



Species Survival Commission

Mandate 2013–2016

1. Mission

In the intersessional period of 2013–2016, the Species Survival Commission (SSC) will continue to play a leading role in enabling IUCN to be the world's most authoritative voice on behalf of global biodiversity conservation and the sustainability of natural resource use. In particular, SSC and its worldwide network are uniquely placed to enable IUCN to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity of biodiversity, and to ensure that the use of species is both equitable and sustainable, through the provision of knowledge on biodiversity status and trends, undertaking analyses of threats and facilitating action on the ground.

2. Vision

The work of SSC has amended its Vision to:

A just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to reduce the loss of diversity of life on earth

3. Goal

The overriding Goal of the Commission is:

The species extinction crisis and massive loss of biodiversity are universally adopted as a shared responsibility and addressed by all sectors of society taking positive conservation action and avoiding negative impacts worldwide

4. Objectives

For the intersessional period 2013–2016 SSC, working in collaboration with members, national and regional committees, other Commissions and the Secretariat, will pursue the following key objectives in helping to deliver IUCN's "One Programme" commitment:

1. Assessing and monitoring biodiversity

To assess and monitor biodiversity and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity, especially at the species level, thus providing measures for the health of our one and only biosphere;

2. Analysing the threats to biodiversity

To analyse and communicate the threats to biodiversity and disseminate information on appropriate global conservation actions

3. Facilitating and undertaking conservation action

To facilitate and undertake action to deliver biodiversity-based solutions for halting biodiversity decline and catalyse measures to manage biodiversity sustainably and prevent species' extinctions both in terms of policy change and action on the ground.

4. Convening expertise for biodiversity conservation

To provide a forum for gathering and integrating the knowledge and experience of the world's leading experts on species science and management, and promoting the active involvement of subsequent generations of species conservationists.

5. Priorities

The specific working priorities of SSC are derived from and focused on the three **IUCN Programme Areas**:

- Programme Area 1: Valuing and conserving nature – the conservation status of species and ecosystems is improved and their values and benefit to society are recognized
- Programme Area 2: Governing nature's use and sharing its benefits equitably – effective, just and equitable conservation yields tangible benefits to both wild species and human livelihoods
- Programme Area 3: Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges – global development challenges (climate, food, economy) are addressed in ways that benefit species and enhance the capacity of biodiversity to contribute to solutions to these challenges

Under these three headings the SSC has developed a set of **Key Species Results** with measurable targets to be attained by the end of 2016.