CITES Secretariat

UNEP

The 3rd edition of the International Single Window Conference and Exhibition

"Systems interconnectivity, boosting trade Facilitation"

16 to 18 September, Antananarivo, Madagascar

CITES *college collège colegio*

CITES: Trade, environment and development

CITES stands at the intersection between trade, environment and development .

CITES regulated trade is a multi-billion dollar business with Parties now issuing over 850,000 permits per annum – permits that effectively certify that the trade is both legal and sustainable.

CITES: Trade, environment and development

This CITES regulatory system, using permits, certificates, is mature, stable and universally recognized and adopted.

However, a number of developments are impacting on this environment…

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CITES DATA

CITES: One of the few MEAs to produce primary data which offers policy makers a valuable tool to assist with more effective decisions

The CITES Trade Database holds over 12 million records

CITES DATA

These 12 million records are created using data from CITES permits and certificates
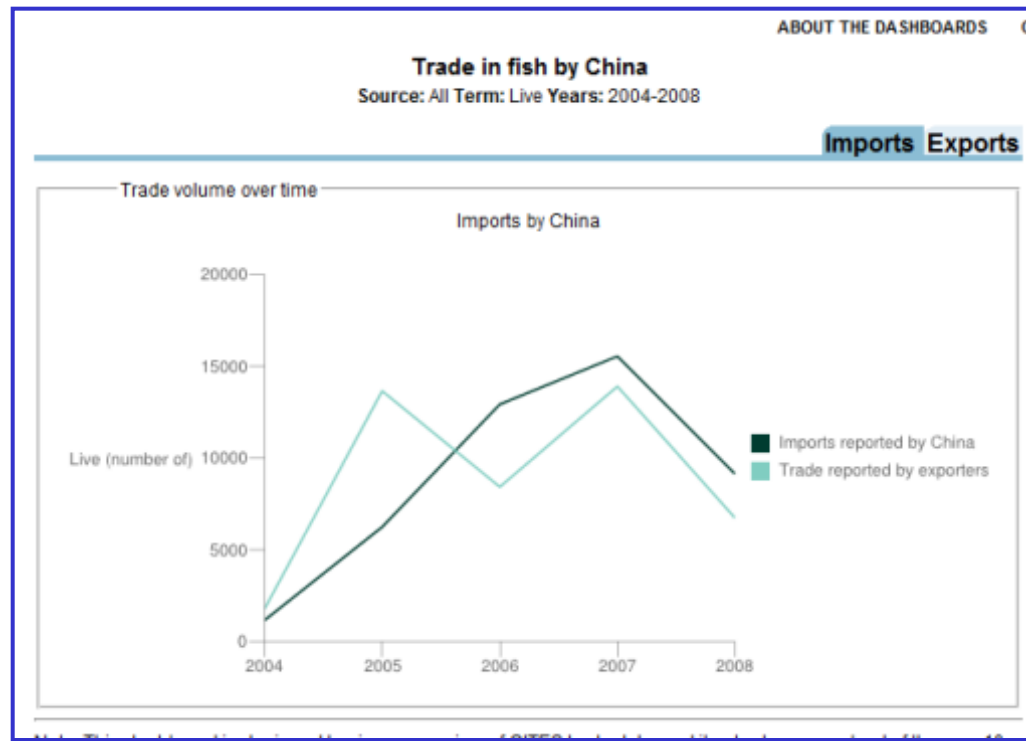
What this means for CITES

- The world of international trade is moving towards 'paperless' e-trade, faster Customs processing, and various new electronic trade measures

- ASIA and the Amazon region are leaders in this area

What this means for CITES

- What is important is for CITES documents to conform to international standards for e-trade and protocols for electronic data exchange

- Parties have adopted a standard permit form, and guidance has been provided in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16) to be entered in permits and certificates

- Resolution Conf. 12.3 was revised to accommodate e-permitting systems

Strengthening legal, sustainable and traceable trade

- CITES requirements

  – Process application

  – Consideration of requirements, non-detriment etc.

  – Issuance of documents

  – Filing of documents issued and accepted

  – Production of annual reports

- Trade requirements

  – Processing by Customs (export)

  – Processing by Customs (import)

  – Processing by Customs (re-export)

  – Transfer of permits/data to the Management Authority

  – Processing miscellaneous documents (airwaybills, health/phytosanitary etc)

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CITES Electronic Permits

Current Situation:

- Some Parties are ready to use "fully electronic" interconnected CITES permit systems (i.e., Brazil, Ecuador, Republic of Korea and Thailand)

- Challenge: Ensuring that development of CITES e-permits are harmonized with international standards and norms

CITES Electronic Permits

Current Situation:

- Many CITES Parties establishing CITES electronic permit systems (Amazon region countries)

- Many CITES Parties are developing Single Windows for trade related documentation

CITES Electronic Permits

Current Situation:

- Challenge: Many disparate independent e-permitting systems using different protocols and standards

- This situation creates difficulties for the exchange of data, and for the development of interoperable systems

CITES Electronic Permits

Current Situation:

- Trends: Need to ensure harmonization with other initiatives

  – World Customs Organization (WCO) data model and

  – United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) standards

CITES E-permitting Working Group

Parties: Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Switzerland (Chair), Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and Vietnam

Observers: UNEP-WCMC, WCO

Current situation

- Of importance to international trade in CITES-listed species is that the WCO Customs Data Model establishes a standard, international, harmonized data set that will meet governments' requirements for international cross-border trade and is geared exclusively to the requirements of an automated environment.

Current situation

- CITES e-permitting standards, as published in the CITES e-permitting toolkit is integrated in the WCO Data Model v 3.3

- This will facilitate interoperability among CITES systems
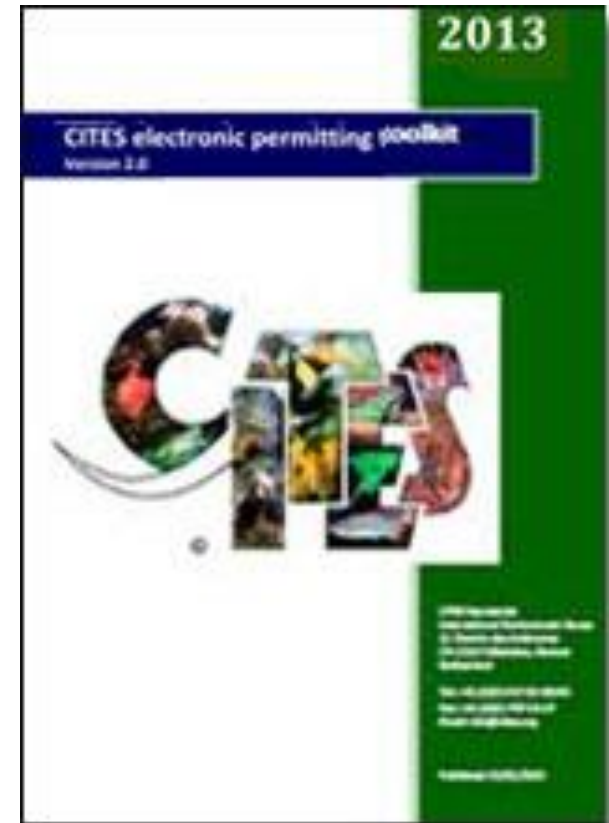
Current situation

Single Windows

- Aimed at enhancing the efficient exchange of information between trade and government, a Single Window is a facility that allows parties involved in international trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfill all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements

Current situation

Single Windows and ASEAN

the official website of the
Association of Southeast Asian Nations
one vision, one identity, one community

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ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)

Sectoral Bodies under the Purview of AEM

Competition Policy

Consumer Protection

Customs

External Economic Relations

Agreement to Establish and Implement the ASEAN Single Window
Kuala Lumpur, 9 December 2005

The Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereinafter referred to as "Lao PDR"), Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Member Countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (hereinafter collectively referred to as "ASEAN" or "Member Countries" or individually as "Member Country"):

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Current situation

Single Windows in Colombia

Biodiversity e-trade developments

- The Management Authorities of Switzerland and the United Kingdom established a pilot project on the use of CITES electronic systems (Czech Republic joined in the fall of 2010. Guatemala has voiced interest in joining).

- The project tested and validated the recommended standards found in the CITES e-permitting toolkit
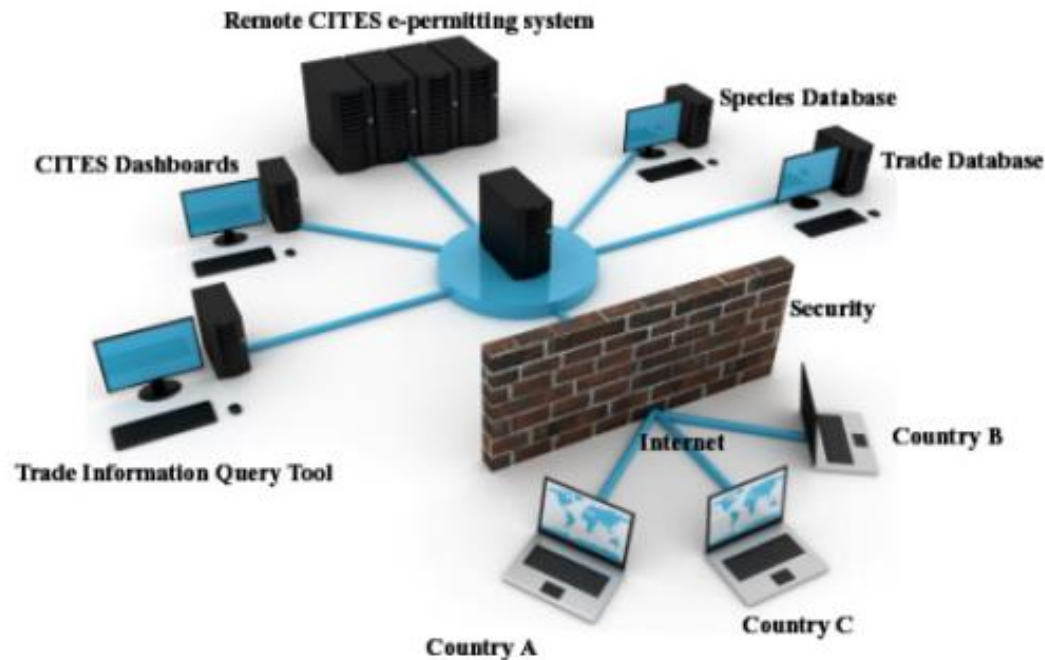
Biodiversity e-trade developments

- The Management Authorities of France and Switzerland are implementing a project with French/Swiss Customs to make the CITES business process fully electronic.

- This project is based on the CITES e-permitting toolkit and the WCO Data Model.

- It will ensure full interoperability between the French and Swiss CITES permitting systems

Biodiversity e-trade developments

- A funding proposal was also drafted with UNEP-WCMC to offer Least Developed Countries a CITES e-permitting out-of-the-box solution…

Biodiversity e-trade developments

The Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (OTCA) is working with the CITES Secretariat in a project to implement CITES e-permitting systems among member countries.

Biodiversity e-trade developments

The success achieved by the CITES Secretariat/OTCA project seeded an additional 10 million Euro financial cooperation project funded by the German KfW Development Bank.

This new project will focus on development of infrastructure to better support CITES e-permitting systems

Biodiversity e-trade developments

- CITES Secretariat is working with the Air Transport Association (IATA) on its project called e-freight

- IATA e-freight initiative is a joint air cargo industry programme of carriers, forwarders and Customs, led by IATA

- It is aimed at eliminating the need to produce and transports all paper documents for air cargo shipments

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What does this mean for sustainable and legal trade

E-permitting and sustainable/legal trade

Discussions with UNEP-WCMC on how to offer Parties the opportunity to register trade data (from e-permits) directly onto the Trade Database on issuance and receipt
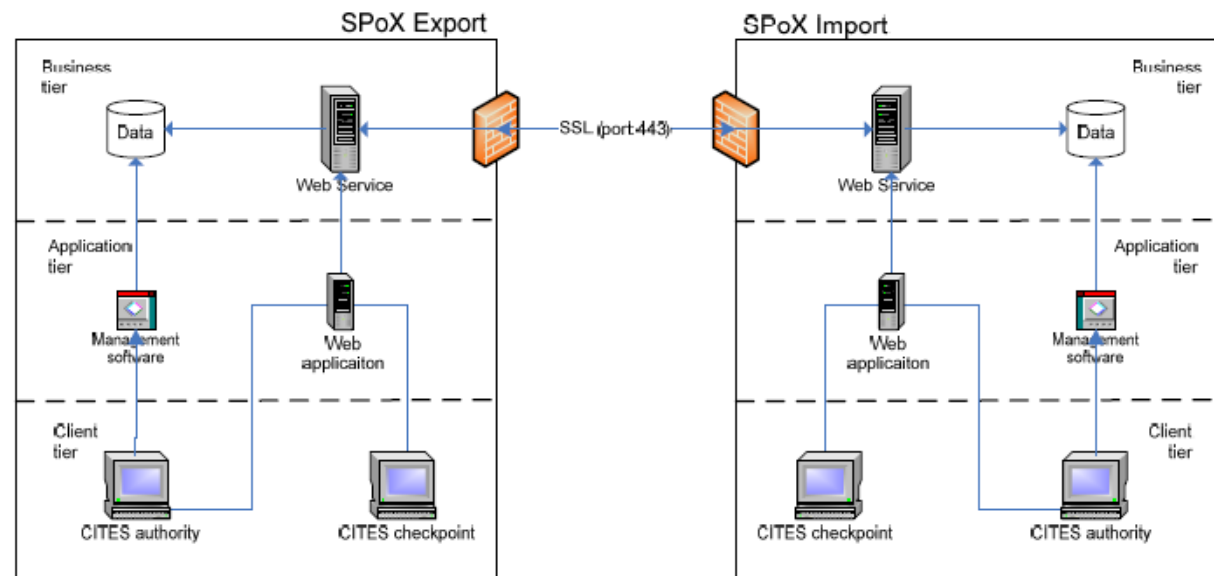
E-permitting and sustainable/legal trade

- A project between the CITES Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC is near completion to develop a database driven CITES Checklist

- It will be possible for a user completing a CITES e-permit to "pull" the scientific name and other relevant information directly into the correct fields of the permit.

E-permitting and sustainable/legal trade

- Electronic permitting also creates opportunities for business processes to be optimized and the "goods" in transit to be traced

E-permitting and sustainable/legal trade

In summary, CITES e-permits offer:

Easier reporting

More up-to-date data (for NDFs, Sig Trade, monitoring, etc.)

Decreases in the rate of error

Traceability and authentication

Decrease in opportunities for fraud

E-permitting and sustainable/legal trade

In summary, CITES e-permits offer:

Generation of CITES related documentation (Checklist, maybe a clickable Appendices, etc.)

More opportunities for other products

CITES e-permitting systems

To ensure that international trade in CITES-listed species is legal, sustainable and traceable

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Geneva

www.cites.org