IUCN

SSC
Species Survival Commission

Species

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2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat

Stand-alone report
IUCN SSC West Africa Plant Red List Authority

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 standalone 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 Authory 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:
Cheek, M., Niang Diop, F. and Couch, C. 2024. 2023 Report of the West Africa Plant Red List Authority. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat.* Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

2023 Report

IUCN SSC West Africa Plant Red List Authority

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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

The 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.

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: On track

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: Achieved

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: Achieved

NETWORK

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

COMMUNICATE

T-009 Write four blog posts on threatened trees of Guinea and West African plants.
Status: No initiated

Activities and results 2023

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: 15

Result description: In 2023, 15 Guinea and Sierra Leone endemic species were assessed and submitted to the IUCN Red List.

PLAN

Planning

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

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 1

Group photo from the Workshop to develop the National Conservation Action Plan for Threatened Trees of Guinea
Photo: C. Couch

Village nursery with threatened trees, Forecariah
Photo: AGEDD

Carrying plants up the hill for planting out at Kounounkan TIPA
Photo: AGEDD

Result description: The National Conservation Action Plan for the Threatened Trees of Guinea was developed through participatory workshops in March and October 2023. It was published and delivered to the government of Guinea in November 2023.

[SSC Grant awarded]

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

Number of plans being implemented: 5

Result description: Five Conservation Action Plans for endemic species of Guinea have been produced for *Talbotiella cheekii*, *Ternstroemia guineensis*, *Cassipourea adami*, *Keetia susu* and *Fleurydora felicis*, all assessed as Endangered (EN). These can be downloaded from the National Herbarium of Guinea website.

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: 4

Result description: In 2023, a further four village nurseries and one institutional nursery were set up in villages bordering Tropical Important plant Areas (TIPAs) in Guinee Forestière with additional funding to produce threatened and socioeconomic plants to plant out in the buffer zones in order to reduce the need to go into the TIPAs to collect material and improve access to useful species for the villagers.

Conservation actions

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

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 3

Result description: Three further threatened species have been protected under the new boundary for the Kounounkan proposed National Park.

Acknowledgements

We thank all our partners and collaborators for all their hard work and dedication.

Summary of achievements

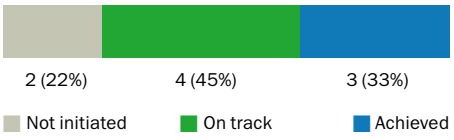
Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9

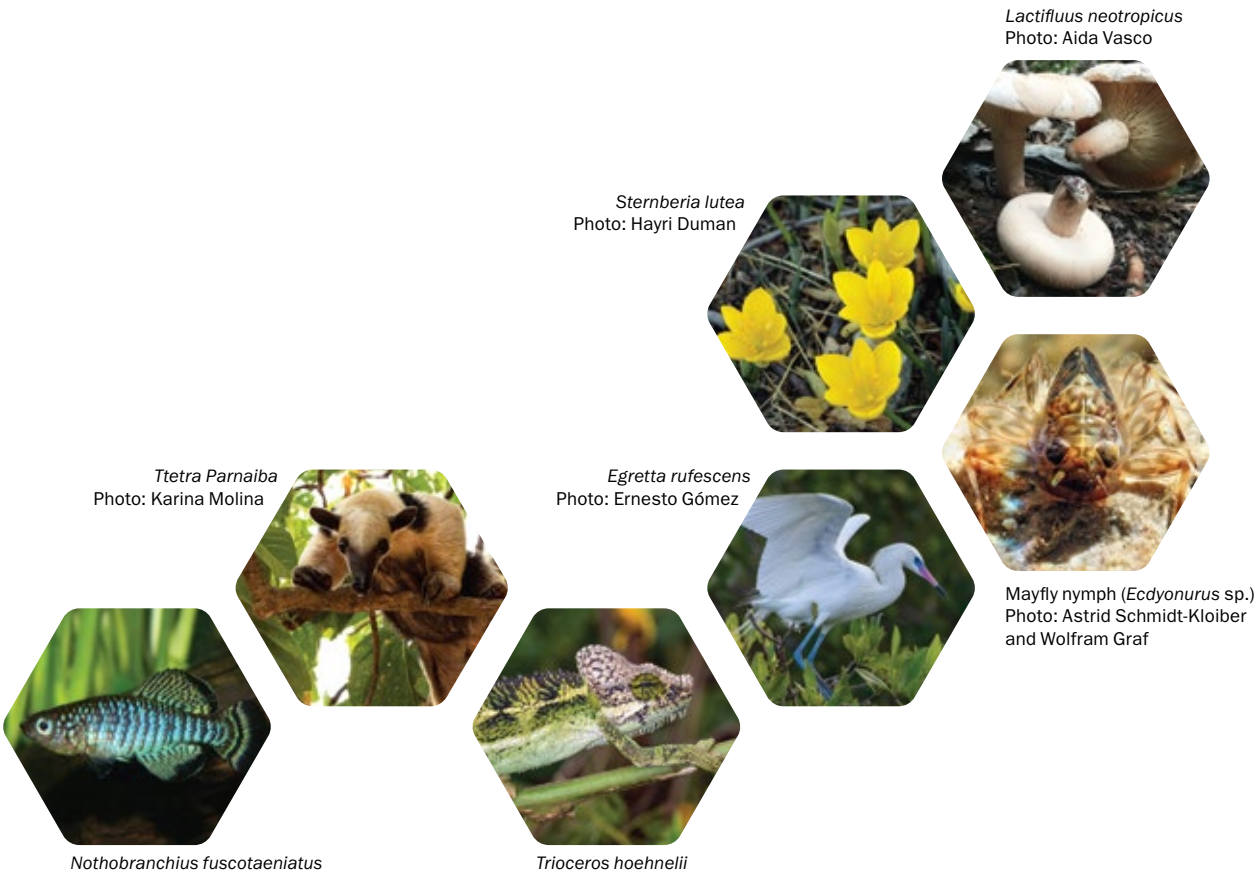
Geographic regions: 1 Global, 8 Africa

Actions during 2023:

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

Overall achievement 2021–2025:





Lactifluus neotropicus
Photo: Aida Vasco

Sternberia lutea
Photo: Hayri Duman

Ttetra 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