Terms-of-Reference
IUCN Species Survival Commission
Regional Vice-Chairs Roles and Responsibilities 2017–2020

Approved March 11th 2020 by the Vice Chairs in coordination with SSC Chair

We, the appointed eight Regional Vice Chairs of the IUCN Species Survival Commission recommend that our role is to support the Office of the Chair of the Species Survival Commission to facilitate efficient engagement and communication between relevant SSC Specialist Group Chairs and members, IUCN members, and national and regional SSC initiatives. We recognize that specific activities will be driven by regional needs and context.

Terms of Reference - Regional Vice-Chairs 2017-2020

Eight regional Vice-Chairs, one for each of the IUCN Statutory Regions (Africa, Meso and South America, North America and the Caribbean, West Europe, South and East Asia, West Asia, Oceania, and East Europe, North and Central Asia) will be appointed by the SSC Chair after consultation with the Steering Committee. They will serve from the time of appointment to the end of the 2017-2020 quadrennium.

Regional Vice-Chairs will be appointed among the current members of the SSC Steering Committee.

The roles and responsibilities of SSC Regional Vice-Chairs are:

1) Design and implement processes for expanding the SSC membership within their regions. This may span from seeking and encouraging potential candidates to apply for admission into SSC Specialist Groups (SG), to establishing informal SSC national groupings as stepping-stones for future incorporation into SG.

2) Actively seek individuals within their regions that are emerging as possible future leaders in SSC. Try to build a one-on-one interaction with them, in order to find the best possible match between their interests and the different groups within SSC. Likewise, make contact with Chairs of SG or other SSC Leaders and inform them of these emerging figures so that they are aware of them and consider including them in the group’s activities.

3) Establish contact with IUCN members in their region and keep them informed of the activities of SSC, identifying opportunities for partnerships, joint activities, and active participation of the IUCN membership in the 2017-2020 Species Strategic Plan.

4) Engage with regional/national/sub-national governments in their regions to encourage the adoption of knowledge products mobilized by IUCN. Key applications of these tools are the design and implementation of biodiversity strategic planning efforts, as well as reporting progress of their commitments to international agreements, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.