

IUCN SSC Chameleon Specialist Group



2018 Report



Christopher V. Anderson



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Co-Chairs

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Number of members

11

Social networks

Facebook:

IUCN SSC Chameleon Specialist Group



Mission statement

The mission of the Chameleon Specialist Group is to improve the conservation status and sustainable use of wild chameleons.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we envision having developed a comprehensive picture of the conservation status of the world's chameleons, so that conservation efforts can be targeted effectively. Specifically, we have focused on assessing all described chameleon species on the IUCN Red List, most for the first time, and on ensuring that these assessments are current, so that we can identify conservation focal points. Further, by supporting the implementation of CITES and assisting in national management efforts, we aim to improve the conservation status and sustainable use of wild chameleons.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) ensure all newly described chameleons are assessed on the IUCN Red List; (2) ensure all chameleon assessments are re-assessed before 10 years old.

Research activities: Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites for chameleons identified and approved.

Plan

Technical advice: support implementation of CITES.

Network

Technical advice: expand membership to improve geographic coverage and representation of taxonomic experts.

Communicate

Technical advice: establish and develop a new website for the group.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

i. In 2018, assessments for 17 species of *Badypodion* were published. In total, 95% of described chameleon species are currently assessed and published on the IUCN Red List. Of the remaining taxa (10 species described or revalidated in 2017 and 2018), assessments are currently in progress for publication in the near future. (KSR #1)

ii. All chameleon assessments on the IUCN Red List are less than 10 years old. (KSR #1)

Research activities

i. Chameleon AZE sites were identified as part of a BirdLife International/American Bird Conservancy project and included on the new AZE web platform in 2018. (KSR #22)

Plan

Policy

i. We provide regular contributions (e.g. at the 30th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee AC30, and 70th meeting of the Standing Committee) on chameleon-related issues in support of the implementation of CITES, particularly the Review of Significant Trade. (KSR #27)

Network

Membership

i. Provisional list of new members compiled.

Communicate

Communication

i. Potential host servers identified for new website. (KSR #28)



Perret's Montane Chameleon
(*Trioceros perreti*), Endangered
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson

Natal Midlands Dwarf Chameleon
(*Bradypodion thamnobates*), Endangered
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson

Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 4/5

Assess	3	■■■
Plan	1	■
Network	1	■
Communicate	1	■

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 22, 27, 28

KSR: Key Species Result



Bakossi Two-horned Chameleon
(*Trioceros pfefferi*), Endangered
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson

