IUCN SSC Species Survival Commission

Species

ISSUE 64

2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat

Stand-alone report
IUCN SSC Mid-Atlantic Islands Invertebrate Specialist Group

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)

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 that make up the Network, each focusing on a taxonomic group (plants, fungi, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and invertebrates), national species, or a disciplinary issue, such as sustainable use and livelihoods, translocation of species, wildlife health, climate change, and conservation planning.

Framed by the Species Conservation Cycle, SSC's major role is to provide information to IUCN on biodiversity conservation, the inherent value of species, their role in ecosystem health and functioning, the provision of ecosystem services, and their support to human livelihoods. This information is fed into the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan

The IUCN Species Strategic Plan encompasses the joint work of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and a number of partnerships to achieve more than 2,700 targets proposed by the Network during the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

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.

SSC Species Report

Annual progress in the implementation of the 2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan is documented in the *SSC Species Report*, which consists of a comprehensive description and analysis of the activities and results generated by the members of the SSC Network and Centers for Species Survival (CSS) each year. Each SSC and CSS group contributes to this document by providing a yearly summarised description of their achievements, which is presented in standalone reports.

Structure of the IUCN SSC and CSS Stand-alone Reports

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

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

Title of the group

Photograph(s) of the Chair/Co-Chairs

Group information

Includes names of Chair/Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authory Coordinators, Program Officers, Species Survival Directors, and Species Survival Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the group

Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

Projected impact for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the description of the impact on species conservation resulting from the implementation of the targets formulated by the group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

Targets for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the targets planned by the SSC or CSS group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium ordered alphabetically by component of the Species Conservation Cycle. Each target is labeled with a numerical code (e.g., T-001, T-012) that identifies it in the SSC DATA database and its status for the reported year is indicated (Not initiated, On track or Achieved).

Activities and results

Includes the targets for which activities were conducted and results were generated during the reported year, ordered alphabetically, first by component of the Species Conservation Cycle, and second by Activity Category. Description of activities and results includes the indicator that best describes progress, its associated quantitative or qualitative result, and the narrative description of the activity conducted or result obtained. Each activity or result reported is linked to the Key Species Result to which it is mainly associated (e.g., KSR#1, KSR#5).

Acknowledgements

Includes the acknowledgements to funding agencies, partners, and persons who contributed to the progress of the targets of the group.

Summary of achievements

Summarises information of the group's strategic plan for the quadrennium and progress achieved implementing targets for all the components of the Species Conservation Cycle during the reported year.

Example for the recommended citation:

Wilkins, V. and Borges, P.A.V. 2024. 2023 Report of the Mid-Atlantic Islands Invertebrate Specialist Group. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 8 pp.

2023 Report

IUCN SSC Mid-Atlantic Islands Invertebrate Specialist Group

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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
40

Mission statement

To increase the evidence and action for invertebrate conservation on the islands of Gough, Tristan, St Helena, Ascension, Cabo Verde, Canaries, Madeira, Azores, and São Tomé e Príncipe. From 2023 also includes Cuba, Montserrat, Bermuda, Anguilla, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint-Barthélemy and the Falklands.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Increased awareness of the Mid-Atlantic Islands endemic invertebrate importance and threat status, beside progress on species recovery, through increased research and recording, new and updated Red List assessments, evidence-based planning exercises, and targeted and coordinated conservation action.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-004 Assess 20 endemics for Ascension Island.
Status: On track

T-008 In Tristan and Gough, compile historic records of invertebrates and conduct conservation needs assessment.
Status: On track

T-011 Carry out ongoing monitoring of *Pieris cheiranthi* and other endemic butterflies in the Canary Islands.
Status: On track

T-013 Assess existing knowledge of invertebrates on Cabo Verde.
Status: Not initiated

T-014 Reassess *Archachatina bicarinata*.
Status: Achieved

T-015 Reassess six Canary Islands land snails.
Status: On track

T-025 Reassess 111 endemic land mollusc species from Madeira archipelago.
Status: On track

T-028 Search for ghost endemic land mollusc species from Madeira Island.
Status: On track

T-032 Conduct citizen science project directed toward Endangered Madeiran land mollusc species.
Status: Not initiated

T-037 On São Tomé e Príncipe, list the land snails *Aporachis dohrnii*, *Rhysotina hepatizon*, *Pseudoveronicella forcarti* and *Columna columna*.
Status: On track

T-042 Conduct Red List assessments for 65 endemic Canarian spider species.
Status: Not Initiated

T-044 Green listing of *Trechus terrabravensis*.
Status: Achieved

T-046 Conduct red listing for the Scaly Crickets of Ascension Island.
Status: Not Initiated

T-047 Conduct data collection and Red List assessment of the narrow endemic Longhorn Beetle (*Deucalion oceanicum*).
Status: On track

T-050 Conduct globally and nationally Red List assessments of 19 Cuban endemic water beetle species using the georeferenced information and expert knowledge.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-002 Update the St Helena Spiky Yellow Woodlouse Plan.
Status: Achieved

T-016 Complete conservation planning for seven threatened Canary land snails: *Xerotricha garachicoensis*, *Plutonia reticulata*, *Napaeus teobaldoi*, *Hemicycla mascaensis*, *Hemicycla plicaria*, *Atlantica engonata* and *Hemicycla modesta*.
Status: On track

Azorean Forests
Photo: Paulo Borges

T-019 Elaborate a species management and conservation plan directed toward Critically Endangered Desertas land mollusc species.
Status: On track

T-020 Update the St Helena Invertebrate Strategy.
Status: Achieved

T-022 Complete the St Helena invertebrate guide.
Status: Achieved

T-026 Carry out conservation planning for the Endangered land mollusc *Geomitra moniziana*.
Status: Not initiated

T-031 Complete the Desertas land snails guide.
Status: Not initiated

T-048 Elaborate a Conservation Plan for the Longhorn Beetle (*D. oceanicum*).
Status: On track

ACT

T-001 Initiate the Ascension project on endemic invertebrate conservation.
Status: On track

T-009 Establish a conservation project for the Madeiran threatened butterflies Madeiran Brimstone (*Gonepteryx maderensis*), Madeiran Speckled Wood (*Pararge xiphia*) and Madeiran Large White (*Pieris wollastoni*).
Status: Achieved

T-010 Establish a conservation project for *P. cheiranthi* on the Canary Islands.
Status: On track

T-012 Implement the plan for *A. bicarinata* on São Tomé e Príncipe; increase understanding of ecology, population, genetics and threats; support legal mechanisms to address threats and ensure protection, and implement environmental awareness and public involvement strategies.
Status: Achieved

T-017 Rescue two Critically Endangered land mollusc species from Desertas from the wild to prevent their extinction.
Status: Achieved

T-018 Implement a captive breeding programme to prevent the extinction of the Desertas Critically Endangered land mollusc species.
Status: Achieved

T-021 Reduce the impact of invasive invertebrates on endemic invertebrates on St Helena.
Status: Achieved

T-024 Implement a captive breeding programme targeting the Endangered Madeiran land snail *G. moniziana*.
Status: Not initiated

T-034 Implement monitoring, a management plan and action for the Ironclad Beetle (*Tarphius floresensis*) on Flores Island.
Status: On track

T-035 Implement monitoring and a management plan for the Laurocho (Pseudanchomenus aptinoides) from Pico Island.
Status: On track

T-036 Implement monitoring and a management plan for *T. terrabravensis* from Terceira Island.
Status: On track

T-038 On São Tomé e Príncipe, carry out endemic invertebrate species conservation projects focused on beetles, butterflies, aquatic invertebrates and snails.
Status: Not initiated

T-039 On the Canary Islands, implement conservation actions and raise awareness for *P. cheiranthi*.
Status: On track

T-040 On Santa Maria in the Azores, initiate an endemic land snail project.
Status: On track

T-041 On the Canary Island, initiate planning and project actions on top-priority endemic pollinator species.
Status: On track

T-043 Conservation actions defined and implemented for the endemic scaly crickets of Ascension Island.
Status: On track

T-045 Maintain the *ex situ* population of *A. bicarinata* to 1) Keep studying the ecology of the species and disease outbreak; 2) Enable future reintroductions, and 3) Keep engaging local people on the conservation of this species.
Status: Achieved

T-049 Establish a geo-referenced database of 19 endemic Cuban species of Hydradephaga, with known and potential distributions, as well as predicted/known environmental variables conditions, and a proposal of areas for future actions.
Status: Not initiated

T-051 Conduct a gap analysis to assess if the Protected Areas of Cuba are effective in the conservation of Cuba's endemic water beetle fauna. Making recommendations for PA expansions and priorities and suggest actions to be embedded in Protected Areas that will support their recovery.
Status: Not initiated

NETWORK

T-023 Increase partnerships with potential funders.
Status: Achieved

T-029 Organise yearly Red List Training webinars.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-030 Disseminate the group newsletter.
Status: On track

T-033 Organise a public awareness campaign addressing the Endangered Madeiran land mollusc species.
Status: On track

Activities and results 2023

ASSESS

Red List

T-004 Assess 20 endemics for Ascension Island. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 6

Result description: Six endemic invertebrate Red Lists for Ascension have been published working in collaboration with Ascension Island Government and seven more are drafted (13 in total).

T-015 Reassess six Canary Islands land snails. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: The IUCN SSC MAIISG members Klaus Groh and Marco Neiber will reassess species under the LIFE Pulse project, to be delivered by the end of March 2024. A monitoring scheme conducted by the University of La Laguna (Tenerife) and supported by the Loro Park Foundation is currently ongoing until 2025, and data will be provided for further species evaluation.

T-025 Reassess 111 endemic land mollusc species from Madeira archipelago. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: New species were added to the reassessment working set. The current target is 126 endemic Madeiran land snail species to be reassessed until the end of March 2024. The process is still ongoing but will be concluded by the end of the month. Species assessments, distribution maps and supporting references will be delivered.

T-042 Conduct Red List assessments for 65 endemic Canarian spider species. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: It was prepared for submission to the IUCN grant to be submitted in early 2024.

T-046 Conduct red listing for the Scaly Crickets of Ascension Island. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: A survey project to gather distribution information on *Discophallus ascension* was conducted in 2023 and the results were used to start the Red List assessment of this species late in 2023.

T-047 Conduct data collection and Red List assessment of the narrow endemic Longhorn Beetle (*D. oceanicum*). (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: Ecological data on the target Longhorn Beetle and its host plant species, *Euphorbia anachoreta*, were collected during the Expedition 'Selvagens 50' in April and May 2023. The data will be used to reassess the target and host plant species during 2024. The project 'Saving the island endemic plants and beetles of Selvagem Pequena and Ilhéu de Fora from extinction (Selvagens Islands, Portugal)' was approved for financial support by Mossy Earth, and it will be implemented between April 2023 and 2028. The main goals are: (1) Collect baseline information regarding the target species and habitat; (2) Evaluate the edaphoclimatic variables at the current and potential species distribution areas; (3) Determination of the target species population variability based on the DNA analysis; (4) Reassessment of the target species; (5) Monitoring the target species population and habitat trends; (6) Implementation of a captive breeding program; (7) Species conservation strategy, and (8) Species reintroduction. It has as partners NGOs, zoos, botanical gardens and governmental institutions, namely: Institute of Forests and Nature Conservation of Madeira Government (IFCN), IUCN SSC Mid-Atlantic Islands Invertebrate Specialist Group (MAIISG), IUCN SSC Macaronesian Island Plant Specialist Group (MIPSG), Chester Zoo (CZ), Conservatoire Botanique National Brest (CBNB, France) and Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c)/University of Azores (Azores/Portugal). The first survey under this project is scheduled for March 2024.

[SSC Grant awarded]

Research activities

T-008 In Tristan and Gough, compile historic records of invertebrates and conduct conservation needs assessment. (KSR 5)

Number of publications produced in internal journals of SSC groups: 0

Result description: Continuing to work on the species list for the islands, also exploring developing a project on spider taxonomy for these islands.

T-011 Carry out ongoing monitoring of *P. cheiranthi* and other endemic butterflies in the Canary Islands. (KSR 5)

Number of publications produced in internal journals of SSC groups: 0

Result description: No specific publications were produced in 2023 on the biodiversity of butterflies, including the endemic species *P. cheiranthi*. There are 13 species exclusively endemic to the Canaries and another endemic to the Canaries and Madeira (*Vanessa vulcania*), several of which are mono-insular endemics. For all these reasons the monitoring of these species is ongoing.

Synergy

T-028 Search for ghost endemic land mollusc species from Madeira Island. (KSR 6)

Number of new range states engaged in determining species distribution range coverage: 0

Common Wasp (*Vespula vulgare*) eating endemic hoverfly on St Helena
Photo: Liza Fowler

Result description: The project concluded in July 2023. After 138-point surveys were conducted between October 2021 and July 2023, 127 species were found during the project. No target species were found, including dead shells. This data will support the species reassessment ongoing under the LIFE Pulse project to be delivered in March 2024.

PLAN

Planning

T-016 Complete conservation planning for seven threatened Canary land snails: *X. garachicoensis*, *P. reticulata*, *N. teobaldoi*, *H. mascaensis*, *H. plicaria*, *A. engonata* and *H. modesta*. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: The species conservation planning depends on the Canaries Regional Government, who will lead the process. A monitoring scheme is ongoing in collaboration between La Laguna University and the IUCN SSC MAIISG and is sponsored by the Loro Park Foundation (Tenerife, Canary Islands). The primary objective is to collect new data on the target species regarding the species' ecology, abiotic and biotic requirements and habitat. Based on this information, a species conservation plan will be outlined in 2025.

T-019 Elaborate a species management and conservation plan directed toward Critically Endangered Desertas land mollusc species. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: The presentation of the species conservation project was postponed to October 2024. A draft version will be available in August 2024, and it should be presented in October 2024 during the Desertas Land Snails conservation workshop scheduled for October 2024 in Madeira Island.

T-020 Update the St Helena Invertebrate Strategy. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 1

Result description: Now published and is available online Anonymous (2024). 'St Helena's Terrestrial Invertebrate Conservation Strategy 2023-2028'. St Helena National Trust and St. Helena Government. 39 pp.

T-048 Elaborate a Conservation Plan for the Longhorn Beetle (*D. oceanicum*). (KSR 8)

Number of Assess to Plan (A2P) species assessments completed: 0

Result description: The project was approved under the EDGE Funding: 'Assessing to plan for Madeira's genetically unique and threatened endemic Longhorn Beetle *D. oceanicum*.' in December 2023. The species plan will be presented in September 2024.

[SSC Grant awarded]

ACT

Conservation actions

T-001 Initiate the Ascension project on endemic invertebrate conservation. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: The project has been incredibly successful, results will be fully presented in 2024 but actions for invertebrates have already started to be applied.

T-009 Establish a conservation project for the Madeiran threatened butterflies Madeiran Brimstone (*G. maderensis*), Madeiran Speckled Wood (*P. xiphia*) and Madeiran Large White (*P. wollastoni*). (KSR 10)

Number of species with increased or prevented decrease in population or range size, as a result of conservation actions: 0

Result description: Post-the-project lectures have been given to several governmental officials and technicians on butterfly surveys. Also contact schools and the teachers in charge of each school's ECOSchools programme to have butterfly gardens in schools, with a poster with the Madeiran butterflies, where students can get acquainted with butterflies and undertake monitoring of the butterflies visiting the school gardens. Also, agreements were made with four schools to include butterfly-related work, including using students to have butterfly projects on their course final projects. The monitoring is continuing getting people from all municipalities to undertake the maBMS transects and find a municipality coordinator.

T-010 Establish a conservation project for *P. cheiranthi* on the Canary Islands. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: This species continues to be monitored, the species was part of an EU conservation planning exercise for Canary pollinators in 2023 and the next phase will be to start to initiate conservation action.

Acalles subcarinatus
Photo: Paulo Borges

T-012 Implement the plan for *A. bicarinata* on São Tomé e Príncipe; increase understanding of ecology, population, genetics, and threats; support legal mechanisms to address threats and ensure protection, and implement environmental awareness and public involvement strategies. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: This work was done. The draft of the genetic paper was completed, and the threats have been assessed during my MSc and PhD; all the entities in charge of developing legal mechanisms (Ministério do Ambiente, Direção das Florestas e da Biodiversidade, BirdLife International,) are aware of the threats affecting the species and its distribution, when possible, they have included the species in their plans. Besides the centre, more copies of the children's book were printed by the United Nations (UNDP) and distributed to teachers and schools, BirdLife has also developed awareness on the species through social media or as part of environmental activities on the island. Training for 80 bushmeat hunters in São Tomé in September for BirdLife, and we raised awareness on that occasion too.

[SSC Grant awarded]

T-017 Rescue two Critically Endangered land mollusc species from Desertas from the wild to prevent their extinction. (KSR 10)

Number of conservation translocations conducted: 0

Result description: In 2023, 23 specimens of *Geomitra coronula* were rescued and sent to the Chester Zoo, where a captive breeding program was implemented. In February 2024 3,500 individuals of *G. coronula* are alive under this current program.

T-018 Implement a captive breeding programme to prevent the extinction of the Desertas Critically Endangered land mollusc species. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: A captive breeding program was established for the *G. coronula* species, starting with 23 individuals rescued in the Desertas Islands. More than 10,000 individuals are divided by the four endemic land snail species rescued under the ongoing Desertas Snails project.

T-021 Reduce the impact of invasive invertebrates on endemic invertebrates on St Helena. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: Controls saw toxins used to control numbers and impacts of *Pheidole megacephala* and *Vespula vulgare*, both key predators of threatened endemic invertebrates, resulting in declines and near removal of the *P. megacephala* on some sites. Endemics were monitored at the same time and VU Gumwood Leafhopper (*Sanctahelenia decellei*) increased in abundance as a result of the removal of *P. megacephala*.

T-027 Translocate two Critically Endangered land mollusc species to prevent their extinction. (KSR 10)

Number of conservation translocations conducted: 0

Result description: The species reintroduction was postponed to November 2024, due to logistic reasons. In November 2024 1,200 individuals divided by two endemic species, *Discula lyelliana* and *Geomitra grabhami*, will be reintroduced at Planalto Sul of Bugio, the southern Island of the Desertas sub-archipelago.

T-034 Implement monitoring, a management plan and action for the Ironclad Beetle (*T. floresensis*) on Flores Island. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: In 2023, we achieved the creation of the indicator 'Index of Biotic Integrity' (IBI) to monitor the status of the habitat. This Index was previously created for epigean soil fauna and now was adapted to samples from SLAM Traps and Canopy beating samples (Tsafack *et al*. 2023a). We have also shown that the best season to identify the spread of exotic species is the Summer and Autumn (Tsafack *et al*. 2023b). Non-native plants have been managed due to their impact on this species.

T-035 Implement monitoring and a management plan for the Laurocho (*P. aptinoides*) from Pico Island. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: The Green Status evaluation of this species was performed and will be published soon with the classification of 'Largely Depleted'. There has also been a lot of work on invasive plant control to benefit this species.

T-036 Implement monitoring and a management plan for *T. terrabravensis* from Terceira Island. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: In 2023, we achieved the creation of the indicator 'Index of Biotic Integrity' (IBI) to monitor the status of the habitat. This Index was previously created for epigean soil fauna and now was adapted to samples from SLAM Traps and Canopy beating samples (Tsafack *et al*. 2023a). We have also shown that the best season to identify the spread of exotic species is the Summer and Autumn (Tsafack et al. 2023b). Publications: (1) Tsafack, N. *et al*. (2023a). 'Arthropod-based biotic integrity indices: A novel tool for evaluating the ecological condition of native forests in the Azores archipelago'. *Ecological Indicators*, 154: 110592; (2) Tsafack, N. *et al*. (2023b).

Scale-winged St Helenian Stilt Bug (*Plyapomus longus*)
Photo: Liza Fowler

'Biological Integrity of Azorean Native Forests Is better measured in Cold Season'. *Diversity*, 15: 1189. There has also been a lot of work on invasive plant control to benefit this species.

T-039 On the Canary Islands, implement conservation actions and raise awareness for *P. cheiranthi*. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: The species was integrated into the 'Canarian Islands endemic pollinators of the Laurel Forest zone - Conservation plan 2023-2028'.

T-040 On Santa Maria in the Azores, initiate an endemic land snail project. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: The monitoring of the snail species has started and the actions to control threats such as invasive species have started.

T-041 On the Canary Island, initiate planning and project actions on top-priority endemic pollinator species. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: The 'Canarian Islands endemic pollinators of the Laurel Forest zone - Conservation plan 2023-2028' has now been published, EU funding has been applied for and hopefully a project to initiate on-the-ground action will be initiated soon.

T-043 Conservation actions defined and implemented for the endemic scaly crickets of Ascension Island. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: An extensive study of *D. ascension* was conducted in 2023, looking at threats and ecology, which was funded through Indianapolis Zoon. Results are being written up into a publication and into Protected Areas management plans for the species.

T-045 Maintain the *ex situ* population of *A. bicarinata* to 1) Keep studying the ecology of the species and disease outbreak; 2) Enable future reintroductions, and 3) Keep engaging local people on the conservation of this species. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *ex situ* conservation action: 1

Result description: The snails in the Centre are monitored (growth, environmental conditions), have been starting to reproduce again since December 2022, and no disease outbreak was recorded again. Juveniles take up to three years to grow, so this will depend on the growth of juveniles and will have to follow the recommendations from the genetic analyses. Also, the Centre was used for environmental awareness by other entities and by the entity that is taking care of it (Alisei NGO).

[SSC Grant awarded]

NETWORK

Synergy

T-023 Increase partnerships with potential funders. (KSR 1)

Number of 'funding' partners established and maintained: 1

Result description: Relationship with Mossy Earth continues, Indianapolis Zoo funding is now complete, continuing to use IUCN funding streams, UK Darwin Plus funding, as well as pollinator work with IUCN Regional Offices.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-030 Disseminate the group newsletter. (KSR 12)

Number of newsletters produced: 1

Result description: There was one newsletter in December 2023. The periodicity of the newsletters was changed, and they are now issued semi-annually, in June and December of each year.

Acknowledgements

The Mid-Atlantic Islands Invertebrate Specialist Group would like to acknowledge the ongoing hard work, support and enthusiasm of its fantastic membership as well as our funders in 2023, and all the support from the SSC.

Summary of achievements

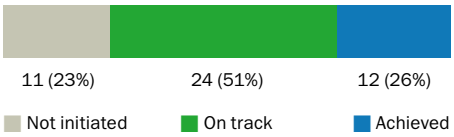
Total number of targets 2021–2025: 47

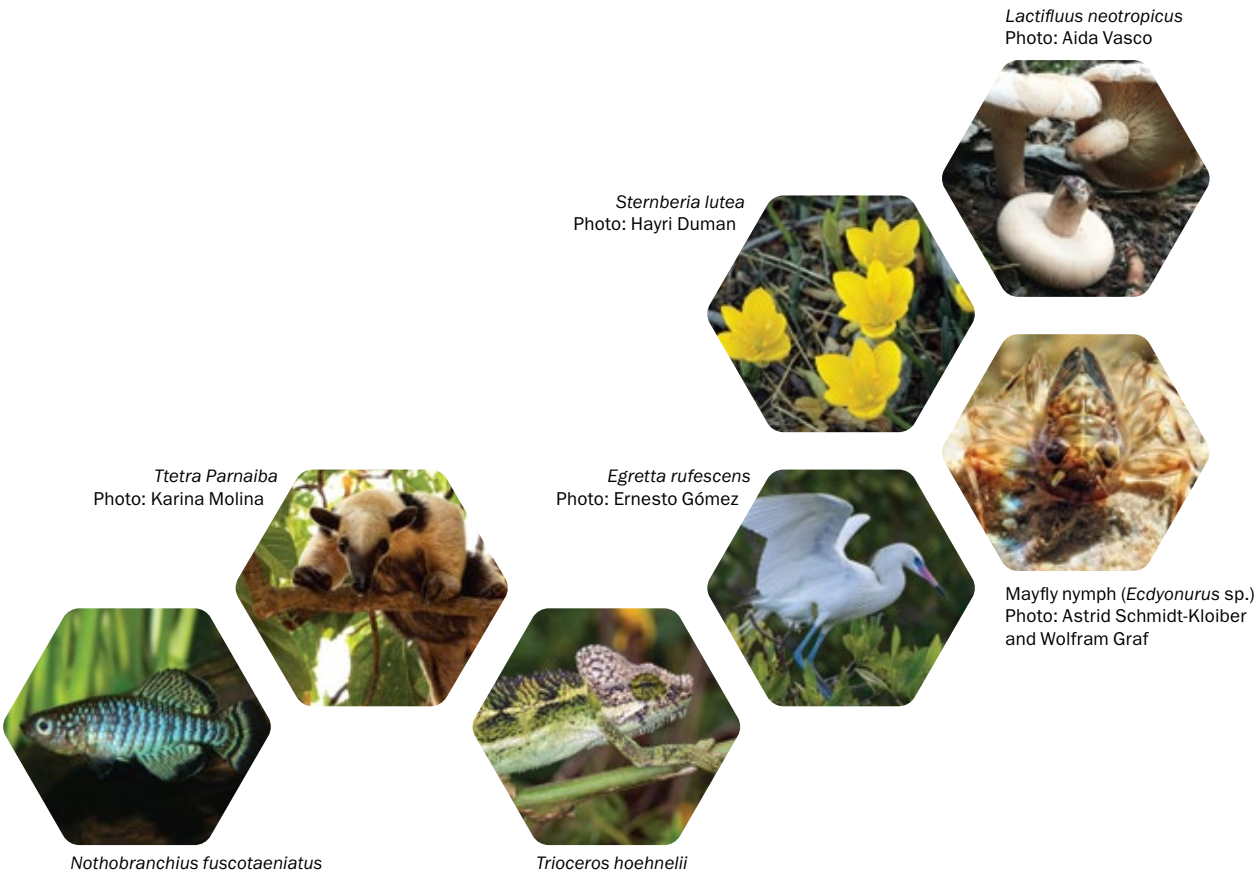
Geographic regions: 15 Africa, 3 America, 30 Europe

Actions during 2023:

Assess: 9 (KSR 5, 6)
Plan: 4 (KSR 8)
Act: 16 (KSR 10)
Network: 1 (KSR 1)
Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:





Lactifluus neotropicus
Photo: Aida Vasco

Sternberia lutea
Photo: Hayri Duman

Ttetra Parnaiba
Photo: Karina Molina

Egretta rufescens
Photo: Ernesto Gómez

Mayfly nymph (*Ecdyonurus* sp.)
Photo: Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber and Wolfram Graf

Nothobranchius fuscotaeniatus
Photo: Csenge Nagy

Trioceros hoehnelii
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson