Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN Marine Fishes Red List Authority is to transform global, regional and local marine conservation capabilities by completing Red List assessments for all marine fishes.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we expect to substantially increase the number of published Red List assessments of marine fishes. Specifically, our focus will be on species in the orders Clupeiformes (sardines, herrings, menhadens and their allies) and Pleuronectiformes (flatfishes), species occupying the deep sea (more than 200 m depth), and species of the Western Indian Ocean. The completion of these assessments will bring us closer to the goal of completing assessments for the more than 17,000 marine fishes, and will improve our knowledge of the status of marine vertebrate biodiversity globally.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) complete assessments of 800 Western Indian Ocean marine fishes, with the main focus on exploited and coral-reef associated families; (2) complete assessments of 403 Clupeiform species; (3) complete assessments of 1,001 deep sea marine fishes.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

i. Assessments of Western Indian Ocean marine fishes are in progress. (KSR #1)

ii. Assessments of Clupeiform species are completed and published on the Red List. (KSR #1)

iii. Assessments of deep sea marine fishes are in progress. (KSR #1)

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Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 1/5

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Main KSRs addressed: 1

KSR: Key Species Result
The Marine Fishes RLA is providing first time Red List assessments for more than 15,000 marine fishes that are not included in other marine fish groups. These include the damselfishes (Pomacentridae: Perciformes) and lizardfishes (Synodontidae: Aulopiformes).

Photos: Beth Polidoro