

# Introductory Course to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

## 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

## Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 2 lessons. Each unit includes a lesson from CITES Virtual College and additional reading materials.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 1 hour approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

## Assessment and 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 course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
<b>Unit 1- Introduction</b>	1. CITES Overview Content from the CITES Virtual College	1. Describe what the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is and how it operates and regulates trade
<b>Unit 2 –Protected Species</b>	1. CITES Protected Species Content from the CITES Virtual College	1. Identify the main instruments used by CITES to protect species of wildlife 2. Determine CITES permit requirements using available CITES tools 3. Consult the CITES Appendices



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