

IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group

2016-2017 Report



Bibhab Kumar Talukdar

Chair

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Red List Authority Coordinator

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Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ Aaranyak, 50 Samanwoy Path (Survey),
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Number of members

67



Mission statement

Foster conservation and management of three species of Asian rhinos and their habitats.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Barometer of life

■ Red List

i. Final updated version of Red List for Asian rhinos submitted to Red List Office. (KSR #32)

Conservation action

■ Technical advice

i. Combined Report of Asian Rhino Specialist Group (AsRSG) and African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) and TRAFFIC to CITES CoP in 2018 submitted. (KSR #18)

Increasing diversity of SSC

■ Membership

i. Membership renewal process and recruiting new members completed in September 2017.

Acknowledgements

AsRSG would like to express its sincere sense of gratitude to the International Rhino Foundation, for supporting travel of AsRSG Chair to Indonesia to promote conservation of Javan and Sumatran rhinos. AsRSG also acknowledge the secretarial support provided by Aaranyak in India during 2016-17.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Conservation action

Conservation activities: initiate preparation of Javan Rhino, Sumatran Rhino and Greater One Horned Rhino Conservation Plans.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By 2020, AsRSG intends to produce the Conservation Action Plans for Critically Endangered Javan Rhino, Critically Endangered Sumatran rhino and Vulnerable Greater One Horned rhino through consultation process, following latest guidelines framed by IUCN and by forming three working groups for the three species of Asian rhinos. Further for the upcoming CITES CoP, AsRSG shall generate the latest information from Asian rhinos to prepare the combined report of IUCN/SSC; Asian Rhino Specialist Group, IUCN/SSC; African Rhino Specialist Group and TRAFFIC International. In October or November 2018, AsRSG is planning to organise the 2nd Asian Rhino Range Country meeting in Guwahati, India, in collaboration with the Assam Government, in which ministers from Asian Rhino Range Countries - Indonesia, Nepal and India shall be invited to strengthen regional cooperation to address diverse challenges that Asian rhinos are facing. Experiences from rhino range countries shall be shared and available expertise within Asian rhino range countries shall be documented to promote conservation of Asian rhinos.

Indian rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), Vulnerable, Kaziranga National Park, India
 Photo: Bibhab Kumar Talukdar



Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 3/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (1 activity)
- Conservation action (1 activity)
- Increasing diversity of SSC (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 18, 32

KSR: Key Species Result



Sumatran rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*), Critically Endangered
 Photo: Bibhab Kumar Talukdar