



# Species

ISSUE 63

## 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



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## 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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## 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.

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### Title of the SSC Group

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### Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

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### 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.

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### Logo of the SSC Group

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### Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

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### 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.

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### 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).

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### 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).

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### Acknowledgements

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

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### 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.

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### Example for the recommended citation:

Deharveng, L. 2023. 2022 Report of the Cave Invertebrate 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 Cave Invertebrate Specialist Group



**CHAIR**

Louis Deharveng  
Muséum national  
d'Histoire naturelle,  
Paris, France

**RED LIST AUTHORITY  
COORDINATOR**

Sonia Khela  
JNCC, Peterborough,  
UK

**NUMBER OF MEMBERS**

90

**SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE**

Facebook: @caveinvertebrates

Twitter: @caveinverts

## Mission statement

The Cave Invertebrate Specialist Group (CISG) is a global network of experts working on organisms associated with karst and caves. Our goals are to contribute to increasing knowledge of these animals and plants, which are extremely rich in narrow endemics, and to promote conservation action through red listing, mostly focused on species under threats, such as limestone quarrying or water pollution.

## Projected impact 2021–2025

Our activity will be progressively and significantly redirected towards more conservation-relevant species and sites, rather than towards multiple red listing of species not associated with clear conservation issues. We delivered a communication on this re-orientation at the Biospeleological Society Congress, held in Romania in July 2022. In parallel, we are discussing special features of subterranean animal assessments, as they strongly differ from surface species in many important respects; we hope that this will impact positively the way they are assessed in the near future. We also expect it will have a real impact on conservation efficiency by targeting as priority the species most at risk on critical sites.

## Targets 2021–2025

### ASSESS

**T-001** Upgrade the Brazilian cave species from national to global IUCN Red List assessments.  
Status: Not initiated

**T-002** Complete global Red List assessment of 20 cave species from Maros Karst, South Sulawesi (Indonesia).  
Status: On track

**T-003** Complete global Red List assessment of several cave species from Georgia.  
Status: On track

**T-004** Complete global Red List assessment of Remipedia.  
Status: Not initiated

**T-005** Complete global Red List assessment of a cave species from Hon Chong Karst, Viet Nam.  
Status: Achieved

**T-010** Revise the global Red List assessments for the Dinaric Cave Clam (*Congerius kusceri*), which is now three species.  
Status: On track

### NETWORK

**T-011** Participate in designating the 'Tony Whitten Conservation Prize' fund for grants on cave biodiversity of Southeast Asia.  
Status: Achieved

## COMMUNICATE

**T-006** Develop CISG website.  
Status: On track

**T-007** Participate at the 21<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Subterranean Biology, Romania, 2022 (still waiting on confirmation that it will be held).  
Status: Achieved

**T-008** Co-organise symposium session on Biospeleology at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology in Lyon, France, 2022.  
Status: Achieved

**T-009** Set up a network of regional contact persons for identifying and dealing with regional issues.  
Status: On track

**T-014** Publish data on hot spots of cave invertebrates, including evaluation of threats.  
Status: On track

**T-015** Address relevant communication requests from media platforms.  
Status: Achieved



A cave cricket (*Rhaphidophoridae*) in a cave in Thailand eating guano, Tham Kaew, Sam Roi Yot National Park  
Photo: Norbert Nagel (CC BY-SA 3.0)

## Activities and results 2022

### COMMUNICATE

#### Communication

**T-007** Participate at the 21st International Conference on Subterranean Biology, Romania, 2022 (still waiting on confirmation that it will be held). (KSR 13)

Number of SSC members' presentations developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 3

Result description: Three members of the leadership of the specialist group presented at this conference, on the topic of 'IUCN red listing of subterranean invertebrates: problems, gaps and the future'.

**T-008** Co-organise symposium session on Biospeleology at the 18th International Congress of Speleology in Lyon, France, 2022. (KSR 13)

Number of SSC members' presentations developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 2

Result description: The symposium was successfully organized by Florian Malard and Louis Deharveng, welcoming proposals for papers on a variety of topics on subterranean life including the management, protection and conservation of subterranean biodiversity and habitats.

## Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 13

Geographic regions: 6 Global, 2 America, 4 Asia, 2 Europe, 1 Oceania

Actions during 2022:

Communicate: 2 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

