



Species

ISSUE 64

2023 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 and Centers for Species Survival (CSS) each year. Each SSC and CSS 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 and CSS Stand-alone Reports

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC and CSS. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

Title of the group

Photograph(s) of the Chair/Co-Chairs

Group information

Includes names of Chair/Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators, Program Officers, Species Survival Directors, and Species Survival Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the 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 or CSS 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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

Example for the recommended citation:

Baylina, N., Fonseca, C., Raposo, A., Vendrell, C., Franco, G. and Carvalho, S. 2024. 2023 Report of the CSS Marine: Oceanário de Lisboa. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. 2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

2023 Report

CSS Marine: Oceanário de Lisboa



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SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: [Oceanário de Lisboa](#)
Instagram: [@oceanariodelisboa](#)
Linkedin: [oceanariodelisboa](#)

Mission statement

Established in 2018 in Lisbon, this Center for Species Survival, hosted by Oceanário de Lisboa, has the goal to increase the representativity of marine species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, to better understand the conservation needs of the marine environment. To this end, it works closely with the Marine Biodiversity Unit on global assessments of marine fishes, with a particular focus on Not Evaluated species held in public aquariums. It is also conducting national assessments for Portuguese marine fishes, contributing to the conservation of national marine species.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Understand the conservation needs of the marine environment globally by increasing the representativity of marine species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Guide conservation actions in Portugal by building a baseline on the current extinction risk of the more than 1,040 species of

marine fishes that inhabit national waters, updating the only Red Book of Marine Fishes in Portugal, dating from 1993.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-005 Complete national assessments for the 1,044 marine fish species for the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal.
Status: On track

T-009 Publication of the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal.
Status: On track

T-010 Contribute to Red List assessments of 600 species of marine fish for the Global Marine Species Assessment as data collector, facilitator, reviewer, or any combination of roles.
Status: On track

T-011 Develop the Public Aquarium Species Assessment Project – Assess all Near Threatened (NE) species in Oceanário de Lisboa's collection.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-008 Support the work of SSC Specialist Groups during the process of assessing species for the Red List.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-006 Communicate the work developed by CSS Marine- Oceanário de Lisboa for the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal.
Status: On track

T-007 Communicate the work developed by CSS Marine- Oceanário de Lisboa.
Status: On track

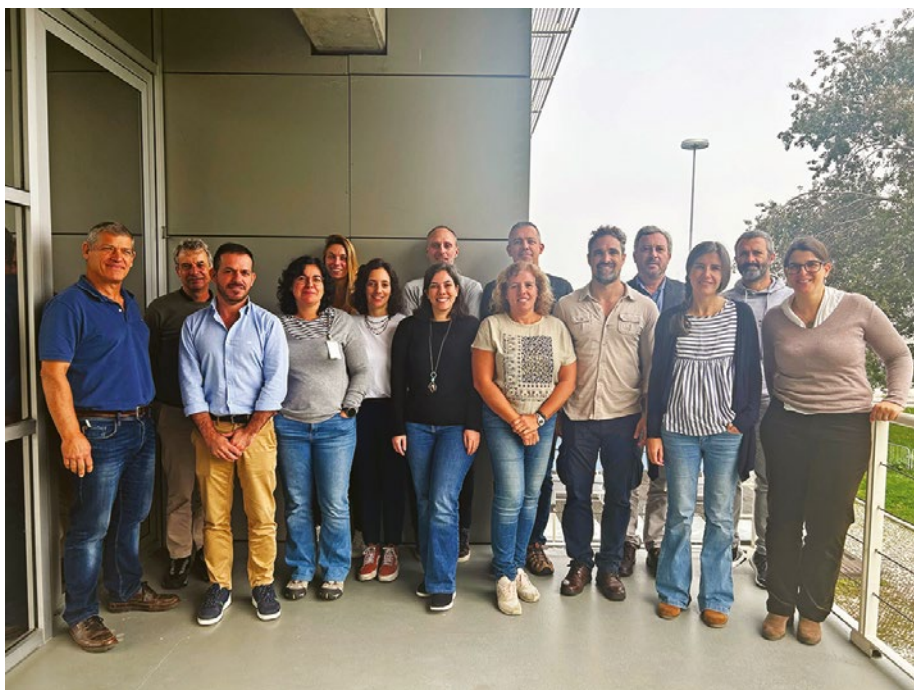
Activities and results 2023

ASSESS

Red List

T-005 Complete national assessments for the 1,044 marine fish species for the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal. (KSR 5)

Number of national assessments completed: 437



Red Book workshop to assess species of Scorpaeniformes, Serranidae and Macrouridae
Photo: Oceanário de Lisboa

Result description: In 2023, a total of 374 new pre-assessments were prepared (accumulated total: 680 pre-assessments), and 227 new species were assessed in 7 workshops (accumulated total: 437 assessments and 12 workshops). The workshops counted with the participation of 25 researchers from 9 Portuguese institutions from mainland Portugal, Azores and Madeira.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-008 Support the work of SSC Specialist Groups during the process of assessing species for the Red List. (KSR 3)

Number of assessments contributed to: 5

Result description: Co-moderation of the assessment process of 5 species of the family Molidae, with MBU (Gina Ralph) and independent experts. Assessments were submitted for publication on the Red List in September 2022 and rejected. During 2023 the group continued working together to address the reviewer's comments and amend the assessments.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-006 Communicate the work developed by CSS Marine- Oceanário de Lisboa for the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal. (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 42

Result description: In 2023, 24 new publications were prepared and published in Oceanário de Lisboa's social media accounts. These posts, developed for the general public, focused on the progress

of the work being developed for the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal, and on interesting facts about the species being assessed. Since the beginning of the project, the team produced 42 social media posts.

T-007 Communicate the work developed by CSS Marine- Oceanário de Lisboa. (KSR 12)

Number of SSC Quarterly Reports with a contribution from Oceanário: 2

Result description: In 2023, we contributed to two Species Survival Commission Quarterly Reports.

Acknowledgements

We thank Câmara Municipal de Lisboa for the financial support given to the Red Book of the Marine Fishes of Portugal, and to Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas for the institutional support. Furthermore, we would like to thank all the researchers and institutions that have volunteered their time and knowledge to the national assessments of marine fishes so far.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 7

Geographic regions: 3 Europe, 4 Global

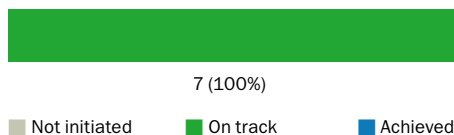
Actions during 2023:

Assess: 1 (KSR 5)

Network: 1 (KSR 3)

Communicate: 2 (KSR 12, 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



Social media post about species being assessed on the Red Book of Marine Fishes
Photo: Oceanário de Lisboa



Nothobranchius fuscotaeniatus
Photo: Csenge Nagy



Tetra Parnaiba
Photo: Karina Molina



Trioceros hoehnelii
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson



Sternberia lutea
Photo: Hayri Duman



Egretta rufescens
Photo: Ernesto Gómez



Lactifluus neotropicus
Photo: Aida Vasco



Mayfly nymph (*Ecdyonurus* sp.)
Photo: Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber and Wolfram Graf