



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:

Cheek, M, Niang Diop, F, and Couch, C. 2023. 2022 Report of the West Africa Plant Red List Authority. 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

2022 Report

IUCN SSC West Africa Plant Red List Authority



**RED LIST AUTHORITY
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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

Charlotte Couch

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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

17

Mission statement

The IUCN SSC West Africa Plant Red List Authority (WAPRLA) aims to increase the number of assessments of West African plant species at a faster rate than the present. We also aim to network with West African and international specialist researchers, conservationists, policymakers and other stakeholders, communicate our group's work to diverse audiences and contribute to conservation planning and actions, in a region that suffers one of the most dramatic losses of tropical forest in the world.

Projected impact 2021–2025

WAPRLA aims to increase the knowledge on the extinction risk of plants in West Africa, followed by conservation planning and action, particularly in Guinea, to deliver a conservation action plan for threatened trees and work with communities to protect those species through effective collaboration and practical approaches. It is also expected to be able to extend the work in others West African countries.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Assess the extinction risk of 50 West African plant species.

Status: On track

T-003 Conduct reassessments of 25 West African tree species.

Status: No initiated

T-004 Publish two scientific publications acknowledging SCC affiliation.

Status: No initiated

PLAN

T-005 Prepare a Threatened Trees of Guinea Conservation Action Plan.

Status: On track

T-006 Develop nine Conservation Action Plans for endemic species of Guinea (subject to funding).

Status: On track

ACT

T-007 Carry out conservation of threatened trees of Guinea.

Status: On track

T-008 Involve six villages on the edge of Tropical Important Plant Areas in Guinea in species conservation and sustainable use (subject to funding).

Status: On track

NETWORK

T-001 Train 20 West African collaborators in IUCN Red List assessment tools.

Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-009 Write four blog posts on threatened trees of Guinea and West African plants.

Status: No initiated

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-002 Assess the extinction risk of 50 West African plant species. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 5

Result description: In 2022, interns from Sierra Leone were trained in red listing. Also, endemic species of Sierra Leone red listing has started.

PLAN

Planning

T-005 Prepare a Threatened Trees of Guinea Conservation Action Plan. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: In 2022, there were advancements in workshop planning with the establishment of a committee



The CFZ nursery was created in 2022 supporting tree planting with villagers in Mt Bero and Diécké TIPAs
Photo: Faya Julien Simbiano



Samuel Sokpo who was a red listing intern at Kew in 2022
Photo: Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

to facilitate the process. Original dates changed due to the absence of participants at the COPs.

T-006 Develop nine Conservation Action Plans for endemic species of Guinea (subject to funding). (KSR 8)

Number of plans being implemented: 0
Result description: Conservation action plans for four West African endemic species were done during 2022.

ACT

Synergy

T-008 Involve six villages on the edge of Tropical Important Plant Areas in Guinea in species conservation and sustainable use (subject to funding). (KSR 11)

Number of rural communities involved in species conservation programs and sustainable use practices: 2
Result description: In 2022, two further village tree nurseries were set up in two villages to propagate and protect threatened tree species. Eventually, we want them to produce enough plants to supply local reforestation projects.

Conservation actions

T-007 Carry out conservation of threatened trees of Guinea. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 7
Result description: Village tree nurseries were set up in three villages close to Tropical Important Plant Areas to propagate threatened trees and socioeconomic species. Seven species have been propagated to date and planted out.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-001 Train 20 West African collaborators in IUCN Red List assessment tools. (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in assessment tools: 20
Result description: An online red listing workshop was held in French to train WAPRLA members and potential new members in red listing. This was taught by Emily Beech of BGCI and facilitated by Fatimata Niang Diop and Charlotte Couch.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9

Geographic regions: 1 Global, 8 Africa

Actions during 2022:

- Assess: 1 (KSR 6)
- Plan: 2 (KSR 8)
- Act: 2 (KSR 10, 11)
- Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

