



Species

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2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) is a science-based network of thousands of volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together toward achieving the vision of “a just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to both prevent the loss and aid recovery of the diversity of life on earth.”

Members of SSC belong to one or more of near 200 Specialist Groups, Red List Authorities, Action Partnerships, Task Forces, and Conservation Committees that make up the Network, each focusing on a taxonomic group (plants, fungi, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and invertebrates), national species, or a disciplinary issue, such as sustainable use and livelihoods, translocation of species, wildlife health, climate change, and conservation planning.

Framed by the Species Conservation Cycle, SSC’s major role is to provide information to IUCN on biodiversity conservation, the inherent value of species, their role in ecosystem health and functioning, the provision of ecosystem services, and their support to human livelihoods. This information is fed into the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan

The IUCN Species Strategic Plan encompasses the joint work of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and a number of partnerships to achieve more than 2,700 targets proposed by the Network during the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

To accomplish those targets, the Species Conservation Cycle was established, which is the conceptual framework for the Network activities. The Species Conservation Cycle’s main purpose is to guide efforts for valuing and conserving biodiversity through three essential components that are linked to each other:

ASSESS: Understand and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity.

PLAN: Develop collaborative, inclusive and science-based conservation strategies, plans and policies.

ACT: Convene and mobilise conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.



Their implementation requires two transversal components:

NETWORK: Enhance and support our immediate network and alliances to achieve our biodiversity targets.

COMMUNICATE: Drive strategic and targeted communications to enhance our conservation impact.

SSC Species Report

Annual progress in the implementation of the 2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan is documented in the SSC *Species Report*, which consists of a comprehensive description and analysis of the activities and results generated by the members of the SSC Network each year. Each SSC Group contributes to this document by providing a yearly summarised description of their achievements, which is presented in stand-alone reports.

Structure of the IUCN SSC Stand-alone Report

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

Title of the SSC Group

Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

Group information

Includes names of Chair / Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators and Program Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the SSC Group

Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

Projected impact for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the description of the impact on species conservation resulting from the implementation of the targets formulated by the group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

Targets for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the targets planned by the SSC Group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium ordered alphabetically by component of the Species Conservation Cycle. Each target is labeled with a numerical code (e.g., T-001, T-012) that identifies it in the SSC DATA database and its status for the reported year is indicated (Not initiated, On track or Achieved).

Activities and results

Includes the targets for which activities were conducted and results were generated during the reported year, ordered alphabetically, first by component of the Species Conservation Cycle, and second by Activity Category. Description of activities and results includes the indicator that best describes progress, its associated quantitative or qualitative result, and the narrative description of the activity conducted or result obtained. Each activity or result reported is linked to the Key Species Result to which it is mainly associated (e.g., KSR#1, KSR#5).

Acknowledgements

Includes the acknowledgements to funding agencies, partners, and persons who contributed to the progress of the targets of the group.

Summary of achievements

Summarises information of the group's strategic plan for the quadrennium and progress achieved implementing targets for all the components of the Species Conservation Cycle during the reported year.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

Example for the recommended citation:

LaPolla, J, and Feitosa, R. 2023. 2022 Report of the Ant Specialist Group. In: Nassar, JM, García, L, Mendoza, L, Andrade, ND, Bezeng, S, Birkhoff, J, Bohm, M, Canteiro, C, Geschke, J, Henriques, S, Ivande, S, Mileham, K, Ramos, M, Rodríguez, A, Rodríguez, JP, Street, B, and Yerena, E (Eds.). 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. International Union for Conservation of Nature. 4 pp.

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Ant Specialist Group



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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATORS**
Gabrielle Flinn
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
14

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Ant Specialist Group is to assess and monitor the conservation status of ant species around the world.

Projected impact 2021–2025

For ants, one of the most important groups of terrestrial invertebrate animals, our efforts will first and foremost raise their profile in conservation decision making. This will begin by assessing the Red List status of various ant species. Critically, this will include a significant training component to involve as many Ant SG members as are interested in the process, with the aim of making it easier for members to take part in future Red List assessment efforts. With a group as diverse and globally distributed as ants, it is critical to build a network of members who will further the goal of having ants included in conservation planning. In turn, this training effort will impact the ability to include ants in conservation planning at both national and regional scales. We will also target particular groups of ants that are currently of conservation concern and use these species as ambassador species to present to the public the fact that even animals such as ants can warrant conservation concern and become threatened by human activities.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Assess the global Red List status of 50 ant species and reassess the Red List status of 50 ant species by 2025.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-004 Compile a conservation strategy for ants found in Sekhukhuneland, South Africa by 2025.
Status: On track

ACT

T-003 Protect habitat for conservation of *Boloponera ikemkha*.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-002 Hold an Ant SG conference at the biennial Simpósio de Mirmecologia in Brazil.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-005 Establish an Ant SG website and other social media presence.
Status: On track

T-006 Design an Ant Specialist Group logo.
Status: Achieved

Activities and results 2022

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-005 Establish an Ant SG website and other social media presence. (KSR 13)
Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 1
Result description: The official IUCN SSC Ant Specialist Group page is now online. The group is still striving to build its own separate webpage, as well as at least one social media platform presence.

T-006 Design an Ant Specialist Group logo. (KSR 13)

Completion of logo for the Ant Specialist Group: Achieved
Result description: A logo was designed, approved and sent to the relevant Chair's Office staff to be incorporated into the Ant Specialist Group website (within the IUCN website) and Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat.

Sorting samples in the field
Photo: Rodrigo Feitosa



Field sampling
Photo: Rodrigo Feitosa

Acknowledgements

We are grateful for the sustained support of Towson University and the Federal University of Paraná to the Co-Chairs of the group. We are also grateful to the SSC Chair's Office for their continued support and to the Global Center for Species Survival, and Kelly Griese in particular, for the support with the logo design.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 6

Geographic regions: 4 Global, 2 Africa

Actions during 2022:

Communicate: 2 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

