

IUCN SSC Dragonfly Specialist Group



2018 Report



Viola Clausnitzer



Geert de Knijf

Co-Chairs

Viola Clausnitzer (1)
Geert de Knijf (2)

Red List Authority Coordinator

Viola Clausnitzer (1)

Location/Affiliation

(1) Senckenberg Research Institute,
Goerlitz, Germany
(2) Inbo, Belgium

Number of members

54

Social networks

Facebook:
IUCN Dragonfly Specialist Group
Website:
<https://www.iucn.org/ssc-groups/invertebrates/dragonfly>



Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Dragonfly Specialist Group (DSG) is to increase the knowledge on taxonomy, ecology and biogeography of all Odonata (damselflies and dragonflies). Based on this information, we are currently working on the final steps towards assessing all species globally against the criteria of The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, while outdated assessments are updated. In parallel, we help conservationists and countries to protect threatened species.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we want to see all Odonata assessed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. We hope to be able to help more countries with their National Red Lists and their endeavours with Biodiversity Action Plans. Hopefully, more conservation projects and capacity building, not only for threatened species, can be established. Another goal is to establish dragonflies as "guardians of the watershed", enabling a better understanding of biodiversity, a healthy environment and human well-being.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) global dragonfly assessment (6,300 species); (2) assessments focusing on African and South American dragonflies added to National Red Lists; (3) contribute to the Barometer of Life by completing the assessments of ca. 500 dragonflies in Southeast Asia; (4) contribute to the Barometer of Life by

completing the remaining assessments of ca. 1,000 dragonflies globally; (5) gather data in North America through OdonataCentral to feed into global Red List assessments.

Research activities: (1) gain more information on *Lestes umbrinus* to assist conservation planning; (2) research and scientific publication on dragonflies in Tatamá National Park and its buffer area in Colombian western Andes; (3) contribute to the process of delineating Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) for freshwater conservation; (4) delineate KBAs for freshwater conservation in Lake Tanganyika Catchment, Africa; (5) develop an Atlas of the dragonflies of Bhutan/the Eastern Himalaya; (6) use the atlas to develop a Dragonfly Biotic Index for the Eastern Himalaya; (7) develop a field guide for the odonates in Tatamá region; (8) conduct research on impacts of climate change on mountainous dragonflies in the Andes, Colombia; (9) delineate KBAs for freshwater conservation in Lake Malawi Catchment, Africa; (10) create an open online database for Odonata; (11) contribute to producing a KBA monitoring plan; (12) contribute to KBA assessment for Greece.

Plan

Planning: (1) produce a Species Conservation Action Plan for *Ceriagrion citrinum*; (2) produce a Species Conservation Action Plan for *Notogomphus maathaiae*; (3) produce a Species Conservation Action Plan for *Platycypha amboniensis*.

Policy: (1) develop a Dragonfly Biotic Index for Monitoring and Prioritising Restoration Sites within the Congo-Nile Crest Watershed, Rwanda; (2) develop a Dragonfly Biotic Index for Monitoring and Prioritising Restoration Sites within Europe.



Act

Conservation actions: (1) implement conservation action for *Lestes umbrinus*; (2) implement conservation actions for endemic dragonflies in the Cape Region.

Technical advice: publish a book on New Zealand Odonata species.

Network

Agreements: develop a scientific research collaboration to generate conservation information for the Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

Capacity building: (1) capacity building and training of Red List assessors worldwide (several people trained in workshops on various continents); (2) continued focus on capacity building and training in Africa and South America for Red Listing and on-the-ground conservation work; (3) increase the number of Red List trainers in the DSG.

Proposal development and funding: increase funding for scientific and research projects for dragonflies globally.

Scientific meetings: plan a meeting of the European DSG members at the European Congress on Odonatology, <https://ecoo2016.wordpress.com/>.

Synergy: expand the network of odonatologists and freshwater conservationists in Africa as members of the DSG.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

i. Assessments and necessary re-assessments of the Odonata from Europe, northern Asia, Australia, Hawaii, North America, and Africa are completed. Nearly 1,000 assessments (968) have been submitted in 2018. Assessments of Odonata from South America and Southeast Asia are ongoing. (KSR #1)

ii. South Africa National Red List completed in 2018, but ongoing assessments for South America. (KSR #2)

Research activities

i. Report on *Lestes umbrinus* to assist its conservation planning completed and sent to the International Dragonfly Foundation (the donor). (KSR #12)

ii. Published report on dragonflies in Tatamá National Park and its buffer area in Colombian western Andes at https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Cornelio_Bota-Sierra. (KSR #11, 12)

iii. Publication of 'The status and distribution of dragonflies and damselflies in the Lake Victoria Basin' in Sayer, C.A., Máiz-Tomé, L. and Darwall, W.R.T. (2018). *Freshwater biodiversity in the Lake Victoria Basin: Guidance for species conservation, site protection, climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods*. Cambridge, UK and Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. (KSR #22)

iv. Publication on delineation of KBAs for freshwater conservation in Lake Tanganyika Catchment, Africa drafted and ready for publication. (KSR #22)

v. Field guide for the odonates in Tatamá region submitted for publication. (KSR #28, 43)

vi. Report on delineation of KBAs for freshwater conservation in Lake Malawi Catchment, Africa about to be published. (KSR #22)

vii. Open online databases created for Africa at <http://addo.adu.org.za/> and for the entire Western hemisphere at <https://www.odonata-central.org/>. (KSR #1, 2, 12, 32, 43)

viii. We participated in an IUCN workshop on KBA monitoring in Malaga, Spain. We are working on the protocol and conducted a practical application in the field in June, with all the participants. (KSR #22)

ix. We are delivering data on Odonata for the delineation of KBAs in Greece. (KSR #22)



Capacity building workshop at Rwanda in 2018
Photo: Viola Clausnitzer

Male Evening Hawker *Anaciaeschna triangulifera*,
Least Concern
Photo: Jens Kipping





Male Red-veined Dropwing *Trithemis arteriosa*,
Least Concern
Photo: Jens Kipping

Plan

Planning

- i. Proposal of Species Conservation Action Plan for *Ceriagrion citrinum* drafted. (KSR #12, 15, 20)
- ii. Proposal of Species Conservation Action Plan for *Notogomphus maathaiae* submitted. (KSR #12, 15, 20)
- iii. National Geographic Society proposal submitted by Scion Trust, Kenya. (KSR #12, 15, 20, 34, 39)

Act

Conservation actions

- i. Workshop on conservation action for *Lestes umbrinus* was held (including local teachers to help raise awareness through education) and there are ongoing conservation activities at the community level. (KSR #33, 34, 35, 43)
- ii. Ongoing conservation work on endemic dragonflies in the Cape Region and publications about the impact of conservation actions. (KSR #22)

Technical advice

- i. Priority issues and conservation actions to address them published in a book on the dragonflies of New Zealand. (KSR #28)

Network

Agreements

- i. MOU on scientific research collaboration in the Sarawak Forestry Corporation drafted and signed. (KSR #18, 21, 26)

Capacity building

- i. Twenty-five people trained at a workshop in Rwanda, held March-April 2018; most were students and some will end up assisting with national Red Listing. (KSR #5, 28)
- ii. Two training workshops planned for 2019 in South America. (KSR #28)

- iii. Training workshop planned in Rwanda. (KSR #28)

Synergy

- i. Ongoing network communication. (KSR #28)

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Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 4/5

Assess	11	
Plan	3	
Act	3	
Network	5	

Main Key Species Results (KSR) addressed: 1, 2, 5, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, 26, 28, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 43

Resolutions addressed: WCC 2016 Res 016, WCC-2016-Res-041

KSR: Key Species Result