

2016-2017 Report



Ariadne Angulo



Phil Bishop

Co-Chairs

Ariadne Angulo ⁽¹⁾
Phil Bishop ⁽²⁾

Red List Authority Coordinator

Jennifer Luedtke ⁽¹⁾

Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ 3701 Lake Shore Blvd W, P.O. Box 48586,
Toronto, ON, M8W 1P5, Canada
⁽²⁾ University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

Number of members

276

Social networks

Facebook:
IUCN Amphibian Specialist Group



Mission statement

The Amphibian Specialist Group (ASG) provides the scientific foundation to inform effective amphibian conservation action around the world. More specifically, the ASG stimulates, develops and conducts scientific research to inform the conservation of amphibians and their habitats around the world, supports the assessment of the conservation status of amphibian biodiversity and informs the general public of amphibian conservation-related issues and priorities. This is attained by supporting and mobilizing a global network of members to develop capacity, improve coordination and integration so as to achieve shared, strategic amphibian conservation goals.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

■ Red List

- i. Publication of up-to-date assessments for species in West, Central, East and Southern Africa, Argentina, West and Central Asia, Australia, Brazil, Caribbean, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Europe, Guatemala, Guiana Shield, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mainland Southeast Asia, Malaysia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Philippines and Sri Lanka. (KSR #2)
- ii. Secured funds from several funding agencies and sponsors to conduct workshops, mini-workshops and meetings with the purpose of species assessments and reassessments. (KSR #9)
- iii. Numerous workshops, mini-workshops and meetings for species assessments. (KSR #5)
- iv. Partnerships to organize and conduct species assessments. (KSR #29)

Bolster work at national scales

■ Membership

- i. Renewal of ASG regional leadership, curation and distribution of regional member lists.

■ Scientific meetings

- i. ASG symposium at the Latin American Congress of Herpetology, Quito, Ecuador. (KSR #28)
- ii. Keynote presentation for Darwin's Frog Symposium, Santiago, Chile. (KSR #28)

■ Synergy

- i. Facilitation of Darwin's Frogs Conservation Strategy Workshop, Huilo Huilo, Chile.

■ Technical advice

- i. Report to US Fish and Wildlife Service on potential infringement of Lacey Act: trade of wild *Atelopus* in the US. (KSR #27)

Communications

■ Communication

- i. Refocusing *FrogLog* (ASG newsletter) on the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan (ACAP). (KSR #28)
- ii. Development of guidelines for ACAP Working Groups. (KSR #28)
- iii. Report on implementation of WCC 2012 Resolution 20 - Further steps to combat the amphibian crisis.
- iv. ASG 2015 Annual Report, 2013-2016 ASG Regional Group Reports and ASG 2016-2017 Annual Report. (KSR #28)

■ Documents review

- i. Input into the new Amphibian Survival Alliance (ASA)'s Strategic Plan.

■ Membership

- i. Online 2013-2016 self-assessment form for the ASG membership.
- ii. Identification of ASG members to be invited for 2017-2020 period.

Oxapampa Poison Frog (*Ameerega planipaleae*),
Critically Endangered
Photo: Ariadne Angulo



Ranitomeya flavovittata, Least Concern
Photo: Ariadne Angulo

■ Scientific meetings

- i. Organisation of two symposia at the World Congress of Herpetology, Hangzhou, China. (KSR #28)
- ii. Organisation of one workshop at the World Conservation Congress, Honolulu, Hawaii. (KSR #28)
- iii. Plenary presentation at the Canadian Herpetological Society's Annual Meeting, Canada. (KSR #28)
- iv. Presentation at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Austin, TX, US. (KSR #28)

■ Synergy

- i. Development of a joint vision between the ASG, Amphibian Survival Alliance (ASA) and Amphibian Ark. (KSR #29)
- ii. Coordination of ASG support for Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) consultation process.

Conservation action

■ Documents review

- i. Input into SSC Species Strategic Plan.
- ii. Review of amphibian proposal for Whitley-Gré Conservation Fund.

■ Technical advice

- i. Input into Species Monitoring Specialist Group prioritization criteria to select its taxonomic and geographic priorities.

Increasing diversity of SSC

■ Membership

- i. Development and distribution of 2017-2020 ASG membership application forms for returning and new members.
- ii. Identification of new Amphibian Conservation Action Plan (ACAP) thematic leaders and inclusion in ASG.
- iii. Curation and distribution of thematic working group member lists to ACAP Working Group Chairs.

Policy

■ Documents review

- i. Input into IUCN Code of Conduct.
- ii. Review of IUCN Motion 10742 for WCC, Brazilian Official Red List on Endangered Species.
- iii. Consultation and input into the European Parliament Resolution for CITES CoP 17.

■ Policy advice

- i. Development of a binational CITES proposal for *Telmatobius culeus*. (KSR #26)
- ii. Input into CITES Standing Committee 66. (KSR #26)

Acknowledgements

SSC Chair's Office, Synchronicity Earth, Amphibian Survival Alliance, Global Wildlife Conservation, ASG Program Officers, ASG members and Honolulu Zoo.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Barometer of life

Red List: Completion of the amphibian assessment update.

Communications

Communication: develop and establish a new website, iucn-amphibians.org.

Research activities: create and establish a Repository for Amphibian Conservation (RAC).

Synergy: completion of updating the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.

Conservation action

Conservation activities: (1) updating of the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan; (2) completion of Amphibian Reintroduction Guidelines.

Proposal development and funding: increasing uptake of Amphibian Conservation Action Plan among donors.

Projected impact for the quadrennium

2017-2020

Resources permitting, by 2020 we envision conclusion of the update of global amphibian assessments on The IUCN Red List, conclusion of the 2017-2020 ASG Strategic Plan, update of the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan for the next four years and an increased uptake of this tool by the amphibian conservation community. At the ASG membership level, we envision a more proactive and engaged specialist group, with greater participation, more cross-pollination within and between regions and thematic groups and collaborations with other specialist groups with cross-cutting issues.

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 6/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (40 activities)
- Bolster work at national scales (6 activities)
- Communications (19 activities)
- Conservation action (3 activities)
- Increasing diversity of SSC (3 activities)
- Policy (5 activities)

Main KSRS addressed: 2, 5, 9, 26, 27, 28, 29

KSR: Key Species Result