



About Membership

Updated 1 April 2022

The IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict & Coexistence Specialist Group (formerly the Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force) comprises specialists from a range of disciplines across the natural and social sciences and humanities, and includes e.g. experts in conflict mediation, stakeholder dialogue processes, social psychology, behaviour change and social marketing, behavioural ecology, animal cognition, environmental history, conservation planning, and other topics, as well as a number of experts on various taxonomic groups commonly involved in human-wildlife conflicts, such as elephants, large cats and bears.

Membership

The HWCCS is a highly active SSC group, providing resources, writing guidelines and case studies, running events, developing training, engaging with international policy, supporting governments with technical knowledge and researching capacity building needs. This requires active and committed engagement of the Membership, who contribute time on a voluntary basis, and means the group must be kept to a manageable size. Members are appointed for the current IUCN quadrennium. Members come from various sectors and have substantial and currently active experience in the field of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence (typically 10 years or more) and work on this topic as one of their main professional remits. Furthermore, a diversity of expertise and geographic representation is needed, so that the group as a whole encompasses the range of contexts and regions that are found in the field of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence. Membership is by invitation only, which in turn is based on double nominations in line with a regular gap review of specific technical or regional expertise coverage in the membership. The selection of 2022 new members is now closed; to be considered for membership in 2023, please contact us in late 2022 at info@hwctf.org

Focal Points

Focal Points to the HWCCSG are officers in governments or intergovernmental organisations, and Chairs or chair-nominated members of other IUCN Commission groups. Focal points are not Members of the HWCCSG but are kept informed regularly and often participate in HWCCSG events and conferences. Typically a Focal Point may act as liaison to their country's government to implement policy such as the UN CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and/or bring to attention issues identified by their government or organisation, including requests for assistance. We are currently accepting nominations for Government Focal Points, please contact us at info@hwctf.org for further information.