IUCN SSC
Turkey Plant
Red List Authority

2019 Report

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Red List Authority Coordinators

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Location/Affiliation

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Number of members

100

Mission statement

The mission of the group is to assess the status of endemic plant species in Turkey and to fill in the important knowledge gaps on the status of plants of Turkey.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, the group will mainly target bringing together information towards assessing the Red List status of endemic plant species in Turkey. This will permit in the longer run to have a pool of information which will establish the basis for species-level conservation actions to be carried out in a prioritised and effective manner.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) commence the assessments of endemic plants of Turkey and publish, when finalised, on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (300 new Red List assessments by 2019); (2) carry out IUCN Red List assessments for near endemic and non-endemic plant species in Turkey at national scale (the priority of the Specialist Group is to finalise first the endemic species assessments and, in accordance with progress on this topic, the work on non-endemics and near endemics will be planned from 2021 onwards); (3) finalise the draft design of the Red Book. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks is part of the expert group. Progress of the group will be presented in the IUCN National Committee meetings in Turkey.

Communicate

Communication: maintain internal communications among approximately 100 experts using an email list to assess progress and update on activities. Skype meetings will be carried out 3–4 times every year.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

i. Since the onset of the project, significant efforts were dedicated to establish a database which is compatible with the IUCN SIS database system. This is mainly because SIS cannot be used in Turkish. Most of our assessors do not know English well enough to use SIS. The only option for us was to develop our own database, and then use SIS Connect to import the assessments from our database into SIS. However, the documentation for SIS Connect is incorrect and incomplete in many cases. For example, the data fields that are required for a Red List assessment to be acceptable are often not correctly identified. Although the Red List Unit has been helpful, the large number of problematic data fields has severely impeded our progress. We are therefore behind schedule in our target of assessing 300 species in the first phase of our project. In the meantime, the Specialist Group has accumulated a good level of experience developing a national database compatible with SIS and identified where enhancements in the SIS Connect

Vuralia turcica
Photo: Mecit Vural

documentation are needed. The Specialist Group is willing to share this knowledge both with the Red List Unit for the documentation and with countries willing to establish a database similar to the one developed in Turkey. (KSR #2)

Communicate

Communication

i. The first meeting of the group was held in January 2019. Three internal meetings were accomplished (with the participation of 60, 80 and 30 participants). Regular monthly emails informing the members of the group about progress were shared, and Skype meetings carried out almost weekly for the development of the database. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

Campanula mugeana, Western Anatolia, Turkey
Photo: Hasan Yıldırım

Sternbergia candida, a relatively rare species that grows on the edges of cedar woods
Photo: Hayri Duman

Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 2/5

Assess	**1**	
Communicate	**1**	

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 28

KSR: Key Species Result