



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:

Lansdown, R. 2023. 2022 Report of the Freshwater Plant 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 Freshwater Plant Specialist Group



CHAIR
Richard Lansdown
Ardeola Environmental
Services, UK

**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**
Melanie Bilz
Berlin, Germany

NUMBER OF MEMBERS
132

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: IUCN SSC Freshwater Plant Specialist Group

Mission statement

The Freshwater Plant Specialist Group (FPSG) exists to promote and further the conservation of plant species which are dependent upon wetlands and the habitats upon which these depend.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Not stated.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Global conservation assessment of the genus *Callitriche*.
Status: Not initiated

T-002 Global conservation assessment of the genus *Cryptocoryne*.
Status: Achieved

T-005 Develop a basis for assessment of wetland-dependent plants in the Indo-Burma region.
Status: Not initiated

T-006 Develop a Red List Index of Mediterranean wetland plants.
Status: On track

T-007 Develop a global wetland plant Red List Index.
Status: Not initiated

T-008 Global conservation assessment of the Podostemaceae and Hydrostachyaceae.
Status: Not initiated

T-017 Publish global revision of the genus *Callitriche*, including a description of more than 10 new species.
Status: On track

T-018 Conservation of Western Ghats endemic wetland plants – new Red List assessments.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-011 Develop a system for monitoring climate change using high-altitude wetland plants.
Status: Not initiated

T-012 Develop a global conservation plan for *Crinum malabaricum*.
Status: On track

T-013 Develop a global conservation plan for the genus *Callitriche*.
Status: On track

T-015 Raise awareness of conservation needs of overlooked and under-represented wetland habitats.
Status: Not initiated

T-016 Publication of the results of species assessment and conservation planning.
Status: On track

T-019 Conservation of Critically Endangered *Rotala malabarica*: A proposal for survey, awareness, and monitoring.
Status: On track

ACT

T-014 Establish a global *ex situ* collection of *Cryptocoryne*.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-003 Aim to have a hosting agreement with a Botanic Garden.
Status: Not initiated

T-004 Hold a meeting with key members to establish a coherent strategy for the next quadrennium and beyond.
Status: Not initiated

COMMUNICATE

T-020 Support Freshwater Conservation Committee communications highlighting freshwater species at risk and threats to freshwater systems.
Status: Achieved

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-002 Global conservation assessment of the genus *Cryptocoryne*. (KSR 6)
Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: The species and varieties submitted to the IUCN Red List Unit in 2021 are still in the submissions queue and being processed for publication.

T-006 Develop a Red List Index of Mediterranean wetland plants. (KSR 7)

Development of a regional Red List Index: 0
Result description: Red List assessments have been submitted but are not yet published due to Red List Unit backlog.



Crinum malabaricum, Kerala 2015
Photo: R.V. Lansdown

T-018 Conservation of Western Ghats endemic wetland plants - new Red List assessments. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 8

Result description: This project has been completed by the Western Ghats Plant SG. We are now looking to develop another larger project.

Research activities

T-017 Publish global revision of the genus *Callitriche*, including a description of >10 new species. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 2

Result description: Ongoing work toward a taxonomic resolution, with the publication of two articles including more than ten new species.

PLAN

Planning

T-012 Develop a global conservation plan for *Crinum malabaricum*. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: A re-survey for the species was carried out in September-October 2022, with the report going to MBZ in 2023.

T-013 Develop a global conservation plan for the genus *Callitriche*. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: Ongoing taxonomic revision work is continuing, which provides the basis for the conservation plan.

T-016 Publication of the results of species assessment and conservation planning. (KSR 8)

Contributions to publications referencing conservation of wetland plants: 0

Result description: The group contributed to further publications relevant to species assessment and conservation planning.

T-019 Conservation of Critically Endangered *Rotala malabarica*: A proposal for survey, awareness, and monitoring. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: Fieldwork has been completed, the report has been produced and is being edited for publication.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-014 Establish a global *ex situ* collection of *Cryptocoryne*. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *ex situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: The first live material was transferred to Singapore in November 2022.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-020 Support Freshwater Conservation Committee communications highlighting freshwater species at risk and threats to freshwater systems. (KSR 12)

Contribute to and disseminate communications from Freshwater Conservation Committee's Species at risk report (in partnership with Shoal) within and outside SSC: Ongoing.

Result description: The group contributed five species to the Freshwater Conservation Committee and Shoal's Fantastic Freshwater report. The Freshwater Plant Specialist Group supported the report with information, review, and feedback. It was published in May 2022.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021-2025: 18

Geographic regions: 11 Global, 6 Asia, 2 Africa, 1 America, 1 Europa

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 4 (KSR 5, 6, 7)

Plan: 4 (KSR 8)

Act: 1 (KSR 10)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021-2025:

