



# 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:

Stuart, S. 2023. 2022 Report of the Asian Species Action Partnership 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

## 2022 Report

# IUCN SSC Asian Species Action Partnership Specialist Group



Asian Species Action Partnership  
Conserving species on the brink



#### CHAIR

Simon Stuart

Synchronicity Earth,  
London, UK

#### PROGRAMME OFFICER

Nerissa Chao

IUCN SSC Asian Species Action Partnership,  
Singapore

#### NUMBER OF MEMBERS

226

#### SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Instagram: @iucn\_asap

Twitter: @IUCN\_ASAP

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

### Mission statement

Avert the extinctions of Critically Endangered land and freshwater vertebrates in Southeast Asia.

### Projected impact 2021–2025

We envision a number of Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) species (Critically Endangered land and freshwater vertebrates found in Southeast Asia) will have benefited from effective conservation action. The ASAP will have created an enabling environment to catalyse effective conservation action for ASAP species – with a focus on those most neglected – and increased funding available for the conservation of ASAP species. Partners of ASAP will be better able to improve conservation outcomes of ASAP species through enhanced skills and capabilities, with a growing number of conservation leaders ready to take on the challenges of species conservation. The conservation needs of ASAP species will be more widely understood and acknowledged, with greater conservation action occurring thanks to the increased awareness of the urgent need to end ASAP species extinctions.

### Targets 2021–2025

#### PLAN

**T-003** Identify and prioritise, by 2022, a list of ASAP species that would benefit from *ex situ* intervention.

Status: On track

#### ACT

**T-004** Catalyse an *ex situ* species recovery project for at least one ASAP species by 2024.

Status: Not initiated

**T-005** Fund the conservation of at least five ‘neglected’ ASAP species by 2023.

Status: Achieved

**T-006** Provide technical advice and support to at least ten ASAP Partners by 2025.

Status: Achieved

#### NETWORK

**T-001** Increase the ASAP Partnership to at least 200 Partner organisations by 2025.

Status: Achieved

**T-002** Hold at least two training sessions by 2023 for ASAP Partners in skills to build capacity for ASAP species conservation (e.g., project management, strategy development).

Status: Achieved

**T-009** Train at least 10 ASAP Partners in NGO management skills.

Status: On track

### COMMUNICATE

**T-007** Publish four ASAP Newsletters annually.

Status: On track

**T-008** Raise the profile of ASAP species conservation and/or ASAP Partners through at least five articles or social media campaigns by 2023.

Status: Achieved

### Activities and results 2022

#### ACT

##### Conservation actions

**T-005 Fund the conservation of at least five ‘neglected’ ASAP species by 2023.** (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 15

Result description: ASAP supported 11 projects across four countries benefiting the conservation of 15 ASAP Species. A total of SGD 118,000 was disbursed in grants.

##### Technical advice

**T-006 Provide technical advice and support to at least ten ASAP Partners by 2025.** (KSR 10)

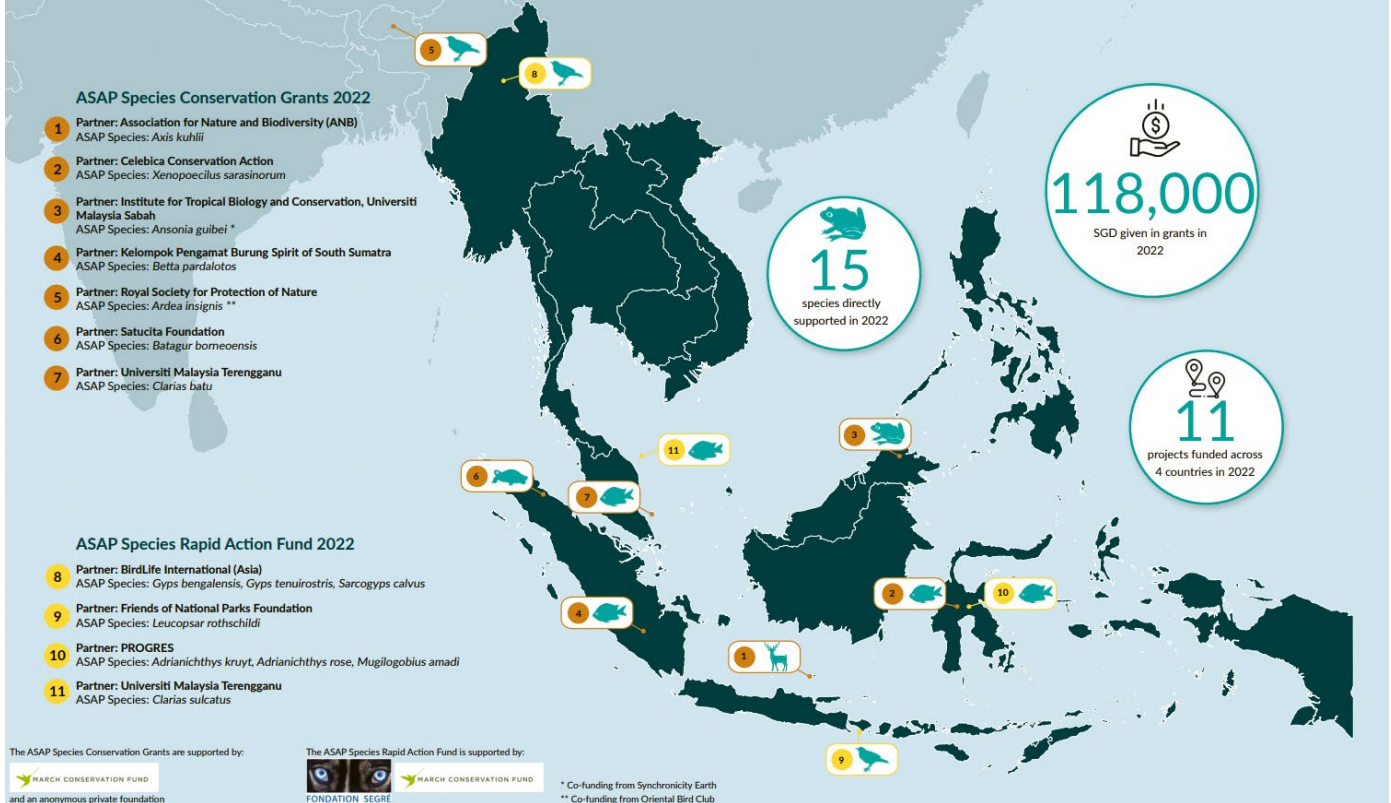
Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 10

Result description: ASAP continues to support the partnership with advice and support, and connects ASAP Partners with external stakeholders to allow them access to the relevant support they need.

# Scaling-up funding

Species diversity and richness are the underpinning foundations for functioning ecosystems which are vital for societal health, yet funding for species conservation is difficult to secure and unevenly distributed. ASAP is addressing this by running two grant programmes that put funding in the hands of those at the front-line of saving species on the brink.

Since the ASAP grant programmes began, we have awarded more than SGD 350,000 for 34 projects across 7 countries, directly conserving 43 species. Launched in 2020 at a time when the Covid-19 pandemic was causing funding cuts and increasing costs, ASAP grants have been important for keeping critical conservation projects going as well as initiating new ones.



ASAP funding and grants in 2022  
Photo: ASAP

## NETWORK

### Capacity building

**T-002 Hold at least two training sessions by 2023 for ASAP Partners in skills to build capacity for ASAP species conservation (e.g., project management, strategy development).** (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in management skills: 11

Result description: Eleven women from Southeast Asia were supported in Leadership training providing 40 hours of online training and support.

### Membership

**T-001 Increase the ASAP Partnership to at least 200 Partner organisations by 2025.** (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 41

Result description: An additional 25 new ASAP Partners were recruited in 2022. The total number of ASAP Partner organisations is 226.

## COMMUNICATE

### Communication

**T-007 Publish four ASAP Newsletters annually.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 4

Result description: Four newsletters were produced in 2022.

**T-008 Raise the profile of ASAP species conservation and/or ASAP Partners through at least five articles or social media campaigns by 2023.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 12

Result description: Continuous social media posts were made, six social media campaigns and four ASAP website articles published in: <https://www.speciesontherink.org/news/articles/>. We released two knowledge products: 1) an urgent call to halt species loss in the ASEAN (<http://www.aseanbiodiversity.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Halting-species-loss-in-ASEAN.pdf>), and 2) setting priorities for the conservation of Asia's tortoises and freshwater turtles ([https://speciesontherink.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ASAP\\_CR-TFT\\_ReportLoRes.pdf](https://speciesontherink.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ASAP_CR-TFT_ReportLoRes.pdf)).

### Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all our donors who have provided invaluable support to ASAP throughout 2022. Their generosity has enabled us to continue building the Partnership, support a greater number of ASAP Partners, and ultimately advance ASAP Species conservation. We are also extremely pleased to have a new donor, the March Conservation Fund, who join our efforts. As always, a very special big

thank you to our Host institution, Mandai Nature, for providing financial support and a home to the ASAP Secretariat, and for its unwavering support to the partnership and species conservation in this region. Without the generous support from all our valued donors, our work would simply not be possible. We also celebrate the incredible work of ASAP Partners whose dedication to securing species is making a difference every day. Thank you to the following for their financial support throughout the year, for which we are extremely grateful: EAZA, Fondation Segre, IUCN SSC, Mandai Nature, March Conservation Fund, Oriental Bird Club, Synchronicity Earth and an anonymous private foundation.

### Summary of achievements

**Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9**

**Geographic regions: 9 Asia**

**Actions during 2022:**

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 2 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 2 (KSR 13)

**Overall achievement 2021–2025:**

