



Questionnaire for the expression of interest for participating in a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management

1. What are your expectations for a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management (with a focus on supporting developing countries in implementing the recommendations of the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat)?

Managing overexploitation of bushmeat species has often been hindered by a lack of accessible information for policy decision-makers, by insufficient integration of good management practices into national or local policies and by a lack of capacity and resources.

The Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPSWM) has the potential to help bridge some of these science-policy gaps and to raise awareness and support capacity building in relation to bushmeat at the national and local levels. By bringing together relevant organisations, researchers, policy makers and practitioners at the international, regional, national and local levels, the CPSWM could play an active role and serve as an inclusive and respected forum to:

- *bring together the existing evidence and knowledge on sustainable wildlife management and make them available to a wider audience of stakeholders, including policy makers and practitioners at the national and local levels;*
- *identify knowledge gaps relevant to the sustainable management of wildlife and encourage the scientific community to focus research on these;*
- *identify capacity gaps and work with the international community to support targeted capacity building exercises;*
- *work with national and local governments to support the integration of policy actions arising from the recommendations of the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat and from the work of the CPSWG into national policies and planning documents (e.g. NBSAPs, local management plans, etc.);*
- *work with national governments to ensure that the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat and the CPSWG are informed by national priorities;*

- *facilitate the development of an active community of wildlife management practitioners and scientists and the exchange of information and experiences amongst these and other stakeholders at all levels;*
- *assess and recommend different sustainable use management practices for relevant taxonomic groups and environmental, cultural and socio-economic settings; and assess the value of landscape approaches and strategies to implement them; and*
- *provide advice to the CBD, CITES, CMS and other relevant conventions and processes.*

Through these actions, the CPSWM could play a key role in supporting developing countries to move from unsustainable use to a well-managed consumptive use, which can be an important driver of positive conservation and livelihood benefits through generating incentives for conservation and sustainable management.

2. What are key experiences of your organization in sustainable wildlife management at global, regional and national level?

UNEP-WCMC's goal is to provide authoritative, relevant and timely information for countries, MEAs, organizations and companies to use in the development and implementation of their policies and decisions.

UNEP-WCMC has a long history of providing support to the Parties and bodies of the CBD. The collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and the CBD is operationalised in an agreement and a jointly agreed programme of work.

Of particular relevance to the CPSWM is the Centre's extensive expertise in collating and analysing information on the trade and status of harvested species, a track record of developing collaborative online portals and tools that compile, analyse and disseminate biodiversity information specifically for practitioners and policy-makers. Additional areas of expertise include UNEP-WCMC's skills in spatial mapping, analyses of trade-offs between land use forms and socio-economic and conservation objectives, development of biodiversity indicators and capacity building.

UNEP-WCMC provides ongoing support to the CITES Secretariat and the European Commission on the implementation of CITES and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations, respectively. As part of this support, we regularly review the conservation status of utilised species, analyse data on international trade in wildlife and provide comprehensive and objective analyses on the sustainability of this use. We also manage the CITES trade database, the largest global dataset on sustainable use, as well as the database of CITES-listed species, amongst other datasets and tools to support the implementation of CITES and the sustainable use of wildlife.

UNEP-WCMC has also supported the CMS by reviewing the conservation status of listed species and providing policy recommendations well as developing on-line tools.. The Online Reporting System, successfully used for the submission of AEWAs annual reports

can also be used as a data collection tool to facilitate data access between MEAs and to mainstream biodiversity information.

UNEP-WCMC has valuable experience of developing online portals and tools that disseminate biodiversity information to practitioners, scientists and policy-makers, including the EU Wildlife Trade Regulation database (www.unep-wcmc-apps.org/eu/Taxonomy), CITES Trade Data Dashboards (cites-dashboards.unep-wcmc.org), A.P.E.S. portal (apesportal.eva.mpg.de/status/tools/dashboard), Protected Planet (www.protectedplanet.net/), the portal of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (www.bipindicators.net), IBAT (www.ibatforbusiness.org).

We are currently developing a methodology to produce a first global map of bushmeat offtake. We have compiled a comprehensive database capturing spatial location of bushmeat harvests and the biomass of species harvested for bushmeat, based on both peer-reviewed and grey literature. Using statistical models we will extrapolate these point data to a surface of total animal biomass extracted.

We have experience of organising numerous capacity building workshops, including training for CITES Authorities on the use of trade data and other information for the making of sustainability findings; and national capacity building workshops on the use of indicators.

UNEP-WCMC hosts the Secretariat for the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP), which brings together international organisations working at the forefront of indicator development. The partnership is a collaborative effort to provide the best available information on biodiversity trends for decision makers, and to help build capacity to use indicators at global, regional and national scales. UNEP-WCMC also led the development of a number of indicators for the 2010 biodiversity target, including the “status of species in trade” and “wild commodities index” indicators.

3. Which organizational format would you suggest for a possible partnership on sustainable wildlife management? (Please cite examples of other international partnerships, if possible).

The Partnership should bring together the agencies, conventions, organizations and individuals that have experience relevant to sustainable wildlife management. The partnership should work under the guidance of the CBD Conference of the Parties and subsidiary bodies. A possible model is the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, which brings together relevant agencies and conventions and works in particular through technical working groups. An active Secretariat would have an important role to play in managing the Partnership and ensuring that it maintains the momentum.

4. Which resources could you contribute to the partnership, if any?

UNEP-WCMC has the following experience directly relevant to the partnership:

- *Expertise in collating, analysing and disseminating biodiversity information to bridge the science-policy gap;*

- *Over 30 years of experience supporting governments and MEAs, including producing authoritative assessments on the sustainable use of species in international trade and providing policy recommendations;*
- *Experience building online, interactive portals that make relevant biodiversity information available and that serve as communication platforms for the conservation community;*
- *Experience in facilitating collaborative work with agencies and organisations, through, for example, co-ordinating the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership;*
- *Experience on sustainable wildlife management, including on bushmeat issues;*
- *Experience of delivering capacity building for Parties in convention implementation, for example through subregional and national workshops on national biodiversity indicator development;*
- *Expertise in spatial mapping and ecological modelling to provide policy-relevant outputs.*

Specifically, UNEP-WCMC, by working with other members of the collaborative partnership, and depending on the resources available, could contribute to the:

- *Collation and synthesis of the evidence on the importance of bushmeat and sustainable wildlife management for rural livelihoods, and identification of gaps in the evidence;*
- *Collation and synthesis of the evidence on successful bushmeat management, other sustainable wildlife management programmes, and identification of gaps in the evidence;*
- *Development of a sustainable wildlife management portal with particular attention on bushmeat to bring together the evidence as noted above, as well as case studies and management and policy tools;*
- *Support in using this evidence: working with the international community to support targeted capacity building exercises; facilitate the development of an active community of wildlife management practitioners and the exchange of information and experiences among these and other stakeholders at all levels.*