

APPENDIX III

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS: ACTIONS TO SUPPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

For each recommendation, we established here a list of concrete actions that support and underlie the overall statement as well as offering suggestions to implement it.

These actions do not necessarily reflect the views of the FPS and the authors. They summarise the discussions and propositions made by the participants at the conference.

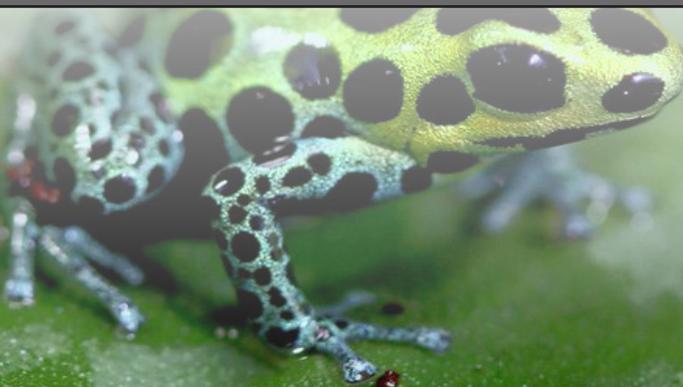
IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE TRADE SYSTEM FOR REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

A sustainable trade system can be implemented by

- discouraging trade in wild animals, while promoting captive breeding
- establishing efficient and effective biosecurity measures minimizing the presence of pathogens throughout the supply chain
- engaging all concerned actors towards improvement of conservation and sustainable use (researchers; hobbyists; professional keepers, breeders, importers and exporters; NGOs; civil society; government; policy-makers at national, European and international level)
- facilitating collaborations between actors by implementing sound trade monitoring
- encouraging knowledge exchange among actors

CONCRETE ACTIONS

- Put relevant and efficient biosecurity procedures and measures (e.g. SOP or Standard Operating Procedures) in place to protect animals, humans and the environment;
- Establish a regulation and/or certification system to ensure the sustainability of the trade system and the traceability of the traded animals;
- Establish a licensing system for importers as well as for traders;
- Develop standards for traders/exporters/range states involved in wildlife trade;
- Set up campaigns of information and awareness-raising towards pet owners so they can make informed decisions when buying animals.



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IMPROVE THE LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS

Legal and policy frameworks can be improved in Europe and therefore in European Member States by:

- ensuring current legal and policy frameworks are fit for purpose encompassing biodiversity, human health, animal health and animal-welfare concerns
- explicitly addressing non-CITES listed amphibians and reptiles in the legal and policy frameworks
- timely adapting the frameworks with new developments where needed, notably the adoption of a specific custom code for amphibians
- ensuring proper enforcement by public authorities by providing adequate capacity and tools
- ensuring proper compliance by the global supply chain

CONCRETE ACTIONS

- Consider a complete ban of trade on all wild-caught reptiles and amphibians;
- Consider a ban on species which haven't been described and risk assessed yet;
- Consider establishing negative or black lists of reptile and amphibian species (meaning: which are unsuitable or prohibited to be kept as pet);
- Establish positive lists at EU level, or develop European recommendations for national positive lists;
- Consider developing a European equivalent of the US Lacey Act;
- Include the online trade in the legal and policy frameworks;
- Establish a system for sharing good practices between member states;
- Put in place a uniform system of registrations numbers for breeders and sellers;
- Improve the identification systems at controls and register the seized samples at species level.



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INVEST IN SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

Scientific knowledge can be improved by:

- better characterising the volumes, sources, pathways of introduction, biological status and potential risks of traded reptiles and amphibians at national, EU and international level
- improving data acquisition by increasing controls at borders and in pet shops taking into account sociological, economic, biological, epidemiological and legal approaches
- establishing reliable, transparent and traceable dataflows on traded species following FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) and allowing reproducible data analysis and interpretation
- strengthening research on pathogens for consideration in risk analysis processes

CONCRETE ACTIONS

- Develop a central European Biodiversity database on traded species, at species level;
- Produce complete and detailed documentation on the wildlife trade and document all species at import;
- Enhance the knowledge on trade by acquiring data through various means like controls at airports;
- DNA analyses at border checks, in commercial establishments including pet shops or fairs, from scientific field work, etc.;
- Fund more research to assess the status of reptiles and amphibians in the wild and ensure the information is up to date;
- Fund more research on pathogens and the role of trade in spreading them.

