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BOTANIC GARDENS IN SOCIETY :
VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Book of Abstracts



Conservatoire
et Jardin botaniques
Genève



BGCI

Plants for the Planet

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Abstracts – listed by session number

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Bridging Botanic Gardens and Restoration Professionals: The Conservation Land Management Internship Program

Dr Gregory Mueller¹, Dr Kayri Havens¹, Krissa Skogen¹

¹*Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago, United States*

[PS1a] - Symposium, Room 3, June 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Many botanic gardens provide outreach and education opportunities to engage the public but few gardens have explicit programs aimed at training the next generation of restoration and conservation leaders. The Conservation and Land Management (CLM) Internship Program fills this gap and is the Chicago Botanic Garden's broadest effort to recruit, train, and engage recent graduates in the fields of conservation biology, ecology, botany, wildlife biology, and natural resource management. Through partnerships between the Chicago Botanic Garden, U.S. agencies, and non-profit organizations, the CLM Program provides mentoring, training, and hands-on experience to over 100 interns annually. Interns assist their mentor (professional biologists working for partner agencies) with projects that may focus on botany and/or wildlife. Specific projects may include collecting seed for conservation and restoration purposes as part of the Seeds of Success Program, collecting data on threatened and endangered species and habitats, conducting biological assessments and land use plans, and invasive species management, among others. Interns participate in a weeklong training workshop at the Chicago Botanic Garden and additional training opportunities through their host agency. Over the last 17 years, nearly 1200 interns have gained valuable skills and conservation experience as they explore career opportunities that often result in employment within the field (with local, state or the federal government, research institutions and/or non-profits focused on biology, conservation and science) or the decision to pursue a graduate degree in a related field. Our partner agencies have likewise benefited from a valuable resource: young, knowledgeable, enthusiastic college graduates who are passionate about and seek to gain hands-on experience in conservation and land management. The CLM Program serves as a template for creating and maintaining partnerships that allow future land stewards to transition between college and career.

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Tools and resources available to support botanic gardens to carry out ecological restoration

Dr Gregory Mueller¹, Mr; Kurt Dreisilker²

¹Chicago Botanic Garden, Highland Park Illinois, United States, ²The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, United States

[PS1a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The knowledge and skills concentrated in botanic gardens are keenly needed as part of global efforts to restore / rehabilitate degraded landscapes across the planet. Successful ecological restorations are designed and carried out based on a strong understanding of plant biology, ecology, and experience in getting the appropriate plants to grow and persist. Botanic garden scientists and horticulturalists are leaders in these areas. The Ecological Restoration Alliance is helping coordinate efforts by botanic gardens to participate in and inform restoration efforts. Botanic garden staff are engaged in on the ground restoration activities as well as in developing tools and resources to improve the success of restoration efforts. This symposium provides examples of these tools and resources, focusing on selecting and then propagating appropriate native seeds, and on training initiatives that serve as examples of courses that are engaging and training the new practitioners needed to carry out the restoration work.

-Objective of the symposium-

The goal of the symposium is to bring to the attention of the audience some of the available tools and resources created by botanic garden scientists and horticulturalists to address important needs of the ecological restoration communities. These examples are not only available for their use, but importantly serve as examples of the types of tools and resources that botanic garden staff can create to assist ecological restoration efforts.

-Expected outcomes -

The examples presented in the symposium will serve as illustrations of the types of tools and resources that botanic garden staff can create to assist ecological restoration efforts. In so doing we hope to encourage members of the audience to engage in these efforts as individual gardens and by joining the ERA.

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Building Capacity to Restore Ecosystems with Trained Citizens

Mr Kurt Dreisilker¹

¹*The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL, United States*

[PS1a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Morton Arboretum has been engaged in ecological restoration within its property since the early 1960s, and as the discipline has become more widely studied and practiced over time, and the public's awareness and involvement has also dramatically increased. In 2008, The Morton Arboretum responded to this by beginning a training program to improve regional capacity for citizens to become informed and engaged in ecological restoration across the Midwestern United States. The program taps into the Arboretum's experience as well as professionals from regional conservation organizations to teach classes, adding their own breadth of knowledge and experience to share with motivated citizens who are willing to take action restoring ecosystems. This program has made a tremendous impact restoring ecosystems within the Arboretum; increases in volunteer stewardship time have increased by thousands of hours annually, but graduates have also deployed their training far beyond restoring ecosystems by authoring books, engaging their local communities, and seeking elected office. Furthermore, the program has been recently redesigned to include online training to increase the program's capacity to restore natural areas regionally and beyond.

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When does local matter? A new tool to assess risks and benefits when selecting native plant materials for planting

Dr Jennifer Neale¹, Dr Barbara Crane², Dr Jennifer Cruse-Sanders³, Mr Jeff Downing⁵, Dr James Hamrick⁴, Dr Kayri Havens⁶, Ms Amy Highland⁵, Dr Tom Kaye⁷, Dr Andrea Kramer⁶, Dr Eric Lonsdorf⁸, Dr Ari Novy⁹, Dr Peter Smouse¹⁰, Dr Doug Tallamy¹¹

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[PS1a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Loss of habitat and decline in many species (such as pollinators) has led to a growing interest in planting native plants and native plant restoration. Botanic gardens, local governments, ecological organizations, and even neighborhood gardeners are seeking the best plants for their projects. Selecting from available plant materials is not always easy and there is an ever-growing need for evidence-backed guidelines on sourcing native plant materials. To address this need, we convened a small gathering of experts from around the United States specializing in plant restoration, conservation, ecology, genetics, germplasm selection and environmental decision making. During the 2017 workshop hosted by Mt. Cuba Center in Hockessin, Delaware US, we developed a tool to assess options of plant provenance based on the goals and context of a given project. Plant traits change with their provenance, and determining the best choice in terms of genetic diversity, local adaptation, and ecosystem function is a complicated topic. Strict, hyper-local guidelines for sources of plant materials can lead to severe constraints on restoration practices, while long-distance or genetically selected sources can compromise restoration success. Given what we know about plant availability for small-scale practitioners and local citizens, we aim to guide decision-makers through currently-available selection AND help guide future development/availability of plant materials. Botanic gardens can provide leadership on this complicated topic by synthesizing current ecological theory and supporting the native plant enthusiasm seen in our audiences thus resulting in less confusion and more successful restoration of biodiverse systems.

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From practical horticulture to ecological restoration

Dr Andrew Vovides¹, Mr Carlos Iglesias, Mr Orlik Gómez

¹*Instituto De Ecología, A.c., Xalapa, Mexico*

[PS1a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Clavijero Botanic Garden is an in situ regional botanic garden in cloud forest. In 1980 an interest arose for creating new botanic gardens and the first 10-day Horticulture summer course was given during Aug-Sep. This met with success and was repeated yearly. Interested in creating a formal diploma course, we visited gardens in the UK in 2012 and connected to RBG Edinburgh that runs a practical horticultural course (CPH) internationally. In 2014 Laura Cohen and an assistant came to Xalapa to train our gardeners and technicians for the CPH and also as instructors. We then tailored this course into our three-module Diploma course. Since 2015 we have repeated this four times with an average attendance of 6 to 8 students. There is also a short arboriculture course that is repeated twice a year and is popular among our municipal parks authority and tree-pruning contractors. An adjacent 30ha of cloud forest having old growth forest and various secondary stages with over 400 vascular plant species has undergone passive restoration for around 40 years and has become our Cloud Forest Sanctuary and flagship project within the Ecological Restoration Alliance. Ecological studies over the years have enabled our specialists to establish a baseline for passive and active restoration plots within the Sanctuary and adjacent experimental areas. Through propagation the Botanic Garden has made available over 60 native tree species for restoration projects and is of crucial importance to ecological restoration in Veracruz through the development of propagation protocols.

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The Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF) community approach to Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in and across Europe

Dr. Michelle Price¹, Mrs Ana Casino²

¹*Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de la Ville de Genève, Chambésy-Geneva, Switzerland,* ²*CETAF Secretariat, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium*

[PS1b] - Workshop, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Under the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon2020) the European Commission is implementing the integration of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI). RRI, with its 5 themes of public engagement, open access, gender, ethics and science education, is a key component of the Science with and for Society objective within the Horizon2020 structure. The RRI principles imply that researchers, citizens, policy makers, business, and voluntary or community organisations work together during the whole research and innovation process. This is intended to better align both the process and the outcomes of research efforts with the values, needs and expectations of society. The aim of the proposed workshop is to introduce the concept of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) of the European Commission to the botanical garden community, to present the RRI framework under which research institutions may conduct their scientific activities, and to explore how natural science museums, science centres and botanic gardens can work together to develop a shared approach to the implementation of RRI.

-Objective of the activity-

The aim of the proposed workshop is to introduce the concept of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) of the European Commission to the botanical garden community, to present the RRI framework under which research institutions may conduct their scientific activity using the CETAF guidelines as a starting point, and to explore how natural science museums, science centres and botanic gardens can work together to develop a shared approach to the implementation of RRI.

The structure of the workshop will be:

- 1) Provide an overview of the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) initiative, including explanations of the five themes (public engagement, open access, gender, ethics and science education).
- 2) Present the CETAF RRI implementation guidelines
- 3) Discuss the RRI, CETAF guidelines and botanic gardens' RRI perspectives, linking with the current and future activities of botanic gardens
- 4) Explore the potential interactions and/or overlaps within good practices with other natural science institutions

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The Hawaii Strategy for Plant Conservation - Leveraging the Power of the GSPC

Mr. Chipper Wichman¹

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[PS1c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The flora of the Hawaiian Islands has one of the highest rates of endemism in the world (89% for angiosperms, 74% for ferns and lycophytes), with over half of all taxa at risk (Palmer 2003; Sakai et al. 2002; Vernon & Ranker 2013; Wagner et al. 1999).

Although many agencies and NGOs have been working for decades to conserve the unique plants of Hawaii this work has been largely under-recognized and often uncoordinated. As a result, in spite of lots of impressive successes and lots of hard work there was no clear way to track overall progress towards conserving the Hawaiian flora or tracking progress towards the GSPC targets.

Beginning in 2011, two botanical gardens (National Tropical Botanical Garden and Lyon Arboretum) took the lead in developing a new more coordinated effort to conserve this important flora. This effort led to the first comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of existing ex situ plant conservation efforts across the State in 2012 and ultimately to the creation of the Hawaii Strategy for Plant Conservation in 2014 which was framed around the new GSPC targets.

This presentation will highlight the planning process that was undertaken to develop the HSPC, the two-year action plan that is currently in progress and the impressive results that have come from this new coordinated effort. It has been an exciting journey for the plant conservation community and it has yielded many important lessons that can be applied by other gardens around world as we collectively implement the GSPC targets.

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Plant Conservation and Progress on GSPC 2020 by Botanical Gardens in Taiwan

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[PS1c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Taiwan is a continental island on the northwest Pacific off mainland China with an area of 35,980 km². More than 73% of the land is hills and mountains, with the highest peak close to 4,000 m, while 60% of the land is covered by forest in Taiwan. Because of its diverse topography and warm-humid climate, there are over 4,200 vascular species, of which 1,052 (22.9%) are endemic. The Red List of Taiwanese Vascular Plants was published in 2012, and listed 908 of 4,200 species as threatened (CR-VU). We compiled a geo-referenced database with 1.4 million distribution records to assess the current in situ conservation of threatened species in Taiwan. The results showed that 77% of threatened species were completely or partially growing in national parks and protected areas, and 83% were found in national forest districts. However, we also found 110 species, accounting for 12% of threatened species, growing outside of protected areas. As the most historical and prominent botanical garden of Taiwan, Taipei Botanical Garden (TPBG) has focused on ex situ conservation of native threatened species since 2012 to achieve Targets 7 & 8 of the GSPC. In accordance with our latest statistics, TPBG and its associates have collected 206 of 908 (22.69%) threatened species of Taiwan. The collection rate of threatened tree species is up to 76.92%; however, collection rates of herbaceous species are lower (9.15%) and need improvement. In 2016, we established a framework to connect botanical gardens and forestry nurseries of different climatic zones in Taiwan, and each garden and nursery is responsible for collection and ex situ conservation of native threatened species in the nearby habitats. We believe this will be a feasible approach for Taiwan to achieve the Targets of the GSPC.

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How the Global Strategy for plant Conservation provided an effective framework for national plant conservation efforts in Jordan.

Mr Tariq Abu Taleb¹

¹*Royal Botanic Garden Jordan, Amman, Jordan*

[PS1c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

In 1992, Jordan signed the Rio Conventions on Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Desertification and participated actively in many international arenas where biodiversity related issues were discussed. Since ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Jordan has developed various national strategies towards biodiversity and plant conservation. These strategies aimed at conserving biodiversity components (genes, species, ecosystems) through sustainable utilization and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization.

In 2003, the Ministry of Environment (MOE) developed the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) under coordination of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This strategy has become a reference in biodiversity conservation in Jordan as it interconnects national needs and the CBD requirements (MOE 2003).

When ratifying the CBD, Jordan has committed to achieve the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2011-2020 targets. In an attempt to match CBD objectives and GSPC targets with the national strategy for plant diversity conservation in Jordan, the Royal Botanic Garden along with national institutes with long experience in ex situ and in situ conservation have contributed effectively to the conservation of plants. In 2016, The Ministry of Environment recognized the Royal Botanic Garden as the Jordanian focal point for the GSPC.

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A Review of Progress in implementation of the Korea Strategy for Plant Conservation (KSPC) 2020 by Korea National Arboretum

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[PS1c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

There is a growing awareness amongst the global community about the close interconnection between biodiversity and sustainable development. According to the Korea Plant Names Index (KPNI) 2015, the number of plants in Korea is 14,900 species; i.e. native (4,172), exotics (321 naturalized, 465 introduced) and crops (9,942). Since 2008, Korea National Arboretum (KNA) developed the Korea Strategy for Plant Conservation (KSPC), involving various key activities including development of a checklist of national flora, restoration of rare plants, ex situ conservation, securing of protected areas and so on. After then, the strategy was revised as KSPC 2020 correlated with GSPC 2020 and various studies and projects were conducted to achieve the objectives of each target. This review covers all results of activities conducted by KNA from 2011 to 2015 and outlines future actions for successful accomplishment of the defined target by 2020.

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The future of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: building on success up to 2020 and beyond.

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[PS1c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Following its creation and adoption by the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2002, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) has played a transformative role amongst the world's botanic gardens. Not only have botanic gardens been recognized as primary stakeholders in the achievement of many of the GSPC targets, but also they have become champions for the development of national and international GSPC-related initiatives, programs and projects throughout the world. The GSPC has also been important to provide a framework to guide botanic gardens' actions in plant conservation, and to provide them with a significant mandate to contribute to biodiversity conservation in the context of the GSPC and related national and international priorities, such as the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi targets, which, like the GSPC, are to be completed by 2020.

As we approach the 2020 deadline, it is important to evaluate what progress has been made by botanic gardens in implementing GSPC related initiatives. Although BGCI has coordinated and monitored such work most effectively throughout the botanic garden community it is clear that new and sustained efforts will be required from botanic gardens if the GSPC targets that are most relevant to gardens are to be achieved. Furthermore, it is also urgent that the botanical community, and botanic garden network in particular, must make efforts in the last few years of the decade to help shape a post-2020 agenda in plant conservation, and to ensure that the work of the GSPC is sustained and continued through the CBD in the coming decade. It is not a forgone conclusion that the CBD will adopt a post-2020 GSPC, and botanic gardens and their network organisations must organize their efforts to press governments and the international community for such an initiative.

-Objective of the symposium-

This symposium will therefore address the following issues and objectives:

- Highlight the progress already made up to 2017 in the achievement of the objectives of the GSPC
- Review, consider and make recommendations on what are the priority tasks for individual botanic gardens and their network organisations during the remaining years of the Strategy up to 2020
- Suggest and discuss priority actions to help outline a possible framework, direction and context for the GSPC in a post-2020 period.
- Review the possible links between the GSPC and the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (2030), which are expected to impact significantly on the future priorities, strategies and work programmes of the CBD.
- Prepare the text of a recommendation on the above, that might be considered for adoption by the Congress, which would subsequently be communicated to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

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Refined monitoring of sentinel plantings for improved biosecurity

Ms Iva Franic¹, Simone Prospero², Marc Kenis¹, Eric Allan³, Wyatt Williams⁴, Richard Sniezko⁶, Niklaus Grünwald⁶, René Eschen¹

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[PS1d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The number of alien tree pests is increasing worldwide due to the growing international trade in live plants. The majority of introduced alien tree pests were unknown prior to introduction and no measures to mitigate the risk of their introduction were taken. Detection of pests, such as insects and pathogenic fungi, before introduction can help prioritise these organisms for Pest Risk Analysis and management. Monitoring of trees in sentinel plantations in the exporting country that are valuable to the importing country enables early detection of pests. However the number of sampled trees or locations required for an adequate representation of all pests attacking a tree species are unknown. We study tree pests of twelve selected tree species at locations in Europe, Asia and North America with the aim of improving the sampling design of sentinel plantings. We will also assess the phytosanitary safety of traded seeds by looking at pests in seeds of selected tree species from three continents, obtained from commercial suppliers and botanical gardens. Here we present the first results of the study of seed-borne pests. The results of this study will contribute to a better understanding of the risks associated with traded seeds and will help to improve sampling design to detect tree pests.

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Plant Pest Surveillance for Plant Conservation – How Botanic Gardens Can Provide an International Early Warning System to Protect Native Flora

Mr Greg Fraser¹, Mr Nicholas Woods¹

¹*Plant Health Australia, Deakin, Australia*

[PS1d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

If we wish to develop an early warning system based upon information being captured by thousands of providers, how do we collate this information in real-time to generate a meaningful international picture of pest activity? During 2016 Plant Health Australia, with funding support from the Australian Government, developed an innovative cloud based system for monitoring pest activity. Functioning as a virtual coordination centre, the system enables multiple providers who hold information on nominated pests to easily and securely upload surveillance data. This can be done either manually using spreadsheets or automatically through an Application Programming Interface, (API). The information is automatically collated and a seamless integrated picture of pest status provided back to registered users and stakeholders. The system analyses the data, provides automatic alerts and can present value added information with embedded user defined algorithms. Maps and datasets are created and customised searches conducted by users can be downloaded for subsequent analysis on host systems.

As an example, Myrtle rust (*Puccinia psidii* s.l.) was detected in NSW, Australia in April 2010. It has now spread across the eastern Australian landscape in bushland reserves, home gardens, commercial operations and amenity settings such as parks and street plantings. Myrtle rust activity, has been monitored (including by host species) using the virtual coordination centre. It is now found in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and on the Tiwi Islands in the Northern Territory.

To enhance plant pest surveillance for plant conservation this system has the potential to support existing record management systems, increase cooperation between botanic gardens and facilitate a low-cost mechanism for exchange of information and creation of knowledge. It could provide an early warning system for botanic gardens and the wider community by identifying new pest and pathogen risks to a country's native flora.

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Botanic gardens in the new biosecurity landscape

Katherine Hayden

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[PS1d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Plant movement is an essential part of botanic gardens' functions and conservation activities. However, such movement is inevitably accompanied by plants' microbial associates, and is thus increasingly recognised as a major biosecurity risk to both collections and the natural environment. In this presentation, we discuss the causes and consequences of the acceleration in emergent plant diseases, their relation to botanic gardens' essential conservation functions, and the protocols being enacted at RBGE to minimise risk of pathogen introductions while continuing our conservation activities.

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BePSN, a Belgian network in the frame of the International Plant Sentinel Network (Euphresco-IPSN2)

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[PS1d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

A Belgian Plant Sentinel Network has started in 2017 as part of the International Plant Sentinel Network. It aims to build a self-sustainable Belgian network of botanic gardens and diagnostic laboratories for the survey and detection of (emerging) pests and diseases on plants in the collections. The network contains seven Belgian botanic gardens and arboreta, spread all over the country and with very diverse plant collections. They contain both exotic and indigenous taxa, which can be used as sentinels for recording their sensitivity to either local or to newly introduced pests and diseases. The gardens will execute surveys and carry out first-line diagnosis, collecting the data according to standard approaches. A trapped procedure will be developed to transmit the observations/ samples for identification to the laboratories. The two national reference laboratories will raise the awareness and capacity of staffs from the gardens to (new) phytosanitary problems via information and training, and making or confirming diagnoses.

As it is not realistic to aim for a screening and identification of all pests and diseases on all plants in the collections during this project, four cases have been selected, all focusing on trees. These are: pine processionary moth *Thaumetopoea pityocampa* in conifers; the fungal pathogen *Sirococcus tsugae* in cedars (*Cedrus* spp.); a health survey on oaks (*Quercus* spp.); *Phytoplasma* and root-knot nematode occurrence in trees. These cases have been chosen for developing, testing and validating the functioning and performance of the Belgian network, following different criteria, but are not restrictive for the project.

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Prevention is better than cure: providing an early warning system for new and emerging plant pests and diseases

Ms Ellie Barham¹

¹*BGCI, , United Kingdom*

[PS1d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Invasive alien plant pests and diseases pose a growing threat to global plant health. With the increase in international trade, there has been a sharp rise in the number of these damaging organisms which can cause extensive damage to environmentally, economically and culturally significant plant species. Prevention is arguably the most effective way to manage these organisms; however regulation relies upon lists of known pests and diseases. Sentinel plants are individuals found outside their native ranges that can be surveyed for damage by organisms they would not otherwise encounter. Monitoring plant sentinels can also help to build knowledge and understanding of pest/host relationships to support the development of management plans and risk assessments. The International Plant Sentinel Network (IPSN) was established in 2013 to build capacity and support gardens in pest and disease monitoring. The IPSN, which includes more than 30 gardens, is now launching the second phase of its work. This will involve facilitating and coordinating sentinel studies. It will support gardens to collect meaningful data quickly and systematically and will share this data with plant health scientists and governments to protect plant species. This symposium will explore the role botanic gardens and arboreta can play in sentinel research and protecting plant species from pests and diseases. It will showcase best practise, as well as illustrate the research and activities proposed for the second phase of the network.

-Objective of the symposium-

The symposium will officially launch the second phase of the IPSN. As well as discussing the aims, activities and research of the new project, it will also provide an opportunity for botanic gardens, arboreta and researchers, already involved in the project, to showcase previous work. The session will explore the role that gardens can play in providing research and early warning for plant health threats. It will give gardens not involved in plant health research, or wishing to improve their biosecurity, an opportunity to learn from others and inspire new projects.

-Expected outcomes -

The session will help participants not involved in, or aware of, the IPSN to gain a better understanding of the network. It will present research and activities gardens can become involved in to support plant health. It will be an opportunity for those interested and/or involved in plant health to discuss work, ideas and to network.

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Natural Landscapes in the Expositions of the Botanical Garden of Peter the Great Illustrating the Scientific Principles of Collection Forming

Prof. Elena Arnautova¹, Mrs Evgeniia Romanova¹

¹*The Komarov Botanical Institute Of The Russian Academy Of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation*

[PS1e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Botanical Garden of Peter the Great is one of the oldest botanic gardens in Russia and the largest of all. Its glasshouse collections total over 12,500 species of tropical and subtropical plants (including over 1,500 rare protected species), distributed among 24 mid-19th century greenhouses within the area of just over 1 ha.

Traditionally, both live plant collections and exposition designs have been established according to the Garden's scientific principles (taxonomic, geographical, ecological, morphological and conservation-focused). Our practical experience has shown that a highly beneficial way of presenting the collected plants is by imitating a natural landscape specific for their habitat. This method provides visitors with the most vivid and accessible experience of diverse climate zones with various plant families showing a plethora of adaptations.

The Botanical Garden of Peter the Great not only encourages a visitor to enjoy a walk through beautifully decorated glasshouses, it also allows one to have a look over the varying plant communities native to different geographical areas, from tropical wetlands to savannas and deserts. Our arid regions exposition, for example, is planned in such a way as to demonstrate the convergence, dissimilarity and diversity of succulent plants from America, Africa and Madagascar.

The Garden, therefore, accomplishes the essential task of spreading and promotion of botanical knowledge. It encourages visitors, especially children, to learn more about the world they live in.

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Ghent University Botanic Garden: where students meet science.

Mrs Chantal Dugardin¹, Prof. dr. Paul Goetghebeur¹, dr. Jelle De Schrijver¹

¹*Ghent University Museum & Botanic Garden, Ghent, Belgium*

[PS1e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

A living plant collection provides ample opportunities to stimulate learning of and about science as the case of the Ghent University Botanic Garden illustrates.

In specifically designed workshops, high school students explore different aspects of science, focusing for instance on evolution, energy or the invention of microscopy. Workshop topics are chosen carefully to fit into teaching programs. As the botanic garden is part of the University Museum, an integrated approach wherein scientific topics are tackled cross-disciplinarily is possible, enabling students to explore concepts such as 'energy' or 'evolution' in different collections. The workshops combine a hands-on approach where teenagers explore and experiment by making use of the living collections with a minds-on approach where students are encouraged to reflect upon their research practice and the phenomenon of science itself. Thus, a dialogue is stimulated about ethical and philosophical questions in science. College students in pre-service teacher training help to develop new workshops.

Both bachelor and master students are welcomed in the botanic garden. In order to facilitate university courses the garden cooperates closely with staff members of different faculties and departments. The educative personnel provide tours in the garden focusing on plant systematics and morphology. Special plant collections are maintained to perform experiments on or serve as a basis for both education and research.

As the botanic garden forms an accessible gateway to the public, we will discuss how it can play a major role in disclosing the research activities going on in the black box of the university.

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Converting the Unconverted: Engaging Teenagers in a Changing World

Ms Michelle Chan¹, Ms Debbie Chen¹

¹*Gardens by the Bay, Singapore, Singapore*

[PS1e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

How do we engage a society that is not naturally 'garden-going'? And how do we communicate the need for environmental sustainability to a generation that is constantly glued to their smart devices? Regular maps, tours and trails no longer seem sufficient and more innovative methods must be employed.

In a densely packed metropolis like Singapore, people often forget that we are rich in biodiversity. Amidst this urban jungle where many plant and animal species thrive, the message of environmental sustainability becomes more significant for their protection. At Gardens by the Bay, Race to Sustainability!, our annual amazing race around the Gardens, accompanied by the use of the Gardens' mobile application, provides teenagers with the opportunity to explore nature in a fun and engaging manner. The awareness of current environmental issues is raised and information on biodiversity and sustainability efforts at the Gardens is enhanced by technology, action and movement. The Gardens experience is further enriched through interactive games and challenges that are designed to promote active self-directed learning and the development of collaboration and information skills. All of these are 21st century competencies that teenagers of today need to succeed in our fast-changing world. The Race to Sustainability! with the Gardens' mobile application are ways that Gardens by the Bay engages the same target audience – teenagers – on important issues, now, and well into the future.

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L'arbre aux hérons : un projet unique et international mêlant botanique, culture et attractivité à Nantes

Mr Romaric Perrocheau¹

¹*Botanical Garden Of Nantes, Saint Sébasteien Sur Loire, France*

[PS1e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Il s'agit de présenter un projet particulièrement innovant pour présenter des collections de plantes : la création des premiers jardins suspendus depuis Babylone !

Une structure métallique pesant un tiers du poids de la tour Eiffel accueillera, sous la forme d'un arbre, plus d'un kilomètre de branches, comme autant de paysages portés dans le vide.

les centaines de milliers de visiteurs découvriront ce site par en dessous, de l'intérieur et même par au-dessus en prenant leur envol sur de gracieux hérons à 50 mètres d'altitude.

L'ensemble du travail sur le végétal, depuis les diverses expérimentations débutées il y a 15 ans, jusqu'aux plantations définitives, au choix des espèces et à leur suivi est assuré par le jardin botanique de Nantes.

Ce projet de plus de 35 millions d'euros associant botanique, culture, attractivité est co-financé par les structures publiques, les entreprises partenaires et le public via le crowdfunding.

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Fourth generation (4G): the science of managing a botanic garden

Prof. Tim Entwisle¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, South Yarra, Australia*

[PS1f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Contrary to some early definitions of 'botanic garden', it is not enough to label plants and open gates (1st generation). Nor is it sufficient to add further attributes, prescribing the contents like some kind of ritual offering (2nd generation). An effective botanic garden will contain living collections with a purpose, and more than ever that purpose must emphasize how plants are essential, and add value, to life on Earth (3rd generation). Science has always guided the display and interpretation of our plant collections, from systematics through to horticulture (and beyond). Today science should also inform how we manage the botanical landscape to make a net positive impact on our environment and our future (4th generation). At the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria we can now account for the carbon in our trees and soil, monitor irrigation water, survey the comfort of visitors, manage wildlife as part of the botanic garden habitat, conserve species through a distributed living collections model, and respond to global warming. The landscape itself is a 'living laboratory', with additional benefits to urban ecologists and managers more widely. My colleague Chris Cole will explain elsewhere how our Melbourne Gardens will adapt to climate change through a Landscape Succession Strategy. Here I will put that strategy in the context of what may be the world's first 4th generation (4G) botanic garden: a scientifically managed and inspiring landscape of documented plant collections, where every plant and setting has a purpose.

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Adapting a world-renowned botanical landscape to climate change: Landscape Succession Strategy, Melbourne Gardens 2016 - 2036

Mr Chris Cole¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Melbourne, Australia*

[PS1f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Melbourne Gardens comprises of 38 hectares of living plant collections containing 48,000 specimens from 8,400 taxa originating from a broad geographical distribution across the globe. Melbourne's climatic predictions for 2090 indicate significantly hotter and drier conditions. In response to these threats, and to manage the risk of diminishing water supplies and an aging tree population, the Gardens have developed a Landscape Succession Strategy (LSS). The purpose of the LSS is transition of the existing landscape towards the projected climate of 2090, whilst retaining heritage character, species diversity and green space for future generations. Development of the LSS included mapping of landscape microclimates, auditing of living plant collections against future climate suitability, and implementation of more efficient irrigation. While the outcomes of the LSS are still emerging, early results are encouraging. A mean cooling effect of 2°C in some zones of the landscape have been identified; about 65% of the 5,000 plant taxa reviewed have been deemed to be 'suitable' for 2090 climate conditions; and landscape water use research has informed water use efficiency. The long life spans of living assets and projected climatic changes require well-directed management decisions towards achieving an effective vegetation succession. The LSS is a valuable planning framework to integrate the protection of the urban landscape against climatic risks, and provides a reference for other botanic gardens to consider as a climate adaptation template to maintain viable green landscapes into the future.

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Aichi Target 13: Conserving genetic diversity

Prof. Peter Hollingsworth¹

¹*Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*

[PS1f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

International and national targets for the conservation of genetic diversity are governed by the global Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Biodiversity Target 13: "By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity". One challenge in reporting and delivering against Target 13 is the absence of a clear definition of what is encompassed by "other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species" and to-date the focus for Target 13 has been on livestock and crop genetic resources. In this presentation I report on a project aiming to develop a model national plan for Target 13 (and related targets in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation). This involves consideration of taxa for inclusion, assessment of what geographical scales are relevant, ex situ versus in situ approaches, and choice of metrics and indicators. The over-riding aim is to develop a pragmatic achievable framework for reporting on Target 13 that extends beyond the agricultural sector.

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Transforming South Africa's national botanical gardens into environmentally friendly botanical gardens: achievements, challenges and opportunities

Mr Christopher Willis¹

¹*South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Pretoria, South Africa*

[PS1f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) manages a network of 10 national botanical gardens currently spread across seven of South Africa's nine provinces. With the gardens ranging in age from two years to over 100 years, there are many challenges the organisation has faced in transforming these gardens into environmentally friendly botanical gardens. SANBI's achievements and challenges are discussed, as well as opportunities that have been provided and used to fast track this transformation process.

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The importance of *Cirsium pitcheri*, a rare plant species, as a pollinator resource

Dr Kayri Havens¹, Dr. Pati Vitt¹, Mr. Benjamin Barteau², Dr. Claudia Jolls³, Ms. Jaclyn Inkster³, Dr. Tiffany Knight⁴

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[PS1g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Pollinating insects require resources, including nectar and pollen, throughout the growing season. Rare plants, particularly those blooming at times when floral resources are limited, may be extremely important for pollinator support. We provide evidence about the importance of the threatened forb, *Cirsium pitcheri*, using a network analysis of the plant-pollinator communities in Great Lakes sand dunes. Although we probably would not call *Cirsium pitcheri* a keystone species, it is playing a keystone role, for a window of time during the growing season. This study demonstrates the potential impacts of the loss of *Cirsium pitcheri* for numerous insect taxa. It also shows that phenological diversity is critical when choosing species for restorations intended to support pollinators.

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In-vitro propagation, conservation and genetic fidelity evaluation in *Decalepis hamiltonii* : An endemic threatened medicinal plant

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[PS1g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Decalepis hemiltonii is an endemic and threatened medicinal plant known for its medicinal value. Overharvesting of roots for its proven medicinal uses such as antioxidant and anticancer agents has been one of the main reasons for its dwindling population. Tissue culture is an option for ex-situ conservation. On similar lines this study was initiated. The nodal regions of greenhouse raised plants were taken as explants and cultured in MS medium containing different combinations of shooting hormones such as BA, 2-ip and NAA. Various concentrations ranging between 0.4 to 10mg/l of BA, 0.2mg/l of 2-ip and 0.2mg/l of NAA were studied. Among different combinations, satisfactory results were obtained in terms of shoot length, number of shoots and number of leaves by using a combination of BA (0.886 mg/l) +2ip (0.24 mg/l). In vitro conservation was achieved by providing limited nutrients, reduced light intensity (2.97 μ mol m⁻² s⁻¹) and maintaining a temperature of 10^o C to reduce the growth and other growth related traits in order to conserve it for six months. Genetic fidelity assessment of in vitro raised plants was studied. A total of 12 RAPD markers were employed to assess the genetic stability. All banding profiles from micropropagated plants were monomorphic and similar to those of the mother plant indicating no genetic variation in in vitro raised plants. The results obtained in our experiment suggest that in vitro shoot multiplication using nodal segment as explant may be used for rapid clonal propagation and conservation with a low risk of generating somaclonal variation.

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Application of ex-situ Conservation in the Geneva state. Two exemples : Samolus valerandi and Gratiola officinalis

Mrs Emmanuelle Favre¹, Mr. Florian Mombrial²

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[PS1g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

In terms of species conservation, the Geneva State tries to improve the fitness and diversity of rare and/or threatened specie's locations. Ex situ conservation is an important tool for population and species management, through the techniques of seed banking and ex situ cultivation. The latter makes it possible firstly to reinforce existing small populations and secondly to recreate new viable populations.

In Geneva, an intensive collaboration between the nature protection services of the canton and the botanical garden of the City of Geneva has made it possible to pursue this objective. Two threatened species in Switzerland, *Samolus valerandii* and *Gratiola officinalis*, have both benefited of an action plan highlighting their ex situ and in situ conservation needs. Through these two examples we propose to present the results of those measures as well as the difficulties of implementing concrete conservation policy.

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Long-term Ex-situ conservation of Fleischmann's Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa* l.var. *fleischmannii* (Hladnik) Burnat)

Dr Jože Bavcon¹, Ms Blanka Ravnjak¹, Dr Nada Praprotnik²

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[PS1g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Fleischmann's parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa* var. *fleischmannii* (Hladnik) Burnat) is a Slovenian endemic plant, which can't be found in nature anymore. It survives only in garden cultivation in the University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana. In professional and scientific botanical literature, the University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana is stated as its only known locality. This unknown parsnip species was found on Ljubljana castle hill in the 1930's by gardener Andrej Fleischmann. He brought the plant into the garden and planted it there. The parsnip was then named after Fleischmann by Franc Hladnik. Fleischmann's parsnip started its way into universities, museums and gardens with the herbarium collection *Flora Germanica exsiccata* (1830-1845). Back then it attracted the attention of the scientific botanists. In 1873 Nikomed Rastern sent this plant to the Swiss botanist Emile Burnat informing him that the plant does not grow spontaneously in Carniola. Burnat determined the taxon as a variety of species *P. sativa*. Common parsnip is one of most common grassland plants of road edges. It is distributed in Eurasia between the western Mediterranean and Caucasus. Fleischmann's parsnip is a peculiarity, an endemic plant which can be distinguished from common parsnip by double pinnate leaves, by leaf shape, serration of leaves and its darker green color. Its germination percent is lower and because of that it is more difficult to maintain it in cultivation. It was successfully preserved in the University Botanic Gardens Ljubljana. In 2011 we replanted it again on its original locality on Ljubljana castle hill, where it successfully preserves itself.

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The challenges and opportunities to Beijing Botanical Garden in the face of global change

Mrs Yu Wei¹

¹*Beijing Botanical Garden, Beijing, China*

[PS1h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Beijing Botanical Garden, which is situated in the Capital of China, will face many challenges and opportunities in the face of global changes. The challenges are: 1. Some plants do not survive in extreme weather. 2. Some plants that we had introduced may turn into invasive plants in northern China. The opportunities are 1. The introduction of plants into Beijing will be broadened because the weather is getting warmer. 2. The government and people value the importance of the environment more and more. We are taking advantage of these opportunities and making contributions to society in 3 ways as below: 1. Supplying data from phenological observations to prove the change of climate to the government. 2. Doing research on the conservation of native plants and on new plant introductions, such as the conservation of *Cypripedium macranthos*, and studies on the thermotolerance of different ornamental fruit plants etc. 3. Improving people's awareness through public education with specially organized activities about Nature-Plants-People for children and school students.

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An innovative approach to decreasing Japanese Knotweed, *Fallopia japonica* (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.

Ms Blanka Ravnjak¹, Mr Jože Bavcon¹, Mr Matej Šušteršič²

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[PS1h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Invasive plants represent a huge threat for the local biodiversity. Some of them have spread in such wide areas that their complete removal is impossible. A typical case of such plant in Europe is Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica* Houtt). Its removal can be done either mechanically or chemically, whereas the latter can be detrimental for the environment. All the methods for removal mentioned here are connected with substantial costs while their effect is not optimal. For this reason research has been conducted in order to establish if the Japanese knotweed could be used as an industrial plant. By its mass use in industry its presence in the environment could be reduced, this would improve the conservation of native flora while producing useful end products. For this purpose a pilot project for producing paper from Japanese knotweed was started in 2016 in cooperation with the Botanic Garden, Pulp and Paper Institute, Municipality of Ljubljana, Snaga company and Regeneracija collective. The ecological characteristics of the plant in its habitats and all its parameters important for paper production have been studied. It has been established, that the plant contains sufficient amount of cellulose for paper production and based on this also paper and paper products have been produced on a semi industrial scale. The project showed an example of efficient use for a plant that is problematic in the environment. Among others this project combined basic botanical knowledge with the application of industrial knowledge and through a useful product, also raised interest in the broader public.

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Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality New Botanic Garden Designed From Neolithic Period to Nowadays

Mrs Pelin Okkiran¹, **Dr. Banu GÖKÇEK¹**, Mr. Kadir ARSLAN¹, Mr. Pelin YILDIRIM¹, Mr. Yonca YAPICI¹

¹*Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, Gaziantep, Turkey*

[PS1h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Gaziantep which is the 6th biggest city is in the southeast of Turkey. Gaziantep is a city on the Silk Road and in Mesopotamia. Therefore, it contains many firsts and a fascinating history. In the new botanic garden, an area will be created ecologically from past to present. Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality Botanic Garden, which was established in 2009, is managed by the Park Garden and Green Areas Department. It is the first botanic garden in the region.

In the new botanic garden, for which planning is well advanced, a path will be designed following from the past to the present day. This is because Gaziantep was one of the first grain-processing regions of the Neolithic period. Workshops with an educational focus will be organized for children who do not know topics such as how to make bread. In this regard, thematic areas such as an agricultural museum which depicts the historical past will be created.

The new botanic garden is designed to perform three main functions: scientific, educational and recreational. In this context, the new botanic garden will be an important area where there will be special plant collections, different garden designs and the nature-environment education will be given here. In new botanic garden there will be 1- Scientific studies: tropical greenhouse, herbarium, library, ecological classroom, tissue culture laboratory, scientific conference hall.

2- Education: classes, open education areas for students such as lawns and festivals, workshops.

3- Recreation: gardens designed in different concepts, children's playgrounds, exercise areas, pedestrian and jogging path, agricultural museum, amphitheater, cafe and restaurant, roads with various themes, planting works and landscaping applications will all be built.

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Research on Show: The Sustainable Water Trail at Auckland Botanic Gardens

Ms. Rebecca Stanley¹

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[PS1h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 26, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Botanic gardens are well-placed to translate research into practice in a public setting. Auckland Botanic Gardens displays a self-guided interpretive “Sustainable Water Trail” to show how plants can slow the flow of storm water and clean it up. The trail is a series of gardens which treat storm water including swales, living roofs, wetlands, riparian planting, tree pits and a sediment forebay. We tell the story the negative impacts of storm water on Auckland’s natural ecosystems. The trail is a collaboration involving scientists, landscape designers, storm water engineers, botanists and horticulturalists. Plants used in the gardens are part of active in-situ research programmes. Our aim is to provide evidence-based advice on storm water gardens and to encourage more water sensitive design in Auckland using native plants. This promotes the role of Botanic Gardens in researching relevant local issues to visitors. Art, educational programs and interpretation supports the visitor experience.

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How can Botanic Gardens contribute to ecological restoration – an example from Belgium

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¹*Botanic Garden Meise, Meise, Belgium*

[PS2a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Nutrient-poor grassland habitats and several of their characteristic plant species have reached a critical state in many European countries. There is now an urgent need to preserve, manage and restore these few remaining, often degraded, habitat patches. Part of this task includes the restoration of populations of critically endangered plant species that without intervention would not regenerate naturally due to restricted seed dispersal abilities and the absence of a persistent seed bank in the soil. In the framework of the EU-LIFE project “Herbages” (LIFE11 NAT/BE/001060), the Botanic Garden Meise (Belgium), as a centre of excellence in ex situ conservation and plant propagation, has implemented population transplantations in the wild for four critically endangered species (*Dianthus deltoides*, *Helichrysum arenarium*, *Arnica montana* and *Campanula glomerata*). The aim is to increase the effective size of remaining populations (reinforcement) and to restore extinct populations (reintroduction) in order to improve connectivity in the landscape. For each species, seeds have been collected on a minimum of 50 individuals in two to seven source populations in the closest possible similar habitats. In each source population, leaves were sampled on a minimum of 30 individuals in order to estimate population genetic diversity and structure. Prior to in situ transplantation, morphometric measures (vegetative plant size) were recorded on each individual. For each species, a population of 500 to 700 young individuals was transplanted in three or four different sites. A demographic survey is recorded yearly on the field. First results are presented and discussed.

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Reintroduction of rare and endangered plants in China

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¹*South China Botanical Garden, CAS, Guangzhou, China*

[PS2a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Human disturbance and climate change have increased the risk of extinction for rare and endangered plants in China. One effective way to conserve these rare and endangered species is through reintroduction. We assessed the current status of plant conservation translocation efforts in China. We identified 222 conservation translocation cases involving 154 rare and endangered species. We categorized the life form of each species, and determined for each case the translocation type, propagule source, propagule type, and survival and reproductive parameters. A surprisingly large proportion (26%) of the conservation translocations in China were conservation introductions, largely implemented in response to large-scale habitat destruction caused by the Three-Gorge Dam and another hydropower project. Documentation and management of the translocations varied greatly. Less than half the cases had plant survival records. Statistical analyses showed that survival percentages were significantly correlated with plant life form and the type of planting materials. Thirty percent of the cases had records on whether or not individuals flowered or fruited. Results of information theoretic model selection indicated that plant life form, translocation type, propagule type, propagule source, and time since planting significantly influenced the likelihood of flowering and fruiting on the project level. We suggest that the scientific-based application of species conservation translocations should be promoted as part of a commitment to species recovery management. We recommend the establishment of a national office and database to coordinate conservation translocations in China. In addition, we introduce two reintroduction cases and comment the future of plant reintroduction strategies.

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Testing the suitability of ex situ conserved plant material for reintroductions: Establishment success of reintroduced *Digitalis lutea* from a living collection, a conservation seed bank and directly wild sourced seeds

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[PS2a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Ex situ cultivation and seed banking of endangered plants to prevent their extinction and provide material for later reintroduction has become an important part of global conservation efforts and a central mission for botanic gardens. At the same time, it has been shown that the cultivation of plants in botanic gardens can result in strong shifts in life-history traits of the plants, e.g. germination characteristics, and for seed banks, the concern is that frozen material could lack recent adaptations of plant populations to climatic changes. To test these potential negative implications of ex situ conserved material, we performed a comparative reintroduction experiment in Autumn 2016 with three different seed sources of the same wild origin of the plant *Digitalis lutea*: (1) a 30-year old living collection at the Botanic Garden Meise (2) 30-year old frozen seeds from the conservation seed bank in Meise and (3) directly wild-sourced seeds from their original wild population. Additionally, a comparative seeding experiment was conducted with the same seed sources next to the reintroduced plants. Germination test in the lab had previously shown that germination rate in the seeds from the living collection had strongly increased compared to the wild seeds, indicating genetic divergence of seed origins. This experiment will allow us to reveal the consequences of trait shifts due to ex situ conservation in living collections and seed banks for early establishment success, and therefore, to provide a crucial test of the current conservation practice of rare plants.

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Harnessing botanic garden collections and skills to restore degraded ecosystems

Kirsty Shaw¹, Paul Smith¹, Yvette Harvey-Brown¹

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[PS2a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Ecological Restoration Alliance of Botanic Gardens (ERA) was established in 2012: An international consortium of botanic gardens that are actively engaged in ecological restoration. The five founding members came together with a shared appreciation for the important role that botanic gardens can play in restoring degraded ecosystems, and with well-established restoration projects to prove it.

The ERA has gained significant momentum in recent years. The Alliance has now grown to 30 member botanic gardens, working to restore a variety of different ecosystems in a range of cultural contexts across six continents. Collectively, ERA members manage over 140 active restoration projects, utilising their herbarium, seed and living plant collections, and botanical and horticultural expertise to put ecosystems back, piece by piece.

ERA members are committed to scaling up the contribution of botanic gardens to ecological restoration, as well as the adoption of science-based ecological restoration, using indigenous species, by other restoration practitioners. ERA projects demonstrate the benefits and processes of ecological restoration, provide sites for training and outreach, and deliver restoration.

Congress attendees are invited to learn more about the role of botanic gardens in restoration, and the work of ERA and its members.

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Harnessing botanic garden collections and skills to restore degraded ecosystems

Kirsty Shaw¹, Paul Smith¹, Yvette Harvey-Brown¹

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, London, United Kingdom*

[PS2a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

In the face of widespread degradation of ecosystems, interest in restoration has increased internationally. Ambitious restoration pledges have been made by governments and NGOs alike. Yet, the skills, knowledge and seed required to deliver large-scale commitments are lacking.

The Ecological Restoration Alliance of Botanic Gardens (ERA) was established in 2012: An international consortium of botanic gardens that are actively engaged in ecological restoration. The ERA aims to demonstrate that involving botanic garden collections, horticultural and botanical skills in restoration can deliver sustainable results and provide ecosystem services, including biodiversity improvement, health benefits, and livelihood opportunities.

The 30 member botanic gardens in the ERA network manage over 140 active restoration projects in a variety of different ecosystems and cultural contexts across six continents. ERA member gardens employ more than 500 specialists who are engaged in ecological restoration activities and collectively have leveraged more than \$150 million USD for ecological restoration over the last five years.

In this symposium, a selection of restoration projects will be presented by ERA member gardens, demonstrating what can be achieved, and encouraging more botanic gardens to apply their skills and collections to help restore the world's degraded ecosystems.

-Objective of the symposium-

This symposium aims to showcase the work of ERA and its member gardens and encourage more botanic gardens to engage in ecological restoration activities.

-Expected outcomes -

Symposium attendees will learn about the need for restoration, the unique skills that botanic gardens hold that can be applied to ecological restoration, and the work of the ERA and its member gardens. Additional botanic gardens will become engaged in ecological restoration activities as a result.

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The Darwin Initiative – 25 years in support of Biodiversity

Dr. Stephen Blackmore¹

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*

[PS2b] - Symposium -, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

This presentation introduces the UK Government's Darwin Initiative, an innovative model for funding biodiversity projects which was launched at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. It will emphasise the importance of the Initiative as a funding stream for botanical capacity building and highlight issues of importance to the wider botanical garden community. For example, the Darwin Initiative which, as part of the UK's overseas development aid funding focuses on developing countries, is now open to proposals originating from anywhere in the world (having originally required a lead organisation from the UK). Furthermore, the Initiative has recently requested projects on topics of relevance to botanic gardens, such as Access and Benefit Sharing, and includes among its priorities the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Although the application process is extremely competitive and only the most highly ranked projects are funded, the Darwin Initiative has supported numerous botanical projects and hopes to receive more applications from botanic gardens in the future.

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Integrated approach to plant conservation for people in the Moroccan High Atlas

Dr. Hassan Rankou¹, Mrs. Emily Caruso¹, Mr. Rachid Ait Babahmad², Dr. Gary Martin¹, Mr. Ahmed Ouhammou³

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[PS2b] - Symposium -, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

We contribute to plant conservation that enhances local livelihood in one of the Mediterranean biodiversity hotspots, the Moroccan High Atlas. The programme seeks to catalyse positive change in High Atlas cultural landscapes, which are under growing pressure from the interrelated drivers of climate change, water mismanagement, plant overharvesting, overgrazing, market integration and rural exodus.

Integrated in situ and ex situ conservation actions, participatory ecological and floristic surveys, IUCN conservation assessments and livelihoods-enhancing activities come together to generate solutions built on existing local conservation practises. New knowledge about key plant conservation status, the impacts of climate change on plant populations and potential climate change refugia inform conservation actions and policy decisions that enhance ecosystem integrity of Important Plant Areas. Our goals are to establish a baseline to monitor the changes at species, habitat and ecosystem scales, establish regional conservation priorities and select representative species as biodiversity indicators for the major ecosystems of the High Atlas.

Ex situ conservation and agroecology activities include the management of community nurseries for the production of wild and domesticated plants for distribution to households, providing income and resources to Amazigh families while contributing to in situ conservation actions through enrichment planting. Enhanced water resource management and more efficient irrigation practices support local wellbeing as well as ensuring greater water flows to ecologically sensitive areas.

This integrated approach, which also involves continuous training for community researchers, strengthens community-based systems of environmental research and management and assists Morocco to fulfil national and international policy commitments related to biodiversity.

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Balancing conservation and livelihoods in the Chimanimani Forest belt, Mozambique

Dr Tiziana Ulian¹, Dr. Hudson A.¹, Dr. Timberlake J.¹, Dr. Darbyshire I.¹, Dr. Chipanga H³, Dr. Sousa C.², Dr. Gold Kate, Dr. Kingman A.³, Dr. Nuvunga M.³

¹Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Ardingly, United Kingdom, ²Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique), Maputo, Mozambique, ³Micaia Foundation, Chimoio, Mozambique

[PS2b] - Symposium -, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Local communities of the Mozambican Chimanimani Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) buffer zone mostly live below the poverty line and have limited access to public services. Local development has often favoured large private concessions for forestry and agriculture, pushing farmers off their land and into more marginal areas where they are forced to destroy and degrade natural areas for their livelihoods, threatening the integrity of forests and the wider environment.

This project aims for an effective and sustainable balance between biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. It has been carried out collaboratively between the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew), the Micaia Foundation, and the National Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM). Each organization provides unique expertise in global scientific plant and conservation knowledge, local community development, and scientific understanding of Mozambican plant diversity and conservation.

A detailed botanical inventory was carried out in four communities' natural areas collecting information on habitats and plant species of conservation interest and species of potential economic value. Local communities have been empowered by providing capacity building on conservation agriculture and beekeeping activities and by organizing and legitimizing the community groups and their Natural Resource Management Committees.

Community Conservation Zones have been selected during community workshops and economic revenues have started to be generated from honey and sustainable agricultural crops. The project's success derives from research and development organisations combining to better engage with all stakeholders so that decisions regarding natural resource management and conservation are scientifically supported.

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Plant conservation and society through the lens of the Darwin Initiative

Dr Gary Martin¹, Mr. Mark Watson², Mr. Paul Smith³

¹*Global Diversity Foundation, Canterbury, United Kingdom*, ²*Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*, ³*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*

[PS2b] - Symposium -, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Since 1992, the Darwin Initiative has provided over 1,000 projects in 159 countries with more than £130 million of support. As a UK government grants scheme that helps to protect biodiversity and the natural environment, the initiative champions plant conservation around the world. In recent years, there has been an increasing focus on the linkages between conserving biodiversity and improving local livelihoods, and this has brought even greater attention to exploring the importance of plant science to society in general. Since 2015 applications have been open to organisations that are not based in the UK. Typical grants are between £250,000 and £400,000 over 3 to 4 years, with 30-35 such grants being awarded each year.

A core concern of the Darwin Initiative is to help countries rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to meet their objectives under international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity – including its Global Strategy for Plant Conservation – and more recently the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Darwin Expert Committee, which consists of specialists from government, academia, science and the private sector, helps to implement the Darwin Initiative by advising ministers on its development and making recommendations on applications for funding.

As the Darwin Initiative celebrates its 25th anniversary, we bring together Darwin project leaders from diverse botanical gardens and other institutions to summarize the main achievements of their plant conservation efforts and to encourage more applications focusing on plant conservation and livelihoods.

The session will be moderated by three current members of the Darwin Expert Committee and its Chair, Professor Stephen Blackmore will provide an introductory address.

-Objective of the symposium-

The objective of this session is to highlight projects that are supported through the UK's Darwin initiative. These projects all have a focus on conserving plant diversity, while at the same time improving the livelihoods of local communities in countries around the world. The session will raise awareness of the work of the Darwin Initiative as it celebrates its 25th anniversary, as well as encourage the submission of more applications for project funding from botanic gardens and related plant-focused organisations. The presentations will showcase projects being implemented in South America, Africa and Asia, and all will demonstrate the close linkages between conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

-Expected outcomes -

- Awareness raised about the Darwin Initiative and funding opportunities for botanic garden-led projects
- More applications made to the Darwin Initiative for project addressing plant conservation
- Linkages made between scientists implementing Darwin projects in different countries and across continents

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Plant conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals

Ms Suzanne Sharrock¹

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*

[PS2c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), with its 16 plant conservation targets was originally adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2002. It was updated and revised in 2010, with targets set to be achieved by 2020. Although the GSPC has provided a valuable framework for the work of botanic gardens, and good progress has been made in some areas, there is a continued lack of mainstreaming plant conservation at the national level. The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were developed to succeed the Millennium Development Goals and were adopted in 2015 by the international community through the United Nations. The SDGs provide a useful point of reference to demonstrate the fundamental importance of plants and their role in sustainable development. Indeed if plant conservation is not achieved, then there is a risk the SDGs themselves will not be achieved. Plant resources help to alleviate poverty, support sustainable livelihoods and contribute to human well-being. This presentation will review and highlight the contribution that plant conservation can make to achieve the SDGs and demonstrate the linkages that exist between the SDGs and the targets of the GSPC. Additional activities, not currently included in the GSPC, which might be considered for including in a post-2020 plant conservation strategy will also be suggested.

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Planning post-2020 Strategies for Plant Conservation: how to build on the success of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Dr Peter Wyse Jackson¹

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[PS2c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) has made a remarkable contribution to raising the profile and importance of plant conservation worldwide, as well as to help set priorities for urgent action in so many parts of the world. It has also played a fundamental role in shaping the work of botanic gardens and ensuring that they are recognized and acknowledged for their multiple roles in plant conservation and the sustainable use of plant resources. The time of the Congress is little more than three years before the 2020 deadline is reached for the achievement of the 16 GSPC targets. Although notable progress has been made in the achievement of many targets, it is clear that unless a substantial effort is made over this coming period, including by botanic gardens, few of the targets will achieve their hoped for outcome by 2020.

This is also the time when the world community needs to consider what next steps in plant conservation need to be taken in the period after 2020. This presentation will summarize progress made to date and point out strategies, scenarios and options for taking the GSPC into a third term, as well as suggest ways that botanic gardens can, individually and collectively, provide leadership and impetus. The presentation will highlight not only GSPC successes but also suggest where its weaknesses have been, most notably the general lack of mainstreaming of plant conservation into national conservation programmes, and how these failings could be addressed.

Botanic gardens were fundamental in securing the GSPC as a component of the priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2002. Now is the time for botanic gardens to demonstrate leadership once again in helping to plan, promote and advocate for the development and adoption of a post-2020 GSPC, through the CBD, that is linked more closely with the CBD's own renewed Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. Success is more likely to be achieved if botanic gardens can ensure that their national biodiversity authorities are supportive too. Such a plan needs to be developed in parallel with updated or renewed Aichi Targets and also aligned with the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Agenda and 2030 goals, which go beyond some aspects of the current GSPC. If botanic gardens fail to play their part in providing strategic guidance and direction in this period, there is a danger that plant conservation may fade as a priority and become, simply one sectional interest of a broader and more general biodiversity agenda at national and international levels.

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Contribution of University of Peshawar Botanical Garden for Conservation and implementation of GSPC in Pakistan

Dr. Asad Ullah¹

¹*University Of Peshawar, Peshawar, Pakistan*

[PS2c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) is aimed to halt the current and continuing loss of plant diversity caused due to global climate change, population explosion, deforestation, habitat loss, unsustainable development, over exploitation, introduction of alien invasive species, agricultural expansion, poverty, hunger, injustice and various social conflicts. It provides a framework to facilitate harmony between existing initiatives for plant conservation and identification of gaps where new steps are required. The University of Peshawar Botanic Garden is a registered participant of BGCI and Pakistan being a signatory of CBD-1992 and GSPC, diverse concrete steps have been initiated for the conservation of various species at national level including funding six botanic gardens, two Plant Conservation Centers and the creation of the Pakistan Botanic Garden Network with twenty six Government and private botanic gardens registered. The Ministry of Environment has demarcated 725 acres of land in Islamabad for a botanic garden. Similarly The Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has provided 83 acres of land for the establishment of a botanic garden to contribute in the worldwide implementation of the GSPC. The University of Peshawar has established a botanical garden inclusive of an academic block, herbarium, museum, various laboratories, green houses and research facilities for students of schools, colleges and Universities. The Botanical Garden has Quranic, gymnosperm, citrus, medicinal, cactus, olive gardens, Flora of Pakistan section, public recreation area, hydrophyte section, and a nursery. Various projects are initiated for ex-situ and in-situ conservation and species of high concern including Ginkgo biloba, Taxus fuana, Cycas revoluta, Taxodium and many indigenous species have been carried out.

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Current Status of GSPC Targets Implementation in Indonesia

Dr. Didik Widyatmoko¹, Ms Rosniati Risna¹

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[PS2c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Housing an estimated 15% of the world's plant species spreading out in about 17 thousand islands but with continuing decline of forest-covered areas, Indonesia has a great challenge in plant conservation. As a national focal point for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in Indonesia, Bogor Botanic Gardens plays a leading role in shaping the country in which plant diversity is understood, valued, conserved, and strengthened. In the mid-term implementation of GSPC targets, the country has shown outstanding achievement at some targets, but slow progress at others. We will showcase examples and share experience on GSPC targets implementation nationally, particularly supporting the achievement of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well. As a leading institution for ex-situ plant conservation in Indonesia, we highlight the establishment of new botanic gardens throughout the country, which has been included in our national priority program.

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From Dream to Reality – The Design Process and Strategic Planning for Botanic Gardens

Dr Annette Patzelt¹

¹*Oman Botanic Garden, , Oman*

[PS2d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The progress in the development of Oman Botanic Garden will be presented to exemplify the steps emerging out of an initial big idea on the way to successful delivery. The phases and strategic thinking recommended for the planning, design and construction of a new botanic garden project show that implementation is not a linear process: pre-operational management occurs in tandem with design and construction, progressing and complementing each other in parallel.

This presentation will present the design process that Oman Botanic Garden has gone through from master plan to the preparation for construction. It will highlight the pre-operational strategic and practical steps which are critical but often overlooked. The design and construction planning as well the pre-operations strategy will set a strong precedent for how the garden will operate.

The Oman Botanic Garden is focusing exclusively on native plants. The garden seeks to become an iconic tourist destination, a world class facility for the conservation of Arabia's plants, as well as a fascinating and inspirational centre for education.

To achieve these ambitious goals, the Oman Botanic Garden requires innovative and integrated scientific and design solutions, coupled with the development of procedures and methodologies for sustainable construction and operation.

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Botanic gardens in the Middle East

Dr Sabina Knees¹, **Mr Anthony Miller¹**, Dr Sophie Neale¹

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[PS2d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

SW Asia has had a central role in the development of gardens and garden design. Indeed it can be argued that gardens originated in the region. The last 15 years have seen an upsurge in new gardens ranging from high profile, large scale projects such as the Oman Botanic Garden to rather more modest initiatives such as the small, locally owned garden on Socotra. This talk briefly explores history of gardens in the region and then goes on to consider the new approaches to gardens and the functions of botanic gardens and their role in meeting the environmental and social challenges of the 21st century.

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A conservation assessment of 7 endemic species in central Oman- A collaboration between Oman Botanic Garden and the Anglo-Omani Society promoting scientific and cultural exchange

Ms Ghudaina Al Issaey¹

¹*Oman Botanic Garden, Muscat, Oman*

[PS2d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The limestone plateau and coastal escarpment of the Jiddat Al Arkad/Sahil Al Jazir in central Oman is considerably an area of high rate of plant endemism. However, data is insufficient on the floristic composition of this area, the extent of occurrence of the species, their ecology, population size and the boundaries between two distinct ecosystems which are Sahil Al Jazir and Jiddat Al Arkad. In cooperation with a multidisciplinary group from the Anglo-Omani Society and field botanists from Oman Botanic Garden, a survey on the distribution of 7 endemic species was carried out in central Oman. We surveyed the area using quadrats method and monitoring absence and presence of the species in question. We also collected soil samples for Ph and electrical conductivity analysis. Preliminary results shows a pattern in the distribution of the species. The field work took place in January 2017, and data analysis currently is being carried out. This survey will assist us in addressing rare plant conservation in Oman and initiate a baseline data for important plant areas. In addition to that, it has cultivated the collaboration between International participants and Omanis in conducting a scientific survey in a short time covering a large area.

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Ex- situ conservation initiatives of some threatened species at the Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Garden (NGBB), Istanbul, Turkey

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¹*Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Garden , Istanbul, Turkey*

[PS2d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

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In recent years, habitat loss due to anthropogenic activities and other natural causes has resulted in an immense loss of biodiversity with many species threatened and others on the verge of extinction. In order to ensure their survival and conservation in the near future, such species require both in-situ and ex-situ protection measures under careful vigilance. The conservation of threatened species in botanic gardens through ex-situ methods, (both conventional and tissue culture), is the most promising way of conserving threatened species.

The present study undertaken at the Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Garden (NGBB), Istanbul concerns the ex-situ conservation of seven Turkish threatened species. *Vuralia turcica*, *Cephalaria tuteliana*, *Tulipa sprengeri*, *Iris masia* subsp. *dumaniana*, *Pyrus serikensis*, *Rhaponticoides iconiensis* and *Rhaponticoides mykalea*.

Planting material of the selected species was collected from the wild from different regions of Turkey and introduced into the Botanik Garden for conservation trials. Data relating to each locality and species was compiled and specific habitat requirements, growth patterns, regeneration potential and propagation methods of the selected species were studied. Efforts were made to provide suitable growing conditions for the ex-situ conservation of each of the selected species.

All seven species are performing well in ex-situ at Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanik Garden (NGBB).

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The future role of Botanic Gardens in the Middle East and SW Asia

Dr Alan Forrest¹

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[PS2d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The role of botanic gardens globally is expanding and focusing on a range of societal and development challenges alongside the more traditional roles in plant science, biodiversity conservation, capacity development, education and horticulture. The Middle East and South West Asia is a region at the forefront of these challenges and developments: it is a region that harbours great and important plant diversity against a background that encompasses conflict, natural disasters and the threat of climate change – all of which undermine the services that plants provide to communities both directly and indirectly. A number of botanic gardens have been established recently in the region, and plans are underway for several more including specifically creating sites that concentrate on these new challenges, drawing on the history of gardens in the region and adding contemporary expertise to cope with future challenges. This symposium will review these regional gardens and challenges for the future, illustrate experiences in establishing and developing botanic gardens, focus on how botanic gardens can contribute to broader societal challenges, and propose specific concepts to tackle these challenges.

-Objective of the symposium-

The Middle East and SW Asia has a long history and tradition of gardens, and has been the source of many horticultural plants, but the concept of botanic gardens in the region is a relatively recent one. This symposium is designed to briefly review the history and importance of gardens in the region, to address the roles that botanic gardens can play by drawing upon this history, and applying it going forwards in the context of the GSPC, CBD, Sustainable Development Goals and a range of other potential benefits. A focus of the symposium will be the discussion of a highly relevant concept and application, that of Ancillary Botanic Gardens. These can fulfill a wide variety of roles, but can also benefit from advice and experience from established botanic gardens with a broader range of skills and experiences. How ABGs might be applied in different circumstances and contexts, and how they might be built into a network of associated sites, will be discussed through examples from Lebanon.

The establishment of an informal regional group to share experiences, expertise and ideas in order to benefit the development of regional gardens will be proposed and discussed. Related regional groups already exist in the Middle East and SW Asia. The Plant Life of SW Asia (PLoSWA) symposia have been running since 1970 and are held approximately every 5 years, bringing together plant scientists, conservationists and other interested parties at a range of locations. The IUCN Arabian Plant Specialist Group formerly undertook a range of conservation assessments, IPA surveys and related recommendations, and will be re-established in the near future to expand on its body of existing work. Aligning these groups alongside each other would provide a strong regional plant conservation presence and body of expertise that can be drawn upon for the benefit of biodiversity conservation and livelihoods under a range of challenging circumstances.

-Expected outcomes -

- Outline agreement for the establishment of a Regional Group bringing together the expertise of botanic gardens regionally and globally, with an outline plan for meetings, discussion points and potential actions.

6th Global Botanic Gardens Congress, 26-30 June 2017, Geneva, Switzerland

- To align this regional group with the Plant Life of SW Asia (PloSWA) Symposia and the regional IUCN Specialist Group;
- A published summary article on the historical, contemporary and potential future role of botanic gardens in the Middle East and SW Asia, encompassing a wide range of activities in countries and territories affected by conflict, natural disasters, environmental degradation and climate change;
- To discuss the development and implementation of the concept of Ancillary Botanic Gardens and to seek funding to develop ABGs further across the region.

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Childrens' Summer Programme

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¹*Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanic Garden , İstanbul, Turkey*

[PS2e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

During the summer, the Nezahat Gokyigit Botanic Garden (NGBB) organizes special residential plant orientated educational activities for children. The main aim of this programme is to reach out to specially selected groups of children, preferably aged between 12 and 14, from economically deprived remote rural areas of Turkey. None of these children have had the opportunity to see a Botanic Garden. They are invited to stay for up to ten days so for the first time they can see and experience a Botanic Garden and participate in adventures games and activities whilst learning about plants and other living creatures.

The students enjoy practical gardening lessons, they learn about the wonder of nature and how all life depends on plants and how they need protecting. Other aspects such as ecosystems, composting and artwork using natural plant materials are also covered. Within the project's programme they also have the opportunity to visit, often for the first time, important historical places and museums in Istanbul.

For many of these children their time at the Botanic Garden gives them the opportunity of a life time; an undreamt of life changing experience opening up new perspectives enabling them to comprehend the wonder of nature, their environment and themselves.

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China's environmental education trend and the botanical gardens' role

Mr Ximin Wang¹

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[PS2e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Environmental education was introduced into China in 1980's with the central government's promotion. However, a top-down strategy has its limits. With urbanization and economic development, it's urgent to face new environmental challenges and rebuild the connection between nature and people. Hundreds of EE-related organizations were set up in recent years and there is a strong requirement for a national network. Since 2014, an annual national EE conference is held in China and hundreds of participants from governments, nature reserves, botanical gardens, conservation NGOs, schools, outdoor clubs, organic farms, and tourism business agencies get together to discuss EE related issues.

However, barriers still exist. Many programs were simply copied by different agencies without formal evaluation and customization. Some educators don't know EE's basic conceptions and theories, which results in confusion between goals and activities.

Botanical gardens, especial those gardens belonging to Chinese Academy of Science(CAS), could play a leading role in the trend. Short-term workshops and training programs could improve educators' capacity. Some academic EE researches based on programs in botanical gardens could help practitioners to understand the relationship among awareness, attitude, knowledge and behavior, which could instruct educators to design more effective programs. Citizen science, climate change, inquiry-based learning and other popular topics could be addressed by a botanical garden's education programs. XTBG has made some progress on this in recent years.

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Ex situ plant conservation with active participation of the general public

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[PS2e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Ex situ plant conservation is a field of increasing importance. Abilities of established conservation agencies, both governmental and non-governmental, are limited, however, and there is urgent need of additional action. Furthermore, public awareness of the importance of biological diversity and its conservation is growing significantly slower than the need for conservation action does. The new project „Urbanitaet & Vielfalt“ (urbanity & diversity) is addressing both problems. In a three-city model project, ex situ conservation of native plant species is executed in numerous private gardens under professional supervision. Plant material is first propagated by botanic gardens from regional wild origins and then handed to participants. Numerous events demonstrate cultivation and propagation techniques to participants, guide them to maintain threatened natural habitats of target species, and instruct them with many other relevant issues. An urban area called “ark” is serving both as point for regular weekend meetings and habitat to harbor populations of target species to serve as source for further propagation. The project is aimed at the emergence of self-sustainable structures among participants to continue activities after the end of the regular project. Progress in both conservation of threatened plant species and public awareness of biodiversity and conservation issues are evaluated during the whole project.

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Partnerships and collaborations between botanical gardens and cultural institutes, the example of Nancy Botanical garden

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[PS2e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Building partnerships between different institutions allows sharing of financial means. It's also a way to share resources, skills and experiences. In the cultural sector, partnerships give possibilities to increase and diversify audiences. The partnership approach needs a minimum of requirements, a methodology and rules (agreements) to supervise the projects.

Nancy botanical garden collaborates with many partners to foster understanding of science and nature, with different actions in or outside the botanical garden. A few examples are given here.

- Les Conf'curieuses :

This conference cycle is organised by the botanical garden, two museums and the university. It aims to reinvigorate the concept of conferences by an attractive common theme. Speakers are usually chosen in the local university.

- Les Sciences sur la Place :

It's a collaborative stand during the first big book fair in France in September. The project brings together research centers (INRA, CNRS), museums and university. Meetings with the public and animations are also organised. It's a new way to bring science closer to people, in a different context.

- Collaboration with libraries

The botanical garden works with libraries to propose exhibitions and educational activities.

- Collaboration with a Art high school

This partnership consists in the organization of exhibitions in the botanical garden, realized by students in Art school (ENSAD). A reflexion is also developed with the students on news approaches of museology outdoors.

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The conservation works in Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden of Chinese Academy of Sciences

Shi Jipu¹

¹*Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (xtbg) Of The Chinese Academy Of Sciences (cas), , China*

[PS2f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) is located in Menglun Township, Xishuangbanna Prefecture, Yunnan, China. The XTBG covers about 1,125ha, including a primary tropical rainforest zone covering around 250ha. We have collected more than 12,000 species, and developed 38 living collections. In XTBG, more than 52% of species are collected in the wild, and include 127 species listed in the China plant red data book, and 343 belonging to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Although XTBG is surrounding by rubber plantations, the XTBG contains high biodiversity in the garden. 242 birds, 25 frogs, 13 bees, more than 80 dragonflies, 700 spiders, 200 butterflies, 180 figs and 10 snakes have been found and recorded in the garden. This presentation is trying to present what we have done and how we manage the botanical garden.

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The ex situ conservation of succulent plants in botanic gardens

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[PS2f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Succulent plants comprise one of the most striking categories of land plants. The presence of water-storing tissues allows plants to withstand regular and prolonged periods of drought. Examples include the cacti (Cactaceae; 139 genera/ 1,860 species), ice plants (Aizoaceae; 125 genera/ 2,000 species) and euphorbs (Euphorbioideae; 39 genera/ 2,800 species). Typically, succulent taxa are narrowly distributed with high rates of endemism and specialised habitat requirements, making them challenging horticultural subjects. This diversity and rarity lend to the appeal of succulents as collectibles. They are also popular for water-wise gardening and landscaping in arid environments, and have been recognised for their potential as future sources of energy. Conservation assessments (e.g. IUCN) indicate grave threats to much of the global succulent plant diversity, while trade regulation such as CITES highlight the taxonomic complexities of species-level identification in many succulent groups. Curated living collections in botanic gardens are vital for the ex situ conservation of succulent plants and the efficacy of such collections depends upon horticultural excellence. Paradoxically, the demand for wild-collected plants for other horticultural purposes, notably private collections and the ornamental trade, are among the most problematic threats to succulent plants in situ, while the cultivation of succulents has led to serious invasive plant problems. Here, we illustrate the facets of horticulture as a conservation tool in botanic gardens, and as a driver of the unsustainable demand for succulent plants. We examine this tension, and the complex underlying causes, in exemplar succulent plant groups, and suggest ways in which botanic gardens resolve these for conservation and sustainable use in future.

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Challenges in Living Collections: Utilizing Data to Make Decisions on New Species Acquisitions

Mrs Rebecca Sucher¹

¹*Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, United States*

[PS2f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Targeting plants to build species-rich living collections, while reducing the risk of adding species of invasive potential, can be time consuming, inconsistent, and ineffective. All staff involved in the acquisition of new species must be in sync regarding collections goals, sources of information, and thorough in their research in order to be successful. In an effort to optimize incoming species diversity and increase consistency of success among staff, Missouri Botanical Garden has implemented a series of processes that digitally cross reference various species lists available online. GAP analyses are performed by cross referencing MBG's collection with floras for target countries. Endemic species lists and threat data are used to refine priorities for field collections and are cross-referenced with seed offerings and plant inventories from other institutions to ensure species with highest collections value are selected. When staff request new plant acquisitions, species are checked against invasive species lists from national and international sources. These lists have been integrated into MBG's Living Collections Management System (LCMS). The process of cross-referencing these lists has been completely automated, and this pre-acquisition assessment acts as a decision support tool to reduce the arrival and establishment of potentially invasive plants. For botanic gardens that are actively collecting and sourcing new species to add to their collections, these practices can help effectively target new species for acquisition and increase collections value significantly.

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How good is your garden?

Dr Paul Smith¹, Abby Hird Meyer², Murphy Westwood³

¹BGCI, London, United Kingdom, ²BGCI, Huntington Botanical Garden, USA, ³The Morton Arboretum, Chicago, USA

[PS2f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

BGCI can tell you, and how you compare with other gardens globally. We are launching two services in 2017.

First, BGCI is launching a botanic gardens accreditation scheme to complement the ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program adopted by many arboreta. Aimed at botanic gardens wishing to establish their credentials, BGCI has teamed up with ArbNet to design an accreditation system incorporating all of the essential elements of a botanic garden, with special focus on programs, activities, and capacity geared towards plant conservation. Organisations applying for accreditation will be assessed on criteria encompassing collections management, public outreach, conservation actions, sustainability and ethics. This will be a four tiered scheme designed to encourage gardens to advance from tier to tier as they take on more plant conservation-related activities. Benefits of accreditation include preferential access to specific funders.

The BGCI Garden Accreditation Scheme will complement the second initiative we are launching this year – the BGCI Conservation Assessment. This new service will establish plant conservation benchmarks of success across the global botanic garden community. This will allow garden staff, boards and donors to understand how their organizations and living collections fit into broader contexts and allow them to leverage resources more strategically. Completion of this assessment will be a serious undertaking by gardens, and a requirement of the higher tier of accreditation. Participating gardens will receive an individualized report on their conservation program strengths and gaps, identify how they are contributing to the GSPC, and draw comparisons with peer institutions across the community.

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The regional coordination for the protection of endangered flora: an initiative of French-speaking Switzerland

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[PS2g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Regional Coordination for the Protection of Flora started in 2000 and involves the Swiss French-speaking cantons of Fribourg, Geneva, Neuchâtel and Vaud. It collaborates closely with the National Botanical Conservatory of Franche-Comté (France). This structure includes a member of the Nature Conservation Agencies of each canton, a mandated professional expert botanist and a member of each of the corresponding botanical gardens as well as representatives of other institutions involved in nature conservancy. An office centralizes the information.

The aim of the so-called Coordination is to improve the status of threatened plant species by stabilizing, strengthening and increasing their population sizes and numbers. Its goal is also to promote the collaboration between cantons and with neighboring France.

The main output consists in the elaboration of action plans. Each canton selects species for which an action plan is written. It consists generally of a summary of the biology of the species, its status in the canton, a description of threats, and the propositions of measures to undertake. The action plan is then adapted to the reality of each canton where the species is present by its own expert. Its implementation and the monitoring is then the responsibility of each canton.

Presently, action plans encompass more than 50 species for which measures and monitoring have been carried out when necessary. We propose to make an assessment of these 17 years of activity in order to evaluate the effects of the measures where they have been applied. Such feedback will be useful in defining the strategy for the coming years.

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FlorIntegral – an integrated network of in situ and ex situ protection of rare, endangered and priority species of the Polish flora

Prof. Justyna Wiland-Szymańska¹, Dr Paweł Kojs³, Dr Anna Rucińska³, Dr Magdalena Maślak², Dr Grażyna Szymczak⁴, Dr Dorota Mańkowska⁵, Prof. Jerzy Puchalski³

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[PS2g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The aim of the project is the protection of vegetation, in particular of plant communities and species of the Polish flora, through the implementation of a comprehensive plan consisting in integrated active conservation in situ and ex situ of selected plant species and their habitats. The project unites and in a complementary way combines the spectrum of good practices in active nature protection. It is enriched by the knowledge gained through our previous studies on effectively securing the genetic diversity of selected species with high conservation status in Poland. A comprehensive, multifaceted approach to species protection is expressed in the project assumptions:

1. Comprehensive ex situ conservation of selected rare and endangered plant species through effective and long-term protection of seeds in cryogenic conditions (seed bank) and the creation of a DNA bank of 31 selected species.
2. Integrating ex situ and in situ methods to protect the genetic diversity of selected plant species and their habitats, including priority species for the EU's natural resources, through restitution and habitat improvement for the following species: *Adenophora liliifolia*, *Apium repens*, *Veratrum nigrum*, *Stipa joannis*, *Dianthus gratianopolitanus*, *Anemone sylvestris*, *Carex praecox* and *Camplanula sibirica*.

All activities will be coordinated closely with the responsible nature conservation authorities. The other aim of this project is to build capacity for collaboration among the first five, and in the future, among all of the 36 botanical gardens, which are members of the Council of Botanical Gardens in Poland.

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Accredited Collections in North America: Contributions of Public Gardens Conserving Cultivated Plants

Ms Pamela Allenstein¹

¹*American Public Gardens Association, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, United States*

[PS2g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Plant Collections Network, a program of the American Public Gardens Association, promotes excellence in plant collections management and facilitates collaboration among North American gardens in conserving plants. Documented, actively curated plant collections represent a priceless genetic heritage. Collections accredited through this Network connect people to plants and nature, serving as a gateway to engagement in conservation. Some collections represent the life's work of an important plant breeder, and provide building blocks for future breeding. They preserve ornamental characteristics and contain key plant traits that may contribute resistance to diseases or insects, or adaptations suited to a changing climate. Others serve as national repositories of verified cultivars developed in partnership with plant societies. These collections and staff expertise become references for education and research. Gardens involved in plant breeding and introductions can develop collections preserving their own horticultural legacy. Collections can be utilized for research on propagation techniques, hardiness, and potential invasiveness. They also can play an important societal role in studying different cultures and how plants are used over time. Public gardens can assume stewardship of well documented and properly sourced private collections. Horticultural specialty collections can contribute to regional identity, and provide guidance on appropriate plant selections. It is critical to carefully define a realistic scope for each collection and set criteria for what will be included to make the best use of a garden's resources. Defining a conservation target for clonal germplasm will further focus acquisitions and management of the collection.

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Cooperation between Botanical Gardens of Russia and the United States: Field Trips to Diverse Areas of Floristic Significance

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[PS2g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The U.S. - Russia Botanical Exchange Program began with the 1972 bilateral agreement signed by the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. The Botanical part of this agreement was coordinated by the leading botanical gardens of both countries and directed to the conservation of rare and endangered species of plants and comparative studies of the North American and Eurasian flora. Since 1976 botanists of Russian botanical gardens together with botanists from the U.S. have been actively involved in research into rare and endangered species and introduction of plants valuable from the economic and scientific point of view. After the break down of the Soviet Union a new Agreement of cooperation in the fields of nature protection and conservation of natural resources was signed between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on June 23, 1994. The botanical program continued joint expeditions in the richest floristic regions of both countries in order to study the natural location of rare and endangered species and to collect seed and planting material for further introduction.

Through more than 40 years of cooperation, the program has facilitated over 50 exchange trips between the U.S. and Russia. The resulting transfer of publications, information and plant material has aided in the improvement of conservation efforts employed by both countries. The new website dedicated to the botanical exchange program was launched in 2016. It contains aggregated reports from recent field trips and provides the platform for networking between botanists of both countries.

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Advancing the ‘Exceptional Plant Conservation Network’: addressing challenges, making connections and taking action for species that cannot be conserved through conventional seed bank approaches.

Dr. Valerie Pence¹, Dr. Murphy Westwood^{2,3}, Ms. Abby Meyer^{4,5}, Ms. Jean Linsky^{3,6}, Mr. Joachim Gratzfeld³
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[PS2h] - Round Table, Room 5, juin 26, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Securing threatened plants in ex situ collections is a priority for botanic gardens and related institutions, however those documented as ‘exceptional species’ present additional challenges for conservation. Exceptional species are those that cannot be conserved via conventional seed banking methods and, therefore generally require more time- and resource-intensive approaches, such as cryogenic preservation. Previous work by BGCI and BGCI US through assessments, workshops and the symposium meeting of the Exceptional Plant Species Advisory Group (EPSAG), convened at the 5th GBGC in Dunedin in 2013, has identified key issues, priorities, and actions needed to effectively conserve threatened exceptional plant species. Priorities include establishing a clear definition of “exceptional species”, creating a master list of known exceptional species, evaluation and databasing of propagation protocols, and mobilizing knowledge and resources for exceptional species conservation.

This session aims to advance global efforts of botanic gardens for the conservation of threatened, exceptional species. It will take stock of progress made since the last GBGC and will catalyze current EPSAG members and other interested parties to scale up contribution to a global ‘Exceptional Plant Conservation Network’ and identify specific activities and next steps.

The objective of this roundtable session is to engage the wider international botanical community to take stock of progress made for the conservation of exceptional species since the 5th GBGC and consolidate the EPSAG into a global ‘Exceptional Plant Conservation Network’. Key areas of the review include:

- 1) Address information gaps: Which threatened species are exceptional and who is doing work on them?
- 2) Identify research priorities: How can we improve knowledge of exceptional species biology to define and inform ex situ conservation needs and recovery action in the wild?
- 3) Address resource mobilisation, communication and coordination challenges: How can we mobilize funding, improve communications and coordination of networks for conservation of exceptional species?

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Restoring ecosystems and landscapes to improve human health and well-being: Botanic gardens have a big role to play

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[PS3a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

For millennia, humans have all too often used a boom-and-bust mentality regarding resources, which often leads to severe ecosystem degradation. I call for widespread testing and application of a “family of restorative activities” at landscape and regional scales. Typically, such a “family” could include phytoremediation, recuperation of contaminated and depleted lands and bodies of water, and science-based ecological rehabilitation and restoration of degraded ecosystems. The goal is to maintain biodiversity and improve the quality, quantity, and resilience of goods and services flowing from ecosystems, and social-ecological systems. Evidence exists that restoration works, though it is yet far from perfect, and it pays back on investment as well. Effective, holistic rehabilitation and restoration of ecosystems also improve human health and well-being and, more broadly, social, cultural, and natural capital. Botanic gardens and arboreta (BGA) have important roles to play in this process, starting with the vital work of inspiring – in children and adults - curiosity and appreciation for natural history. Value and benefits BGA provide also include expertise and capacity-building in botany, horticulture, arboriculture, and ecology. We will explore some key and emerging concepts, and provide examples from projects where MBG, among other BGA, have on-going restoration work. We promote a new “restoration paradigm” in a rapidly changing biosphere, and an increasingly ‘full’ world. Specifically, we call for establishment of an international network of long-term ecological restoration sites for multiple purposes and with BGA involved in most or all of them.

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Twenty Years of Ecological Restoration of Wetland Habitats by Royal Botanical Gardens (Ontario, Canada)

Mr Tys Theysmeÿer¹, Dr David Galbraith¹

¹*Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington, Canada*

[PS3a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The 980 ha of nature reserves owned and managed by Royal Botanical Gardens (Hamilton and Burlington, Ontario, Canada) are important wetland and terrestrial habitat. Approximately 300 ha of wetlands include two of the three remaining river mouth marshes (Cootes Paradise Marsh and Grindstone Marsh) which drain into the Hamilton Harbour Area of Concern (AOC). These were protected through creation of Royal Botanical Gardens and its network of nature reserves (1920s-1940s). They represent 95% of remaining wetland habitat around this large natural harbour. At remedial action plan to address pollution in the harbour began in 1985; these marshes were almost totally devoid of aquatic plants, with only a remnants found in the outer delta of Grindstone Marsh. The impaired water quality of the AOC allowed invasive Eurasian Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) to dominate the ecosystem, resulting in nearly complete loss of emergent aquatic vegetation. Since 1997 a unique "Fishway" and other measures have been implemented to exclude Common Carp from Cootes Paradise Marsh and the inner delta of Grindstone Marsh. In addition, planting of genetically-appropriate native wetland plants has resulted in substantial recovery in some areas. As of 2016 aquatic vegetation and water quality have been greatly improved in carp exclusion areas. The outer delta of Grindstone Marsh continues to decline and is without aquatic plants. The goals of our wetland habitat efforts include restoring damaged environments that had allowed carp to flourish, addressing eutrophication, urban storm water runoff, and changes to water levels.

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Restoring an Old Growth Urban Forest in the Heart of The New York Botanical Garden.

Ms Jessica Schuler¹, Mr. Brian Boom¹

¹*The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, United States*

[PS3a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Thain Family Forest (Forest) at The New York Botanical Garden is the largest remnant of old growth forest in New York City. Though the Forest has remained intact since the last ice age, it has undergone many disturbances both natural and anthropogenic. This 25 hectare stand is an old growth urban forest. A long-term study using forest inventories have observed the dynamics of forest composition change over time and inform current forest management including ecological restoration. Increases in invasive plant species, particularly, Amur corktree (*Phellodendron amurense*), Japanese angelica tree (*Aralia elata*), and Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) initiated a forest restoration program to actively managing invasive plant species and restore native plant communities. Recently, Hurricane Sandy was a major disturbance event and the invasive viburnum leaf beetle (*Pyrrhalta viburni*) has taken a hold. The latest forest inventory, completed in 2016, will have much to show in terms of forest change. The trends in these data sets reveal a shift in the trajectory of invasive plant species dominating forest composition to the recovery of native species. The use of data driven management has been successful in meeting the goal of managing for a dominantly native Forest for future generations.

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Lessons learned from more than 15 years of ecological forest restoration in Hong Kong

Dr Gunter Fischer¹

¹*Kadoorie Farm And Botanic Garden, Hong Kong, Hong Kong*

[PS3a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Hong Kong is situated on the south coast of China and is characterized by a marginally tropical climate with an average temperature of 23.8°C and mean annual rainfall of about 2300 millimetres. This climate suggests a diverse tropical–subtropical vegetation. When the British government took over in 1841, Hong Kong was, however, completely deforested and was described as a “barren rock”. Early attempts to restore forest to avoid soil erosion and to improve water quality mainly focused on exotic species but the use of native species is, even up to now, still underexplored. As a result the current vegetation of Hong Kong is a mixture of exotic plantations, recently recovered secondary forests and large areas of grassland characterized by a depauperate flora and fauna.

This presentation will give an overview of the forest restoration work of Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden over the last 15 years. We developed germination and propagation protocols for more than 400 native tree species and conducted ecological restoration and forest enrichment programs in different habitats. Recently a large-scale experimental ecological restoration project was launched to recreate the original montane forest of Hong Kong in a 20 ha experimental area. Different forestry treatments such as the use of tree guards, weeding mats, soil improvements with biochar, compost and mulch as well as organic/inorganic fertilizer applications were tested to see, whether the survival and growth rates of native trees can be improved or even accelerated

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Yams of Madagascar: conserving wild endemic provisioning species via multiple strategies to promote improved livelihoods

Dr Paul Wilkin¹, Dr Mamy Tiana Rajaonah², Mr Geodain Meva Huckèl³, Mr Feno Rakotoarison³, Ms Tianjanahary Randriamboavonjy², Mr Stuart Cable¹

¹Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, United Kingdom, ²Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre (KMCC), Antananarivo, Madagascar, ³Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre (KMCC), Ambanja, Madagascar

[PS3b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Madagascar has over 40 species of wild yam (*Dioscorea*), most belonging to an endemic radiation. Further species are still being discovered and described. Almost all native Malagasy species possess edible tubers. Their level of use ranges from famine or occasional foods to seasonal staples that are particularly important during the annual hungry gap. They may also be sold on regional or urban markets, where their price can exceed that of rice. At least 12 species are threatened by extinction, principally by overutilization and habitat loss. The presentation will cover how with Darwin Initiative funding we are working with 3000 households across northern and South-central Madagascar to conserve the wild species of those regions via bringing them into cultivation by communities alongside community provision of seed tubers of the cultivated, non-native winged yam (*Dioscorea alata*). All Malagasy yam species are being brought into cultivation in germplasm collections in Antananarivo, Ambanja and Antsiranana, and their seeds banked in country and in the UK. The impact of introducing wild yam cultivation and increasing that of winged yam cultivation on nutrition and income in the 3000 households is being monitored via socioeconomic surveying. We intend to expand the geographical scope of the project via additional fundraising. The presentation will conclude with a snapshot of success in this area and progress towards a National Strategy for wild yams in Madagascar in partnership with government and other bodies.

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Promoting the use of plant resources in research and development

Ms Suzanne Sharrock¹

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*

[PS3b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

At a time of global environmental change, population growth and economic development there is an increasing demand for plant genetic resources, both for local exploitation and for research and development. The utilisation of plant genetic material is governed by two international treaties: the Nagoya Protocol (NP), which operates on a bilateral basis through individually negotiated contracts, and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources of Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), which takes a multilateral approach using a standard contract. While the aim of these two agreements is to promote the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources and equitable sharing of benefits derived through their utilisation, many countries have yet to put in place functional mechanisms to effectively operationalise these agreements. Ethiopia has a framework in place but has identified as a priority the need to further promote and increase the amount of genetic material available for research, development and subsequent commercialisation. This project is investigating the level of awareness amongst collection holders and researchers in Ethiopia, as well as their overseas partners, of both the NP and the ITPGRFA. The project will aim to build the capacity of plant collection holders to act as trusted intermediaries between the providers and users of plant resources and develop widely applicable recommendations for simplified measures to facilitate research on plant resources.

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Impacts of Climate Change on Indigenous Communities: The Role of Botanic Gardens in Biocultural Conservation

Dr. Christopher Dunn¹

¹*Cornell Botanic Gardens, Ithaca, United States*

[PS3c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Global climate change is having a significant, and negative, impact on the biological diversity and, thus, on the integrity of natural systems. What is less well understood, yet just as critical, are the impacts of climate change and of changes in natural systems on indigenous peoples. In other words, as biological diversity is eroding, so too is the cultural and linguistic diversity of the world. In fact, of the approximately 7000 extant languages still spoken, fully 50% are at risk of extinction, with the vast majority in the tropics and subtropics. This rate of extinction of languages (and thereby of human cultural diversity) is considerably higher than most estimates of extinction risks to plants and animals. In addition, traditional ecological knowledge and livelihoods are being lost. Climate change, and consequent impacts on natural systems and resources, is completely disrupting wellbeing of local communities globally. Thus, it is not enough to consider just the effects of environmental change on plant life within the current context of the global conservation initiatives, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (e.g., Article 8j), the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (Target 13), and the Aichi Targets (Target 18). Botanic gardens are uniquely positioned to engage in understanding the broader impacts of environmental change to biocultural diversity to achieve biological, cultural, and economic resilience. Examples of how botanic gardens in several parts of the world are defining key ways to better understand tropical and cultural conservation will be presented.

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Ethnobotany and botanic gardens in migration settings

Ms. Marie Fundiko¹

¹*Rotterdam Zoo And Botanical Garden, Rotterdam, Netherlands*

[PS3c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), internal displaced women still play an important role in food security and livelihoods in rural post conflict zones. Yet, very little ethnobotanical studies are available on their traditional botanical knowledge of food plants. In particular, the role of botanic gardens for these women and the gender sensitive sociocultural relevance of local food plants species, are not yet documented. In the South-Kivu, internal displacement in the villages close to the National Park Kahuzi Biega (PNKB) has indisputably impacted on people and local biodiversity conservation. The overexploitation of food plants in this natural reserve recently led to limited access. Displaced women therefore massively rely on exotic plants, often imported Genetically Modified Organisms sold on the local market. These last often constitute another threat to native, neglected, wild or domesticated cultural stone (food) plant species, as well the related traditional knowledge. The big challenge for emerging universities and research Centres in rural areas in the South-Kivu, is to promote, to manage botanic garden spaces that should first benefit to local IDPs women. The present project is a contribution to research on participative community based sustainable conservation and management strategies of local biocultural diversity, and food security, including women's traditional knowledge in South-kivu. Through the restoration of a transition zone between the PNKB and surrounding villages in Kabare, the Université du Cinquanteaire of Lwiro together with the Rotterdam Zoo/Botanic Garden, likes to contribute to the dissemination and exploitation strategies of native, endemic plantes outside the PNKB, for ecotourism and food security. The project also aims to highlight the role of a Botanic Garden in the conservation of cultural stone species in migration settings, and the valorization of women botanical traditional knowledge in post conflict zones.

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The current and potential roles of botanic gardens in the conservation of useful plants and associated knowledge in Ethiopia

Mr. Tesfaye Awas¹

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[PS3c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Ethiopia is striving to establish botanical Gardens in the last decade. So far 3 Botanical gardens Namely Gulele Botanical Garden, Jima Botanical Garden, and Shashemene Botanical Gardens were established and become operational. There is a plan to increase the number of Botanical Gardens in Ethiopia to 10 by 2020. The existing botanical gardens executed a serious of plants and associated indigenous knowledge. They are engaged in ecological restoration activities in collaboration of local communities. These have helped to keep plants and associated indigenous knowledge in the hands of local communities.

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Building an appreciation of native plants through botanic gardens by means of ethnobotany and traditional knowledge.

Dr Peter Wyse Jackson¹

¹*Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis, Mo 63166-0299, United States*

[PS3c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The direct socio-economic use of most wild plants has largely disappeared in many developed and industrialized societies. At the same time, much valuable traditional knowledge on how plants were used and for what purposes has also been lost. Nevertheless, recorded information on past and present use of wild plants can be a valuable educational tool for botanic gardens, helping to raise greater understanding of the importance of plants as natural resources and their use for many cultural purposes.

This presentation will describe examples of how native plants and their importance have been highlighted through ethnobotany, both at the Missouri Botanical Garden and with a decade-long project undertaken in Ireland to document all known uses of Ireland's wild plants, past and present, for food, medicine, timber, fibres, children's play, fuel and a multitude of others purposes.

Such work supports growing environmental and conservation awareness and a public thirst for the rediscovery of lost stores of knowledge on heritage and folklore. It also provides also a valuable source of information to inform botanic garden education program and can be a useful way of engaging visitors to a botanic garden with native plant diversity. The presentation suggests that these examples can contribute to the achievement of targets 13 and 14 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation at a national level, providing a means and method for safeguarding and recording traditional knowledge about plants.

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Conservation of Useful Plants and Traditional Knowledge: the diversity of botanic garden actions and future roles.

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[PS3c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The loss of traditional knowledge about plants, especially those used by humanity, is a global crisis that has so far been little appreciated, understood or addressed. There is significant recognition of the importance of plants as the basis of all life on the planet, and the loss of tens of thousands of plant species is recognised by the international community through the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. However, it should not be forgotten that these threatened plants include thousands of species vital to the lives of people throughout the world, including plants used for food and nutrition, medicine, cultural and spiritual purposes, and the maintenance of livelihoods; they are needed to redress poverty, provide food security, and ensure sustainable development in many nations. Plants and their associated biocultural knowledge play an essential role in the ecosystem services that support all life on Earth. Such knowledge is often closely associated with local languages, themselves disappearing at an alarming rate throughout the world. There is therefore a great urgency to address the vital importance of traditional knowledge about plants, their utility, management, and conservation.

As a consequence, it is important that botanic gardens should build on their current roles to help develop a concerted effort worldwide to address the loss of essential knowledge about plants and their uses, especially at the level of local communities. Knowledge on useful and culturally significant plants is a unique resource for the planet, often ancient, and detailed knowledge is typically held and maintained by local and indigenous communities.

-Objective of the symposium-

The objectives of the symposium are to:

- Explore the ways botanic gardens can urge and support the international community and governments to recognize the importance of knowledge associated with wild and cultivated plant diversity, as an important present-day and future resource.
- Highlight the need for a concerted international effort by botanic gardens to compile widely accessible global information sources of useful plants of importance for humankind, while respecting intellectual property rights, local ownership of knowledge and appropriate benefit sharing.
 - Encourage botanic gardens to develop programs, initiatives and partnerships that assist local peoples in the preservation of their traditional knowledge in a culturally appropriate manner.
 - Consider the future research agendas for botanic gardens to address gaps in scientific knowledge of useful plants.
 - Showcase some models, case studies, facilities, methodologies, techniques and good practices that support culturally sensitive curation of biocultural collections (artifacts, herbarium vouchers, produces, living collections, etc.) and the associated traditional knowledge held by botanic gardens.

- Review what educational materials and resources are available through botanic gardens to support and promote the study and use of traditional knowledge, including for capacity-building purposes.
- Stress how the framework provided by the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity and FAO's International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture provide valuable tools to support the development of botanic garden policies and practices in this area and to help them achieve exemplary ethical standards for access, fair and equitable benefit sharing, traditional resource and farmers' rights, and the protection of intellectual property.

The symposium may wish to propose a recommendation based on the results of the symposium for consideration by the Congress.

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Ex-situ botanical conservation in fragile states: the importance of place, awareness raising and international support for the future role of Botanic Gardens in Afghanistan

Mr Andrew Scanlon¹

¹*UN Environment Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan*

[PS3d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Setting up ex-situ nature conservation projects in Afghanistan faces numerous challenges, from the security context in the country, lack of in-country capacity to design, operate and maintain the facilities, and lack of scientific and education expertise to ensure projects and programmes can continue. In Afghanistan, holistic approaches currently being developed with government, academia and international partners appear to be sustainable. The approach involves a simple, ecological and technically feasible design, strong focus on the educational role of the gardens themselves, and locations within safe compounds, such as university, college and government campuses. International partnerships with a few key, invested international organisations and universities or sister gardens provides sufficient know-how, and intellectual capacity to get the design and operations right. Garden and Facility Design needs to be set up with least possible moving parts, and to be open and accessible for group size visits, as well as with secure areas for preparation, storage and security. Linking the botanical education spaces to projects on nutrition, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, climate change adaption and disaster resilience knowledge management is key to long-term sustainable finance. Ensuring political buy-in from government and society ultimately ensures the continuity of the facilities long after the set-up projects have ended.

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Meeting the challenge at Nezahat Gokyigit Botanic Garden of producing floristic information in Turkish and its dissemination to society

Prof. Adil Güner¹

¹*Nezahat Gökyigit Botanic Garden, Istanbul, Turkey*

[PS3d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Until now, the Turkish flora has only been available in either Latin, *Flora Orientalis*, or in English, *The Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands*. Although contributing towards core information about the Turkish Flora, data in Turkish was sparse.

To have a Flora in Turkish was a distant dream when the Nezahat Gökyigit Botanic Garden (NGBB) was started in 2001 but throughout the Garden's initial establishment, botanical illustration courses were organized to train artists to illustrate a new Turkish Flora. A Checklist of the Flora of Turkey was published in 2012, importantly suggesting a unique Turkish name for each of the 10,000 vascular plants.

The challenge, now, is to produce core floristic information in Turkish making it available and appealing for Turkish people. An ambitious 28 volume illustrated Flora in Turkish is planned with the first volume published in 2014. Key to accessing data, a Turkish Scientific Plant Names System has been developed also used for the publications of Checklists of Bryophytes and Lichens (in press). The Garden has initiated a Turkish electronic scientific botanical periodical along with information disseminated via three websites with NGBB the central hub for all contributors.

The hope is now that the botanical knowledge contribution made by the Nezahat Gökyigit Botanic Garden to the Turkish people will encourage and inspire them to use their rich floristic heritage wisely.

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Ancillary botanic gardens - Local botanic gardens for education and outreach

Mrs. Salma Talhouk¹, Mr. Yaser Abunnasr¹, Mr. Alan Forrest², Mr. Tony Miller², Mrs. Monika Fabian¹
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[PS3d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Arab League countries have the lowest number of botanic gardens, the lowest number of gardens per total area and the lowest number of gardens per capita. In our response to these findings we have investigated ways to broaden society participation in the establishment of botanic gardens as venues for conservation, education, and outreach. Using Lebanon as a case study, we proposed the recognition of a new category of botanic gardens that are better aligned with local expectations, cultural perceptions, and real estate realities. We call these 'ancillary botanic gardens' (ABG). Ancillary botanic gardens are secondary on a spatial level in that they are established on peripheral areas of sites already assigned a primary purpose such as archaeological sites, educational facilities, religious land holdings, private institutions, and touristic sites; all characterized by having unbuilt land or green spaces that support the primary site function. At the social level, ABG are grounded in grassroots knowledge and rely on local nomenclature for effective local communication and engagement, both of which are fundamental in developing the necessary enthusiasm for plant conservation and for facilitating the link between plants and people. They are planned and managed by local citizens, their establishment is negotiated and regulated between local groups and primary site function owners, and their mandates, defined by immediate stakeholders, are flexible rather than prescriptive. In this presentation we share lessons learned from ongoing efforts to establish ABG in three typologies: a university, an archeological site, and a private estate.

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Mosses to the world! How much do you know about mosses?

Dr Ulyana Spirina¹

¹*Botanical Garden Of Tver State University, Tver, Russian Federation*

[PS3e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

People are not familiar with mosses, because they are small and have no bright eye-catching flowers or fruit. Nevertheless, bryophytes are the second most numerous group of land plants. Since 2000, the Botanical Garden of Tver State University has a special open air display "Secret Garden" dedicated to bryophytes, ferns, horsetails and club-mosses to introduce spore plants to the people. The aim of the display is to give people an opportunity to penetrate to the mystery of existence of spore plants. This display is the only one in Russia and the first among a few in non-tropical areas.

Special bryological classes and excursions in our garden allow children and adults to learn a lot of new and interesting things about the morphology, life cycle, ecology, systematics and evolution of mosses. We help people to understand the importance of bryophytes as components of biodiversity. Also we provide special courses for landscape designers and gardeners dedicated to bryophytes to encourage them to grow mosses in their gardens.

Spore plants have considerable aesthetic potential which are noticeably different from the beauty of flowering plants. It is harder to understand the splendor of monochrome mosses than the splendor of colorful flower beds, but development of aesthetic taste is one of the aims of the botanical gardens. Modern human beings from one hand lost integrity of perception of nature and from the other - they do not pay attention to the details. Our "Secret Garden" can return it to people. Do you have mosses in your garden?

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Gardens for the Soul

Dr. Yuri Naumtcev¹, Prof. Peter Olin², Garden Director Peter Moe²

¹*Botanical Garden Of Tver State University, Tver, Russian Federation,* ²*University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, USA*

[PS3e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

“Not only are people growing plants – plants are growing people” Dr. Peter Raven

The natural plant world is changing and people are changing with it. But people are changing the plant world faster than nature. Who are the people making these changes? Some are botanists but most are ordinary people, people of all ages, professions, education and status. Botanical gardens must reach everyday people with scientific knowledge, values and the importance of plants in order for plant conservation to be effective. In nature plants educate people by how they make us feel and affect our lives. Botanists rarely reach people through scientific papers but we can reach them through their emotions and feelings. Through feelings we can attract people to the garden and then to an understanding of plant conservation. For over 15 years the Botanical Garden of Tver State University and the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum have cooperated on developing, sharing and implementing new methods and tools for public outreach and education to reach the emotions and senses of the visitor. These developments include a range of the work that gardens accomplish but they reach human emotions. We create a special atmosphere in the garden. We try to create a world where people feel at home, protected and loved. The constant exchange of knowledge and trials between our gardens and the opportunity to test, adapt and improve our methods is crucial. We try to make our gardens reach the hearts of all who enter them. Let us all make our gardens, Gardens for the Soul.

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The Hortus botanicus Leiden and its role in South East Asian Botany

Dr Paul J.A. Keßler¹

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[PS3e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

For the past 426 years, the Hortus botanicus Leiden, as part of the Universiteit Leiden, has been active in research and (higher) education for and in South East Asia. It started with the first Prefect (Director) Carolus Clusius and has continued through the centuries. In the early times, the Dutch East India Company (VOC) was requested to collect branches with leaves, flowers and fruits of nutmeg, cinnamon, black pepper and other strange plants. Later glasshouses were built and tropical plants could be cultivated in Leiden. With the appointment of Reinwardt (1823) as Prefect the collections of tropical plants increased in Leiden substantially as he had made collection trips earlier in Indonesia. Before his appointment as professor in Leiden he had been the founder of 's Lands Plantentuin in Buitenzorg' now Kebun Raya Bogor, Indonesia. Since that period Leiden university, the herbarium and the Hortus developed very strong links with Indonesia, especially with the Kebun Raya and Herbarium Bogoriense which has resulted in many scientific projects. This year we are able to celebrate the bicentenary of the Kebun Raya Bogor resulting in common exhibitions, symposia and research activities based on (threatened) Indonesian plant taxa. A few examples of recent scientific activities will be elaborated including the linked outreach actions.

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Education and outreach: How the future planning of gardens and intelligent architecture can unlock a secret world of scientific study.

Mr. Carol Costello RIBA¹

¹CULLINAN STUDIO, London, United Kingdom, ²Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, LONDON, United Kingdom, ³Royal Botanic Gardens at Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, ⁴Royal Horticultural Society, Hyde Hall, Essex, United Kingdom

[PS3e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The popularity of botanic gardens attests to a universal desire for people to connect with plant life. However, the complexity of the scientific study of plants can appear to be a secret world to the general public; difficult to convey in a conventional stroll through the gardens. Cullinan Studio architects have worked with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and Edinburgh to design buildings for both for science and visitors. A key part of our work, is to understand the work of the experts in their field of study so our designs can respond to their specific needs. However, another essential part of our work was to introduce challenging concepts about the future of their work and the cultural importance of telling the story of the garden and the people who work with plants; communicating to the wider public. Developing a strong narrative to tell the story of scientific study should permeate decision making for all forms of infrastructure, landscape and building design. This narrative can only be developed effectively through consultation with everyone who uses the gardens. My presentation reviews our approach to design at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Edinburgh, for Royal Horticultural Society Hyde Hall, and how architecture has unlocked the secret world of plants to the wider public.

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The DNA and Tissue Collection at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and recent developments at The Global Genome Biodiversity Network (GGBN)

Mr. Tim Fulcher¹, Mr. Sietse Van der Linde¹, Mrs. Gabriele Dröge²

¹Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, United Kingdom, ²Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Berlin, Germany

[PS3f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The DNA and Tissue Collection at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Kew) contains approximately 55,000 samples of plant genomic DNA, representing about 14% of the total genera of Angiosperms and nearly all families (March 2017). The collection contributes towards the science strategic outputs of Kew such as Plant and Fungal Trees of Life (<http://science.kew.org/strategic-output/plant-and-fungal-trees-life>, PAFTOL).

Kew is a core member of GGBN, which currently comprises 58 members (17 core members, March 2017) and over 550,000 geo-referenced specimens. Data from the genomic collections of the member institutions are shared encouraging access to this huge resource (requests to Kew in 2016: ~1,400).

Recent developments within GGBN aim to include metadata from high throughput sequencing (HTS) within the GGBN Data Standards (https://terms.tdwg.org/wiki/GGBN_Data_Standard). Currently, HTS metadata is rarely stored or shared, hampering reproducibility and possible future collaboration.

Kew supports the targets of the Global Genome Initiative (GGI) through PAFTOL and GGBN.

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Towards a new living collections policy in the botanical garden of Geneva

Mr Nicolas Freyre¹

¹*Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de la Ville de Genève, Chambésy, Switzerland*

[PS3f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The living collections of a botanical garden are the result of many years of work and experience; the ex-situ collections are also a key priority, according to the objectives of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. A clearly defined living collection policy is necessary to manage this heritage. Which are the families, genera or thematic collections that are of the most importance in our garden? Where are our strengths and our weaknesses? Which collection or collections should be emphasized? After a 2-year analysis process, the Botanical Garden of Geneva is proud to present its new living collection policy. We first did an inventory of the living plants from which we identified 40 main collections that are taxonomic, geographic, ecologic or thematic. All these collections are now documented in our database. To evaluate this work, we used four main criteria that are directly linked to our missions as a botanical garden: patrimonial value, biodiversity conservation, education and scientific importance. The working time needed to maintain a living collection was also taken into account in the evaluation process. Each collection has been discussed, using the criteria, by the gardener in charge of it, a scientific advisor and the Head Gardener. The results were then compiled and compared, resulting in a global living collections policy for our botanical garden. It is now clear that we have, for example, a key role to play in conserving the alpine flora and in developing our collections of palms (Arecaceae).

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SeedSearch – Seed exchange for the 21st century

Mr Reinout Havinga¹, Dr. Anneleen Kool², Prof. Dr. Michael Kiehn^{3,4}, Dr. Paul Smith⁵

¹*Hortus Botanicus Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*, ²*Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway*,

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[PS3f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Botanical gardens have been exchanging seeds through seed catalogues for centuries. In many gardens, these catalogues remain an important source of plant material. The current project proposes to modernise seed exchange and create a new standard in close collaboration with the international BG-community, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, and the International Plant Exchange Network.

A digital, centralised online platform for seed exchange would make it possible to significantly improve the quality and legal status of the exchanged material through:

- Tracking and advice on ABS compliance with the Nagoya Protocol
- Flagging potentially invasive species (using the CABI data and the European Consortium watch list)
- Flagging species that have a high risk of seed borne insect pests (using Millenium Seed Bank data)
- Flagging wild collected species for conservation purposes (using ThreatSearch)

We will present the concept of an online platform for seed exchange and discuss the functional requirements that the BG community would need for such a platform. In addition, we will discuss potential funding strategies.

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Otobur ©: an entirely new botanic garden database management system

Mr. Rasim Murat Aydınkal¹, Mr. Salih Sercan Kanođlu¹

¹*Nezahat Gokyigit Botanic Garden, Istanbul, Turkey*

[PS3f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The main roles of botanic gardens are to undertake research, share information, and conserve plant biodiversity. Conservation can not only be thought of in terms of genetic resources, but also scientific knowledge and information about the plants. There are different methods of recording data about living material in botanic gardens such as recording information in a book, or utilising various computer software programmes. Retrieving the information to review various entries from the recorded knowledge however is complex involving building query sentences, but the majority of botanic garden staff are not computer programmers, nor do they usually have any expertise of computer systems. Although there are a few computer programs used to store information about plants in botanic gardens, Otobur, (a copyright protected new product supported by the Ali Nihat Gökyiđit Foundation), is straight forward and easy to use with innovative features. Developed by us at the Nezahat Gökyiđit Botanic Garden, it runs on a platform-independent online system and has an improved dashboard for real-time statistics as well as multi-language support. Its 'just click' query builder can readily create a detailed report and it can also send information emails to users. It can provide estimated flowering season calendars. Otobur © is an easy to use, open-source web application based on a php and MySQL database offering opportunities for adding other optional features.

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Natural habitats mapping in Geneva, an added value for conservation and land planning.

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¹CJB, Geneva, Switzerland, ²CBNA, Annecy, France

[PS3g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Conservatory and Botanical garden of Geneva, in partnership with the Geneva state Office for Nature and Agriculture and the Geneva University, have produced an accurate cartography (1/5'000) of Geneva state natural habitats. An innovative method of cartography has been developed by combining a remote sensing approach (based on aerial photography and Lidar data) and an expert system (modelling implementation and object oriented analysis). The produced map has more than 80 categories of habitats and required much less field work than a classical cartography process. The GIS map is continually updated by field work and by annual overlaying of official data (roads, buildings, hard surfaces...). Some other data are integrated on an ad hoc basis like: macrophyte vegetation of the lake, farmlands surfaces for biodiversity, urban parks inventory...

In recent years we started using this map to develop tools for biodiversity conservation and land planning. For example we used it to calculate some ecosystems services value (bee pollination efficiency, annual carbon storage) in partnership with Geneva University. The map is also used to update Red List status for plants species, to calculate connectivity and fragmentation index or to design wildlife corridors... In our presentation we will give a special focus on Urban Ecopotentiality Index which produces accurate indicators for assessing rapidly biodiversity potentiality in urban spaces.

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Aquatic Plant Collection and Conservation in Wuhan Botanical Garden

Mrs Yanling Liu¹

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[PS3g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Based on the estimated proportion of 1-2%, about 400-500 vascular species in 65 families and 170 genera in China belong to the aquatic plants. These have high diversity and regional distribution, such as Heilongjiang, Songhua River and Wusuli River area in Northeast, Yangtze River region in central China, and special aquatic plant resources in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau. According to the results obtained from field studies for aquatic plant diversity and distribution in China for many years, we collected all kinds of aquatic macrophytes, including submerged below, floating on, or growing up through the water surface. In order to improve the survival rate, an integrated ex-situ conservation site in Wuhan Botanical Garden (WBG) and 4-5 other sympatric species conservation sites were constructed. Now, nearly 400 aquatic species were collected in WBG, and the majority of them grow well and shape water plant communities in different nursery habitats constructed in WBG. For example simulative wetland, lake, river and pond. Meanwhile the greenhouse, concrete tank, culture containers and large aquarium are used for the aquatic plant conservation and exhibition. Based on the collection and conservation, screening and evaluating the aquatic plant germplasm resources and lotus breeding have been ongoing. Therefore, lots of aquatic macrophytes as ornamental, economical and ecological plants and many new lotus varieties were selected and introduced into the Wetland Park, water landscape, resuming the function of waterbody and rebuilding of the low-lying lands. WBG plays an important role in the conservation, popularization and application of aquatic plant resources.

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Conservation assessment and progress of native plants in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region

Mr. Lin Qinwen¹

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[PS3g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Native plant conservation is one of the priorities of a botanical garden's work. But which species should be conserved and how to do so is worth exploring. By collecting local floras and related literature, consulting taxonomists and field surveys, we made a complete list of 2,284 native plants in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region with detailed information of their taxonomic ranks, names, ranks of threatened status, and distributions. The list shows that there are 14 EX (extinct) or EW (Extinct in the Wild), 9 CR (Critically Endangered), 21 EN (Endangered), and 157 VU (Vulnerable) species in this region. In addition, there are still 200 DD (Data Deficient) species needing further studies. We also show that there are 850 native species conserved ex situ in 5 main botanical gardens and 1,812 native species conserved in situ in 20 main nature reserves, but there are still 413 species neither in botanical gardens nor in nature reserves. These results provide important guidance for determining the conservation priorities of target species. Meanwhile, we are also carrying out some practical conservation tests of some selected endangered species, such as *Lonicera oblata* (rated as CR species), *Cynanchum purpureum* (rated as EN species), *Sauromatum giganteum* (rated as VU species), etc. We are also trying to collect specimens, seeds and DNA materials for other native plants. Ultimately, we hope that all native species will be effectively conserved.

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Fungal Conservation and Botanic Gardens

Dr Gregory Mueller¹

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[PS3g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 26, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Species of fungi are not immune to the threats that put animal and plant species at risk, i.e., habitat loss, loss of symbiotic hosts, pollution, over exploitation, and climate change. Yet, fungal conservation is only now receiving significant attention. So it is not surprising that fungi have rarely been included in broader conservation discussions, policy decisions, or land management plans. But this is changing, and botanic gardens and garden scientists are playing key roles in these advances. Fieldwork over the past 50 years, including recent DNA based environmental sampling, together with major advances in our understanding of fungal biology is providing the information needed for evaluating the extinction threat of fungal species. The mycological and conservation community is increasingly focusing on fungal conservation issues. New computer based tools and initiatives are making data available, generating new information, and engaging more people in the effort. Symposia on fungal conservation are becoming regular events at national and regional mycological conferences and have also been held at broader conservation events. Protocols and assumptions for red listing various groups of fungi at national, regional, and global scales have been developed, and there has been a series of red list workshops where the conservation status of fungi were assessed and proposed for inclusion on the IUCN Global Red. Botanic garden scientists have been engaged in all of this, and several initiatives spearheaded by botanic gardens have been instrumental to this progress.

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Assessing the gaps in tree conservation worldwide

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[PS4a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Global Trees Campaign (GTC) produces a variety of resources and tools to enhance tree species conservation worldwide. GlobalTreeSearch, published in 2017 by BGCI, is a comprehensive list of the world's tree species and their country level distributions. With 60,000 tree species, GlobalTreeSearch is useful to a wide range of stakeholders in forestry, restoration ecology and land management. It is also a key resource for conservation action to protect tree species from extinction. Early in 2017, another key database was also published by BGCI – ThreatSearch. ThreatSearch is a one-stop shop for plant conservation assessments. It currently holds nearly a quarter of a million assessments, including national, regional and global assessments, covering over 150,000 taxa. The other two global databases at BGCI include PlantSearch (database of plants in ex situ collections) and GardenSearch (a directory of botanic gardens). In order to identify tree species most in need of conservation action and the botanic gardens that can be mobilised to protect them, a gap analysis comparing data held in the four databases has been undertaken. These results show which countries and which taxonomic groups are underrepresented in collections or lacking in conservation assessments. The GlobalTreeSearch resource will also underpin the Global Tree Assessment, which is an initiative to provide conservation assessments of all tree species by the year 2020. In addition, the GTC is creating a species prioritization tool to be piloted in the US and Mexico focussed on threatened oak species and threatened trees in China and Madagascar. It is intended to highlight gaps in existing conservation efforts, both in situ and ex situ, and help conservation stakeholders focus their work where it would be most needed, according to their organization's strengths and goals.

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The Global Ebony Assessment

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[PS4a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Global Ebony Assessment is a vertically integrated project whose goal is to inform the conservation of ebony species by generating data and targeting action at multiple scales. A checklist of accepted species and their synonyms forms the baseline for the World Flora Online and an analysis of widespread versus restricted range species, which in turn informs global IUCN Red List assessments. Taxonomic work focuses on ebony hotspots, particularly Madagascar, the center of ebony diversity with well over 200 species, more than half of which are undescribed. An ex situ survey of ebonies currently in cultivation in botanical gardens was carried out in collaboration with BGCI. At a regional scale, the population genetics of the Mascarene ebonies is informing strategies for both conservation and restoration. Finally, ebony field gene banks are being established locally in Madagascar at six of Missouri Botanical Garden's conservation sites.

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Taking action for the world's threatened trees

Kirsty Shaw¹, Joachim Gratzfeld¹, Paul Smith¹, Xiangying Wen¹, Georgina Magin², David Gill², Murphy Westwood³

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[PS4a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

BGCI, in collaboration with Fauna & Flora International, runs the Global Trees Campaign (GTC, www.globaltrees.org). Through the GTC, we prioritise and protect the trees of greatest conservation concern, and improve and promote tree conservation action globally. Our prioritisation work stems from development of a world list of tree species, published by BGCI for the first time in 2017. We carry out red list assessments for trees, to identify which species are at most risk of extinction – the Global Tree Assessment.

In addition to guiding conservation efforts, GTC works with partners on the ground to protect tree species in situ, carrying out reintroduction, restoration and sustainable use projects that trial new techniques and provide models of best practice. Additionally, GTC works to improve tree conservation practice by producing resources and delivering training. We draw upon the specialist skills of our network, and focus our efforts in areas where capacity is particularly limited.

By identifying which species are of greatest conservation concern, establishing replicable tree conservation projects and providing technical and practical guidance, GTC guides, encourages and enables action to be undertaken for a wider number of threatened trees than can be covered through GTC's direct actions. BGCI's network of botanic gardens, with sites for ex situ conservation, as well as research and horticultural expertise, provides a particularly valuable resource for tree conservation, as well as a platform for scaling up action.

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Global Trees Campaign partnerships and networks advancing tree conservation

Dr. Murphy Westwood^{1,2}, Ms. Kirsty Shaw², Mr. David Gill³, Dr. Nicole Cavender¹, Ms. Georgina Magin³

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³*Fauna & Flora International, Cambridge, United Kingdom*

[PS4a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Global Trees Campaign (GTC) expands its reach and impact through strategic partnerships and networks that coordinate the tree conservation efforts of a range of sectors. These partnerships help raise awareness and promote participation in the GTC, and greatly increases the number of stakeholders deploying GTC methodologies, resources, and tools for tree conservation. The GTC engages arboreta and tree-focused gardens through a partnership with ArbNet, the global interactive community of arboreta. A cornerstone of ArbNet is the Arboretum Accreditation Program, which offers four levels of accreditation and is the only international accreditation program specific to arboreta. At the highest level of accreditation, arboreta meet specific standards relating to scientific research, conservation, and collaboration, and undertake conservation activities that directly support the mission of the GTC. Another GTC-supported network is the Oaks of the Americas Conservation Network, which was founded to foster international collaborations and support conservation of threatened oaks in the Americas. The network consists of over 50 experts from ten countries and has several oak research and conservation projects underway in the US, Mexico, and Central America. The GTC also supports the establishment of national conservation networks to support in situ conservation of priority threatened tree species. This includes a network established in Southern China, designed to share information, tools and expertise between more than 30 protected area managers. Another example is the Indonesia Forum for Threatened Trees – a group of botanists and tree conservationists working with government to designate high priority trees as nationally protected species.

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Tools to support tree conservation: Prioritising and protecting the world's threatened trees

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[PS4a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

We are better placed than ever before to protect the world's threatened tree species from extinction. New tools developed by BGCI, the Global Trees Campaign (GTC) and our network of partners, are available to guide tree conservation at international to local levels.

BGCI's new GlobalTreeSearch database is the first comprehensive list of the world's tree species. This database of 60,000 tree species and their country-level distributions, is a useful resource for foresters, restoration ecologists and policy makers, and an important tool for guiding conservation action. An analysis comparing GlobalTreeSearch with BGCI's other databases: PlantSearch, GardenSearch and ThreatSearch, has identified hotspots for threatened tree species, gaps in current conservation collections, which botanic gardens need to step up support for threatened trees in their region, and where investment in training and resources is required.

The Global Tree Assessment will provide conservation assessments for all of the world's tree species by 2020. This will prioritise which trees are at greatest risk of extinction, enabling practitioners and funders to focus their efforts.

A suite of training resources and courses delivered by GTC and our network help to build capacity for tree conservation. Practical projects, supported by the knowledge, collections and skills of botanic gardens, provide models for replication. The establishment of specialist networks for arboreta and particular genera facilitate the sharing of information and skills, and duplication of collections.

-Objective of the symposium-

To showcase tools available to support decision-making and practical action to conserve threatened tree species. To highlight threat hotspots and gaps in conservation action and encourage botanic gardens in these areas to become more involved in tree conservation.

-Expected outcomes -

Knowledge from botanic gardens and other stakeholders. of the tools available to support tree conservation.

More botanic gardens utilising available tools, involved in GTC and Arbnet.

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News about IPEN (the International Plant Exchange Network): Changes and needs to cope with the Nagoya Protocol of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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[PS4b] - Workshop, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Since Oct. 12, 2014, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in accord with the Convention of Biological Diversity” (NP) has come into force. This has serious consequences for scientific institutions including botanical gardens when trying to acquire new material for research, conservation or public outreach. The International Plant Exchange Network (IPEN) was launched in 1998 as a botanic gardens’ strategy aiming at: (1) complying with CBD requirements; (2) developing and implementing material transfer systems for botanic gardens that are transparent and trustworthy to providers of plant genetic resources; (3) securing the sharing of benefits with providers; (4) creating confidence in the work of botanic gardens worldwide and thus facilitate access to genetic resources; (5) mitigating negative effects of administration potentially caused by new legally binding material transfer or documentation regulations. Today IPEN has 184 members from 31 countries.

-Objective of the activity-

The aims of the workshop are to (a) inform about the NP and potential implications for botanic gardens; (b) inform about changes in IPEN to cope with the NP, especially the new Code of Conduct; (c) initiate a discussion on activities needed within IPEN, what support is expected from IPEN for the botanic garden community, and funding options

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The world plant puzzle and the African Plant Database

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[PS4c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Since 10 years on the web, the objective of the APD is to propose an homogenous view of African plants to understand ecology and distribution and identify missing data. The database propose a small description of the plant and a bibliography. This information comes from the publications of J-P. Lebrun and A. Stork, fruits of their indefatigable researches. APD is now widely used by all botanical studies in Africa and is considered as the standard.

The aim of the WFO is quite the same and we could ask the question how to place this African piece into the World puzzle: What contains APD and what should contain WFO, and finally how to share these data in a unique system.

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World Flora Online - Technology & techniques to create a comprehensive data portal for all plants

Mr Chuck Miller¹, Dr Mark Watson², Mr William Ulate¹

¹*Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis, United States*, ²*Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*

[PS4c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The World Flora Online (WFO) is an international collaborative project aiming to bring together floristic and monographic information on all the world's plants in fulfillment of Target 1 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2020: 'An online Flora of all known plants'. This builds on The Plant List (<http://www.theplantlist.org>) - a working list of all known species of vascular plants and bryophytes. The rationale of WFO is to meet the need for baseline information to support plant conservation and sustainable development, and so the main target audiences are both those engaged in these activities and the taxonomic community providing authoritative information. The technical aspects of how the WFO will be achieved is handled by a Technical Working Group established by the WFO Council, and includes people with a range of skills from computer programmers to biodiversity informaticians to taxonomists. The requirements of the system were established through a Use Case study, where stakeholders and their needs were documented and prioritised. The data elements needed to fulfill the prioritised Use Cases were characterised and aligned with Darwin Core, Dublin Core and Plinian Core - new data elements with definitions were created only when absolutely necessary. The database and Internet portal of the eMonocot system (<http://e-monocot.org>) was used as the basis for the WFO system. The WFO comprises of two logically separate components: the Taxonomic Backbone (nomenclature and classification) and the Descriptive Content of previously published floristic and monographic treatments linked to the Backbone. Contributors to either of these components send in their data conforming to defined data standards such as Darwin Core Archive and these are harvested into the WFO system. A crucial step in the ingestion is the resolution of and linkage to the taxonomic names used in WFO and in the contributor dataset, and for this WFO has established new identifiers for all names from subspecies to order for all vascular plants and bryophytes. A demonstration portal (<http://demo.worldfloraonline.org>) is being used to test the system, and a production portal will be launched at IBC 2017 in Shenzhen.

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Flora of Nepal - a borne digital Flora

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[PS4c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Flora of Nepal takes a new approach to handling and publishing floristic data. Printed Floras usually present information in a highly abbreviated, summary form and much data recorded during floristic research is not included in the final publication. Flora of Nepal made a paradigm shift in data management by storing all data captured during the Flora-writing process in a database - Padme. Instead of the printed work being the main output, the focus is on the knowledge database from which multiple products are produced. Padme was designed to push the point of electronic data capture as close to the origin - to minimise errors and streamline workflows. When on fieldwork collection data are entered directly into Padme, likewise in the herbarium and library. Authors draw on taxon summaries based on vouchered occurrence level data when preparing accounts. Published accounts, both electronic and printed, are generated directly from the database, and the database is used to drive the website (www.floraofnepal.org). Data can be provided in Darwin Core Archive, and other exchange formats, and contributes to the World Flora Online (www.worldfloraonline.org). An innovation of Flora of Nepal is the versioning and persistence of the published accounts. The dynamic, ever changing dataset is not considered citable as users cannot be sure to view the same data as given by an earlier citation. Instead citable published versions of accounts for families and genera are produced periodically and permanently accessible via the website in the 'PDF archive'.

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The World Flora Online project: a tool to support plant conservation and build a global taxonomic consensus.

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[PS4c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

In 2010, the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) of the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) included as its first target (Target 1) the need for “An online flora of all known plants.” In January 2012 in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, representatives from four institutions (MO, NY, E, K) took the initiative to meet and discuss how to achieve GSPC Target 1 by 2020. The meeting resulted in a proposed outline of the scope and content of a World Flora Online (WFO), as well as a decision to create an international Consortium of now 35 institutions and organizations to collaborate on providing its content. The WFO will be an open-access, web-based compendium of the world’s plant species. It will be a collaborative, international project, building upon existing knowledge and published Floras, checklists and taxonomic and other revisions. It will also require the collection and generation of new information on poorly know plant groups and plants in unexplored regions, and federate taxonomists around a consensus taxonomic backbone.

The project represents a major step forward in developing a consolidated global information service on the world’s flora.

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World Flora Online

Mr Chuck Miller¹, Dr Peter Wyse Jackson¹, Dr Pierre-André Loizeau²

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[PS4c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Target 1 of The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation aims to achieve the ambitious goal of “an online flora of all known plants” by 2020. In July 2012 a meeting of 35 international botanical institutions was convened at Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis and the participants agreed in principle to form a consortium with the goal of responding to Target 1 by creating a “World Flora Online” (WFO) by 2020. To that end, in January 2013 a Memorandum of Understanding was circulated within the botanical community, and since then 36 institutions have signed as collaborating partners in the WFO project. The WFO project is organized into a Council comprised of all the MoU participants and three working committees for Taxonomy, Technology and Communications.

The goals of the World Flora Online project are to: 1) Combine and synthesize existing electronic datasets and incorporate other regional and national Floras and monographs, 2) Electronically capture hard copy-only floras and monographs and, with emerging markup software, add these to the reservoir of data, 3) Determine remaining gaps in the data, 4) Invite participants from the world’s botanical community and facilitate their engagement to fill these gaps for whole taxa or missing data elements based upon their unique knowledge and holdings in their collections or other records, 5) Implement an efficient web-based system enabling specialists to submit feedback to be included or acted upon for corrections, improvements, and augmentation of the content.

-Objective of the symposium-

The aims and expected outcomes of this symposium would be as follows:

- Raise awareness amongst botanic gardens on the importance of the WFO and progress made towards the achievement of GSPC Target 1.
- Demonstrate the WFO web portal that will be launched in July 2017 at the International Botanical Congress (Shenzhen, China).
- Encourage more institutions to participate in the project and to contribute data.
- Highlight the roles of botanic gardens in supporting and/or participating in taxonomic networks and specialist groups that contribute to WFO development.
- Share the technologies and techniques used and collaborative approaches taken to achieve the WFO
- Outline the ways in which botanic gardens can use the WFO to support their conservation, education and other programs.
- Show the ways in which the WFO supports the achievement of other GSPC targets.

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Living collections, biorepositories, and plant genomic preservation: A roundtable discussion with GGI-Gardens

Dr Morgan Gostel¹, Dr Jonathan Coddington¹, Mrs. Katharine Barker¹, Dr Vicki Funk¹, Prof. Ole Seberg², Mr. Ari Novy³, Mrs. Jennifer Ramp Neale⁴

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[PS4d] - Round Table, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

GGI-Gardens began in 2015 as a network of botanical gardens, arboreta, and greenhouses and has since grown to encompass an international partnership aimed at preserving plant genetic resources from living collections. The goal of GGI-Gardens is to collect, voucher, and preserve genome-quality tissue resources from at least one species belonging to each family and 50% of the genera of plants on Earth. Due to the botanical diversity represented by living collections in gardens, we are seeking partners internationally to help us to help achieve the mutual goals of the GGBN (www.ggbn.org/ggbn_portal/) and GGI (ggi.si.edu). Through coordinated activities with its partners, GGI-Gardens has collected thousands of vouchers and made these tissues discoverable through the Global Biodiversity Repository Network (GGBN).

Living collections offer unparalleled ex situ resources for plant biodiversity conservation and research. The research potential of such living collections is, however, often overlooked. As the world's leading botanical institutions look to solutions for conservation needs in the 21st Century, an important starting point is the preservation of plant genetic resources. GGI-Gardens seeks to build a community of stakeholders interested in preserving plant tissues from their collections in biorepositories and making these collections available for cutting edge research. This round table discussion will focus on communicating the GGI-Gardens roadmap to cultivate this community and enable botanical institutions to contribute tissues from their living collections for long-term preservation.

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Conservation of Plant Species with Extremely Small Population in East China: An action plan

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[PS4f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

In China, the main causes of plant endangerment are habitat loss or degradation and over-harvest. In order to conserve endangered wild plants, the government of China released a project named "Protection of plant species with extremely small population (PSESP)" in 2011. In East China, the following 20 species of plants were included in this project: *Carpinus putuoensis*, *Abies beshanzuensis*, *Ostrya rehderiana*, *Cycas szechuanensis*, *Glyptostrobus pensilis*, *Cycas taiwaniana*, *Manglietia decidua*, *Abies ziyuanensis*, *Parrotia subaequalis*, *Dendrobium huoshanense*, *Carpinus tientaiensis*, *Yulania zenii*, *Calanthe sieboldii*, *Pyrus hopeiensis*, *Nothodoritis zhejiangensis*, *Ulmus elongata*, *Michelia odora*, *Acer miaotaiense*, *Berchemiella wilsonii*, *Sinojackia microcarpa*. Conservation research on endangered species in China is seriously inadequate, in East China for example, about 68% endangered species have not been studied yet and over 90% of them lack data in some aspects.

In next 20 years, Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden plans to take 4 steps to carry out the conservation work of PSESPs in East China. The first step is basic investigation to clarify the main barriers in current population recovery. The second step is rapid propagation and cell lines preservation. Third step is wild population establishment, aiming to achieve self-balancing. Fourth step is population expansion, building the population in similar habitat, increasing the population quantity to achieve field regression.

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Delineating the phytogeographical regions of China: Novel insights from phylogenetic approach

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[PS4f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Biogeographical regionalization provides an indispensable foundation for biodiversity and conservation research. Previous biogeographical regionalizations were mainly proposed based on taxonomic dissimilarity but ignored evolutionary relationships among taxa. We used a mega-phylogeny of 2,591 Chinese angiosperm genera and their geographical distributions to quantify taxonomic and phylogenetic dissimilarity between grid cells. We conducted a hierarchical cluster analysis on phylogenetic beta diversity matrices to identify floristic regions. We explored environmental variable differences among floristic regions, and correlations between environmental variables and phylogenetic turnover. Characterized genera of each region were identified by the Dufrene-Legendre indicator species analysis. Phylogenetic relatedness was significantly correlated with taxonomic composition of flora in China. The lowest spatial turnover in taxonomic and phylogenetic relationships of the floristic assemblages occurred in the Hengduan Mountains, Qin Mountains, Taihang Mountains, and Yan Mountains, whereas the highest spatial turnover was in the southeastern coast of China and Hainan Island, and southwestern Yunnan had the highest taxonomic turnover. Two major groups and five subgroups representing five floristic regions were recognized. The regions differed significantly based on indicator genera and mean annual temperature, mean annual precipitation, and elevation. Mean annual precipitation was the most important environmental variable distinguishing the regions, and the Paleotropical region had the largest number of indicator genera. Our study provides new insights into the structure and phylogenetic relationships of Chinese flora, and shows that historical processes and climate play important roles in shaping the broad-scale spatial patterns of plant biodiversity.

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Shanghai Digital Metroflora: Botanical Gardens and Metroflora

Mr. Yuan Wang¹, Mr. Hui-Ru Li¹, Mr. Jian-Ping Chen¹, Mr. Jinshuang Ma¹

¹*Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, Shanghai, China*

[PS4f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Shanghai is China's most important economic, financial and trade center. Due to the narrow land, the simple habitat and the huge population, native plant species are very rare, with only around 800 species recorded. However, the Shanghai horticulture industry is very developed, thousands of plant species (including varieties) have been introduced and varieties of cultivated plants are in very strong demand. Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, as one of the most abundant botanical gardens in China, it also leads the development of the horticulture industry and the conservation of rare and endangered plants in Shanghai and East China. In Shanghai, a special place to compile local flora, has very different needs from other provinces in China. We divided the Shanghai area into three hundred areas by 5 × 5 km². The native plants and cultivated plants in each area were investigated in detail, including the introductions of two botanical gardens in Shanghai. For cultivated plants, we rely on the botanical garden's rich data and living plants, for the detailed identification to the variety, and to solve a lot of long-standing, large-scale misuse of names.

According to the survey data, historical specimens and literature, we have established the first provincial digital flora website (<http://shflora.ibiodiversity.net>) in China, which will show the results of the survey over the years, including the publication of the "Checklist of Shanghai Vascular Plants", "Key of Shanghai Vascular Plants" and "Illustrated Flora of Shanghai" in a series of 3 volumes. The site is rich in pictures and information to help the relevant practitioners and ordinary people understand the status of Shanghai plants, rare and endangered plant conservation and plant information, support the traditional flora by increased plant cultivation, stop the confusion of names in the Chinese horticultural industry, and promote the development of horticulture.

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Woody Plants from East Asia – a review

Mr. Jinshuang Ma¹

¹*Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, Shanghai, China*

[PS4f] - General theme, Room 17, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

East Asia, including China, Japan and the Koreas, is one of the mega-biodiversity hotspots in the world. It is also the richest region among the floristics in the northern hemisphere. It possesses more than 30,000 species of seed plants, at least more than one-third of which are woody plants, and many of them are endemics. For various reasons, however, it has not been possible to catalogue all of the species together and list them under one work, to make it convenient for users who are interested in woody plants from this vast area.

There are 152 families, 1,264 genera, 11,885 species, 141 subspecies and 1,653 varieties of woody plants from east Asia in the checklist; among them, 11 families, 38 genera, 224 species and 74 varieties are gymnosperms, and 141 families, 1,226 genera, 11,661 species, 141 subspecies and 1679 varieties are Angiosperms; and among later, 136 families, 1,167 genera, 10,988 species, 141 subspecies and 1576 varieties are Dicots, and 5 families, 59 genera, 673 species and 16 varieties are Monocots. In total, there are 13,679 taxa (including species, subspecies and varieties) among 152 families and 1,264 genera, and 4,940 taxa (about 36.1%) are widely distributed, but 8,739 taxa (about 63.9%) are endemic to East Asia; and among the endemic, 8,110 taxa in China, 857 taxa in Japan and 337 taxa in Koreas, which represented by 92.8%, 9.8% and 3.9% respectively.

These are based on a new book entitled as “A Checklist of Woody Plants from east Asia”, published in 2017. There are two parts in this work, i.e. Part I lists families with their genera, and Part II lists the genera with their species as well as their distribution. The Engler concept of the family is adopted in the checklist and there are alphabetically recorded in Part I, not only because it is used in the local floras of East Asia but the greatest number of users are familiar with these works. Within Part II, the main text of the checklist, all of genera are arranged alphabetically but followed by their family name in the parenthesis, and so does each species within the genus to which they belong, plus their distribution.

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The European Alpine Seed Conservation and Research Network

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[PS4g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Alps are one of the 24 centres of plant diversity in Europe, with almost 4,500 taxa of vascular plants, representing 148 families. Yet the ecosystems supported by these mountains are under threat mostly due to changes of land use and climate warming. Consequently, many plant species require urgent conservation action. To this end, a new project has been developed by RBG Kew (UK), with funding from the David and Claudia Harding Foundation, to conserve European alpine flora and to raise awareness of its increasing vulnerability. The Alpine Seed Conservation and Research Network (<http://www.alpineseedconservation.eu/>) currently brings together six plant science institutions from five countries housed at leading universities and botanic gardens. The aim of the project is to set up a network of seed conservation and research in the European Alps and improve the conservation status of endangered plant species and communities in their habitats in the European Alps. Over three field seasons seeds of 500 vascular plant species will be collected from subalpine, alpine and nival altitudinal belts and adjacent, giving priority to endemic and threatened species. The project got underway earlier this year with already highly successful collecting season. Beside conservation actions, one MSc and three PhD research projects will investigate the evolutionary patterns and processes resulting from global warming, identify niche adaptation and gather new data on the conservation status of endemic species in the target areas. Additionally, dissemination an educational programme is being set up involving stakeholder and schools across the alpine region.

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From Leisure to lifeline: the evolving role of botanic gardens in the wake of Climate Change in Africa

Mr David Nkwanga¹

¹*Nature Palace Botanic Garden, Kampala, Uganda*

[PS4g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The botanic gardens concept was introduced in Africa from Europe by what were referred to as colonial masters. When many African countries gained independence, botanic gardens remained but with minimal significance to the common person. To many, they were just places for leisure. In the wake of Climate Change, coupled with other factors like agricultural expansion and deforestation, many plants that communities used to easily access from the wild started becoming less and less accessible. Yet traditional medicine is crucial for primary health care of communities, responsible for up to 80%, according to WHO. People are now turning to botanic gardens to access important medicinal plants, acquire planting materials, and learn about plant genetic resources that were in the past taken for granted. Botanic gardens are therefore gaining a new relevance. Nature Palace Botanic Garden was founded on this premise. The presentation shares how the garden is filling the gaps by ensuring sustainable access to medicinal plants by communities; promoting conservation of plant genetic resources through 'home-herbal gardens' ; and, maintaining as well as sharing indigenous and scientific knowledge about medicinal plants that are crucial for community health.

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Relict tree genera with multiple refugia require international and interdisciplinary cooperation: conservation and research Projects Zelkova and Pterocarya

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[PS4g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Climate relicts, and more specifically relict trees, represent ancient organisms that have been able to outlast changing environmental conditions for millions of years. They have the potential to enhance our understanding of the past and recent biogeographical and evolutionary processes and they provide unique tools for predicting the consequences of ongoing and future global change. However, many relict tree species currently retain a very restricted distribution, and only a few threatened populations remain for many of them. The conservation of this significant evolutionary heritage requires more research and integrated international conservation efforts.

In 2010, an international interdisciplinary Project Zelkova was initiated, followed in 2015 by the parallel Project Pterocarya (www.zelkova.ch). The main focus was originally put on the six extant species of Zelkova (Ulmaceae) and six species of Pterocarya (Juglandaceae). However, over recent years, we enlarged the scope and today many other rare and threatened woody plants are investigated in various geographical regions and covered by a large spectrum of research activities (e.g., biogeography, conservation biology, phylogeny, phylogeography, population genetics, population structure, mating systems, dispersal strategies, dendrochronology, morphometry, ethnobotany, etc.). More than 30 specialists representing research and conservation institutions from 15 countries are forming our international network, organizing workshops, conferences, expeditions, capacity-building activities, and conducting joint research and publishing collaboratively.

Our presentation will give an overview of the most important findings and achievements but also the challenges of the past years. It will highlight the unique nature of relict trees and their role in promoting the interdisciplinary and international collaboration.

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Regional cooperation on plant biodiversity conservation in response to climate change in East Asia

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[PS4g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

East Asia, which shares a number of common plant species that cross borders, has showed a higher increase of temperature than the global average. This has aggravated the habitat shift of endemic plants and alarmed the regional level of cooperation for plant species conservation in response to climate change. Upon the MOU signing among six (6) organizations from five (5) countries (China, Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Russia) in 2014, the East Asia Biodiversity Conservation Network (EABCN) was institutionalized. This is based on Working Groups (WG) conducting collaborative research and data collection to establish a mid- and long-term regional conservation strategy in response to climate change in East Asia. Currently, four (4) WGs under the EABCN are in operation. The WG on Flora of Northeastern Asia (Plant Checklist) with targets to review collected plant lists and re-arrange the scientific names and synonyms in response to the GSPC target of completion of a World Flora, with preparation of web-based platform. The WG on Plant Phenological Monitoring, with targets for monitoring East Asian common and local endemic plants, interacting through the website of the East Asia Phenological Network. The WG on Joint Publication targets endemic plants in East Asia, providing information on the history, botany, ethnic use, cultural relation etc. for the public. This is currently in preparation for a third volume. The WG on Vegetation Monitoring has targets for intensive and extensive long-term monitoring in transitional zones (e.g. the zone between evergreen and deciduous plants). Collaborative research on invasive, endangered and alpine plants are also needed within the EABCN.

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Plant Awareness through Science

Ms Pamela Thompson¹

¹*Arnold Arboretum Of Harvard University, Boston, United States*

[PS4h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

A university research institution with extensively curated historical living collections and a public park, Arnold Arboretum is well-positioned to share its collections and communicate associated research with the general public. An expansion of research leads us to focus public outreach on science. We engage our audience in science to encourage curiosity about plants and global biodiversity. To this end, we offer a spectrum of opportunities for engagement.

For adults we offer academic lectures on climate change, science and society, and ecology in the Anthropocene. Citizen science Tree Spotters capture phenological data on 11 tree species. Tree Mobs™ offer opportunities to interact with experts in the landscape on the topics listed above. Our Director's Posts from the Collections digitally highlight the complexity and beauty of plants.

Arnold Arboretum offers formal school visits associated with state environmental curricula and guidance for developing successful informal teacher-led visits. Monthly trainings present ways for teachers to better understand how plants grow and a week-long Summer Institute takes teachers in-depth. The Arboretum runs a multi-week internship for agricultural high school students that combines horticulture and science. Other programs include work with Girls in STEM and students in arts and science classes.

Visible experiments conducted throughout the landscape reveal the value of scientific process and living collections.

Musicians, writers, and visual artists interact with visitors, researchers, and the landscape for inspiration, learning, and experimentation.

At all levels, Arnold Arboretum programs uphold our commitment to rationalism, fact-based science inquiry, and the celebration of global biological diversity.

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Saving pollinators at the National Botanic Garden of Wales: an integrated programme of research, conservation and public engagement.

Dr Natasha De Vere¹

¹*National Botanic Garden Of Wales, Llanarthne, United Kingdom*

[PS4h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Pollination is a vital ecosystem service and a key consideration for global food security. Despite their importance, honeybees and wild pollinators are facing declines due to habitat loss, agricultural intensification, disease and climate change. Pollinating insects require access to suitable plants for foraging and as native habitats decrease gardens may become increasingly important.

Our research investigates the plants that pollinators need, using DNA metabarcoding to track which plants they visit. Pollen is retrieved from the bodies of insects or extracted from honey. DNA from the pollen is amplified using DNA barcode markers and sequenced using next-generation sequencing. Key to the ability to identify unknown DNA samples is a comprehensive DNA barcode reference library. We have DNA barcoded all of the native flowering plants of the UK.

The National Botanic Garden of Wales and agricultural habitats are used as study sites to assess plant use by different pollinator groups. The vegetation within the botanic garden has been mapped and plants in flower are recorded on a monthly basis. Honey is collected from the botanic garden's honeybee colonies and DNA metabarcoded to see which plants are used compared to those available. This approach is being extended to other pollinator groups in order to examine resource partitioning. Our results show the importance of native and near-native plants within gardens.

We are using our findings to develop evidence-based horticultural best practice and we use public engagement to highlight the importance of pollinators. This includes our Bee Garden, Butterfly House and art-science exhibitions.

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News from the field: botanic gardens and arboreta can help move us towards a science-based ‘restoration culture’

Dr James Aronson¹, Mr. Matthew Albrecht¹, Mr. Quinn Long¹, Mr. Leighton Reid¹, Mr. Chris Birkinshaw²
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[PS4h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Globally, large-scale ecological restoration is now recognized as one of the keys to preserving biodiversity, mitigating anthropogenic climate change, and maintaining well-functioning, “healthy” ecosystems and landscapes that provide ecosystem services for people and all forms of life.

Developing effective techniques to voucher, collect, store and germinate seeds, vegetative propagation and cultivation of trees and other plants for reintroduction, monitoring outcomes of restoration efforts and playing a role in education and capacity-building are all vital contributions of botanic gardens to the global restoration effort. Finally, botanical gardens must serve as advocates and advisors for ecological restoration plans and programs at local and national levels. This requires institutional, departmental, and individual commitments. We as scientists need to think bigger, and develop landscape-level partnerships with the rich diversity of organizations required for restoration that is effective and relevant economically, socially, and culturally. The Ecological Restoration Alliance (ERA) of Botanic Gardens is playing a big role internationally to help bridge the deep gaps that exist in this young field today between science, policy, and practice. We will illustrate these ideas with examples from ongoing Missouri Botanical Garden restoration projects in the US and Madagascar, as well as other projects in which staff scientists and research associates are participating. We conclude with a call for promulgating a new restoration paradigm, leading to a restoration culture.

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LearnToEngage: Professional Development in the 21st Century

Ms Liliana Derewnicka¹

¹*BGCI, London, United Kingdom*

[PS4h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

BGCI's strategy (2015 p.2) states that we will "build technical capacity in the botanic garden sector and beyond" in order to deliver the GSPC targets. In accordance with this, since September 2016, BGCI has been co-ordinating the LearnToEngage Project.

LearnToEngage is a new suite of four professional development modules for botanic garden staff and museum educators in Italy, Portugal and the UK. The project partners are University of Lisbon Botanic Garden, MUSE (Science Museum), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, University College London and BGCI. This blended learning course is being developed for botanic garden staff to enhance engagement of their audiences with the importance of plant biodiversity, the need for its conservation, and the vital role that botanic gardens play.

The four modules are:

- Interpretation
- Working with Diverse Audiences
- Science Communication
- Research and Evaluation

LearnToEngage will make use of Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's Online Learning Environment - PropaGate Learning - to support students with preparatory and summative activities. Online learning not only reduces the time required for on-site delivery and thus the time learners spend away from their organisations, but, by using PropaGate Learning to its full capacity, LearnToEngage will encourage and support collaborative learning between organisations across Europe.

This presentation will showcase the LearnToEngage modules, what they hope to achieve and how, and highlight the great potential offered by online learning and how this can be used to cultivate a global learning community.

Reference

BGCI (2015) Business Case and Plan: Botanic Gardens Conservation International 2015 -2020. London, BGCI

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Ecological restoration of a sub-afromontane forest in the Kenya highlands

Dr Mark Nicholson¹

¹*Brackenhurst Botanic Garden, Limuru, Kenya*

[PS5a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

In 2000 an ecological restoration project was started in the upland forest zone on land previously used for exotic plantations of eucalyptus, black wattle and cypress. All native species were reintroduced from outside. Reforestation on former cypress plantations is straightforward as no regrowth from cypress occurred. Reforestation on former stands of eucalyptus and wattle is difficult, expensive and ongoing because of coppicing and prolific germination of wattle.

Our objective by 2030 is to have created 40 ha of native forest, planted at a rate of 3 ha per year. The growth rates of the 50 most common species are measured. Over 100,000 trees have so far been planted and natural regeneration is now taking place. In the forest undergoing restoration we have introduced over 500 woody forest and woodland species and climbers. Once the pioneer species become established, the woodland species die out (e.g. *Juniperus procera*, *Erythrina abyssinica*, *Acacia* species etc) and young climax species start to grow (*Pouteria*, *Chrysophyllum*, *Ocotea* etc). A gradual dominance of species native to the area has taken place, once invasive species are eradicated. Soil quality, OM and water infiltration are greatly improved.

The restoration process has seen a increase in mammalian, avian and insect biodiversity, which are used as indicators of success. After 60 years absence, we now have a resident group of *Colobus* monkeys). On the negative side, control of invasive species makes restoration a costly and time-consuming enterprise.

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Superfoods, business scents and Christmas trees: linking threatened tree conservation with sustainable livelihoods

Ms Victoria Price¹, Mr David Gill¹, Dr Georgina Magin¹, Dr Jenny Daltry¹, Ms Sophia Steele¹, Ms Julie Hanta Razafimanahaka²

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[PS5a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The world's >60,000 tree species provide various products and services which support the livelihoods and well-being of hundreds of millions of people. Trees also enrich our lives culturally and spiritually; defining iconic landscapes, providing spices and incenses used in religious ceremonies and playing a central role in myths and stories. Many of these different products are closely tied to particular species of tree which, with limited protection are vulnerable to over-exploitation. The importance of protecting plants from over-exploitation has been recognised at the international level; the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation outlines an agreed target that all wild harvested plant-based products should be sourced sustainably by 2020. Supporting sustainable use of trees through livelihood projects, ran by a range of organisations including botanic gardens, is a potential solution; helping to directly address overuse of particular species. However, development and implementation of projects to support sustainable use of threatened trees often come up against significant challenges. This talk explores these challenges through case studies of projects implemented by Fauna & Flora International's partners in Madagascar and Saint Lucia, as part of the Global Trees Campaign. Methods developed by these projects to identify sustainable harvest for wild populations, alongside follow-on activities to implement sustainable management plans for wild populations, are presented. We conclude with a discussion on how experiences from these projects can help inform the work of botanic gardens also supporting the sustainable use of tree species.

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Conservation partnerships for rare and endangered woody plants and their contribution to improving local livelihoods: case studies from China

Mrs Xiangying Wen¹, Prof. Xiao WEI², Prof. Hui TANG³, Mr. Gratzfeld JOACHIM⁴

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[PS5a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Of China's over 30,000 native vascular plants, a large number (about 30 %) have major socio-economic use values in the daily lives of the Chinese people. These include globally well-known groups of plants such as camellias and magnolias, as well as a range of other woody taxa more prominent within China itself. Over-collection, fragmentation and conversion of habitats have accelerated the extinction of wild populations of many of these plants let alone of the very species. To promote efforts to integrate plant conservation and the improvement of local peoples' livelihoods, BGCI has been working with Guilin Botanical Garden of Guangxi Institute of Botany since 2012. Focusing on rare and endangered Golden Camellias (*Camellia nitidissima*, *C. tunghinensis* and *C. euphlebia*) and a range of medicinal plants including *Semiliquidambar cathayensis*, *Polygala fallax* and *Illicium difengpi*, key areas of intervention comprise large-scale cultivation, development of ex situ conservation collections, as well as population reinforcement and habitat restoration trials. This inter-sectoral collaboration represents a unique partnership of local farmers and cooperatives, a botanical institution and a private company. In this presentation, we will provide an overview of progress made to date, and how the botanic garden community can work with other partners to realize outcomes beneficial for plant conservation while improving local peoples' livelihoods.

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Using botanic garden data and expertise to optimise the propagation and restoration of Malawi's national tree, the Mulanje Cedar

Dr Tembo Chanyenga¹, Dr Richard Jinks², Mr Daniel Luscombe³, Miss Kirsty Shaw⁴, Dr Paul Smith⁴

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[PS5a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Mulanje cedar, *Widdringtonia whytei* Rendle, is Critically Endangered in its native habitat on south east Africa's highest mountain, Mount Mulanje (3,002 metres a.s.l). The major threats to its survival are over-exploitation for timber, and uncontrolled fires preventing regeneration. Over recent years, the Mulanje massif has become increasingly lawless and all attempts to protect existing populations and reintroduce the species have failed. However, as far back as 1907 cedar trees were planted on Mount Zomba 75 km to the north and at lower elevation (1,800 m). These and more recent plantings have become well-established. Furthermore, the Mulanje cedar has been grown successfully in botanic gardens in Kenya, Tanzania and Indonesia. As a result, the Forestry Research Institute of Malawi and the Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust have joined forces with BGCI and several of its member institutions to establish 10 cedar nurseries in local communities around the Mulanje massif and to train local villagers in nursery management and cedar propagation. In addition, trials of the Mulanje cedar have been set up in eight diverse sites across Malawi to ascertain optimal climatic and soil conditions necessary for growing the tree. The results of this study will be used to identify suitable, secure translocation sites for the cedar, reintroduce it to Mulanje when the mountain is more secure and, potentially, to develop the species as a commercial timber species, creating an incentive and rationale for protecting the remaining wild population as a seed source.

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Trees, botanic gardens and the big environmental issues

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[PS5a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Trees are fundamental to human life. They provide us with energy, timber, food, medicines, fibres and other products as well as a range of ecosystem services such as water, shelter, shade, erosion control and so on. It follows, therefore, that trees are fundamental to solving many of the world's major environmental challenges, including food security, water scarcity, energy, human health and climate change.

In this session, we will look at ways in which botanic gardens work with communities and partner institutions in forestry, agriculture, horticulture and other disciplines, to conserve, grow and manage tree species for the services they provide. Examples will include the cultivation of native timber species for income generation; watershed forest restoration; propagation of native species for improved nutrition; maintenance of living genebanks for food security; conservation of medicinal plants, and; research into sustainable harvesting and management of wood for use in handicrafts and high value products.

The common denominator in all the cases studies presented is that botanic garden data, skills and knowledge are fundamental to successful utilisation and management of these resources now and in the future.

-Objective of the symposium-

This symposium aims to highlight innovative tree-focused work led by botanic gardens that addresses big issues. By going far beyond having collections for display purposes alone, the botanic garden-led projects featured in this session will demonstrate how they use their tree collections, and associated knowledge and skills to help address environmental, social and economic challenges.

-Expected outcomes -

The session will provide inspiration to other botanic gardens, encouraging and guiding them to utilise their tree collections and knowledge to engage in wider issues. Representatives from outside of the botanic garden sector will be invited to attend Tree Tuesday, and this session will increase recognition of the value of involving botanic garden tree collections and knowledge to address environmental challenges.

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Leveraging botanic gardens to improve food security: Current and future trends in crop wild relatives

Dr. Ari Novy¹, Dr. Jonas Mueller²

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[PS5b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Botanic gardens cannot succeed in the 21st century without addressing major societal challenges related to botanical sciences. On a warming, and ever more crowded planet, one of the great challenges will remain food security. Botanic gardens are particularly well placed to contribute to agricultural research through the analysis, collection, conservation and pre-breeding of crop wild relatives (CWR). In fact, botanic gardens are tasked with the conservation and collection of crop wild relatives by the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation (Section 2.8) and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (Targets 8, 9 and 13). Many botanic gardens around the world are effectively engaging in CWR research and conservation, often through collaboration with agricultural research institutions. In this symposium, several leading institutions in the botanic and agricultural research spheres will explore and showcase various strategies and models for engaging in CWR collection and conservation. Several models of CWR work and collaboration will be presented, along with current and future strategies for collaborations designed to maximize the positive impacts botanic gardens can have on food security moving forward.

-Objective of the symposium-

This session is designed to familiarize botanic garden professionals with the concept of crop wild relatives (CWR), explore the rationale for botanic gardens to engage in such research and collections, and show the opportunities CWR bring for botanic gardens to attract funding and to underline relevance for society. The session will present several models and examples of CWR programs, and discuss current and future CWR opportunities. This symposium is also designed so that attendees of the congress can take a deeper dive into crop diversity issues after the keynote address by Marie Haga, Executive Director of the Crop Trust. Botanic gardens actively cultivate more than 497,000 plant taxa including at least 1,200 crop species. These living collections complement germplasm reserves held as seeds or clones of wild and of cultivated plants by major centers of crop research such as CGIAR centers, the Kew Garden's Millennium Seed Bank, the Svalbard Seed Vault and national germplasm repositories. Botanic garden collections and new collection activities can address the need for rapid genetic improvement of our crops, making germplasm for crops and their wild relatives more readily available, or perhaps the only available source when they have become extinct in natural habits. The sustained improvement of crop varieties requires the input from widespread natural genetic variation for compatible and productive breeding. While traditional breeding organizations, including industry, academia and others are highly engaged in procurement and maintenance of crop genetic lines, botanic/public gardens are often the key collectors and conservators of crop wild relative germplasm, which often possesses key genetic attributes (such as drought tolerance or pest resistance) for future breeding targets in support of food security and healthy and sustainable agro-ecosystems. Expanding botanic garden involvement in CWR work will facilitate targets for wild crop relative germplasm collection by gardens and ultimately incorporation of such germplasm into breeding programs that result in resilient, genetically diverse crops able to address the many challenges posed by current climatic and food security concerns. Gardens have the existing networks and infrastructure in place to (and in many cases are already)

promoting robust collection of crop wild relatives with genes of strong potential for sustainable breeding targets.

-Expected outcomes -

1) participants will recognize ways in which their botanic garden could contribute to CWR work, 2) participants will develop networks with established CWR programs and professionals, and 3) participants will learn about future CWR professional development opportunities.

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Introduction to Crop Wild Relatives

Dr. Jonas Mueller¹, **Dr. Ari Novy**²

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[PS5b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

As we advance into the 21st century on our hot and hungry planet, botanic gardens will be increasingly called upon to utilize their resources and expertise to advance botanical and societal issues. The identification, collection and research of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) represents an excellent avenue for botanic gardens to develop their considerable expertise in service of contributing towards food security and advancing plant conservation. While the collection of economically important plant germplasm, including crops, was an integral component of even the first botanic gardens, implementing a CWR program in the 21st century can seem a daunting task for a botanic garden. In this introduction to the symposium, “Leveraging botanic gardens to improve food security: Current and future trends in crop wild relatives,” the organizers will describe CWRs and their place in botanic gardens, their importance for food security and broader food security goals. In addition, a brief overview of the main actors in the CWR world will be presented along with basic information about applicable legal frameworks, possible synergies with plant breeders and seed companies, and other current issues.

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Crop Wild Relatives at the Nexus of Botanic Gardens and Food Security

Dr Hannes Dempewolf¹

¹*Global Crop Diversity Trust, Bonn, Germany*

[PS5b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Crop domestication has led to a reduction in genetic diversity within crops - an effect commonly described as the domestication bottleneck. But breeders need all the genetic diversity they can get their hands on to improve the world's crops. Many are therefore keen to reach back through the domestication bottleneck to make use of the diversity that can still be found in the ancestors and wild relatives of crops (CWR). These taxa are increasingly recognized as being of key importance to breeding efforts that aim to help adapt agriculture to climate change. The living collections, seed banks and herbaria of botanic gardens around the world are some of the richest sources of physical specimens of CWR, as well as important sources of data on these species. Reporting on a global 10-year project to conserve, collect and utilize CWR, I review our experiences collaborating with botanic gardens. The conservation community, including botanic gardens, have long viewed agriculture as a threat to plant biodiversity; and agriculturalists have considered plant biodiversity as a nuisance, when they have thought about it at all. Agriculturalists and conservationists are increasingly recognizing that their antagonistic world-views need to be revised if we want to protect our planet's biodiversity and at the same time feed 9 billion people by 2050. As conservation bodies but also public educators, botanic gardens have a key role to play to bring about such a change in mindset. Concerted efforts need to be taken to marry the agriculture and conservation agendas. CWR conservation in botanic gardens is an important showcase of how this marriage can work - and need not end in divorce.

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Seed Bank of Crop Wild Relatives in Georgia

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[PS5b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

This presentation deals with the results of joint project, accomplished by researchers of the Department of Plant Conservation of the National Botanical Garden of Georgia (NBGG) and the Institute of Botany of Ilia State University (IoB) within the framework of the Project - Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change - A Global Initiative to Collect, Conserve and Use Crop Wild Relatives, initiated by the MSB and funded by the GCDT (2014-2016).

According to the GSPC, NBGG and IoB bear responsibility to preserve plant biodiversity via ex situ conservation in the form of seed bank and living collections – which is comparatively low-cost method for the protection of biodiversity.

The Caucasus, and Georgia, in particular, is one of the centers of origin of cultivated plants. Georgia is distinguished by exceptionally diverse flora, comprising some 4100 species of vascular plants, among them considerable number of CWRs, which are being lost at alarming rate. Safeguarding CWRs has national, regional and global importance.

The project titled: “Towards the More Complete Coverage of the Diversity of Crop Wild Relatives in ex situ Collections” aimed to collect seed sets from numerous populations of more than 20 target plant species – crop wild relatives. Target species for Georgia within the project have been identified by the GCDT/MSB as a result of Gap analysis of the major crop gene pools for the purposeful pre-breeding activities, within the project, coordinated by CIAT.

Total of 155 populations of 29 taxa have been sampled. Seeds were collected in the wild, in the distribution range of target taxa. After laboratory processing seeds were deposited at the Caucasus Regional Seed Bank of the NBGG and herbarium vouchers kept at the National Herbarium of Georgia of the IoB (TBI); duplicates of seed collections and accompanying herbarium sheets, shipped to the MSB and Kew Herbarium (K) of the RBG, Kew accordingly. Project Data are managed using BRAHMS (Botanical Research and Herbarium Management System) and shared with the MSB and GCDT.

The present work contributes to the fulfillment of Target 9 of GSPC; Strategic Goal C of the NBSAP of Georgia: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, namely National Target C.5 of NBSAP.

The anticipated impact is availability of initial material for breeding programs, which eventually will lead to crop varieties, better adapted to the changing environment.

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Botanic gardens and crop wild relatives – harnessing institutional and staff capabilities in developing specialized programs

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[PS5b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The roles of botanic gardens have evolved with the times. Historically, many gardens were established to serve as introduction centers for economically important plants. As such, botanic gardens helped establish agricultural economies in several tropical and subtropical countries. Over the last several decades, botanic gardens have concentrated on ornamental plants and biodiversity conservation. However, botanic gardens are slowly reviving their roles as collectors of agriculturally relevant germplasm and other economically important plants. This contemporary iteration of botanic garden collection activities combines economic agriculture with strong garden competencies related to germplasm collection and conservation. Critical among these efforts is the advancement of collections of crop wild relatives, which meet both economic and conservation goals of gardens. Most botanic gardens have staff with varied specialties that can be harnessed in creating a crop wild relatives program. Denver Botanic Gardens, through its Center for Global Initiatives, is playing a role in conservation of crop wild relatives such as coffee, via collaboration with the Crop Trust and World Coffee Research, and local agrobiodiversity in Western Ghats India, via collaboration with the M.S. Swaminathan Botanical Garden. This presentation will explore how gardens can incorporate crop wild relative programs into their operations by highlighting examples from Denver Botanic Gardens as well as additional institutions in the United States.

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Genetically targeted ex situ collections and in situ reintroductions

Drs. Emily Veltjen¹, Prof. Dr. Isabel Larridon^{1,2}, Prof. Dr. Marie-Stéphanie Samain^{1,3}, Mrs. Chantal Dugardin⁴, Prof. Dr. Paul Goetghebeur^{1,4}, Mr. Christian Torres Santana⁵

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[PS5c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Seeds of endangered plants collected during botanical expeditions can be grown with a higher probability of survival (given a successful germination protocol) in the controlled environment of a botanic garden.

If the endangered species was, or is targeted for a conservation genetic analysis, collected seedlings can be screened for their genetic variability with the markers developed and/or tested on that species, e.g. SSR markers. Each seedling in the collection can be genotyped, giving them a genetic value. When compared to the data of the known individuals in the wild, this genetic value can guide both ex situ and in situ conservation management.

Given the restriction in space, it is often not possible to keep sufficient individuals at a botanic garden to harbour the full genetic variability of a species. This is especially the case for trees and larger plants. For ex situ management, screening the genetic value of the plants helps to target and prioritise which seedlings to maintain in the collections, when the plants are still in a young stage.

This scored genetic value can also be used to support and guide reintroductions of plants in situ. If endangered plants are grown in a botanic institute to be reintroduced, the seedlings can be screened a priori of planting them back in the wild, making the reintroduction more targeted towards a balanced genetic composition. This helps to replant more genetically diverse individuals and not disrupt the population genetics by over-representing the genetically similar or genetically poor individuals.

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Saving seeds: effective sampling protocols for ex situ plant conservation

Dr Sean Hoban¹

¹*The Morton Arboretum, , United States*

[PS5c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

In the face of environmental change and other challenges, botanic gardens are initiating or expanding ex situ seed collections from natural plant populations for conservation, habitat restoration, and breeding. It is advisable to capture as much phenotypic and genetic diversity from the natural populations as possible. I demonstrate a new approach to optimize sampling protocols for a conservation collection. I use spatial, demographic and genetic data from three species, and simulated data under an individual-based model, to design collections that maximize diversity while minimizing collection size. I find that reproduction and dispersal traits significantly influence the genetic diversity captured in seed collections. I also demonstrate the need to consider loss of genetic diversity through seed collection use and attrition. Lastly I demonstrate a case study of a highly threatened species. Results show that minimum collection protocols should be customized for the target species, rather than commonly implemented “rules of thumb” in order to efficiently and effectively achieve restoration and conservation success.

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Safeguarding our Tree Collections: an international ex situ evaluation initiative

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[PS5c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Our recent studies in botanic garden collections management have sought to answer the fundamental question, “which plants should I grow, and how many?” Direct assay of an ex situ collection’s genetic diversity, measured against wild plant populations, offers an answer to this question, and insight for conservation efforts. Through structured comparison of population genetic data, we explored this question for tropical cycads. Seeing the utility of these studies, the US garden community called for a broader assessment involving other plant groups. Thus, our federally-funded National Leadership project, Safeguarding our Tree Collections, moves this work forward at a larger scale, through systematic comparisons among major clades of seed plants, to determine how broadly these management recommendations can be applied. Thus far, our results suggest that careful consideration of the target species is essential when planning for capture of genetic diversity; i.e. biology informs strategy. Differences in species, accessions, populations, and time all play a role in selecting which plants to grow. We will also apply novel zoo management software to these genetic assays, to coordinate management of “metacollections” at separate gardens. Integrating this type of precise ex situ conservation assessment with in situ management, monitoring, and community outreach can “close the loop,” ensuring our living treasures do not go extinct.

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Using population genetics to inform conservation of endangered oaks in tropical-subtropical China

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[PS5c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Tropical-subtropical China, with complex topography and microclimates, is one of two global diversity centers for oaks (genus *Quercus*), of which about ten species are endangered. However, little is known about how to protect these ecologically important threatened tree species. We investigated the population genetics of two widespread and two endangered oak species in this region. Our results demonstrated that key Neogene palaeogeoclimatic events played a critical role in shaping the genetic diversification pattern of three species, regardless of rarity or threat level. Low genetic differentiation among populations was found in both widespread species. However, the lowland species is more vulnerable than the middle elevation species when facing impending climate change. Unexpectedly high genetic diversity and genetic differentiation were found in *Q. arbutifolia* (an endangered species restricted to isolated, mid-elevation montane habitat) and all populations are in urgent need of in situ and ex situ protection. Introgression between the rare species *Q. austrocochinchinensis* and common sympatric species *Q. kerrii* is compromising the genetic integrity of *Q. austrocochinchinensis*, as genetic assimilation was detected in both localities, and only one subpopulation in a core protected area of a nature reserve maintains unique germplasm. The conservation and restoration of tropical ravine rainforest is an important long-term goal for the successful conservation of *Q. austrocochinchinensis*. High throughput molecular markers to genotype acorns is a crucial next step needed to monitor contemporary gene flow for effective conservation management of threatened subpopulations to maximize genetic diversity and prevent introgression.

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The importance and application of genetics in conservation of tree species

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[PS5c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

For a threatened tree species, the level of genetic diversity, and the adaptive potential that genetic variation represents, is a crucial factor for curators, collectors and researchers to consider. Genetic variation determines both the conservation value of a botanic garden collection and the likelihood that wild populations will persist into the future. Genetic information is now more powerful, affordable and accessible than ever, and is being integrated into both in situ and ex situ tree conservation programs. Specific examples of tree conservation genetics include identifying illegal timber harvest, guiding seed collections, identifying the source of resistance to diseases, curating living collections, determining forest genetic reserve boundaries, determining appropriate management, and identifying the pollination biology of understudied species. This symposium will showcase the latest genetic and genomic methods and how they are being used around the world in tree conservation programs at botanic gardens. These leading experts will demonstrate that genetic tools can be a valuable part of both research and conservation at gardens. The speakers will explain how they are using genetics to answer challenging conservation questions, as well as how to translate the results of these studies into practical conservation actions that protect tree genetic diversity both in situ and ex situ. Symposium attendees will have the opportunity to interact with the speakers, who will answer questions and concerns about genetics and conservation.

-Objective of the symposium-

Genetic tools are becoming more common and affordable. Genetics is a powerful tool for providing information about species reproductive biology, ecology, dispersal, adaptation, historical population size changes, gene flow, pollinators and more. Many botanic gardens are becoming global leaders in this valuable field of research. Even smaller botanic gardens without the capacity for a molecular biology laboratory can participate in conservation genetic studies by providing plant material or other support, leading collecting expeditions, helping analyze and interpret data, or engaging in the conservation activities that are implemented based on the results of genetic studies. Nonetheless, in spite of its potential, genetics is sometimes still not integrated into conservation programs due to perceptions that it is too expensive, complex, or difficult to interpret. Our symposium will help change these perceptions and overcome barriers to using genetics in conservation of trees. The objectives of this session are to 1) highlight the variety of genetic tools and markers available for tree conservation genetics research, 2) encourage gardens of all sizes to engage in the conservation of tree genetic diversity, and 3) provide models and case studies of successful conservation genetics projects that have resulted in scientifically informed ex situ and in situ conservation initiatives. We will also briefly explain the outcomes of a recent tree genetics symposium (Gene Conservation of Tree Species – Banking on the Future) held by the US Forest Service in 2016, and some ongoing efforts that were inspired by that meeting. This symposium is designed to fit within the "Tree Tuesday" track of tree-focused sessions.

-Expected outputs-

Attendees will gain valuable knowledge on how and why tree genetic diversity should be studied, catalogued, protected, and managed. The session will also promote dialogue and networking which should lead to future partnerships across the world and across different areas of expertise. Finally, it is our hope

that garden curators, field botanists, and conservationists will be inspired and informed about the importance of incorporating genetic diversity into future collecting trips, ex situ collections design and management, and in situ conservation actions and priorities.

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The European Native Seed Conservation Network (ENSCONET) – status, aims and challenges

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[PS5d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

ENSCONET started as an EU-funded project in 2004. Running until 2009, it pooled and promoted seed conservation related activities of 24 European organizations. In 2010 the ENSCONET-partners decided to continue their collaboration. Currently, 31 organizations from 17 European countries are members of the ENSCONET Consortium, coordinated by the Millennium Seedbank Kew.

Aims of ENSCONET are to: 1) Improve collaboration between seedbanks and seed related research institutions; 2) Develop standards for seed collection and seedbank management with special emphasis on conservation needs; 3) Disseminate experiences and best practices; 4) Ensure that seed collections are suitable and available for conservation projects; 5) Create a joint platform for seedbank holdings and data; making them available for the scientific community; 6) Identify priorities for conservation actions related to seed collections beyond national borders; 8) Contribute to targets 8 and 9 of the GSPC. Up to now, major achievements of ENSCONET (besides the establishment of the network itself) include the preparation of standardized collecting and curation protocols and of the joint seedbank-database ENSCObase. Looking ahead, the Consortium will focus on a) Ensuring that ENSCObase is maintained and updated with collection data from partner seedbanks; b) Creating interfaces between ENSCObase and other seed conservation databases; c) Strengthening links with conservation and plant biology related institutions; d) Establishing opportunities for the exchange of seed conservation related knowledge, best practices and experiences; f) Promoting seed research activities; g) Seeking funding opportunities to enable the Consortium to carry out these tasks.

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Conservation of Australia's native plant species through collaborative seed banking

Mr Damian Wrigley¹

¹*Australian Seed Bank Partnership, Canberra, Australia*

[PS5d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership is a national alliance of botanical, conservation and restoration organisations, working to conserve Australia's native plant diversity through collaborative and sustainable seed collection, banking, research and knowledge sharing.

This presentation will highlight examples of the Partnership's national and international efforts to conserve the diversity of Australian plant species and how these efforts contribute to the progress of meeting Target 8.

Since 2014 the work of the Partnership has increased the number of Australia's threatened plant taxa held in conservation seed banks by 10%. As a result of our efforts over one third of Australia's threatened plant species are now held in conservation seed banks. Through our flagship 1000 Species Project the Partnership aims to collect 1000 species, not previously represented in seed banks, by 2020. To date, we have collected over 760 of these species and are well on our way to meeting this target. As well as collecting threatened and unrepresented species, we place a strong emphasis on ensuring genetically diverse collections and work to enhance the provenance of existing collections.

At an international level, the Partnership has made significant contributions to the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership (MSBP). We support the MSBP's target of banking 25% of the world's plant species by 2020 through projects such as the Garfield Weston Global Tree Seed Bank Project. Through this project the Partnership will contribute 380 collections of previously unbanked endemic Australian tree species to the MSBP, representing a quarter of this project's international target.

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Ex-situ Seed Conservation of Rare Plants in South Korea: A Key Role of Seed Bank, Korea National Arboretum

Dr Go Eun Choi¹, Dr Balkrishna Ghimire¹, Mrs. Hayan Lee¹, Mr. Gang Uk Suh¹, Dr Sung Won Son¹, Dr Mi Jin Jeong¹, Dr Cheul Ho Lee¹

¹*Korea National Arboretum, Pocheon, South Korea*

[PS5d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

An effort to stockpile native plant species has currently been increasing as many botanical gardens began to establish seed banks for the purpose of conservation. Efforts are focused on collecting seeds of mostly wild, medicinal and ornamental species. Seed banks provide an efficient plant conservation strategy. In the Korean peninsula, there are 4,177 plant species (2016, Korea Plant Names Index) including 360 endemics and 571 rare plants categorized at the national level by the IUCN criteria: EW 4, CR 112, EN 199, VU LC 70, and DD112 (2009, Korea National Arboretum). The KNA has established various in- and ex-situ conservation programs related to the GSPC targets.

During the past decade, the Korea National Arboretum Seed bank (KNASB) has been carrying out detailed collecting, reporting, management, quality control and preservation of seeds of native plants. The aim is to store more than 60% of native plant species (until 2020), mainly targeting rare and endemic plants of Korea. Present conservation status comprises 2,356 species (56% of the total) belonging to 861 genera of Korean domestic plant and over 1,000 species from other Asian countries. The collected seeds are being conserved, 407 species (71% of the total) of rare plants by EW 1, CR 92, EN 92, VU 101, LC 67 and DD 54 in KNASB. The collected seeds are first subjected to cleaning and inspection (full seed rate, initial viability test and quantity measurement), immediately followed by drying for short/long-term storage. There are two major storage facilities, long term (-18°C, 40% RH) stores orthodox seeds and short term (4°C, 40% RH) stores unorthodox seeds such as *Machilus* seeds. The seeds in long term storage are monitored for viability and germination at least every 10 years. The seed viability is tested to ensure effective management and whether seeds have enough potential for germination. For utilization and re-introduction of rare and endemic plants, the data stored in KNASB not only provides information on seed storage behavior, but also accumulated morphological features, germination and dormancy information through ongoing research.

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The Global Seed Conservation Challenge - Seed banking towards Target 8 of the GSPC

Ms Katherine O'Donnell¹

¹BGCI, , United Kingdom

[PS5d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Global Seed Conservation Challenge (GSCC) is a BGCI led initiative focused on increasing the contribution of botanic gardens worldwide to conserving seed of threatened species through seed banking, towards Target 8 of the GSPC.

The GSCC supports and challenges botanic gardens to do more. As part of the challenge component, prizes will be awarded to gardens that excel in seed banking. We will celebrate success and deliver inspiration to other botanic gardens to get involved.

Worldwide there are around 400 botanic gardens with seed banks and an increasing number of botanic gardens are banking seed as part of their ex situ conservation programmes. The GSCC provides support to gardens establishing seed banks and provides resources, funding and training to botanic gardens around the world.

The activities of the GSCC to date will be presented and the global contribution of seed banks towards Target 8 will be measured. PlantSearch records of seed collections will be analysed along with ThreatSearch data to provide an up-to-date analysis of how many threatened species are in seed bank collections.

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National, regional and global partnerships - botanic gardens banking seed towards Target 8 of the GSPC

Ms Katherine O'Donnell¹

¹*Bgci, , United Kingdom*

[PS5d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Target 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation calls for 75% of threatened plant species in ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin and at least 20% available for recovery and restoration programmes by 2020. Many botanic gardens are working towards achieving Target 8 of the GSPC through their plant conservation programmes with an increasing number of botanic gardens involved in seed banking threatened species. Skills, knowledge and data built up through the conservation of these collections can also be used to support wider plant conservation activities. Over 400 botanic gardens worldwide are involving seed banking. National, regional and global partnerships involve institutions working collaboratively to collect and bank seed, share knowledge, resources and research. This symposium will bring together representatives of these partnerships to share experiences and encourage other gardens to work cooperatively.

-Objective of the symposium-

The objective of this symposium is to highlight national, regional and global partnerships that involve institutions working collaboratively to collect and bank seed, share knowledge, resources and research. This symposium will bring together representatives of these partnerships to discuss progress towards Target 8 of the GSPC, to share experiences and provide best practice for those institutions not currently in partnerships.

This symposium will also introduce the Global Seed Conservation Challenge, a BGCI-led initiative that aims to encourage more botanic gardens to in seed banking at either the national, regional or global level. Botanic gardens that are already involved in seed banking will share their experiences of working together with other institutions in partnerships which will stimulate activity towards global biodiversity goals.

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Educational activities in Tallinn Botanic Garden

Mrs Siiri Liiv¹, Ms Marit Kasemets¹, Ms. Karmen Kähr¹

¹*Tallinn Botanic Garden, Tallinn, Estonia*

[PS5e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Tallinn Botanic Garden holds different educational activities based on its plant collections and natural habitats.

Guided tours to learn about the plants and collections are conducted by expert guides in four different languages. An audioguide provides information (in Estonian, English, Russian and Finnish) about the collections and nature trails altogether in 122 viewpoints. For visually impaired, the Garden of Senses has a special audioguide with descriptive translation in Estonian. The devices can be borrowed free of charge.

Since 2000, exhibitions have been organized almost monthly. These are very popular among the visitors, which is proved by the multiplied number of visitors on the days of exhibitions. The permanent exhibition of lichens, mosses and tree fungi introduces around 60-70 species from each group of organisms. The explanatory posters, booklets in different languages and worksheets for students are available for the visitors.

About 6,5 km of nature trails with altogether 22 viewpoints run through several landscapes and habitats, natural or strongly influenced by human activities.

Since 2006, the Garden has offered curriculum-based nature education programmes for school students from 2nd to 11th grade. We have conducted education programmes for 789 classes from 92 different schools – altogether for 16,000 students during 674 days of learning at the garden.

Educational group Nature Child, which is aimed at Grades 1-6, comes together from October to June.

Garden's specialists share botanical and horticultural information by radio and television editions, articles and nature education books, and contribute to the work of the committee on botanical terminology.

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Standing in the Shadow of Henslow: Re-invigorating the order beds at the Cambridge University Botanic Gardens.

Dr Samuel Brockington¹

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[PS5e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Systematic Beds at the Cambridge University Botanic Gardens were designed in 1845 by Andrew Murray, the first Curator of the Botanic Garden under the Directorship of Henslow, Darwin's Mentor. Murray set out to translate the most comprehensive botany book of the time, written in 1819 by Augustin de Candolle, into a unique planting design that could be used for teaching plant taxonomy. One can read the Systematic Beds as a living interpretation of De Candolle's text book, starting with the Ranunculaceae (buttercup) family which he discusses on page one all the way through the book to the last entry on the Phytolaccaceae (American pokeweed) family. Murray devised the planting beds themselves as curving islands in a gardenesque style, a radical departure from the standard, rectangular 'order beds' found in most botanic gardens. They contain 1600 plant species belonging to about 98 families dispersed across 157 beds. Because the taxonomic thinking of the time is embedded in the landscaped design of the beds, all features including the placement of hedges, trees and paths are imbued with taxonomic meaning. The order beds are consequently exceptionally resistant to concepts of taxonomic change. In the context of a large grant to re-develop and interpret the order beds for the public, we have sought to find a balance between the demands of heritage and the need for up to date beds that will communicate the relevance of contemporary taxonomic change. In this talk I will present on the long process of consultation, the research we undertook to find solutions to these issues, and the plan we have put in place.

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Is there a place for philosophy in the botanical garden?

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[PS5e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

‘We must cultivate our garden’; so wrote Voltaire at the conclusion of his famous satirical novel, *Candide*. In the French language the word ‘cultivate’ has a double meaning consistent with the dual mission of a botanical garden: (1) conserving the plant collections according to approved techniques while at the same time (2) transmitting essential knowledge of plants, ecology and related themes to the public. The latter task entails the transmission not merely of information, but of ideas, concepts and finally, a philosophy of nature and environment according to which the information is organized and interpreted.

How do we evoke the world of ideas in a botanical garden? In 2012 the botanical gardens of Neuchâtel and Geneva hosted exhibits for the tercentenary of Jean Jacques Rousseau’s birth (1712-1778). These exhibits provided a much-needed opportunity to broach the concept of nature philosophy, a theme relatively rarely addressed by botanical institutions. As concrete examples of applied nature philosophy we take ideas about forestry management in the canton of Neuchâtel articulated by Jean Jacques Rousseau, Frédéric Samuel Ostervald (1713-1795), Henri Biolley (1858-1939), Robert Hainard (1906-1999) and Denis de Rougemont (1906-1985). From over-exploitation of forests in the 18th century to implementation of the late nineteenth-century productivity principle, and the more recent adoption of the cultivated forest concept, we see the emergence of an awareness of the need to protect our natural inheritance. We argue that botanical gardens should—together with other institutions and NGO’s—share the responsibility for transmitting such ideas.

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Open-air exhibitions. Exemple of museographic challenges and themes developed at the botanical garden of Neuchâtel (Switzerland)

Mr Blaise Mulhauser¹, Miss Elodie Gaille¹

¹*Jardin Botanique De Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel, Switzerland*

[PS5e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Botanical gardens have the chance of having living outdoor spaces, unlike most museums, which are limited to closed rooms. Organising temporary exhibitions, with a pertinent plan, and amusing and varied routes is a real challenge.

Located close to the forest, the botanical garden of Neuchâtel combines natural habitats, living collection areas and several exhibition rooms in a historical villa. Since five years our institution has developed open-air exhibitions aimed towards the general public on sensitive issues such as the decline of honeybees (Fleurs d'abeilles 2013-2014), the use of plants and nutrition (Belles à croquer 2014-2015), evolution and symbiosis (Aux racines de la fleur since 2015), plant cultivation (Terre d'outils 2016-2017), plants and health (Materia medica since 2018).

However, the creation of an exhibition is not limited to scenography. We also integrate scientific research and the development of original collections. In some cases we also invite the local population to contribute in the frame of citizen science projects (Biodiversité Neuchâtel 2010, Mission coquelicot 2010, Miels et pesticides 2014-2016). For an intermediate size botanical garden with limited resources, the interest of an integrated approach lies in the capacity to realise projects addressing de facto the three missions of the institution: research, management of collections and environmental education. We illustrate the advantages of this concept using examples from our different exhibitions: analysis of neonicotinoid contamination in honey, use of medicinal plants through the ages, encyclopaedia of heritage of practical usage of tools, etc.

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Fostering ex situ conservation and plant reintroductions by botanic gardens

Dr. Andreas Ensslin¹, Dr. Sandrine Godefroid¹, Mr. Kayri Havens², Mrs. Elke Zippel³, Mr. Marko Hyvärinen⁴
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[PS5f] - Workshop, Room 17, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Ex situ conservation of threatened plants in botanic gardens and their subsequent reintroduction to the wild have become an important part of botanic garden activities and a central pillar of global conservation efforts. However, the effectiveness of those activities, e.g. the success of reintroduction programs is often questioned, risks neglected and new guidelines not properly disseminated. This leaves many activities conducted with sub-optimal strategies and protocols, and furthermore hinders a positive view on these activities by conservationists and the public. In this workshop, we want to provide an overview of strategies of ex situ conservation and reintroduction as well as current guidelines and the scientific background from which recommendations are derived. Alongside some examples and experiences of botanic gardens, we plan to discuss objections and problems encountered in the course of such activities and search for ways to overcome major obstacles to get botanic gardens better involved in ex situ conservation and reintroductions.

-Objective of the workshop-

The objective of the workshop is to examine current concepts and programs of ex situ plant conservation and reintroduction, explain and disseminate recommendations to avoid risks to ensure best-practice protocols, and discuss major obstacles and future directions in the field. A major focus will be on population genetics and evolutionary issues relevant to ex situ conservation and how this is incorporated in current guidelines. We address this workshop specifically to botanic garden staff, who are not deeply familiar with the scientific background of the guidelines, and we plan to leave ample space for discussion of problems, concerns and other input from practitioners.

The workshop will consist of three parts. The first part will be an introduction into current concepts and guidelines with a focus on the scientific explanation of risks and their consideration in the guidelines. In the second part, invited speakers will present some examples of relevant activities in botanic gardens and the problems and conclusions they have gained from these activities. The last part will be a discussion round with a special focus on input from practitioners.

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In situ and ex situ conservation of the relict tree *Zelkova abelicea* (Ulmaceae) in Crete, Greece

Mrs. Laurence Fazan¹, Dr Christini Fournaraki², Dr Panagiota Gotsiou², Polymnia Sklavaki³, Dimos Dimitriou³, Hariklia Kargiolaki⁴, Eleftheria Kehagiadaki⁴, Ioannis Aspetakis⁵, Pantelis Arvanitis⁵, Emmanouil Silligardos⁶, Emmanouil Koudoumas⁶, Prof. Gregor Kozlowski^{1,7}

¹University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland, ²CIHEAM Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Chania, Greece, ³Forest Directorate of Chania, Chania, Greece, ⁴Forest Directorate of Rethymno, Rethymno, Greece, ⁵Forest Directorate of Heraklio, Heraklio, Greece, ⁶Forest Directorate of Lassithi, Agios Nicolaos, Greece, ⁷Natural History Museum Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland

[PS5g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Zelkova abelicea is a relict tree endemic to the island of Crete and classified as Endangered in the actual IUCN Red List. The taxon has a high scientific as well as patrimonial value since traditional shepherd sticks are made from its durable and resistant wood. It is found in scattered and isolated stands in Cretan mountains. Pastoral activities pose the most important threats to the species, as not only browsing by goats but also trampling by numerous sheep or goats prevent seedlings from establishing and dwarfed shrubs from growing tall and fruiting. The climate and climate change, fire, land-use change, as well as altered water regimes resulting from the construction of reservoirs and roads, pose further threats to the species. An integrated conservation and research project was launched in 2014 to help protect this species. The main objectives are: (1) In situ conservation in selected stands of *Z. abelicea* by exclusion of browsing; (2) Ex situ conservation in seed banks and plantations; (3) Public awareness and outreach; (4) Elaboration of a global action plan for the long term management and conservation of *Z. abelicea* and its stands. Furthermore, complementary research activities are carried out or are planned, among others on vegetative and sexual reproduction, seed dispersal and population genetics. The presentation will provide an overview of the conservation and research activities of the past three years, present the key findings and achievements, introduce the activities 2017-2020, as well as discuss the challenges of conservation of relict trees in the Mediterranean.

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Conserving the Rare Endemic and Threatened (RET) plant species of Western Ghats, India- the M S Swaminathan Botanical Garden approach

Mr. Velayudhan Sivan¹, Dr Nadesa Panicker Anil Kumar

¹*M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Kalpetta, India*

[PS5g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The M S Swaminathan Botanical Garden of MS Swaminathan Research Foundation is a member garden of BGCI and a lead garden of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India for conservation of RET plants of Western Ghats, India. The major objective of the garden is to conserve Rare, Endemic and Threatened (RET) species and Medicinal plants. Extensive taxonomic and ecological research has been conducted throughout the Western Ghats on the RET plant species. The planting materials of the species studied were collected from their respective habitats following scientific methods. These planting materials were propagated and planted in MSSBG and places like waysides, temple premises, vacant space in plantations, in the premises of schools and colleges in a participatory mode. Reintroduction to forests was also done with the concerned department's participation. So far over a million seedlings of more than 160 RET plant species have been distributed and a total of 3,750 seedlings of 40 RET tree species were reintroduced to their natural habitats. We have so far identified 15 new flowering plant species. The RET plant seedlings planted ex-situ were monitored regularly and a 70% success rate was measured. MSSBG has a collection of 1,058 plant species of which 376 are endemic to Western Ghats and 54 are threatened. Of the 100 climbers and liana collection 25 are endemic and 22 are rare. The garden is now serving as a knowledge and resource spot to the plant researchers, students and other plant lovers.

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Targeting trees: increasing species-specific actions for threatened trees in their natural habitats

Dr Georgina Magin¹, Mr David Gill¹, Ms Victoria Price¹

¹*Fauna & Flora International, Cambridge, United Kingdom*

[PS5g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

More than 9,600 of the world's tree species are threatened with extinction. While reversing habitat loss is the primary issue for most of these species, many also require tailored conservation interventions to ensure their long-term survival in situ (for example, addressing illegal or unsustainable harvesting, removing barriers to natural regeneration or directly reinforcing wild populations through planting). However, tailored in situ conservation action for threatened trees is, in many cases, limited or lacking altogether. Often the people responsible for managing or restoring land – for example, protected area staff, NGOs or restoration programmes - lack the skills, awareness and resources required to incorporate actions for threatened trees into their work. This talk explores approaches taken by several of FFI's field projects to boost action for threatened trees, as part of the Global Trees Campaign. Case studies describing work to support new and more effective conservation actions from nature reserves in China, restoration programmes in Brazil and government policy in Indonesia are discussed. Opportunities for providing better support to conservation practitioners, through delivery of technical expertise and mentoring, are also explored.

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Conservation of *Magnolia omeiensis* (Magnoliaceae) , a Critically Endangered Species endemic to Sichuan, China

Dr. Daoping Yu¹, Dr WEN Xiangying²

¹*Emeishan Botanical Garden, Sichuan Provincial Institute of Natural Resource Sciences, China,* ²*Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) China Programme Office, Guangzhou, China*

[PS5g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Magnolia omeiensis, a critically endangered tree endemic to Emei Mt., Sichuan, Southwest of China, where there are only two known small populations in the wild. Only 74 individuals are remaining at 1200 - 1500m . Due to the fragility of living environment ,there is very low fruit and seed set, and very few seedlings in natural populations.

In 1993, we collected fruits from Emei Mt. to Emeishan Botanical Garden. Now there are 15 trees blooming in succession. We carried out a series of studies on artificial pollination, flowering phenology, propagation technology, seed dormancy and germination. At present, we got more than 1400 seedlings by grafting and sowing. In 2016, 110 individuals propagated from seed were transplanted to the two reconstructed sites in 850m and 1500m of Emeishan Mount. 105 individuals were alive. So we propose that ex-situ conservation with reintroduction was an effective measure to protect *M. omeiensis*.

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The Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF) – uniting natural science museums and botanic gardens under a shared vision.

Dr. Michelle Price¹, Mrs Ana Casino²

¹*Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de la Ville de Genève, Chambésy-Geneva, Switzerland,* ²*CETAF Secretariat, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium*

[PS5h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF), founded in 1996, unites over 60 European natural science institutions (natural science museums, science centres and botanic gardens) that hold collections and conduct systematic research. Over the last 20 years the consortium has been active in promoting both collections and systematics within and across Europe. Recently the consortium developed its Strategy and Strategic development plan 2015-2025, recommendations on the implementation of unique identifiers for biological specimens, guidelines on implementing the European Commission's Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) principles in natural science institutions and its Code of Conduct and Best Practices on ABS. CETAF has forged partnerships with sister organisations in Europe, and internationally, with the aim of fostering collaborations, exchanging information, developing opportunities and creating dynamic interactions between directors, scientists, collections managers and other experts from different communities that have similar objectives. Here the relationships between strategic partners in the domain of natural sciences, the potential for collaborations and for community actions will be explored, from the perspective of botanic gardens and in link with CETAF.

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The Herbadrop Project. An EUDAT project for the long term storage and analysis of herbarium specimen images.

Mr. Robert Cubey¹, Mr. Pascal Dugenie²

¹*Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*, ²*National Computing Center for Higher Education, Montpellier, France*

[PS5h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The EUDAT is an European e-infrastructure of integrated data services and resources to support research. This infrastructure and its services have been developed in close collaboration with over 50 research communities spanning across many different scientific disciplines and involved at all stage of the design process. The establishment of the EUDAT is timely with the imminent realization of the European Open Science Cloud which aims to offer open and seamless services for storage, management, analysis and re-use of research data, across borders and scientific disciplines.

The Herbadrop Project is an archival service for long-term preservation of herbarium specimen images and a tool for extracting information by image analysis. Developed by five institutes from Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands and Scotland it aims to be available to other herbaria in the future. As well as the long-term preservation of the images, the project intends to advance the development of integrated analysis tools such OCR & handwriting recognition, colour analysis for presence of viable DNA, crowd sourcing transcription and duplicate finding.

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Mutual benefits between authorities and botanical gardens: the exemple of Geneva.

Mr. Bertrand Von Arx¹, Mr; Raoul Palese²

¹DETA- Direction générale AGRICULTURE & NATURE , Genève, Switzerland, ²CJBG, Genève, Switzerland

[PS5h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Usually an office at the government has the authority for defining plant conservation strategy and realizes local actions. Theirs actions are based on international conventions, national and regional legal bases. In order to be able to identify properly the actions to be promoted, a close relationship with scientific institutions and experts is needed. The more, if there is a Botanical Garden around it is even better. In Geneva, westernmost canton of Switzerland, collaboration has been put in place at the beginning of 2000 between the Conservatoire et Jardin botanique de la Ville de Genève and the local conservation unit of the government, the Direction general de l'agriculture et de la Nature (DGAN). Bound together by a bilateral agreement describing who is doing what in this partnership, the two entities are working together for the benefit of the local flora. Many tools have been produced, such as local red lists , but also many in situ and ex situ actions are realized with much success. This presentation intends to present good practices and successes in this collaboration between a government office and a Botanical Garden.

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JSTOR Plants & Society: Developing a collection with the botanic garden community to showcase the importance of plants for society

Ms. Deirdre Ryan¹, Mr Jason Przybylski¹

¹JSTOR, New York, United States

[PS5h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 27, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

JSTOR Global Plants (<http://plants.jstor.org/>) – with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and in cooperation with hundreds of botanic gardens, herbaria, and libraries worldwide – developed a database of over two million plant type specimens, ensuring the preservation of and increasing access to these fundamental scientific materials. JSTOR is now embarking on a new project, called Plants & Society, working with botanic gardens to bring increased attention to their rich collections of non-specimen materials – including historical, horticultural, and ethnobotany materials – and show the importance of these materials to the scientific community and society at large. Plants & Society will focus on the historical, cultural, aesthetic, and environmental implications and uses of plants in society, developing pathways of study between the sciences, humanities, and social sciences. Content for inclusion in the collection is being identified following four subject modules: Plant History & Exploration; Useful Plants; Horticulture, Gardens, & Landscape; and Ecology & Biodiversity. JSTOR has performed initial testing for this new project through a beta site that is open for feedback, Livingstone's Zambezi Expedition (<http://labs.jstor.org/zambezi/>), which explores one approach to bringing together type specimens and historic materials. JSTOR is currently working with several partners to develop this project and we hope to bring in new partners as the project develops and receive feedback from the botanic garden community. The project's goal is to preserve and increase access to the rich collections of botanic gardens, introducing new audiences to the important work of botanic gardens and showcasing their importance to society.

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Awareness, Biodiversity and Conservation – The ABC of a multi-institutional partnership to conserve Argentina’s medicinal plants heritage

Joachim Gratzfeld¹, Graciela Barreiro², Florence Guillaume³, Serge Bouteleau⁴

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*, ²*Carlos Thays Botanic Garden, Buenos Aires, Argentina*, ³*Klorane Botanical Foundation, Lavour Cedex, France*, ⁴*Pierre Fabre Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina*

[PS6a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

While dwindling plant diversity presents a global concern, there are still comparatively few examples of cross-disciplinary action engaging multiple sectors in collaborative conservation efforts. Part of a mega-biodiversity continent covering 15.5% of South America’s land mass, Argentina boasts over 10,000 vascular plants including 1,746 endemics. A significant proportion of this botanical wealth is of socio-economic importance. This includes as many as 1,500 native taxa used for their medicinal properties comprising herbal as well as woody plants, such as *Prosopis caldenia* and *Maytenus* spp. While the level of threat to Argentina’s native flora is not fully established – some 48% of the endemic species have been assessed as highly threatened and 24% as threatened – habitat conversion to agriculture, invasive alien species introductions and overharvesting in the wild are key agents of change. To support action to secure Argentina’s medicinal plants heritage for future generations, Carlos Thays Botanic Garden in Buenos Aires, Pierre Fabre Argentina, Klorane Botanical Foundation and Botanic Gardens Conservation International decided on a three-year partnership in 2015 with the following aims: enhancing ex situ conservation of selected native medicinal plants; strengthening public outreach and environmental education; and promoting inter-institutional collaboration for plant conservation. This talk will present the progress made towards achieving the partnership’s objectives. In particular, it will reflect on the opportunities and challenges that have arisen based on the unique, multi-institutional character of this collaboration, bringing together botanic gardens, the private sector, a corporate foundation and a not-for-profit organisation.

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Tropical Rainforest Conservation and Research Centre's (TRCRC) ongoing initiatives on bringing together Malaysia's private, governmental and non-governmental sectors towards the goal of ex-situ tree conservation.

Dr Dzaeman Dzulkifli¹, Dr Tajang Jinggut¹

¹*Tropical Rainforest Conservation & Research Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

[PS6a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

With the ever-increasing rate of deforestation throughout South-East Asia, the loss of plant species remains a major conservation concern. Efforts throughout the world have been carried out to safeguard plant species by preserving those that can be stored in refrigerated vaults i.e. seed banks. However, the conservation and preservation of tropical rainforest species remain a challenging task. A large percentage of tropical seeds are generally recalcitrant and are difficult to store for long periods.

In order to increase efforts to avoid the loss of tropical plant species and to minimise the effects of deforestation, TRCRC aims to establish multiple ex-situ 'Tropical Rainforest Living Collections' and plant nurseries throughout Malaysia, where seeds from threatened plants (e.g. dipterocarpaceae family) are collected, germinated, planted and eventually re-introduced back into their native habitats.

Through effective partnerships between state forestry departments, other non-governmental organisations, the private sector, the local community etc., TRCRC has established a living collection in Sabah, with plans to expand into Peninsular Malaysia. TRCRC also contributes towards nationwide initiatives such as the Federal Government's Central Forest Spine project that seeks to re-establish a contiguous network of forests in the backbone of Peninsular Malaysia. In addition, active engagement and partnerships with corporate sectors (e.g. the mining and oil palm industries), private land owners (e.g. development companies) and forestry departments help link their Corporate Social Responsibility efforts and restoration goals with TRCRC's conservation strategies.

This talk will highlight the opportunities and challenges faced when establishing working partnerships between TRCRC and various sectors towards achieving our goals.

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Cross-discipline collaborations for tree conservation - How can botanic gardens and other sectors collaborate and capitalise on each other's expertise?

Kirsty Shaw², Paul Smith², Nicole Cavender¹, Joachim Gratzfeld², Mrs. Graciela Barreiro³, Mrs. Florence Guillaume⁴, Mr. Serge Bouteleau⁵, Dr Dzaeman Dzulkifli⁶, Paul Laird⁷

¹The Morton Arboretum, Illinois, United States, ²Botanic Gardens Conservation International, London, United Kingdom,

³Carlos Thays Botanical Garden, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ⁴Klorane Botanical Foundation, Castres, France, ⁵Pierre Fabre Argentina & Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay, ⁶Tropical Rainforest Conservation and Research Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, ⁷International Tree Foundation, Oxford, United Kingdom

[PS6a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The loss of plant diversity concerns us all, yet integrated conservation engaging various sectors jointly, still has a tremendous development potential.

While botanic gardens have been amongst the most important agents to save endangered tree species from the brink of extinction, their knowledge, knowhow and living, germplasm and herbaria collections are also of immediate relevance to other conservation actors. In turn, community-based organisations, local, national and international non-governmental organisations, government agencies, academia, specialised research organisations and the private sector, equally bring an enormous range of skills, resources and facilities that complement, enhance and innovate conservation strategies for trees.

This session will illustrate and discuss existing successful examples of alliances across sectors benefiting from a diverse pool of expertise and explore potential to develop new and strengthened partnerships.

The session will highlight key features of and critical ingredients in the early days of the collaborative work, as well as opportunities and challenges arising during the lifetime of the joint venture. The session will conclude with summarised lessons learnt to inform the establishment of future partnerships benefiting tree conservation.

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Science café's: sharing best practices

Mrs. Hanneke Jelles¹, dr Paul Keßler¹, MSc Roderick Bouman¹, Prof. Dr. Hoang Van Sam², Drs. Ing. Bob Ursem³, Mrs. Iwa Kołodziejska⁴, Mrs. Gabriele Rinaldi⁵, Mr. Francesco Zonca⁵, Prof. Dr. Michael Kiehn⁶, Mrs. Krysia Jędrzejewska-Szmek⁴

¹*Hortus botanicus Leiden, Leiden, Netherlands*, ²*National University of Forestry, Hanoi, Viet Nam*, ³*Botanische Tuin van de TU Delft, Delft, Netherlands*, ⁴*University of Warsaw Botanic Garden, Warsaw, Poland*, ⁵*Botanic Garden of Bergamo, Bergamo, Italy*, ⁶*Vienna Botanical Garden, Vienna, Austria*

[PS6b] - Round Table, Room 16, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Starting in 2018, the Leiden Botanical Gardens will organize a number of “science café’s”, as part of their participation in the EU's “Big Picnic” project. The Big Picnic is an EU funded project that brings together the public, scientists, policy-makers and industry to explore the global challenge of food security. In these café’s, people and organizations with experience on the diverse topics related to this EU project are invited to present their stories and examples.

In this round table discussion we will address the practical side of the science café. How to ensure you reach your intended audiences for instance. And different ways to stimulate information sharing, so your audience returns home well informed yet full of more questions to explore.

This session is not just interesting for those involved in the “Big Picnic” project. The session will explore other situations where this format might be appropriate.

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Global Tree Assessment Round Table

Dr George Schatz⁷, **Dr Malin Rivers**¹, Mrs. Sara Oldfield², Dr Murphy Westwood³, Dr. Gustavo Martinelli⁴, Mrs. Jane Smart⁵, Mr. Damian Wrigley⁶

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom*, ²*Global Tree Specialist Group*, ³*The Morton Arboretum*, ⁴*Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*, ⁵*IUCN, Gland, Switzerland*, ⁶*Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, Australia*, ⁷*Missouri Botanical Garden, Missouri, United States*

[PS6c] - Round Table, Room 4, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The Global Tree Assessment is an initiative to provide conservation assessments of all tree species by the year 2020. This round table discussion will include panellists that are members of the Global Tree Specialist Group and already active members of the Global Tree Assessment. They will share their experiences in the progress of the Global Tree Assessment, and outlines steps for how to join this important initiative to contribute to the conservation of trees and ensure that no tree species goes extinct.

The aim of the round table is to inform the attendants of what the Global Tree Assessment is and also to share knowledge, encourage participation, and mobilise action. Botanic gardens will be encouraged to join a major initiative that will attract widespread attention in 2020 with the potential to change the global focus of biodiversity conservation.

The expected outcome of this round table discussion is i) to increase awareness of the GTA and its goals, timeline, approaches, resources, and outcomes, ii) to highlight the areas in most urgent need of red listing effort, both taxonomically and geographically, iii) to empower the botanic garden community to participate in the GTA and iv) to mobilise action to contribute to the GTA and tree conservation efforts.

Anyone interested in the GTA are welcome to attend. We would like people to attend that can contribute their knowledge on trees, and contribute to red list assessments of trees of their geographic or taxonomic expertise.

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Contribution of seed banks across Europe towards 2020 GSPC targets 8 & 9, assessed through the ENSCONET database

Mr Stéphane Rivière¹, Dr Jonas Müller¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Ardingly, United Kingdom*

[PS6d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

To assess the contribution of seed banks across Europe towards the 2011-2020 GSPC targets 8 and 9, we chose to compare ENSCONET data about seed accessions stored in the ENSCOBASE database since 2005 against seven separate checklists. The first two checklists (Euro+Med and The Plant List) were used to map ENSCOBASE holdings against two international taxonomic checklists in order to keep consistency in the taxonomy used for ENSCOBASE, especially with regard to accepted names/synonyms. The second set of checklists (2011 European Red List of Vascular Plants and IUCN Red List 2015.4) were used to assess the progress of the ENSCONET Consortium regarding 2011-2020 GSPC target 8. Finally, three more checklists - the Harlan and de Wet Crop Wild Relative Inventory, the 2014 IUCN European Red List of Medicinal Plants and the 1995 Catalogue of the wild relatives of cultivated plants native to Europe - contained socioeconomically important plants such as Crop Wild Relatives (CWR), medicinal plants, food, forage, timber species and ornamentals. These analyses were used to assess the progress of the ENSCONET Consortium regarding the 2011-2020 GSPC target 9.

Results show that seed banks across Europe belonging to the ENSCONET Consortium have made significant progress in the conservation, storage and dissemination of information of European native species by meeting targets 8b and 9 before 2020. The intra-specific diversity of the threatened taxa however needs to be increased in the collections of the ENSCONET Consortium, and for this it can rely on ENSCOBASE which can help identify necessary targets.

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Challenges, opportunities and progress towards Target 8 of the GSPC: A New Zealand perspective

Mrs Karin Van Der Walt¹

¹*Wellington City Council - Wellington Gardens, Wellington, New Zealand*

[PS6d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Despite its relatively low floral diversity, more than 80% of the 2,400 native species are endemic to the New Zealand Floristic Area. The 2013 New Zealand vascular flora assessment classified 289 species as “Threatened” (Nationally Critical, Nationally Endangered and Nationally Vulnerable), 749 species as “At Risk” and 627 species as “Naturally Uncommon”. Causes of decline are not unique to the country but follow the worldwide trends of habitat destruction, fragmentation, inbreeding depression, impact from invasive species and climate change. Additional, and possibly unique, threats to both in situ and ex situ plant conservation in New Zealand include genetic erosion through “eco-sourcing” in large scale restoration operations, introduction of pathogens such as myrtle rust & Rapid ‘Ohi’ a death, legislation and country wide predator control programmes. Although progress towards the GSPC targets has been slow with a very low number/no threatened species represented in any form of ex situ conservation collection (i.e. the New Zealand Indigenous Floral Seed Bank, botanic gardens and private collections); recent milestones include the formation of a national strategy for plant conservation, establishment of a myrtle rust working group, prioritizing species for ex situ conservation and the compilation of comprehensive species management plans.

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The Geneva botanical garden's seed bank serving target 8

Dr Catherine Lambelet¹, Mr. Florian Mombrial¹

¹*Conservatoire Et Jardin Botaniques De La Ville De Genève, Genève/Chambésy, Switzerland*

[PS6d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

One of the five missions of the City of Geneva's Conservatory and Botanical Garden (CJB) is to "protect" which means contributing to the protection of the plant heritage by providing expertise on environmental problems and conserving and multiplying threatened species. Born in the year 2000, a sector devoted to Conservation and Nature Protection developed several projects.

In order to carry out these activities, the CJBs have developed ex situ conservation methods in-house and are working with several partners, particularly the General Directorate for Agriculture and Nature in Geneva (DGAN).

In temperate climates, one of the simplest and most effective ex situ conservation tools to be developed within a botanical garden is a seed bank. Given that the Geneva Botanical Garden has been producing an Index Seminum for a long time and that gardeners in the rockeries sector have a long history of cultivation, it has been possible to develop seed bank activities within a few years. An appropriate infrastructure and methodology has been developed that allows today to collect seeds reliably in the wild and to store them safely for many years. More than 450 threatened species at regional or national level, spread over more than 1,100 samples, were present in the freezer at the end of 2016.

The seed samples are used regularly within the framework of action plans, renaturation of environments or destruction of populations by construction sites, taking advantage of the garden possibilities to multiply new plants in ex situ cultivation.

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The Dahlem Seed Bank at the Botanical Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin - regional activities to contribute to target 8

Dr Elke Zippel¹, Prof Dr Albert-Dieter Stevens¹

¹*Botanischer Garten Und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Berlin, Germany*

[PS6d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Founded on a long tradition of its Index Seminum, the Botanic Garden Berlin has built its Dahlem Seed Bank to store seeds of selected accessions from the wild as well from selected cultivated species from all over the world, mainly from Germany and the East Mediterranean. In the last years we focused on a more regional approach. In close cooperation with nature conservation authorities Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern we collect and store seeds of rare and endangered regional species.

Botanic Gardens have a lot of experience in wild plant cultivation and are usually connected to scientific institutions. Therefore they are able to develop strategies for a sustainable ex situ conservation regarding a broad range of aspects of plant biology like germination, seedling establishment, genetic diversity, and fitness of endangered plant species. Applying this knowledge, seed banks at Botanical Gardens can and should use their material effectively to contribute to all aspects of target 8 of the GSPC including recovery and restoration programs for rare species, too.

We are testing the combination of seed banking, ex situ cultivation as well as in situ measurements for 15 target species in our project "Installation of a National Network for Conservation of Endangered Plant Species for which Germany has a Special Responsibility (WIPS-De)" which is a network of five Botanical Gardens and a University for Education throughout Germany.

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The contribution of the Millennium Seed Bank to GSPC target 8

Dr Elinor Breman¹, Dr Udayangani Liu¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Wakehurst, United Kingdom*

[PS6d] - Symposium, Room 13, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Millennium Seed Bank Partnership (MSBP) has been growing since 2000, during which time it has involved over 95 countries and territories, and has become the largest ex-situ conservation programme in the world. Today there are 54 countries involved in active seed conservation projects.

The conservation value of germplasm stored in Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) has been analysed using both quantitative and qualitative criteria. Results from the analysis highlighting the MSB's contribution towards meeting GSPC target 8 will be presented. The MSB Seed List (<http://apps.kew.org/seedlist/>), makes available all MSBP collections that are eligible for use, and tracks progress towards the second part of target 8. Usage data from the MSB Seed List and from a partner seed use questionnaire will also be presented. Existing MSBP seed collection programmes at the global scale that are contributing to target 8 of the GSPC include the Garfield Weston Global Seed Bank project and the Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change project, as well as country specific programmes targeting the national rare, threatened and endangered flora, together with useful plants.

The MSBP Data Warehouse (<http://brahmsonline.kew.org/msbp>) brings together data on seed collections held at seed banks across the partnership, including those not duplicated at the MSB. This initiative is improving our ability to track progress towards GSPC target 8 across the partnership as a whole and, based on our analysis of MSB only data, provides hope for the future.

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Botanic Garden as an Environment for Informal Education: Experience of Kaunas Botanical Garden

Dr Nerijus Jurkonis¹

¹*Kaunas Botanical Garden Of Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania*

[PS6e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

According to Willison (1994), botanic gardens have an obvious and vital role to play in conserving plants, but conservation cannot succeed without education. Kaunas botanical garden (KBG) of Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania has experience in a diverse range of education activities: from traditional guided excursions which present botanical collections, to informal education for preschoolers and schoolchildren. KBG is a partner in the Lithuanian Academy of Science's project for the 'Development of a National Science Communication System in Lithuania'. This project provides funding for the NSO laboratory, which began in 2009. The NSO laboratory provides an informal education programme for young explorers who join the project individually or through their school, when carrying out specific experiments as part of the curriculum (Mildažiene and Štuopytė, 2016). At present, KBG offers a curriculum-focused informal education programs for nurseries and secondary schools. Education programs include indoor and outdoor interactive and multiple activities: green classes, summer field expeditions, summer camps, mini research projects, and presentations of experiments during science festivals among other activities.

To spread our way of working further, in collaboration with the Lithuanian Centre of Non-formal Youth Education, we also started organising a national level competition 'Lithuanian Naturalist' for secondary schools.

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Growing Beyond Earth: From classroom botany to the expansion of human civilization

Dr Carl Lewis¹, Marion Litzinger¹, Amy Padolf¹

¹*Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Coral Gables, United States*

[PS6e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Botanic gardens are uniquely positioned to organize large, community-wide research and education initiatives. By coordinating botany experiments in many schools simultaneously, botanic gardens can achieve scientific and educational goals on a massive scale. Growing Beyond Earth (GBE) is a research and teaching initiative coordinated by Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (Coral Gables, Florida, USA) in partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). GBE is designed to help develop techniques for growing food aboard spacecraft. At the same time, GBE is teaching basic concepts in botany and practical applications of math, chemistry, and physics. It is now being conducted in 131 school classrooms for ages 11 to 18. Using specialized equipment installed in each classroom, edible plants are germinated and grown under some of the physical constraints of growing plants in space. These include low energy LED lighting, limited growth chamber volume, and controlled watering. Students plant, maintain, harvest, and measure plants, entering experimental data, photos, and observations online. Through two years of GBE experiments, more than 5000 students have helped identify several promising plant varieties that are now under consideration for experimental trials aboard the International Space Station. Survey data suggest that our educational goals are being met, as GBE appears to be increasing student knowledge, interest, and confidence in conducting scientific research. Moreover, GBE is allowing students to contribute to fundamental plant research and the future of space exploration.

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The Environmental Hub – a new model for a new social role

Ms Adi Bar-Yoseph¹, Ms Lior Gottesman¹

¹*Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Jerusalem, Israel*

[PS6e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Efforts to redefine the social role of botanical gardens are now widespread and take many forms according to gardens' expertise, mission and capabilities. This paper suggests a model for gardens to both expand the reach of their core message and expand their position and role by expanding content and utilising 21st century thinking and technology to maximize impact.

The model is based on community analysis so is highly localised while being universally applicable. It will be presented through description of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens' Social Environmental Hub which adapted the entrepreneurship hub model to reinvent the JBG's relationship with the city. The Hub is an outreach arm running projects as well as facilitating a professional network empowering change agents. Each member, including the Hub itself, focuses on their strengths, collaboration is encouraged and assets are pooled using different methods to support all in achieving their personal and collective goals. The focus on change agents creates a ripple effect multiplying the impact far beyond capacity for self-run projects and enables dealing with a wider variety of issues.

Through close community engagement, needs and assets of the whole community are identified and projects created tailored to use one in addressing the other. Building on issues identified as of interest to target audiences it creates a platform on which to convey traditional messaging and education alongside the new. This expands audience and reach of traditional values as well as enhancing the social role by positioning botanical gardens at the forefront of burning issues.

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CodeMyPlant: when high schools rally scientists to barcode the flora of Geneva

Dr Yamama Naciri¹

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[PS6e] - General theme, Room 6, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Biodiversity assessments and preservation are among the major challenges of the XXI century. They require a good species knowledge as well as awareness campaigns for an efficient commitment of citizens. Those challenges have been addressed by means of a citizen science project, named CodeMyPlant (2016-2018), aiming at drawing up a genetic inventory of the flora of the Geneva Canton (Switzerland). Since spring 2016, dozens of high school students have already been mobilized alongside researchers from the Conservatoire Et Jardin Botaniques (CJB), the Bioscope and SwissBOL (Barcode of Life) to complete the national and international barcode reference databases for biodiversity. In addition to documenting the biological diversity of the Canton, CodeMyPlant aims to trigger more general questions about speciation, evolution and the role of science at the present time. This is why researchers in education sciences are also interested in the project and will evaluate the evolution of students' perception of science.

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Positioning New Plant Conservation Initiatives to Support Institutional Strategic Goals

Dr. Matthew Taylor¹, Dr. Peter Zale¹

¹*Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pa, United States*

[PS6g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

In 1906, Pierre S. du Pont purchased a farm near Kennett Square, Pennsylvania to save a collection of historic trees from being turned into lumber. Plant conservation was underway on the site that would eventually become Longwood Gardens and preservation of these trees continues today. In some cases, as in 1906, impromptu plant conservation initiatives address an immediate need. In other cases, there is an opportunity to develop conservation initiatives to support a broad range of strategic goals across an organization. In 2012, Longwood Gardens began developing a plant conservation program that would not only use innovation and horticulture to help save threatened plants, but also address the following institutional goals: support Longwood's world-class horticultural displays; become a tool for interpretation and education; further develop Longwood's plant collections; have a local, national and international impact; and become a platform for developing national and international collaborations to support research, plant exploration and knowledge sharing. After much deliberation, rare and endangered orchids of the Mid-Atlantic United States were selected as the focus of the program. Since inception, work has been initiated with six rare, threatened and endangered taxa (*Arethusa bulbosa*, *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*, *Goodyera tessellata*, *Platanthera peramoena*, *Platanthera xibicolor*, and *Spiranthes casei*). To facilitate this work, strategic partnerships have been established with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the North American Orchid Conservation Center, local conservation groups and international partners. Furthermore, a conservation strategic plan has been implemented with objectives aligned with institutional strategic goals and worldwide conservation initiatives.

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Monitoring the flora and natural environments of the Canton of Geneva: acquisition, management, analysis and dissemination of information

Dr Nicolas Wyler¹, Mr. Von Arx B.²

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[PS6g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

For more than 20 years, the CJB has been building the repository for biodiversity in Geneva through its "Green Heritage Information System" (SIPV) program.

Over the years, this project has joined forces with other departments of the municipal and cantonal administration. More recently, in close collaboration with the General Directorate of Agriculture and Nature, the CJB initiated a programme for monitoring the flora and natural environments of the canton of Geneva. The objective of this project is 10 actions that complement each other to ensure the monitoring and conservation of our plant heritage. These actions range from building a seed bank for fulfilling CBD objective 8, monitoring endangered flora in the field, establishing priority sites, drafting action plans, the establishment of a continuously updated high resolution natural media map or the production of the Red List, Priority List or indicators. The final objectives of these programs are to maintain knowledge on an ongoing basis and, above all, to take better account of these elements in territorial planning, spatial planning or environmental management.

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Creation and Goals of the Center for Conservation Strategy at The New York Botanical Garden

Dr Brian Boom¹

¹*The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, United States*

[PS6g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

One of the priorities of The New York Botanical Garden's recently completed Strategic Plan, 2016 – 2021, was the creation of a new programmatic unit dedicated to the institution's plant and fungal conservation initiatives. The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has engaged with plant and fungal conservation themes throughout its 125 year history, but because in the 21st century threats to the survival of plants and fungi are so numerous and dire, the need for an enhanced, concerted institutional effort around conservation was deemed critical by NYBG's Board of Trustees. Founded in 2015, the Center for Conservation Strategy (CCS) leverages NYBG's human and physical resources, in partnership with collaborators and stakeholders. Thematically, the activities of the CCS derive from The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), which provides a comprehensive set of goals within the Convention on Biological Diversity for what needs to be achieved by 2020. All of the CCS's projects address at least one, but usually multiple, of the GSPC's objectives and targets, thus positioning NYBG to be a leader in this global effort. The CCS currently has five core projects, such as the New York City EcoFlora, and more than thirty affiliated projects. Geographically, the CCS emphasizes projects in Areas of Botanical Concern (ABCs), which are regions where conservation action is urgent and NYBG is well positioned, often uniquely so, to have a major influence on conservation outcomes. Six ABCs are recognized: North America, the Caribbean islands, Southeast Asia, Pacifica, the Atlantic Coastal Forest of Brazil, and Amazonia.

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Hawaii's regional contribution to the targets in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Matthew Keir¹, Dr. Lauren Weisenberger²

¹*Laukahi: The Hawaii Plant Conservation Network, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States,* ²*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States*

[PS6g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 27, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Hawaii Strategy for Plant Conservation was developed in 2014 to guide local progress towards Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) targets. In the years since, botanical gardens, government agencies, and other conservation groups made significant contributions to GSPC Targets 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16. In preparation for the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, over 215 taxa of Hawaiian plants were added to the IUCN Red List (GSPC 2). A research agenda focusing on topics that advance conservation practices for Hawaiian plants is being drafted (GSPC 3). An assessment of the ex situ status of Hawaii's flora conducted in 2012 showed that 74% (528/724) of Species of Conservation Importance (SCI) were represented in collections. However, most collections (64%) represented fewer than 10% of the remaining plants. Field botanists and botanical gardens continue efforts to meet the ex situ targets in GSPC 8 by improving collections. Ethnobotanical collections (GSPC 9) are being curated and cross-referenced to find unique cultivars, securing important cultivars of kalo (*Colocasia*) in tissue culture. A Hawaii biosecurity plan was completed in 2017 (GSPC 10). Events with a Hawaii focus at the IUCN Congress featured native plant conservation (GSPC 14), and staffing for local seed banks has increased (GSPC 15). Laukahi: The Hawaii Plant Conservation Network was formed in 2015 to build local capacity and strengthen collaboration to implement the HSPC (GSPC 16). These efforts will have a lasting positive impact on Hawaii's native plants and contribute to global biodiversity conservation.

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Reaching new, younger audiences with Botanic Lates

Dr Ian Edwards¹

¹*Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Inspired by the popular 'Museum Lates' events, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh established 'Botanic Lates' - evenings aimed at adults (18 - 35) which include a mix of science, art, food, drink and entertainment with a party atmosphere. Botanic Lates take place on a Friday evening in our Gateway Centre, art gallery and in surrounding areas of the Garden. We have a bar and offer hot food and well as drinks and provide a variety of activities around our chosen theme. In the past we have included films, exhibitions and demonstrations. The evening ends with a choice of ceilidh (Scottish folk) dancing or a 'silent disco'. The capacity is 650 people and the event always sells out in advance.

The success of Lates depends on effective marketing, good planning, teamwork and collaboration with a wide range of partners. Our relationship with 'science clubs' from local universities and with small to medium-sized local food and drink businesses has been critical. Evaluation shows we have achieved our target of reaching young adults who don't normally visit the Botanic Garden or engage with science activities. We would be very interested to learn from the experience of other botanic gardens who have had success in reaching this age group, especially from a wide social spectrum.

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EXPO- BIGPICNIC: a co-created outreach exhibition

Mrs María Bellet Serrano¹, Mrs Elena Amat De León Arce¹, Mrs Blanca Olivé De La Puente², Mrs María Majadas Matesanz²

¹Real Jardín Botánico, Csic (Madrid), Madrid, Spain, ²Real Jardín Botánico Juan Carlos I, UAH (Alcalá de Henares, Madrid), Alcalá de Henares, Spain

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

As part of the Horizon 2020 project, BigPicnic, Real Jardín Botánico, CSIC in Madrid and Real Jardín Botánico Juan Carlos I in Alcalá de Henares have been co-creating an outreach exhibition, EXPO BIGPICNIC I. BigPicnic joins 15 gardens (13 countries) around the world who will each deliver co-created outreach exhibitions on food security, using the metaphor of a picnic basket. Both Spanish Partners have been working together through the co-creation process to develop the materials and activities of the exhibition. This collaborative working has resulted in a great opportunity to search for synergies and combine resources to strengthen public engagement efforts and maximize the outcomes of the process.

This presentation will highlight how the co-creation approach can be effectively employed to develop projects and activities that go beyond what has been achieved before as well as showcasing the exhibition itself.

BigPicnic focusses on generating public debate on food security, through relying on the co-creation approach the project aims to enable adults and young people across Europe and in Africa to articulate their views on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in this field to their peers, scientists and policy makers.

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Building evaluation capacity for botanic gardens

Dr Dimitris Fotakis¹, Mr. Theano Missouri², Mr. David Francis²

¹*Balkan Botanic Garden of Kroussia, Kroussia, Greece,* ²*University College London, London, United Kingdom*

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

This presentation will discuss the use of Team-Based Inquiry (TBI) that enables professionals to collect evidence about the effectiveness of their learning provision and, at the same time, to reflect on and improve their practice. TBI is a practitioner-led evaluation approach, built on a cycle of question, investigate, reflect and improve. Using data collected as part of the Big Picnic project, we will share insights into how diverse audiences understand issues related to food security and how Big Picnic partners used the findings to improve audience engagement through science cafés.

Using the Balkan Botanic Garden of Kroussia (BBGK) in Greece as a case study, this presentation will explore how TBI can be used to shape resources that seek to raise public awareness of Greek native/and or endemic species with special nutritional properties that are not broadly used or exploited. The presentation will highlight how TBI can be used to gain insights from different audiences involved with preparing food for others, including parents, nutritionists, physicians, policy makers and industry; it will also share insights into the planning and implementation of evaluation capacity building through TBI.

Participants will be given greater insight into the challenges and how capitalise on the opportunities of planning for evaluation capacity building that the TBI approach can offer in their own organisations.

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Science Cafes: Bringing researchers and the public together

Mrs. Hanneke Jelles¹, Dr. Paul Kessler¹

¹*Hortus botanicus Leiden, Leiden, Netherlands*

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

A science café is a wonderful way to give visitors much more than they were expecting when visiting the garden and creates new and interesting opportunities for interaction. At the Hortus Leiden, we've designed two types.

The first is the 'surprise' science café, where visitors come across unannounced activities during their visit. Here, visitors are invited to take a closer look at the different stands, get curious and ask experts present questions. There are small experiments to conduct, things to taste, to draw and to experience, as well as a small terrace to relax and chat.

The second type is a 'scheduled' science café. Here, there is an announced meeting on a particular subject, but instead of the expected lecture, the visitors are invited to a participatory session. During such a session, several scientist present on the topic, while showing and handing out samples to feel, smell, taste and study to bring the topic to life. As people have signed up to attend the meetings on these topics, this type invites for a deeper exploration and/or more difficult topics than the first, allowing for a broadening of the potential audience reached.

Both types create an interesting but relaxed setting in which to discuss food and food security, plants and science. Thus attracting a public that may not actively reach out to session on such topics. Thanks to the small scale settings, one-on-one contact and active participation employing all the senses, people really get involved with the topic.

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Tree Spotters and Tree Mobs at the Arnold Arboretum

Ms Pamela Thompson¹

¹*Arnold Arboretum Of Harvard University, Boston, United States*

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Arnold Arboretum offers a variety of activities to support the public's engagement with trees, two examples of these will be outlined during this session. Tree Spotters is a citizen science program started in 2015 through the Elizabeth Wolkovich Lab at the Arnold Arboretum. Volunteers are trained to observe and record the life cycles of plants. Tree Mobs are casual learning experiences in the Arboretum landscape with a specialist speaking about tree, plant conservation, a topic in ecology, or climate change, followed by Q&A.

Tree Spotters was co-created with the Wolkovich Lab, US National Phenology Network, and the Arnold Arboretum, developing a team of volunteers who are deeply engaged and committed to repeat observational visits at the Arboretum. Continued training and educational opportunities such as Botany Blasts keep them engaged through the dormant season.

Tree Mobs require scientists and other specialists to engage with the public by clearly describing their work, its importance, and their reasons for doing it. Doing so generates thoughtful questions and discussion between scientist and the participants in a personal, small group format, making complex science accessible to the public. The interaction is empowering to both the speaker and the public, producing further questions to be researched.

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Creative Approaches in Public Engagement

Ms Liliana Derewnicka¹, Mr Ian Edwards², Ms Hanneke Jelles³, Ms Pamela Thompson⁴, Mr Dimitris Fotakis⁵, Ms María Bellet Serrano⁶, Ms Blanca Olive De La Puente⁶, Ms Maria Majadas Matesanz⁷, Dr Paul Kessler³, Dr Theano Moussouri⁸, Mr David Francis⁸

¹BGCI, London, United Kingdom, ²Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, ³Hortus Botanicus Leiden, Leiden, The Netherlands, ⁴Arnold Arboretum, Boston, USA, ⁵Balkan Botanic Garden Of Kroussia, Thessaloniki, Greece, ⁶Real Jardín Botánico, Madrid, Spain, ⁷Juan Carlos I Royal Botanic Gardens, Alcalá de Henares University, Alcalá de Henares, Spain, ⁸University College London, London, UK

[PS7a] - Symposium, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Now, more than ever is it important for botanic gardens to raise public awareness of biodiversity and plant conservation. According to the CBD (2014) "If current trends continue, by 2020, we will not have a sufficiently high level of awareness to be able to support a claim that Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 has been achieved." Added to this, the current lack of resources available for plant conservation can be considered a result of lack of popular appeal of plants, compared to animals.

These two things combined represent a compelling call to arms for botanic gardens to strengthen their public engagement activities to reach new and broader audiences.

Furthermore, "addressing the direct and underlying drivers of biodiversity loss will ultimately require behavioural change by individuals, organizations and governments" (CBD, 2014). Encouraging behavioural change is not easy. Therefore, botanic gardens must develop a range of opportunities for new and existing audiences to engage with their work. To do this it is not only important to be imaginative when planning activities it is also essential to gain insight into the needs of audiences and ensure they are met.

This session will not only provide examples of innovative public engagement activities, but also showcase novel approaches to project design and integrated evaluation to offer attendees insight into what can be achieved and how they can develop and evaluate audience appropriate activities at their sites.

-Objective of the symposium-

This symposium has 5 objectives:

- 1) Showcase effective public engagement practices being employed at botanic gardens
- 2) Highlight the role and importance of effective evaluation
- 3) Highlight the importance of providing opportunities for the public to interact with botanic gardens and related experts
- 4) Provide tools to support botanic gardens to develop their skills in public engagement, co-creation and Team-Based Inquiry
- 5) Provide a space for botanic garden educators to learn from each other about how to develop effective public engagement activities

-Expected outcomes-

The session will provide a space for botanic garden educators to share their skills and knowledge and network, thus strengthening the global community. By achieving the objectives outlined above it is hoped that the session will offer an important learning opportunity for participants and presenters.

As well as introducing specific activities being applied at botanic gardens around the world, this session will introduce several concepts which are new to public engagement at botanic gardens. These being:

Team-Based Inquiry (TBI): TBI will be presented as a holistic approach to evaluation that enables professionals to collect evidence about the effectiveness of their learning provision and, at the same time, to reflect on and improve their practice. TBI is a practitioner-led evaluation approach, built on a cycle of question, investigate, reflect and improve.

Co-creation: Co-creation can be considered a participatory approach to project or activity design. It “describes joint or partnership-oriented creative approaches between two or more parties, especially between an institution and its stakeholders, towards achieving a desired outcome. While the term is sometimes used interchangeably with ‘collaboration’, co-creation places a greater emphasis on process. Similarly, emphasis is placed on creating conditions of equality among the different stakeholders involved in the creative process: the contributions of the different co-creators are equally valid. Such approaches also promote greater trust and more sustainable relationships between the different parties involved.

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The Eden Project: The practical application of a regenerative and transformational ethos

Dr Mike Maunder¹

¹*Eden Project, Cornwall, United Kingdom*

[PS7b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Eden Project was established to generate social and economic change in one of Europe's poorest regions. This work continues with an institutional commitment to deliver positive change in the areas of horticulture, restoration, retailing and food services and education. Increasingly Eden is working on improving the health and happiness of our communities, in effect transforming lives. Integral to this is Eden's institutional culture. This paper provides a practical review of our work.

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Sustainable Horticulture – promoting plants and gardens for ecological health

Ms. Rebecca Stanley¹

¹*Auckland Botanic Gardens, Auckland, New Zealand*

[PS7b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Auckland Botanic Garden (ABG) sustainable horticulture approach informs and drives all operational activities. We aim to inspire visitors to consider the impacts of modern lifestyles and traditional gardening practices on the environment. We promote plants trialled in local conditions to perform without chemicals. Self-guided interpretive walks, such as the “Sustainable Water Trail, demonstrate how plants can slow the flow of storm water and clean it up. Other sustainable gardening approaches include reducing water use and reduction of mowing. All our activities support the role we see that Botanic Gardens can play in leading and influencing sustainable living in our community and ecological health in our environment.

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When Less Bad is Not Good Enough Anymore: Lessons and Leading for a Regenerative World

Mr Richard Piacentini¹

¹*Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Pittsburgh, United States*

[PS7b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

We need a major paradigm shift in the way we build and operate our gardens and live our lives. Being less bad (which is what most sustainability programs seek to achieve) is not going to help us solve some of our major human and environmental problems such as climate change, habitat destruction, and loss of biodiversity, as well as, issues related to water, energy, health, and food security. We need to inspire our communities to embrace positive change by leading by example.

Three case studies, the Auckland Botanic Gardens, Eden Project, and Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, will show how they are addressing key issues related to human and environmental health by engaging their communities by leading by example.

We often focus on the symptoms of problems, like climate change and cancer, and not the cause of the problems, which are related to unsustainable use of natural resources and lifestyles. Greening our buildings, programs and operations can help us inspire our constituents to change the way they interact with the world and start to address the cause of problems that manifests themselves in important human and environmental issues. Our progressive leadership in this area can lead us toward a regenerative world that respects other forms of life and where everyone has a chance to share in the earth's resources and live in harmony with nature. It is an opportunity for all of us in the botanical garden world to capitalize on and make lasting positive impacts in our communities.

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Establishing Sector-wide Sustainability: The Public Gardens Sustainability Index

Dr. Casey Sclar¹, Ms Sarah Beck¹

¹*American Public Gardens Association, Kennett Square, United States*

[PS7b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Public Gardens Sustainability Index represents a holistic approach to define principles and best practices for operational sustainability, sector-wide. Its resources include standards, measurement tools, and network support. Peer-reviewed living documents outline best practices that apply to all public gardens, regardless of size, operating budget, or their current level of performance.

The Index helps public garden professionals benchmark, develop, and adopt practices that span all sustainability components - integrating environmental, social and economic spheres. Public gardens' unique successes in each of twelve (12) attributes of sustainability provide the framework. Case studies, peer engagement, and institutional leadership action at all levels stimulate key accomplishments. As peer gardens move forward together, measurement indicators yield both institutional and sector-wide impacts.

Attaining sector-wide sustainability requires more than just reducing energy consumption or water use. Public gardens already demonstrate an exceptional ability to engage/educate the public on the importance of biodiversity and conservation. Many gardens attract and nourish diverse new talent to sustain future leadership in the field and/or directly impact the economic vitality of their communities.

Public gardens must leverage all of their existing capacity to collectively address the challenges posed by climate change and its reverberating effects on the ecosystems, plants, and communities that gardens showcase and conserve. The Public Gardens Sustainability Index represents the vast collective individual and institutional experience of its professional network, using adaptable standards that can be adopted and practiced by the whole sector, for the betterment of all.

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When Less Bad is Not Good Enough Anymore:

Lessons and Leading for a Regenerative World

Mr Richard Piacentini¹, Ms. Rebecca Stanley², Dr. Mike Maunder³

¹*Phipps Conservatory And Botanical Gardens, Pittsburgh, PA, United States*, ²*Auckland Botanic Garden, Auckland, New Zealand*, ³*The Eden Project, Cornwall, England*

[PS7b] - Symposium, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

We need a major paradigm shift in the way we build and operate our gardens and live our lives. Being less bad (which is what most sustainability programs seek to achieve) is not going to help us solve some of our major human and environmental problems such as climate change, habitat destruction, and loss of biodiversity, as well as, issues related to water, energy, health, and food security. We need to inspire our communities to embrace positive change by leading by example.

We often focus on the symptoms of problems, like climate change and cancer, and not the cause of the problems, which are related to unsustainable use of natural resources and lifestyles. Greening our buildings, programs and operations can help us inspire our constituents to change the way they interact with the world and start to address the cause of problems that manifests themselves in important human and environmental issues. Our progressive leadership in this area can lead us toward a regenerative world that respects other forms of life and where everyone has a chance to share in the earth's resources and live in harmony with nature. It is an opportunity for all of us in the botanical garden world to capitalize on and make lasting positive impacts in our communities.

-Objective of the symposium-

The objective of this session is to show how gardens can address major human and environmental problems by focusing on the core cause of the problems. We will demonstrate how to create positive changes by engaging our communities and leading by example. Three case studies, the Auckland Botanic Gardens, Eden Project, and Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, will show how they are addressing key issues related to human and environmental health by engaging their communities by leading by example. The Auckland Botanic Garden (ABG) adopted a 'sustainable horticulture' approach which informs and drives all operational activities. The Garden aims to inspire visitors to consider their impact on the environment and consider more sustainable approaches to gardening. The Eden Project tells the story of people's dependence on the natural world, of regeneration, and what people can achieve when they work together and with nature. It is designed to entertain visitors while demonstrating, in a more serious way, how indispensable plants are to people and how we can adapt together. The Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens built some of the greenest buildings and glasshouses in the world. The Center for Sustainable Landscapes, operates at net-zero energy and water and is the only building in the world to meet all four of the highest green building standards related to human and environmental health: The Living Building Challenge, LEED Platinum, 4 Stars Sustainable SITES and Platinum WELL Building certifications. Phipps seeks to lead by example in all its operations and programs by demonstrating the connections between people, plants and human and planetary health.

-Expected outcomes -

Participants will recognize the root cause of many of our environmental and health issues. The presentations will demonstrate a variety of strategies to show how gardens can be leaders for generating

positive changes in their communities and it will motivate participants to take action in their own organizations. Participants will receive resources and information that will give them the confidence to successfully execute substantive green building projects, upgrade sustainability programs and retool operations to be consistent with their values. It will also provide ideas for interpreting these activities to constituents and help them to generate support from key stakeholders so that they can engage their communities to adopt more sustainable lifestyles with the ultimate goal of improving human and environmental health.

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The Code of Conduct of the Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens: finding a way to face challenges on Access and Benefit Sharing.

Mr Emiliano Sánchez Martínez^{1,2,6}, Biól. Beatriz Maruri Aguilar^{1,2}, Biól. María Magdalena Hernández Martínez^{1,2}, Sra Cecilia Elizondo², Biól. Lorena Martínez Gonzalez², Biól. Erika Pagaza Calderon², Biol. Norma Edith Corona Callejas², Biól. Amparo B. Ceron Carpio², Biól. Dalia Hoil Villalobos², Mr David Jimenez Ramos³, Mr Alfonso Gonzalez Martinez³, Mrs Elleli Huerta Ocampo⁴, Mrs Patricia Tovar Millan⁵, Mrs Kathryn K Davis⁶

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²*Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens, Querétaro, Qro., México.,* ³*German International Cooperation (GIZ GmbH), México, México,* ⁴*National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO), México, México,* ⁵*Mexican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), México, México,* ⁶*Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), London, UK*

[PS7c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens (MABG) published its “Code of Conduct for Access and Benefit Sharing of Plant Biodiversity”, as a collaboration with CONABIO and GIZ (GmbH) inside the project: “Environmental Governance–Benefit Sharing of Biological Diversity”. The intention of the MABG was to develop the Code of Conduct and a “Contract Type” to be used as the foundation of a relationship between botanical gardens, stake holders and local communities.

The building of the Code of Conduct was a two-year process that involved members of the MABG, experts from national institutions and international advisors. It was clarified that no Contract was mandatory for botanical gardens in Mexico, since they aren’t currently managing nor doing research with genetic resources that could lead to the registration of a patent.

However, botanic gardens members of the MABG are committed to the conservation of Mexican flora as a process that should include communities and stake holders, so the development of the Code of Conduct continued. The Model Contract was replaced by a Good Practices Compendium, which was built with the collaboration of several botanic gardens across the country.

The Code keeps the spirit from the Nagoya Protocol since it states that botanic gardens should share benefits with local communities, follow legal procedures carefully, be in contact with local authorities and figures, and enhance their presence in situ. The benefits that botanic gardens can give are non-profit and include research results, publications, collaboration, building of capacities, educational activities and linking with potential markets.

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Botanic gardens in a diverse legal landscape: access and benefit-sharing (ABS) tools, challenges and opportunities

Ms Kate Davis¹

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[PS7c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Nagoya Protocol provides a new, more robust framework for concepts first introduced in the Convention on Biological Diversity: clear standards for access requirements in those countries that require prior informed consent, 'user' measures to support compliance with providers' ABS rules; benefit-sharing that may involve local communities, not just governments; a definition of 'utilisation' that clarifies what kinds of activities should trigger benefit-sharing. But, as with the CBD, sovereign nations may still develop their own interpretations and approaches. Some countries now regulate access to, and/or benefit-sharing from the utilisation of, genetic sequence data, not only tangible genetic material. Botanic gardens are thus faced with differing situations in each country as well as new requirements to monitor their utilisation of plant genetic resources.

Botanic gardens were among the first stakeholders to develop responses to the CBD. However, diverse laws complicate the use and exchange of plant genetic resources. How can we promote ABS-compliant use? How well are internationally-shared implementation tools, such as codes of conduct and model agreements, functioning as ABS continues to evolve? This presentation will establish the context for presentations from Ethiopia, Mexico and Germany, introducing a range of current ABS measures and some of the ABS tools our community has developed over time, as a basis for discussion.

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Ethiopian ABS legislation

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[PS7c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Ethiopia is party to both CBD and ITPGRFA. Recently, the country has ratified the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. Globally there are two ABS Systems, the CBD/NP, which is a bilateral approach (requiring essentially PIC and MAT) called Bilateral ABS System and the ITPGRFA, which is based on a Multilateral ABS System.

The Multilateral ABS system (SMTA) applies only to PGRFA listed in Annex I, i.e. 35 food crops and 29 forage plants. Countries party to both CBD/NP and ITPGRFA are required to introduce legislative, administrative or policy measures for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (ABS).

Accordingly, Ethiopia has put in place both institutional and legal frame works to implement the third objective of the CBD, i.e. to facilitate access and ensure fair and equitable benefit sharing . Ethiopian ABS system also provides legal space for the implementation of the ITPGRFA special approach to ABS to PGRFA (MLS/SMTA).

This paper describes Institutional Framework and the legal frame work, Scope of Application of the ABS law, The ownership of genetic resources and TK ,Special Access permit, Basic Pre-Conditions of Access, Conditions for denial of access permit, ABS Practices in Ethiopia, ABS Implementation Challenges in Ethiopia and Capacity building needs for effective implementation of the National ABS legislation.

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Coming to terms with ABS: Approaches and Experiences of European Natural History Collections and Botanic Gardens

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[PS7c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing (ABS) came into force in October 2014. At the same time, a new European Regulation (No. 511/2014) became effective, which contains immediate obligations for all users of genetic resources within the EU. Although the political debate about the implications and practical implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the respective EU Regulation has not been finished yet, it is already clear that this new legislation strongly affects the way scientific institution and collections acquire, share and use biological material.

The presentation will give an overview on the legal implementation of ABS at the European level, the responses of the scientific community and the challenges that European collection institutions have to face. We will introduce the Code of conduct on ABS developed by the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities (CETAF) in response to the Nagoya Protocol and the EU Regulation 511/2014. The lessons learned from this undertaking might be relevant for the botanic gardens community and, especially, for the further development of the International Plant Exchange Network (IPEN).

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Promoting the use of plant resources in research and development through raising awareness and building capacity in Access and Benefit Sharing

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[PS7c] - Symposium, Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Following the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993, botanic gardens have worked to develop harmonised policies and model agreements to enable the legal and ethical exchange and use of plant material, despite differing or uncertain national measures for access and benefit-sharing (ABS). The Nagoya Protocol, in force since 2014, offers new challenges as countries update or develop new ABS laws. National measures may now helpfully include clearer guidance on how to access material, but may also include further restrictions regarding use and transfer, and/or measures to monitor utilisation. Post-Nagoya, how well do internationally-shared ABS tools work? Can botanic gardens update or find new harmonised approaches to facilitate continued legal exchange and collaboration? This symposium will explore how differing national approaches affect botanic gardens, and consider possible solutions. Sharing different national contexts and experiences, speakers will include representatives from Ethiopia's national ABS authority, working with BGCI on a UK Darwin Initiative-funded project to build ABS capacity and promote plant research; the Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens, which has recently developed a new code of conduct; and European collections that have experience with the International Plant Exchange Network and the new CETAF code of conduct and best practices.

-Objective of the symposium-

To raise awareness of the issues and challenges botanic gardens face in legally acquiring and sharing plant resources in light of the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol. The session will highlight different approaches adopted by botanic gardens at the national and regional level and will discuss the potential for the development of common tools, guidelines and codes of conduct on access and benefit sharing to support botanic gardens. The overall objective is to ensure that botanic garden staff are aware of the legal framework surrounding the access and supply of plant resources and provide guidelines to help them comply with national and international legislation and regulations.

-Expected outcomes -

Awareness raised amongst botanic garden staff of the Nagoya Protocol and the steps they must take to implement this Protocol. Gaps in knowledge identified and ideas generated on ways to share experiences and further build capacity in this area.

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How botanical gardens can support urban sustainable development--A case study from Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden

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¹*Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, Shanghai, China*

[PS7d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Since the mid-16th century, plenty of plant materials have been selected for basic necessities of life by botanical gardens. They have contributed tremendously to the human civilization. With the time goes on, botanical garden is reforming itself to adapt to the new challenges and the needs of the society. With the development and urbanization process worldwide, sustainable economic growth is demanded by regions and countries. As a relatively newly established botanical garden, Chenshan has played an important role in sustainable development of Shanghai. Chenshan works closely with the local government in the "City green master plan" to increase the plant diversity and join in the new rural park projects. Chenshan also provides technical support to city construction by introducing urban horticulture and phytoremediation. More than 20% plants are under threaten. Chenshan has collaborated with the central government and the administration of local reserves in conservation of 14 critically endangered plant species in east China. This has made the sustainable utilizations of these plants possible. Chenshan also has a strategic vision to provide people with healthier functional food. This goal has been implemented through our secondary metabolism and gene manipulating platforms. As a botanical garden, Chenshan aims to attract and educate public with highlight landscape, seasonal flower shows, and cultural events. Chenshan has been conveying these messages to all our visitors in helping them understand the condition of plants and the ways to protect them. These are all being very important tasks of botanical gardens in supporting the urban sustainable development.

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The Practice of Public and International Participation to Restore Educational, Scientific, and Social Infrastructure of the Botanic Garden of Kyrgyzstan

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¹*"Archa Initiative" Public Foundation, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan*

[PS7d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The Botanical garden in Kyrgyzstan was founded in 1938, and by its size is the largest Botanical Garden in Central Asia. In 1960-1980's Garden's collection consisted of thousands of plant species, named one of the best Botanical gardens in the USSR. Due to reduction in state funding since 1990, garden gradually fell into decline. Hundreds of species of plants have died, researches stopped, and previously created irrigation system along with other infrastructure has almost disappeared. Today, the budget can cover only small staff wages, and funds for restoration of the Garden are not provided. Despite the difficult conditions, Garden continues to be "green lungs" of the city and remains one of the favorite places for citizens. Botanical garden in case of restoration and repair could become a major landmark and a unique natural area of Bishkek and Kyrgyzstan presenting itself as the Asian Mountain Garden, as well as touristic, educational, scientific and cultural center of the capital.

"Archa Initiative" Public Foundation has launched an initiative to revive the educational activities of the Botanic Garden in 2015, and is currently implementing the project on designing the reconstruction plan of the Botanic Garden. Archa Initiative would want to share its experience of launching activities to revive the Soviet-inherited garden with the help of society and international support. It strongly believes that cooperation between public foundation and the Botanic Garden can become a model for cooperation between the public sector and civil society in the framework of the revival of other parks and green areas in Kyrgyzstan.

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Planting the rainforest @ Botanic Garden Meise: drawing optimal planting plans for glasshouse displays.

Dr Marc Reynders¹, Ms Elke Bellefroid¹, Mr Danny Swaerts¹, Dr Piet Stoffelen¹, Dr Steven Dessein¹

¹*Botanic Garden Meise, Meise, Belgium*

[PS7d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Restoration of the infrastructure and planting in the Plant Palace has been a major undertaking of Botanic Garden Meise in recent years. The tropical biome, which takes up the entire north wing, became the current focus for this work. A linear trail is planned that will take visitors on an east-west journey through five glasshouses festooned with lush, tropical rainforest. Much attention has been put on analysis of the collections and the development of optimal planting plans for these glasshouses.

Botanic Garden Meise is fortunate to have an excellent collection of rainforest species, especially woody plants. It was therefore necessary to perform careful analysis to select the most interesting accessions in function of the central goals of the garden: display & education, scientific research and conservation. Analysis comprised calculation of a relevance and priority scores based on different types of data including conservation value, display value, rarity in collections, etc.

Next, starting from the hardware plans, plantation plans are designed integrating educative themes, technical limitations and analysis of viewpoints. In addition, also ecological data have been analysed as the public glasshouses are landscaped around the different (sub)-tropical biomes. As rainforests typically comprise multiple canopy layers, we wanted to reflect this in our glasshouses. This was best achieved by planting each layer separately taking into account the natural ecology of the species and the current sizes of the available plants. In this way we create scenes that are both balanced and natural that will reveal the wonders of the rainforest habitat to visitors.

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Underwater gardening in seas and oceans

Mr. Bob Ursem¹

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[PS7d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Plants can thrive under water in seas and oceans with a novel growing device. In harmful environmental conditions where plant growth is extremely difficult, the underwater culture of plants can be a future solution to nurse and to secure vulnerable and useful plant species in a total protected environment. The system is an embodiment of an underwater lab with a higher pressure environment created by Sergio Gamberini of the Ocean Reef Group in Genoa, Italy, and now further explored and developed with Ocean Reef partners Luca Gamberini, Gianni Fontanesi and Gabriele Cucchia and the Botanic Garden of Delft University of Technology to grow and nurse various plant species. Only soil conditions with required manure is needed to thrive plants. The advantages are various, like no bugs or diseases, perfect nursing conditions of a constant temperature and humidity, a permanent sufficient fresh water supply, and plant growth in optimal light conditions. In addition it needs no land space and plants can grow totally adapted in any required temperate, subtropical and tropical shallow sea or ocean environment. An novel and unbelievable futuristic eco-friendly, self-sustainable and ecological experiment that could change the future of gardening and crop growth.

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Collaboration for sustaining Botanic Gardens in the intertropical Zone

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[PS7f] - Round Table, Room 17, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

This round-table aims to highlight the collaboration between JBF/Botanic Gardens Conservation International within the framework of the initiative Sud Expert Plantes Développement Durable and beyond. It seeks to demonstrate the efficiency of networks in supporting initiatives of the botanic garden community. BGCI has recently opened an office in Nairobi, to support expansion of its programmes and facilitate collaboration between botanic gardens within and outside of Africa. Its mission to empower partners in the South is not only in line with the GSPC but is also the centerpiece that could muster efforts of programme such as SEP2D and networks such as the JBFF. SEP2D is a multilateral programme on the sustainable management of plant biodiversity. It seeks to support the scientists in the francophone West and central Africa, the Indian Ocean and South East Asia. One of its calls is aimed at addressing major structural gaps in botanical collections and gardens and to provide support for improving herbaria facilities and living collections. The objective at stake is to contribute to the GSPC. SEP2D will launch complementary initiatives in order to provide solid advocacy for the leaders and raise awareness among the public. The JBFF, through its recent cooperation with initiatives in the South is providing strong support for an entrenched North-South and South-South promotion of botanical gardens. With gardens twinning and mentoring, JBFF is developing a reliable network of gardens in the francophone countries, to help them strengthen their contribution to the GSPC and the sustainable development goals.

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Ludwigia palustris (L.) Elliott in Geneva, from spontaneous return to neophyte introduction.

Dr Pascal Martin¹, Anne-Laure Maire
¹*CJB, Geneva, Switzerland*

[PS7g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Protection of the environment and nature conservation are important factors to maintain societal cohesion. They ensure human health and ecosystem services. Within conservation of biodiversity, some rescue plans for rare and endangered species are carried out, involving reintroduction or establishment of new sites. These conservation plans require a good taxonomic knowledge of the targeted species. Indeed in the context of globalisation, the native flora evolves quickly, mainly by the addition of neophytes. So the Floras must adapt their information quickly.

We present the emblematic case study of *Ludwigia* × *repens* Clement in Geneva. This hybrid was found in a pond and erroneously considered for 11 years as the rare *Ludwigia palustris* (L.) Elliott which is morphologically very close because it is one of the hybrid's parents. Protective actions were taken and the hybrid was officially reintroduced to new sites. Two years ago the mistaken was discovered during a field population survey by the Geneva Botanical Garden, radically changing the treatment of the taxon. This example highlights the important role that botanical gardens should play in increasing the knowledge of the flora and in botanical training; indeed these two issues are the basis to carry out effective biodiversity conservation and neophyte control.

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Invasive plants on Indices Seminum – seed catalogues: are Botanic Gardens still actively dispersing invasive plant seeds?

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[PS7g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The centuries-old practice of seed exchange among botanic gardens (BGs) is still an active endeavour, with hundreds of institutions worldwide participating in this network. Indices Seminum are crucial to increase plant collections at BGs, as well as sources of research material, but biological material circulation is not without perils. In fact, historically, BGs have been consciously, and unwittingly, involved in the introduction and acclimation of several species that are today naturalised or invasive in many parts of the world.

In the past few decades, a growing awareness of the problem and research on invasion biology has changed the perspective on this matter and BGs are on the forefront of research and society awareness on invasive plants and associated problems. In fact, the European Council and BGCI issued the European Code of Conduct for Botanic Gardens on Invasive Alien Species, in 2013. Most countries have legislated on invasive species, and the European Union issued the Regulation 1143/2014 on invasive species, valid from January 2015 onwards.

However, it is still not uncommon to find on Indices Seminum species widely invasive, many of them subjected to international restrictions: water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), etc. In this context, we wanted to verify if the expected downward trend of invasive species on seed catalogues along time was a reality. For that, we selected a number of widespread invasive plant species and searched occurrences in indices from 1996 to 2016. Preliminary results will be presented and discussed.

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Neophytes and invasive species escaped from an alpine botanical garden change their biotic environments as a function of residence time

Dr. Christophe Randin^{1,2}, MSc Aurore Gaille², Mr. François Bonnet¹, Dr. François Felber^{1,2}

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[PS7g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Invasions are among the major threat to biodiversity and plant species. Botanical gardens have provided some of the best documented examples in which alien species have escaped, spread and given rise to invasions, potentially causing threats to biodiversity, economy and human health. A good understanding of invasive species biology and their impacts or changes induced by their presence can lead to better management and help identify plant communities with higher risks of invasion.

Three plant species have escaped from the Alpine botanic garden of La Thomasia in Pont-de-Nant (Bex, Switzerland); an invasive species: *Heracleum mantegazzianum* Sommier & Levier and two neophyte species: *Telekia speciosa* (Schreb.) Baumg and *Valeriana alliariifolia* Vahl. In this study we aimed at providing better knowledge of the effects induced on species richness and on abundance of local vascular plant species by the presence of such invasive and neophyte species. More particularly we (i) analysed the changes in composition and abundance in plant communities of invaded and non-invaded survey plots. We also assessed (ii) whether particular plant traits are affected by the presence of alien species and finally assessed (iii) how the effect of an alien plant on other species changes over the process of invasion.

Overall, we could demonstrate that alien plant species had both a positive and negative effect on local plant biodiversity. However, species richness was similar between paired plots with and without alien species, thus suggesting that alien plants do not affect species composition but rather select their abundance in a community as a function of particular traits such as life form and minimal or maximal height. Finally, the effects of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* on local plant communities significantly changed according to population residence time.

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A best tool for plant searching

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[PS7g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

China, one of the world's "megabiodiversity countries", is home to more than 30,000 vascular plants. But most Chinese people have no feeling for the plant diversity, because they know little about plants. Presently, however, the biodiversity is being threatened by deforestation, wetland cultivation, rapid reduction of habitat areas for wild animals and plants, and environmental pollution. The China Higher Plant Red List has been released on the International Biodiversity Day of 2015, it covers 34,450 species (including infraspecific species). In the list, 52 species were listed as extinct, which accounts to 0.15% of the whole flora. 3,767 were ranked as threatened accounting for 10.93%. How to ensure that no plant species becomes extinct? First of all, the more we know about plants, the better we can protect them. But in China, it is difficult to identify unknown plants, especially for those without any botanical knowledge. Fortunately, with the popularity of digital cameras and the development of image recognition technology, it is possible to recognize plant images by computer. The Chinese Union of Botanical Gardens worked with Zhihui Network Technology, has developed a plant search platform. The platform integrates both local and introduced plant information of China, by using a plant photo or entering some keywords, an unknown plant can be identified easily.

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Restoring landscapes for sustainable tourism - Contributions of Faial Botanic Garden

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¹*Faial Botanic Garden, Azores, Portugal*, ²*Faial Nature Park, Azores, Portugal*

[PS7h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

Sustainable tourism is a fast growing tourism sector, based on principles of local development, cultural heritage and environmental sustainability, which includes nature conservation, and is especially important on small, low resource oceanic islands where nature finds its state closer to a pristine condition.

Located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the archipelago of the Azores is the westernmost part of Europe and the meeting point of unique plant species.

Part of the Regional Government of the Azores, an Autonomic Region of Portugal, and belonging to Faial Natural Park, the Faial Botanic Garden carries out a conservation program, comprising “in situ” and “ex situ” conservation measures, while deeply involved in education and scientific research. By carrying out conservation actions in priority habitats and landscapes the Faial Botanic Garden provides an important resource for visitors and local companies to explore and enrich their visit while enjoying a natural environment.

Wide areas of the Natural Park are being intervened under the coordination of Faial Botanic Garden, especially by controlling invader plants but also other risk factors, and focuses on population, habitat and landscape protection. This areas are considered as long term investments for conserving some of the rarest and most vulnerable habitats on earth.

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Recreation of natural habitats in a botanical garden: 15 years of experience at the Bordeaux botanic garden.

Dr. Philippe Richard¹

¹*Jardin Botanique de Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France*

[PS7h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

After a 15 years experience, eleven different habitats recreated "ex nihilo" have changed in the Bordeaux botanical garden. We also reconstituted soil and geological layers. Is the evolution at the same stage today for the plants and for the biotope?

What are the modifications in the habitats?

How can this "gardening experience of nature" help us to understand the processes of evolution today?

Such questions can maybe lead to new tracks of collaboration between gardeners, botanists and researchers...

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Conserving the last population of *Littorella uniflora* (L.) Asch. on Geneva Lake's shores

Dr Catherine Lambelet¹

¹*Conservatoire Et Jardin Botaniques De La Ville De Genève, Geneva/Chambésy, Switzerland*

[PS7h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The last known population of shoreweed (*Littorella uniflora* (L.) Asch.) on the shores of Lake Geneva was discovered in the 1990s and was declining rapidly. Consequently, it has been the subject of several conservation actions since 2003. A study on its ecology allowed drawing up an action plan and measures have been taken on both sides of the Franco-Swiss border. Site management and ex situ cultivation made it possible to strengthen the population and to try to reintroduce it to several places. Thanks to this program, interest in the temporary soft-water vegetation of lakes (Littorellion), a threatened environment, has been awakened to the environmental actors. During a major project to restore the shores of Lake Geneva in a riparian protected area, this natural environment was recreated artificially and tens of thousands of plants of this species produced and reintroduced. This example highlights the importance of long-term actions to ensure success and the need for the participation of many stakeholders to achieve long-term success in protecting endangered species, sometimes across borders.

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Our Home is Green: social inclusion through the knowledge of the plant world

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[PS7h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 11:00 - 12:30

The project "Our Home is Green" aims at integrating migrant communities through the knowledge of what we all have in common: the world made by plants. From natural landscapes to the trees we pass by on the streets, from food to the clothes we wear, plants are ubiquitous elements in our lives and define our neighbourhoods, cities, and countries. Knowing them makes us feel at home.

The current increase of migrants, especially under forced situations, is particularly challenging. Engaging society to promote social inclusion of migrant communities and create positive synergies sharing their invaluable cultural knowledge is thus fundamental.

This pilot project is a collaboration between INTEGRAR Association, the Botanical Garden of the University of Coimbra and the Coimbra Sul School district, in Portugal, and focuses in migrant children torn from their countries of origin and their Portuguese colleagues (aged 9-11 years old), engaging the involvement of the families as well. We have developed targeted activities in different contexts, namely in the classroom, at the Botanic Garden, and in a Farm. The proposed activities promoted the contact with plants, their diversity and ecology, uses and histories, and through this ubiquitous element created the opportunity to share experiences and ease the integration of migrants in the community. The activities, results and materials produced are presented, as well as the assessment of the effectiveness, impact and adequacy of the developed activities, by participant observation and questionnaire survey. The aim of this pilot project is to evaluate different strategies, and discuss the results, in order to make it possible to replicate the same concept in other schools.

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Communities for Conservation: Engaging the public to achieve impactful conservation goals

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¹*Mt. Cuba Center, Hockessin, United States*, ²*Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami, United States*, ³*The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, United States*

[PS8a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The notion of ‘the Anthropocene’ resonates with our evolving understanding of human impact on the environment, whether or not we’ve technically brought about a new geologic epoch. But as the evidence piles up implicating human activity as significantly culpable for climate change and threats to biodiversity, perhaps human activity might also offer a solution. If people’s collective actions can wreck the planet, then redirecting our efforts in productive ways could help save it. Collectively, botanical gardens serve millions of guests and students annually. Enlisting these visitors and constituents in our science and restoration efforts can help achieve our conservation goals in a variety of contexts. At Mt. Cuba Center, research in environmental psychology is informing efforts to motivate pro-environmental landscape practices in the community. At Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, innovative partnerships with NASA and the Miami-Dade school district engage students in real-world scientific research and plant conservation projects. At the Morton Arboretum, Woodland Stewardship program certified volunteers learn to manage and restore natural areas including woodlands, prairies, wetlands, and other habitats of the Chicago region. Collectively, botanical gardens welcome several million guests every year. This round table discussion explores creative ways to engage our audiences to amplify our conservation efforts.

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Botalista, a powerful holistic data management system built by the French speaking botanic gardens

Dr. Laurent Bray¹

¹*Director of the Green Spaces Department of the city of Limoges, Limoges, France*

[PS8b] - Workshop, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

In a global context of a rapidly changing climate that threatens many genetic resources, it has become vital for botanic gardens to be able to manage data not only for conservation purposes but also to promote and strategize sustainable uses of well-adapted plants.

Led by Geneva botanic garden in collaboration with members of the French speaking botanic gardens network (Paris, Bordeaux and other Swiss gardens), a novel open source management system was developed that supports day-to-day operations and also incorporates the ability to build strategies for the conservation and use of genetic resources.

The scientific community has established for many years international standards (ex.: the International Transfer Format edited on 1997 by the BGCI) for naming plants and authors, propagation and passport data, etc. The purpose of such standards was to exchange and capitalize the efforts of the world botanic gardens networks. This innovative Botalista system not only manages this information but other fields that have become fundamental these past years: APG classification, global, regional and local protection, IPEN, biology, ecology, phenology phytosociology and physiology of the plants.

Botalista is a powerful and easy-to-use tool for the botanic gardens for their day-to-day operations (accession registrations, labeling, plantation, propagation, germination tests) but also for more strategical projects (plant conservation, native plants promotion in public and private green spaces, invasive plants control, ecosystem displays for public awareness...). Botalista will also help smaller botanic gardens including those in developing countries to improve communication exchanges, collaboration and to play a key-role in plant conservation.

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**Botalista, an open source tool to manage
botanic garden collections**

Mr Raoul Palese¹, Mr Cyril Boillat¹

¹*Conservatoire Et Jardin Botaniques De La Ville De Genève, Chambésy (GE), Switzerland*

[PS8b] - Workshop, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Because of the richness of their collections, Botanic Gardens need to have the tools necessary to manage, interpret and share their knowledge. For more than 20 years, the CJB have developed their own tool allowing the management of their living collections, herbaria and floristic/taxonomic projects. This system being based on so called "Proprietary technologies" and, nowadays, moreover obsolete, the CJB decided to develop a new management tool, called Botalista, exclusively based on open source technologies. Botalista will be offered in the form of interdependent modules, each module being in charge of a particular process: nomenclature, specimen field data, accessions, living collections, seed bank, index seminum, herbarium, etc. To meet the needs of its users and the missions of the Botanic Gardens, Botalista will be able to guarantee the sharing and dissemination of information, in particular through the setting up of a Botalista community.

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Botalista Software Presentation

Mr Raoul Palese¹, Mr Cyril Boillat¹

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[PS8b] - Workshop, Room 16, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

During this workshop, the functioning of the various existing modules of the open source software Botalista, a software for the management of the living collections developed at the Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva, will be presented for the first time to the public. Beyond the presentation, there will be dialogue with the workshop participants in order to collect their first impressions and identify needs and questions not covered by the application.

The workshop will include a presentation of the various existing modules of the Botalista software with concrete use cases, and will aim to evaluate the correlation between what the Botalista software provides and the needs of the users

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A walk in a botanical garden with Shakespeare, the Herbalist.

Exploring nature in the Renaissance in the light of contemporary science research

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[PS8d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Botanical gardens can sometimes host stunning Shakespearean plays and provide a wonderful frame for intense representations of the human drama. At our gardens in Milan we have created an educational path, following Shakespeare's footsteps, where the garden is no longer just a backdrop but the main character. An initial project on Shakespeare, plants and food was developed during Milan's EXPO 2015 Feeding the planet. Energy for life. It was the result of a fruitful collaboration between the Modern Language and Literature Department and the two Botanical Gardens of Università degli Studi di Milano. Its aim was to focus on the Elizabethan period in terms of human nutrition and man's relationship with nature. In 2016 thanks to the support of the Lombardy Botanical Garden Network, an educational pathway was developed for high school students and the general public. This learning programme joined a scientific approach to those plants that appear in Shakespeare's most famous plays and the emotion of performing some passages from the Bard's plays and poems. Participants, in fact, are invited to read some short scenes aloud, while they walk from plant to plant at the botanic garden. Thanks to the guides, specialists from sciences and the humanities, students learn how important herbs were in Renaissance England, both from a symbolic and practical point of view. On another level they familiarise with the recent results of scientific research in relation to many of the plants encountered. The walk is a multisensorial experience in order to stress the well-being function of the garden and the close link between body and soul in the Renaissance.

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A labyrinth path through the diversity and origin of wild and garden roses

Mr Kenneth Bauters¹, **Dr Marc Reynders¹**, Ms Elke Bellefroid¹, Mr Danny Swaerts¹, Mr Dirk De Meyere¹, Mr Kenny Stevens¹, Mr Koen Es¹, Dr Piet Stoffelen¹, Dr Steven Desein¹

¹*Botanic Garden Meise, Meise, Belgium*

[PS8d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

During the past decades the Botanic Garden Meise has been building an elaborate collection of wild roses comprising 125 of the approximately 150-200 known taxa. In addition the gardens collections hold also 115 horticultural accessions. To display this rich and attractive collection the garden opted for an innovative concept that makes the collection worth visiting the whole year round. This is a challenge as the flowering peak of most wild and old cultivated roses is only very short in early summer. In addition, tender plants need to be integrated as orangery plants.

The heart of the 8,000 m² large rose garden is being landscaped as a labyrinth in the shape of a large rose flower. The different petal shaped beds will house plants from different clades, found in recent molecular studies of roses. As also biogeographic and molecular clock data are available it is possible to take the visitor along the intriguing story of the origin and natural history of roses. Around the labyrinth, beds in the shape of 'shedding' petals have been drawn, which will tell the story of garden roses from the historic Chinese and European roses to the origin of modern rose hybrids with a focus on resistant selections and winners from local breeders.

This approach allows for integration of a pleasant walk through the garden with the possibility to organise educational programs on different themes as plant evolution, classification, hybridisation and the role of modern molecular studies in resolving relationships in a both natural and cultivated plant group.

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Management and modelling of native maquis vegetation as wildlife sanctuary in Çukurova University Ali Nihat Gökyigit Botanical Garden (Çuangbg) (Adana/Turkey)

Prof. Dr. Halil Çakan¹, Specialist Salih Kavak², Prof. Dr. Yusuf Karataş³

¹Çukurova University The Faculty of Science and Letters, Biology Department, Adana, Turkey, ²Çukurova University Ali Nihat Gökyigit Botanical Garden, Adana, Turkey, ³Çukurova University The Faculty of Medicine, Medical Pharmacology Department, Adana, Turkey

[PS8d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Botanical gardens with remnant vegetation can play a crucial role in preserving regional and national biodiversity and can spread the conservationist philosophy. From this point of view, The Çukurova University Ali Nihat Gökyigit Botanical Garden has the great advantage of having a native remnant of maquis vegetation which has been protected as de facto for nearly 40 years, by means of the establishment of the area as a university campus. The garden covers an area of about 200 acres, and is a part of a bigger landscape complex in the University campus. In addition to the thematic gardens, an area reserved for the botanical garden includes large native vegetation remnants including maquis vegetation (60 ha.) comprising a variety of habitat types suitable for terrestrial flora and fauna. This site hosts over 180 species of vascular plants including herbs (79%), shrubs (19%) and tree species (2%). The common shrubs are *Quercus coccifera* (Kermes oak), *Calicotome villosa* (Spiny broom), *Phillyrea latifolia* (Mock privet), *Pistacia terebinthus* (Terebinth), *Cistus creticus* (Pink rock-rose), *Erica manipuliflora* (Aegean heather phrygana), *Asparagus acutifolius* (Wild asparagus); and the common tree species are *Pinus brutia* (Turkish pine) and *Olea europea* (Olive). According to the records of the night-vision camera traps and observations; 6 reptile species, 30 avian species and 8 mammal species use this site as a nesting and breeding area. The site, including remnant vegetation with our other garden collections, is a powerful educational tool. Native plant communities in botanical gardens can be a positive force in this process.

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From backyards to biolinks: the role of RBG Victoria in urban greening

Mr Chris Russell¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Cranbourne, Australia*

[PS8d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria's Cranbourne Gardens is located 45 kilometres south of Melbourne's central business district on the city's rapidly expanding urban fringe. It comprises a large and highly valuable area of conservation land alongside a contemporary landscape display of Australian plants, called the Australian Garden. Together these areas cover 363 hectares and provide examples of both intact, remnant indigenous ecosystems and a created garden showcasing Australia's remarkable flora. This pairing of attributes provides a unique opportunity, indeed a driving necessity, for Cranbourne Gardens to influence the composition and character of the landscapes beyond the boundary to create a green 'botanic precinct' connecting the Gardens to the surrounding neighbourhoods both physically and functionally. Scientific research conducted by the Gardens is used to inform an adaptive management approach to the conservation of natural areas on site and the greening of surrounding public open space, whilst the inspiration and education provided through the Australian Garden display and programmed public activities aim to foster the creation of sustainable home gardens using native plants in our local community.

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Les réseaux de jardins botaniques au service des Objectifs de développement durable : l'exemple de Jardins botaniques de France et des pays francophones

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[PS8f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

L'adoption des Objectifs de développement durable établit un cadre d'action dont les jardins botaniques doivent s'emparer pour asseoir leur place dans la société. Mais pour entrer dans une dynamique de contribution à ce cadre ambitieux, les jardins botaniques doivent nécessairement s'appuyer sur des réseaux structurés, des programmes d'action tels que la Stratégie mondiale pour la conservation des plantes et les objectifs d'Aichi, des lignes directrices et des bonnes pratiques.

Le réseau des Jardins botaniques de France et des pays francophones, en promouvant le renforcement des capacités individuelles et institutionnelles de ses membres, a accru leur efficacité et leur visibilité. Le système d'accréditation à la charte des jardins botaniques a non seulement permis de tirer les jardins botaniques vers le haut mais a également conduit à développer une coopération entre jardins botaniques français et étrangers.

Le partenariat entre Jardins botaniques de France et des pays francophones et BGCI initié dans le cadre du programme Sud Expert Plantes développement durable engage nos deux réseaux dans une nouvelle dynamique. En renforçant l'action des deux réseaux, il valorise des projets portés par des jardins botaniques en Afrique, Océan Indien et Asie du Sud Est contribuant à la préservation de la biodiversité et à la réalisation des objectifs de développement durable.

-Objective of the activity-

-Expected outcomes of the activity-

-Proposed structure-

-Time needed-

-Estimated attendance-

-Invited speakers-

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Le palmier doum (*Hyphaene* spp.), quand la systématique devient sociétale, un projet transdisciplinaire

Mr Didier Roguet¹, **Dr Fred Stauffer**¹

¹*CJBG, Chambésy - Genève, Switzerland*

[PS8f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Le Projet Hyphaene, consacré à un palmier africain emblématique, le doum, poursuit différents buts liés aux sciences botaniques et sociales.

Ce palmier, civilisateur dans beaucoup de régions où il croit, est aussi d'un grand intérêt scientifique pour sa taxonomie complexe et sa biogéographie mal connue. Le palmier doum fournit aux populations autochtones une source, presque inépuisable de dérivés naturels: sève sucrée à boissons fermentées, tronc pour la construction, feuilles et fibres à tisser, fruit à consommer, ivoire végétal, etc.. Un véritable commensalisme ethnobotanique s'est souvent installé dans les communautés qui vivent avec les populations de doum avec parfois des problèmes de conservation liés à la surexploitation.

Ces espèces, si utiles, sont peu connues sur le plan botanique. Beaucoup ont été décrites jusqu'en 1924, sur la base d'échantillons incomplets et d'un travail botanique de cabinet. La nomenclature du genre est obsolète et doit être entièrement revisitée.

Le projet a pour ambition de faire un état des lieux taxonomique, biogéographique et ethnobotanique autour du palmier doum. Une équipe transdisciplinaire a été mise sur pied aux CJBG pour répondre aux questions croisées sur ces espèces de palmier. Les techniques de l'analyse morphologique, anatomique et moléculaire sont mises en oeuvre pour répondre aux problématiques de ce projet novateur et exemplaire. Il démontre une complémentarité des sciences botaniques et sociales autour d'un groupe de plantes remarquables, au service de la science taxonomique, mais aussi au profit des populations africaines du doum.

-Objective of the activity-

-Expected outcomes of the activity-

-Proposed structure-

-Time needed-

-Estimated attendance-

-Invited speakers-

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Les jardins botaniques du Grand Nancy et de l'Université de Lorraine : un modèle de gouvernance original pour favoriser les rencontres science-société

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[PS8f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Les jardins botaniques du Grand Nancy et de l'Université de Lorraine comprennent le jardin botanique Jean-Marie Pelt à Villers-lès-Nancy et le jardin d'altitude du Haut Chitelet dans les Vosges. Ces sites sont gérés d'une manière originale, avec une cogestion entre une métropole et une université. Une nouvelle convention signée en 2015 répartit les rôles de chacun. Si ce système de cotutelles entraîne des lourdeurs administratives, il présente aussi de nombreux atouts, permettant aux jardins botaniques de répondre au mieux aux besoins de la société.

La métropole du Grand Nancy apporte la majeure partie du financement des sites et s'efforce d'en faire un équipement culturel et touristique remarquable et attractif pour les citoyens de l'agglomération nancéienne. Les jardins botaniques sont ainsi l'un des trois établissements de culture scientifique et technique cogérés par le Grand Nancy et sont en lien étroit avec les musées de la métropole. On peut compter aussi sur les compétences diverses de la métropole pour la gestion courante des établissements. L'Université de Lorraine, quant à elle, peut s'appuyer sur les collections du jardin botanique pour des projets de recherche et de formation. De nombreuses collaborations sont ainsi entamées avec des laboratoires et écoles pour diverses actions. On peut noter la mise en œuvre de projets de recherche liés aux changements climatiques comme Lilascope (observatoire des Lilas) ou EIFFEL (forêt expérimentale) ou de projets pédagogiques, aussi bien avec les disciplines scientifiques (faculté de science, de pharmacie, etc.) qu'artistiques (Ecole nationale supérieur d'art de Nancy).

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Programme-cadre des CJBG pour un développement durable au Sud : ethnobotanique et éducation environnementale

Rodolphe Spichiger¹, Mr. Pierre-André Loizeau¹, Mr. Didier Roguet¹

¹*Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de la Ville de Genève, Genève, Switzerland*

[PS8f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Les conditions suivantes furent créées au cours de l'histoire des CJBG pour qu'un Jardin botanique puisse mettre en place des programmes de coopération au Sud :

1. une vocation d'éducation environnementale établie dès la création du Jardin par de Candolle utilisant son Jardin pour appliquer la botanique à l'acclimatation et à la culture expérimentale dans un contexte de disette. Il fut le précurseur de la vulgarisation scientifique à Genève ;
2. la botanique tropicale en tant qu'axe de recherche majeur des CJBG développé par les directeurs tropicalistes et soutenu par la Coopération technique suisse;
3. dès les années 90, l'arrivée à la Mairie – dont dépendent les CJBG - d'hommes politiques à haute sensibilité écologique exigeant l'intégration à chaque programme de recherche fondamentale de volets de botanique appliquée répondant à la politique de coopération de la Ville de Genève et de son Agenda 21. Avec le financement de la municipalité s'établirent des programmes d'éducation environnementale et de Jardins ethnobotaniques au Paraguay, au Brésil, en Bolivie, au Sénégal, au Burkina Faso et en Côte d'Ivoire avec une implication majeure des femmes. Il s'agissait de valoriser les connaissances traditionnelles et de favoriser une prise de conscience locale de la valeur de ce patrimoine végétal et d'en promouvoir la conservation. Les transferts de savoirs Nord-Sud concernèrent aussi la réhabilitation de certains herbiers historiques et de Jardins botaniques.

Ces programmes sont décrits dans cette présentation.

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The Role of Botanical Gardens in Conservation, local work is the key. Jardin Botanico Universitario, a successful garden in Mexico.

Dr. Maricela Rodriguez-Acosta¹, Mphil Allen Coombes¹

¹*Jardin Botanico De La Benemerita Universidad Autonoma De Puebla, Puebla, Mexico*

[PS8g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Botanical gardens and herbaria are, without a doubt, what drive botanical knowledge in the world. There are magnificent examples of these institutions, which have contributed not only the knowledge of the flora of their countries, but also to the study of other floras and have tackled the issues that concern us today, such as the conservation of plant species.

Mexico has one of the richest floras in the world, but its representation in living collections of Mexican gardens leaves much to be desired. Permanence, size and budgets are among the main problems we have in Mexican botanical gardens. Although our 10 ha garden may be small by international standards, it is not small here and we probably have the largest number of cultivated trees of any Mexican botanic garden. The complete floristic knowledge we have developed has allowed us to accelerate status assessments in order to identify our most rare or endangered species.

I will talk about the case of the Botanical Garden of the Autonomous University of Puebla and its threatened tree flora, as well as the actions we are undertaking to guarantee sufficient areas for cultivation of our increasing collection that will ensure its conservation, for example working with landowners in situ and by incorporating satellite gardens.

The key for this success has been continuity, freedom, professionalism, and inspiration from those organizations that encourage and support the development of botanic gardens around the world. Also we have observed with time the relevance of this garden to our society.

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Conservation of threatened plant species in Brazilian botanic gardens

Dr Maria Costa¹, Dr Peter Wyse Jackson², **Dr Mike Maunder**³, Dr Tania Pereira¹, Ricardo Avancini¹, Dr Ariane Peixoto¹

¹Rio de Janeiro Botanic Garden, Rio de Janeiro/ RJ, Brazil, ²Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis/ Missouri, USA, ³Eden Project, Bodelva/ Cornwall, UK

[PS8g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The ability of the Brazilian botanic gardens to support plant conservation is especially challenging, given their small number relative to Brazil's plant diversity and the increasing rate of habitat loss and plant endangerment. An assessment of the conservation status living collections in Brazilian botanic gardens showed that 425 (20%) species from the Red List of Brazilian Flora were maintained in plant collections of 18 botanic gardens. Despite the extensive size of some collections, this percentage is well short of the GSPC Target 8. It was also observed that improvement in infrastructure, technical capacity and development of policies will be necessary to increase the effectiveness of these collections for conservation aims. An additional survey on the occurrence of threatened species in the natural vegetation reserves of 21 botanic gardens indicate that 148 (7%) Red List species are recorded as having been collected in the reserves. Fifty one threatened species were recorded both in the plant collections and the reserves. These data highlight the scientific value of these areas and may be used to guide conservation actions and future recovery work for threatened plants. We suggest that Target 8 is not an achievable goal for some megadiverse countries, such as Brazil, where the scale of loss dictates a conservation strategy that focuses on in situ conservation. In order for botanic gardens to play a more effective role in conservation we argue that they increasingly brand themselves as integrated conservation institutions focused on halting plant extinctions, and not just on ex situ action.

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Integrating the Native Vegetation of Southern India into to mainstream landscaping projects, with the intention of securing its genetic base and raising awareness of the conservation issues regarding its survival.

Mr Paul Blanchflower¹

¹*Auroville Botanical Gardens, Auroville, India*

[PS8g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The indigenous and endemic vegetation of South India has been under constant pressure from continuous population pressure over the last five thousand years. Consequently, particularly in the plains, there are very few pristine remnants remaining.

The work of the Auroville Botanical Gardens has been to research these vegetation types, secure the genetic base, develop propagation techniques and now we are actively promoting the species from this region to the many layers of South Indian society.

From the local government schools, through industrial, commercial and educational institutions all the way to international resorts and hotels we are creating varied landscapes that predominantly feature the native species. These not only satisfy the aesthetic requirements, but also provide effective habitats for pollinators and other important species that perform eco system services.

In the last few years we have taken this modus operandi and extended our work into the hill areas of the western ghats, linking up with local ecologists to help recreate landscapes with shola forests and grassland ecology.

We have now completed or are currently engaged in over 35 projects of varying scale. It is our belief that by designing and implementing such landscapes that fulfill the commercial requirements of the companies we work with, we are going some way to creating new norms in our society that accept ecologically balance systems as the mainstream requirement.

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Key role of botanists in management of natural areas: from species inventory to conservation policy (case studies in Brazil and Madagascar)

Dr Louis Nusbaumer¹, Prof. Rodolphe Spichiger¹, Dr Anita Studer², Dr Laurent Gautier¹, Dr Pierre-André Loizeau¹

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[PS8h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Although tropical botanists have generally a wide array of competence, not only in taxonomy and phylogeny, but also in vegetation description and mapping, they are rarely experts in operational conservation which requires taking into account socio-economic factors and local politics, knowledge of reforestation techniques, etc. Collaborations with selected complementary experts can multiply the positive impact on conservation of biodiversity. In the frame of the Agenda 21, the CJBG direction adopted a policy of complementing research projects with conservation and environmental education since the end of the 90's. We present two projects conducted in Brazil and Madagascar as case studies.

An initial mandate to realize a botanical inventory and a description of vegetation types of two areas, with actual or future protection, was entrusted to the botanical team and associated national researchers by the managing instances, respectively the Association Nordeste and NGO Fanamby as well as the National Ministry of Environment of respective countries. The botanists rapidly enlarged collaboration with researchers in zoology, earth sciences and climatology. By publishing their primary results (new and endangered species, biogeographic significance, rare and/or endangered ecosystems) botanists provided impactful scientific data that played a critical role in orienting the managing instances for the selection of priority areas and their buffer zones, as well as identifying the most appropriate native species for reforestation. These researches were also decisive to obtain funding for going on with conservation, education and research.

Following those experiences, we propose guidelines that may help to guarantee the success of such research and conservation projects.

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Exploiting Greek phylogenetic resources for increasing food security: Launching the Big Picnic (Horizon 2020) in Greece

Dr Eleni Maloupa¹, Dr Dimitris Fotakis¹, Dr Nikos Krigas², MSc Katerina Papanastasi¹, Prof. Andreas Oikonomou³

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[PS8h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The recent global economic crisis had a great impact on the Greek economy and increased food insecurity. According to the Global Food Security Index, during the last five years food affordability and food availability decreased around 10% and 7%, respectively, dropping Greece to the 18th place among 26 European countries. At the same time, it is well known that plant genetic resources are essential to food security at local and global scales. Greece hosts a remarkable diversity of vascular plants and is also one of the most important centers of endemism in Europe and the Mediterranean Region, including hundreds of plants with socioeconomic value. In the frame of the Horizon 2020 project "BigPicnic", the Balkan Botanic Garden of Kroussia (BBGK) undertakes several actions (books, calendars, seminars, workshops, expeditions, games, questionnaires, blog, media) to increase awareness regarding the native Greek plants with both nutritional and aromatic-medicinal value. The main axis of the project is the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) approach where societal actors work together during the whole research and innovation process in order to better align both the process and its outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society. Our main target-audiences are people who prepare the food for others or are responsible for it, i.e. parents, nutritionists, physicians, researchers, policy makers, stakeholders etc. We introduce the methodology developed for RRI and co-creation regarding food security in Greece and we illustrate the BBGK's efforts as a center promoting the dialogue between citizens, researchers, enterprises, stakeholders and policy makers.

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Seed Saving & Participatory Preservation: To Establish Ethnobotanical Gardens through Citizen Science Practices in Bunun Tribe of Taiwan

Dr. Gene-Sheng Tung¹, Miss Wan-Ching Wen¹, Mr. Huan-Yu Lin¹, Dr. Chih-Liang Chao²

¹Taiwan Forestry Research Institute, Taipei, Taiwan, ²Department of Environmental and Cultural Resources, National Tsing-Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan

[PS8h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

Indigenous people develop Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) through long-term interactive life experience with local plants. Using local production systems and ecological knowledge is an important way to protect the diverse values of ecology, culture and biodiversity in a specific area. Management of ethnobotanical plants via participatory citizen science can also bring together local knowledge systems and scientific researchers to create a win-win situation. One of the goals of Taipei Botanical Garden is to promote the use of diverse seed types to enhance food security and promote the preservation of traditional cultural practices and values. This ongoing project explores the traditional conceptualizations of food security and sovereignty developed by the seed saving plan of the indigenous Bunun tribes in Taiwan. TEK was collected through interviewing tribal seniors by gender and collecting ethnobotanical and traditional ecological wisdom. So far, 14 legume varieties, 18 grains, 2 kinds of edible wild herbs and 10 root and tuber crops were recorded for the women's wisdom related to traditional crop types. A total of 49 kinds of men's forest hunting-related plant resources, such as the production of traps and hunting, gunpowder, firewood, food, equipment, medicinal plants, plants that prey like to eat, were recorded as well. The collected varieties of women's traditional crops have been preserved in the local ethnobotanical garden. The varieties of men's forest hunting-related plant resources were also selected and are going to be cultivated in their chosen hunter trail. The discussion related to the role of Taipei Botanical Garden and the local ethnobotanical garden and how to cooperate in creating management strategies consistent with conservation principles.

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Viking-assisted plant dispersal and the role of public outreach in research

Dr Anneleen Kool¹

¹*Natural History Museum, University Of Oslo, Oslo, Norway*

[PS8h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 14:30 - 16:00

The Viking Age is perhaps the most well known era in Scandinavian history. People's mobility during the Viking Age was likely due to a favourable climate and did not only result in extensive raiding and trading, but also in plants and animals being moved around Europe.

In this project we are taking a two-fold approach that combines empirical research with public outreach. On the one hand, we have established a Viking Garden at the Natural History Museum in Oslo that showcases the wide variety of plants, animals and rocks that were important during the Viking Age. It is used as a platform to discuss issues like human migration, climate change, agrobiodiversity, traditional food plants and invasive species with the general public. On the other hand, the establishment of the Viking Garden has resulted in a number of externally funded associated research projects.

In this talk I would like to present the research aspects, and how this is combined with the outreach. Can exhibitions, outreach, and involving the public be as beneficial for a botanical garden's research outputs as the plant collections themselves?

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Challenges to conservation efforts in the Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens (MABG): Using the North American Botanic Garden Strategy for Plant Conservation (NABGSPC) to enhance the path to effectiveness.

Mr Emiliano Sánchez Martínez¹, Mrs. Maria Magdalena Hernandez Martinez², Mrs. Beatriz Maruri Aguilar³
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[PS9a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Mexican Association of Botanic Gardens (MABG) developed its first long-term planning instrument 17 years ago. More recently, we contributed to the development of the Mexican Strategy for Plant Conservation, a national plan to guide actions for the ultimate preservation of our national biodiversity. From 2015, in the same spirit of preserving the flora, the MABG works in partnership with the American Public Gardens Association, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, The Center for Plant Conservation and The Plant Conservation Alliance for the planning and implementation of the North American Botanic Garden Strategy for Plant Conservation. With the course of these initiatives, we will share a preliminary overview and examples of our contributions in: A Understanding and documenting plant diversity (e. g.: the Global Cactus Assessment), B Conserving plant diversity (e. g.: Endangered species curation and propagation), C Using plant diversity sustainably (e. g.: Code of conduct and good practice guide for access to goods and services from biodiversity involving the botanic gardens of Mexico); D Promoting public awareness of the importance of plant diversity and wise use of resources (e.g.: First Diploma course on environmental education for the botanical gardens of Mexico), E Building capacity for conservation of plant diversity (e. g.: Oak of America Conservation Network) and F Supporting the North American Strategy (e. g. Mainstreaming plant biodiversity into science programs and public policies of Mexico). The corollary is that in spite of the prevailing conditions, we will hearten and tone up our fellows to accomplish our mission.

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The North American Plant Conservation Initiative: Progress and path forward as we work together to leverage all gardens as partners in conservation.

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[PS9a] - Round Table, Room 3, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

The American Public Gardens Association, Asociacion Mexicana de Jardines Botanicos, Botanic Gardens Conservation International-U.S., the Center for Plant Conservation, and the Plant Conservation Alliance-NFCC joined forces in 2015 as the North American Conservation Initiative. Its first efforts were to revise and distribute the North American Botanic Garden Strategy for Plant Conservation (NAGBSPC), and to compel all its unified members to engage in and/or advance their conservation efforts.

We also joined forces with the United States Botanic Garden (USBG) and the United States Forest Service Forest Health Protection Division (USFS-FHP) to further our initiative in key areas, from collecting targeted species to conducting assessments of ex situ holdings of particular groups of interest, such as oaks and orchids.

Some gardens express confusion at how to begin to practice conservation, even when they are already doing so. Our initiative was created so that gardens could easily connect any conservation practice large or small to one or more sub-targets in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). We realized that this was crucial from the onset as some gardens had documented their impacts, but many had not - or were unclear about which GSPC targets they were supporting and why they were locally relevant.

During the session, data will be shared on a variety of topics that all link local efforts to the NAGBSPC and GSPC:

- Status of Botanic Gardens and Allies on conformance to strategy targets to both the NAGBSPC and GSPC [NAGBSPC Target A; GSPC Target I]
- Handling and vetting suitable institutions to undertake adoption of "at-risk" flora (rare, threatened, endangered, or otherwise imperiled) [NABGS Target B; GSPC Target II]
- Outcomes of collecting expeditions that have specifically looked at advancing joint interests (e.g. Tree Gene Conservation) [NABGS Target B; GSPC Target II]
- Role of programs directed at defending gardens against invasive species and their adoption [NAGBSPC Target B; GSPC Target II]
- Overcoming challenges in obtaining (e.g. obtaining collection permits) and sharing plant materials through partnerships and MOU's [NAGBSPC Target C; GSPC Target III]
- Utilizing operational sustainability and institutional efficiency as conservation targets that appeal to any organization [NAGBSPC Target D; GSPC Target IV]

- Challenges and opportunities in engaging gardens on a local level in greater commitments to plant conservation (messaging, audience specificity) and motivating gardens to become part of a continent-wide commitment to achieve conservation targets [NAGBSPC Targets DEF; GSPC Targets IV, V]

We will engage attendees in a dialog about challenges and opportunities they've faced in their partnerships and collaborations in plant conservation activities.

-Proposed structure-

The leaders of the North American Plant Conservation Initiative (American Public Gardens Association, BGCI-US, CPC, Plant Conservation Alliance-NFCC) would first give a brief overview of how their organization has specific skills and expertise that helped promote the initiative. From branding to plant focused assessments, to rallying professionals dedicated to saving endangered plants, from the field to the legislative halls of governing bodies, each organization has a unique input.

Other brief presentations to follow would focus on unique areas of success to date. The status of the latest North American Collections Assessment and identifiable gaps would be elucidated, plant collections made possible by the effort, and new gardens that have undertaken the pledge to adopt "at-risk" species would be shared along with their efforts. Additionally, perspectives from the Canadian efforts made to advance the strategy and perspectives from the IUCN regarding our efforts can be offered.

Roundtable discussions will then begin with a series of brief questions put to attendees regarding plant conservation practices at their institutions and potential partners. These would cover experienced successes, organizations of similar capacities and interests, and potential opportunities and challenges to partnering with related organizations that promote either in situ or ex situ conservation.

Finally, the presenters / panelists will use the responses received from the attendees to reflect on similar benefits they realized, challenges they faced in furthering their partnerships, and current opportunities/challenges they could implement or face as a result of the suggestions given by the audience.

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Tourism business plan: 'Botanic Garden Meise 2.0'

Mrs Elke Bellefroid¹, Mr Steven Dessein¹, Mr Koen Es¹, **Mr. Piet Stoffelen¹**

¹*Plantentuin Meise, Meise, Belgium*

[PS9d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Botanic Garden Meise has been awarded a grant of €2.9 million to realize a number of actions set out in 'Botanic Garden Meise 2.0', an ambitious tourism business plan. The central objective is to give a clearer narrative and increased value that will raise the profile of our Garden for national and foreign visitors. The Garden's narrative will be profiled based on five storylines: An estate rich in history, A garden celebrating plants on Earth, A taste of Flanders (the Flemish shaped international food culture), Green excellence (horticultural finesse) and Safeguarding life in our 'Green Ark' (research & nature conservation).

Central to the tourism initiative is the development of a contemporary entrance building and surroundings with facilities to welcome a large and diverse range of visitors. In order to develop the five storylines a number of actions are planned, among others the development of a Welcome Garden with seasonal highlights and a medieval monastery garden, a formal garden associated with the castle and a bog garden designed in the Romantic style on an island and the development of a culinary experience garden in the walled garden of the Orangery.

The outcome will enhance visitor experiences within Botanic Garden Meise and be inclusive for young, old, amateur and professional. It will also highlight the importance of our Garden on the national and international stages, raise awareness and increase visitor numbers to the surrounding area. Our target by 2024 is to double annual current visitor numbers to a quarter of a million.

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The ecological Garden of Matebe (DRC): biodiversity conservation, landscape development and environmental education in a post-conflict area

Mrs. Francesca Lanata¹, Mr. Steven Desein¹, Mr. Emmanuel Merode²

¹*Botanic Garden Meise, Meise, Belgium*, ²*Virunga National Park, Rumangabo, Congo (the Democratic Republic Of The)*

[PS9d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Virunga National Park is the Africa's oldest national park and one of the most biologically diverse protected areas of the planet. Unfortunately, it is seriously endangered by several threats. To better protect the park, the ICCN (DRC Wildlife Department) and the Virunga foundation, in charge of the park management, launched a development program bringing electrical power to rural areas in order to decrease pressure on the park's natural resources.

The first realisation was the construction of a 13,9 megawatts hydroelectric plant in Matebe - Rutchuru. Botanic Garden Meise (BGM) has been asked to assist in providing support in landscaping the plant and in rising environmental awareness: a rare and interesting experience for any botanic garden.

The main challenge was to harmonise the hydroelectric plant with the natural environment. The site was landscaped planting wherever possible, indigenous plants. Seven hectares of bush were reshaped creating nurseries, different ecosystem zones and demonstration gardens emphasising the importance of plants. At the same time BGM has developed local human capital, through the selection and the training of agronomists and gardeners.

The objective in the coming years is to use Matebe to promote environmental education in schools, civil society and the media in North Kivu, in particular to underline the role of the Park in preserving this unique hotspot of Africa's biodiversity.

This is a very interesting and difficult challenge as the Virunga Foundation and BGM work in a post conflict area where most people have lived an important part of their life in a context of high insecurity.

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Mobile Green Hand Botanic Garden: tool for education and outreach

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¹*Green Hand Organization, Aley, Lebanon*

[PS9d] - General theme, Room 13, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Botanic gardens have certainly contributed to the enhanced consciousness of the general public to the value of natural assets and the importance of their conservation. The botanic garden process revealed its importance to conservation among the community in general and youth sector in particular, for better understanding of the richness of our biodiversity and the responsible role that the community should play. The aim of the project is to educate the diverse communities, especially the youth, about the importance of biodiversity to the environmental balance; and to motivate them to engage in ex-situ conservation, specifically Botanic Garden.

The project will be implemented in three steps. The first step includes redesigning and structuring an old bus into a Mobile Micro-Botanic Garden that will host the different seasonal flora in an attractive way. Green Hand received a patent from the Lebanese Government and won Green Phoenix – LEBA award for the making of this mobile botanic garden. The second step comprises organizing awareness sessions to different stakeholders and Media people in Lebanon. Third and most importantly, a special campaign will be launched for school and university students where the Mobile botanic garden will be driven to the destination academic institute to educate them about the importance of biodiversity and its conservation. To be sustainable, the project will be executed in collaboration with private sector companies and with the involvement of Local Authorities (Municipalities). In addition, this project will be a model to be followed by other neighboring countries in the region.

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Engaging policy makers and stakeholders on the issue of food security - The Big Picnic Project

Ms Helen Miller¹, Mr; Norbert Steinhaus², Mrs. Gaia Agnello³

¹*Botanic Gardens Conservation International, London, United Kingdom*, ²*WILA Bonn, Bonn, Germany*, ³*European Citizen Science Association, Berlin, Germany*

[PS9e] - Round Table, Room 6, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Big Picnic is an EU funded project that brings together the public, scientists, policy-makers and industry to explore the global challenge of food security. With 19 partners the project will co-create a range of exhibitions and participatory events with people from all walks of life, to generate dialogue and build greater understanding of food security. This collaborative approach will give a voice to adults and young people on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), communicating their views to policy-makers, and encouraging debate on the future of our food.

One of the key challenges of this project is how we can successfully engage with policy and policy makers. Food security is a relatively new issue and decisions on policy and research are primarily influenced by the views of industry and consumer associations rather than the general public. So how do we ensure that the project's findings are taken into account effectively across stakeholder groups and the countries in which the project is working? How can we inform future work and research around food security?

In this session we aim to share our experiences of the project and implementation of tools such as RRI processes to engage the public in the issue of food security. We will explore potential opportunities to engage with relevant stakeholders and invite other relevant speakers to share their experiences, discuss the barriers to engaging policymakers and stakeholders at different levels and how we can work together to overcome these.

The objectives of this round-table discussion are

- To understand and explore the potential barriers to engaging with policy and key stakeholders on key issues.
- To learn from other organisations or projects who have successfully engaged with policy or policy makers
- To discuss the role of the general public and botanic gardens in tackling big global questions
- To agree on a strategy for policy engagement on food security

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Les palmiers (Arecaceae) comme vecteur de "coopération" en Côte d'Ivoire

Dr Fred Stauffer¹, **Mr Didier Roguet¹**, Dr Pierre-André Loizeau¹

¹CJBG, Chambésy - Genève, Switzerland

[PS9f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

-Abstract resume and aim of the contribution-

Ce projet de coopération des CJBG en Côte d'Ivoire est un projet exemplaire qui ambitionne de lier botanique systématique, ethnobotanique, formation continue, éducation environnementale et conservation des palmiers en Côte d'Ivoire. Il bénéficie de l'appui financier du Fonds «Genève, ville solidaire» et du soutien technique du Centre suisse de recherche scientifique (CSRS-Abidjan) pour son développement.

Il propose la création d'un Centre d'éducation et de formation aux métiers des palmiers et d'un jardin ethnobotanique. Ce centre, dirigé par une association pour la promotion de la culture Dida (Arculdi), basée dans la ville de Divo accueillera dès 2017 une structure interactive de formation et de promotion de l'artisanat ivoirien lié au monde des palmiers: raphia, rotins africains, cocotier, palmier à huile traditionnel et rônier. La disparition des forêts naturelles et de leurs biotopes ne permet plus aux artisans de trouver la matière première nécessaire à leur production. Ce centre devrait permettre, grâce à de nombreux partenaires, de proposer des solutions novatrices (domestication des espèces, multiplications commercial de plantons, gestion optimale des stocks, amélioration des processus de production et de marketing) capables de sauvegarder la tradition, mais aussi de répondre aux défis de la globalisation et de la durabilité sociale et environnementale, seules capables de proposer un avenir aux jeunes générations dans ces régions souvent sinistrées par une guerre civile destructrice.

-Objective of the activity-

-Expected outcomes of the activity-

-Proposed structure-

-Time needed-

-Estimated attendance-

-Invited speakers-

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Augustin-Pyramus de Candolle et le Jardin des Plantes de Montpellier : botanique, médecine et pédagogie

Prof. Thierry Lavabre-Bertrand¹, Prof. Daniel Jarry¹, Mr Emmanuel Spicq¹

¹*Botanic Garden - University Of Montpellier, Montpellier, France*

[PS9f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Lorsqu'il est nommé en 1808 professeur de botanique à la Faculté de médecine de Montpellier et par conséquent directeur du Jardin des Plantes, AP de Candolle a déjà derrière lui une longue carrière de botaniste qui l'a amené à collaborer à la Flore française avec Lamarck et à soutenir une thèse de médecine originale sur les propriétés médicinales des plantes et leur corrélation avec leurs formes extérieures et leur classification. Cette deuxième période de sa vie qui débute alors, plus théorique, va l'amener à écrire, dans le cadre du Jardin, sa Théorie élémentaire de la botanique qui fait une place à la philosophie médicale vitaliste de l'Ecole de Montpellier dont il était devenu membre, comme à remanier le Jardin, en l'étendant et en repensant la présentation pédagogique. A son retour à Genève en 1816, l'accent va passer à une description extensive qui se concrétise dans le Prodrômus.

Nous souhaiterions insister sur l'intérêt et l'originalité de cette période montpelliéraine dans la vie de de Candolle, et sa fécondité potentielle pour la conception des Jardins botaniques de demain. Par son approche théorique d'un certain nombre de problèmes de botanique de l'époque, et les liens qu'il noue avec les réflexions en médecine tout en en tirant des conclusions pédagogiques originales, l'œuvre de de Candolle à Montpellier peut aider à repenser la place des Jardins botaniques demain, non simples conservatoires s'éloignant de la science botanique vivante, mais lieux où s'incarnent les grandes questions scientifiques d'aujourd'hui dans une approche pluridisciplinaire.

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Les savoirs locaux sur la nature comme objet politique : analyse du changement de paradigme des politiques de conservation patrimoniale

Mrs Julie Perrin¹

¹*University Of Neuchâtel, Bern, Switzerland*

[PS9f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Ma présentation a pour objet les politiques de conservation patrimoniale dans le champ des usages sociaux de la nature en Suisse. A partir des années 1980, nombres d'observateurs ont souligné les lacunes de la Convention concernant la protection du patrimoine mondial, culturel et naturel de 1972. Au cœur de la critique se trouve l'absence de prise en compte des interactions écosystémiques des objets naturels menacés. La survalorisation des savoirs dits « experts » dans la définition des politiques publiques est également remise en question. Les savoirs locaux sur la nature sont alors intégrés dans la Convention sur la diversité biologique de 1992, puis la Convention pour la sauvegarde du patrimoine culturel immatériel de 2003. La première les définit à la fois comme des outils devant être inclus aux dispositifs de conservation et comme des éléments devant être conservés en soi. La seconde convention affirme quant à elle la nécessité d'inclure les points de vue des détenteurs des savoirs à sauvegarder. Parce qu'elles font l'objet de différentes politiques de conservation, la cueillette et la culture de plantes médicinales d'une part, et les échanges non marchands de semences d'autre part, serviront de cas d'étude à mon analyse. Basé sur une enquête ethnographique menée auprès de cueilleurs et cultivateurs, d'acteurs engagés dans la valorisation de savoirs locaux ainsi que d'employés des administrations cantonales et fédérales, je propose d'éclairer les différentes composantes morales, économiques et politiques sur lesquelles reposent ces politiques de conservation.

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Un atlas pour la flore vaudoise.

Plus de 150 botanistes amateurs et professionnels recensent la flore sauvage du canton!

Mrs. Joëlle Magnin-Gonze¹

¹*Musée Et Jardins Botaniques Cantonaux, Lausanne, Switzerland*

[PS9f] - Symposium en français (with simultaneous translation in English), Room 4, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Peu de régions en Suisse offrent une telle générosité de paysages et de milieux naturels que le canton de Vaud. Mais qu'en est-il de la richesse floristique et de nos connaissances ? Combien de taxons composent la flore vaudoise ? Quels sont leur statut et leur distribution sur le territoire ?

Plus de 130 ans après le «Catalogue de la flore vaudoise» de T. DURAND et H. PITTIER (1882), le Cercle vaudois de botanique s'est lancé, en 2014, dans un projet ambitieux, celui de faire un inventaire complet de la flore sauvage et de publier dans quelques années le premier Atlas imprimé de la flore vaudoise. Plus de 150 botanistes amateurs et professionnels, tous bénévoles, y participent et parcourent méthodiquement les 3212 km² du canton, tout en suivant une méthodologie précise, adaptée aux particularités cantonales. En 3 ans, plus de 200'000 notes floristiques sont venues compléter les données dans la base d'Info Flora. Elles ont permis de faire des découvertes ou de confirmer la présence de taxons rares ou menacés, mais aussi de constater la disparition de nombreux autres, suite à la modification ou la destruction de leur milieu naturel. Ces premiers résultats sont déjà consultables sur l'Atlas en ligne, mis à jour régulièrement.

Le projet d'Atlas de la flore vaudoise a pour objectif principal de fournir un état de référence pour des générations de naturalistes. Ces connaissances sont indispensables pour assurer la conservation de la biodiversité floristique, en étudier l'évolution, et améliorer la protection des espèces rares et menacées.

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Ex situ conservation, today and tomorrow

Lecturer Kristina Bjureke¹

¹*Natural History Museum, University Of Oslo, Oslo, Norway*

[PS9g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The ex situ conservation programme at the Natural History Museum, UiO (NHM), has several purposes: conservation in the National seed bank and in living collections, education and research. Seeds from the seed bank can be used for reintroduction and reinforcement. The seed collection is a collaboration within the network of the 6 botanic gardens in Norway.

NHM cooperate with the regional and local authorities in reinforcement projects. During the period 2008-2016 NHM has been involved in conservation projects with *Dracocephalum ruyschiana* and *Epipactis palustris* (single efforts) and *Eryngium maritimum*, *Drymocallis rupestris* and *Cirsium acaule* (several projects). Most projects have been reinforcements, and seeds have been collected from the only, or the few remaining, individuals at the locality.

Eryngium maritimum is a protected, but endangered, species in Norway. The populations has been halved since 1970, and in 2011 it was only found in 12 localities. The Action Plan for *Eryngium maritimum* proposes reinforcement and reintroduction as a measure to preserve the species. Reinforcement has been performed at 7, and re-introduction at 2 localities where the plant had disappeared recently. All newly planted individuals are monitored to evaluate the survival.

All reinforcements and reintroductions must be evaluated. When we started with single reinforcement attempts it was easy to follow up. But now, after 12 projects, it is a challenge to evaluate every planting. We apply to the Norwegian Environment Agency to get financial support for seed collections, propagation and planting. But we don't have any person permanently working with evaluations and new projects, and we have our National seed bank to work with. Each year more plantings have to be evaluated, and we have now developed a good working relationship with Flora guardians in the Norwegian Botanical Association. Volunteers in this organization take the responsibility of several annual evaluations.

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Building Collections and Capacity while Advancing Multiple Targets of the GSPC

Mr Andrew Wyatt¹

¹*Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd, St Louis, United States*

[PS9g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Targeted field collecting for the development of living collections for conservation is the most important collections development strategy. In addition, building the horticulture skills of propagation, cultivation, collections management, and facilities development, are essential to enabling effective ex-situ conservation and restoration. Therefore, thoughtful and thorough preparation is necessary if maximum conservation benefits are to be achieved. Collecting trip planning has become increasingly complicated by protocols for permission and permitting. As we plan collections development and fieldwork, there are easy steps to ensure the alignment of collections goals, capacity building, and achievement of country level conservation priorities. Applying a diversity of staff skills during field collecting activities can address the traditional Target 8 but also enable us to work with partners to make meaningful contributions to several of the GSPC targets simultaneously. This approach is beneficial in connecting to a broader range of interested parties, building long lasting collaborations, making permitting easier and providing access to a larger range of funding opportunities to complete projects.

Examples of building effective collaborations and combining collections development priorities with capacity building will be illustrated in relation to projects in development at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

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How much plant diversity is held in the World's Botanic Gardens?

3 Suzanne Sharrock², **Dr. Ross Mounce**¹, Mr. Paul Smith², Mr. Samuel Brockington¹

¹University of Cambridge, Brookside, United Kingdom, ²BGCI, Richmond, United Kingdom

[PS9g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Botanic gardens offer the opportunity to conserve and manage a wide range of plant diversity ex situ, and in situ in the broader landscape, and have a major role to play in preventing plant species extinctions through integrated plant conservation action. The central role of botanic gardens in conservation of plant diversity is based on two expectations. First that there is no technical reason why any plant species should become extinct, given the array of ex situ and in situ conservation techniques employed by the botanic garden community, including seed banking, cultivation, tissue culture, assisted migration, species recovery, and ecological restoration. Second, that botanic gardens possess a unique set of skills which encompass finding, identifying, collecting, conserving and growing plant diversity across the entire taxonomic spectrum. Here we test these assertions by quantifying, for the first time, how plant diversity currently conserved and managed in the world's botanic gardens, and examine the extent to which our endangered plant species are held in ex-situ collections. Our analyses reveal that, as a baseline figure, botanic gardens conserve and manage at least 33% of known plant species diversity, 57% of plant genera and 75% of plant families in their living collections and seed banks. Furthermore, at least 40% of threatened plant diversity is conserved in botanic garden collections. We conclude that the global botanic garden community play a major role in the conservation and management of ex-situ plant diversity. However, we identify on-going challenges including the need for more botanic garden capacity in biodiverse areas of the world, better co-ordination of efforts, and the need to work more closely with other land-based sectors.

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The role of botanical gardens in plant conservation in the tropics

Prof. Richard Corlett¹

¹*Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy Of Sciences, Mengla, China*

[PS9g] - General theme, Room 18, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

An estimated two-thirds of all flowering plant species are found in the tropics, as well as the highest percentages of threatened species. Moreover, 96% of all tree species occur in the tropics, with the highest diversities in the more humid regions, where trees tend to have large, thin-coated, recalcitrant seeds that cannot be stored in a conventional seed bank. A variety of alternative strategies are potentially available for storing seeds, embryos, or other tissues of many species with non-orthodox seeds, but these are more expensive and usually require optimization for individual taxa. They are currently used largely for crop plants. The alternative for wild species is to grow them in 'living collections' in botanical gardens and similar facilities. Unlike seeds, these living collections need to be in a similar climate to where the species grow naturally and large areas are required to maintain genetically representative collections, particularly of trees. However, at present most well-managed living collections and all major seed banks specializing on wild species are outside the tropics. This severe global mismatch between the geographical distributions of threatened plants and ex situ collections is a major barrier to reaching global targets for plant conservation. Tropical botanical gardens need to take a leading role in plant conservation in both in and ex situ. Some are doing this already, but not yet on the scale that is needed to have a significant impact on the problem

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Resource Conservation and Urban Application of Bamboo

Ms. Hanbing Leng¹

¹*Shanghai Botanical Garden, Shanghai, China*

[PS9h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

China is one of the bamboo distribution centers of the world with the most abundant bamboo resources and possesses a long history of bamboo cultivation and application. So far about 500 species attached to more than 40 genera, covering 48600km², have been reported in China. The conservation of bamboo is a hot topic due to taxonomic confusions, lack of resource information and excessive damage and utilization. Generally, two methods are used in conserving bamboo resources, in situ and ex situ. Shanghai located in the northern border of the monopodial bamboo forest subregion with high precipitation, is optimal for the growth of nearly all the monopodial bamboo species as well as partly mixed bamboo species that adapt to the local climate. Ornamental bamboo, as a special branch of bamboo species, is selected and developed so that it plays a vital role in urban plant application and greening construction. The bamboo garden of Shanghai Botanical Garden, established on the basis of ex situ conservation and urban greening demand, collected various adaptable species and varieties worldwide and has owned more than 100 bamboo species belonging to 8 genera so far. It has become the important research base of classification, origin and evolution for bamboo.

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How Kew Gardens is changing the UK - the inside story of how its 'Grow Wild' initiative engaged the unengaged and inspired young people; how it's delivering opportunities for millions of people to create positive impacts for their lives.

Mr. Philip Turvil¹, Mrs Julia Willison¹

¹*Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London, United Kingdom*

[PS9h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

When so many people don't visit their botanic gardens, botanic gardens must visit them. When people don't understand how these gardens contribute beyond "nice flowers darling", gardens must translate their message.

Kew Gardens has done just that with its Grow Wild initiative; engaging over 4.3 million people since 2014; most of whom have never visited Kew Gardens. Grow Wild interprets Kew's core mission of building a better understanding of plants and fungi, to engage people across the UK, especially younger people and those without an interest in nature.

This presentation has Kew's senior engagement leads revealing how Grow Wild grew into the UK's biggest-ever native wild flower campaign, and how other botanic gardens can learn from their challenges.

In particular, covering (1) 'botanical gardens and their publics: engaging with people in a changing world'. Grow Wild uses influencers, social media and creative digital and event campaigns to trigger positive actions, which build into lasting journeys for target audiences.

Also (2) 'reaching a new audience: toddlers and teenagers'. Grow Wild has successfully connected with 12-25 year olds, including giving young people control to give out grants for 'get creative' and 'transform a space' projects.

This presentation will describe an effective model for reaching and engaging people, and sustaining a relationship that makes a botanic garden relevant, despite it being hundreds of miles away.

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A case study on engaging a teenage audience: global food security masterclass series for 17 and 18 year olds

Ms Bronwen Richards¹

¹*Cambridge University Botanic Garden, Cambridge, United Kingdom*

[PS9h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

Many of the 21st century's global challenges need plant scientists as part of the team to tackle them. Talented young biologists in the UK often assume that the best way to contribute to the world is by becoming a doctor, and are unaware of plant science as an important and interesting area of biology in its own right. How can we inspire a new generation of committed, passionate students to take on these challenges? Many of us recognise the importance and difficulty of engaging with a teenage audience, however, in the UK many botanic gardens find it difficult to attract visits from this demographic. This case study outlines the planning and evaluation of a series of masterclasses for 17 and 18 year old students on the topic of Global Food Security; it details the key lessons learnt and how the series aimed to engage students with the issues and contribute their ideas on how to solve them. The project was run by the University of Cambridge: Sainsbury Laboratory and Cambridge University Botanic Garden, with plant science postgraduates acting as small group mentors. Over 70 students from secondary schools in Cambridgeshire attended the series. Data was gathered through pre and post series surveys and immediate feedback at each session. Following the successful series at Cambridge, the project has supported other UK organisations in piloting and running their own masterclass series aimed at teenage audiences.

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The Botanical Garden of Rome: carbon dioxide sequestration by plant collections

Mr. Giacomo Puglielli¹, **Mrs. Loretta Gratani¹**, Mrs. Varone Varone¹, Mrs. Rosangela Catoni¹, Mr. Flavio Tarquini¹

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[PS9h] - General theme, Room 5, juin 29, 2017, 16:30 - 18:00

The Botanical Gardens are the preferred way to disseminate information on plant biodiversity, ecology of species, issues relating to conservation of the genetic heritage through the preservation of their collections. Moreover, they provide environmental benefits contributing to air amelioration quality. In this context, the main focus of this presentation was the analysis of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) sequestration capability by some tree species which are cultivated. The total CO₂ sequestration capacity was calculated by multiplying the total photosynthetic leaf surface area by the mean yearly net photosynthesis and the total yearly photosynthetic activity time (in hours), according to Gratani and Varone (2006). The Botanical Garden covers an area of 12 hectares on the bank of the Tiber, between Lungara Street and the Gianicolo Hill. The climate of the area is typically Mediterranean, with a period of drought from May to August and rainfall mainly concentrated in autumn and winter. The average total annual precipitation is 866 mm. Among the species of the Mediterranean wood, *Quercus pubescens*, *Quercus ilex* and *Quercus suber* were analyzed. Among the Gymnosperm collection *Taxodium distichum* (IUCN Red List, LC), *Abies nebrodensis* (IUCN Red List, CR) and *Wollemia nobilis* (IUCN Red List, CR) were compared. Among the Bamboo Collection, *Phyllostachys pubescens* and *Phyllostachys ventricosa* were analyzed. The results highlight that the CO₂ sequestration capability depends on structural and physiological traits. On the whole, the results highlight the capability of plant collections to lower atmospheric CO₂ during the daytime contributing to improve the wellness of people living in urban area.