

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Caucasus Plant Red List Authority



**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

30

Mission statement

The mission of the Caucasus Plant Red List Authority (RLA) is to contribute to increasing current knowledge on the taxonomy and ecology of the species in the Caucasus and promote their long-term conservation.

Projected impact 2021–2025

The major activities of the group during the current quadrennium will focus on ecosystem Red List status assessment. Hence, a yet indirect future impact is anticipated on species whose threatened status is at least partly related to habitat loss/degradation. Namely, identification of Important Plant Areas (particularly with the criteria B and C), which will be possible after ecosystem Red Listing, will enable decision makers to properly determine effective measures for in situ conservation of the mentioned pool of threatened plant species.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Complete the Caucasian Flora Conspectus and further develop its website.

T-003 Assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations.

T-004 Re-assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations.

T-005 Identify threatened ecosystems and assess risk severity in the Caucasus.

PLAN

T-006 Organise a Regional Workshop to further strengthen international cooperation within the RLA.

NETWORK

T-001 Enhance collaboration with relevant IUCN member specialists for advice on the Ecosystem Red Listing process.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Research activities

T-002 (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: ongoing

Result description: The Caucasian Flora Conspectus website (<https://www.binran.ru/resursy/informatsionnyye-resursy/tekuschie-proekty/caucasian-flora/>) was created and run by V.L. Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The Collaborator/Focal Point for this target will be specified at a later stage. Now, the Co-Coordinator is assigned as Collaborator/Focal Point.

T-005 (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 10

Result description: Georgian members of the RLA participated in the Environmental Programme ECOServe supported by GIZ Office Georgia within the framework of the project Vegetation of Natural Forests in Georgia, the Caucasus. Botanical description of natural forests as 'model areas' of Georgia's major forest types (regions of West Georgia) were carried out following methodology by Braun-Blanquet (1964), also with reference to Fujiwara (1987) and Box (2015). Along with collection of relevés, forest assessment based on forest science-related parameters was carried out according to a methodology developed for a national forest assessment initiative in Georgia. Results of this and earlier analogous research conducted in East and partly West Georgia will be published in a book on Georgia's natural forests in 2023. The collected data will help in the Caucasus ecosystem Red Listing process to be undertaken later in the current quadrennium. Cited references: Box, E.O. (2015). 'Warm-Temperate Deciduous Forests of Eastern North America'. In: E.O. Box and K. Fujiwara (eds.) *Warm-Temperate Deciduous Forests around the Northern Hemisphere*, Geobotany Studies, pp. 225–255. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing; Braun-Blanquet, J. (1964). *Pflanzensoziologie: grundzüge der vegetationskunde*. Zweite, umgearbeitete



Alnus barbata forest in West Georgia, at 1060 m a.s. l.
Photo: Arsen Bakhia



Crook-trunk *Fagus orientalis* forest in West Georgia, at 2040 m a.s.l.
Photo: Arsen Bakhia

und vermehrte Auflage. Wien: Springer; Fujiwara, K. (1987). 'Aims and methods of phytosociology or "vegetation science"'. In: Y. Takeda (ed.) *Papers on plant ecology and taxonomy to the memory of Dr. Satoshi Nakanishi*, pp. 607–628. Kobe: Kobe Geobotanical Society.

Acknowledgements

Georgian members of the Caucasus Plant RLA thank GIZ Office Georgia for their support of studies of natural forest stands identified as 'model areas' of major forest types, which will inter alia contribute to Red Listing of the Caucasus ecosystems, the major goal of the RLA for the 2021–2025 Quadrennium.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 6

Geographic regions: 6 Asia

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 2 (KSR 5)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

