

MAKING TRADE A POSITIVE FORCE IN THE WORLD



UKRI GCRF Trade, Development
and the Environment Hub

UK Research
and Innovation

THE CHALLENGE

The trade in wild and farmed species has amazing potential for creating long-term jobs and boosting economic growth, particularly in countries with a lower income.

However, it's often difficult to make this potential a reality. Collecting too many wild animals or plants causes populations to crash, while demand for agricultural land for crops removes natural habitat for wildlife.

This degradation has very real knock-on effects for marginalised people – if a forest empties of wildlife or is cleared for farms owned by large corporations, there is nothing left to live upon. Over-use and unequal distribution of resources also makes the world unlikely to reach international ambitions such as the Sustainable Development Goals.

OUR SOLUTION

Revealing trade links

The UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund is funding the UKRI GCRF Trade, Development and the Environment Hub, led by the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. It is the first research hub of its kind, bringing together over 50 organisations from 15 different countries to make trade a force for good in the world.

Together, these partners from industry, trade agencies, academia, governments and civil society will study all stages of the supply chain, revealing damaging links and pathways for lasting change.

We will investigate the trends and impacts of trade in:

- wildlife
- wild meat
- agricultural goods

Their trade will be traced across Brazil, Cameroon, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Indonesia, Republic of Congo, and Tanzania, as well as globally.



The impacts of trade

Mapping each good's journey, all the way from their origin, through trading companies and to the consumer, will reveal their full impact on people and the natural world.

When combined with our analysis of the underlying economic systems, we will be able to provide recommendations on how to sustainably produce, trade and consume wild products and goods, as well as help companies to understand their products' full environmental impact.

A POWERFUL TOOL FOR UNDERSTANDING HOW OUR DECISIONS AS CONSUMERS AFFECT THE PLANET

Modelling the future

We will inject all this information into a global model which predicts how shifts in trade routes will affect both people and nature. Working alongside companies, as well as including trade rules and investment guidelines, will make this model a powerful tool for understanding how our decisions as consumers affect the planet.

Beyond the Hub

Using the latest technologies and strong partnerships, we will develop tools for countries, companies and decision makers so they can take this work forward – helping to make trade a positive force well into the future.



Above chart: Matrix of wild and non-wild products in trade

Images clockwise from left: Wildmeat on sale in African market, Sam D'Cruz, Adobe Stock; Woman plucking Arabica coffee berries, Bonga, Adobe Stock

PARTNERS

AB Sustain

Asda

Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand)

Beijing Normal University (China)

Bogor Agricultural University (Indonesia)

BonSucro

Brazilian Center of Analysis and Planning (Brazil)

Centre for Conservation and Sustainability Science (CSRio) at
Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

Centre for Mountain Ecosystem Studies, Kunming Institute of
Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences (China)

Chatham House (UK)

China Chamber of Commerce of Metals Minerals & Chemicals
Importers & Exporters (China)

CIFOR (Indonesia)

Congo Basin Institute (Cameroon)

École régionale post-universitaire d'aménagement et de gestion
intégrés des forêts tropicales, University of Kinshasa (DRC)

Efecca

Fundação de Estudos Agrários Luiz de Queiroz (Brazil)

ICRAF (Indonesia)

Imaflora (Brazil)

Ingredion

International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (China)

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria)

International Institute for Market Research, Chinese Academy of
International Trade and Economic Cooperation (China)

International Institute for Sustainability (Brazil)

ISEAL

Kering

London School of Economics (UK)

Luc Hoffmann Institute (Switzerland)

Mars

Research Institute for Tropical Ecology (Gabon)

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (UK)

Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania)

Stockholm Environment Institute (Sweden)

UN Environment Finance Initiative

UN Environment Trade Hub

UNEP-WCMC (UK)

University College London (UK)

University of California, Irvine (USA)

University of Cambridge - CISL and Zoology (UK)

University of Indonesia (Indonesia)

University of Kent (UK)

University of Lampung (Indonesia)

University of Oxford (UK)

University of Reading (UK)

University of Southampton (UK)

University of Stirling (UK)

University of York (UK)

Wageningen University (Netherlands)

Wildlife Conservation Society (USA)

World Resources Institute (USA)

WWF-UK (UK)

WWF-Br (Brazil)

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