



Species

ISSUE 63

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:

Obura, D. 2023. 2022 Report of the Coral Specialist Group. 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 Coral Specialist Group



CHAIR

David Obura

CORDIO East Africa,
Coastal Oceans
Research and
Development – Indian
Ocean (CORDIO) East
Africa

RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

Beth Polidoro

Julie Ann Wrigley
Global Institute of
Sustainability, Arizona
State University,
Phoenix, Arizona, US

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

40

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Instagram: @coralspecialistgroup

Twitter: @coralspecgroup

Website: <https://www.coralspecialistgroup.org/>

Mission statement

The IUCN Coral Specialist Group brings together leading scientists, practitioners and conservationists under the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Reflecting the vast diversity of coral reefs, their importance to people in so many ways and the imminent threat to their very existence from climate change and human uses, the Group has a broad ecosystem and conservation focus. Our combined knowledge contributes to inform society and policy makers to take science-based action.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Update the Red List of Threatened Reef-building Corals and the Coral Red List Index.

This is in order to contribute to policy and decision-making processes that culminate in 2021 with major global events relevant to coral reefs, oceans and climate, and to align the actions of diverse coral reef stakeholders around the world.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-004 Complete assessment of Red List status of Reef-Building Corals.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-008 Identify regional conservation priorities for Scleractinia Corals and build a blueprint to improve their status.
Status: Not initiated

ACT

T-001 Update global policy with the extinction status of Reef-Building Corals.
Status: On track

T-006 Promote the production of biodiversity data at the species level for Reef-Building Corals, by facilitating the adoption of new technologies among the Group's members.
Status: Not initiated

NETWORK

T-002 Recruit at least 10 new members by 2022.
Status: On track

T-007 Increase availability and mobilisation of biodiversity data on Reef-Building Corals by promoting and fostering the use of open data information systems for Coral reefs.
Status: Not initiated

T-009 Train new group members as Red List assessors within early 2021.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-005 Organise three public/international presentations to communicate the conservation work/Red List assessment results of the IUCN Coral Specialist Group.
Status: Achieved

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-004 Complete assessment of Red List status of Reef-building Corals. (KSR 6)
Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 85
Result description: Red List assessments for 85 Reef-building Coral species from the Atlantic were published. A workshop was held in Germany in July 2022 to advance the assessments of approximately 70 Indo-Pacific species.

NETWORK

Membership

T-002 Recruit at least 10 new members by 2022. (KSR 2)
Number of SSC members recruited: 10
Result description: We recruited 10 new members in 2022.
T-009 Train new group members as Red List assessors within early 2021. (KSR 2)



IYORBank_People and the Reef.
Crown of thorns starfish
Photo: Shaun Wolfe / The Ocean Agency

Number of people trained in assessment tools: 35

Result description: Between 2021 and 2022 approximately 35 experts completed the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species online training through conservationtraining.org.

COMMUNICATE
Communication

T-005 Organise three public/international presentations to communicate the conservation work/Red List assessment results of the IUCN Coral Specialist Group. (KSR 13)

Number of SSC members' presentations developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 3

Result description: Three oral presentations were given at the 13th ICRS in Bremen, Germany on Jul 2022.

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the in-kind support of Arizona State University, CORDIO East Africa, the Zoological Society of London, the EDGE of Existence programme, University of Portsmouth, Universidad Simón Bolívar and Old Dominion University through the core management team of the Global reef-building Red List assessment update and the Group's activities. The group is grateful for the time and dedication of

the Chair, David Obura, Red List Authority Beth Polidoro, and especially Christi Linardi and Emma Petterson. We also acknowledge the financial support provided by the National Geographic Society and the Mediterranean Shipping Company SA; and the invaluable time and dedication of all members, experts, reviewers and contributors, i.e. Douglas Fenner, Emma Kennedy, Emre Turak, Paul Muir, Sun Kim, Zoe Richards, Carmela Isabel Nuñez Lendo, Lyndon DeVantier, Juan Pablo Quimbayo, Marcelo Kitahara, Elvira M Alvarado, Phanor Hernando Montoya Maya, Jorge Cortés, Juan José Alvarado, Aldo Croquer, Victor Bonito, Dominic Bryant, Flavia Nunes, Khatija Alliji, Maha Joana Czesielski, Walter Dellisanti, Muhammad Abrar, Tom Shlesinger, Nora von Xylander, Roberto Arrigoni, Francesca Benzoni, Gabriel Grimsditch, Affendi Yang Amri, Zarinah Waheed, Hussein Zahir, Anastazia Banaszak, Gabriela Nava, Lorenzo Alvarez-Filip, Rosa Rodríguez-Martínez, Andrea Rivera-Sosa, Grégory Lasne, Jack Johnson, Wilfredo Licuanan, Kathryn Rosell-Jadloc, Gregorio E. de la Rosa Jr., Pedro Range, Greta Aeby, Jean, Benoit NICET, Lionel Bigot, Tullia Isotta Terraneo, Gilberte Gendron, Leo Barret, Danwei Huang, Angus Macdonald, Michael Schleyer, Sean Porter, Nishan Perera, Hagen Gegner, Allen Chen, Valeria Pizarro, Bert Hoeksma, Ewout Geerten Knoester,

James Crabbe, Joanna Bluemel, Michael Sweet, Maria Beger, Ronan Roche, Gareth Williams, Daniel Bayley, Claire Lewis, Bryan Wilson, Alasdair Edwards, Lisa Benson, Nadia Santodomingo, Elena Couce, Michelle Devlin, Kaveh Samimi-Namin, Benjamin Cowburn, Anthony Montgomery, Margaret Miller, William Precht, Kent Carpenter, Joshua Feingold, Elizabeth Mcleod, Kyle Strongin, Laura Gibson, Mark Eakin, Michael Fox, Richard Aronson, Stuart Sandin, Ruben van Hoodonk, Melanie McField, Liz Goergen, Estrella Villamizar, Charles Delbeek and Mark Vermeij.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 8

Geographic regions: 8 Global

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Network: 2 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

