



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/121

Geneva, 4 November 2024

CONCERNING:

Invitation:
CITES training workshop for the Latin American region on demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species

1. The Secretariat hereby informs Parties that the *CITES training workshop for the Latin American region on demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species* will be held in **Buenos Aires, Argentina from 26 to 27 March 2025**.
2. The workshop is organized by the CITES Secretariat and will be hosted by the Government of Argentina.

Mandate

3. Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) on *Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species* "URGES Parties to make full use of the *CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species* in their efforts to reduce demand for illegally acquired wildlife and their products through the 5-step approach in order to achieve behaviour change of the consumers".
4. Decision 19.55 on *Demand reduction to combat illegal trade* directs the Secretariat to organize regional training seminars on the use of the *Guidance*, subject to external funding.

Objectives of the workshop

5. This training workshop aims to build capacity for CITES Parties and their key partners in the Latin America region in the use of the *CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species*.
6. In line with Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) which focuses on targeted strategies to achieve behaviour change of consumers as opposed to public awareness campaigns, Parties attending the workshop will be encouraged to choose priority species in their respective countries in advance of the workshop and to consider developing potential pilot projects for the use of the *Guidance*.
7. The training workshop will facilitate exchange of experiences among Parties in the region in the design and implementation of demand reduction strategies and identify key partners both within the country and in the region.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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Information on logistics

8. The training workshop will be conducted in **English and Spanish** and will be **in-person only**, without the possibility of online participation.
9. The Secretariat will cover the costs for international travel, meals and accommodation during the workshop, for **one representative from each eligible Party in the Latin American region**. Due to the limited funds available and to maximize the outcome of the training workshop, priority for sponsorship will be given to Parties that are most affected by demand for illegally acquired CITES-listed species. As United Nations Member States seek to achieve Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals regarding gender equality, the Secretariat will consider gender diversity and nomination of women representatives is highly encouraged.
10. Given the capacity of the venue and the number of places available, a limited number of relevant observer organizations working on this subject and that are active in the region will be invited to attend the workshop.
11. Nomination of participants and applications for sponsorship should be communicated to the Secretariat no later than **20 December 2024**, through an official letter issued by the authority that can approve the travel. The CITES Management Authority of the nominating Party should submit the letter by email with the subject line “Notification 2024/121 on demand-reduction training workshop” to info@cites.org with a copy to yuan.liu@cites.org. A link to an online registration form will be provided to those who are accepted to participate in the workshop. Enquiries about the workshop should be addressed to Mr. LIU Yuan of the CITES Secretariat at yuan.liu@cites.org.
12. An official letter of invitation for visa application, if needed, will be issued by the government of Argentina. More details on logistics will be shared with participants at a later stage.
13. The Secretariat is grateful to the Government of China and the European Union for the financial support provided for this workshop and to Argentina for agreeing to host the workshop.