



Species

ISSUE 62

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.

Example for the recommended citation:

Couvreur, T. 2023. 2022 Report of the Palm 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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

IUCN SSC Palm Specialist Group



CHAIR

Thomas Couvreur

Institut de
Recherche pour le
Développement, UMR
DIADE, Montpellier,
France

RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

Ariane Cosiaux

Institute of Geography
and Sustainability,
University of
Lausanne, Lausanne,
Switzerland

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

22

Mission statement

To conserve palms by assessing the threats that they face and developing programmes to protect palm species for the future.

Projected impact 2021–2025

We envision to have increased Red Listing of palm species worldwide, in particular species with Least Concern status.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Expedite Red Listing of Least Concern palms.
Status: On track

T-002 Conduct red listing of western Ecuadorian palm species.
Status: On track

T-003 Conduct red listing of Indian palms for Indian palm website.
Status: Not initiated

T-004 Generate population and distribution data to support red listing of Brazilian palms.
Status: On track

T-006 Rapid inventory of palms, especially rattans, in National Parks of Côte d'Ivoire using UAV (drone).
Status: Achieved

T-007 Conduct red listing of New Guinea palms.

Status: On track

T-008 Conduct red listing of Vanuatu palm species.

Status: On track

T-009 Conduct red listing of Hispaniolan *Coccothrinax* palms.

Status: On track

ACT

T-005 Ecology and phenology of the threatened rattan species *Eremospatha dransfieldii* in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.

Status: On track

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-001 Expedite Red Listing of Least Concern palms. (KSR 5)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 100

Result description: We have started streamlining these assessments together with GTA. We are moving towards the target.

T-002 Conduct red listing of western Ecuadorian palm species. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 10

Result description: We trained 20 people in red listing during a workshop. We are preparing the assessment of all Choco palms from Colombia and Ecuador.

T-004 Generate population and distribution data to support red listing of Brazilian palms. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: The project is moving forward, but there are still several species for which more accurate data is needed and will be gathered in the next years.

T-007 Conduct red listing of New Guinea palms. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: The assessment of these species is moving forward; the flora of New Guinean palms has just come out.

Research activities

T-006 Rapid inventory of palms, especially rattans, in National Parks of Côte d'Ivoire using UAV (drone). (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 1

Result description: A report was published about this target and is available online (Stauffer, F, *et al.* (2021). The palm flora of



Cyrtostachys bakeri endemic to from Papua New Guinea, which is Critically Endangered
Photo: William Baker



Chamaedorea donnell-smithii in Uxapanana, Mexico
Photo: Thomas Couvreur

West Africa: Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Bénin'. *Archives des Sciences*, Volume 72 – published in December 2021). Available at: https://www.unige.ch/sphn/Publications/ArchivesSciences/AdS2021/Vol_72_pp_001_078_Stauffer.pdf.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-005 Ecology and phenology of the threatened rattan species *Eremospatha dransfieldii* in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. (KSR 11)

Number of threatened species benefited directly or indirectly by sustainable use programmes: 0

Result description: We have yet to find *Eremospatha dransfieldii* in flower. In 2022, we found good seeds in Ghana that were sown and germinated. We therefore have five juvenile individuals in nurseries in Ghana (with our local partner).

Acknowledgements

We thank the SSC Internal Grants scheme for funding on the Red Listing of West Ecuadorian palms. An ERC Consolidator Grant (GLOBAL) also partly funded this research. We also thank MULTIPALMS (<https://www.multipalms.org/>) for the project on Ivory Coast palm diversity and conservation.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9

Geographic regions: 1 Global, 2 Africa, 3 America, 1 Asia, 2 Oceania

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 5 (KSR 5, 6)

Act: 1 (KSR 11)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

