



ISSUE 64

2023 Report I C S S C

Stand-alone report IUCN SSC Phylogenetic Diversity Task Force

Mission statement

The aim of the IUCN SSC Phylogenetic Diversity Task Force (PDTF) is to provide leadership and guidance on the inclusion of phylogenetic diversity in conservation strategies. By providing the necessary scientic and technical expertise, we will promote wider adoption and greater understanding of this approach by conservation practitioners, decision-makers and the public.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Throughout the 2021-2025 period, the PDTF will positively impact multiple species conservation statuses by supporting implementation and providing guidance and advice for practitioners and decision-makers on selecting and using appropriate phylogenetic diversity (PD) approaches and incorporating PD into its policy. As part of this, the PDTF has committed to the production of two indicators proposed to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The PDTF will also seek to compile information and identify gaps in knowledge or application of PD-based approaches and encourage its members and the wider scienti c and conservation community to undertake scienti c research and conservation applications that will add to the knowledge base.

Targets 2021-2025

ASSESS

T-002 Develop state-of-the-art methods for measuring and categorising the success of conservation. Status: On track

PLAN

T-005 Develop knowledge exchange and consultation between stakeholders to advance adoption of PD-prioritisation. Status: On track

ACT

T-007 Develop a variety of documents, including position paper, perspectives piece and guidelines that will include practical examples and review obstacles and lessons to share best practice on the

Result description: The PDTF provided recommendations to representatives from the CBD's AHTEG (*Ad Hoc* Technical Expert Group) on Indicators concerning the EDGE and PD indicators and provided guidance to UNEP-WCMC and country partners on the incorporation of the PDTF indicators into the national reporting for the Multi-Dimensional Biodiversity Index.

Policy

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(KSR 9)

Number of documents provided to support/ guide policy making: 4

Result description: The PDTF published a paper outlining the EDGE Index and Phylogenetic Diversity indicator for global and national use, and supported another paper putting the indicators in a broader context for policymakers. We published a paper highlighting the bene ts to people at risk through the loss of avian evolutionary history to guide conservation, and another paper providing global priorities for bird conservation.

Number of MEA meetings attended by the SSC group: 0

Result description: In 2023 the PDTF prepared for participation in COP16 planned for 2024.

ACT

Conservation actions

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Number of technical documents provided to support conservation actions: 2

Result description: The PDTF published a consensus view presenting a uni ed protocol for the prioritisation of EDGE species for conservation action. We also published a novel approach to measuring the amount of diversity expected to be retained across the tree of life with the inclusion of attrition of accumulated features through time.

NETWORK

Membership

Number of SSC members recruited: 0

Result description: The PDTF is planning to expand its membership when it becomes a Specialist Group in the upcoming year.

Synergy

Number of 'in kind' partnerships established and maintained: 4

Result description: We have maintained our partnership with On the Edge, which has continued its commitment to resource the

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