

ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, 2005-2010

Objective 1

To assist ASEAN Member Countries in adopting effective and enforceable legislation for CITES implementation by:

- encouraging all ASEAN countries to enact Category 1 CITES-implementing legislation in order to have the ability to meet evolving CITES requirements, and to address any policy loopholes that may be identified after enactment;
- incorporating in national legislation, where necessary, social and economic incentives to promote and regulate sustainable management as well as responsible trade of wild fauna and flora, and effective implementation and enforcement of CITES;
- promoting awareness programmes for the judiciary and other law enforcement agencies to enable adequate and timely responses to offences.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
1.1 Document lessons learned and common problems (e.g. gaps and conflicts) in ASEAN members' CITES-enabling legislation, following existing analyses by the CITES Secretariat's National Legislation Project	Indonesia ASEAN Member countries	
1.2 Promote adoption of Category 1 CITES-enabling legislation throughout ASEAN by 2010, in line with existing deadlines already specified by the CITES Secretariat's National Legislation Project	Indonesia ASEAN Member countries	
1.3 Include, where appropriate, social and economic incentives into national wild fauna and flora trade policy and legislation, complementing the policies of neighbouring States where possible, to promote compliance with CITES	Indonesia ASEAN Member countries	
1.4 Promote awareness programmes for the judiciary and other law enforcement agencies on the social and economic implications of conservation threats posed by illegal trade in wild fauna and flora	Indonesia ASEAN Member countries	

Objective 2

To promote networking amongst relevant law enforcement authorities in ASEAN countries to curb illegal trade in wild fauna and flora by:

- establishing inter-agency committees at national levels, to ensure co-ordination and collaboration between law enforcement officials on trade in wild fauna and flora (e.g. Customs, police, quarantine, wildlife departments, port/airport authorities, CITES authorities)
- establishing an ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force for exchange of law enforcement information regarding trade in wild fauna and flora, and to coordinate regional participation in the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group;
- promoting collaborative capacity-building efforts for improved law enforcement.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
2.1 Develop national and regional directories of government officials responsible for enforcing CITES in the ASEAN region	Thailand CITES Enforcement Experts Group/ ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force	
2.2 Establish inter-agency committees at national levels to enhance cooperation and coordination among wildlife trade enforcement officers and officials. Nominate a focal point from within each national inter-agency committee for international liaison, co-operation and co-ordination with ASEAN partners, Interpol, World Customs Organisation	Thailand CITES Enforcement Experts Group/ ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force	
2.3 Establish an ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force, made up of focal points from national inter-agency committees, to co-ordinate collective actions to deter illegal and unsustainable trade in wild flora and fauna	Thailand CITES Enforcement Experts Group/ ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force	
2.4 Integrate issues pertaining to trade in wild fauna and flora into existing bilateral, multilateral, and international arrangements in relation to common	Thailand CITES Enforcement	

	boundaries (terrestrial, marine and riverine) to enhance law enforcement co-operation	Experts Group/ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force	
2.5	Conduct collaborative training sessions on wildlife law enforcement at national, bilateral and multilateral levels for Customs, police, quarantine and veterinary inspectors, wildlife departments, port/airport authorities, private sectors, CITES authorities, etc on specific skills e.g. species identification, handling of information and sharing of intelligence, developing and sharing advanced forensic, identification and marking systems	Thailand CITES Enforcement Experts Group/ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force	CITES Training materials for Customs Officials

Objective 3

To promote research, monitoring and information exchange on CITES-related issues by:

- exchanging information on permit issuance, regional market dynamics and trade flows to improve understanding of producer-consumer relationships, including re-exports, in the region;
- encouraging research activities to ensure that sufficient biological and population dynamics information is available on species in trade in order to undertake non-detriment findings (NDFs) and to establish export quotas;
- establishing a mechanism by which information about CITES-listed species may be shared, with a particular focus on illegally traded species found in more than one country.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
3.1 Document regional and sub-regional trade dynamics to identify species in significant trade, trade 'hotspots' and sources of specimens to assist regional co-operation in CITES implementation	Malaysia	
3.2 Establish an information-sharing mechanism for CITES-listed species native to more than one ASEAN country, to assist countries to set and regulate quotas for harvest and trade according to distribution and population dynamics	Malaysia	

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- 3.3 Provide assistance to ASEAN member countries in implementing recommendations formulated under the Review of Significant Trade process Malaysia
- 3.4 Communicate up-to-date information to the CITES Animals and Plants Committees, and to the ASEAN Experts Group on CITES, regarding national and regional expertise (i.e. botanists, zoologists, and contact persons) in CITES-listed species, and maintain regular communication with the CITES Secretariat Malaysia
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- 3.5 Develop a website for the CITES authorities of ASEAN countries to exchange information on legal systems regarding wildlife trade management, CITES permit and certificate issuance and directories of wildlife-related law enforcement officers in each ASEAN country. The website should allow the CITES authorities to update information on permit and certificate issuance and changes in legislation(s). The website should include online communication to investigate and gathering information on illegal wildlife trade cases, both domestic and international Malaysia
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Objective 4

To encourage industry groups, trade associations/traders and local communities to comply with legality and sustainability requirements of CITES and national regulations on trade in wild fauna and flora, and to support research and capacity building on sustainable management of trade in wild fauna and flora by:

- increasing awareness of relevant industry groups about trade in wild fauna and flora and CITES;
- collaborating with industry groups as a source of information about aspects of trade in wild fauna and flora, *inter alia* harvest management, captive breeding/ranching, artificial propagation, and market demand; and
- promoting the re-investment of revenue derived from trade in wild fauna and flora into conservation and associated research of species in trade.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
4.1 Involve industry groups, trade associations/traders and local community representatives to participate in CITES trade management dialogues (e.g. quota setting) to add their knowledge of trade dynamics and production systems to holistic assessments of legal and sustainable trade.	Indonesia	
4.2 Conduct awareness programmes (e.g. information, education and communication campaigns) to the private sector (industry groups, trade associations/traders), and local community representatives concerning CITES and regulations for trade in wild fauna and flora	Indonesia	
4.3 Establish partnerships with relevant traders and industry groups to support CITES-related research activities (e.g. wild population assessments, NDFs) through re-investment of revenue from trade in wild fauna and flora	Indonesia	

Objective 5

To encourage greater regional cooperation on specific issues by:

- reviewing the current status of the relationship between CITES implementation and other biodiversity related conventions.
- establishing bilateral and multilateral taskforces to address shared concerns within ASEAN, related to the conservation and trade in particular species.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
5.1 Undertake review (through workshop, seminar, etc) on how to implement, at ASEAN level, links between CITES, and other biodiversity related conventions	Indonesia	
5.2 Establish bilateral or multilateral cooperation mechanisms, such as task forces, to address issues related to the conservation and trade in particular species	Indonesia	

Objective 6

To seek sufficient technical and financial assistance through collaborative initiatives by:

- identifying key partners and engaging international and regional donor agencies, non-governmental organizations and scientific institutions in an advisory and a supporting role in the implementation of projects and activities arising from the action plan;
- engaging international and regional donor agencies and non-governmental organizations to aid in securing adequate funds to implement projects and activities arising from the action plan.

Action points	Lead Country and Potential Partners	Remarks
6.1 Secure funds for implementing the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora	ASEAN Member countries, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB),	
6.2 Prepare proposals for implementing the ASEAN Regional Action Plan to international donors	ASEAN Member countries, TRAFFIC SEA,	
6.3 Seek technical assistance from specialists in fauna and flora for implementing specific action points of the ASEAN Regional Action Plan	ASEAN Member countries, IUCN-SSC	

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