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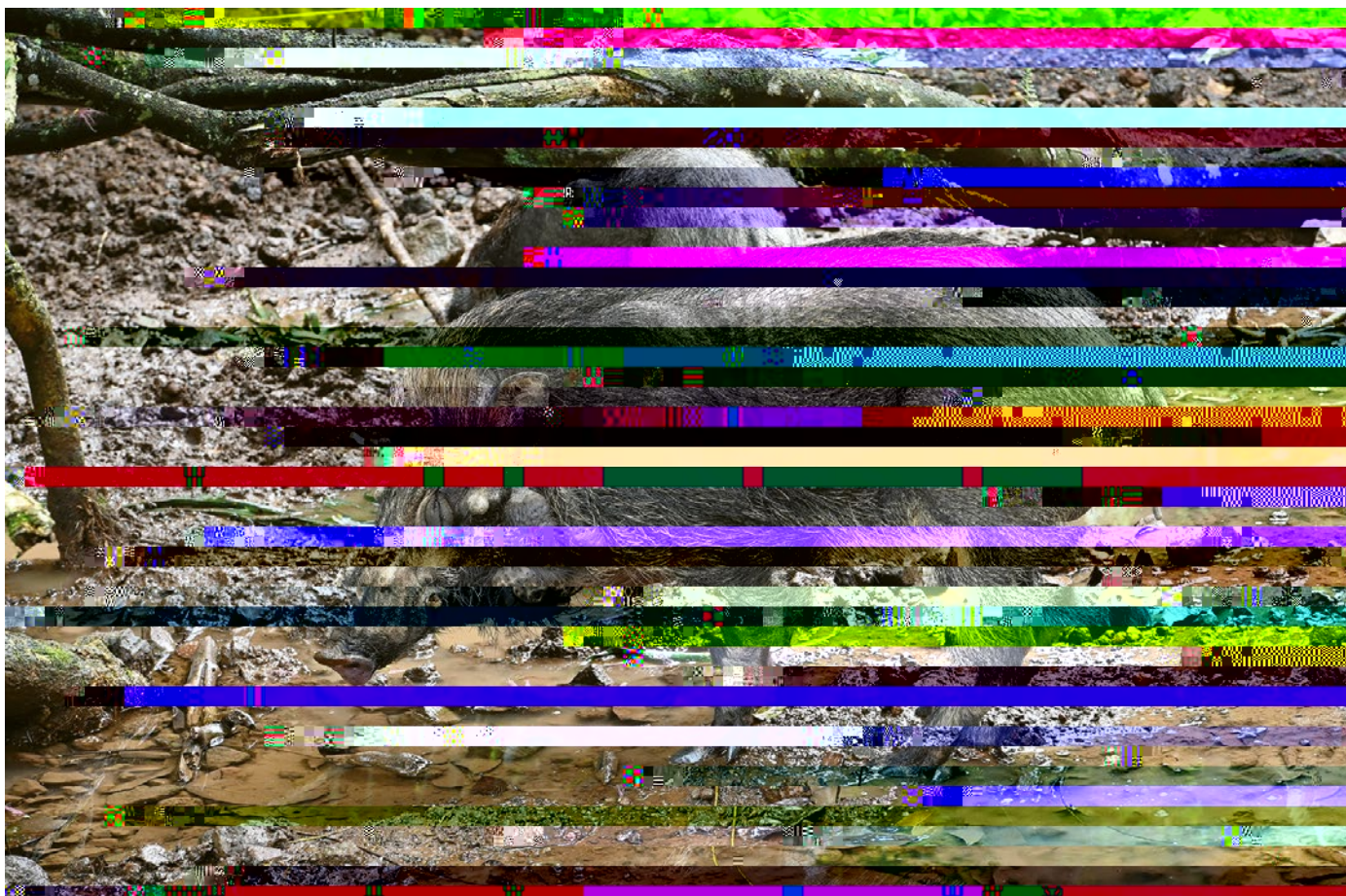of the IUCN Species
Survival Commission
and Secretariat

Mission statement

The SSC Wild Pig Specialist Group (WPSG) has not yet de ned a mission statement. Key components of such a statement would be: 1) viable wild pig populations; 2) all wild pig taxa; 3) threat management; 4) conservation breeding; 5) reintroduction; 6) habitat restoration and management, and 7) resolution of con icts with people. Most wild pig species are in decline, especially the various species and subspecies in Indonesia and the Philippines. The WPSG uses a combination of strategies to try to reduce these population declines. This primarily includes: 1) research on taxonomy and distribution – the cornerstone of any conservation management, and 2) management of captive and wild populations to prevent the extinction of the most threatened species.

Projected impact 2021–2025

We aim to safeguard the small populations of the two Critically Endangered suid species, Pygmy Hog (*Porcula salvania*) and

Javan Warty Pig (*Sus verrucosus*)
at Taman Safari Indonesia Bogor
Photo: Roland Wirth

and the Common Warthog (*Phacochoerus africanus*) in different ecosystems in southern Benin.
Status: On track

T-048 Study of the biogeography of the Desert Warthog (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*) and Common Warthog (*P. africanus*) in the Horn of Africa, by the end of 2024.
Status: On track

T-054 Provide a population estimate for the Palawan Bearded Pig by the end of 2024.
Status: Not initiated

PLAN

T-001 Develop a Conservation Needs Assessment and Planning Strategy for all species, with the Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG), by the end of 2022.
Status: Not initiated

T-002 Develop an EAZA Tapir and Suiform Regional Collection Plan.
Status: Achieved

T-004 Finalise the output of the West Visayan Conservation Workshop, by mid-2021.
Status: Achieved

T-012 Develop action plans in relation to the threat of African Swine Fever to prioritise wild pig species in Asia, by late 2021.
Status: Achieved

T-017 Develop action plans in relation to the threat of African Swine Fever to all relevant wild pig species in Asia, by late 2022.
Status: Not initiated

T-050 Increase the protection of the Endangered Javan Warty Pig by listing it on the Indonesian protected species list.
Status: On track

ACT

T-005 Conduct the rst successful Visayan Warty Pig reintroduction programme, by 2024.
Status: Achieved

T-006 Streamline the efforts of conservation breeding of Visayan Warty Pigs on Negros and Panay through networking, capacity building and breeding plans.
Status: On track

T-009 Ensure active and comprehensive collaboration of conservation breeding of Javan Warty Pigs, by mid-2022.
Status: On track

T-011 Secure at least one safe and pure population of Javan Warty Pig in the wild, by end of 2022.
Status: On track

T-015 Establish a successful release programme for Javan Warty Pigs in East Java, by end of 2024.
Status: On track

T-024 Implement the Babirusa (*Babyrousa* spp.) Global Species Management Plan.
Status: On track

T-031 Develop a database for African pig species data, by the end of 2022.
Status: Achieved

T-032 Release 60 Pygmy Hogs in the next ve years, starting from 2020, in the Rupahi grassland of Manas National Park, by the end of the quadrennium.
Status: On track

T-033 Identify and monitor the status of wild and released populations of Pygmy Hogs.
Status: On track

T-035 Conduct a Disease Risk Analysis (DRA) to establish a robust biosecurity protocol to ensure the management of a healthy breeding programme for Pygmy Hogs, by the end of 2021.
Status: Achieved

T-044 To nd at least one more suitable translocation site for Visayan Warty Pig (*S. cebifrons*), prepare, conduct and evaluate the translocation to this site, by the end of 2025.
Status: Not initiated

T-045 Protect the newly established population of Visayan Warty Pig at Bayawan Nature Reserve.
Status: On track

y the end of 2026.

T-046 Conduct habitat management and improvement for 10 km^2 for Pygmy Hog (*Porcula salvinia*), by the end of 2025.
Status: Not initiated

T-047 Conduct a community-based biosecurity programme for Domestic Pig close to the breeding centre and around Manas National Park to mitigate the risk of ASF to captive Pygmy Hogs, by the end of 2025.
Status: Not initiated

T-049 To protect the captive, reintroduced and wild populations of Visayan Warty Pigs against African Swine Fever in the Philippines.
Status: On track

T-052 Develop *ex situ* breeding for Bearded Pigs by the end of 2026.
Status: Not initiated

T-053
artyy the end of 2026.

T-019

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 1

Result description: New paper published in 2023: De Jong, Y.A., d'Huart, J.P. & Butynski, T.M. (2023). 'Biogeography and conservation of Desert Warthog *Phacochoerus aethiopicus* and Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* (Artiodactyla: Suidae) in the Horn of Africa'. Mammalia 87(1): 1–19.

T-039 Study the eco-ethology, ethnobiology, and sympatric relationships between the Red River Hog (*P. porc*) and the Common Warthog (*P. african*) in different ecosystems in southern Benin. (KSR 5)

Number of scientic publications about species research that acknowledge SSC afliation: 1

Result description: In 2023, WPSG member Florian Gbodja Codija published another manuscript from his doctoral thesis titled 'Activity budget and distribution pattern modelling of Red River Hog [*P. porcus* (Linnaeus 1758)] in the Gnanhouizounme community forest in South-Eastern Bénin'. He also worked on a research protocol on 'Modelling warthog and wild pig diet-habitat using stable isotope trends across West, East, and southern African savanna' which led to the selection for a Postdoc at the 'PACEA UMR 5199' at the University of Bordeaux, France, starting in 2023. As part of the postdoc work, Florian started to conduct a sample collection of Common Warthog and Red River Hog skulls in protected areas of Benin in 2023.

PLAN
Policy

T-017 Develop action plans in relation to the threat of African Swine Fever to all relevant wild pig species in Asia, by late 2022. (KSR 9)

Number of policies where SSC members provided technical input: 0

Result description: Until recently we had not had enough time to work on something on our own. However, in late 2023 we hired a 25%FTE Programme Ofcer and started to work towards ASF guidelines for breeding facilities in Asia.

Planning

T-050 Increase the protection of the Endangered Javan Warty Pig by listing it on the Indonesian protected species list. (KSR 8)

Number of plans invited/endorsed by national governments/conservation authorities: 0

Result description: In November 2023, Yudi Irawan from Javan Species Recovery Programme had the opportunity to submit a proposal to the KLKH to include the Javan Warty Pig in the list of protected animals of the Indonesian government (Lampiran Surat Direktur Jenderal Konservasi Sumber Daya Alam dan Ekosistem). After discussing and asking for suggestions and input from various parties, including BRIN, KLHK, Chester Zoo, and pig experts, it was proposed that JWP be a protected with data from the Javan Species Recovery Programme, led by Yudi Irawan, who wrote the application. The WPSG Chair wrote a to hear the decision in 2024. The hope is that the law regulating the status of Javan Warty Pig itself will make future conserva

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management. Currently, there are six pigs in the facility. Challenges are the bad conditions into which the pigs come and problems in the social groups. Genetic testing is done for all to ensure that pigs are pure; (3) Establishing and dis8 (ane

ForestHogBase, BushPigBase, and RedRiverHogBase]. Input consists of locality name, country, subspecies, coordinates, altitude, etc., and can be provided by those who attended the Kibale meeting (October 2019) or by filling out the online form 'African wild pig locality records' after an encounter with an African wild pig. WarthogBase is administered by Yvonne de Jong and ForestHogBase by Jean-Pierre d'Huart. BushPigBase and RedRiverHogBase are still in need of an administrator. Both WarthogBase and ForestHogBase have led to updated distribution maps (De Jong *et al.* 2023). The next step is to find administrators for BushPigBase and RedRiverHogBase and to repeat our requests for additional records for all five species. Next, the two Warthog distribution maps will be updated in 2025. A publication in *Suiform Soundings* advertised the database: De Jong, Y.A., d'Huart, J.P. and Butynski, T.M. (2023). 'Have you seen wild pigs in Africa'.

Number of 'in kind' partnerships estab-
lished and maintained: 0

Result description: There was a meeting
at the Government of India level on the
MoU in July 2023. They send some queries
to the Government of Assam, however,
the Government of Assam is too slow in
sending any response. The dialogue with
the government agencies will be renewed
again after the general election of India, in
May 2024.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

**T-010 Regularly publish the WPSG's
Newsletter *S ifo m So nding* . (KSR 12)**

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