



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 Crocodile Specialist Group

<b>CHAIR</b>	<b>RED LIST AUTHORITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF MEMBERS</b>
Grahame J.W. Webb	<b>COORDINATOR</b>	717
Wildlife Management International Pty. Limited, Darwin, Australia	Sally R. Isberg Centre for Crocodile Research, Noonamah, Australia	

### Mission statement

The Mission of the IUCN SSC Crocodile Specialist Group (CSG) is to assist the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to meet their missions with regard to the conservation, management and sustainable use of world crocodylians.

### Projected impact 2021–2025

By the end of 2025, we envisage: (1) increased reintroductions and improved status of wild populations of Critically Endangered (CR) crocodylian species such as Chinese Alligator (*A. sinensis*; China), Siamese Crocodile (*C. siamensis*; Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR) and Philippine Crocodile (*C. philippinensis*; Philippines); (2) improved legal protection status of Siamese Crocodile and Tomistoma (*T. schlegelii*) habitat in Lake Mesangat, East Kalimantan, Indonesia; (3) tracking study implemented on Tomistoma; (4) publications on traceability systems, sustainable use and livelihoods and Conservation Priorities; (5) completion of species Action Plans; and (6) a standard reference source developed for crocodylians.

### Targets 2021–2025

#### ASSESS

**T-001** Review and undertake IUCN Red List assessments for crocodylians.

Status: On track

**T-009** Update CSG *B* *M*  
*P* *C* *F* manual.

Status: On track

**T-010** Develop an updated standard reference source for crocodylian taxonomy and phylogenetic relationships.

Status: On track

**T-013** Update the CSG 'Crocodylian Capacity Building Manual'.

Status: On track

**T-014** Encourage the implementation of a radio- and satellite-tracking study on Tomistoma in Indonesia or Malaysia (Sarawak) or both.

Status: Achieved

**T-017** Review and assess the main traceability systems available for reptile products in international trade.

Status: Achieved

**T-022** (a) 98 (l) 205 (r) 8-214 Tm (h) 23 (T) 8) 0 F24 (x(n) 7 (i) d) 1) 37188 Tm (T) 695217 176886

## **ACT**

**T-018** Prepare and disseminate case studies on Livelihoods and Sustainable Use.

Status: On track

**T-019** Assess the impact on crocodilian conservation efforts by various NGOs to curtail all trade in wildlife to meet ideological goals outside the mission of both SSC and IUCN.

Status: On track

## **NETWORK**

**T-002** Expand membership of CSG with new members working on crocodilian research, conservation, and management.

Status: On track

**T-005** Develop a CSG Communication Strategy.

Status: On track

**T-007** Continue to develop and promote the CSG Leaders Programme.

Status: On track

**T-016** Maintain involvement at international forums (e.g., CITES, IUCN, IUCN World Conservation Congress).

Status: On track

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## **Activities and results 2022**

### **ASSESS**

#### **Communication**

**T-010** Develop an updated standard reference source for crocodilian taxonomy and phylogenetic relationships. (KSR 5)

Development of an updated standard reference source: 0

Result description: The development of an updated reference source is ongoing. Members of the CSG Taxonomy and Identification Group met on July 4,

Number of publications produced in internal journals of SSC groups: 1

Result description: Several adult Tomistoma (T) in Berback National Park, Sumatra, Indonesia, were captured and radio- and satellite transmitters were placed on them. Additional funding was provided by the CSG to increase the sample size of Tomistoma involved in the study.

**T-022** Fund graduate/postgraduate students who elect to work on crocodilian conservation and management through the CSG Student Research Assistance Scheme (SRAS) and Fritz Huchzermeyer Veterinary Science Student Research Assistance Scheme (FHVS-SRAS) Programmes. (KSR 5)

Number of publications produced in internal journals of SSC groups: 12

Result description: Seventeen (17) applications for SRAS funding were received in 2022, of which 12 were approved and funded.

## PLAN

### Planning

**T-003** Improve the status of wild Siamese Crocodile populations, by continuing to encourage programmes and countries to engage further and more rapidly in reintroduction programmes (Thailand, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Lao PDR). (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 2

Result description: Fauna and Flora International and its partners in Cambodia released 25 Siamese Crocodiles in the Chhay Reap area of the Sre Ambel River, in southwestern Koh Kong Province in March 2022. Crocodiles were fitted with satellite (N= 3) and acoustic (N= 25) transmitters. This represents the largest single release of the species in Cambodia. In Lao PDR, the Savannakhet Provincial Department of Agriculture and Forestry, in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society, released 47 young Siamese Crocodiles in the Xe Champhone Wetlands in March 2022.

**T-011** Review and update Crocodilian Species Action Plans. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 5

Result description: Action Plans continue to be reviewed and developed, with current efforts focussing on prioritizing proposed conservation actions for all crocodilian species.

**T-012** Develop 'CSG Conservation Priorities for World Crocodilians'. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 15

Result description: Prioritisation of conservation actions is ongoing.

**T-020** Review the UN Sustainable Development Goals as they pertain to crocodilian conservation, management and sustainable use, for the benefit of all CSG members. (KSR 9)

Completion of review: Ongoing.

Result description: The UN Sustainable Development Goals, as they pertain to crocodilian conservation, management and sustainable use, were reviewed.

