**Template for new CITES and livelihoods case studies**

**Note:**

1. The main purpose of the new case studies is to identify how regulated trade in CITES-listed species of wild animals and plants contributes to the livelihoods of rural communities that live alongside the species and to the conservation of the species where applicable. This means that the case studies must involve trade in CITES-listed species.
2. “Rural community” here also includes single households.
3. As information on all points may not be available for all studies, case study developers are urged to include as much information as feasible on the topics listed below.

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| --- | --- |
| **Country** |  |
| **Name of agency, organisation or individual submitting the case study** |  |
| **Contact person (name, title, email, telephone)** |  |
| **Methodologies used in the case study (e.g. desk-based, interviews, local surveys etc)** |  |

**1. Introduction**

* 1. **Species**
1. scientific and common name of the species concerned.
2. CITES Appendix listing, including, where relevant, a summary history of the listing.
3. population size, trends and distribution.
	1. **Community**
4. brief description of the rural community (or communities, as relevant) involved in the relevant harvest/trade, including number of people or households involved in the project and their means of income.

(while it is often difficult to quantify how many people are involved with precision, please include any available quantitative or qualitative measures, making clear what these are based on)
5. description of the role and activities of the rural community in trade, including its role(s) in the supply chain, e.g. collection/harvesting, captive breeding of animals or artificial propagation/cultivation of plants, processing, storage, transport, sale etc. Include any relevant social/cultural/historical background as appropriate.
6. outline the participation of women in relevant activities including harvesting, breeding and trade.
7. local/traditional knowledge and management approaches that are of relevance to the species/project.

**c. Project**

A brief description of the project (bearing in mind there may be no formal "project" in certain situations):

main objective of the project.

source of funding, if applicable.

when it was started, who manage it and how it works.

harvest methods.

1. area of extraction focused on in this study (e.g. local area, country etc)

**2. Livelihood benefits**

1. **How does the engagement of these communities in this trade contribute to their livelihoods?**

Livelihood benefits may be tangible (e.g. income, schools) or intangible (pride, continuation of culture). Please try to explain the livelihood benefits of regulated trade in CITES species on the following five livelihoods assets:

* human capital (including education, training, skills, nutrition and health)
* financial capital (savings, income flows)
* social capital (including institutions for managing natural resources, community pride)
* natural capital (including wildlife populations, forests, grazing lands etc),
* physical capital (including infrastructure, water and sanitation systems)

Where relevant, please explain benefit-sharing arrangements, specifying what percentage of total value is returned to communities, and any requirements for how such payments are spent.

1. **What would the impacts on livelihoods be of the removal of CITES trade opportunities for these communities?**

Without participation in trade in CITES species, would the income or other livelihood outcomes of these rural communities be significantly reduced? What broader social/cultural impacts might this have? Are there feasible alternatives that could replace benefits from CITES trade?

1. **How could livelihood benefits of trade in CITES species be improved?**

Discuss how livelihood benefits for these communities could be improved. What are the most important limitations for improving these benefits?

**3. Conservation impacts**

1. **Has trade in CITES-listed species been beneficial for the conservation of that species and/or its habitat and/or other species?**

If so, please explain these benefits. Conservation benefits could include e.g.

* recovery, stabilization or increase of the population
* reduced illegal harvest and trade (of the CITES-listed species itself or other species)
* decreased demand for unsustainably wild-collected specimens (in the case of captive breeding or artificial propagation)
* establishment of community-managed conservation infrastructure or institutions, e.g. local conservancies
* new partnerships with other stakeholders for conservation
* improved data availability for management
1. **Have the livelihood benefits of trade been important in securing these conservation benefits?**

If so, please explain how these are linked. For example, the livelihood benefits of CITES trade may be providing alternative income such that people do not need to harvest illegal species, or may be motivating people to conserve habitat, or may be motivating people to reduce livestock numbers in key habitat.

**c. Have traditional culture and indigenous knowledge played a role in achieving the livelihoods and conservation benefits in this project?**

**4. Lessons learnt: successes and failures**

**a. What are the most key factors that have made CITES trade work for this community?**

For example, these could include:

* strong traditional leadership
* strong community governance/institutions for wildlife management
* support from NGOs
* support from the government
* high prices for products
* capacity building
* establishment and implementation of species and/or area management plan
* good benefit-sharing mechanism
* good market strategies
* prevention of over-exploitation due to CITES trade controls including NDF requirements
* increased prices and income due to CITES listing and trade regulation
* or a wide range of other factors - please describe and explain.
1. **What has been learnt from failures?**

Failures are often very informative, and sharing lessons from these provides valuable insights for others. Have there been failures in the history of CITES trade by this community, or of government, private sector, NGO or community initiatives or efforts? What can be learnt from these? What lessons can be taken for the implementation of similar future projects?

1. **What are the main challenges?**

Please describe the challenges faced in the context of this CITES trade, and how they were overcome (if they were overcome). What are the main challenges now (if any) and for the future?

1. **What are the key lessons for CITES?**

What could be considered as lesser successes of the project? What lessons does this case study provide for CITES regulation of international wildlife trade, in terms of how it impacts on livelihoods of rural communities involved in trade and the conservation of species? This could address such questions as:

* Are there ways that CITES regulations or their implementation could improve CITES' influence on sustainable livelihoods on the ground?
* Are there ways this influence could be more beneficial for livelihoods? What would the likely conservation impacts be?
* Has CITES been a hindrance to legal trade and associated livelihoods benefits? How? Are there ways that such hindrances could be changed, without compromising conservation?

**5. Additional information**

If there is additional information you wish to add that does not fit into the above framework, please add it here.