

IUCN SSC Post-2020 Biodiversity Targets Task Force



CHAIR
Philip McGowan
Newcastle University,
UK

NUMBER OF MEMBERS
23

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Website: <https://research.ncl.ac.uk/biodiversitypost2020/>

Mission statement

The IUCN SSC Post-2020 Biodiversity Targets Task Force aims to provide a focus and leadership on species issues in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), through coordination with the IUCN Secretariat. The Task Force seeks to do this by collating inputs and views from across the SSC network and providing scientific and technical expertise on species related target(s).

Projected impact 2021–2025

Enhanced scientific input about species into Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework resulting in a clearer statement of global species policy priorities. Engagement with CBD bodies and process to support implementation of species aspects of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-003 Continue assessment of species inputs needed into the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (e.g. indicators and communication).

T-004 Assess needs that will enhance implementation of the species components of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (e.g. capacity building, research, communication, access to expertise).

PLAN

T-005 Work with IUCN to promote Species Threat Abatement and Restoration as a planning tool for countries to plan how to reduce species extinction risk.

NETWORK

T-001 Secure support for network coordination.

T-002 Refresh the Task Force, with a view to Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework implementation and widening the membership to include early career species conservationists.

COMMUNICATE

T-006 Maintain continual communication with the IUCN Secretariat and attendance at CBD meetings.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Communication

T-003 (KSR 5)

Contributions to IUCN's overall Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework positions and statements, and to CBD meetings: ongoing

Result description: We made numerous contributions to IUCN Position Papers, negotiating positions, and statements at CBD meetings on species issues. These have increasingly drawn together other SSC entities (Task Forces, Specialist Groups and Conservation Committees) and the IUCN Secretariat and member organisations around particularly challenging issues.

Policy

T-004 (KSR 5)

Internal assessment for Task Force and wider SSC and IUCN. Potential publication: ongoing

Result description: Support was secured in 2021 for a short piece of work to scope out capacity development needs for species in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. This worked with the Task Force to consider needs and alighted on two particular needs. First, is the need to support countries in identifying which Action Targets will best lead to positive species outcomes (i.e. achieve species elements in Goal A), as these will vary from country to country. Second, is the need to support countries in identifying species that will need targeted recovery actions under Target 4, which will also vary from country to country. An editorial will appear in *Oryx* in April/May 2022, that is intended to start a discussion about capacity development needs for species.

PLAN

Planning

T-005 (KSR 8)

Number of plans invited/endorsed by national governments/conservation authorities: 0

Result description: An interim committee has been established to provide overall strategic direction and cohesion to advancing the scientific rigour, relationships with



Recently Red List uplisted Critically Endangered Maleo (*Macrocephalon maleo*), from Sulawesi, Indonesia
Photo: Kevin Schafer/ALTO

end users, and maintenance of the Species Threat Abatement and Restoration (STAR) metric. The Task Force Chair is co-chairing this committee and the potential for this committee to sit under the Red List Committee is being explored. The committee has draft Terms of Reference, has held one meeting and is establishing its full membership.

NETWORK

Membership

T-001 (KSR 2)

Increased capacity of the Task Force (and hence SSC): ongoing

Result description: Support was secured that will last until the end of 2022, when it is expected that the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be adopted. Further support will be needed thereafter, depending on the needs for engagement with CBD.

T-002 (KSR 3)

Number of policy-engaged members: 23

Result description: This target will be initiated when the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework has been adopted. As the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP15) has been delayed repeatedly from autumn 2020 and is now scheduled for late summer/autumn 2022,

we have still not started this target. It does not make sense to refresh the membership until there is an agreed Framework and a clear sense of how SSC can and should engage. Therefore, at present, we will continue with the existing Task Force membership, which was developed in order to promote generation and communication of scientific information to inform the species elements of the framework during negotiations.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-006 (KSR 12)

Number of contributions to IUCN position papers and responses to consultations: ongoing

Result description: As stated under Target T-003, we made numerous contributions to IUCN Position Papers, negotiating positions, and statements at CBD meetings on species issues. These have increasingly drawn together other SSC entities (Task Forces, Specialist Groups and Conservation Committees) and the IUCN Secretariat and IUCN member organisations around particularly challenging issues. There has been attendance from across the Task Force at CBD meetings, both in person and virtually.

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Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 6

Geographic regions: 5 Global, 1 Europe

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 2 (KSR 5)

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 2 (KSR 2, 3)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

