



Species

ISSUE 63

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:

Zimmerman, A. 2023. 2022 Report of the Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence 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. 6 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Specialist Group



CHAIR
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
49

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: @hwctf

Twitter: @hwctf

Website: <https://www.hwctf.org/>

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Specialist Group is to support the IUCN SSC network in addressing human-wildlife conflict (HWC) by providing interdisciplinary guidance and expert support, through an integration of ecological and social sciences.

Projected impact 2021–2025

The IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Specialist Group aims to ensure that where human-wildlife conflict might be a threat to a species' conservation status, stakeholders tasked with addressing the situation are knowledgeable, have capacity and resources available to ensure that the situation is addressed appropriately without negatively affecting the conservation status of the species.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Expand and maintain the IUCN SSC HWC Resource Library by adding four pages in addition to 50 resources, per year.
Status: On track

T-004 Lead/coordinate a global assessment on human-wildlife conflict.
Status: Not initiated

T-006 Act as a think tank on the latest issues in HWC, producing one paper per year.
Status: Not initiated

T-015 Ensure publications produced by the Specialist Group are cited 10 times and downloaded from the Specialist Group website 100 times per year.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-005 Provide input to international policy on HWC-related matters for at least two global policies.
Status: On track

T-018 Contribute to four species conservation plans.
Status: Not initiated

ACT

T-007 Hold International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence.
Status: On track

T-008 Lead and/or facilitate 10 virtual events in the build-up to the International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence.
Status: On track

T-013 Publish the IUCN SSC Guidelines on Human-Wildlife Conflict.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-011 Support and assist four IUCN SSC groups in the development of taxon-specific HWC guidelines and policies.
Status: On track

T-014 Secure two new funding partnerships for the Specialist Group's work.
Status: Achieved

T-016 Increase membership of the Specialist Group by 30% to address topic or species gaps where they exist.
Status: Achieved

T-019 Work with two governments to develop or improve their HWC policies.
Status: Not initiated

T-020 Develop one community of practice (COP) around the IUCN SSC Guidelines on Human-Wildlife Conflict.
Status: Not initiated

T-021 Initiate IUCN training course on human-wildlife conflict and coexistence.
Status: Not initiated

COMMUNICATE

T-003 Publish a quarterly newsletter providing the latest publications, news about events and other HWC-related information.
Status: On track

T-017 Publish two HWC publications and contribute to four media articles referencing SSC.
Status: On track



Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Communication

T-002 Expand and maintain the IUCN SSC HWC Resource Library by adding four pages in addition to 50 resources, per year. (KSR 5)

Number of new topic, species or further resources pages added to the resource library: 1

Result description: We have added a new video page to our Library. The page includes a range of presentations, webinars, documentaries, films and training sessions on human-wildlife conflict and coexistence, with new items to be added regularly. Alongside this, we have also launched our YouTube channel, where it is possible to view webinars organised by the Specialist Group.

Number of resources added to the resource library in addition to pages: 151

Result description: In 2022, the group added 151 new papers to our document library, across ten monthly additions. Monthly additions for November and December are still to be added.

T-015 Ensure publications produced by the Specialist Group are cited 10 times and downloaded from the Specialist Group website 100 times per year. (KSR 5)

Number of readings/citations per scientific paper published: 14

Result description: The *IUCN SSC Position Statement on the Management of Human-Wildlife Conflict* was cited eight times in 2022. The Briefing Paper, *What is human-wildlife conflict?*, was cited four times. The Specialist Group website and our call for holistic, interdisciplinary and multilateral management of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence in *Oryx* were both cited once.

Number of times publication downloaded from Specialist Group website: 1036

Result description: The *IUCN SSC Position Statement on the Management of Human-Wildlife Conflict* was downloaded from the Specialist Group website in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese 451 times. The Briefing Paper on *What is Human-Wildlife Conflict?* was downloaded 208 times. The IUCN Issues Brief on Human-Wildlife Conflict was downloaded 75 times. The Briefing Paper on Perspectives on Human-wildlife Coexistence was downloaded 210 times. The Information document on the inclusion of a target on Human-wildlife Conflict in the framework was downloaded 22 times. The Information document on developing indicators for a target on human-wildlife conflict in the framework was downloaded 19 times. The Summary of key points regarding the inclusion of

human-wildlife conflict in the framework was downloaded 15 times. The Information document and discussion summary regarding the indicator for Human-Wildlife Conflict in Target 4 were downloaded 36 times.

PLAN

Policy

T-005 Provide input to international policy on HWC-related matters for at least two global policies. (KSR 9)

Number of policies where SSC members provided technical input: 0

Result description: The Specialist Group was the proposed institution for coordinating the development and delivery of the indicator for human-wildlife conflict for Target 4 as part of UNEP-WCMC's compilation of data relating to headline indicators. In 2022, the Specialist Group produced three documents with recommendations on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The documents dealt with developing indicators for a target on human-wildlife conflict in the framework, a summary of key points regarding the inclusion of human-wildlife conflict in the framework and an information document and discussion summary regarding the indicator for Human-Wildlife Conflict in Target 4 following an open technical meeting we convened in June 2022 on developing an indicator for human-wildlife

Building communities capacities to coexist with wildlife
Photo: HWCCSG



conflict. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was adopted in December 2022. The indicator that the Specialist Group proposed has been chosen as a component indicator for the Target and the Specialist Group will continue to support parties in this work.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-013 Publish the IUCN SSC Guidelines on Human-wildlife Conflict. (KSR 10)

Number of technical documents provided to support conservation actions: 0

Result description: The IUCN SSC *Guidelines on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence* have been drafted and are currently out for peer review. We intend to publish the Guidelines in early 2023.

Synergy

T-007 Hold International Conference on Human-wildlife Conflict and Coexistence. (KSR 10)

Number of conferences held: 0

Result description: In 2022, we needed to postpone the International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence until 2023. We have confirmed the new dates for the conference (March 30th-April 1st), and planning has resumed to ensure that the event is successful.

T-008 Lead and/or facilitate 10 virtual events in the build-up to the International Conference on Human-wildlife Conflict and Coexistence. (KSR 10)

Virtual events held: 2

Result description: As part of our Case Studies work in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, we held two webinars in October and November 2022. The first webinar covered the topic of community-led management of wildlife impacts using three case studies from India and Zimbabwe. The presentations covered developing a community guardian

programme to reduce livestock depredation, the Terai Tiger Project and the primary response teams for efficient conflict management and building communities' capacities to coexist with wildlife. Our second webinar was on incentives and financial instruments for coexistence via a discussion of three case studies from Bolivia, Kenya, and Botswana. Presentations included the role of honey production in achieving coexistence with Andean bears, the opportunities and challenges of insurance in human-wildlife conflict and reversing the cost-benefit imbalance for communities sharing space with elephants by building an 'Elephant Aware Economy'. In both webinars following the presentations, a moderated discussion was held with members of the Specialist Group.

NETWORK

Synergy

T-011 Support and assist four IUCN SSC groups in the development of taxon-specific HWC guidelines and policies. (KSR 3)

Collaborations on taxon-specific HWC guidelines and policies: 0

Result description: The Programme Officer attended the IUCN SSC Otter Specialist Groups 15th International Otter Congress in Sospel, France, in September 2022, and presented on the work of the Specialist Group and how it supports the conservation community in addressing human-wildlife conflict. Attendance at the meeting led to lots of fruitful discussions and the Programme Officer was invited to become a member of the Otter Specialist Group to continue collaborations.

T-014 Secure two new funding partnerships for the Specialist Group's work. (KSR 1)

Number of 'funding' partners established and maintained: 1

Result description: In 2022, we received funding from Jamma International to support the employment of a Policy Officer for the Specialist Group. The Policy Officer will

support the Chair and the SG in ongoing science-policy bridging work, including coordinating and engaging on policy matters with the major biodiversity conventions, as well as governments around the world in their efforts to develop national policies for the management of human-wildlife conflict.

Membership

T-016 Increase membership of the Specialist Group by 30% to address topic or species gaps where they exist. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 22

Result description: In April 2022, the IUCN SSC Steering Committee appointed the Specialist Group as a permanent Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission. As part of this change, 22 new members were added to the group to fill expertise and regional gaps in the group's membership.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-003 Publish a quarterly newsletter providing the latest publications, news about events and other HWC related information. (KSR 12)

Number of Species e-bulletin, Save Our Species newsletter, SSC Groups' newsletter editions produced: 3

Result description: The Specialist Group published three newsletters in 2022 covering a range of topics. The newsletter now has 651 subscribers.

T-017 Publish two HWC publications and contribute to four media articles referencing SSC. (KSR 12)

Number of media articles mentioning IUCN Species theme: 1

Result description: Our Specialist Group member Mayukh Chatterjee provided insights for an article in *The Guardian* on 'Nepal's tiger numbers recover but attacks on people cause alarm' and had the IUCN Specialist Group affiliation included.

Number of publications completed: 9



Result description: In June 2022, in collaboration with IUCN, we published an Issues Brief on Human-Wildlife Conflict that covers what the issue is, why it is important and what can be done. The Programme Officer wrote a guest article for the IISD SDG Knowledge Hub on World Wildlife Day in March 2022 on how 'Preventing Human-wildlife Conflict is Critical for People and the Planet'. The article was published as part of the launch of three case studies that were published in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. In total six case studies were published in 2022, with the aim of covering the process projects have implemented to understand, plan and address various aspects of a human-wildlife conflict situation. The case studies will be used to complement the IUCN SSC Guidelines on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence and illustrate key principles of human-wildlife conflict management. The Chair also published an article in *The Conversation* on 'UN biodiversity conference: what does living in harmony with nature look like?'

and convening webinars, and Chester Zoo for funding the Chair to attend the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada. We also thank the IUCN SSC Otter Specialist Group for supporting the Programme Officers' attendance at their symposium and Re:wild for funding our ongoing website costs and the design of our Guidelines. The Luc Hoffmann Institute is thanked for funding the Programme Officer to help with the finalisation of the Guidelines chapters.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 17

Geographic regions: 16 Global, 1 Europe

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 4 (KSR 5)

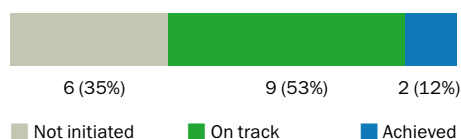
Plan: 1 (KSR 9)

Act: 3 (KSR 10)

Network: 3 (KSR 1, 2, 3)

Communicate: 3 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



Acknowledgements

We thank Elephant Family for funding the salary of our Programme Officer, and the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit of Oxford University for hosting the Specialist Group. We thank the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations for funding our work developing case studies