

Tools for CITES and livelihoods

“The implementation of CITES is better achieved with the engagement of rural communities.”

(Resolution Conf. 16.6)

The Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods has developed: a **Toolkit to assess impacts** of CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor; and **Guidelines to address these impacts**.

Call for contribution

Toolkit

Objective: To rapidly assess at the national level the positive and negative impacts of the implementation of CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of poor rural communities.

Six steps

- Step 1: Define the current situation regarding livelihoods of poor rural community(ies) concerned and evaluate existing biological and trade data on relevant CITES-listed species.
- Step 2: Conduct a desk study to obtain further information on selected species
- Step 3: Identify communities that are potentially impacted and collect relevant information for field work
- Step 4: Conduct field-based participatory livelihoods assessment in potentially-impacted communities
- Step 5: Undertake final assessments and develop recommendations
- Step 6: Monitor implementation of recommendations and changes and impacts over time

Guidelines

Objective: To address these impacts and assist Parties to develop local, national and regional initiatives that take account of the impacts of implementing CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor.

Five key elements

1. Preliminary activities – identify priority species in order to test the Guidelines
2. Empowerment of economically poor rural communities
3. Incentives to promote *in situ* production and compensatory mechanisms
4. Mitigation strategies for human-wildlife conflicts
5. Empowerment policies

Notification to the Parties [No. 2014/063: Toolkit and guidelines on CITES and livelihoods](#) invites any Party, stakeholder or interested organization to provide feedback on the Toolkit and Guidelines and to submit case studies.

See Factsheet on CITES and livelihoods n°1 for background information.

Contact person

For more information on CITES and livelihoods, contact Juan Carlos Vasquez at juan.vasquez@cites.org

