



# Introduction to CITES Guidance on Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs)

4 March 2025

10:00 to 13:00 CET

# Objectives of the webinar

- Familiarize Parties with the CITES NDF guidance, including modules, key concepts and templates
- Encourage Parties to use the guidance and to develop case studies of its application
- Provide an opportunity to ask questions about the guidance and share experiences with other participants
- Discuss case studies as an illustration of how to apply the guidance
- Initiate a learning process and feed back into future improvements of CITES NDF guidance

# Agenda of the webinar

Time (CET)	Agenda item
10:00 – 10:15	Opening words
10:15 – 11:15	<b>Part 1:</b> Introduction: CITES and NDFs, CITES NDF Project and guidance and NDF-related capacity building and tools
11:15 – 11:25	Short break
11:25 – 12:10	<b>Part 2:</b> Interactive discussion with NDFs case studies
12:10 – 12:45	<b>Part 3:</b> Next steps: Field testing, feedback mechanism and future updates
12.45 – 13.00	Closing words

# Content of the presentation

- **Understanding CITES NDFs**
- **The CITES NDF Project**
- **CITES NDF guidance:**
  - Overall structure
  - Generic guidance
  - Thematic modules
  - Supporting modules
- **Other capacity building opportunities**
- **Next steps:**
  - Field testing
  - Surveys on use and usefulness of the guidance
  - Feedback and future updates to CITES NDF guidance





# Understanding NDFs



# Provisions of the Convention

- [Article III](#) states that the import of specimens of Appendix I-listed species requires import permits that shall only be granted when a Scientific Authority of the State of import has advised that the import will be for purposes which are not detrimental to the survival of the species involved.
- Articles [III](#) and [IV](#) require that export permits for specimen regulated through Appendices I or II shall only be granted if a Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that such export will **not be detrimental to the survival of that species**.
- [Article IV](#) furthermore requires that a Scientific Authority monitors exports of specimens of Appendix II-listed species and, whenever necessary, advises the Management Authority of suitable measures to be taken to limit such exports in order to maintain such species throughout their range at a level consistent with their role in the ecosystems and well above the level at which they would qualify for Appendix I.
- Articles [III](#) and [IV](#) also require that the [introduction from the sea](#) of specimen of species included in Appendix I or II shall only be granted when a Scientific Authority advises that such introduction will not be detrimental to the survival of the species involved.
- There is **no non-detriment requirement for Appendix III-listed species**.



# Key concepts and terms in the Convention

- Over-exploitation (Preamble)
- Threatened with extinction (Art. II)
- Utilization incompatible with their survival (Art. II)
- [Export/introduction] ...not detrimental to the survival of that species (Art. III, IV)
- Purposes ...not detrimental to the survival of the species (Art. III)
- Export of specimens ... limited to maintain that species throughout its range at a level consistent with its role in the ecosystems in which it occurs (Art. IV)
- Being affected adversely by trade (Art. XIII)

# The Non-Detriment Finding

- Articles III and IV of the Convention require the advice of a Scientific Authority that a proposed action will not be detrimental to the survival of a species.
- This advice is effectively a decision that must be made by the Scientific Authority.
- There is **no non-detriment requirement for Appendix III-listed species**

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	
<b>Official documents</b>	
<a href="#">Convention text</a>	(See the notes about the Bonn amendment and the Gaborone amendment)
<a href="#">Reservations</a>	<a href="#">Text of the Convention in PDF</a>
<a href="#">Resolutions</a>	<a href="#">Preamble</a>
<a href="#">Decisions</a>	<a href="#">Article I</a> Definitions
<a href="#">Notifications</a>	<a href="#">Article II</a> Fundamental principles
<a href="#">Conference of the Parties</a>	<a href="#">Article III</a> Regulation of Trade in Specimens of Species included in Appendix I
<a href="#">Standing Committee</a>	<a href="#">Article IV</a> Regulation of Trade in Specimens of Species included in Appendix II
<a href="#">Animals Committee</a>	<a href="#">Article V</a> Regulation of Trade in Specimens of Species included in Appendix III
<a href="#">Plants committee</a>	<a href="#">Article VI</a> Permits and Certificates
	<a href="#">Article VII</a> Exemptions and Other Special Provisions Relating to Trade
	<a href="#">Article VIII</a> Measures to be Taken by the Parties
	<a href="#">Article IX</a> Management and Scientific Authorities
	<a href="#">Article X</a> Trade with States not Party to the Convention
	<a href="#">Article XI</a> Conference of the Parties



# NDF Resolution 16.7 (Rev. CoP17)

Conf. 16.7  
(Rev. CoP17)\*

Non-detriment findings

## Resolution Conf. 16.7 on *Non-Detriment Findings*:

RECOGNIZING that, in accordance with Articles III and IV of the Convention, export permits for specimens of species included in Appendices I and II shall be granted only when a Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that such export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species (following a determination known as a 'non-detriment finding');

- Recommends concepts and non-binding guiding principles regarding to NDF methodologies.
- NDF should result from a science-based risk assessment and can take many forms:
  - *Written advice from the Scientific Authority*
  - *Verbal advice from the Scientific Authority*
  - *Quota based on an NDF by the Scientific Authority for a specific time period.*
- The complexity of the assessment, and its data requirement should reflect the origin and type of the specimen, and be proportionate to the vulnerability of the species concerned.
- recommends general criteria and indicators to be assessed to determine whether proposed trades are detrimental;
- recommends sources of information that may be considered;
- encourages the sharing of information; and
- directs the Secretariat to maintain the NDF database

# Other key Resolutions

- [Resolution Conf. 14.7 \(Rev. CoP15\)](#) *on Management of nationally established quotas*

*“When export quotas are established, they should be set as a result of a non-detriment finding by a Scientific Authority”*

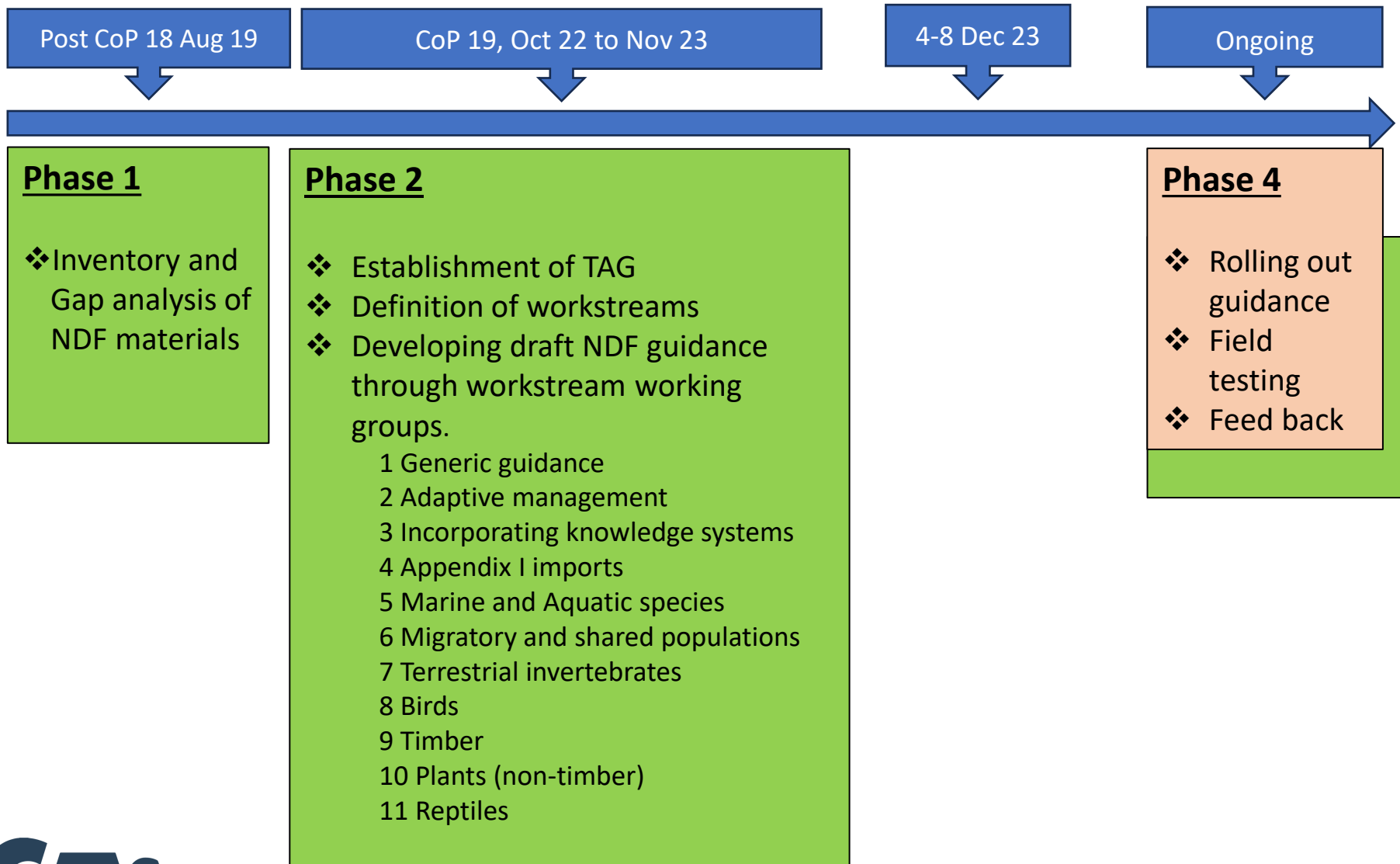
- [Conf. 10.3\\*](#) *Designation and role of the Scientific Authorities*
- [Conf. 13.2 \(Rev. CoP14\)](#) *Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*
- Additional relevant Resolutions and Decisions can be found on the [Resolutions](#) and [Decisions](#) pages of the CITES website.



**CITES**<sup>®</sup>

**The CITES NDF Project**

# CITES NDF Project: Overview





# International expert workshop – Nairobi, Dec 23

<b>Total registrations:</b>	<b>189 (64 Parties and 34 Observer organizations)</b>
Participants:	150+ from 42 Parties, 25 Organizations
Sponsored delegates:	22 selected, 19 attended
Support staff:	40+ (Interpreters, IUCN, Secretariat, UNON)





## **CITES NDF guidance**

**Available in English, French & Spanish at:**  
**[cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php](https://cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php)**  
**[cites.org/fra/prog/ndf/index.php](https://cites.org/fra/prog/ndf/index.php)**  
**[cites.org/esp/prog/ndf/index.php](https://cites.org/esp/prog/ndf/index.php)**



# CITES NDF Guidance

The screenshot shows the CITES website interface. At the top, there is a search bar, a language dropdown set to 'English', and a dark mode toggle. The main navigation menu includes 'Home', 'News', 'About CITES', 'Documents', 'Implementation', and 'Topics'. The CITES logo and full name are on the left. The main content area is divided into four columns: 'Flora', 'Fauna (terrestrial)', 'Cross-cutting issues', and 'Projects & initiatives'. The 'Cross-cutting issues' column contains a list of topics, with 'Non-detriment findings' highlighted by a green box. Below the menu is a banner with four images: a purple flower, a cheetah, a bird, and a forest. The text 'PRESS RELEASES' is visible at the bottom of the first and last images.

**CITES**  
Convention on International Trade in  
Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

Search English Dark mode

Home News About CITES Documents Implementation Topics

**Flora**  
CITES and Forests  
Medicinal plants

**Fauna (terrestrial)**  
Cheetahs  
Elephants  
Great apes  
Rhinoceroses

**Fauna (marine species)**  
Sharks and rays  
Queen conch  
Introduction from the sea

**Cross-cutting issues**  
Capacity building  
Captive-produced animals and  
artificially propagated plants  
Livelihoods  
eCITES  
National legislation  
**Non-detriment findings**  
Periodic Review  
Review of significant trade  
Traceability  
Role of CITES in reducing risk of future  
zoonotic disease

**Projects & initiatives**  
International Consortium on Combating  
Wildlife Crime (ICWC)  
Supporting sustainable management of  
endangered tree species  
Conservation of the African elephant  
MIKE Programme

PRESS RELEASES PRESS RELEASES



[Home](#) > [Implementation](#) > [CITES 'Non-detriment findings'](#)

## Non-detriment findings

Submit a report



Please log in to access

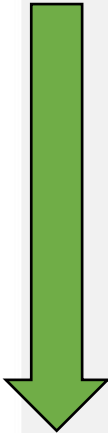
VIEW

LAYOUT

REVISIONS



In accordance with Articles III and IV of the Convention, export permits for specimens of species included in Appendices I and II shall be granted only when a Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that such export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species (a determination known as a 'non-detriment finding' or NDF).





## CITES NDF guidance

In the CITES NDF project, Parties, observers and independent experts developed an overarching NDF guidance, through eleven online workstreams, and a [global expert workshop](#) that was attended by more than 150 participants from 42 Parties and 25 organizations. The CITES NDF guidance is based on an [inventory and gap analysis of previously available materials](#) and therefore intended to be complementary to these.

The CITES NDF guidance is available in all official languages of the Convention and introduces Parties to generic concepts of relevance to NDFs, including risk and uncertainty, adaptive management, and species' roles in their ecosystems. A comprehensive 5-step process for making NDFs entails both simplified and comprehensive approaches for making NDFs for the export of specimen regulated under Appendices I and II, the import of specimen regulated under Appendix I, and for introduction from the sea.

	<a href="#">Module 0</a>	Introduction and preamble (V1.1)
Generic guidance	<a href="#">Module 1</a>	Principles and concepts of NDFs (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 2</a>	Practical considerations for making NDFs (V1.1)
Thematic modules	<a href="#">Module 3</a>	Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge and participatory species monitoring in making NDFs (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 4</a>	NDFs for Appendix I imports (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 5</a>	NDFs for aquatic species (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 6</a>	NDFs for migratory species and transboundary populations (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 7</a>	NDFs for terrestrial invertebrates (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 8</a>	NDFs for birds (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 9</a>	NDFs for reptiles (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 10</a>	NDFs for tree species (V1.1)
	<a href="#">Module 11</a>	NDFs for perennial plants (V1.1)

# Guidance Structure

	<a href="#">Module 0</a>	Introduction and preamble
Generic guidance	<a href="#">Module 1</a>	Principles and Concepts of NDFs
	<a href="#">Module 2</a>	Practical considerations for making NDFs
Thematic modules	<a href="#">Module 3</a>	Incorporating Local and Traditional Knowledge in NDFs
	<a href="#">Module 4</a>	NDFs for Appendix I imports
	<a href="#">Module 5</a>	NDFs for Aquatic species
	<a href="#">Module 6</a>	NDFs for Migratory species and Transboundary populations
	<a href="#">Module 7</a>	NDFs for Terrestrial Invertebrates
	<a href="#">Module 8</a>	NDFs for Birds
	<a href="#">Module 9</a>	NDFs for Reptiles
	<a href="#">Module 10</a>	NDFs for Tree species
Supporting modules	<a href="#">Module 11</a>	NDFs for Perennial Plants
	<a href="#">Module 12</a>	Online tools and certifications for assisting in NDF making
	<a href="#">Module 13</a>	Templates
	<a href="#">Module 14</a>	NDF case studies
	<a href="#">Module 15</a>	Glossary of key terms and definitions

# Guidance 1.1

- This guidance is not legally binding on Parties and it is not intended to be prescriptive.
- Parties might already be using other approaches to making non-detriment findings and nothing in this guidance suggests ceasing the continued use of those.
- However, there may be additional approaches within the modules that Parties might wish to use.
- Furthermore, this guidance is meant to be flexible and Parties might wish to adapt elements of the guidance for their own circumstances.



# Module 0 - Introduction and preamble

## When should I consult Module 0?

- To remind myself about the provisions of the Convention
- To acquaint myself with the background and the process of the CITES NDF project
- Remind myself of important considerations of using the guidance
- Recall that some Parties have implemented Stricter Domestic Measures (Article XIV)
- To review the **overall structure** of the CITES NDF guidance

# Module 1 - Principles and Concepts of NDFs

## When should I consult Module 1?

### To understand:

- Types of risks, including intrinsic vulnerability of a species and life-history characteristics
- Data requirements and proportionality to risks
- The precautionary approach
- Conditional NDFs / safeguards
- Role of species in their ecosystems
- Making NDFs with low data availability – information sources
- Making NDFs with limited capacity – how to build capacity
- Adaptive management

# Module 1 - Principles and Concepts of NDFs

## Highlights: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT – learning by doing

a tool that enables you to consider and address risks, precaution, safeguards, low data and limited capacity together, through one structured process

*Learning*



*Doing*

*START with available knowledge,  
permit conditional harvests  
based on precautionary assumptions*

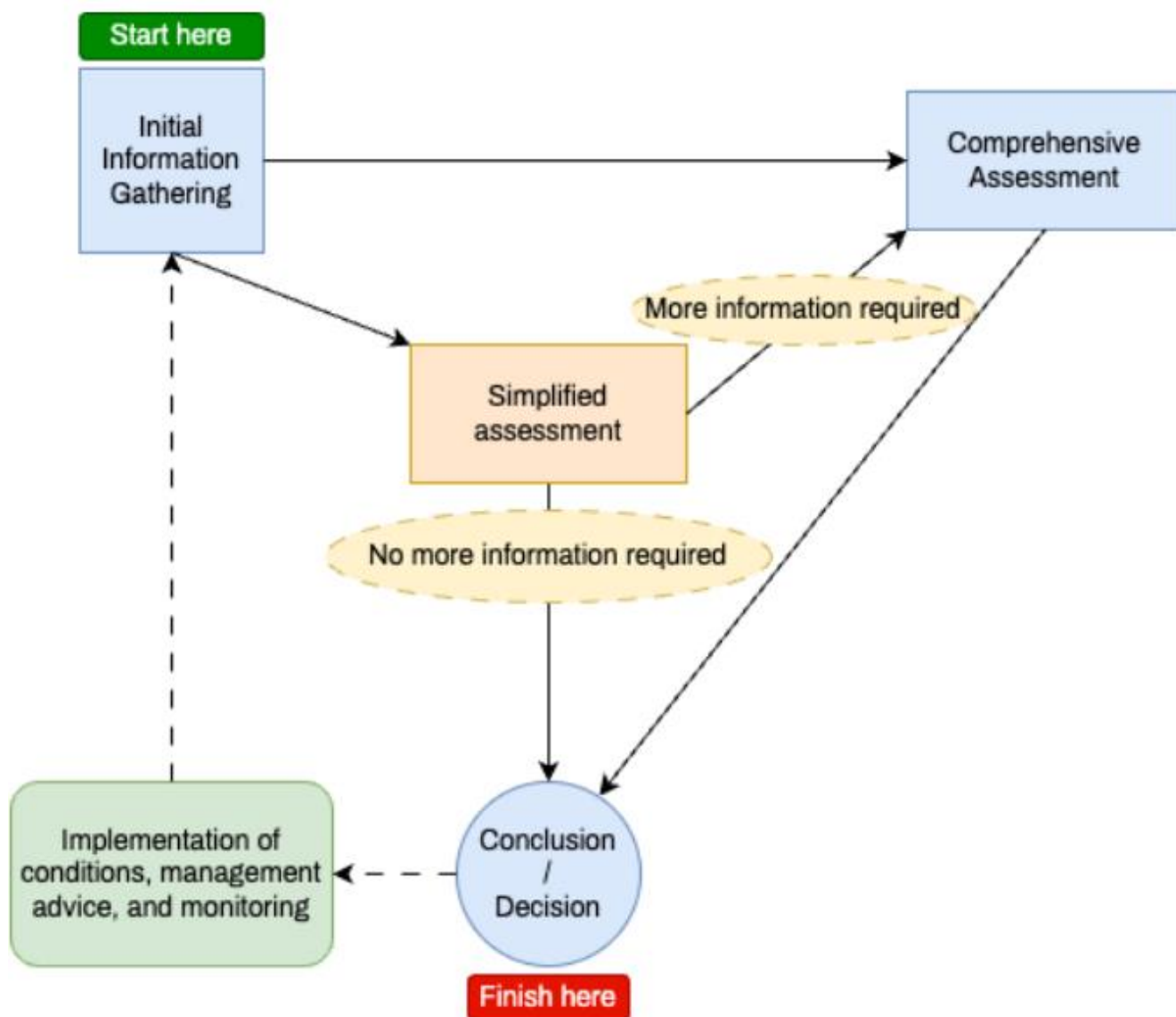
**MONITOR:**  
*collect additional information,  
especially harvest-dependent data*

**ADAPT:**  
*Revise assumptions, adapt harvest  
volumes, specify conditions, improve  
species management*

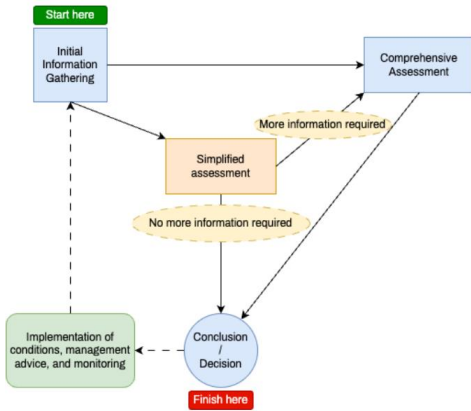
# Module 2 - Practical considerations for making NDFs (incl. Module 13 – Templates)

When should I consult Module 2 and templates in Module 13?

Overall generic guidance and framework for making NDFs



# Module 2 - Practical considerations for making NDFs (incl. Module 13 – Templates)



Initial information gathering	Background checks to review basic information about the specimens and its trade, and whether and what type of an NDF is necessary, such as a Simplified or Comprehensive Assessment
Simplified Assessment <b>(optional)</b>	Undertake where it is likely easy to establish whether harvesting for trade is non-detrimental
Comprehensive Assessment <b>(where needed)</b>	Undertake when it is not possible to determine non-detriment based on a Simplified Assessment (without first doing a Simplified Assessment, or after a Simplified Assessment)
Conclusion or decision.	Conclusion or decision. The final NDF decision may also include conditions or management advice
Adaptive Management and Monitoring <b>(optional)</b>	Once management advice is implemented, their impact should be monitored and information should feed into future NDFs





## Module 2 - Initial information gathering

1. Is the species correctly identified and named?
2. Is the species or specimen listed in Appendix I or II?
3. Is the species exempted or excluded from CITES controls?
4. Have recommendations been issued to suspend trade in the species being exported?
5. What is the quantity of specimens exported?
6. Describe the specimen
7. What is the source of the specimens?
8. What is the purpose of exports?
9. Where were (or will) the specimens (be) harvested from?
10. What is the scale of the current NDF assessment (e.g., national, or area-specific)?
11. National legislation – can national regulations help to understand potential detriment from harvesting or extinction risks? Are there national stricter domestic measures?



## Module 2 – Simplified assessment

Criteria	Number of points			Score
	1	2	3	
Annual Harvest level	Low	Medium	High/Unknown	
Area of distribution	Large	Medium	Small/Unknown	
Life-history	Fast	Medium	Slow/Unknown	
Conservation or threat status	If the status of the species is threatened or Unknown, give a <b>max score of 1 point.</b>			
Illegal trade	<p>If levels of illegal trade are inferred by reference to seizure data, they should be included under “Annual harvest level”.</p> <p>If illegal trade is known to be occurring, but <i>levels</i> are unknown give a <b>max score of 1 point.</b></p>			
Final Score and Justification	<p>(If score lower than five (5) = <b>trade is non-detrimental</b> (record the score and justification in the worksheet provided).</p> <p>If the Simplified NDF score is equal to or greater than five (5) then a <b>Comprehensive Assessment should be undertaken.</b></p>			

# Module 2 – Comprehensive assessment – risk evaluation

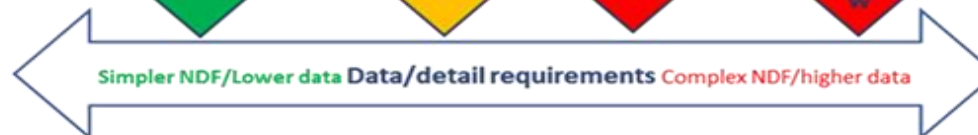
Factor	Assessment may consider	Evaluation – example indicators			
Species' biology and life-history characteristics	Intrinsic vulnerability of species or population (reproductive capacity, niche width)	r-selected species (early maturity, short-lived, more offspring), adapts to various habitat types		K-selected species (late maturity, long-lived, few offspring), specialist	U N K N O W N
Species' range (historical and current)	Distribution and trends	Widespread, stable distribution over time, connected populations		Endemic, restricted, fragmented, declined over time, shared stocks	U N K N O W N
Population structure, status and trends	Population size / structure/ density and trends (harvest area and nationally)	Population size large, stable or increasing. Representative inventories/surveys over time		Low population size, declining trend, skewed populations (age classes or sex).	U N K N O W N
Conservation status	Status and trends (global, national, and local scales)	LC	VU, NT	CR, EN, DD / Ap. I	U N K
Threats	Other threats and threat trends	No other significant known threats		Subject to multiple threats (habitat loss, climate change, IAS)	U N K

LOW

MED

HIGH

U  
N  
K  
N  
O  
W  
N



# Module 2 – Comprehensive assessment – impact and management evaluation

Factor	Assessment may consider	Evaluation – example indicators (not exhaustive)		
Harvest impacts/total offtake impacts	Impact of harvest/total offtake on harvest area, national population and internationally. Consider total volume of harvest/offtake (both for domestic and export as well as any other offtake, or removal of specimens from the wild) and legal and illegal harvest. Consider harvest/offtake from harvest area in context of national level trade and trend.	Low impact (e.g., Non-lethal harvest <sup>3</sup> that does not imply removal of individuals from the wild; Harvest of life stages with low survival rate (source R); Harvest is in post-reproductive stages only – (e.g. older males). Harvest not impacting other areas.	Impacts severe (e.g., harvest doesn't take into account age/sex of specimens or is done at critical life stages for reproduction). Harvest area acting as sink for surrounding areas.	UNKNOWN
Trade impacts	Impact of trade on harvest area, national population and internationally. Consider total volume of trade (domestic and export) trade (known, inferred, projected, estimated).	Low levels of trade relative to population. Little illegal trade known.	High levels of trade in comparison with population. Illegal trade known.	UNKNOWN
Population monitoring	Is a monitoring program in place? Frequency of monitoring depending on species characteristics. Methods for monitoring.	Regular, using robust methods (changes in density, distribution, demography considered)	No/infrequent monitoring, unreliable methods	UNKNOWN
Management measures in place/proposed including adaptive management	Harvest management/ compliance / land and resource tenure	Measures in place (e.g. quotas, size/sex limits, protected/no-take areas, limits on effort/gear. Tenure: strong long-term control	No or inadequate management measures in place. Tenure: Open access e.g. fisheries in ABNJ, no harvest controls	UNKNOWN



## Module 2 – Comprehensive assessment – ecosystem impacts (only for high-risk situations)

<p>Impacts on role in ecosystems and direct impact on other species and the ecosystem</p>	<p>Does harvesting impact other species or the ecosystem directly or the species' role in the species ecosystems resulting in:</p> <p>(Consider in detail only if high risk/ complex NDF needed)</p>	<p><i>Evaluate the following for impacts on role in ecosystems and direct impact on the ecosystem based on best available information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a significant change in the abundance of another native species</li> <li>• an increase in the abundance of a non-native species or over-abundance of another species</li> <li>• a reduction in a demographic rate in any life stage of another native species (e.g., germination, seed production, nest success, natal dispersal, etc.) that has the potential to decrease its abundance or otherwise reduce its viability</li> <li>• change in any ecosystem process or structural feature</li> <li>• change in the typical patterns of behaviour (e.g., social interactions, patterns of aggregation, movement) among individuals of the species being assessed or other species</li> <li>• change in genetic structure or variability of the population that indicates that one or more of the ecological functions of the species' are, or will become, impaired</li> </ul>
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# Module 2 – Conclusion / Decision

## Conclusion / Decision

- Positive: Trade not detrimental
- Negative: Trade is detrimental, or insufficient information available

### May be with

### Conditions / Remedial Actions / Management Advice\*

- Conditions on trade taking place or advice from Management Authority on management
- Changes that would be needed for a positive NDF

For more information on Conditional NDFs and safeguards, refer back to Module 1.

# Module 3 - Incorporating Local and Traditional Knowledge and Participatory Species Monitoring

## When should I consult Module 3?

To understand *what* local and traditional knowledge is, *how* you can incorporate it to improve your NDFs, and how participatory species monitoring can assist you in managing your species adaptively.

Initial information gathering		<b>Limited:</b> May potentially contribute to species identification.
Simplified Assessment	✓	<b>Yes:</b> Can help to gain insights into all criteria. Can be collected including through participatory monitoring, story-telling and other sources of information, as appropriate.
Comprehensive Assessment	✓	<b>Yes:</b> Local and traditional understanding of local species populations and ecosystem functioning, incl. extraordinary events and changes over long time spans, can provide detailed, first-hand knowledge of harvest impacts on populations, effectiveness of species management, roles of species in ecosystems and ecosystem impacts.
Conclusion or Decision		<b>No:</b> The Scientific Authority is responsible for formulating advice.
Adaptive Management and Monitoring	✓	<b>Yes:</b> Participatory monitoring and management can form part of the remedial actions for NDFs, and inform and contribute to species management.

# Module 4 - NDFs for Appendix I imports

## When should I consult Module 4?

To review the provisions of the Convention with regard to making NDFs for the import of specimen of Appendix I-listed species.

An import permit shall only be granted when specific conditions are met, including as specified in paragraph 3 (a):

*a **Scientific Authority** of the State of import has advised that the import will be for **purposes** which are not detrimental to the survival of the species involved.*



Source: AC33 Ind-22 DWNP, Botswana



# Module 5 - NDFs for Aquatic species



## When should I consult Module 5?

To refer to a wide range of *sources, databases and references* to illustrate available information and case studies for making NDFs for aquatic species, including with regard to:

- Specific methods and approaches for making NDFs for aquatic species
- Conversion factors for products from aquatic species
- Non-target catch
- Straddling and trans-boundary stocks
- Species caught in ABNJ – source code X (Introduction from the Sea)
- Role of Regional Fisheries Bodies in making NDFs
- Strategies for linking fishery departments and CITES Authorities
- Ranched and captive-born aquatic species – use of source codes R and F

# Module 5 - NDFs for Aquatic species



## Coming soon

Outcomes of the technical workshop on *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*. Held 25 to 26 April 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland

- Key recommendations and observations from the workshop will be appended to Module 5.
- For now, available in [AC33 Inf. 1](#).

The Secretariat collaborated with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to develop simplified 10-Step NDF guidance for queen conch. See AC33 Doc 43 and Annex 3.

# Module 6 - NDFs for Migratory Species and Transboundary Populations

## When should I consult Module 6?

To understand issues when making NDFs that are specific to migratory species and transboundary populations, and to refer to a wide range of case studies and information sources, including:

- Multinational considerations
- Harmonization of assessments
- Methods and approaches to study migratory species and transboundary populations
- The application of a precautionary approach
- Roles of migratory species and transboundary populations in their ecosystems



# Module 7 - NDFs for Terrestrial Invertebrates

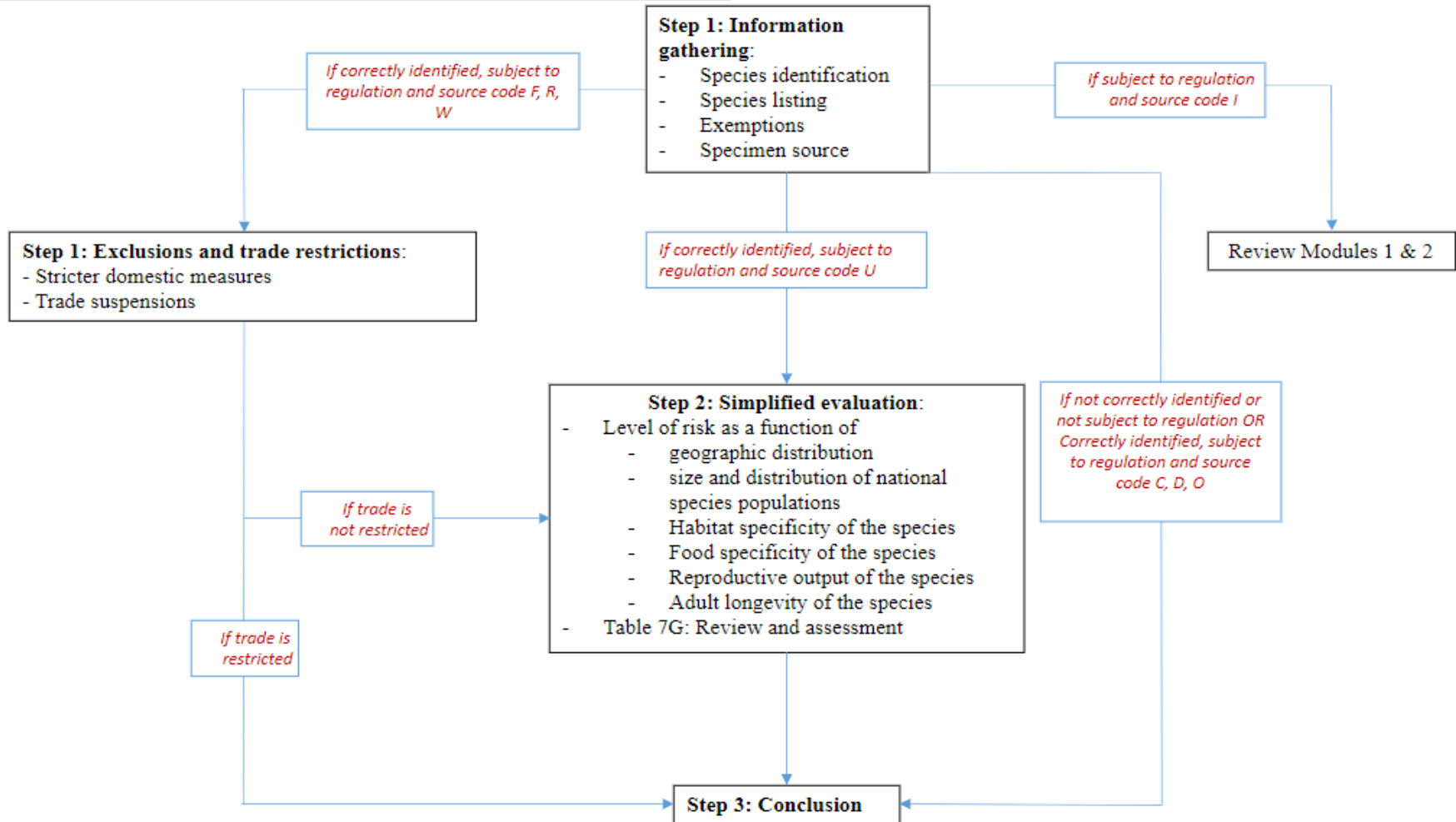
## When should I consult Module 7?

To use a decision tree for making simplified NDFs, using criteria relevant to key invertebrate taxa in international trade with qualitative indicators, and for identification resources for invertebrates



# Module 7 - NDFs for Terrestrial Invertebrates

## Decision tree for making simplified NDFs



# Module 8 - NDFs for Birds

## When should I consult Module 8?

To familiarize yourself with information sources, methods and criteria that enable you to implement simplified and comprehensive NDFs for birds:

- Additional details on criteria and indicators for simplified assessments for birds
- Additional details on criteria for comprehensive assessments for birds
- Survey methods for field monitoring of birds
- Roles of birds in ecosystems
- Additional considerations for NDFs for birds with source codes C, D, F





# Module 9 - NDFs for Reptiles

## When should I consult Module 9?

To familiarize yourself with information sources, methods and criteria that enable you to implement simplified and comprehensive NDFs for reptiles, including comprehensive tables on:

- Common types of data useful for comprehensive NDFs for reptiles,
- Common approaches used to obtain the information, and
- Common field-based approaches to measure population abundance and population structure of reptiles

To understand quantitative thresholds for assessing annual harvest level and area of distribution in simplified assessments for reptiles



# Module 9 - NDFs for Reptiles

## Quantitative thresholds for assessing annual harvest level and area of distribution in simplified assessments for reptiles

Criteria	Number of points			Score
	1	2	3	
Annual Harvest level	Low (<500)	Medium (500 - 5,000)	High (>5,000)	
Area of distribution	Large (>20,000km <sup>2</sup> )	Medium (2,500 – 20,000km <sup>2</sup> )	Small (<2,500km <sup>2</sup> )	
Life-history	Fast	Medium	Slow	



# Module 10 - NDFs for Tree Species



## When should I consult Module 10?

To understand alignments and complementarities between general forest management principles, NDFs, and key steps in forest concession management:

- Complementary guidance on key principles of sustainable forest management (SFM)
- Definitions of terms and concepts in SFM
- Links specific SFM components to making NDFs (in modules 1 & 2)
- Simplified Assessment is *not* considered to be suitable for tree species traded as timber or wood products

# Module 10 - NDFs for Tree Species

## When should I consult Module 10?

To understand terminologies, alignments and complementarities between general forest management principles, NDFs, and key steps in forest concession management:

1. Mark boundary
2. Map concession area
3. Transparent tenure and access rights
4. Inventory forest and environment
5. Develop forest management plan
6. Plan transport infrastructure
7. Develop forest use plan
8. Create social and community development plan
9. Develop initial annual operating area plan
10. Annual harvesting and post-harvest silviculture



*Other sources of information:*

- [Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species](#)
- Presentations and experiences shared at the [CITES LAF and NDF workshop for African rosewood \(\*Pterocarpus erinaceus\*\)](#)

# Module 10 - NDFs for Tree Species

## ➤ Compatibilities between Module 10 and the 9-step for timbers.

Factor	Module 10	9-Step for Timbers
Species biology & life history	Population size and structure, growth rate/annual increment	Steps 6 & 7
Habitat specificity & vulnerability		Step 5
Species range (historical & current)	Inventory	Step 5: Geographic distribution
Resilience of species populations	Adaptability of tree species to a range of stresses with ongoing regeneration	Step 5
Population structure, status and trends	Inventory – DBH, age class distribution	Step 5: Population size/size structure
Management Measures	Forest Management Plan	Step 8: Management measures
Conservation status	IUCN Red List & national	Step 4
Threats	IUCN Red List & national	Step 4
Harvest overview	AAC, permit information	Step 6: Impacts of harvesting
Trade trends	Permit information, trade data	Step 7: Trade impacts

# Module 11 - NDFs for Perennial Plants

## When should I consult Module 11?

To learn about additional details to help you apply generic guidance for simplified and comprehensive NDFs to perennial plant species, particularly:

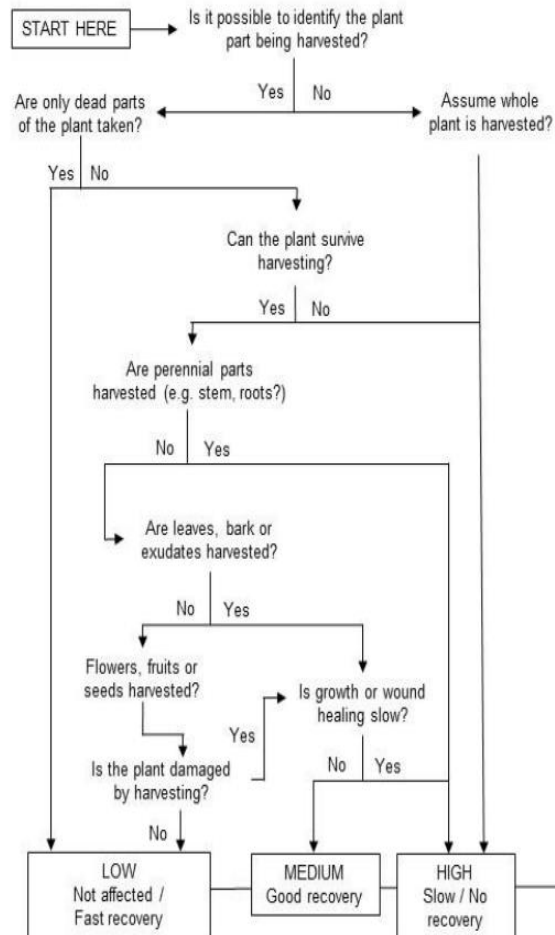
- Specific criteria and qualitative indicators for making simplified NDFs for perennial plants.
- Guidance on making NDFs for source code Y (assisted production).
- Decision trees and a look-up table for evaluating biological risks of wild harvest to individual plants and harvested populations.
- The 9-step guidance for perennial plants NDFs, which has been shown to be fully compatible with module 2.



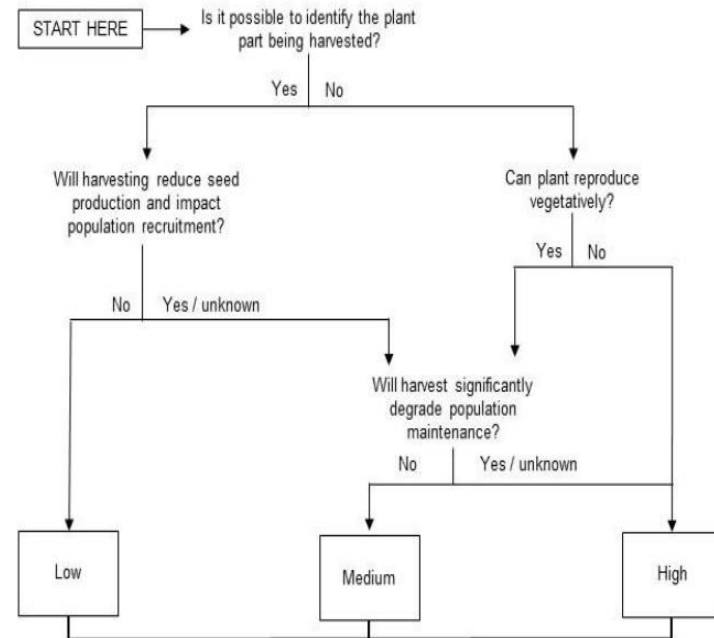
# Module 11 - NDFs for Perennial Plants

## Decision trees and a look-up table for evaluating biological risks of wild harvest to individual plants and harvested populations

Risk to individual harvested plant



Risk to harvested population



		Risk to harvested population		
		Low	Medium	High
Risk to individual harvested plant	Low	Low	Medium	High
	Medium	Low	Medium	High
	High	Low	Medium	High

# Module 12 - Online tools and certifications for assisting in NDF making

## When should I consult Module 12?

### To consult lists of hyperlinked online tools that

- provide you with information, e.g. such as species identification, species distribution and conservation status, trade data;
- help you implement tasks related to making NDFs (e.g. surveys), or species-specific online tools and approaches to making NDFs;
- can link you to others, to share information, integrate your observations in joint datasets, and to learn from each other
- Links to other online NDF tools, e.g. e-NDF portal for sharks and rays.

### To understand how certification systems can provide information for making NDFs





# Module 13 - Templates

## When should I consult Module 13?

To get the templates for simplified assessment and comprehensive assessment.

### 2. Simplified Assessment Template

*Text in italics is explanatory and should be deleted in completed documents. Please refer to the NDF Guidelines document for further explanation on how to complete this assessment.*

Species name	
Range state name	
Report compiled by	
Date compiled	
<b>Section One: Summary</b>	
<i>Please provide a short overview (1-2 paragraphs) of the trade in this species in the country of interest.</i>	

### 3. Comprehensive Assessment Template

Species name		
Range state name		
Report compiled by		
Date compiled		
<b>Part One: Risk Evaluation</b>		
Factor	Assessment may consider	Evaluation – example indicators
Species' biology and life-history	Intrinsic vulnerability of species or population	r-selected species (early maturity,

# Module 14 – Case studies (only available in English)

## When should I consult Module 14?

To review a multitude of case studies to assist when:

- Making generic NDFs
- Using local and traditional knowledge in making NDFs
- Making NDFs for aquatic species, migratory species and transboundary populations, terrestrial invertebrates, birds
- Using the simplified assessment template for a variety of reptile species

**NOTE:** Case studies have not been reviewed or assessed and therefore should *not be considered as approved approaches*. They are examples submitted as part of the guidance development process.



Section Two: Simple Evaluation score				
Please score each attribute listed within the table below and sum these to provide a total.				
Criteria	Number of points			Score
	1	2	3	
Annual Harvest level	Low (<500)	Medium (500 - 5,000)	High (>5,000)	1-3
Area of distribution	Large (>20,000km <sup>2</sup> )	Medium (2,500 - 20,000km <sup>2</sup> )	Small (<2,500km <sup>2</sup> )	2
Life-history	Fast	Medium	Slow	2
Illegal trade and IUCN status	If levels of illegal trade are known, they should be included under "Annual harvest level". If unknown, and suspected to be detrimental, give a <b>maximum score of 1 point</b> . Similarly, if the status of the species is listed as VU, EN or CR in the IUCN Red List Of Threatened Species, give a <b>maximum score of 1 point</b>			1

Section Three: Justification – Harvest level

# Module 15 - Glossary of key terms and definitions

## When should I consult Module 15?

To check and understand specialist terminologies and definitions used throughout the guidance modules.

**Note** that Module 15 is complementary to the [CITES glossary](https://cites.org/eng/resources/terms/glossary.php) (<https://cites.org/eng/resources/terms/glossary.php>), which contains many general terms and definitions that are commonly used in CITES that are not repeated in this module.



**Other capacity building resources**





# Other NDF guidance – CITES NDF database

The screenshot shows the CITES website homepage. At the top right, there is a search bar, a language dropdown set to 'English', and a 'Dark mode' toggle. The main navigation menu includes 'Home', 'News', 'About CITES', 'Documents', 'Implementation', and 'Topics'. Below the navigation, there are three buttons: 'VIEW', 'LAYOUT', and 'REVISIONS'. The main content area features a grid of news articles. The first article on the left has a purple orchid image and the headline 'CITES Standing Committee holds critical discussions on conservation of endangered species and examines global wildlife trade regulations'. The second article in the middle has a cheetah image and the headline 'Nearly 20,000 live animals seized, 365 suspects arrested in largest-ever wildlife and forestry...'. The third article on the right has a lion image and the headline 'EU, ICCWC, and civil society join forces to combat wildlife crime'. A large green arrow points downwards on the right side of the page.




# Other NDF guidance – CITES NDF database

**Resources**

-  InforMEA E-learning
-  CITES Virtual College
-  CITES Checklist
-  CITES Wildlife TradeView

✉ **For general enquiries**  
info@cites.org

✉ **For media enquiries**  
cites-media@un.org

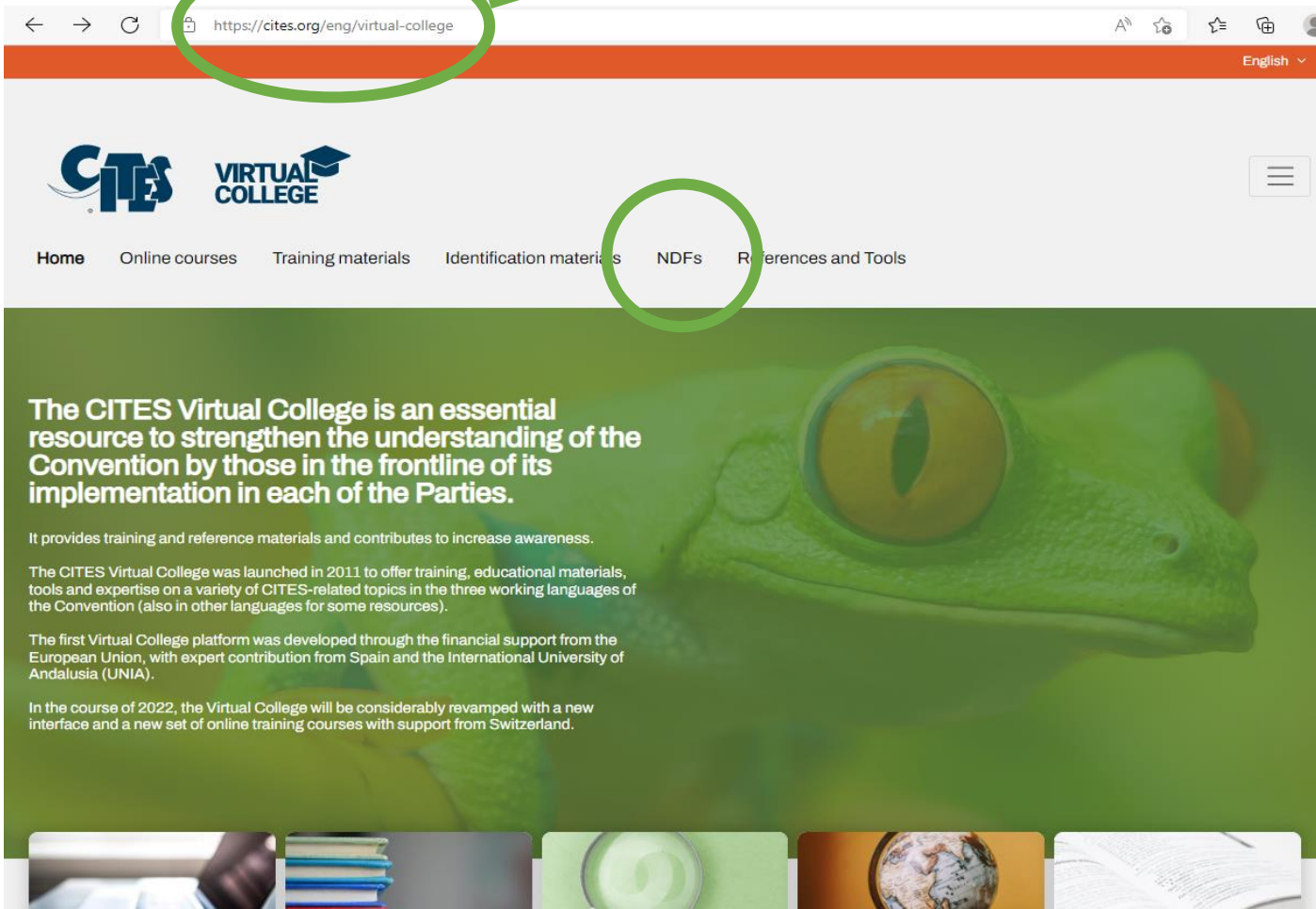
 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

[Disclaimer](#) [Frequently Asked Questions](#) [Contact Us](#)



# Other NDF guidance – CITES NDF database

<https://cites.org/eng/virtual-college>



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the CITES Virtual College website. The address bar contains the URL <https://cites.org/eng/virtual-college>, which is circled in green. An arrow points from this circle to the text above. The website header features the CITES logo and the Virtual College logo. The navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Online courses', 'Training materials', 'Identification materials', 'NDFs', and 'References and Tools'. The 'NDFs' menu item is circled in green. The main content area has a green background with a large image of a green frog. The text on the page reads: 'The CITES Virtual College is an essential resource to strengthen the understanding of the Convention by those in the frontline of its implementation in each of the Parties. It provides training and reference materials and contributes to increase awareness. The CITES Virtual College was launched in 2011 to offer training, educational materials, tools and expertise on a variety of CITES-related topics in the three working languages of the Convention (also in other languages for some resources). The first Virtual College platform was developed through the financial support from the European Union, with expert contribution from Spain and the International University of Andalusia (UNIA). In the course of 2022, the Virtual College will be considerably revamped with a new interface and a new set of online training courses with support from Switzerland.'



# Other NDF guidance – CITES NDF database

**Non-detriment findings**  
A database for sharing NDF materials. For more information on NDFs or to submit a report, please visit the [dedicated webpage](#).

Title or keywords

Advanced search +

**NDF Materials (188)**

Dictamen de Extracción No Perjudicial para las especies del género *Alopias* de Costa Rica, incluidas bajo el Apéndice II de la Convención sobre el Comercio Internacional de Especies Amenazadas de Fauna y Flora Silvestres (CITES), periodo 2022-2023  
(2023)

NDF

NDF for *Isurus oxyrinchus* (Shortfin mako)  
(2022)

NDF

**Dictamen de Extracción No Perjudicial para las especies del género *Alopias* de Costa Rica, incluidas bajo el Apéndice II de la Convención sobre el Comercio Internacional de Especies Amenazadas de Fauna y Flora Silvestres (CITES), periodo 2022-2023**

**Geographical Coverage/Range**  
Latin America and the Caribbean

**Type of NDF material**  
Case study

**Taxonomic level**  
Genus

**Lifeform**  
Fish

**Source code**  
W - Wild

**Appendix listing**  
II

**Trade type**  
Export

# Updated NDF database – search functions

Title or keywords

Order by publication date, recent first

Advanced search –

Lifeform

Taxa

Country

Appendix listing

Publication Year

Species

Geographical Coverage

Language

Type of NDF material

Source code

Trade type

Reason for submission

Language

- English
- Spanish
- French
- Indonesian
- Korean
- Chinese, Simplified
- Dutch
- Georgian
- Italian
- Portuguese, Portugal

Type of NDF material

- Case study
- NDF
- Supporting information
- Guidance

Trade type

- Export
- Import
- Introduction from the Sea



# Other NDF guidance – CITES NDF database

Prunus



Order by publication date, recent first



Advanced search –

Lifeform

Choose



Taxa

Choose



Geographical Coverage

Choose



Language

Choose



Type of NDF material

Supporting information x

NDF x



Country

Choose



Publication Year

Choose



Source code

Choose



Trade type

Choose



Reason for submission

Choose



Appendix listing

Choose



Species

Choose



Avis de Commerce Non Préjudiciable de *Prunus africana* dans le Parc National de la Kibira, Burundi

(2021)

NDF

ACNP pour *Prunus africana*, Mt Oshie, Cameroon

(2014)

NDF

Report

Gestion durable de *Prunus africana* au Cameroun

(2013)

Sustainable harvesting and management of *Prunus africana* (*Rosaceae*) in Cameroon

(2013)



# CITES Masters Programme @ International Univ. of Andalusia (UNIA)

## Master's degree in Management and Conservation of species in trade

- Provides high quality, specialized training on the scientific bases, techniques, and instruments that enable CITES implementation and development, including training on making NDFs
- Held 15 editions to date, training to over 390 students from 106 Parties
- Run every two years; April – June on campus in Baeza, Spain.
- For more information see <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notifications/E-Notif-2023-059-A1.pdf>



# Agenda of the webinar

Time (CET)	Agenda item
10:00 – 10:15	Opening words
10:15 – 11:15	<b>Part 1:</b> Introduction: CITES and NDFs, CITES NDF Project and guidance and NDF-related capacity building and tools
11:15 – 11:25	<b>Short break</b>
11:25 – 12:10	<b>Part 2:</b> Interactive discussion with NDFs case studies
12:10 – 12:45	<b>Part 3:</b> Next steps: Field testing, feedback mechanism and future updates
12.45 – 13.00	Closing words



**Coffee break**  
**Back in 10 mins**





**CITES**

**Next steps**

# Rolling out the guidance

- Online seminars for all interested Parties
  - 1 in French at a time suitable to African range States (DONE)
  - 1 in Spanish 25 Feb. 2025 15:00 to 18:00 CET for CSAC range States (DONE)
  - **1 in English 27 Feb 2025 01:00 to 04:00 CET Asian and Oceanian range States (today)**
  - 1 in English 4th March 2025 10:00 to 13:00 CET for African and American range States
- **Parties are encouraged to use the NDF guidance, and to make case studies and experiences available to the Secretariat.**
- Parties are encouraged to complete a survey on the NDF guidance to be shared through a Notification

# Draft Decisions for a feedback mechanism and strategy for continuous update and improvement of NDF guidance

At PC27 and AC33 progress on CITES NDF project was noted and the publication of the CITES NDF guidance on the CITES website; and agreed to submit draft Decisions to CoP20 to:

- Invite Parties to submit examples, on the use of the CITES NDF guidance preferably through the regional representatives of the Animals and Plants Committees; and to
- Secretariat to reflect on information received, and experience through field-testing the guidance; to recommend:
  - possible updates and amendments to the guidance, as appropriate, and to
  - possible amendments to Res. 16.7 on *NDFs* to establish a regular mechanism for the Scientific Advisory bodies to identify, review and agree updates to the CITES NDF guidance.
- Subject to \$ prepare draft amendments to the guidance to be considered by the Committees.





**Thank you!**

**For all inquiries and submissions, please contact:**

**[info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org)**