



India Red List and Conservation Needs Assessment Final Report

As we reach the end of the year, we wanted to provide a summary of the work achieved for everyone involved in the joint Red List and Conservation Needs Assessment process.

Over the period of August-November 2020, over 50 3-hour Zoom consultations were held to assess the amphibians of India involving the expertise of ca. 53 amphibian researchers. This work was broken down into five regional groups: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Eastern Ghats and Central India, Western Himalayas, Western Ghats, and Eastern Himalayas and Northeast India, with an additional group for the caecilian species. Together, we have updated the Red List and Conservation Needs Assessments and have assisted in updating the Alliance for Zero Extinction sites triggered by amphibians for India.

Red List Assessments

Over the course of this process, 460 species have been assessed: of which 278 are reassessments and 182 are new species, which have been described since 2004. Of these, 410 were assessed on group Zoom calls and subsequently via email, and 48 were deemed to be fast-track Least Concern species, which have not undergone any major declines or changes that would have changed their category since they were assessed in 2004, and they have been submitted with the same information as the 2004 assessments.

While the Zoom consultations have ended, some experts who were unable to participate in the group consultations, are now providing input over email. All data is expected to have been collated by early next year and will be integrated with the data already provided; with all results for the Red List assessments shared with you all in the first half of next year and hopefully published on the Red List website by mid-2021.

Conservation Needs Assessments

Recommended conservation actions have been generated for 345 species which are currently being reviewed, and although the recommended conservation actions may change slightly after this current review, the current recommendations are:

- In situ conservation – 109 species
- In situ research – 323
- Ex situ rescue – 75 species
- Potential husbandry analogs – 109 species
- Suitable for conservation education – 127 species
- Biobanking – 75 species

Note that each species may be recommended for multiple conservation actions. The definition of the conservation actions can be found on the Conservation Needs Assessment web site at <https://conservationneeds.org/Help/EN/ConservationActions.htm>

On behalf of ARLA and Amphibian Ark, we would like to extend our thanks to everyone that has been involved in this process. It was our first virtual workshop of this size, and the willingness, enthusiasm, and hard work of you all has enabled this to be a success. We are especially grateful as it has taken place in a particularly challenging year and has been a considerable time commitment that has been asked of you all, alongside everyone juggling different sets of circumstances and other commitments. We have enjoyed working with you all and learning about the amphibians of India;



and look forward to seeing the results of both processes being utilized for future amphibian research and conservation work.