

# IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority

2020 Report



Philip Bowles

## Chair

Philip Bowles

## Red List Authority

Philip Bowles

## Location/Affiliation

IUCN Biodiversity Assessment Unit c/o Conservation International, Washington, DC, US

## Number of members

87

## Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority is to undertake and support IUCN Red List assessments for reptile groups not covered by other Specialist Groups, including most snakes and lizards and the New Zealand Tuatara (*Sphenodon punctatus*), and to curate IUCN's global taxonomy for these groups.

## Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, the Global Reptile Assessment will have been both completed – insofar as every described species of reptile will have been assessed on the IUCN Red List at least once – and, with continued financial support, updated to ensure that no assessment is more than 10 years old. The Snake and Lizard Red List Authority, which has responsibility for the majority of reptile species, will be expanded and more formally structured around a series of regional Red List Coordinators, a process which is already underway. For the first time, it will be possible to evaluate the conservation status of reptiles globally and identify priority targets for reptile conservation at a global scale.

## Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

### Assess

Red List: (1) support the completion of the Global Reptile Assessment (ca. 10,265 squamate species) through clean up, review and submission; (2) identify new assessments needed and prepare reassessments for outdated assessments.

### Network

Membership: expand the network of Snake and Lizard Red List Authority (RLA) members and regional coordinators to support management of reptile assessments following the end of the Global Reptile Assessment.

## Activities and results 2020

### Assess

#### Red List

i. No funding became available in 2020 to hold workshops or remote assessments. Identification of priority reassessments was completed. Reassessments were completed for Comoros and Seychelles and for the gecko genus *Lepidodactylus*. Reassessments were drafted, and assessments prepared for new descriptions, for the Philippines. (KSR #1)

### Network

#### Membership

i. The RLA's membership has continued to expand, but with no new regional coordinators appointed or further decentralisation of the RLA's structure.



### **Acknowledgements**

As in previous years, I'd particularly like to thank Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi for their support for the RLA position. Among colleagues and collaborators, I'd like to thank Neil Cox, Manager of the IUCN Biodiversity Assessment Unit within which the RLA is based, and Pete McDonald of the Australian National University for both proposing and organising the reassessments of *Lepidodactylus* geckos.

### **Summary of activities 2020**

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 2/5

Assess **1** |

Network **1** |

Main KSRs addressed: 1

KSR: Key Species Result



Least Concern Pink-tongued Skink,  
*Cyclodomorphus gerrardii*, Kirrama,  
Queensland, Australia, 2005  
Photo: Philip Bowles