

IUCN SSC Post-2020 Biodiversity Targets Task Force

2016-2017 Report



Philip McGowan

Chair

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Location/Affiliation

Newcastle University, UK

Number of members

18

Mission statement

The IUCN SSC Post-2020 Biodiversity Targets Task Force aims to provide a focus and leadership on species issues in the framework of the post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity to the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), through coordination with IUCN Secretariat. The Task Force seeks to do this by collating inputs and views from across the SSC network, and providing scientific and technical expertise on species related target(s).

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Policy

Policy advice: (1) ensure that, in 2020, any new or revised conservation targets relating to species under the CBD and associated Protocols and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) are ambitious while achievable, practical and helpful in terms of implementation of the overall goals of the CBD. These goals are the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of use of genetic resources; (2) working with the IUCN Secretariat to support the development of a short policy position paper framing and outlining what is needed for species conservation for the next decade, within the framework of the CBD and other MEAs/mechanism of biodiversity/living in harmony with nature (2021-2030); what will Target 12 look like post 2020?; (3) position the Assessment-Plan-Action approach for species conservation: for example, by ensuring the IUCN Red List informs and feeds into the CBD post-2020 process, as well as a mechanism for measuring conservation actions at the national level (i.e., hold CBD Parties accountable for reporting).

Synergy: (1) determine the views of members of the SSC on the species conservation planning targets beyond 2020, and their views on potential advice that can be provided to help with implementation of work towards any future species conservation targets. This will allow the Task Force to identify key issues for species in the post-2020 agenda; (2) develop a road map of engagement so that the Task Force, working with IUCN Secretariat, will be ready for the major CBD milestones over the next three years.

Technical advice: work in collaboration with the IUCN Secretariat to provide scientific and technical guidance to parties on species conservation planning and implementation.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

At the end of 2020, there will be a deeper understanding amongst CBD Parties of the importance of an ambitious target for species conservation and the challenges of meeting that within the 10 years of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. This understanding will be reflected in a strong target for species conservation being kept in the post-2020 Strategic Plan (or Framework for Biodiversity), and with a more realistic mechanism for measuring progress, and the stronger engagement of the species conservation community, represented by SSC, in delivering this new target.

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

N/A

Training Workshop on Species and Ecosystem Red Lists for Abu Dhabi
Photo: SSC archives



IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group members during the 8th meeting of the group in Guwahati, November 2016
Photo: Subhamoy Bhattacharjee



Red List training workshop in Villa de Leyva, Colombia
Photo: SSC archives