

# IUCN SSC Seed Conservation Specialist Group

2018 Report



Marian M. Chau



Uromi Manage Goodale

## Co-Chairs

Marian M. Chau <sup>(1)</sup>  
Uromi Manage Goodale <sup>(2)</sup>

## Deputy Chair

Dustin Wolkis <sup>(3)</sup>

## Location/Affiliation

<sup>(1)</sup> Kalehua Seed Conservation Consulting,  
Honolulu, Hawaii, US

<sup>(2)</sup> Guangxi University, Nanning, China

<sup>(3)</sup> National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kalaheo,  
Hawaii, US

## Number of members

149

## Mission statement

The mission of the Seed Conservation Specialist Group is to promote seed conservation by providing a network for knowledge-sharing in different ecosystems around the world, and aiding in prioritisation, capacity building, and development of best practices.

## Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

At the end of 2020, we expect that the sharing of experience and knowledge among our group members and the global conservation community will help to identify gaps in the seed conservation of vulnerable species and inform world policies for ecosystem restoration and species recovery. In particular, we hope that our collective efforts in identifying these gaps in knowledge will encourage improvements to seed banking processes in countries of Latin America, East Asia and other areas that are identified as regions with high conservation needs. Through the policy documents developed for seed conservation, we hope that our efforts will contribute towards at least a 15 percent increase in species from each ecological region being conserved for the future through effective seed banking.

## Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

### Assess

Research activities: conduct and publish a regional and topical gap analysis of seed conservation expertise.

### Act

Technical advice: create IUCN Guidelines on Seed Conservation.

### Network

Membership: recruit at least 100 members for the new Specialist Group.

### Communicate

Communication: create an online global Seed Conservation Directory of Expertise.

## Activities and results 2018

### Assess

#### Research activities

**i.** The Co-Chairs and Deputy Chair have begun discussing and working with data from the Seed Conservation Directory of Expertise (see 'Communication' below) to conduct a regional and topical gap analysis of seed conservation expertise. (KSR #32)

### Act

#### Technical advice

**i.** The Co-Chairs have discussed a plan to create IUCN Guidelines on Seed Conservation in association with the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020. (KSR #26)

### Network

#### Membership

**i.** We have recruited 149 members so far (now approved in the Commission System), and sent invitations to over 200 interested individuals in total.



Seeds of *Flueggea neowawraea*,  
Critically Endangered  
Photo: Lyon Arboretum Seed  
Conservation Laboratory

SCSG Co-Chair Marian Chau at Millennium  
Seed Bank inside the storage freezer  
Photo: Marian Chau



**Communicate**

Communication

i. The Seed Conservation Directory of Expertise was created and is publicly available at <https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/directory-of-expertise-seed-conservation/>. (KSR #28)

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**Summary of activities 2018**

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 4/5

Assess	1	█
Act	1	█
Network	1	█
Communicate	1	█

Main KSRs addressed: 26, 28, 32

KSR: Key Species Result



Seeds of *Wilkesia hobdyi*,  
Critically Endangered  
Photo: Lyon Arboretum Seed  
Conservation Laboratory



Seeds of *Cyperus trachysanthos*,  
Endangered  
Photo: Lyon Arboretum Seed  
Conservation Laboratory



Seeds of *Schiedea verticillata*,  
Critically Endangered  
Photo: Lyon Arboretum Seed  
Conservation Laboratory