IUCN SSC Grasshopper Specialist Group



2016-2017 Report





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Co-Chairs

Axel Hochkirch (1)
Mark Bushell (2)

Red List Authority Coordinator

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Location/Affiliation

(1) Trier University, Germany(2) Bristol Zoo, UK(3) FLORON, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Number of members

101

Social networks

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/groups/IUCN.GSG/



Mission statement

The mission of our group is to foster the conservation of orthopteroid insects (grasshoppers, katydids, crickets, mantids, stick insects) and their habitats around the world. We assess their conservation status, raise awareness and engage in practical conservation of this amazing and highly diverse group of insects.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

- Red List
- i. Red List assessment of 17 Bladder grasshoppers (Family Pneumoridae). Maps completed, assessments in progress, will be submitted in 2018. (KSR #1)
- ii. Red List assessment of 84 Agile grasshoppers (Subfamily Euryphyminae). Species list compiled, assessments started, will be submitted in 2018. (KSR #1)
- iii. Red List assessment of 36 European mantises. Partly submitted, rest will be finished in 2018. (KSR #1)
- iv. Red List assessment of 270 Malagasy grasshoppers. Sixty-four Tetrigidae published in 2017 on IUCN Red List, rest not started yet. (KSR #1)
- ${\bf v}.$ Red List assessment of 69 Australian stick insects. (KSR #1)
- vi. Sampled Red List Index (SRLI) for Orthoptera. Random list created and uploaded in SIS, first working set of 100 species in progress, will be submitted in 2018. (KSR #1)

Communications

- Communication
- i. Publication of *Newshopper* newsletter in February 2017. (KSR #28)

Conservation action

- Conservation activity
- i. National action plans for the Endangered
 Zeuneriana marmorata have been published in 2017 for Italy and Slovenia. (KSR #21)
- Research activity
- i. Use of sniffing dogs for population monitoring of the Critically Endangered *Prionotropis rhodanica* tested in 2017, and will be continued in 2018. (KSR #12)

Increasing diversity of SSC

- Scientific meetings
- i. 1st European Congress on Orthoptera Conservation, conducted in March 2016 at Trier University. Next one will be in September 2018 in Slovakia. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

We are particularly grateful for the constant support by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund.



Mahé Boulder Cricket (*Phalangacris alluaudi*), Critically Endangered Photo: Lucy Neumann-Dominik Schwab

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Barometer of life

Red List: (1) Red List assessment of 400 Tanzanian Orthoptera species, 17 Bladder grasshoppers (Family Pneumoridae), 84 Agile grasshoppers (Subfamily Euryphyminae), 36 European mantises, 80 Mediterranean mantises, 4 Razor-backed bush-hoppers (Xyronotidae), 3 Tanaoceridae grasshoppers and 270 Malagasy grasshoppers; (2) Sampled Red List Index (SRLI) for Orthoptera. Research activities: developing monitoring standards for Orthoptera in Europe.

Conservation action

Conservation activities: developing a conservation strategy for the Endangered *Zeuneriana marmorata* in Slovenia and Italy.

Research activities: developing and implementing a population monitoring program for the Critically Endangered *Prionotropis rhodanica*.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By the end of 2020, we want to increase the number of Orthoptera, Phasmida and Mantodea species on the IUCN Red List by ca 1,000 species. This will help to raise awareness for this species group and foster research and conservation activities. We are particularly interested in engaging the local park managers to consider grasshoppers, bush-crickets, crickets, stick insects and mantids in conservation planning, monitoring and management. We want to increase the number of conservation strategies for threatened Orthoptera species and help to implement these plans. This will help to avoid future extinctions and set best practice examples for other projects.

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 4/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- · Barometer of life (6 activities)
- Communications (1 activity)
- Conservation action (2 activities)
- Increasing diversity of SSC (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 12, 21, 28

KSR: Key Species Result