



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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**CO-CHAIR**



Durrell Institute of  
Conservation and  
Ecology (DICE),

plants that are traded across borders in southern Africa.

Status: On track

**T-010** South Africa seed banking programme: (1) develop priority list of South African threatened species for seed banking; (2) bank 1,000 seed collections of South African spp. of which 700 are new to the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership (MSBP); (3) seed bank illegally harvested succulent species – 45 target species, and 50 species from habitat.

Status: On track

**T-011** Mozambique seed banking programme: (1) develop priority list of Mozambican threatened species for seed banking; (2) bank 700 seed collections for conservation of which 600 are new to the MSBP.

Status: On track

**T-012** Pilot involving citizen members of the South African Botanical Society to restore priority degraded Important Plant Areas.

Status: On track

**T-013** Develop an *Acacia* conservation project on the *Acacia*-dominated coastal forests in Northern Mozambique.

Status: On track

**T-015** Develop a species recovery programme: (1) develop a template for species

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Seed Information Database (<https://data.kew.org/sid/sidsearch.html>) and Seed storage predictor tool ([https://seedcollections.shinyapps.io/seed\\_storage\\_predictor/](https://seedcollections.shinyapps.io/seed_storage_predictor/)).

**Policy**

T-007     
(KSR 6)

Number of national plans incorporating Key Biodiversity Areas in their spatial planning:

60



Ntsakisi Masia, SANBI (right) and Zelia Malate, IIAM (left) assessing

Result description: Field seed collections made from January to December 2022 (763 species), with 361 new to the seed bank collections, 18 targeted C<sub>4</sub> succulent species and 36 species from the Karoo Biome habitat.

T-011

(KSR 10)

(KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from conservation action: 57

Result description: Seeds of 57 Mozambican plant species were collected for conservation this year, bringing the overall total to 84 collections since the start of this quadrennium, including 34 species new to the MSB, one threatened species and eight endemic species. A two-week Seed Conservation Techniques training course was held in Mozambique in November 2022 bringing together trainers and participants from Kew, SANBI and IIAM Millennium Seed Bank Partnership. A priority list for seed banking is in progress.

T-012

(KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 60

Result description: Now that the Important Plant Areas of the country have been identified, we are now in the process of writing up reports to aid in prioritizing sites for five branches of the Botanical Society of South Africa across the country to conduct conservation intervention activities specific to the important plant areas occurring within their regions.

T-015

(KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from conservation action: 1

Result description: The Critical Response Project (CRPE) project was initiated and is in progress; germination protocols are currently being developed through germination trials with the ultimate aim of restoring in the wild.

#### COMMUNICATE Communication

T-009

(KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 1

Result description: An 8-week training was facilitated online in preparation for participating in the global City Nature Challenge event. The objective of this 4-day event is to motivate people to find and record wildlife in urban areas using the Bioblitz methodology, with participants from South Africa (13), Botswana (five), and Zimbabwe (two). The City Nature Challenge yielded 83,275 observations of 5,232 plant species. Several plant taxa of conservation concern were recorded as well.

#### Summary of achievements

	19
19 Africa	
A Assess: 3 (KSR 5, 6)	
Act: 4 (KSR 10)	
Communicate: 1 (KSR 13)	