



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/066

Geneva, 5 October 2017

CONCERNING:

New case studies on CITES and livelihoods

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), adopted Decisions 17.36 to 17.39 on *Livelihoods* as follows:

Directed to the Parties and others

17.36 *Parties are invited to:*

- a) *promote the use of the CITES and livelihoods toolkit, guidelines and handbook to carry out rapid assessments of the impact of the implementation of CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of rural communities, the implementation of activities which mitigate any negative impacts;*
- b) *encourage the conduct of new case studies on how legal and sustainable trade can generate economic incentives for the conservation of wildlife and improvement of livelihoods of indigenous and local communities; and*
- c) *incorporate issues related to CITES and livelihoods into their national socio-economic and development plans, as well as in relevant projects being developed for external funding, including funding by Global Environment Facility (GEF).*

Directed to the Parties and others

17.37 *Developing country Parties are encouraged to communicate with their national Ministries of finance, development, or other relevant Ministries, to seek the provision of financial support to the work in Decision 17.36.*

Directed to the Parties and others

17.38 *Developed country Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and public and private donors/investors are encouraged to provide financial and in-kind resources in support of the work in Decision 17.36.*

Directed to the Secretariat

17.39 *The Secretariat shall seek external funding from interested Parties, and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to support the work described in Decision 17.36.*

2. The Secretariat is considering organizing a workshop on CITES and livelihoods in 2018 to review new case studies and to provide capacity-building support to Parties in conducting new case studies and implementing the CITES and livelihoods toolkit, guidelines and handbook as envisaged in Decision 17.36. China has generously offered to host the meeting and to provide financial support for the organization, including travel support for a number of participants.

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3. In order for the workshop to achieve its objective, it is vital to have new case studies or concrete plans to implement such case studies available for review at the workshop. For this purpose, the Secretariat would like to encourage Parties that have undertaken or plan to undertake such case studies to keep it informed in due course. Due to limited funding, the Secretariat may only consider providing financial support to countries that have conducted new case studies or have prepared draft project proposals to conduct new case studies. The timing of the workshop may depend on a sufficient number of case studies being available for discussion.
 4. In accordance with Decisions 17.37 and 17.38, the Secretariat encourages developing country Parties to seek funding support from relevant ministries and external sources including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and calls on developed country Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and public and private donors to provide financial or in-kind resources in support of new case studies. The Secretariat requests Parties and organizations to keep it informed of progress made in fundraising or of their interest in providing financial or in-kind support.
 5. Based on the recommendations of the CITES and Livelihoods Workshop held in George, South Africa in November 2016, the Secretariat encourages Parties to give priority to the following areas when considering undertaking or supporting new case studies on how legal and sustainable trade can generate economic incentives for the conservation of wildlife and improvement of livelihoods of rural communities:
 - a) species of both plants and animals that are representatives of different ecosystems for which international trade has proven to contribute to both the conservation of the species and the improvement of the livelihoods of poor rural communities;
 - b) trade that is income-generating, particularly for women in poor rural communities;
 - c) cases where international trade could potentially benefit both conservation and livelihoods, but is currently disconnected from rural communities; and
 - d) species whose status has recently changed in the CITES listing.
 6. The [livelihoods section](#) of the CITES website provides a list of potential new case studies. The list only serves as a reference and is not an indication of priority and will be subject to changes.
 7. The Secretariat encourages Parties to make use of the *CITES and Livelihoods Handbook* in designing new case studies, particularly part II which contains recommendations on empowering rural communities, designing incentives and developing marketing strategies to promote *in-situ* and *ex-situ* production, certifications for the sustainable use of species, formation of associations representing harvesters from poor rural communities, market mechanisms and access to microcredit, consumer confidence, social and environmental certifications and inter-sectoral technical support.
 8. Responses to this Notification should be sent to Liu Yuan at yuan.liu@cites.org.
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