

IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group

2018 Report



Bibhab Kumar Talukdar

Chair

Bibhab Kumar Talukdar (1)

Red List Authority Coordinator

Susie Ellis (2)

Location/Affiliation

(1) Aaranyak, 50 Samanwoy Path (Survey),
Guwahati 781 028, India
(2) International Rhino Foundation

Number of members

67

Social networks

Facebook:

Asian Rhino Specialist Group

Website:

<https://rhinos.org/research-publications/iucn-asian-rhino-specialist-group/>

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Mission statement

Foster conservation and management of three species of Asian rhinos and their habitats.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By 2020, AsRSG intends to produce the Conservation Action Plans for Critically Endangered Javan Rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*), Critically Endangered Sumatran Rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) and Vulnerable Greater One-horned Rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) through consultation process, following latest guidelines framed by IUCN and by forming three working groups for the three species of Asian rhinos. Further for the upcoming CITES CoP, AsRSG shall generate the latest information from Asian rhinos to prepare the combined report of IUCN/SSC; Asian Rhino Specialist Group, IUCN/SSC; African Rhino Specialist Group and TRAFFIC International. In October or November 2018, AsRSG is planning to organise the 2nd Asian Rhino Range Country meeting in Guwahati, India, in collaboration with the Assam Government, in which ministers from Asian Rhino Range Countries - Indonesia, Nepal and India shall be invited to strengthen regional cooperation to address diverse challenges that Asian rhinos are facing. Experiences from rhino range countries shall be shared and available expertise within Asian rhino range countries shall be documented to promote conservation of Asian rhinos.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Plan

Planning: (1) initiate preparation of Javan Rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*) Conservation Plan; (2) initiate preparation of Sumatran Rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) Conservation Plan; (3) initiate preparation of Greater One-horned Rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) Conservation Plan.

Activities and results 2018

Plan

Planning

- i.** A committee composed of Dr. Widodo Ramono, Mr. Sectionov and Dr. Hayonon from Indonesia and the Chair of the Asian Rhino Specialist Group (AsRSG) is being formed to draft the Javan Rhino Conservation Plan. The report outline is being agreed, though we are waiting for Indonesia's Emergency Action plan for Javan Rhino so that key components can also be incorporated in AsRSG's Conservation Plan. (KSR #15)
- ii.** For Sumatran Rhino, a committee composed of Dr. Sunarto from Indonesia, Chair of AsRSG, Dr. Susie Ellis (AsRSG Red List Authority) and Mr. Anwar Purwato from Indonesia is being constituted to draft the Conservation Plan. The outline of the report is being agreed, though we are waiting for Indonesia's Emergency Action plan for Sumatran Rhino so that key components can also be incorporated in AsRSG's Conservation Plan. (KSR #15)
- iii.** For Greater One-horned Rhino, a small team composed of the AsRSG Chair, Dr. Ram Chandra Kandel and Dr. Shant Raj Jnawali from Nepal, and Mr. B.S. Bonal from India is being formed to draft the Conservation Plan. The outline is being circulated internally for comments. (KSR #15)




Greater One Horned Rhino
Photo: Bibhab Kumar Talukdar

Acknowledgements

AsRSG is grateful to the International Rhino Foundation and WWF-India for their commitment to partially cover the cost of the 2nd Asian Rhino Range States Meeting in New Delhi, India, which was originally scheduled in November 2018, but has been re-scheduled for the end of February 2019. AsRSG is also grateful to Aaranya for providing secretarial support to AsRSG.

Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 1/5

Plan **3** 

Main KSRs addressed: 15

KSR: Key Species Result