

Virtual Knowledge Exchange hosted by the Global Wildlife Program (GWP)

Implementing electronic CITES Permits to improve control of trade in wildlife



Thursday, May 4, 2017 | 8:00 AM-9:30 AM EST | Room # MC 4 – 300

Live Stream this session (WebEx):

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1-650-479-3207 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

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Meeting number (access code): 731 530 653

Meeting password: pN4jf63Q

Overview

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, (CITES), is the principal international instrument to control and regulate the international trade in protected species and suppress any illicit dealings in wild fauna and flora, to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Illegal trade in wildlife already has become the 5th largest criminal industry world-wide using fraudulent paperwork and taking advantage of the opportunities of the globalized trading system. CITES Parties now need to integrate into the trade control system of the 21st century if they want to protect species in today's trade.

This virtual knowledge exchange session will provide GWP stakeholders' information on the latest work of CITES to automate and control CITES trade processes. Automation of CITES procedures and electronic exchange of permits is an important instrument to combat illegal trade in wildlife. To support Parties in the automation of CITES, the Secretariat created the eCITES Implementation Framework. This Framework provides a stepwise approach to automate CITES permit processing and to integrate CITES controls with the automated control systems used in by Customs and Single Window exchanges. The Framework provides a guide for national project managers to plan and manage an eCITES project in their country.

Chair

Simon Robertson, Senior Governance Specialist, World Bank Group

Guest Speaker

Markus Pikart, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)

Discussant

Mr. Roux Raath, Technical Officer, World Customs Organization (WCO)

Bios



Simon Robertson has a Masters (MA) degree in Criminal Intelligence Analysis at Manchester University, England. He has worked in (law) enforcement for over 36 years. From 1994 to 2002, Simon was Head of (Intelligence) Analysis at Europol after which he joined the World Bank within the Integrity Vice Presidency Unit (INTVP); the unit responsible for investigating allegations of fraud and corruption in Bank financed projects. Simon is a Senior Expert representing the World Bank for the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC).



Mr. Pikart is currently on a special assignment with the Conference on International Trade in endangered Species (CITES). He supports CITES activities for improvement and automation of regulatory control, dematerialization of CITES permits and the integration of CITES processes in the overall border clearance procedures. He holds a Master in Business Administration from University of Regensburg, Germany. In 1999, he joined the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) to support the Centre for Trade Facilitation and electronic Business (UN/CEFACT). Markus is responsible for the delivery of the capacity building and advisory services to Governments for trade facilitation and electronic Business in Europe, Africa and in Asia Pacific region

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Mr. Roux Raath has 29 years law enforcement and customs experience and served in various tactical, operational and strategic positions. Prior to joining the WCO in September 2015, where he is responsible for the Environmental Programme, he worked for the South African Revenue Service as a Senior Specialist in the Enforcement Division's Projects, Evidence Management and Tactical Interventions Sub-Division. Roux has also served in Operations, Special Investigations, Policy, was a key player in the establishment of the Customs Border Control Unit, and served as the Head of the National Targeting Centre.

The Global Wildlife Program (GWP) is a seven-year Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded program developed as a response to the growing crisis of illicit wildlife trade (IWT).

