



TRADE IN WILD ENDANGERED SPECIES SHOULD BE LEGAL, SUSTAINABLE AND TRACEABLE!

EXTINCTION IS FOREVER!

“Improving the capacities for Natura 2000 and CITES” is an EU-financed project, implemented by NIRAS and the partners in the consortium, whereas the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning is the beneficiary.

The aim of the project is to strengthen and improve the administrative capacities of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning/Environment Administration for the implementation of EU legislation on nature protection, through the promotion of national legislation and provision of training for better implementation of the EU legislation on protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.



The content of this publication is the responsibility of NIRAS and the consortium partners and does not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.



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the European Union



Republic of North Macedonia
Ministry of Environment
and Physical Planning



Do you know what CITES is?

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Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*)



Orsini's Viper (*Vipera ursinii*)



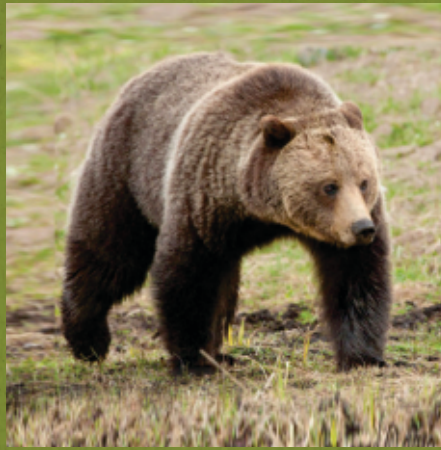
Indian Python (*Python molurus*)



Tokay gecko (*Gekko gekko*)



Common green iguana (*Iguana iguana*)



Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*)



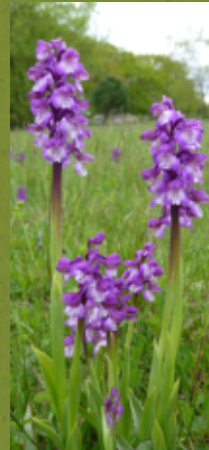
Spring adonis (*Adonis vernalis*)



European Otter (*Lutra lutra*)



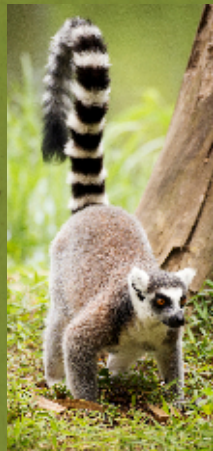
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)



Orchids (fam: *Orhidaceae*)



Jaguar (*Panthera onca*)



Ring-tailed Lemur
(*Lemur catta*)



Medicinal Leech
(*Hirudo medicinalis*)



White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)



CITES Plenipotentiary Conference, Washington, D.C., March 1973.



The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement that aims to protect endangered wild species, and parts and derivatives thereof against overexploitation caused by trade therein.

CITES was signed in Washington, United States of America, on March 3, 1973 and entered into force in July 1975.

The Republic of North Macedonia has ratified this Convention in 1999, and it entered into force in October 2000.

more than
40.900
endangered
species



more than
6.600
animal
species

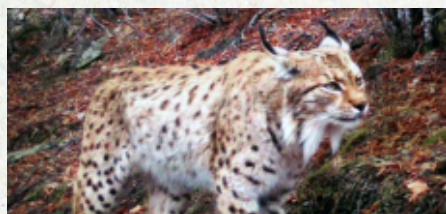


more than
34.300
plant
species

CITES regulates international trade in more than 40,900 globally threatened species that are at risk of extinction. They are protected by the three appendices of the Convention based on the degree of their vulnerability.

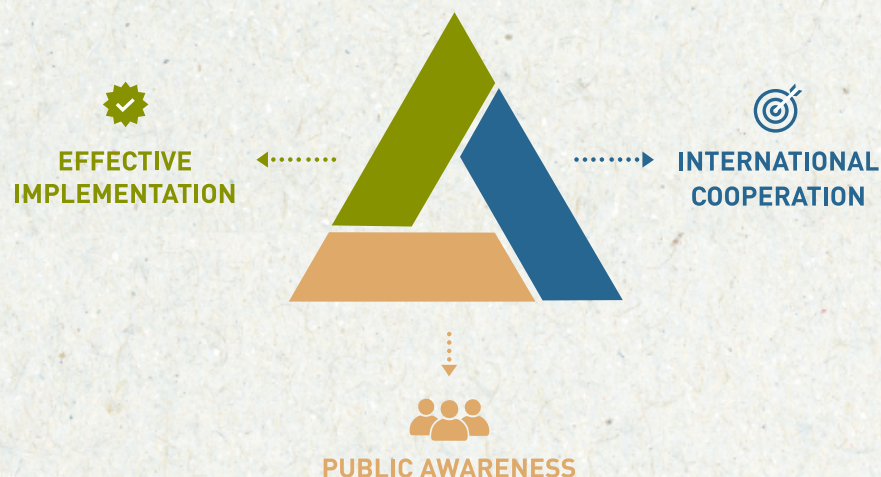


Stony corals (order: Scleractinia)



Eurasian Lynx (*Lynx lynx balcanicus*)

The effectiveness of CITES largely depends on international cooperation, effective implementation and the level of public awareness, which are essential in the fight against illegal trade in endangered wild species and their conservation for future generations.



CITES and the EU

The European Union has been an official member of CITES since 2015, strengthening its role as a powerful actor in the global efforts to protect endangered species of flora and fauna and prevent illegal trade.

The EU Regulation (EC 338/97) on the protection of wild species of fauna and flora by regulating trade therein provides the legal framework for regulating internal trade within the EU and between the EU and other countries.

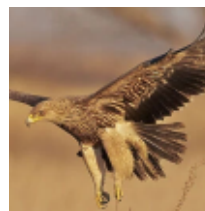


WHAT ARE AND WHICH ARE THE APPENDICES TO THE CONVENTION?

The appendices to the Convention are lists of species that are or may be threatened by overexploitation and illegal trade.



APPENDIX I



Endangered species of fauna and flora that are threatened with extinction, and the trade in these species is strictly prohibited, except in cases with a non-commercial purpose, such as scientific research. This includes all parts and derivatives of these species.



APPENDIX II



Species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction, but that may become so unless trade is closely controlled. Trade in these species is permitted, but must be regulated by a CITES permit or certificate. This includes their parts and derivatives.



APPENDIX III



Species that are protected in at least one CITES member country that is cooperating with other CITES member countries to prevent illegal trade and conserve them.

HOW DOES CITES WORK?

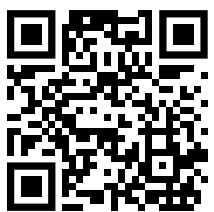
CITES uses a system of permits and certificates, which control the import, export and re-export of species, parts, derivatives and products thereof.

Each member state of the Convention is obliged to designate one or more competent institutions to implement the provisions and one or more scientific institutions to provide expert opinions on how trade affects the status and survival of species, including their determination and identification.

Cooperation at the national level between the various institutions is essential for the successful implementation of CITES.

HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER I NEED A PERMIT OR CERTIFICATE?

To find out whether a particular species is on the CITES appendices and whether you need a permit or certificate for re-export, you can check the species database on the Convention's website or by scanning the QR code.



In addition, it is also necessary to inform yourself about the applicable legal regulations and the manner of submitting an application for a permit or certificate to the competent authority responsible for implementing CITES in our country, which is the **Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning**.

All additional information regarding the electronic system for issuing permits is also available on the official website for CITES in our country.

www.cites.moepp.gov.mk



STEPS FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMIT/CERTIFICATE

The procedure for issuing a CITES permit or certificate includes several steps in accordance with legal regulations:

INFORMING:

The first step is to determine whether the species in subject is on one of the appendices of CITES.

1

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION:

The applicant, who can be a natural or a legal person, submits a written or electronic application for a CITES permit. This application should contain basic data such as: general data of the applicant, data on the species (common and Latin name), quantity, purpose of trade (for example, scientific research, commercial trade, etc...), origin, destination, etc.

2

REVIEW OF THE APPLICATION:

The competent authority responsible for the implementation of CITES reviews the application and assesses whether the trade is legal, sustainable and in accordance with CITES regulations and national laws. This includes consultations with authorised scientific institutions and issuing expert opinions on the species from the CITES appendices.

3

ISSUING A PERMIT:

When the application is complete, the **Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning** shall approve and issue the CITES permit/certificate.

4

