IUCN SSC Standards and Petitions Committee



2020 Report



H. Resit Akçakaya

Chair

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Location/Affiliation

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York, US

Number of members

5

Mission statement

The Standards and Petitions Committee is responsible for ensuring the quality and standards of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, developing guidelines for the application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria and ruling on petitions against the listings of species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

The impact of the Standards and Petitions Committee (SPC) on conservation is indirect, through its efforts to maintain and increase the credibility and reliability of the IUCN Red List as the most authoritative source of the conservation status of species.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: produce a new version of guidelines for application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria.

Activities and results 2020

Assess

Red List

- i. We started work on version 15 of the Guidelines for Using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. (KSR #4)
- **ii.** African Elephants Red List assessments were reviewed. (KSR #4)

- **iii.** One paper was published in 2020: Bird, J.P., et al. (2020). 'Generation lengths of the world's birds and their implications for extinction risk'. *Conservation Biology* 34(5):1252–1261. https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13486. Another was accepted in 2020 and published in 2021: Akçakaya, H.R., et al. (2021). 'Calculating population reductions of invertebrate species for IUCN Red List assessments'. *Journal of Insect Conservation* 25(2):377–382. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10841-021-00303-0 (KSR #4)
- iv. Twelve consultations were conducted:
 (1) criterion A1 (Norway); (2) criterion A3 (trees; Madagascar); (3) criterion A/E (salamanders; Europe); (4) criterion D: plausible threats for D/D1 vs for D2; (5) criterion E (frog; Korea); (6) extent of occurrence (EOO)/area of occupancy (AOO) from habitat maps (reptiles; Brazil); (7) severely fragmented and population viability (Australia); (8) extreme fluctuations (plants; Australia); (9) locations (trees, birds); (10) Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct) (plants); (11) hybrids and domestication (Norway); (12) R package named ConR. (KSR #5)
- v. Meetings: (1) Red List: technology-assisted Red List assessments; (2) Climate Change Specialist Group: use of species distribution models in Red List assessments. (KSR #6)

Summary of activities 2020

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 1/5

Assess 5

Main KSRs addressed: 4, 5, 6

KSR: Key Species Result



Standards and Petitions Committee at a meeting in November 2015 at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Photo: Craig Hilton-Taylor