Mission statement
To increase the evidence and action for invertebrate conservation on the islands of: Gough, Tristan, St Helena, Ascension, Cape Verdes, Canaries, Madeira, Azores, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium
We envision by the end of 2020 significant progress in raising awareness of invertebrates and their conservation issues across the Mid-Atlantic Islands; at least one other island that previously had no direct invertebrate conservation to have established programmes; a total of 500 invertebrate Red List assessments achieved; and another new conservation action plan to be operating. We also expect to contribute to conservation policy in Azores by informing the Azorean Conservation Agency about the arthropod species in urgent need of conservation. These combined efforts will create more secure invertebrate populations on these islands.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium
Assess
Red List: (1) complete assessments of 100 St Helena endemic invertebrates; (2) complete assessments of 40 Ascension Island endemic invertebrates; (3) complete assessments of 176 Azorean endemic arthropods; (4) complete assessments of 25 Azorean endemic spiders; (5) complete assessments of 120 Madeira endemic Carabidae and Staphylinidae; (6) the BIOS2020 project (2019–2022) was submitted by IFCN IP-RAM (Madeira Government) to the second call of the European Union Madeira-Açores-Canarias (EU MAC) Programme; if approved, it will contribute to the update of the conservation status of the endemic Madeiran land snail species, namely those from the Madeiran Natural Forest Laurissilva.

Plan
Planning: (1) assess invertebrate conservation needs on Tristan and Gough islands; (2) initiate conservation planning for threatened Azores invertebrates; (3) implement the European Commission LIFE Programme project ‘LIFE BEETLES – Bringing Environmental and Ecological Threats Lower to Endangered Species’; (4) accomplish Forest Giants project targets for awareness and conservation of Archachatina bicarinata and review Red Listing for the species; (5) submit application for LIFE project ‘STM Invertebrates – Bringing Environmental and Ecological Threats Lower To Endangered Invertebrate Species’.

Act
Conservation actions: (1) initiate a project on the conservation of Ascension Island endemic invertebrates; (2) complete a project on increasing data on St Helena endemic invertebrates; (3) implement a species recovery project for the Spiky Yellow Woodlouse (Pseudolaureola atlantica) on St Helena.

Network
Document review: (1) review the St Helena Invertebrate Strategy; (2) review the Spiky Yellow Woodlouse Conservation Plan.

Communicate
Communication: (1) publish a paper on establishing conservation on St Helena; (2) finish invertebrate identification book for St Helena; (3) circulate group newsletter at least three times per year; (4) publish a paper on the...
species conservation profile of Azorean endemic forest beetles; (5) submit a paper on the species conservation profile of Azorean endemic moths; (6) prepare a paper on the species conservation profile of Azorean endemic cave arthropods; (7) establish a webpage; (8) submit a paper on a Global Island Monitoring Scheme (GiMS) for the long-term coordinated survey and monitoring of forest biota across islands.

Activities and results 2020

Assess

Red List

i. Assessments of 100 St Helena endemic invertebrates completed. (KSR #2)

ii. Giant Pseudoscorpion (*Garypus titanus*) listed as a flagship to kick-start wider work. (KSR #3)

iii. Assessments of 120 Madeira endemic Carabidae and Staphylinidae partially completed. (KSR #2)

Plan

Planning

i. LIFE Programme project ‘LIFE BEETLES – Bringing Environmental and Ecological Threats Lower To Endangered Species’ initiated. (KSR #15)

ii. Application for LIFE project ‘STM Invertebrates – Bringing Environmental and Ecological Threats Lower To Endangered Invertebrate Species’ submitted to EU LIFE. (KSR #15)

Act

Conservation actions

i. Application for a project on the conservation of Ascension Island endemic invertebrates successful for Stage 1 of Darwin Plus. (KSR #27)

ii. Species recovery project for Spiky Yellow Woodlouse on St Helena embedded into plan on its habitat. (KSR #27)

Communicate

Communication

i. Three newsletters were delivered in 2020. Newsletters continue to be a good way to connect with the membership. (KSR #28)

ii. Paper on the species conservation profile of Azorean endemic cave arthropods published. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

MAIISG would like to acknowledge the ongoing hard work, support and enthusiasm of its fantastic membership.

Summary of activities 2020

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Main KSRs addressed: 2, 3, 15, 27, 28

KSR: Key Species Result