



Asian Rhino Specialist Group

IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group



Activity Report 2009–2012

Reviewed and updated IUCN Red List for Asian Rhinos along with the Red List Authority.

Organized meetings for all three species of Asian Rhinos to review and plan future actions needed to ensure the survival of all three species of Asian Rhino.

Chair's report regularly submitted for publication in the *Pachyderm* – the journal of the African Elephant, African Rhino and Asian Rhino Specialist Group.

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Success stories

- The number of Greater One-horned Rhinos in India and Nepal increased. Current global wild population of Greater One-horned Rhino is over 3,000.
- Work closely with IUCN and TRAFFIC and African Rhino Specialist Group (AsRSG) to prepare document needed for CITES with regards to Asian Rhinos and illegal trade.
- Declaration of International Year of Rhinos by the Indonesian President on 5th June 2012, which was made possible due to the close working of the AsRSG with SSC Chair Dr Simon Stuart and African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) to secure as much support as possible from rhino range countries in Asia and Africa.

Challenges

- Invasive plant species in rhino habitats shrinking suitable habitat for rhinos.
- Intelligence gathering to counter rhino poaching in rhino range countries in Asia.
- Anticipated increase in rhino horn trade in Asia that could enhance rhino horn demand in traditional medicines that use rhino horn as ingredient.
- Continued awareness to halt rhino poaching and subsequent trade.

Future Goals

- Raise further awareness of rhino conservation and check illegal killing of rhinos.
- Continue to provide scientific inputs to conservation agencies and scientists to enhance better management of rhinos in the wild.
- Secure a second habitat in Indonesia for Javan Rhinos, to ensure its future.
- Continued monitoring of various threats faced by Asian Rhinos to adopt timely actions.
- Encourage and enhance use of DNA based research tools to generate vital information on all three species of Asian Rhinos including population estimation.

Facts

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Number of members: 65

Website: www.rhinos.org/professional-resources/iucn-asian-rhino-specialist



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