

PROJECT PROPOSAL

1. Project name: Implementation of North American Action Plans to Boost the Sustainable, Legal and Traceable Production and Trade of CITES Appendix II Priority Species of Sharks, Turtles, Tarantulas and Timber

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

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

This is a follow-up to the project developed under the 2015–2016 “Green Growth” operational plan Strengthening Conservation and Sustainable Production of Selected CITES Appendix II Species in North America, which identified 56 priority species from 5 groups—parrots, sharks, tarantulas, turtles, and timber—and resulted in a set of SMART and prioritized action plans for each of them (including ballpark cost estimates). The aim of the proposed project is to implement the most trinationally relevant action plans (with emphasis on those of high priority), and thus contribute (on a long-term basis) to the legal, sustainable and traceable production and trade of the priority species groups. 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.

4. Select the strategic priority(ies) that the project addresses:

2015–2020 Strategic Priorities	Priority Areas
Green Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trade and the Environment (e.g., environment and innovations; movement of environmental goods and services) - Priority species and ecosystems - Health of oceans - TEK case studies

5. 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. 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, CEC is ideal to coordinate the next “volume” of this regional initiative.

6. 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.

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

Objectives (must be SMART¹)	Main activities to achieve objectives (by 30 June 2019)	Measurable results
1. Support collaborative regional efforts directed at ensuring the implementation of action plans of higher priority promoting sustainable, traceable trade and conservation of priority CITES Appendix II species	1.1. Establish a trilateral follow-up working group 1.2. Establish a funding strategy for all relevant action plans	1.1. Outreach strategy developed and project website launched to share information on project goals, planned activities, partnership and community engagement opportunities, progress. The website will also include notification of expert meetings and directories of focal points, stakeholders, and relevant experts 1.2. Funding strategy in place
2. Ensure long-term conservation through sustainable and legal management, use, and trade of priority groups in the North American region, grounded on the best scientific knowledge and improved data analysis	2.1. Advance knowledge generation needed to strengthen and improve non-detriment findings (NDFs) 2.2. Implement all action plans related to the in-situ, ex-situ conservation of priority groups 2.3. Develop a comprehensive trade-chain analysis (from harvest to market) for all four priority groups and identify areas of improvements throughout it	2.1. Published NDF protocols in various formats: Applications, printed material, etc. 2.2. In-situ, ex-situ conservation initiatives in place 2.3. Clearly identified and described trade chains and main stakeholders and identified areas of improvements throughout it
3. Provide enforcement officers with the information and resources necessary to identify priority groups and enforce the laws that regulate them	3.1. Implement trilateral training workshops for the four groups specified in the previous project's action plans 3.2. Develop a training curriculum as result of the workshops to ensure ongoing support for new officers 3.3. Develop updated identification material for priority groups that need it the most 3.4. Implement all trilaterally relevant action plans related to awareness-raising	3.1. Trained Enforcement Officers in the region 3.2. Training curriculum developed 3.3. ID Guides developed or improved from already existing ID tools 3.4. Awareness-raising campaigns have been carried out, including a public outreach toolkit for 5 groups to educate about impacts of illegal harvest and trade on conservation of species

¹ SMART: Specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound.

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

This project will set the standard for trilateral 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.

9. 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 and equitable access and benefit-sharing 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.

10. 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).

11. 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, producers, consumers, relevant researchers, etc.

12. 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 Management Authority: Carolina Cáceres, carolina.caceres@canada.ca
Mexico	- <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, josel.funes@semarnat.gob.mx
USA	- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS): Craig Hoover (management authority), craig_hoover@fws.gov , and Rosemarie Gnam (scientific authority), Rosemarie_Gnam@fws.gov