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**Dr Jean-Christophe Vié** joined the IUCN Species Programme in late 2001 as its Deputy Head. He oversees all diverse aspects of the Programme, including biodiversity assessments, the Red List of Threatened Species, inputs to international agreements, and supporting the Species Survival Commission (SSC) as well as the Water and Nature Initiative. Jean-Christophe has extensive field experience, including various parts of Africa, South America, Saudi Arabia and the USA where he spent 15 years overall. He started his career as a wildlife veterinarian with a main interest in primates. He also worked on the reintroduction of the Arabian oryx and subsequently designed projects covering a wide variety of Neotropical species. Mr Vié completed his PhD in ecology and, while keeping a strong interest in species and site based conservation, moved to global conservation work at IUCN headquarters in Switzerland.