



# Species

ISSUE 64

## 2023 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 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.

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## 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.

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### Title of the 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, Program Officers, Species Survival Directors, and Species Survival Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

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### Logo of the 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 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).

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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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

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### Example for the recommended citation:

Ryder, O. and Siriaroonrat, B. 2024. 2023 Report of the Animal Biobanking for Conservation Specialist Group. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

# IUCN SSC Animal Biobanking for Conservation Specialist Group



**CO-CHAIR**  
Oliver Ryder  
San Diego Zoo Wildlife  
Alliance, US



**CO-CHAIR**  
Boripat Siriaroonrat  
Mahidol University,  
Thailand

**NUMBER OF MEMBERS**  
40

## Mission statement

Not stated yet.

## Projected impact 2021–2025

This cross-cutting group will impact multiple species as it is built out by contributing to the One Plan Approach and providing new opportunities for characterising species' genetic variation and, potentially, genetic rescue efforts.

## Targets 2021–2025

### NETWORK

**T-001** Develop the initial membership.  
Status: On track

### COMMUNICATE

**T-002** Convene a meeting of ABC SG members in person and via an internet communications platform.  
Status: On track

## Activities and results 2023

### NETWORK

#### Membership

**T-001** Develop the initial membership. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 30  
Result description: Initial participants were convened, membership invitations were issued, and an initial membership list was prepared and shared between the Co-Chairs.

### COMMUNICATE

#### Scientific meetings

**T-002** Convene a meeting of ABC SG members in person and via an internet communications platform. (KSR 12)

Number of scientific events in which the members participated: 1  
Result description: The inaugural meeting of the ABC SG was held in San Diego with in-person and virtual attendees. A values statement and a vision statement were created. Task forces for working on the three identified realms of biobanking (frozen blood and tissues), cryopreserved cell cultures, and cryopreserved reproductive cells) were convened. A full report is available and was posted online.

## Acknowledgements

The Animal Biobanking for Conservation Specialist Group is very grateful for the support of the CPSG, Eric Tsao, Sonja Luz, Manabu Onuma and Stephanie Winton.

## Summary of achievements

**Total number of targets 2021–2025: 2**

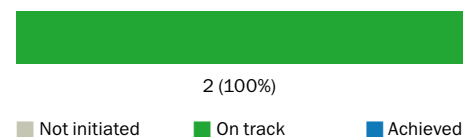
**Geographic regions: 2 Global**

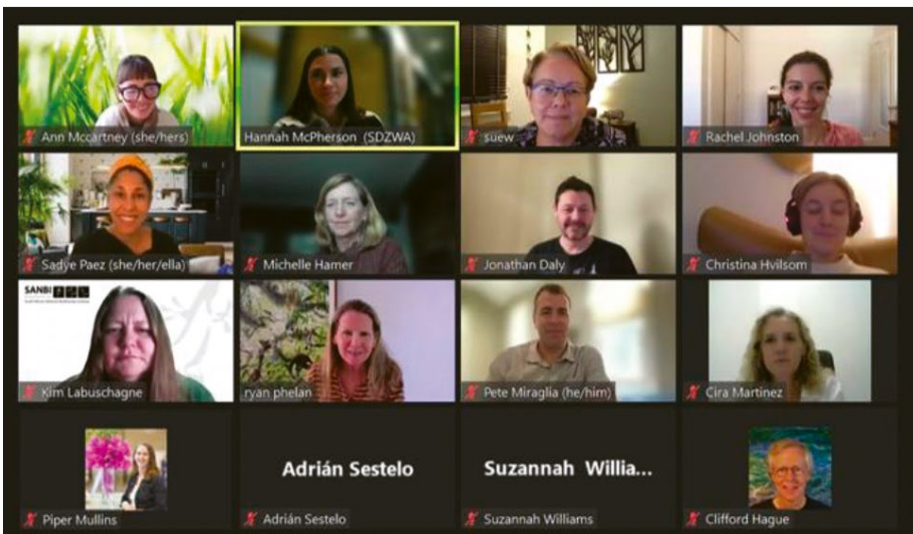
**Actions during 2023:**

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

**Overall achievement 2021–2025:**





Animal Biobanking for Conservation Specialist Group  
initial meeting in-person and virtual attendees  
Photo: Oliver Ryder



*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