



THE BUSINESS CASE FOR THE IUCN RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES™



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The world's most comprehensive inventory of extinction risk for species

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is a compilation of the global conservation status of species and is based on the best available knowledge from the world's leading experts. For assessed species, the database contains information on population size and trends, distribution, ecology and habitat preferences, utilization, ecosystem services, threats, and conservation actions in place and needed. Increasingly, regional and national Red List assessments are undertaken and the data is incorporated into the global IUCN Red List. The IUCN Red List is widely used to inform and influence biodiversity conservation.

The business case for The IUCN Red List

Biodiversity provides the goods and services we all rely on, and its conservation is in our best interests. Businesses can

accomplish this through good land stewardship with sound management plans. The benefits from effectively addressing operational threats to biodiversity include: cost savings through better risk management; licenses to operate and quicker permitting; enhanced reputation; and access to capital and raw materials. Businesses can use the information contained in The IUCN Red List to inform the conservation of biodiversity at their sites.

The IUCN Red List is widely used to inform and influence

Policy & Legislation

- Inform international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES),

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).

- Inform national and regional legislation on wildlife conservation and protected areas.

Resource Allocation

- Guide the allocation of financial resources by organizations such as the Global Environment Facility and International Finance Corporation.

Conservation Planning and tools

- Support priority setting for the work of conservation organizations.
- Implement conservation planning tools, such as Key Biodiversity Areas, that are based upon the information contained in The IUCN Red List.

Reporting

- Provide an indicator for biodiversity reporting in the Global Reporting Initiative.
- Measure progress towards the Millennium Development Goal of achieving environmental sustainability.
- Monitor trends in biodiversity through the IUCN Red List Index.

Awareness Raising

- Draw attention to the magnitude and importance of threatened biodiversity by governments and NGOs.

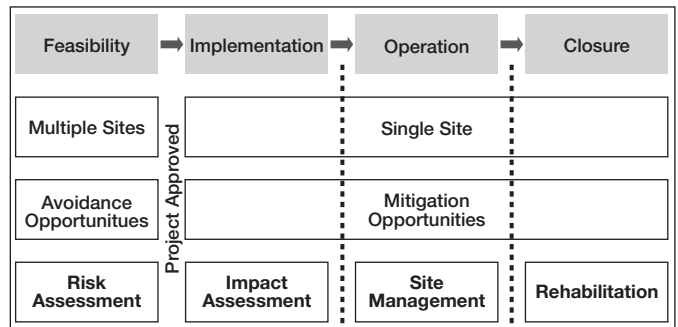


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The IUCN Red List can be used directly by the private sector

In the selection of an investment project, The IUCN Red List can be used to identify potential risks and opportunities early. Once the project is defined and approved, The IUCN Red List can be used to support onsite management. The following figure highlights the uses in the different stages of a project life-cycle. This is not limited to any one industry and is equally applicable to development of sites for residential, factories, mining, or agriculture, to name a few examples. The financial sector can also use this information in the review of project loan applications.

Different uses of the IUCN Red List in different stages of a project life-cycle



During the **feasibility stage**, single or multiple sites are identified and the final site selection is based upon due diligence and risk assessment. The IUCN Red List can inform on the likelihood of the presence of a threatened species at these sites. Sensitive areas can be avoided and mitigation options can be considered for the selected site before operations start.

During the **implementation stage**, The IUCN Red List can guide the focus of the environmental impact assessment work (EIA). This can be the global, regional and/or national IUCN Red Lists. The IUCN Red List is a key input, not a substitute for an EIA.

During the **site operations**, The IUCN Red List provides a wealth of information on habitats and threats for species to guide onsite conservation management. Since the IUCN Red List is updated and expanded annually, periodic review is required to update the plans as needed.

Finally, in planning the **site closure**, the same wealth of species information can be used to develop a rehabilitation plan for biodiversity enhancement and species conservation.

The IUCN Red List website allows for easy downloading of information

The IUCN Red List is a searchable online database (www.iucnredlist.org). Users can search the website using an interactive map to focus in the geographic area of interest and see species' ranges.



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For more information: www.iucn.org/redlist/