



Course Syllabus

Learning objectives

Levels of exploitation of some animal and plant species are high and the trade in them, together with other factors, such as habitat loss, is capable of heavily depleting their populations and even bringing some species close to extinction.

Many wildlife species in trade are not endangered, but the existence of an agreement to ensure the sustainability of the trade is important in order to safeguard these resources for the future.

This course introduces you to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which is an international agreement to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe the core components and mechanisms established by the Convention;
2. Explain the three Appendices of the Convention.

Content and duration

This online course is comprised of 5 lessons, which provide relevant information about the different aspects of the Convention. The lessons are organized in interactive modules that combine the course theory with exercises and interactions that will facilitate the learning process.

This core content of the lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publications and external websites.

It will take you approximately 90 minutes to complete the course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

Completion certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new courses and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course outline and content

Lesson 1: Introduction

Context and History; Objective and Purpose; Structure of the CITES Bodies.

Lesson 2: Scope of Application

Definitions; Appendices.

Lesson 3: Implementation

National Law; Permits and Certificates; Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs).

Lesson 4: Compliance and Enforcement

Compliance and Enforcement.

Lesson 5: Sustainable Development and the Future

Sustainable Development and the Future.