

Supporting recovery of fisheries through cooperation on threatened species and implementation of trade measures

CITES / FAO / RFMO / IUCN / European Union

Side event UN Oceans Conference, 7 June 2017, 6:30- 7:45pm, Conference Room 12

Cross-sectoral partnerships can accelerate progress to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14.4 and enhance understanding and collaboration between conservation and fisheries communities. One opportunity to create mutually beneficial synergies is located at the intersection between sustainable fisheries, conservation and trade.

At their latest meetings in [2013](#) and [2016](#), Parties to CITES¹ have increasingly turned to the Convention, which is well known globally for elephants, tigers and rhinos, to regulate international trade in commercially exploited marine species, from queen conch to sharks and rays, that have declined to levels where strong management regimes are required to maintain or rebuild stocks.

International trade in these species remains possible on the condition that it is legal, sustainable and reported. CITES is a legally binding instrument that uses trade-related measures to achieve conservation and sustainable use outcomes, which complement and support the work of regional fisheries bodies in managing these species and rebuilding overfished fish stocks.

To assist developing countries in meeting requirements concerning trade in CITES-listed marine species, the CITES Secretariat, with the support of the European Union and in close collaboration with FAO and RFMOs, initiated a wide range of capacity building activities since 2013.

The partnership between CITES, RFMO/As and FAO is starting to show measurable improvements for some stocks as recorded through existing reporting systems (e.g. FAO global capture production records, RFMO observer records and CITES annual trade reports). This will directly translate into progress on the implementation of SDG 14.4 through Indicator 14.4.1, *Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels, for stocks of species that are listed under the CITES*.

Objective:

The side event will outline management measures in place for CITES-listed marine species, showcase the existing close collaboration and synergies between CITES, RFMO/As and FAO, and discuss how trade measures can further complement fisheries management and advance the implementation of SDG 14.4.

¹ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna

Contact persons:

Daniel Kachelriess (CITES, daniel.kachelriess@cites.org)

Supporting recovery of fisheries through cooperation on threatened species and implementation of trade measures

CITES / FAO / GFCM / IUCN / European Union

Side event UN Oceans Conference, 7 June 2017, 6:30- 7:45pm, Conference Room 12

Opener:

- Supporting synergies in Ocean governance
Mr. Marc Richir, European Commission
- Historic perspective on cooperation between conservation and fisheries communities
Mr. Serge Garcia, Chair of IUCN Fisheries Expert Group

Presenters:

- CITES and commercially exploited marine species
Mr. Daniel Kachelriess, Marine Species Officer, CITES
- RFMOs activities on CITES-listed species
Mr. Abdellah Srouf, Executive Secretary, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
- FAO's collaboration with CITES-related on capacity building and impact assessment
Mr. Kim Friedman, Senior Fisheries officer, FAO