

IUCN SSC Seed Conservation Specialist Group

2019 Report



Marian M. Chau



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Co-Chairs

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Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ Kalehua Seed Conservation Consulting,
Honolulu, Hawaii, US
⁽²⁾ Guangxi University, Nanning, China
⁽³⁾ National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kalaheo,
Hawaii, US

Number of members

106

Social networks

Facebook: IUCN Seed Conservation
Specialist Group
Twitter: @IUCN_Seeds
Website: <https://seedconservationsg.org/>

Mission statement

The mission of the Seed Conservation Specialist Group (SCSG) 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 2019

Assess

Research activities

i. The SCSG has made progress on this target for 2019 by creating an outline, conducting a literature review, and creating a plan for completing the project. We extended this target to 2020 in order to collect additional data that will increase the impact of the publication. (KSR #32)

Act

Technical advice

i. The SCSG has made progress on this target for 2020 by planning a strategy for completion and beginning to recruit a team of contributors to the guidelines. (KSR #26)

Network

Membership

i. We have maintained the target of recruiting at least 100 members for the new Specialist Group in 2019, even as we have had some attrition, by continuing to recruit new members.

Ficus syconia collected from Mulun subtropical forest in Guangxi, South China
Photo: Diana Castillo-Díaz



Seed and sample collection at the Mulun subtropical forest in Guangxi, South China
Photo: Zou Chaobo



Marian Chau leads an 'Ōhi'a Seed Conservation Workshop for community outreach in Hawai'i
Photo: JB Friday



Seed demonstrations in an 'Ōhi'a Seed Conservation Workshop for community outreach in Hawai'i
Photo: Marian Chau



Marian Chau gives a presentation on Hawaiian seeds at Guangxi University
Photo: Marian Chau

Acknowledgements

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Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 3/5

Assess	1	
Act	1	
Network	1	

Main KSRs addressed: 26, 32

KSR: Key Species Result