

Project: Supporting Sustainable Trade of CITES Species

1. Two-year budget: C\$800,000

2. Short statement on the need identified (including current status), the project objective and the outcomes (achievable by June 2019) to address it:

This project aims to implement priority actions developed under the Operational Plan (OP) 2015-2016 project Strengthening Conservation and Sustainable Production of Selected CITES Appendix II Species in North America. The 2015–2016 project identified 56 priority species from 5 groups—parrots, sharks, tarantulas, turtles/tortoises, and timber—and resulted in a set of SMART action plans for each of them (including ballpark cost estimates). The aim of this project is to implement the most trinationally relevant actions (with emphasis on those of high priority) for four of the five species groups (sharks, tarantulas, turtle/tortoises, and timber), and thus contribute (on a long-term basis) to their legal, sustainable and traceable production and trade. Implementation of action plans will focus on those opportunities most relevant to national governments, but these efforts will necessarily engage a broad set of stakeholders—including state, provincial, and local levels of government.

3. Explain how the project can achieve more impact by working trinationally, and why the CEC is the most effective vehicle to undertake this work:

The action plans delivered by the previous project are of trinational interest, and address the main challenges of the North American region regarding CITES implementation. The CEC's lead throughout this process was crucial to achieving the list of priority species, and to coordinating the consultants and workshops that resulted in the priority species list, and action plans to be implemented through this new project. Given its experience and background on the project, the CEC is ideal to coordinate the next "volume" of this regional initiative.

4. Describe how the project may capitalize on, or advance, the relationship between ecosystems, job creation, gender impacts, and income generation:

CITES Appendix II provides a window to achieve long-term conservation of wild species by means of their sustainable, legal and traceable trade. Specifically, the action plans to be implemented will contribute to provide (economic) incentives to local communities and other relevant actors of the value chain.

5. Describe how the project complements or avoids duplication of other national or international work:

This project will set the standard for trinational collaboration for recent and future CITES listings of North American species by strengthening the three pillars of CITES provisions for Appendix II: sustainability, legality and traceability. Furthermore, it complements the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity agenda on mainstreaming biodiversity, particularly in the fisheries and forestry sectors.

6. Describe opportunities for inclusion of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), if applicable, and how these opportunities are incorporated into the project:

The action plans take TEK-based elements (whenever applicable) and in particular those related to improving sustainability throughout the value chain. In particular, most action plans, specifically those related to objective 1 above, will be implemented in line with CITES provisions such as Res. Conf. 16.6 on CITES and livelihoods as well as Res. Conf. 16.7 on non-detriment findings.

7. Describe opportunities for youth engagement, if applicable, and how these opportunities are incorporated into the project:

Recognizing the concentration of expertise and interest in the local community, the initiative will focus on developing partnerships with up to three universities in implementing action plans. This could include identifying and inviting relevant youth representatives to all workshops that will be developed within the framework of the project (also taking into account CITES guidelines on “Youth Engagement” established in Res. Conf. 17.5).

8. List significant involvement of other levels of government, Indigenous groups, local communities, experts, private sector, civil society and others, as applicable:

- North American CITES authorities, as well as forestry and fisheries authorities in the region.
- Stakeholders of the priority-species value chains (which vary from case to case), including but not limited to: local communities, Indigenous peoples, producers, consumers, relevant researchers, etc.

9. Identify relevant committee members and their federal agencies in each country committed to developing this project, and implementing it, if approved:

Canada	Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian CITES lead: Carolina Cáceres, carolina.caceres@canada.ca
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad</i> (Mexican CITES scientific authority): Paola Mosig Reidl, pmosig@conabio.gob.mx, and María Isabel Camarena Osorno, icamarena@conabio.gob.mx - <i>Procuraduría Federal para la Protección al Ambiente</i> (Profepa) (Mexican CITES enforcement authority): Francisco Navarrete Estrada, fnavarrete@profepa.gob.mx - <i>Dirección General de Vida Silvestre</i> (DGVs) (Mexican CITES management authority): José Luis Pedro Funes Izaguirre, josef.funes@semarnat.gob.mx
United States	US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS): Craig Hoover (management authority), craig_hoover@fws.gov , and Rosemarie Gnam (scientific authority), Rosemarie_Gnam@fws.gov

10. List the objectives and activities to be conducted to achieve measurable results:

Objectives	Main activities to achieve objectives	Measurable results
Support long-term regional collaboration to implement priority actions from the 2015–2016 action plans for sharks, tarantulas, timber and turtles/tortoises	Activity 1 Identify and promote outreach to implement the project, and identify funding opportunities for implementation of action plans post-CEC	Increased engagement of partners, experts, and other stakeholders (including Indigenous peoples, when applicable) in the project, and funding opportunities are identified for long-term implementation of the action plans
Implement priority actions from the 2015–2016 action plans for sharks, tarantulas, timber and turtles/tortoises	Activity 2 Identify and implement a subset of actions (“priority actions”) from each action plan	Increased knowledge, tools and coordination to support conservation and sustainable trade in priority species
Support and build regional enforcement capacity for trade in priority shark, tarantula, timber and turtle/tortoise species	Activity 3 Provide in-person training, training material and outreach to support enforcement capacity and awareness	Increased ability of enforcement officers to ensure legal, traceable and sustainable trade in priority species