



## 2014 Annual Report

The Snow Leopard Network (SLN) is a worldwide organization dedicated to facilitating the exchange of information between individuals around the world for the purpose of snow leopard conservation. Our membership includes leading snow leopard experts in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

The main goal of this organization is to implement the Snow Leopard Survival Strategy (SLSS), which offers a comprehensive analysis of the issues facing snow leopard conservation today.

### 2012-2014 SLN Steering Committee consisted of:

David Mallon, Chair  
Jennifer Snell Rullman, Member  
Yash Veer Bhatnagar, Member  
Sibylle Noras, Member  
Dajun Wang, Member  
Ahmad Khan, Member  
Mukesh Chalise, Member

Charudutt Mishra, Executive Director

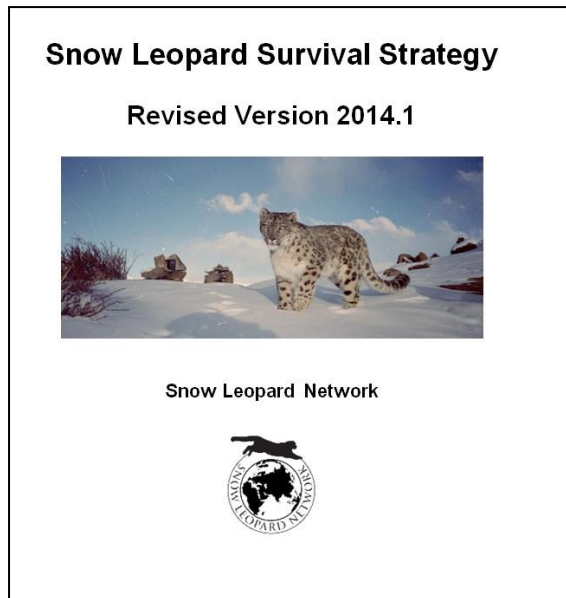
SLN Steering Committee is supported by:  
Rakhee Karumbaya, Program Coordinator

### Review and updating of SLN Bylaws

After discussions and consultations it was decided that some of the Bylaws required revision. The following changes were made.

Section 2 (Procedure for Application) –phrasing altered but procedure remained the same  
Article 5 (Termination of membership) –phrasing altered  
Article 6 (Rights of members) –phrasing altered  
Article 9 (Decision making) – phrasing altered  
Article 10 (Committees and Working groups) – The permanent committees of SLN no longer exist. It has been decided that the Steering Committee will designate temporary Working Groups on a need basis.  
Article 11 (Affiliation changed to Operation) – Phrasing altered

## Launch of new updated Snow Leopard Survival Strategy 2014.1



One of the major achievements of SLN this year was the completion of the new version of the Snow Leopard Survival Strategy (SLSS), which is available both as [a PDF document](#) and also now available as a [live, web-based document](#) which can be updated as necessary.

The updated version of SLSS became possible due to contributions of several SLN members who are [acknowledged in the document](#).

## Update on SLN involvement in supporting the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).



Many SLN individual and institutional members contributed to the GSLEP Process. Several range country members assisted their respective governments in preparing the National Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Plans.

Several of the chapters pertaining to Global Support Components of GSLEP were drafted by SLN Members Rodney Jackson, David Mallon, and Charudutt Mishra.

SC Members Sibylle Noras, David Mallon, Charudutt Mishra, and Yash Veer Bhatnagar had attended the Global Snow Leopard Forum in Bishkek, in October 2013, which was chaired by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In June 2014 a follow up meeting of National Focal Points at Lake Issy-Kul, Kyrgyzstan was attended by forty delegates from 10 of the 12 range countries. The meeting went very well and the delegates proposed 23 global landscapes to be secured by 2020 under the GSLEP Program. These 23 landscapes tentatively cover nearly 500,000 sq km, or almost 25% of snow leopard habitat. Most landscapes envelop and extend beyond the boundaries of current Protected Areas.

During the meeting delegates explicitly defined what it means to 'secure' landscapes and a working group drafted management planning guidelines for the landscapes, which since have been launched officially.

The Global Environmental facility (GEF) has allocated one million dollars to support the activities of the GSLEP and the Secretariat based at Bishkek through the UNDP office in Kyrgyzstan.

## **SLN website improvements**

A number of website improvements were made by the SLN Communication team, Sibylle Noras, Rana Bayrakcismith and Heather Hemmingmoore.

- The Home page was updated
- A new GSLEP page was added
- A new Annual Reports page was added
- Google analytics were introduced to show which pages of the website are most used
- A Phase 1 Scoping document was developed to explore the feasibility of moving the website from its current platform to the WordPress platform for easier updating

## **SLN Conservation Grant Program**

- The SLN Grants process was reviewed based on member feedback and improvements made.
- Thanks to the generous contributions of partner organizations, SLN could award \$55,215 to snow leopard conservation projects under the Grants Program.
- Support for the projects came from WWF-USAID, Whitley Fund for Nature, Dynafit, Snow Leopard Conservancy and the Snow Leopard Trust.

## **2014 Grant Projects**

The following grant projects received support.

- Scaling up community managed livestock insurance schemes for snow leopards in Nepal
- Camera trap survey of snow leopards in Uzbekistan
- Expanding Snow Leopard Conservation Education Program in the Ladakh Trans-Himalaya
- Confirming Snow Leopard Presence in Hovsgol Aimag, Mongolia
- Maximising One Health Approaches to Enable Detection of Emerging Disease Threats in a Changing World
- Fuzzy Logic modelling of Snow Leopard Populations in response to threats from climate change
- A research proposal on the impact of climate change on snow leopards studied via retreating glaciers and receding snow lines

## **Membership**

By the end of 2014 SLN membership totalled 613 members from over 41 countries. 61 new members were welcomed to the SLN this year.

## **Bibliography**

By the end of 2014 the SLN Bibliography contained 1398 articles and references with 5 new additions during the year.

## **SLN Communications**

### **SLN News Alerts.**

During 2014 four SLN News Alerts were sent to the member ListServ with stories about members, member projects and other updates.

### **SLN Twitter**

During 2014 we launched the SLN on the social media platform Twitter. Many of our member organisations and stakeholders are now using Twitter and our presence allows us to make announcement and share SLN news quickly. We currently have 133 Twitter Followers.

## **2014 Elections - new chair and steering committee**

A call for nominations for the new SC was announced in October and SLN Elections were held from 17th November to 17 December. 147 members voted.

### **Our new Steering Committee is:**

Ms. Lu Zhi, Ph.D. (People's Republic of China) - Chair

Mr. John Farrington (Bhutan) - Member

Mr. Kun Shi, Ph.D. (People's Republic of China) - Member

Mr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz, Ph.D. (Pakistan) - Member

Ms. Sibylle Noras (Australia) - Member

Mr. S. Sathyakumar, Ph.D. (India) - Member

Mr. Steve Redpath, Ph.D. (United Kingdom) - Member

## **Message of Thankyou and Appreciation to 2012-2014 Steering Committee**

The SLN membership wishes to thank the Chair and the SC members for their three years of hard work, passion and commitment to the Snow Leopard Network and the conservation of the snow leopard.

The membership also wishes to extend a thankyou to current Executive Director Dr Charu Mishra and Rakhee Karumbaya, Program Coordinator for their work and dedication during 2014.