Bank Development Grant Facility (DGF) grant to strengthen national enforcement capacities to combat wildlife crime through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the EU ICCWC project through Interpol; and the UNODC funds pledged and/or transferred under the African Elephant Fund<sup>19</sup>.

Table 3. External funds raised in collaboration with key partners and managed by them (2013-2015)

Activity/Partners	USD
UNEP/GEF project South Africa (rhinos): full project amount, 2013-2017	2,690,455
GEF Global Wildlife Program: full programme amount, 2015-2018	90,000,000
ICCWC – World Bank DGF (UNODC) and EU (Interpol)	3,900,000
EU UNODC-CITES Asia wildlife law enforcement and demand management	5,600,000
African Elephant Fund (UNEP): recorded income, 2013-2015	748,640
<b>Total:</b>	<b>102,939,095</b>

<sup>18</sup> The figures represent deposited amounts received by the CITES Secretariat; this may not reflect the total amount mobilized during the three years.

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.africanelephantfund.org/page/i/funding>

20. Furthermore, the CITES Secretariat has worked closely with many philanthropic organizations and has advised them on investing in CITES-related issues, especially to tackle illicit wildlife trafficking.
21. The Secretariat is seeking over USD 34.5 million in external funding for the triennium 2017-2019 (see Table 4, below). Discussions are underway to secure funds from the European Union for the implementation of selected CoP17 Decisions and for other activities. Additional funding may be expected following the completion of the work of the Donor Roundtable on Wildlife and Forest Crime, the scale of which cannot yet be estimated. Further details on the proposal are contained in document CoP17 Doc. 7.4 on *Budget and work programme for 2017-2019*.

*Table 4. External funds sought for the period 2017-2019<sup>20</sup>*

Activity	USD
MIKE capacity building in Eastern and Southern Africa	12,000,000
ICCWC	10,000,000
Tree species, including tropical timbers	7,000,000
Capacity-building	3,000,000
Implementation of CoP17 Decisions	1,500,000
Sponsored Delegates Projects (CoP18)	1,000,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>34,500,000</b>

22. The CITES Secretariat has benefited from a number of seconded staff and other personnel support during the period between CoP16 and CoP17. The Government of South Australia seconded a staff member for two months, who provided support in dealing with a number of enforcement-related issues. Switzerland, through the Syni programme<sup>21</sup> of the City of Lausanne, seconded a staff member who worked on communication and outreach for nine months in 2014. In addition, Norway has seconded a lawyer from the Norwegian Environment Agency to assist the CITES Secretariat for one day a week to support the National Legislation Project.
23. With regard to other types of personnel support, Germany has provided a Junior Professional Officer with an academic background and experience in marine species issues since January 2015 for an initial period of 24 months, and also has supported a joint CITES-CMS Programme Officer since July 2015, for 30 months, to strengthen the implementation of the CITES-CMS joint work programme 2015-2020. Lastly, the Republic of Korea, through the Korean Environment Corporation (KECO) has continuously provided highly qualified interns to the CITES Secretariat through its International Expert Training Program<sup>22</sup>. Four KECO-supported interns have worked with the CITES Secretariat during the period between CoP16 and CoP17. The Secretariat has also hosted several other self-supported interns, who assisted in various aspects of the Secretariat's work.

*Table 5. Personnel support received during 2013-2015*

Personnel support 2013-2015	USD <sup>23</sup>	%
<b>Germany:</b> Junior Professional Officer (P-2, since January 2015 for 2 years)	320,800	43.4
<b>Germany:</b> joint CMS/CITES officer (P-3, since July 2015 for 2.5 years)	241,400	32.6
<b>Korea:</b> KECO-IEETP interns (4 interns, 6 months each)	92,800	12.5
<b>Switzerland:</b> Syni programme officer (9 months)	54,000	7.3
<b>Australia:</b> enforcement support officer (2 months)	16,000	2.2
<b>Norway:</b> legal officer	15,000	2.0

<sup>20</sup> The figures represent a rough estimate based on the identified needs, and are not attributed to a particular donor.

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.syni.ch/>

<sup>22</sup> [https://www.keco.or.kr/en/core/expansion\\_international/contentsid/2002/index.do](https://www.keco.or.kr/en/core/expansion_international/contentsid/2002/index.do)

<sup>23</sup> The figures for Syni program officer and interns were calculated on the basis of an estimate using a monthly rate of a consultancy of an equivalent level.

24. The Secretariat expresses its sincere thanks to all of the above-mentioned governments for their support, which is contributing greatly to the daily work of the Secretariat. The Secretariat would respectfully like to encourage other Parties to do the same.
25. In the implementation of Decisions 16.5 and 16.6, relating to the organization of a Wildlife Donor Roundtable, the Standing Committee invited its Working Group on Access to Finance, including GEF funding and innovative mechanisms, to reconvene in order to discuss the organization of the Roundtable. This followed the call from the UN Secretary-General to strengthen the UN system's response to tackling illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. A Donor Roundtable on Wildlife and Forest Crime was organized by the CITES Secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, UNODC, and the World Bank, and held in the margins of the High Level Political Forum (New York, July 2015).<sup>24</sup>
26. Participants welcomed and recognized the value of establishing a time-bound Donor Advisory Group on Wildlife and Forest Crime composed of the donors present at that meeting, to be in operation until CoP17. The terms of reference of the Donor Advisory group are available as an information document at the present meeting.
27. The World Bank, with support from the UN and the Donor Advisory Group on Wildlife and Forest Crime mentioned above, has agreed to prepare a report mapping international and domestic financing and proposing preliminary recommendations on required support, gaps, and opportunities for more effective collaboration. For this task, the World Bank is conducting a portfolio analysis of the investments of major international donors related to wildlife anti-poaching, anti-trafficking, and demand reduction projects and programs to assess the current state of international funding to tackle illicit trafficking in wildlife (IWT). This analysis will create a baseline for the donor community to build upon, which in consultation with recipient countries, can help establish the future state vision for IWT financing.
28. The Secretariat has requested the World Bank to submit the report of the above-mentioned study as information document, and to give an oral report on the study to the present meeting. A side event is also planned in the margins of CoP17 in order to present the report and to obtain additional feedback from the donors. The World Bank may also request that the Donor Advisory Group be continued to collaborate beyond the initial period in the portfolio analysis stage.
29. At SC66, the Standing Committee supported the Secretariat's proposal to convene, subject to available resources, a roundtable similar to the one organized around the theme of tackling wildlife crime to explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife, noting that the previous roundtable is focused on wildlife trafficking. The Wildlife Donor Roundtable on sustainable use is planned to be held back-to-back with the suggested workshop on CITES and Livelihoods (see document CoP17 Doc.16 on *CITES and Livelihoods*). The Secretariat will give an oral report on this at the CoP.

#### Recommendation

30. In light of the above, the Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt the draft decision contained in Annex 3 to the present document.
31. Taking into account the ongoing work within the GEF Global Wildlife Program, Parties may find that a separate discussion on the *consideration of a financial mechanism for CITES, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF)* may not be necessary at this time. The Secretariat consequently recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopts no decision to this effect. Instead, Parties are encouraged to cooperate actively with their national GEF counterparts and to contribute to the development and implementation of relevant GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program. Parties may also wish to closely monitor the progress of these projects, to see whether this approach is effective in enhancing Parties' access to GEF funding.

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<sup>24</sup> For details, see SC66 Doc.10.4 (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/E-SC66-10-04.pdf>)



32. The Secretariat believes that the intersessional working group on Access to finance, including GEF funding and innovative mechanisms, as elaborated in Decision 16.8, has completed its work.
33. Parties may also wish to consider the request that the Donor Advisory Group be continued to collaborate beyond the initial period of operation of until CoP17.
33. The proposed draft decisions, if adopted, will replace Decisions 16.2 through 16.8, which the Secretariat recommends to be deleted.

Mapping exercise linking CITES to the Global Wildlife Program (GWP)

PROGRAM COMPONENT 1. Reduce poaching and improve community benefits and management	PROGRAM COMPONENT 2. Reduce wildlife trafficking	PROGRAM COMPONENT 3. Reducing demand	PROGRAM COMPONENT 4. Knowledge, policy dialogue and coordination
<p><b>CITES MIKE programme</b> monitors trends in elephant poaching (and law enforcement effort) at 60 sites in 30 African range States, and 25 sites in 13 Asian range States.</p> <p><b>MIKES</b> (Minimising the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species) expands the focus to other flagship species threatened by illegal trade (e.g. rhinos, great apes, marine turtles).</p>	<p><b>ICCWC forensic tools</b> include forensic analysis guidelines for ivory and the development of similar guidelines for timber.</p> <p><b>ICCWC anti-money laundering</b> training materials specific to wildlife crime are being developed by the World Bank and UNODC.</p>	<p><b>Workshop on demand-side strategies for curbing illegal ivory trade</b> was held in China in January 2015.</p> <p><b>International workshop on rosewood</b>, focusing on demand-side strategies for curbing illegal trade, planned for 2016.</p>	<p><b>Wildlife donor roundtable</b> with EU, Germany, UNDP, UNEP, UNODC and World Bank to increase funding sources allocated to wildlife and forest law enforcement and governance.</p>
<p><b>CITES National Ivory Action Plans (NIAPs)</b> are a practical tool to strengthen national controls to combat illegal trade in ivory in 19 countries across Africa and Asia that are the key source, transit and destination States. There is a progress reporting mechanism overseen by the CITES Standing Committee. Many NIAPs identify substantial funding needs for implementation.</p>			
<p><b>ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit</b> assessments, led by UNODC on behalf of ICCWC, are underway in over 15 countries. Resulting Toolkit action plans identify the priority actions and recommendations to strengthen national responses to wildlife crime. A national enforcement capacity self-assessment framework is being developed by CITES, on behalf of ICCWC, to build on the ICCWC Toolkit process and enable a 'rapid' assessment of enforcement efforts.</p>			
<p><b>Action to combat illegal trade in rhinoceros horn</b> arising from the <i>CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force</i> and the <i>Ministerial dialogue for key States implicated in the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn</i>. Actions encompass national implementation and priorities for regional cooperation. Specific work on awareness raising and demand reduction is underway by the CITES Rhinoceros Working Group.</p>			
<p>The <b>CITES National Legislation Project</b> is the Convention's primary mechanism for encouraging and assisting Parties' legislation efforts, to ensure that national legislation meets the minimum requirements for implementation of CITES. The Secretariat is supporting priority countries to review and improve their legislation.</p>			
<p><b>CITES and livelihoods</b> developments include a CITES livelihoods impact assessment toolkit and guidelines. There is also an active CITES Working Group on Livelihoods.</p>	<p><b>Asian big cat</b> recommendations by the CITES Standing Committee address various parts of the illegal supply chain including enforcement, demand reduction and prevention of illegal trade from breeding facilities.</p>		

**KEY**

- CITES
- ICCWC
- Multi-partner

Country	Implementing Agency	MIKE / MIKES <sup>1</sup> (aligned project sites)	National Ivory Action Plan <sup>2</sup>	ICCWC Toolkit <sup>3</sup>	Action on illegal rhino horn trade <sup>4</sup>	CITES National Legislation Project <sup>5</sup>	CITES and livelihoods <sup>6</sup>
Global	UNDP, WB	Global Coordination and Knowledge Management Project					
<i>Group I – GWP national projects approved by GEF in June 2015</i>							
1. Botswana	UNDP	✓		✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓
2. Cameroon	UNDP	✓✓ (Boumba-Bek)	✓✓	✓*			✓✓
3. Congo (2 projects)	UNDP, WB	✓✓ (Nouabale-Ndoki, Odzala)	✓✓	✓		✓✓	
4. Ethiopia	UNDP	✓ (Babille)	✓✓	✓*			
5. Gabon	WB	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓		✓✓	
6. India	UNDP	✓			✓	✓✓	
7. Indonesia	UNDP	✓			✓		✓
8. Mozambique	UNDP	✓✓ (Niassa)	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓✓	
9. United Republic of Tanzania	UNDP	✓ (Katavi Rukwa, Ruaha Rungwa, Selous Mikumi)	✓✓✓	✓		✓✓✓	
10. Zambia	WB	✓			✓	✓✓	
<i>Group II - GWP national projects awaiting approval by the GEF<sup>7</sup></i>							
11. Kenya	UNDP	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓
12. Malawi	WB	✓			✓	✓✓	
13. Mali	UNDP	✓				✓	
14. Philippines	ADB		✓✓✓		✓	✓✓	
15. South Africa	UNEP	✓			✓✓		✓
16. Thailand	UNDP	✓	✓✓✓		✓		
17. Viet Nam	WB	✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓		✓✓
18. Zimbabwe	UNDP	✓✓			✓		✓

<sup>1</sup> ✓✓=MIKE and MIKES; ✓=MIKE only; listed sites indicate MIKE/MIKES sites that are also target project sites for national projects. Further GEF project sites can voluntarily nominate to become MIKE sites.

<sup>2</sup> ✓✓✓ = Parties of 'primary concern' in the control of illegal trade in ivory; ✓✓ = Parties of 'secondary concern'; ✓ = Parties of 'importance of watch'.

<sup>3</sup> ✓✓ = ICCWC Toolkit assessment completed and report and work plan presented to Government; ✓ = ICCWC Toolkit underway; ✓\* = country invited to implement ICCWC Toolkit assessment with ICCWC support.

<sup>4</sup> ✓✓ = Key State implicated in illegal trade in rhinoceros horn; ✓ = Participating State in CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force and associated strategies and actions.

<sup>5</sup> ✓✓✓ = Parties identified as requiring attention as a priority (beneficiaries of support under the national legislation project in 2015-2016); ✓✓ = Parties needing national legislation review, which have been party to the Convention for 20 years or more; ✓ = Parties needing national legislation review, which have been party to the Convention for less than 20 years.

<sup>6</sup> ✓✓ = Current/possible case study on CITES and livelihoods; ✓ = CITES and Livelihoods Working Group member.

<sup>7</sup> The second group of national projects were submitted to the GEF in November 2015 for inclusion in the GWP and are awaiting approval by the GEF Council.

### Global Wildlife Program – An overview

(Submitted by the Global Wildlife Program coordination office)

In June 2015, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council approved the program framework document for the seven-year Global Wildlife Program (GWP). The GWP is a World Bank Group (WBG) led global partnership that promotes wildlife conservation and sustainable development by combatting illicit trafficking in wildlife. This multi-focal program approaches the wildlife crisis holistically through various country projects and a global project. The GWP has an initial investment value of US\$ 90 million in GEF funding for 12 projects - eleven national projects in Africa and Asia and one global project executed by the WBG and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Collectively, these projects leverage co-financing from other donors of up to US\$513 million in kind/cash and other grants/loans. The 10 countries with GWP projects include Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Zambia. Nine additional countries presented projects to the GEF for consideration in the June 2016 work program with an investment value of US\$41 million. Once approved by the GEF council, the Program will include 21 projects and represent an overall GEF investment of US\$131 million, leveraging \$704 million in co-financing.

The GEF implementing and project agencies collaborating on this program include the WBG, UNDP, United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). A Program Steering Committee is constituted by these agencies and the CITES Secretariat, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Traffic, and WildAid. Together these agencies joined forces with developing country governments to address the wildlife crisis and contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development. The WBG leads the GWP global coordination and knowledge exchange components to enhance the individual results achieved by national projects. UNDP leads a coordination and learning effort to strengthen law enforcement capacity at priority ports through the introduction of a best practice incentive scheme and to enhance collaboration between African and Asian countries and agencies involved in efforts to reduce maritime transport of illegal wildlife products, especially ivory.

The GWP consists of four components: 1) reduce poaching and improve community benefits and co-management; 2) reduce wildlife trafficking; 3) reduce demand; and 4) improve knowledge, policy dialogue and coordination. Through targeted investments across these components, the GWP seeks to reduce both the supply and demand that drives the illegal wildlife trade, and to protect species and habitats through integrated landscape planning. The GWP promotes a common objective whose anticipated results are more than the sum of its components. This Program enables interconnectivity across countries using their GEF System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) allocations beyond what can be achieved through small and isolated projects. The national projects tailored to specific country needs and investments ensures optimization of economic benefits from natural resources management, strengthening protected areas, support to anti-poaching, tourism development, training on park management and reinforcement of the importance of criminal intelligence, livelihood development compatible to conservation and landscape planning and biological corridor development.

The WBG-led global coordination project is intended to enhance coordination among stakeholders, monitor outcomes of national projects, enhance the capacity of national projects to implement actions to combat wildlife crime, develop a knowledge management platform on IWT, and jointly deliver key actions under the project with key partner institutions such as the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) and others. The GWP enhances internal cohesion and coherence amongst the GEF investments across the GEF implementing agencies. Sharing of lessons learned through in-person and virtual knowledge exchanges is a key aspect of the global coordination. In addition, coordination across program partners and collaborators optimize investment opportunities and minimizes duplication of efforts. This important GEF-6 funding sets the stage for the possibility to expand through additional investments to add new threatened species and geographies not currently included in the GWP. The program recognizes that CITES provides the international legal framework for regulating international trade in wildlife. Additional information on the GWP can be found on the GEF and WBG sites.

**GWP Brochure:** <https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/publication/IWT%20trifold%20reduced.pdf>

**GWP Brief:** <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/environment/brief/global-wildlife-program>

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Access to GEF funding

***Directed to Parties***

17.AA Parties are encouraged to:

- a) continue their efforts to include their CITES priorities in their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to enhance access to GEF funding;
- b) contribute to the development and implementation of GEF projects that may have components related to the implementation of CITES, by communicating with their national GEF counterparts and informing them of relevant CITES requirements and processes; and
- c) closely monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and its projects, to ensure its effectiveness in enhancing Parties' access to GEF funding and in meeting their obligations under CITES.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

17.BB The Secretariat shall:

- a) convey CITES priorities to the GEF for it to take them into account when developing the biodiversity strategy in GEF-7, consistent with the mandate of the GEF;
- b) provide inputs to the GEF Global Wildlife Program to ensure that GEF projects under the programme are, as far as possible, aligned with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention;
- c) continue, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat as well as with the GEF Secretariat, to enhance the biodiversity strategy in GEF-7 by strengthening the species-based component; and
- d) report on progress to the Standing Committee.

Access to other sources of funding

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

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

***Directed to Parties***

17.DD Parties are invited to second staff to the CITES Secretariat and to note that the salary of seconded personnel shall be covered by the Party. Seconded personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

17.EE Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and other relevant financial institutions, cooperation agencies and potential donors, shall organize a Wildlife Donor Roundtable with particular focus on the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora, to:

- a) share information on their existing funding programmes for the conservation of wildlife;

- b) understand the long-term financial needs of developing countries to implement the Convention; and
- c) explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife.

17.FF The Secretariat shall report the progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 17.EE, and its findings and recommendations, to the Standing Committee, as necessary, and at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

17.GG The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 17.CC through 17.FF and make recommendations as necessary at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING  
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

Secretariat:

The Secretariat's support as outlined in draft Decisions 17.BB, 17.EE and 17.FF could be accommodated within the daily work of existing Secretariat staff

Committees:

The members of the Standing Committee may be required to provide active inputs, should the Committee wish to make specific recommendations in relation to the review of implementation of Decisions 17.CC through 17.FF.

Direct costs:

With regard to Decision 17.BB, the Secretariat's provision of inputs in the GEF Global Wildlife Programme may incur costs related to staff travel to meetings of the programme steering committee, as well as to relevant workshops on knowledge management and monitoring. In addition, consultation with the CBD Secretariat and with the GEF Secretariat may also incur costs associated with Secretariat travel. Parts of this cost could be covered through the proposed core (CTL) and external (QTL) trust funds allocated towards KMOS Activity 9, on *Cooperation with financial institution and donors to secure funding support for CITES*.

The organization of a donor roundtable in compliance with Decision 17.EE will have cost implications. The actual amount needed may depend on the venue as well as the availability of any other meetings, in the margins of which the donor roundtable can be held, which is estimated in the range of USD 10,000 – 20,000, considering that the participants (donors) will most likely not require participation support.