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ISSUE 62

## 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) is a science-based network of thousands of volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together toward achieving the vision of “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.”

Members of SSC belong to one or more of near 200 Specialist Groups, Red List Authorities, Action Partnerships, Task Forces, and Conservation Committees

To accomplish those targets, the Species Conservation Cycle was established, which is the conceptual framework for the Network activities. The Species Conservation Cycle’s main purpose is to guide efforts for valuing and conserving biodiversity through three essential components that are linked to each other:

**ASSESS:** Understand and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity.

**PLAN:** Develop collaborative, inclusive and science-based conservation strategies, plans and policies.

**ACT:** Convene and mobilise conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.

Their implementation requires two transversal components:

**NETWORK:** Enhance and support our immediate network and alliances to achieve our biodiversity targets.

**COMMUNICATE:** Drive strategic and targeted communications to enhance our conservation impact.

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

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**Title of the SSC Group**

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**Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs**

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**Group information**

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Committee

Center for Species Survival

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# 2022 Report

# IUCN SSC Chameleon Specialist Group

CHAIR	RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR	NUMBER OF MEMBERS
Christopher V. Anderson	Krystal Tolley	24
University of South Dakota, Department of Biology, Vermillion, South Dakota, US	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Applied Biodiversity Research Division, Cape Town, South Africa	

## Mission statement

The mission of the Chameleon Specialist Group is to improve the conservation status and sustainable use of wild chameleons.

## Projected impact 2021–2025

Provide an evidence-based approach and scientific knowledge directed at the implementation of conservation actions and public policies that lead to the reduction of the extinction risk for members of this enigmatic lizard family.

## Targets 2021–2025

### ASSESS

**T-001** Assess newly described chameleon species for the IUCN Red List within two years of description, with publication of assessments within three years of description.

Status: On track

**T-002** Undertake the reassessment of species with IUCN Red List assessments that are a minimum of 10 years old.

Status: On track

**T-007** Publish results of fieldwork undertaken by the group in response to assessment findings.

Status: On track

### PLAN

**T-003** Support implementation of CITES.  
Status: On track

### NETWORK

**T-004** Expand membership to improve geographic coverage and representation of taxonomic experts.

Status: On track

**T-006** Locate and establish a relationship with a host financial institution.

Status: Not Initiated

### COMMUNICATE

**T-005** Establish and develop a new website for the group.

Status: Not Initiated

## Activities and results 2022

### ASSESS

#### Red List

**T-001** Assess newly described chameleon species for the IUCN Red List within two years of description, with publication of assessments within three years of description. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 3

Result description: We published assessments of three new *Bradypodion* species, and have the assessments for 13 new species in the draft stage, these should be completed in 2023 or early 2024.

**T-002** Undertake the reassessment of species with IUCN Red List assessments that are a minimum of 10 years old. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 17

Result description: We published reassessments of 17 *Bradypodion* species, and have reassessments for 82 species in draft, which should be completed in 2023 or early 2024.

### Research activities

**T-007** Publish results of fieldwork undertaken by the group in response to assessment findings. (KSR 5)

