



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/029

Geneva, 31 March 2020

CONCERNING:

New case studies on CITES and livelihoods

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), adopted Decisions 18.33 to 18.37 on *Livelihoods*.^{*} The following Decisions refer to the collation and conduct of new livelihoods case studies:

18.33 Directed to the Parties

Parties are invited to:

- a) *collate or conduct new case studies, using the standard template, that demonstrate how sustainable use of CITES-listed species contributes to the livelihoods of the indigenous peoples and local communities* involved in such use, including trade, and to the conservation of the species. Include examples of facilitating such involvement by wildlife-related authorities and other stakeholders and submit them to the Secretariat;*

[...]

18.35 Directed to the Secretariat

Subject to the availability of external financial resources, the Secretariat shall:

- a) *support the collation or conduct of new case studies on CITES and livelihoods as described in Decision 18.33, paragraph a), and assist Parties to present the case studies in appropriate platforms, and in formats and manners that are most effective for targeted audiences;*
- b) *commission an independent review, with inputs of experts from different disciplines, of relevant case studies on CITES and livelihoods, both existing and new, as well as existing guidelines on sustainable use of wildlife and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*, to identify best practices;*
- c) *based on the review, prepare guidance on how to maximize the benefits for indigenous peoples and local communities of CITES implementation and trade in CITES-listed species;*
- d) *taking into account past work on traceability reported in document CoP18 Doc. 42, explore the possibility of using registered marks of certification, existing and new, and other traceability mechanisms, for products of CITES-listed species produced by indigenous peoples and local communities consistent with CITES provisions, in order to enhance conservation and livelihood outcomes;*

^{*} For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.

- e) *facilitate the organization of a workshop to review the guidance developed as described in paragraph c) above, to present new case studies on CITES and livelihoods, and to facilitate the exchange of experiences in collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations;*
 - f) *organize the production of outreach materials, including publications and short videos based on the case studies, to raise awareness of and promote best practices in CITES implementation and livelihoods including its contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to share such materials on appropriate platforms, including the CITES website, social media channels, external media, and exhibitions; and*
 - g) *make efforts to establish global partnerships with relevant international and regional organizations, including conservation organizations and development agencies to work together in activities regarding CITES and livelihoods.*
2. The Secretariat encourages Parties to collate or conduct new case studies, for the purposes as described in paragraph a) of Decision 18.33 and to follow the attached template for designing and compiling such case studies. Such case studies will also contribute to the preparation of the guidance on CITES and livelihoods as mandated in Decision 18.35, paragraph c).
 3. Parties that are considering undertaking new case studies or collating existing case studies are reminded that they could be on either plant or animal species from as wide range of taxonomic groups as possible and representing different purposes and forms of use.
 4. The Secretariat has secured some funding to support Parties in collating existing case studies or conducting new case studies, but additional funding support will no doubt further facilitate the preparation of new case studies. The Secretariat encourages developing country Parties to seek funding support from relevant ministries in their respective countries and external sources including funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Global Wildlife Program. The Secretariat calls on developed country Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and private donors to provide financial or in-kind resources in support of new case studies as well as the production of outreach materials to raise awareness of and to promote best practices in CITES and livelihoods.
 5. New case studies will be reviewed at a workshop as per Decision 18.35, paragraph e). In order to ensure that the workshop achieves its objective, it is vital that more new case studies are available for review at the workshop. Subject to the availability of funds, the Secretariat may be able to cover the costs of the participation of countries that have conducted new case studies to attend the workshop. Parties and entities that are undertaking or supporting the undertaking of such case studies are encouraged to keep the Secretariat informed of their progress.
 6. The [livelihoods section](#) of the CITES website provides a list of selected new case studies which are presented in the format of a factsheet. The list only serves as a reference and is not an indication of priority and it will be subject to changes.
 7. Responses to the Secretariat concerning this Notification to the Parties should be provided to Mr. Liu Yuan at yuan.liu@cites.org.