IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group



2019 Report



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Location/Affiliation

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

Number of members

20



Mission statement

The mission of the SSC Bustard Specialist Group (BSG) is to actively promote bustard research and conservation by developing conservation action plans for the most threatened species, and by encouraging information exchange and cooperation amongst bustard specialists, and with other relevant organizations to enhance conservation of bustards and their habitats worldwide.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Detailed status review of all six Asian species of bustard, and enumeration and promotion of appropriate necessary interventions. Consultation with Rajasthan officials over the preservation of the Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*). Continuing programme of research on the Asian Houbara (*Chlamydotis macqueenii*).

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: feed information into Red List reassessments of all bustard species. Research activities: (1) inspire immediate management interventions on a grand scale for all six species of Asian bustards; (2) generate key data on Asian Houbara (*Chlamydotis macqueenii*).

Act

Conservation actions: provide advice on the conservation of the African Houbara (*Chlamydotis undulata*) in Lanzarote.

Technical advice: provide policy advice on Asian Houbara.

Communicate

Communication: (1) deliver weekly news and research output updates; (2) create a website for the Asian Houbara project.

Technical advice: develop guidelines for the optimal management of power lines in bustard areas to minimise mortalities caused by collisions.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

i. Red List reassessments of all bustard species are ongoing. (KSR #2, 4)

Research activities

i. A large and detailed multi-authored paper was published and widely circulated to promote a better understanding of threats to the species and the interventions needed to reduce the threat. (KSR #12)

II. Generation of key data on the Asian Houbara is ongoing. (KSR #12)

Act

Technical advice

i. Policy advice on the Asian Houbara continues. (KSR #27)

Communicate

Communication

i. A weekly news and research output update is provided. (KSR #28)

ii. A website for the Asian Houbara project has been created and launched. (KSR #28)

Near Threatened Little Bustard, *Tetrax tetrax*, Kazakhstan Photo: Mimi Kessler

Vulnerable Great Bustard, *Otis tarda dybowskii*, Mongolia Photo: Mimi Kessler





Juvenile Asian Houbara, *Chlamydotis macqueenii* Photo: John Burnside

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Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 3/5

Assess	3	111
Act	1	1
Communicate	2	11
Main KSRs addressed: 2, 4, 12, 27, 28		

KSR: Key Species Result





Male Asian Houbara, *Chlamydotis macqueenii*. An ongoing research project is aimed at studying the population trends, demography and migration of this Vulnerable species in Uzbekistan Photo: John Burnside