

IUCN SSC Pangolin Specialist Group



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

185

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: @PangolinSG

Instagram: @pangolinsg

Twitter: @PangolinSG

Website: <https://www.pangolinsg.org>

YouTube: IUCN SSC Pangolin Specialist Group

Mission statement

The mission of the Pangolin Specialist Group (PSG) is to work within the framework of the IUCN SSC to secure a future for wild pangolins through advancing knowledge on pangolin status, threats and conservation priorities, and by catalysing action to conserve them.

Projected impact 2021–2025

By 2025, the IUCN SSC Pangolin Specialist Group will have provided critical information, tools, and guidance to pangolin range states and other key stakeholders to support the development of targeted and impactful research and conservation programmes for pangolins.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-012 Update global Red List assessments for the eight pangolin species by 2025.

T-013 Encourage, support and facilitate member-driven pangolin research initiatives to better understand targeted pangolin conservation initiatives.

T-014 Formalise and maintain a pangolin trade, trafficking and seizure database.

PLAN

T-015 Update the global conservation action plan 'Scaling Up Pangolin Conservation' by 2024.

T-016 Develop range-wide or regional conservation strategies for African pangolin species following the One Plan Approach by the end of 2025.

T-017 Develop range-wide or regional conservation strategies for Asian pangolin species and populations not covered by existing strategies by the end of 2025.

T-018 Produce an updated authoritative report on the status, trade, conservation and legislation affording protection to pangolins for the CITES Standing Committee to be submitted to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC74).

T-019 Contribute scientific and technical expertise to CITES meetings.

ACT

T-020 Respond to requests for technical support from IUCN, SSC, governments and other stakeholders.

T-021 Publish technical guidance documents to support specific priority conservation interventions for pangolins globally.

T-022 Publish position statements on critical pangolin conservation interventions/issues.

T-028 Publish and circulate a guidance document for first responders on handling live seized pangolins by 2021.

T-029 Publish a guidance document on best practices of live transport of pangolins by 2025.

T-030 Publish pangolin scale seizure conversion tool by 2023.

T-031 Publish and circulate a guidance document on rescued pangolin translocation by 2025.

T-032 Distribute a guidance document on methods for detecting and monitoring pangolin populations to key stakeholders by 2023.

T-033 Publish a guidance document on Safe and Sustainable Pangolin Tourism Practices by 2023.

T-034 Publish a guidance document on collecting, storing, transporting, etc., pangolin genetic, stable isotope and other samples for laboratory analysis by end of 2022.

NETWORK

T-001 Expand Pangolin Specialist Group membership to be more inclusive and representative of the diverse community of pangolin science, conservation and management expertise, and the 54 range states where pangolins occur, both in and ex situ, by 2025.



Pangolin pup yawning. This pup was born wild and free after its mother was successfully rescued and released back into the wild – a result of successful collaboration between law enforcement, veterinarians, community members, wildlife monitors, and PSG members in South Africa
Photo: Francois Meyer

T-002 Restructure and refresh the PSG advisory committee by 2022 to more effectively achieve our mission and targets, to be more representative of the regions where pangolins occur, as well as to better provide opportunities for mentorship and capacity building for emerging and future range state PSG leaders.

T-003 Convene Pangolin Specialist Group members to strengthen the network and advance dialogue on pressing pangolin conservation science, issues and solutions.

T-004 Ensure the PSG membership collectively develops community principles, vision, updated mission, goals, objectives, and actions and produces impactful outputs and outcomes relevant to the PSG mandate through participatory processes.

T-005 By 2022, develop a member portal as part of the PSG website, or other platform, to enhance member engagement, collaboration and access to resources.

T-006 Increase member capacity to engage in the Assess, Plan, Act conservation cycle and implement the One Plan Approach to conservation planning and implementation.

T-007 Establish more than one new formal partnership that will provide financial and institutional support to PSG by 2025.

T-008 Establish a 'Friends of the PSG' group to harness volunteer support for PSG financial, administrative and institutional needs by end of 2022.

T-009 Revive the Pangolin Specialist Group internship programme by end of 2022.

T-010 Continue building relationships with range state governments.

T-011 Increase the PSG profile through presence and participation in key global conservation fora.

T-027 Increase and secure core Pangolin Specialist Group funding, including development of PSG potential endowment.

COMMUNICATE

T-023 Share the Pangolin Specialist Group's activities through strategic and targeted communications.

T-024 Document and communicate successful local community engagement case studies to catalyse such engagement in other places for pangolin conservation.

T-025 Document and communicate successful law enforcement for interdiction of pangolin crime through case studies.

T-026 Develop materials for educators in formal and informal settings to educate and inspire school children about pangolins by 2025.

T-035 Create a mechanism for Pangolin Specialist Group members to share information and data by mid-2022.

Activities and results 2021

PLAN

Policy

T-018 (KSR 9)

Number of documents provided to support/guide policy making: 1

Result description: We completed the authoritative report on the status, trade, conservation and legislation affording protection to pangolins for the CITES Standing

Committee, which will be an Information Document at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CITES CoP19). A report on pangolin scale conversion parameters is in progress.

ACT

Policy

T-022 (KSR 10)

Number of position statements addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: A member consultation on a pangolin farming draft position statement was completed, and a new drafting group formed to incorporate member feedback and finalise.

Technical advice

T-020 (KSR 10)

Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 2

Result description: We are actively developing conversion parameters and informing government stakeholders in their use for determining number of pangolins in trafficking, in partnership with CITES. We responded to a request from a US federal agency on pangolins and their potential implication with the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

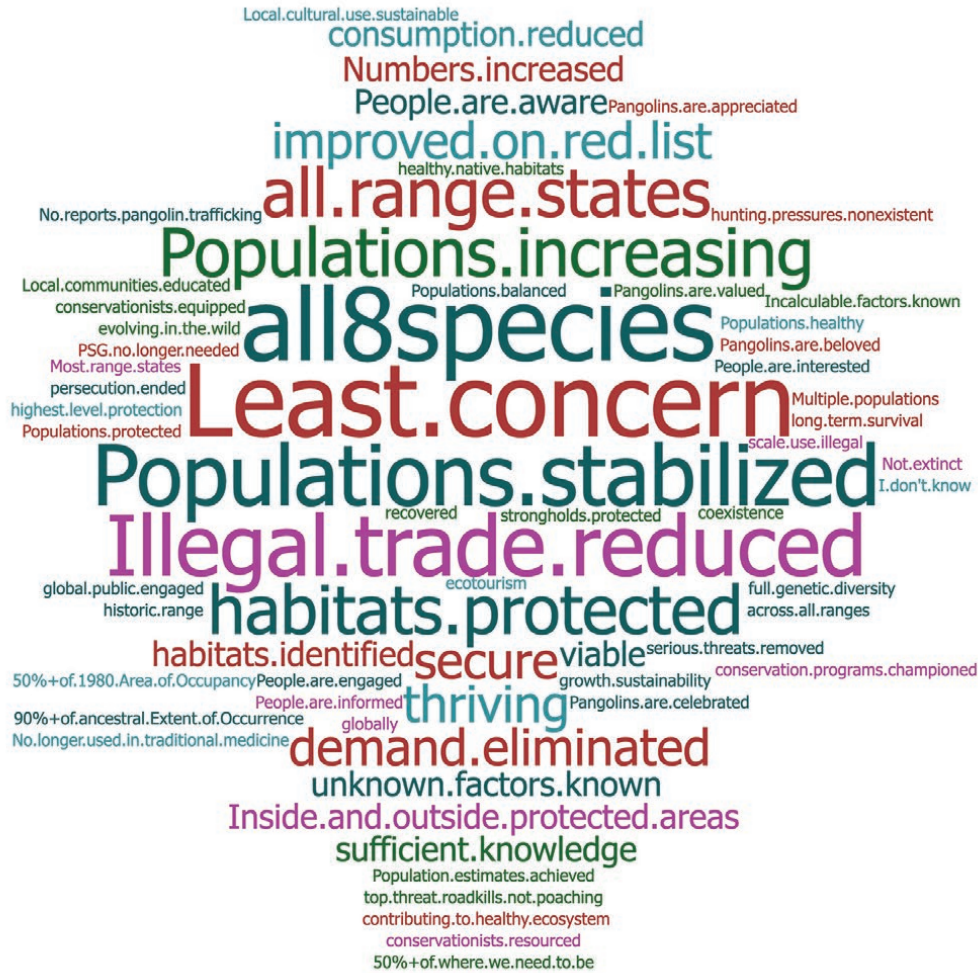
NETWORK

Capacity building

T-002 (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in management skills: 0

Result description: We developed and proposed a new Steering Committee structure and are currently accepting member



Word cloud developed by PSG members as part of the participatory process of developing a Vision for the group
 Photo: PSG archives



Teachers and students attending event organised for World Pangolin Day by Rasa Ria Reserve Shangri-La, Sabah Malaysia, and PSG member Elisa Panjang
 Photo: Elisa Panjang, Danau Girang Field Centre

applications for Steering Committee roles, including Regional Chairs, Thematic Vice Chairs and issue-specific Focal Points.

T-006 (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in conservation planning: 5

Result description: Five members, including the Co-Chair, completed the IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG) Facilitating Conservation Planning course. We have also developed a group of neutral, skilled facilitators, all of whom have CPSG training, to support PSG participatory member processes.

Membership

T-001 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 3

Result description: Three new members have been added to SSC thus far, with active requests for applications and a search for new member recruitment ongoing.

T-003 (KSR 2)

Number of meetings held: 3

Result description: Quarterly zoom meetings were held, providing two opportunities at each 'date' for PSG members to join and discuss PSG and other pangolin-related conservation issues.

Synergy

T-004 (KSR 2)

PSG Community Principles developed: 1

Result description: Community principles were developed and translated into two additional key operating languages: French and Chinese.

PSG Vision Statement developed: 1

Result description: The PSG Vision Statement was drafted through a group participatory process. It will be published on the PSG website.

SWOT analysis implemented with membership to inform goals of the quadrennium: 1

Result description: A participatory strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis was completed.

T-005 (KSR 2)

Portal created, populated and launched: 5

Result description: The process was initiated, we are in contact with IT personnel.

T-010 (KSR 4)

Number of government engagement activities conducted by Pangolin SG Leadership Committee or members on behalf of Pangolin SG: 1

Result description: We responded to the first US government Federal Register notice for recommendations for proposals and interventions at upcoming CITES CoP19. We also responded to a specific US government federal agency request to know more about pangolins and their potential involvement in the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

T-011 (KSR 3)

Number of Pangolin SG participants at key global conservation fora: 2

Result description: Two PSG members were sponsored to virtually participate in the 2021 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-023 (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 2

Result description: A Chair Blog was published for World Pangolin Day 2021, including other participation in World Pangolin Day on various social media networks.

Acknowledgements

The IUCN SSC Pangolin Specialist Group would first and foremost thank our members for their support and engagement in PSG meetings, decision-making, and outputs during 2021. Their dedication to this group's productivity as we transitioned to new leadership and put in place foundations for a larger, more active and inclusive group structure has been inspiring. We thank our institutional host, the Zoological

Society of London, for its ongoing support of our operations, and the IUCN SSC and the Global Centre for Species Survival for their support and advice throughout 2021. The PSG is fortunate to be supported by a dedicated group of IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group trained facilitators, including Jim Kao, Borja Reh, José Antonio Díaz Luque, Roopali Raghavan and Anna Ortega. Their efforts in support of pangolins and this community have been truly impactful. Finally, we thank Greenville Zoo and our numerous private donors for providing us with the means to continue supporting the pangolin conservation community and range states to secure a future for wild pangolins.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 35

Geographic regions: 31 Global, 3 Africa, 3 Asia

Actions during 2021:

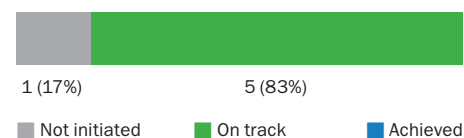
Plan: 1 (KSR 9)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 10 (KSR 2, 3, 4)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



■ Not initiated

■ On track

■ Achieved