



**Roundtable Discussion on support activities for the
implementation of CITES
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Background

- ✓ Initiative of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (1996)
- ✓ Quebec Summit in 2001 also emphasized the need to advance hemispheric conservation of plants, animals and ecosystems through networks such as the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) and cooperation in the fight against illegal trade in wildlife.
- ✓ Santa Cruz +10: Emphasis in Effective Enforcement of Laws and Regs that support CITES implementation



Efforts in support of CITES

- ✓ Facilitating exchange of information and experiences in environmental law through different cooperative mechanisms and partnerships, including the [Inter-American Forum on Environmental Law](#) which supports countries to strengthen their environmental laws and policies and their effective enforcement by promoting compliance.
- ✓ Promoting use of economic instruments for conservation combined with command and control.
- ✓ Supporting countries in the promotion of strategies to address the loss of habitat for wildlife, including the effective implementation of laws, policies and regulations that address the protection of wild flora and fauna and the illegal trade in endangered species.



Efforts in support of CITES



- ✓ Work to strengthen trade and environment related capacities in member states in the context of their bilateral-regional trade negotiations.
- ✓ Technical assistance to conduct environmental/sustainability assessments of trade in 12 countries of the region.
- ✓ Technical and scientific collaboration for the collection, exchange, and use of biodiversity information relevant to decision-making and education through IABIN.



Environmental Law and Governance

- *National Focal Points from 34 countries in the Americas*
- *Network of Civil Society Organizations*
- *Priorities within Environmental Law and Governance*
 - *Trade, Investment and Environment*
 - *Peru Assessment (Focus on Forestry Sector and Mahogany CITES ANNEX II)*
 - *DR-CAFTA Monitoring Progress of ECA Agenda (Approx 24 projects funded within ECA from 2005 to date)*
 - *Market Based instruments for Conservation*
 - *Strategies for implementation of PES including support for enabling legal conditions, see: <http://www.oas.org/dsd>*



Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

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- ✓ IABIN: Focus on use of information for decision making
- ✓ National Focal Points from 34 countries in the Americas
- ✓ Governmental and inter-governmental organizations, NGOs, academia, natural history collections and private sector
- ✓ IABIN Council / IABIN Executive Committee
- ✓ Collaboration with initiatives at the Global, Regional and National Levels.





IABIN MAIN GOALS

- ✓ Create infrastructure for a distributed information sharing network
 - *Institutional structure*
 - *Standards (taxonomy, metadata, etc.)*
 - *Interface development*
- ✓ Identify existing resources
- ✓ Increase Internet access and connectivity
- ✓ Fill information gaps relevant to decision-making



Sharing biological knowledge across international borders

Thematic Networks

