

# IUCN SSC Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Specialist Group

2019 Report



K.S. Gopi Sundar



Luis Santiago Cano Alonso

## Co-Chairs

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## Red List Authority

BirdLife International

## Location/Affiliation

<sup>(1)</sup> International Crane Foundation, US and Nature Conservation Foundation, India  
<sup>(2)</sup> Grupo de Investigación en Biología Evolutiva y de la Conservación, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

## Number of members

107

## Social networks

Website: <http://storkibisspoonbill.org>



## Mission statement

The Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Specialist Group (SIS-SG) is a global network of scientists, conservationists, governmental and non-governmental institutions and people committed to the scientific understanding and conservation of SIS species and their habitats.

## Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we envision a substantial advance in creating a strong network, and a sustainable and active Specialist Group based on participation of the best specialists on our species of concern worldwide. Specifically, our focus will be to raise enough resources to maintain the activity of the Specialist Group, creating a scientific network and promoting scientific research, meetings and conservation actions among members and partners, including other Specialist Groups, who will contribute to improve the knowledge of our species of concern and their threats.

## Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

### Network

Capacity building: organise the First World Symposium of Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill.  
Proposal development and funding: obtain sponsorship for the functioning of the SIS-SG.  
Synergy: (1) facilitate communications with related waterbird Specialist Groups to help with capacity building; (2) establish at least two new working groups.

## Communicate

Communication: enhance wider communication and share research and conservation findings related to Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill (SIS) species worldwide.

## Activities and results 2019

### Network

#### Proposal development and funding

**i.** Tour du Valat covered the cost of the ISBN for the Special Issues of *SIS Conservation* and the Special Publication with the Abstracts of the International Workshop on Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*). (KSR #19)

#### Synergy

**i.** We assisted Wetlands International with our advice and comments on the development of the Water Bird Population Portal. We met several waterbird Specialist Groups during the SSC Leaders' Meeting in Abu Dhabi to exchange experiences and information, and to learn how the groups are managed. (KSR #27)

**ii.** We have followed up on steps to establish a couple of new networks for Black-headed Ibis (*Threskiornis melanocephalus*) and Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*) with specialists and experts from around the world. (KSR #27)



Morito (*Plegadis falcinellus*), Tavira  
Photo: Jesús Camacho

Glossy Ibis flock in flooded field, Kheda  
Photo: Gopi Sundar



Saddlebill (*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*) at Okavango  
Photo: Luis Santiago Cano

## Communicate

### Communication

- i. We launched the online publication *SIS Conservation* in November 2019 (available at <https://storkibisspoonbill.org/sis-conservation-publications/>). We also published the *Proceedings of the IX Workshop of the AEWA Eurasian Spoonbill International Expert Group* (available online at [https://storkibisspoonbill.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Special\\_Publication\\_2\\_PROCEEDINGS\\_BOOK\\_IX\\_Workshop\\_Eurasian\\_Spoonbill\\_AEWA-International\\_Expert\\_Group.pdf](https://storkibisspoonbill.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Special_Publication_2_PROCEEDINGS_BOOK_IX_Workshop_Eurasian_Spoonbill_AEWA-International_Expert_Group.pdf)). (KSR #28)
- ii. The International Glossy Ibis Network (IGIN) has contributed to publish the first issue of *SIS Conservation*, a special issue on Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) ecology and conservation. A website has also been developed for the network. (KSR #28)

### Acknowledgements

We want to acknowledge Alejandro Torés for his support in managing the website. Simone Santoro played a key role in publishing the first online issue of *SIS Conservation*. Jon Paul Rodríguez and his team have supported and assisted us during the whole year. Tour du Valat has sponsored the ISBN codes of our publications in 2019.

### Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 2/5

Network **3** |||

Communicate **2** ||

Main KSRs addressed: 19, 27, 28

Resolutions addressed: WCC-2016-Res-027

KSR: Key Species Result