IUCN SSC Palm Specialist Group



2019 Report



Thomas Couvreur

Chair

Thomas Couvreur (1)

Red List Authority Coordinator

Ariane Cosiaux (2)

Location/Affiliation

(1) Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, UMR DIADE, Montpellier, France
(2) Institute of Geography and Sustainability, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

Number of members

36



Mission statement

To conserve palms by assessing the threats that they face and developing programmes to protect palm species for the future.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

We envision to have increased Red Listing of palm species worldwide, in particular Least Concern status.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) expedite assessment of Least Concern palms (work led by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew); (2) Red Listing of Indian palms for Indian palm website; (3) Red Listing of western Ecuadorian palm species.

Research activities: study the ethnoecology of *Raphia vinifera* in North Western Cameroon.

Network

Synergy: refresh the Palm Specialist Group in this quadrennium.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

i. Within the PALMS 2020 congress, we plan to submit a preliminary estimate of Least Concern palms. (KSR #1)

Network

Membership

 We added 12 new members to our group, mainly from southern countries. This allowed us to keep our member numbers stable given 13 old members were deleted from the list.

Acknowledgements

We thank the following donors: Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) via the Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC); the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB) and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region (PACA) region via the Centre for Synthesis and Analysis of Biodiversity data (CESAB) RAINBIO research project; Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France (grant number ANR-15-CE02-0002-01); Agropolis Fondation under the reference ID 1403-026 through the «Investissements d'avenir» programme (Labex Agro: ANR-10-LABX-0001-01).

Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 2/5			
Assess	1		
Network	1	I	
Main KSRs addressed: 1			

KSR: Key Species Result

Bactris gasipaes var. *gasipaes,* Manabi, Ecuador Photo: Couvreur TLP



Heterospathe fernandoi, Samar, Phillipines Photo: Jiro Adorador



Phytelephas aequatorialis, Pichincha, Toachi Photo: Couvreur TLP