



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/059

Geneva, 22 August 2017

CONCERNING:

### CITES Tree Species Programme

1. On 14 July 2017, the Secretariat and the European Commission announced a financial contribution of EUR 8 million by the European Union for a project entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant*. The contribution includes EUR 7 million to support the *CITES tree species programme* to be implemented by the CITES Secretariat, and EUR 1 million to support the African Elephant Fund to be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme. For more details, please refer to the press release on the CITES website:  
  
[https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/EU\\_contributes\\_8\\_million\\_Euro\\_support\\_CITES\\_tree\\_species\\_programme\\_protection\\_African\\_elephants\\_14072017](https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/EU_contributes_8_million_Euro_support_CITES_tree_species_programme_protection_African_elephants_14072017).
2. The first call for proposals for the CITES tree species programme was made to Parties from the Africa, Asia and Central and South America and the Caribbean regions on 15 and 16 August 2017, and Parties in those regions were invited to submit proposals by 15 October. A copy of the letter announcing the call for proposals is attached as Annex to this Notification.
3. For general queries regarding the CITES tree species programme, please contact the Coordinator of the programme, Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt at [milena.schmidt@cites.org](mailto:milena.schmidt@cites.org).

**Subject:** Submission of project proposals for consideration and possible funding under the Tree Species component of the EU project entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* (herein after referred to as *CITES Tree Species Programme*)

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 14 July 2017, the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the European Commission announced the financial contribution of EUR 8 million by the European Union (EU) towards a project entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* (for more details, please refer to the press release in Annex 1. The contribution includes EUR 7 million earmarked to support the *CITES tree species programme* to be implemented by the CITES Secretariat, and 1 million Euro for the African Elephant Fund to be implemented by UNEP.

This communication is to inform you regarding the call for proposals for the CITES trees programme, and seek your consideration.

## Background

The *CITES tree species programme* will support Parties that export valuable parts and derivatives of CITES-listed tree species.

Concerned that the long-term survival, of commercially valuable tree species may be threatened by over-exploitation, the CITES Conference of the Parties has agreed to include more than 900 tree species under the CITES Appendices. Products of these tree species may only be exported if the Scientific Authority of that Party has advised that the export of the specimens will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

To that end, the *CITES tree species programme* aims to provide direct financial assistance to Parties in taking conservation and management measures to ensure that their trade in timber, bark, extracts and other products from CITES-listed tree species is sustainable, legal and traceable.

The expected outcomes of this programme are:

1. Ensure the sustainable management of rare tree species and their products
2. Contribute to legal, traceable, and fair trade in products from CITES tree species
3. Improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure benefit from long-term
4. Contribute to the rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at a country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation.

## Conditions and requirements for submission of proposals

Geographical and taxonomic scope:

Considering efforts to assist Parties to implement the Convention for CITES listed tree species, the financial support will be available for the implementation of activities in three target CITES regions: Africa, Asia, and Central and South American and the Caribbean. The tentative list of candidate species for the programme is as follows (\* are the target key species):

Asia: *Dalbergia cochichiniensis*\*, *Pterocarpus sanctalinus*\*, *Taxus* spp., *Aquilaria* spp., *Gyrinops* spp., *Gonystylus* spp.

Africa: *Diospyros* spp. (Madagascar)\*, *Dalbergia* spp. (Madagascar), *Pericopsis elata*, *Osyris lanceolata*\*, *Pterocarpus erinaceus*\*, *Prunus Africana*, *Guibourtia demeusei*; *G. pellegriniana*; *G. tessmsnnii*.

Central and South America and the Caribbean: *Swietenia* spp. (3 species) (Central American spp.\*), *Dalbergia nigra*\*, *Dalbergia granadillo*, *Dalbergia stevensonii*\*, *Dalbergia retusa*\*, *Aniba rosaedora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi*.

#### Organizational eligibility:

Project proposals can be submitted and implemented directly by the CITES Management Authority, or by other entities in cooperation with the CITES Management Authority. In the case of the latter, the proposal must be accompanied by an official letter of endorsement issued by the relevant Management authority.

#### Project budget:

The maximum funds available is USD 250,000 per project, but smaller projects are also considered. All applicants are strongly encouraged to include in-kind contributions or co-funding.

#### Subject areas:

Projects can cover a range of CITES priority areas, considering that the core areas of work are:

- 1) formulation of non-detriment findings;
- 2) marking and traceability;
- 3) tree products identification;
- 4) capacity building.

#### Duration:

The EU Project - *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant* will end in early 2020. Project proposals funded under the *CITES tree species programme* must therefore have a maximum duration of 2 years. Proposals for follow-up activities may be considered exceptionally at a later stage.

### Availability of regional support for preparing proposals

To facilitate a smooth implementation of the *CITES tree species programme*, three Regional Coordinators have been appointed, whose tasks include:

- 1) Assist with the formulation of national project needs and priorities;
- 2) Assist with the design of projects/activities;
- 3) Monitor the progress of the implementation of approved activities and budgeting by implementing agencies;
- 4) Assist in convening meetings as relevant;
- 5) Provide technical advice to avoid duplication of effort; and
- 6) Interact with other projects and programmes of the CITES Secretariat as requested.

### Programme team

The contact information of the *CITES tree species programme* team is as follows:

- 1) Coordinator: Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt; e-mail: [milena.schmidt@cites.org](mailto:milena.schmidt@cites.org)
- 2) Regional Coordinator for Africa: Mr. Jean Lagarde Betti; e-mail: [citestreets-africa@cites.org](mailto:citestreets-africa@cites.org)
- 3) Regional Coordinator for Asia: Mr. Hooi Chiew Thang; e-mail: [citestreets-asia@cites.org](mailto:citestreets-asia@cites.org)
- 4) Regional Coordinator for Central and South America and the Caribbean: Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt; e-mail: [citestreets-l.america@cites.org](mailto:citestreets-l.america@cites.org)

5) Temporary Programme Assistant: Ms. Kanako Ishii; [citestrees@cites.org](mailto:citestrees@cites.org)

All implementing agencies interested in seeking support must fill the information in the Project proposal summary sheet (see Annex 2 to this letter). The submission must be made on or before **15 October 2017**, through the *Regional Coordinators* mentioned in the paragraph above, with copy to the temporary Programme Assistant, Ms. Kanako Ishii.

The assessment of all project summaries will take place after the deadline, and with guidance from the programme Advisory Committee. If your project proposal has been met with a positive review an invitation to submit a full project proposals will be sent by early December 2017.

We are looking forward to receiving Parties project summaries and will be delighted to assist you at any stage you may need us to do so. For general queries regarding the *CITES tree species programme*, please contact the programme Coordinator, Ms. Milena Sosa Schmidt at.

Yours sincerely,

John E. Scanlon  
CITES Secretary General

# **[TITLE OF THE PROJECT]**

**[IMAGE (PLEASE INSERT HERE ONE OR MORE PHOTOGRAPHS OR ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE SPECIES CONCERNED OR, OF THE TARGET AREA WHERE THE PROJECT IS PROPOSED TO BE IMPLEMENTED. IF NOT A FIELD PROJECT, PLEASE INSERT WHAT BEST REPRESENT**



**Proposal for funding under EU Support to CITES:  
CITES Tree Species Programme\***

## **Project Proposal Summary and Self-assessment Sheet**

**[DATE: PLEASE INSERT HERE THE DATE BY WHICH THIS DOCUMENT IS  
SUBMITTED]**

LOGO [insert  
logo of the  
institution)]

Submitted by  
**[PLEASE INSERT HERE THE NAME OF THE INSTITUTION SUBMITTING THE  
PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE]**



---

\* Tree species component of the EU project entitled *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant*

**Part 1:**

**Summary: please fill the Summary table in one page only.**

Target CITES tree taxa	<i>[SPECIFY THE TREE SPECIES TARGETED BY THE PROJECT]</i>
Location(s)	<i>[MENTION PROJECT TARGET COUNTRIES AND AREAS]</i>
Duration	<i>[SPECIFY THE PROPOSED START &amp; END MONTH/YEAR]</i>
Objectives of the project	
Implementing Agency	
Contact details of the Implementing Agency	
Partner(s)	<i>[IF NONE PUT N.A.]</i>
Target group(s) Tick one or more as applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Range State(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Management Authorities <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Authorities <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify):
Final beneficiaries	
Expected outputs	
Expected outcomes (refer to the cover letter p.1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4
Expected impact	
Main activities	
Requested amount (USD)	
Co-finances	<i>[INDICATE SOURCE (AND AMOUNT) OF THE POSSIBLE OR CONFIRMED COFINANCE TO THIS PROJECT]</i>
Regional coordinator who assisted in the document	<i>[IF NONE PUT N.A.]</i>

**Part 2:**

**Criteria: all project summaries will be evaluated against the list of criteria for selecting project proposals for funding under the CITES Tree Species Programme. Please fill the table below as concisely as possible, providing accurate information against each criterion. Please note, that there is no obligation to fulfil 100% of the criteria.**

Questions related to selection criteria		Additional information
1. Is the implementing country a range State of CITES tree species? If yes, please specify the year when your country ratified CITES.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2. Is the project linked to CITES Decisions or Resolutions agreed by the CITES Conference of the Parties? If yes, please indicate the Decisions and Resolutions that justify the implementation of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
3. Is the implementing country an exporter of CITES tree species products?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
4. Is the implementing Party an exporter of CITES tree species products to EU member countries?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

5. Does the proposed project relate to the following core areas of work? If yes, please describe.		
5.a- non-detriment findings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.b- marking and traceability	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.c- identification	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5.d- capacity building	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
6. Does the implementing country have a suspension in place agreed by any CITES body; or does it have a zero export quota recommended by the CITES Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee or the Plants Committee?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a trade suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a zero export quota <input type="checkbox"/> No	
7. Is your country currently under the Review of Significant Trade for the target taxa of the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
8. In which CITES Appendix is the target taxon of the project included?	<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix I <input type="checkbox"/> Appendix II <input type="checkbox"/> Appendix III	
9. What is the scale of the project?	<input type="checkbox"/> small: 1- 30,000 USD <input type="checkbox"/> medium: 30,001 - 100,000 USD <input type="checkbox"/> large: 100,001 - 250,000 USD	
10. Has your country submitted other project proposals to seek funding from donors, where CITES has been a partner (e.g. the ITTO-CITES Programme)? If yes, please list the previous projects that your country has implemented in the past and indicate whether it was funded by the ITTO-CITES programme or other donors.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
11. Is this project proposal a continuation of the work started with a project funded under the ITTO-CITES Programme (2006-2015)? If yes, indicate which ITTO-CITES project set the bases for this new project proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
12. Is the project involving the private sector? If yes, please explain the roles and responsibilities of the industry in the activities implementation.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
13. Has your country signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) in the context of the EU-Forest Law for Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plan (FLEGT) of the European Commission? If yes, please explain how you plan to liaise with the FLEGT	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

local branch in order to strengthen the implementation of the project.		
14. Does your country have a national strategy for the sustainable use of trees species? If yes, are the proposed activities part of the national strategic plan (please elaborate)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
15. Does your country have a peer review and a quality control mechanism in place (if yes, please elaborate)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

### **Final considerations:**

Please note that the project selection will ensure an overall regional balance for providing technical and financial assistance in a range of target taxa. Priority will be given to tree taxa listed in Appendix II, although for those listed in Appendix III, work may be approved under exceptional circumstances if it builds on the implementation of CITES for Appendix II listed tree taxa (e.g. making field inventories where the two share the same range of distribution).

Further to the above, projects that complete the work started in a previous projects funded under the ITTO-CITES programme on tropical tree species may have a higher priority as well as direct requests of donors.