

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority



**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

Philip Bowles

IUCN Biodiversity
Assessment Unit
c/o Conservation
International,
Washington, DC, US

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

58

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority is to undertake and support IUCN Red List assessments for reptile groups not covered by other Specialist Groups, including most snakes and lizards and the New Zealand Tuatara (*Sphenodon punctatus*), and to curate IUCN's global taxonomy for these groups.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Providing a comprehensive overview of each species' conservation needs, made publicly accessible to conservation managers in the range states. There is an increased focus during the reassessments on the Conservation Actions section of Red Listing to ensure useful, actionable recommendations to improve species' status are included where possible and necessary. Collaboration with the Conservation Planning Specialist Group continues and has already been used to help identify priority areas for conservation of Philippine vertebrates this quadrennium.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Ensure all snake and lizard assessments more than 10 years old are in compliance with the 10-year rule by the end of 2023 (ca. 2,750 species).

T-002 Lead on implementing the first four years of the second Global Reptile Assessment, with the estimated completion of at least 25 assessment projects by the end of 2025.

T-004 Ensure all new species described by 2025 are included on the Red List, including ca. 1,000 species described prior to 2020 that were not part of the Global Reptile Assessment.

NETWORK

T-003 Increase capacity within the Red List Authority for Red Listing independent of the Chair, including recruiting additional regional coordinators and Red List training.

Activities and results 2021

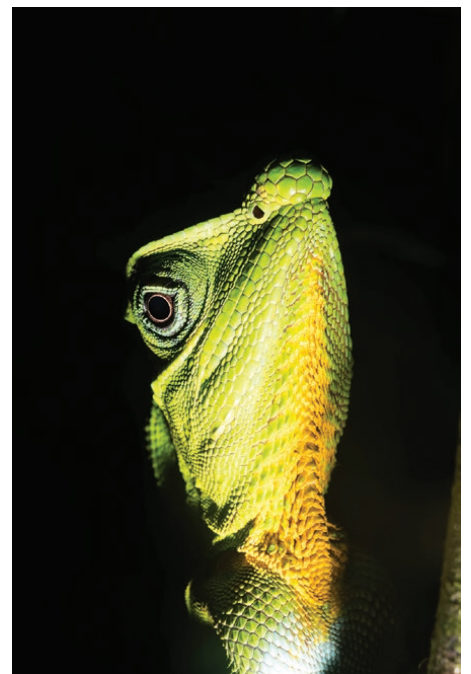
ASSESS

Red List

T-001 (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 25

Result description: As with the new descriptions, this figure is just for the few species



Lyre-headed Lizard (*Lyriocephalus scutatus*), Vulnerable, Sinharaja Forest Reserve, Sri Lanka, 2019
Photo: Philip Bowles



Malagasy Ground Boa (*Acrantophis madagascariensis*), Least Concern, Akanin'ny nofy ('The Palmarium'), eastern Madagascar, 2017
 Photo: Philip Bowles

that have proceeded to submission this year (in addition to those published this year that were submitted previously). As most assessment work on reptiles this year took place after the second submission deadline, there are several hundred species (200 each from China and the Philippines, and around 150 from Europe) that are all due to be either finalised or reassessed in the first half of next year that have not been included. Of these, the Philippine species were assessed this year and work has been underway on updating the European ones, with updates to the Chinese assessments getting underway at the very end of 2021.

T-002 (KSR 6)

Number of regional assessment projects completed: 3

Result description: Projects fully completed for the Seychelles and Comoros, with the assessment stage of the Philippines complete other than receiving feedback on several final queries. Work is ongoing on two further projects, and in the planning or concept stage for 5–6 more (Madagascar, Mexico, North America, Cape Verde, Arabian Peninsula and Socotra).

T-004 (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 19

Result description: In 2021, over 100 never previously assessed species were assessed for the first time, mostly as part of the Philippine reassessment, though most are not yet fully complete. In addition to the Philippines, assessments were prepared and submitted for three new species of *Heloderma* from Mexico and Guatemala, several new species of *Oedura*, and for new descriptions from the Comoros and Seychelles. New species of *Lepidodactylus* and *Cyrtodactylus* are presently in review, and new descriptions are included in the ongoing reassessments for China and Europe. The figure given here is just for the species that were submitted this year, a distinct minority of the work completed.

NETWORK

Membership

T-003 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 5

Result description: I've identified and reached out to several additional people, including confirming the appointment of a Regional Coordinator for north-eastern Asia (Korea and China), but haven't yet formally sent out invitations through the system – now planned for early in the New Year.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the snake and lizard Specialist Groups, especially Skinks, Monitor Lizards, and Vipers, all of whom were involved in projects underway this year. Thanks also in particular to the support of Conservation International-Philippines, the Philippine Department of Natural Resources and the Rainforest Trust for support for the Philippine reassessments.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 4

Geographic regions: 4 Global

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 3 (KSR 6)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

