



Species

ISSUE 65

2024-2025 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 that were generated during 2024 (full year) and 2025 (first quarter), 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:

Grace, M, and Long, B. (2025). 2024-2025 Report of the Green Status of Species-SSC Integration Task Force. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *Species: Annual Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat 2024-2025*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2024-2025 Report

IUCN SSC Green Status of Species- SSC Integration Task Force



CO-CHAIR
Molly Grace
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CO-CHAIR
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
23

Mission statement

Ensure the Green Status of Species and its derivative products are further developed, refined, and implemented with the support and input of the SSC network.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Launch and implement the Green Status of Species (GSS) to quantify species recovery and conservation impact.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Launch the Green Status of Species.
Status: Achieved

T-002 Establish Green Status team within the Red List Unit of IUCN.
Status: Achieved

T-003 Update Red List infrastructure (IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) and website) to provide integrated delivery of Red List and Green Status assessments.
Status: Achieved

T-005 Complete 5,000 GSS assessments by 2025.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-004 Develop GSS assessment training materials and delivery method.
Status: Achieved

Activities and results 2024-2025

ASSESS

Green List

T-002 Establish Green Status team within the Red List Unit of IUCN. (KSR 6)

Team of at least two people hired: 0

Result description: Magdalena Cygan remains employed by IUCN Red List Unit, subject to further funding.

T-003 Update Red List infrastructure — IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) and website — to provide integrated delivery of Red List and Green Status assessments. (KSR 6)

SIS and Red List website able to hold GSS data and assessments: 0

Result description: The IUCN SIS and Red List website, fully able to hold GSS data and assessments.

T-005 Complete 5,000 GSS assessments by 2025. (KSR 6)

Number of new Green Status of Species assessments completed: 344

Result description: In 2024, 115 assessments were published and approximately 300 in are in draft/review, 550 are planned (funding secured), and 400 are funding-dependent. Continued presence of Magda Cygan at Red List Unit has increased processing volume of assessments over the previous year's rate. Justin Birkhoff at the Indianapolis Zoo has joined the Green Status Task Force to support funding applications and host interns. Biodiversity Knowledge and Assessment Team of Red List Unit funded freshwater GSS assessments. Molly Grace (Co-Chair) worked with Master's students on draft assessments in collaboration with SGs (canids, felids, molluscs, sea turtles, and raptors). One of these former students is currently employed by the Cat Specialist Group as a Green Status Specialist, leading assessments, while another has been employed by New Mexico Biopark to lead assessments and develop trainings. Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and the Small Mammal Specialist Group employed a student to complete GSS assessments. Funding was won by David Chapple, Chair of Skink Specialist Group, to assess threatened Australian reptiles and amphibians (Molly Grace Co-I). SSC Internal Grants and EDGE

Internal Grants were won for assessment work: Seychelles reptiles and amphibians (EDGE; submitted by this Task Force); Wild Tulips SG (Internal Grant); Amphibians of the Pantanal and Cerrado biomes (Internal Grant; submitted by this Task Force). Support for 300 amphibian assessments by Re:Wild is ongoing. Several other SGs and RLAs committed to assessments and exploring use of students/interns to increase assessment workflow. Methods for Programme GSS assessments and Green Status Index were published, paving the way for increased assessments in the new quadrennium.

[SSC Grant awarded]

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-004 Develop GSS assessment training materials and delivery method. (KSR 2)

Training materials developed and online training videos produced: Achieved.

Result description: Ongoing communication with TNC to resolve any bugs in the training course.

Acknowledgements

The IUCN SSC Green Status of Species-SSC Integration Task Force gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Lyda Hill Foundation. We also thank Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in supporting our work to develop programme-level assessments, and the Amphibian, Antelope, Cat, Galliformes, Atlantic Island Invertebrates, Mollusc, Otter, Small Mammal, and Wild Tulip Specialist Groups for their significant assessment efforts in 2024.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 5

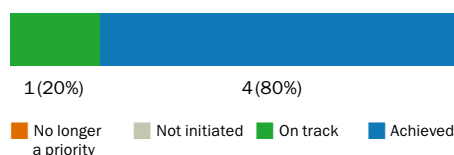
Geographic regions: 5 Global

Actions during 2024-2025:

Assess: 3 (KSR 6)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



Suweon Treefrog
(*Dryophytes suweonensis*)
Photo: Amael Borzee



Marsh Cinquefoil
(*Comarum palustre*)
Photo: Magnus Goransson



Phallus aureolatus
Photo: Juliano Baltazar



Eurasian Griffon (*Gyps fulvus*)
Photo: Andre Botha



Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*)
Photo: Save The Rhino Trust Namibia



Azores Nursery Spider
(*Pisaura acoreensis*)
Photo: Paulo A.V. Borges



Black and White Snapper
(*Macolor niger*)
Photo: David B. Snyder