

IUCN SSC / CEESP Biodiversity & Family Planning Task Force



CO-CHAIR

Carina Hirsch

Margaret Pyke Trust



CO-CHAIR

David Johnson

Margaret Pyke Trust

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

25

Mission statement

Removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning can strengthen conservation outcomes and contribute to climate change adaptation and resilience building. By implementing WCC-2020-Res-072 *Importance for the conservation of nature of removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning*, this inter-Commission Task Force will operate for two IUCN quadrennial periods, commencing in 2021 and ending in 2028. The overarching objective of the Task Force is to support IUCN to embed the importance of removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning in relevant processes, policies and guidance materials.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Individuals representing IUCN, its Commissions, Members and other constituent parts, have increased knowledge of the importance of rights-based voluntary family planning (and the complementary benefits for biodiversity conservation and climate adaptation and resilience, of meeting the reproductive needs of women and girls). IUCN policies and procedures begin to change to recognise that SDG target 3.7, “ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information

and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes” is critical not only for health, wellbeing and empowerment targets, but can also strengthen conservation outcomes.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-004 Develop a work plan on how to support the process of seeking changes to National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in general and/or a work plan on changing a specific NBSAP.

PLAN

T-005 Develop (a) an education and training programme on how improved reproductive health benefits women’s and girls’ health and empowerment, reduces pressures on ecosystems and ecosystems services, and enhances sustainable development, and how such issues can be included in project planning; and (b) a delivery plan on the roll out of such training programme to benefit not fewer than 1,000 IUCN representatives.

NETWORK

T-001 Finalise Task Force Terms of Reference, following best international practice in relation to the Task Force membership in terms of geographical, gender and relevant topical diversity, and that no fewer than 20 experienced individuals are admitted to the Task Force.

T-002 Formalise relationship with Focal Points at the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), SSC and other relevant IUCN bodies and establish a plan on how those Commissions and bodies can further the work of the Task Force.

T-003 Establish a formal partnership with organisation(s) which can be used as the relevant national focal point to work with the Task Force to seek to influence a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan(s).

COMMUNICATE

T-006 Share publication promoting the Task Force with conservation and health organisations.

T-007 Share one publication on rights-based reproductive health indicators.

T-008 Produce a publication reporting on the importance of broader applicability of barriers to family planning needs.

T-009 Deliver the education and training programme on family planning and biodiversity.

T-010 Promote the outcome of the Task Force’s NBSAP work plan.



The IUCN Biodiversity & Family Planning Task Force was launched at COP26 in Glasgow, at the event «Removing barriers to health and education»
Photo: BFPTF archives

Activities and results 2021

PLAN

Planning

T-005 (KSR 8)

Number of technical documents to support the development of conservation plans/strategies: ongoing

Result description: We have developed concepts for a series of modules representing the priority areas of learning on this topic. We are delighted that numerous Task Force members will be inputting their particular expertise in conservation, demography, reproductive rights and integrated programming to ensure the training modules are rich, interesting and speak to conservationists' desire and need to speak on and engage with authority and nuance on this topic.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-003 (KSR 3)

Number of SSC members recruited: ongoing

Result description: This is an exciting area of work which we are developing and are focusing particularly on Ethiopia and Uganda, working closely with partners in these countries, whose representatives are also members of the Task Force. At this stage, we are seeking to better understand the extent to which health is already (or not)

considered within environmental planning and policy documents and how we can influence these processes. We are also working with health partners to better understand where opportunities lie within that sector to influence such policies and documents.

Membership

T-001 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: achieved

Result description: We are happy to report the Task Force has a balanced membership in terms of gender, geographical representation and topical areas of expertise. The membership is active in regular Task Force meetings, the established working groups and also responding to ad hoc opportunities to influence policy and/or input into policy consultations, such as as the recent UK Government's 2030 Strategic Framework for International Climate and Nature Action, for which the Task Force made its own submission.

T-002 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: ongoing

Result description: We are delighted to be working closely with a variety of IUCN representatives, particularly within CEESP and SSC. For example, even before the establishment of the Task Force, we worked closely with the Chair of the Gender Specialist Group within CEESP and are now continuing to foster this important relationship. There are numerous members of the

SSC represented on the Task Force providing excellent support and professional insights. Furthermore, the SSC Network Coordinator and their team have been instrumental in providing guidance to us in our 'start up' phase and have also inspired us to think beyond the next few years towards a long-term vision of the work to mainstream barriers to family planning as a conservation issue. There are many others within IUCN, including the Gender office, with whom we are working to ensure the gender and empowerment agenda is more embedded within IUCN policies, documents and overall workplans.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 10

Geographic regions: 10 Global

Actions during 2021:

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 3 (KSR 2, 3)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

