

IUCN SSC Global Tree Specialist Group



2016-2017 Report



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Co-Chairs

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Number of members

110

Mission statement

The aims of the Global Tree SG (GTSG) are: to promote and implement global red listing for trees and to act in an advisory capacity to the Global Trees Campaign.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

■ Capacity building

i. In 2017, Red List training workshops were conducted in the US and Haiti. (KSR #5)

■ Red Listing

i. Five hundred conservation assessments were undertaken, including Magnoliaceae, Theaceae, endemics of Fiji, timbers and European trees. (KSR #1)

ii. During 2017, 1,077 global assessments for tree species were published on the IUCN Red List. (KSR #1)

iii. 16,200 Red List assessments including: 10,000 Least Concern species in SIS Connect based on methodology agreed in 2017; Endemic trees – 1,200 Brazil, 1,000 Colombia, 500 Malaysia, 500 Mexico, 100 Indonesia, 100 Philippines, 800 *Eucalyptus*, Madagascar trees. Non-endemics – 1,200 Annonaceae, 500 Sapotaceae, *Nothofagus*, *Acer*, *Ilex*, 250 timbers, Caribbean trees. (KSR #1)

■ Research activities

i. A major activity was the continued development of GlobalTreeSearch, the first global list of all tree species, as a baseline for the Global Tree Assessment (GTA).

ii. The GlobalTreeSearch online database of 60,500 tree species was completed. This provides country level distributions for all the world's trees.

Capacity building

■ Capacity building

i. In 2016, progress towards the GTA was supported by training and networking. Three European Tree Red Listing workshops were held, together a workshop at the Flora Malesiana meeting and training undertaken in Fiji. (KSR #5)

ii. New training resources were developed to encourage tree red listing and made available through the Global Trees Campaign (GTC) and GTA websites. (KSR #5)

iii. Regional GTSG meeting and training workshop in Indonesia, workshops in Kenya and Ethiopia, Caribbean workshop and Madagascar workshops. (KSR #5)

■ Technical advice

i. As in previous years, the GTSG continued to advise on projects for the GTC - in 2017 this included Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) work with partners on 120 tree species in 17 countries. (KSR #27)

Communications

■ Communication

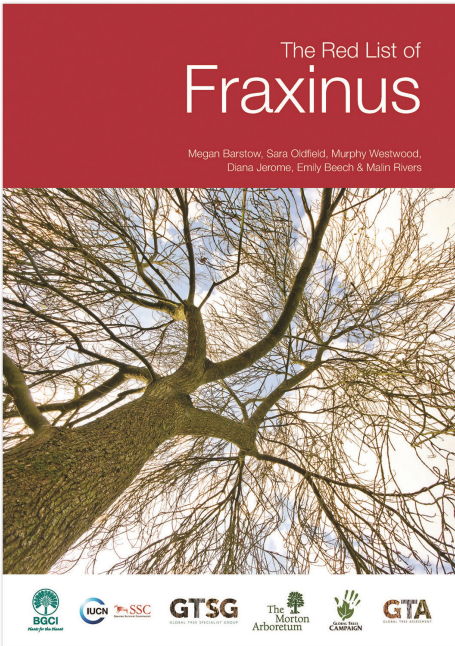
i. An updated Red List of Magnoliaceae was published, and three newsletters sent to GTSG members. (KSR #28)

ii. A new website for the GTA was developed during the year (<http://globaltreeassessment.org/>). This highlights progress towards the overall target of assessing all trees by 2020 and encourages participation in the process. (KSR #28)

iii. Publications in 2017, included the Red List of Theaceae and Red List of US Oaks. (KSR #28)

iv. Four newsletters were sent to GTSG members. (KSR #28)

v. *Fraxinus* Red List. (KSR #28)



■ Scientific meetings

- i. Participation in “Gene Conservation of Tree Species: Banking on the Future” conference in Chicago, US.
- ii. An international workshop on the GTA was held at the 6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress in Geneva. (KSR #28)
- iii. Symposium at Eurogard 8 in Lisbon. (KSR #28)

Conservation action

■ Conservation activities

- i. Various projects for Global Trees Campaign. (KSR #37)

Acknowledgements

We are most grateful to BGI for providing the Secretariat for the GTSG, and for the generous support from botanic gardens, including the Missouri Botanical Garden, Morton Arboretum and Rio de Janeiro Botanic Garden. Support from the University of Bournemouth is also acknowledged. The rewarding partnership with Fauna & Flora International continues to be extremely important to the GTSG helping to ensure that IUCN Red List assessments for trees inform priority conservation action through the Global Trees Campaign, a joint activity with BGI and partners worldwide. We also wholeheartedly thank Foundation Franklinia, Mohammed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, University of St Andrews/STFC, the Rufford Foundation, CBD/Japanese Biodiversity Fund, DeltaAnalytics, Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund and IUCN/Toyota for their support.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Barometer of life

Red List: assessment of all tree species (c 60,000).

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By the end of 2020, we will have completed conservation assessments for the world’s tree species using the IUCN Red List categories and criteria. The goal is to complete IUCN Red List assessments for all species included in GlobalTreeSearch. However, it may be necessary to accept nationally equivalent assessments for endemic species of some countries. A GTA report will be produced with analyses of the major threats to tree species, conservation measures underway, and priority conservation needs. This will draw attention to tree species that are Data Deficient and in need of further taxonomic work or field survey. It will provide a road map of major actions needed to conserve trees on a global scale relating to the post GSPC agenda, implementation of the REDD+ initiative at national level and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 4/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (6 activities)
- Capacity building (4 activities)
- Communications (8 activities)
- Conservation action (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 5, 27, 28, 37

KSR: Key Species Result

Haiti 2017 workshop
Photo: Malin Rivers

