IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group



2016-2017 Report



Nigel Collar

Chair

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Red List Authority Coordinator

BirdLife International

Location/Affiliation

BirdLife Global Office, The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge, CB2 3QZ, UK

Number of members

20



Mission statement

In process of creation.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

- Red List
- i. Assisting BirdLife with Red List reassessments of all bustard species. (KSR #4)

Communications

- Communication
- i. Ensuring frequent communication and high levels of information transfer through weekly news, research output and updates. (KSR #28)
- ii. Creation of a website for the Asian Houbara Project to communicate results widely (in both Arabic and English), with a specific focus on advocating for a new system of hunting control to help with making Houbara bustard hunting sustainable. (KSR #28)

Conservation action

- Research activities
- i. Excellent progress has been made generating key data on Asian Houbara *Chlamydotis macqueenii*, which has highlighted the need for hunting quotas and reserves in which all hunting is prohibited. (KSR #12)
- ii. The status of six Asian bustard species has been reviewed, to generate a collective judgement of all relevant bustard experts on the urgency of concerted action to be implemented with immediate effect. (KSR #32)

Policy

■ Policy advice

i. Assisted with providing policy advice on Asian Houbara, identifying the key elements in the effective delivery of 'sustainable hunting', through engagement with Arab falconers. (KSR #27)

Acknowledgements

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Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Conservation action

Research activity: To inspire immediate management interventions on a grand scale for all six species of Asian bustards.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

The project on assessing the six Asian bustard species will provide the basis for significant management interventions in the next three years and the Bustard Specialist Group (BSG) will be actively promoting these as well as fundraising for them. Without such interventions, these species will become extinct, some globally and some in Asia; therefore, this work is vital and an absolute priority for the BSG.



Lesser Florican (*Sypheotides indicus*), Endangered Photo: Gobind Sagar Bhardwaj

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 4/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (1 activity)
- Communications (2 activities)
- Conservation action (2 activities)
- Policy (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 4, 12, 27, 28, 32

KSR: Key Species Result