

# Strengthening Capacity for Monitoring and Regulation of International Trade of African Grey Parrot

Title



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2013

**Funding:** CITES Secretariat

**Implemented by:** Cameroon Biodiversity Conservation Society (CBCS), Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL), Lukuru Foundation, Society for the Conservation of Nature in Liberia (SCNL) and SOS Forêts - Ivory Coast.

The **African Grey Parrot** (*Psittacus erithacus* and *P. timneh*) is one of the world's most heavily-traded birds, and is found throughout much of West and Central Africa. It is declining in a large portion of its range, with trapping for trade implicated as a major cause.

Poor information on the status of the species, coupled with low capacity in exporting countries has meant that the international trade has long been ill-informed and poorly-managed. This

project directly addresses these problems, by providing tools and support to foster a sustainable trade.

Working with partners in five countries where CITES considers the trade to be of particular concern - Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Liberia and Sierra Leone - BirdLife has designed and pilot-tested methods for rapidly estimating AGP population sizes; methods which will provide the foundation for surveying and monitoring to inform scientifically sound sustainable harvest quotas and management.

**Working with national CITES Authorities**, BirdLife is supporting the development of National AGP Management Plans, and initiating the process of drawing up a Regional Management Plan.

A workshop in Liberia will bring together Government, NGO and academic participants from the five focal countries and beyond, to share experiences and forge a way forward for the long-term conservation and management of the species.