



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:

Stuart, S. 2024. 2023 Report of the Asian Species Action Partnership. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

2023 Report

IUCN SSC Asian Species Action Partnership



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
203

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Instagram: @iucn_asap

X: @IUCN_ASAP

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

Mission statement

We catalyse and accelerate conservation action for the most threatened species in Southeast Asia by, amplifying funding and knowledge, strengthening local organisations to be resilient and successful, investing in people to grow skills, motivation and impact, and fostering a collaborative and dynamic network.

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 10 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: Achieved

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 2023

PLAN

Planning

T-003 Identify and prioritise, by 2022, a list of ASAP species that would benefit from *ex situ* intervention. (KSR 8)

Number of technical documents to support the development of conservation plans/strategies: 1

Result description: Process to identify and prioritise ASAP Species that would benefit from *ex situ* intervention developed and initial list of species identified.

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: 20



ASAP Women in Conservation Leadership Programme
Photo: Elizabeth Zhang

FNPF Bali Myna Nest Box
Photo: Daniel Willcox



Bali Myna
Photo: Elizabeth Zhang

Result description: ASAP supported 12 projects across seven countries benefiting the conservation of 20 ASAP Species. Approximately SGD 200,000 was disbursed in species conservation grants.

Technical advice

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

Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 6

Result description: Field visits to ASAP Partners were made and online support to Partners given as requested.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-009 Train at least 10 ASAP Partners in NGO management skills. (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in management skills: 20

Result description: Essentials of NGO Management training completed for 11 organisations with around 20 individuals participating.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

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

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 3

Result description: Three newsletters were produced in 2023.

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: 14

Result description: Continuous social media posts were made, six social media campaigns and seven [ASAP website articles published](#). A webinar on 'Securing a Future for Freshwater Fishes in Southeast Asia' alongside the release of '[A strategic framework to accelerate urgent conservation action for ASAP Freshwater Fishes in Southeast Asia](#)' were carried out.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all our donors who have provided invaluable support to ASAP throughout 2023. Their generosity has enabled us to continue building the Partnership, support a greater number of ASAP Partners, and ultimately advance ASAP Species conservation. As always, a very special big thank you to our host institution, Mandai Nature, which provides financial support and a home to the ASAP Secretariat, and for its unwavering support of 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: Fondation Segre, IUCN SSC, Mandai Nature, March Conservation Fund, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, 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 2023:

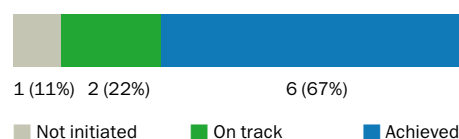
Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 2 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



Lactifluus neotropicus
Photo: Aida Vasco



Sternberia lutea
Photo: Hayri Duman



Tetra Parnaiba
Photo: Karina Molina



Egretta rufescens
Photo: Ernesto Gómez



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



Nothobranchius fuscotaeniatus
Photo: Csenge Nagy



Trioceros hoehnelii
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson

