

IUCN Members Day - Belgium - 8 May, 2023



What are the IUCN Commissions?

The case of the Species Survival Commission

Jean-Christophe Vié

IUCN/SSC Regional Vice Chair for West Europe



What are the IUCN Commissions

- IUCN Commissions are broad and active networks of scientists and experts providing IUCN and its Members with sound know-how and policy advice to drive conservation and sustainable development.
- One of the 3 pillars of IUCN
- Volunteer networks
- Very diverse
- Mandate approved by Members at Congress
- Leadership elected by Members at each Congress (Chair) and approved by Council (Steering Committee)
- Renewed every four years



Seven Commissions





Driving change through
leading communication,
learning and knowledge



WCEL

WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW
WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW
WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW



WCPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS





Harmonising nature conservation and the critical social, cultural, environmental, and economic justice concerns of human societies





Promoting ecosystem-based approaches for the management of landscapes and seascapes





Advancing environmental law to
strengthen the legal foundations
of conservation of nature and
sustainable development





Developing knowledge based policy, advice and guidance on the full suite of issues surrounding protected areas



Promote appropriate, effective, just, and nature-positive solutions to the climate crisis that are based on the best available scientific evidence from all reputable international bodies and from indigenous knowledge systems.



Influencing, encouraging and assisting societies to conserve biodiversity by building knowledge on the status and threats to species



What do Commissions do?

- Analyse issues and prepare assessments, reports, action plans, criteria and methodology;
- Undertake research and other scientific and technical work;
- Undertake tasks assigned to them within the integrated programme of IUCN;
- Provide advice on any matter within their fields of competence;
- Broaden knowledge and competence on matters relating to their mandates;
- Work with Members and the Secretariat to develop activities within the various Regions;
- Support Members and components of IUCN with necessary expertise; and
- Undertake such other responsibilities as may be assigned to them by the World Congress and the Council.



The SSC was established in **1949**

Vision

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.

8680 members have renewed or joined the SSC Network for the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

179 SSC Groups in **186** Countries:

15 Stand-alone Red List
Authorities

8 Task Forces

1 Action Partnership

8 Conservation Committees

147 Specialist Groups

IUCN Species Strategic Plan

LINKS TO FURTHER REFERENCES

Summary - Species Strategic Plan:

<https://bit.ly/3wYx6VW>

Complete - Species Strategic Plan:

<https://bit.ly/3nrpKqV>

Interactive visualization of the Plan:

<https://tabsoft.co/3ntd8jj>



Our objectives

- a. **Network:** Enhance and support the SSC network and its alliances to deliver the IUCN Species Strategic Plan.
- b. **Assess:** Understand and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity.
- c. **Plan:** Develop collaborative, inclusive and science-based conservation strategies and policies.
- d. **Act:** Convene and mobilize conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.
- e. **Communicate:** Convene and mobilize conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.



Implementation requires



Collaboration with IUCN Members, National and Regional Committees, other Commissions and the Secretariat, in helping to deliver IUCN's "One Programme" commitment

Interventions letters

Written communication signed or co-signed by a SSC leader (SSC Chair, SSC group Chair, etc.) addressing some important conservation issue, requesting a solution to it to some authority, be it governmental or private. It is not an advocacy instrument. It is a way of alerting a critical or difficult situation, to try to prevent it from happening and to offer advice to solve

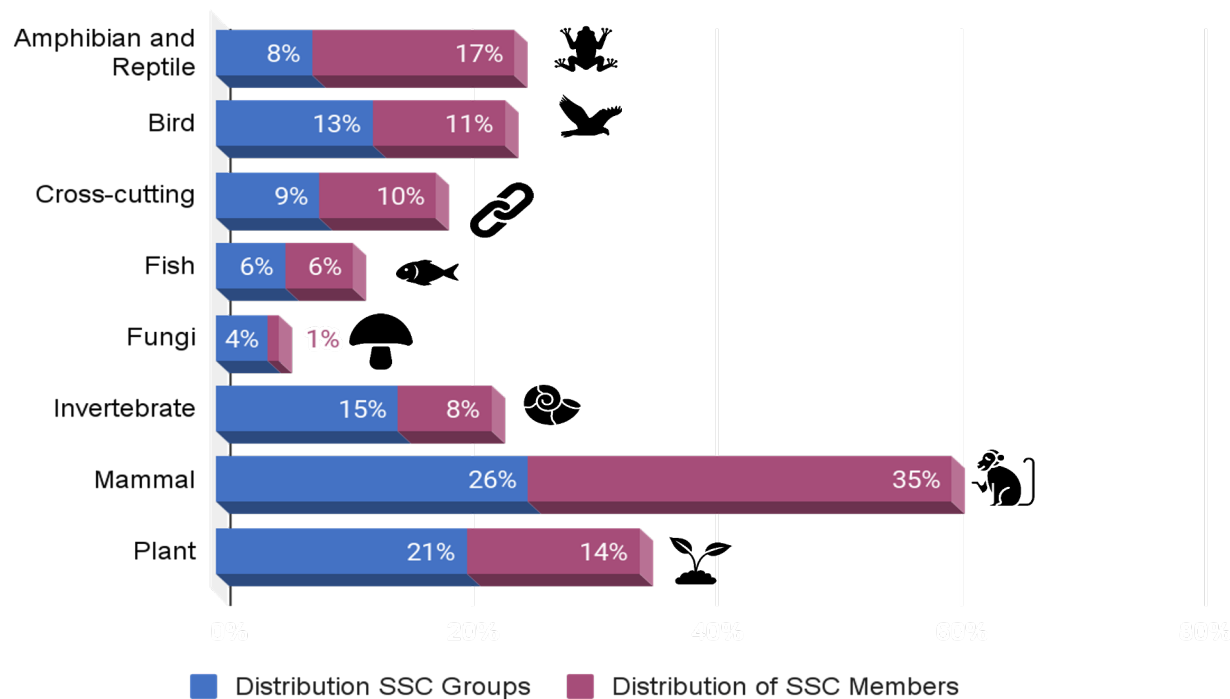


SSC Network

+8,600
volunteer
members
supporting the
work of 179
IUCN SSC
groups



SSC Membership by SSC Group



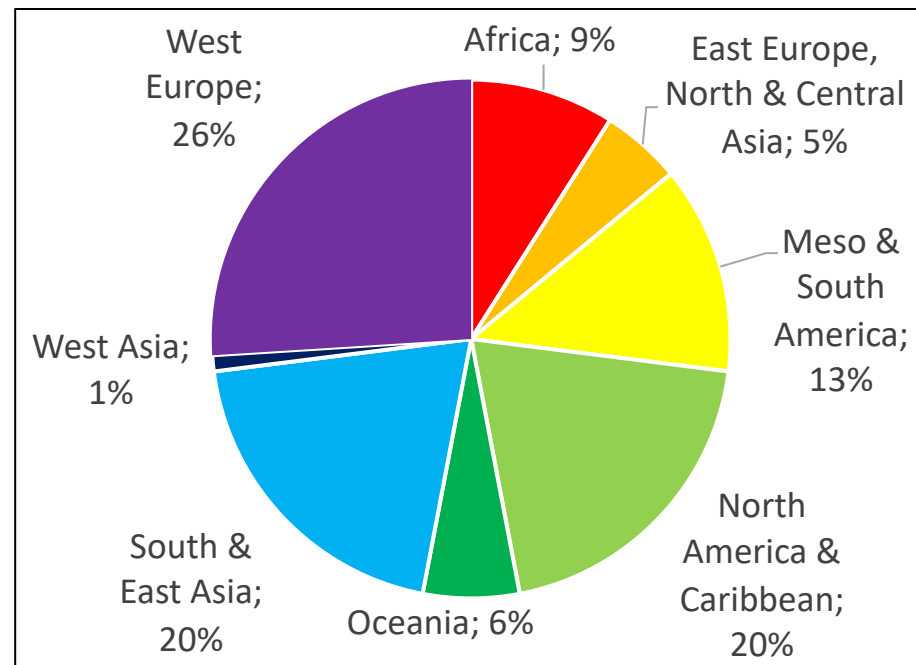
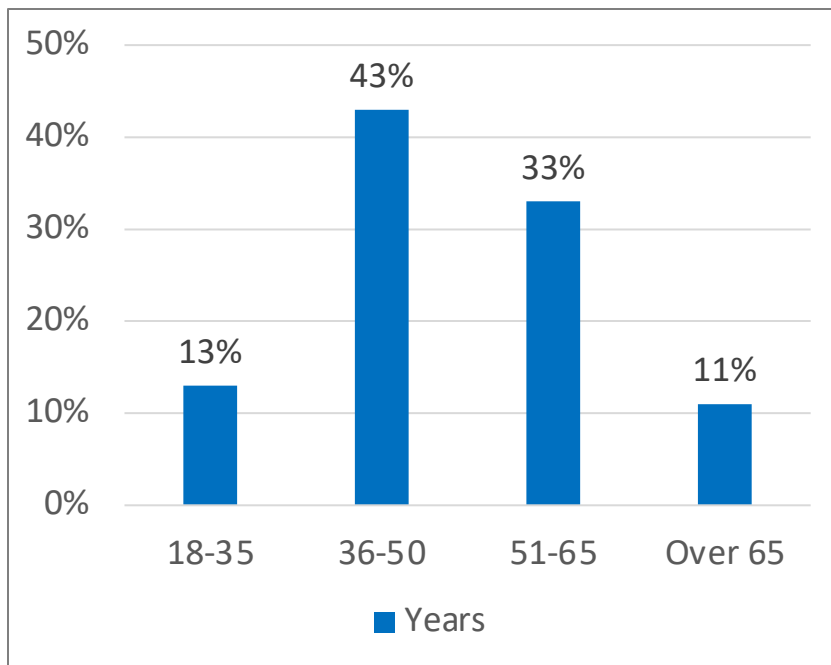
SSC Members: 8,680



33%



67%



Data correct as of 1 May 2023

SSC Focal Persons to 67 National and 8 Regional IUCN Committees

**35 Focal
Persons/ 29
Countries**

South America, Central America and Caribbean

18 Focal Persons already designated / 16 Countries

[List of Designated SSC Focal Persons to the IUCN N&R Committees South and Meso America](#)

Europe

17 Focal Persons already designated / 13 Countries

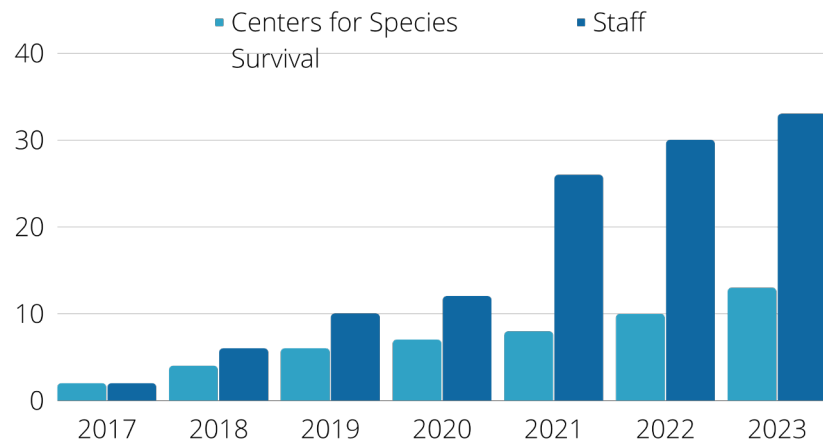
[List of Designated SSC Focal Persons to the IUCN N&R Committees Europe](#)

Criteria:

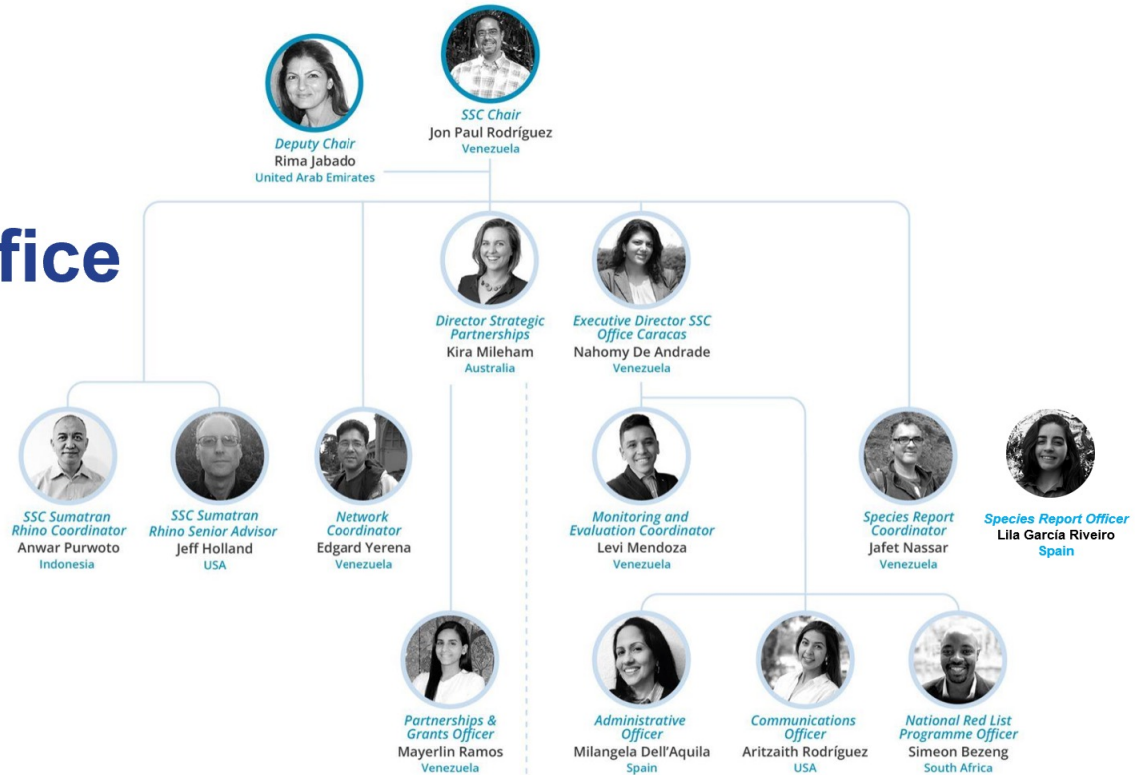
- If only 1 self-nominated: designated if approved by the Vice Chair.
- 2 self-nominated: one designated if positive feedback from the Vice Chair.
- If 3 or more self-nominated: electronic poll among country members and the member with more votes is designated.
- If the country that has a National Species Specialist Group: the Chair of such group is designated by default.



13 Centers for Species Survival



Chair's Office Team



SSC Regional Vice-Chairs

They 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. The Regional Vice-Chairs for the new quadrennium are:

- Regional Vice-Chair for China - **Yan Xin**, xieyan@ioz.ac.cn
- Regional Vice-Chair for Meso and South America - **Gabriela Lichtenstein**, lichtensteingabriela@gmail.com
- Regional Vice-Chair for Oceania - **Nunia Thomas**, nuniat@naturefiji.org
- Regional Vice-Chair for South and East Asia - **Mirza Kusrini**, mirza_kusrini@yahoo.com
- Regional Vice-Chair for West Asia - **Ehab Eid**, eha_jo@yahoo.com
- Regional Vice-Chair for West Europe - **Jean-Christophe Vié**, jcvié@fondationfranklinia.org
- Regional Vice-Chair for Africa - Vacant
- Regional Vice-Chair for North America and the Caribbean - Vacant
- Regional Vice-Chair for East Europe, North and Central Asia - Vacant

IUCN Youth Strategy

- Aims to embed young people's perspectives, inclusion and empowerment in all parts and at all levels of the Union.
- This will allow young people to meaningfully contribute to IUCN's vision of a just world that values and conserves nature.

IUCN SSC Young Professional Task Force

- 2 Co-Chairs reporting to the SSC Chair
- 2 Regional coordinators for West **Europe** (Holly Mynott, Federico Riva)

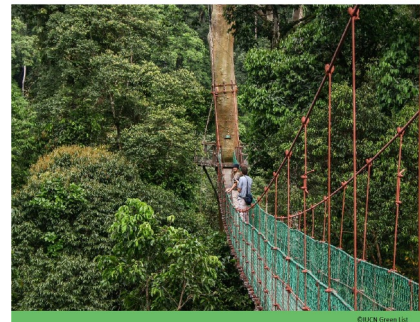
“Youth” are people aged between 15–24

“Young professionals” are people aged between 18–35

In this Strategy, the phrase “young people” refers to both youth and young professionals



IUCN Youth Strategy
2022-2030



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1196 Gland
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 999 0000
<http://www.iucn.org>

95 members to date

America (16)



Asia (49)



Europe (9)



Africa (20)



Oceania (3)



Questions / Comments

THANK YOU .

