



Species

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2022 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 each year. Each SSC 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 Stand-alone Report

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

Title of the SSC Group

Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

Group information

Includes names of Chair / Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators and Program Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the SSC 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 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 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).

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:

Nakhutsrishvili, G, and Batsatsashvili, K. 2023. 2022 Report of the Caucasus Plant Red List Authority. In: Nassar, JM, García, L, Mendoza, L, Andrade, ND, Bezeng, S, Birkhoff, J, Bohm, M, Canteiro, C, Geschke, J, Henriques, S, Ivande, S, Mileham, K, Ramos, M, Rodríguez, A, Rodríguez, JP, Street, B, and Yerena, E (Eds.). 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. International Union for Conservation of Nature. 4 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Caucasus Plant Red List Authority



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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
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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.
Status: On track

T-003 Assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations.
Status: On track

T-004 Re-assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations.
Status: On track

T-005 Identify threatened ecosystems and assess risk severity in the Caucasus.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-006 Organise a Regional Workshop to further strengthen international cooperation within the RLA.
Status: Not initiated

NETWORK

T-001 Enhance collaboration with relevant IUCN member specialists for advice on the ecosystem red listing process.
Status: Not initiated

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-003 Assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations. (KSR 6)
Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 15

Result description: Red List Authority (RLA) members from Armenia and Turkey were involved in the world's tree species assessment as part of the Global Tree Assessment conducted by BGCI. A number of Caucasian species are being assessed based on updated information.

T-004 Re-assess plant species based on field studies of rare plant populations. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 15

Result description: RLA members from Armenia and Turkey were involved in the world's tree species assessment as part of the Global Tree Assessment conducted by BGCI. A number of Caucasian species are being re-assessed based on updated information.

Colchic forest in West Georgia, at 1875 m a.s.l.:
Picea orientalis and *Abies nordmanniana* wit
 Photo: Arsen Bakhia



Research activities

T-005 Identify threatened ecosystems and assess risk severity in the Caucasus. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 1

Result description: Georgian members of the RLA continued their work on the study of exemplary plots of Georgia’s natural forests started in the previous years, now within the Programme ECOGeorgia supported again by GIZ Office Georgia. In 2022 mainly Caucasian Fir (*Abies nordmanniana* (Steven) Spach) forest plots were described in Racha, West Georgia, the Caucasus. The results of this and earlier analogous research 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 during the current quadrennium.

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 2022:

Assess: 3 (KSR 5, 6)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

