

Dr. Susan Lieberman

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Dr. Susan Lieberman has worked in international biodiversity conservation, at the intersection between science and policy, for more than 25 years, and has extensive experience working on international wildlife trade, including through CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). In 2013, she was appointed as a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on Wildlife Trafficking. She is currently the Executive Director of Conservation Policy for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), where she works to direct WCS policy engagement in multiple intergovernmental fora in support of WCS' conservation programs to conserve wildlife and wild places, working closely with governments, intergovernmental organizations, NGO partners, and others. One of the top priorities of her work with WCS is on illegal wildlife trade. Prior to joining WCS, she worked as Senior Director, International Policy at the Pew Charitable Trusts, focusing on regional fisheries management organizations, CITES, and other intergovernmental organizations, including the United Nations, to provide science-based research and policy analysis to ensure the sustainability of marine species and ecosystems.

From 2001 to 2009, Dr. Lieberman was the Director of the Species Programme of WWF-International, based in Europe. She led all programmatic, scientific, and communications aspects of work on endangered and threatened species at the global level, as well as all international policy issues pertaining to species conservation, including international wildlife trade. She directed WWF programs on the conservation of species of international conservation concern, including tigers, African and Asian elephants, African and Asian rhinos, giant pandas, African and Asian great apes, whales, marine turtles, and polar bears. She also directed WWF's science-based policy and advocacy pertaining to several international treaties, including CITES. She worked for the US Government at the US Fish and Wildlife Service (including as Chief of the Scientific Authority) from 1990-2001. She conducted postdoctoral research on tortoises in Mexico and on prosimians. Her Ph.D. research at the University of Southern California focused on tropical ecology and amphibians and reptiles in Costa Rica.