



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:

Roe, D. 2023. 2022 Report of the Sustainable Use and Livelihood 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. 6 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

IUCN SSC Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group



CHAIR

Dilys Roe

International Institute
for Environment and
Development (IIED),
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

260

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: @iucnsuli

Twitter: @IUCNSULi

Websites: <https://iucnsuli.org>;

<https://www.iucn.org/our-union/commissions/commission-environmental-economic-and-social-policy/our-work/human-wellbeing-and-sustainable-livelihoods>

Mission statement

For nature and for people: building global understanding on sustainable use of wildlife.

Projected impact 2021–2025

A key priority is to diversify and expand SULi's membership so we better represent, and engage with, use of wild species across all taxonomic realms and improve our representation globally. It is imperative that we bring much more attention to the use of species in the fungi, invertebrate and plants groups (which are frequently overlooked). The SULi is developing a database to be a reliable and trusted provider of high-quality information on the utilisation (sustainable and unsustainable) of wild species, and the recorded ecological, social and economic impacts of that utilisation. There are a number of technical outputs near completion or in the pipeline, including guidance on integrating indigenous and local knowledge into Red List assessments and guidance on the harvesting of threatened species, a contribution to the CITES World Wildlife Trade report and a situation analysis on hunting. The SULi will continue its engagement with the institutions, conventions and

treaties that determine international wildlife policy, e.g. CITES, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), and to track initiatives, enquiries and proposals opposing the utilisation of wildlife.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-003 Publish in at least one peer-reviewed journal per year with SSC SULi affiliation.
Status: On track

T-015 Conduct ongoing research to identify and write case studies to contribute information to sustainable use database.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-004 Develop and submit inf docs for CITES, Convention on Migratory species (CMS) and CBD as required to inform decisions on sustainable use and links to livelihoods.
Status: On track

T-005 Attend CBD and CITES Conference of the Parties (CoPs) meetings and relevant subsidiary bodies and working groups.
Status: On track

T-010 Publish hunting situation analysis informing IUCN guidelines and position statement.
Status: On track

ACT

T-006 Conduct global situation analysis of social, economic and ecological impacts of hunting.
Status: On track

T-007 Develop and test framework for assessing sustainability of wildlife uses.
Status: On track

T-008 Design sustainable use database and document at least 20 sustainable use practices per year.
Status: On track

T-009 Hold at least one event per year to build capacity amongst policy makers and project implementers to engage communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade.
Status: On track

T-011 Produce at least one new IUCN publication or other output on engaging communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade.
Status: On track

T-016 WCC-2020-Res-076: Develop a programme of work to support wildlife-based economic development in Africa (with IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, ESARO).
Status: Achieved

T-017 Prepare emergency Motions to submit at Congress if needed to counter anti-use submissions.
Status: Achieved



Livelihoods of the rural communities in the Bay of Cispatá area, Colombia, depend greatly upon natural resources and wild species
Photo: ASOCAIMAN

T-020 (T2017-6) Roll out the First Line of Defence initiative in further East/Southern African countries.

Status: On track

T-022 Develop a SULi strategy which outlines key priorities and objectives (2021–2025).

Status: Achieved

NETWORK

T-001 Establish at least one new funding partnership in 2021 and establish or maintain at least one in 2023.

Status: On track

T-002 Develop and implement at least one new initiative per year with other IUCN Commissions and/or Regional Offices and/or Members.

Status: On track

T-013 Comprehensive review of membership in advance of IUCN quadrennial renewal process to understand where efforts need to focus on achieving better balances across geographical location, age, gender and expertise.

Status: Achieved

T-014 Internal restructuring to establish sub-groups (thematic/geographic) to improve efficiency and engagement of members in delivering the SULi strategy.

Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-012 Produce SULi Digest at least four times per year each year.

Status: On track

T-018 Provide ongoing technical and science-based support to guide sustainable use.

Status: On track.

T-019 (T2017-1) Publish new Annex on harvesting of threatened species.

Status: Achieved

T-021 (T2019-17) Populate Communities and Illegal Wildlife Trade Learning Platform; conduct periodic analyses of lessons learnt; run learning activities including webinars.

Status: Achieved

T-023 Develop a communication strategy to guide outputs, media engagement, policy briefings, etc.

Status: On track

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Research activities

T-003 Publish in at least one peer-reviewed journal per year with SSC SULi affiliation. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 2

Result description: Two journal articles were published in 2022: (1) Webster, H. et al. (2022). 'Keeping hunting bans on target'. *Conservation Biology* 36(4):e13932; (2) 'Prioritizing sustainable use in the Global Biodiversity Framework' in *PLoS Sustainability and Transformation*.

T-015 Conduct ongoing research to identify and write case studies to contribute information to sustainable use database. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 0

Result description: One hundred and thirty-eight (138) records were identified and entered the newly developed beta version of the Species Use Database. Contact was made with various SGs and Conservation Committees to request appropriate SU studies for entering the database.

PLAN

Planning

T-004 Develop and submit inf docs for CITES, Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and CBD as required to inform decisions on sustainable use and links to livelihoods. (KSR 9)

Number of documents provided to support/guide policy-making: 1

Result description: An information document prepared by SULi and WWF-International on "Engaging Indigenous

peoples and local communities in international policy- and decision-making: Lessons for CITES from multilateral environmental and human rights processes" (CITES CoP19 Inf Doc 29) was submitted to the Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (November 2022). Find the document at: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/documents/E-CoP19-Inf-29.pdf>.

T-005 Attend CBD and CITES Conference of the Parties (CoPs) meetings and relevant subsidiary bodies and working groups. (KSR 9)

Number of Multilateral Environmental Agreement meetings attended by the SSC group: 6

Result description: SULi attended CITES CoP19 and CBD CoP15 and was represented on the IUCN delegation for both. Prior to both, SULi actively engaged in working groups and meetings (e.g., contributing to IUCN policy positions) and providing inputs when requested by IUCN Secretariat, ensuring that sustainable use, communities, and livelihoods were well-represented themes.

T-010 Publish hunting situation analysis informing IUCN guidelines and position statement. (KSR 9)

Number of documents provided to support/guide policy-making: 0

Result description: Work on the Global Situation Analysis of Social, Economic, and Ecological Impacts of Hunting is currently underway.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-011 Produce at least one new IUCN publication or other output on engaging communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade. (KSR 10)

Number of technical documents provided to support conservation actions: 2

Result description: A paper was produced in 2022: (1) People Not Poaching (2022). 'Engaging communities to tackle illegal wildlife trade - lessons from Southeast Asia,

South America and sub-Saharan Africa'. International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London IUCN, Gland (available at <https://www.iied.org/21021g>) and accompanying blog published on the IIED website: (2) "Protecting wildlife with local solutions: putting learning into practice", found at: <https://www.iied.org/protecting-wildlife-local-solutions-putting-learning-practice>.

Synergy

T-016 WCC-2020-Res-076: Develop a programme of work to support wildlife-based economic development in Africa (with IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, ESARO). (KSR 10)

Establishment of One Programme Initiative to deliver the required actions of the Resolution: 0

Result description: Following a meeting at APAC, it was agreed that the Wildlife Economy Task Force being led by Sue Snyman (African Leadership University) will be the main mechanism for driving this Resolution forward due to strong overlap.

Technical advice

T-006 Conduct global situation analysis of social, economic, and ecological impacts of hunting. (KSR 11)

Number of sustainable use practices supported: 0

Result description: Work on this formally started in 2022. A presentation was given at the African Protected Areas Congress, the content of which was also used for a SULi-hosted webinar to share information on the work across IUCN. A Steering Committee has been created and three postdocs and six students have been recruited to contribute to the study.

T-007 Develop and test framework for assessing sustainability of wildlife uses. (KSR 11)

Number of sustainable use practices supported: 0

Result description: SULi has started work on this with the project partners. A literature review has been carried out looking for existing assessment frameworks in each dimension (ecological, social, economic etc), and a multi-disciplinary expert group is being created to cover each of these.

T-008 Design sustainable use database and document at least 20 sustainable use practices per year. (KSR 11)

Number of sustainable use practices supported: 0

Result description: SULi has started work on this with the project partners. A literature review has been carried out looking for existing assessment frameworks in each dimension (ecological, social, economic etc), and a multi-disciplinary expert group is being created to cover each of these.

T-009 Hold at least one event per year to build capacity amongst policy makers and project implementers to engage communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade.

(KSR 11)

Number of unsustainable use practices tackled: 5

Result description: Three People not Poaching (PnP) regional workshops held online (March) with case study representatives from across Southeast Asia, South America and sub-Saharan Africa to discuss and consolidate the key lessons learned from the approaches showcased on PnP; SULi co-partnered a "Sustainability and Resilience pavilion" with a dedicated session to PnP at APAC; Dilys Roe spoke at the Reverse the Red side event at CITES CoP19 on 'Engaging communities against illegal wildlife trade in Red List species'.

T-020 (T2017-6) Roll out the First Line of Defence initiative in further East/Southern African countries. (KSR 11)

Engaging communities as partners in combating the illegal wildlife trade (IWT): Ongoing.

Result description: Presentations made at APAC and to South African Development Community officials. Plans for FLoD facilitator training to be held in East Africa underway.

NETWORK

Membership

T-013 Comprehensive review of membership in advance of IUCN quadrennial renewal process to understand where efforts need to focus on achieving better balances across geographical location, age, gender, and expertise. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 57

Result description: The review of SULi membership was completed in 2021. The system now is in place to efficiently manage membership and record and track details on its composition to guide more targeted and strategic recruitment. In 2022, 57 new members were recruited.

T-014 Internal restructuring to establish sub-groups (thematic/geographic) to improve efficiency and engagement of members in delivering the SULi strategy. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 9

Result description: Eight new regional working groups were created and one thematic group – the Plant Use Group (PUG). The latter adds to two existing thematic groups: one for CITES and one for Hunting. All members have been allocated to these groups depending on their selected preferences. Each group was assigned to a separate Google Group.

Proposal development and funding

T-002 Develop and implement at least one new initiative per year with other IUCN Commissions and/or Regional Offices and/or Members. (KSR 3)

IUCN bodies with which the SSC group collaborates: Ongoing.

Result description: New initiative to develop and test a framework for assessing sustainability of different wildlife uses from different perspectives (ecological, social, health, economic, etc). This is a multidisciplinary project with partners (and IUCN members) from TRAFFIC and EWT, as well as both internal (SULi) and external experts.

Synergy

T-001 Establish at least one new funding partnership in 2021 and establish or maintain at least one in 2023. (KSR 1)

Number of 'funding' partners established and maintained: 2

Result description: Funding partnership with JAMMA International was maintained to support the building of the group's capacity (ending Dec 31st, 2022). JAMMA committed to the continuation of funding for a further three years. Throughout 2022, SULi maintained a strong partnership with the CITES Secretariat securing funding for two activities for CITES CoP – the World Wildlife Trade Report and 15 case studies on the conservation and livelihood benefits of trade in CITES-listed species. New funding partner Darwin to support a project to develop and test a sustainability assessment framework for wildlife use.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-012 Produce SULi Digest at least four times per year each year. (KSR 12)

Number of Species e-bulletin, Save Our Species newsletter, SSC Groups' newsletter editions produced: 5

Result description: The SULi Digest was published four times this year: (1) IUCN SULi Digest January-February 2022; (2) IUCN SULi Digest March-April 2022;



Bupa Banda speaking at the SULi event in the Reverse the Red pavilion, WCC in Marseille
Photo: Dilys Roe

(3) IUCN SULi Digest May-August 2022; (4) IUCN SULi Digest September-October 2022; (5) IUCN SULi Digest November-December 2022.

T-018 Provide ongoing technical and science-based support to guide sustainable use. (KSR 12)

Technical and science-based support provided: Ongoing.

Result description: (1) Contributing author to the 'Application of Indigenous & Local Knowledge (ILK) in IUCN Red List assessments' (published in May); (2) SULi Chair participated in a European Parliament 'high level' panel discussion on hunting (held in Brussels); (3) ongoing tracking (and engagement where relevant) of high profile Bills relating to the UK Hunting Trophies (Import Prohibition) Bill, and other legislative agendas relating to anti-use/anti-trade, e.g. in Europe and the US; (4) Responses to various media requests published (including the Daily Mail and The Guardian) covering e.g. trophy hunting and sustainability of fashion and the use of exotic skins in luxury fashion; (5) Co-authorship of a letter 'Keeping hunting bans on target' (Conservation Biology); (6) Inputs provided to help amend wording in the IUCN membership form, to provide greater clarity on the wording relating to sustainable use; (7) Active engagement in the preparations leading up to CITES and CBD CoPs and providing expertise (e.g. into the IUCN position on targets – 5 and 9 – for CoP15 and wording re sustainable use and trade, management of use of wild species and safeguarding the benefits of use for IPLCs, and (8) A number of SULi members contributed to the IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment published July.

T-019 (T2017-1) Publish new Annex on harvesting of threatened species. (KSR 12)

Annex published and included on IUCN Red List: Ongoing.

Result description: Annex completed and approved by the IUCN Red List Committee in June 2022. Available on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: 'Guidelines for the Appropriate Use of IUCN Red List Data in Harvesting of Threatened Species' (Version 1.0). Annex 4 of the 'Guidelines for Appropriate Uses of IUCN Red List Data' (Version 4.0).

T-021 (T2019-17) Populate Communities and Illegal Wildlife Trade Learning Platform; conduct periodic analyses of lessons learnt; run learning activities including webinars. (KSR 12)

Number of case studies collected, webinars hosted, briefings produced: 4

Result description: There are a total of 118 case studies on the People not Poaching (PnP) platform, covering 54 countries, and targeting 168 species. In March, three regional workshops were held with case study representatives from across Southeast Asia, South America, and sub-Saharan Africa to discuss and consolidate the key lessons learned from the approaches showcased on PnP. Workshop outputs were distilled into eight overarching lessons, which highlight important messages for organisations involved in funding, designing, and implementing interventions to reduce IWT which were published in a report 'Engaging communities to tackle illegal wildlife trade – lessons from Southeast Asia, South America and sub-Saharan Africa'.

T-023 Develop a communication strategy to guide outputs, media engagement, policy briefings, etc. (KSR 12)

Communication Strategy developed, agreed and published: 0

Result description: There has been ongoing work on the draft strategy with additional inputs and guidance provided by the IIED. This will be advanced in 2023 with additional expertise to help with its completion.

Acknowledgements

SULi is extremely grateful for the generous financial support of Jamma International (from 2021 to 2022), which is providing an invaluable contribution to the funding of core SULi staff and a diverse range of activities. SULi also acknowledges the support of IIED as the group's host organization.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 23

Geographic regions: 20 Global, 3 Africa

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 2 (KSR 5)

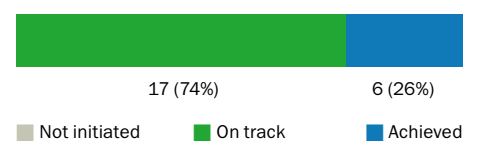
Plan: 3 (KSR 9)

Act: 7 (KSR 10, 11)

Network: 4 (KSR 1, 2, 3)

Communicate: 5 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



Legend: ■ Not initiated ■ On track ■ Achieved