

# BIODIVERSITY

FOR A BETTER WORLD

Wild Ideas Worth Sharing

St. Louis, MO April 26-May 1, 2015

BGCI's 9th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens





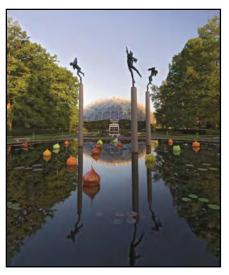






### Remarkable growth in education role of botanic gardens

- 1970s and 1980s
- Labels on (some) plants
- Student classes for university teaching
- A very occasional education staff member (often part-time on temporary funding)
- THEMES
- Education <u>about</u> plants



 Focus on information about plants and the botanic gardens themselves

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- TODAY
- Most botanic gardens regard Education as central to their Mission
- Most significant botanic gardens worldwide have education staff and many have special Education Departments or Divisions
- Outreach is an essential role

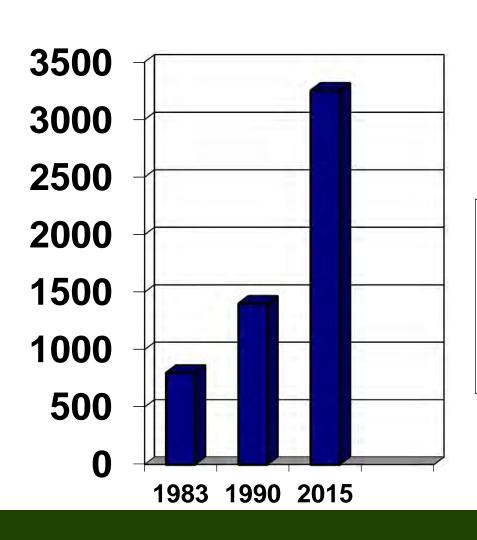
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- THEMES
- Children's Education
- Adult education
- Education for sustainability
- Biodiversity education
- Informal education
- Public environmental awareness
- Advocacy on environmental issues
- Teacher training
- Home gardening support
- Education about plants
- Science education
- Primary, secondary, tertiary & post-graduate education & training
- Education for sustainable development
- Environmental literacy
- Outdoor education
- Social inclusion
- Education and the social role of botanic gardens
- Capacity building for biodiversity conservation
- Training in taxonomy
- Policy development support
- Lifelong learning
- Inquiry-based science education
- Education for plant conservation
- Interpretation for sustainability
- Environmental education research
- ......

## Extraordinary growth in the number, diversity and distribution of botanic gardens worldwide over 3 decades



**1983: 798** 

1990: 1,400

2015: 3,253

Number of BotanicGardens

2015 figures based of data from the BGCI Garden Search, 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2015

# Botanic gardens – a remarkable worldwide network





1990: 51

## China

- Today, 2015: 158 botanic gardens
  - Mainly established since 1980s
  - Chinese Academy of Sciences
  - Many new city botanic gardens





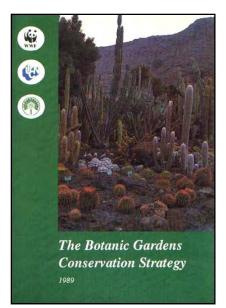


Founder, HRH Princess Basma bint Ali, receiving the Henry Shaw Medal from the Missouri Botanical Garden in 2012



Royal Botanic Garden, Jordan





International Agenda for Botanic **Gardens in Conservation** 



### Influential role played by BGCI







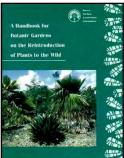


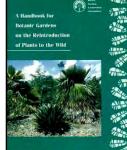


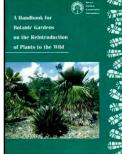






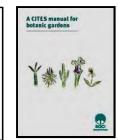


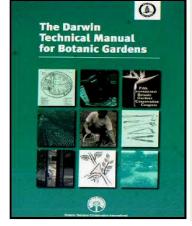


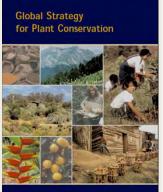












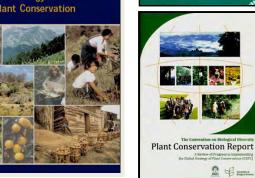








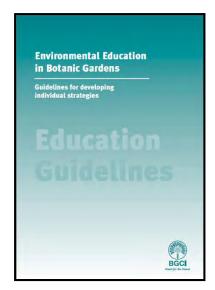


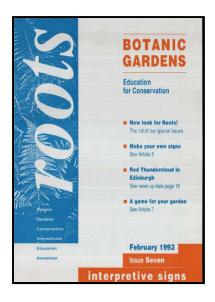


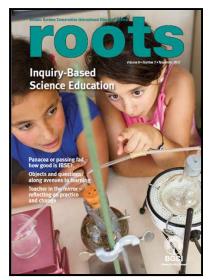
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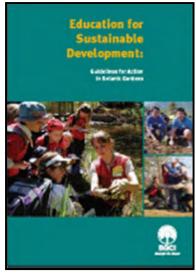
## Influential role of BGCI in helping to grow and shape education in botanic gardens worldwide





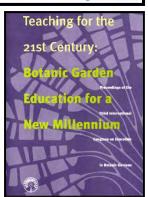














## BGCI International Botanic Garden Education Congresses



- 1<sup>st</sup> Utrecht, The Netherlands, 1991
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Gran Canaria, Spain, 1993
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Brooklyn, U.S.A., 1996
- 4<sup>th</sup> Trivandrum, India, 1999
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sydney, Australia, 2002
- 6<sup>th</sup> Oxford, U.K., 2006
- 7<sup>th</sup> Durban, South Africa, 2009
- 8<sup>th</sup> Mexico City, Mexico, 2012
- 9<sup>th</sup> St Louis, U.S.A., 2015

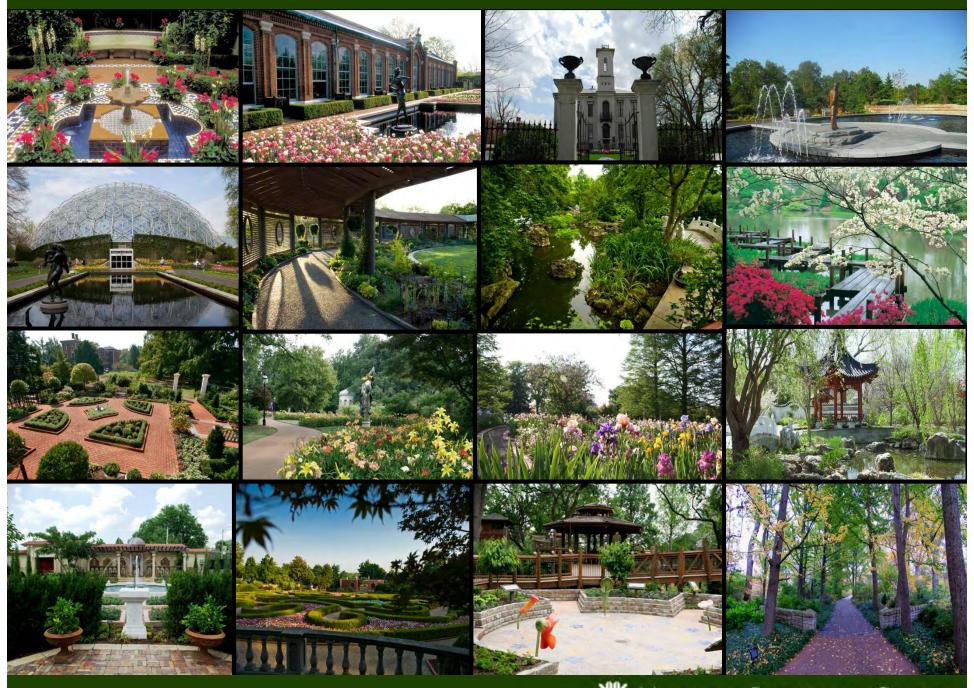






# Botanic gardens worldwide receive over 250 million visitors each year







## The world's plant diversity is gravely threatened Plant conservation: an urgent global priority

- C.400,000 plant species worldwide
- 100,000 species now threatened with extinction





# Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

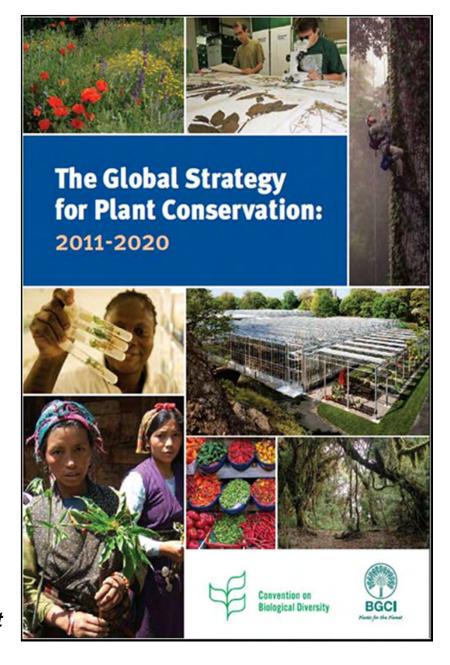
of the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity

Updated for 2011–2020: (29 October 2010, Nagoya, Japan)

16 targets

To halt the loss of plant diversity worldwide by 2020

Key role of botanic gardens in the development and implementation of the GSPC



## Objective 4 and Target 14 OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION 2011-2020

## Objective 4:

Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and importance to all life on Earth is promoted

## • Target 14:

The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, education and public awareness programmes.





### Likely GSPC Stakeholders (by target)



Botanic gardens identified as primary stakeholders in 50% of targets

#### Target

- 1 Herbaria, **Botanic gardens**, Bioinfomatics specialists, GBIF Focal Point, Universities with taxonomy departments, National Flora Societies
- 2 Herbaria, Botanic gardens, Conservation specialists, Universities, Research Institutes, National Red List Authority, IUCN Specialist Groups
- 3 Universities, Research institutes, **Botanic gardens**, Indigenous and local communities
- 4 Protected area managers, Ecologists, Community Based Organizations(CBOs)
- 5 Protected area managers, Universities, Research Institutes, **Botanic gardens**, Indigenous and local communities, Environmental NGOs, CBOs
- 6 Farmers and land owners, Agri-business sector, Forest managers, Logging companies, CBOs, Women's associations
- 7 Protected area managers, **Botanic gardens**, National flora societies, Universities
- 8 **Botanic gardens**, Seed banks, Universities, Research institutes, CBOs
- 9 Plant genetic resource institutes, Seed banks, Agricultural research institutes, Plant breeders, Universities, indigenous and local communities, Women's Associations, Traditional healers, Farmers' associations
- 10 Protected area managers, Quarantine agencies, Horticultural trade, Research institutes, Universities
- 11 National CITES authority, Customs officials, medicinal plant traders, plant product (timber etc.) importers/exporters, horticultural trade.
- 12 Local and indigenous communities, plant product importers /exporters, medicinal plant and horticultural trade, Women's associations, Traditional healers
- 13 Local and indigenous communities, Universities, Women's associations
- 14 Botanic gardens, Teachers, Environmental NGOs, Communication specialists, Universities, Media groups, CBOs
- 15 Universities, Schools, Research Institutes
- 16 All stakeholders



#### **GSPC** at the Missouri Botanical Garden – some examples

Target 1: World Flora On-line project

Target 2: Red List assessments worldwide

Target 3: Propagation protocols for threatened plants; Methodologies to understand plant richness

Target 4: 150,000 acres protected in 13 sites in Madagascar

Target 5: Important sites for plant diversity identified in Madagascar; Management plans for 3 parks (5 million acres) in Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia

Target 6: Sacred Seeds Program

Target 7: Inventories of protected areas in Bolivia, Madagascar, Peru

Target 8: Native plant Garden with 700 spp. New seedbank. Threatened plant gardens developed in Nicaragua and Vietnam

Target 9: Research on sustainable use of medicinal plants in Latin America and Vietnam

Target 10: Research on control of invasive plants in U.S. midwest

Target 11: Highlighting illegal trade in ebony in Madagascar

Target 12: Community based conservation in Vietnam, Bolivia, Peru and Madagascar

Target 13: Repatriation of local and indigenous knowledge in Peru

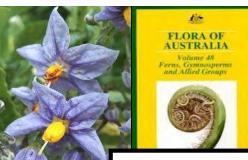
Target 14: 95,000 children participate in Garden's annual education programs in the US and abroad

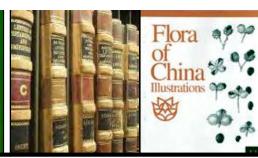
Target 15: International Professional Development Fellowships; Training courses in conservation & sustainable development

Target 16: Garden hosts conference for the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation and the 9<sup>th</sup> BGCI International Congress on Educationin Botanic Gardens











FLORA-

TROPICAL EAST AFRICA

ACCOMPANY OF Report school BEG PLEPER

CAROL PET. THUNBERG, Equ. Reg. Ord. Wafer, Med. et Bot. Prof. Acad. et Soriet. Litt. XL Membr. et Corresp.

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Classes, Ordines, Genera et Species,

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PLANTAS RITE COGNITAS.

GENERA RELATAS,
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DISTERSISTIS SPECIFICIS,
NOMINIBUS TRIVIALISUS, STOREME SHIPTE,
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STSTEMA SEXUALE,
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# World Flora Online

www.worldfloraonline.org



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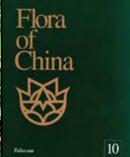
























**VISION** 

Updated GSPC adopted Nagoya, 29th October, 2010

Without plants, there is no life.
The functioning of the planet, and our survival, depends upon plants.
The Strategy seeks to halt the continuing loss of plant diversity.

New focus on plants for human wellbeing, livelihoods, ecosystem services

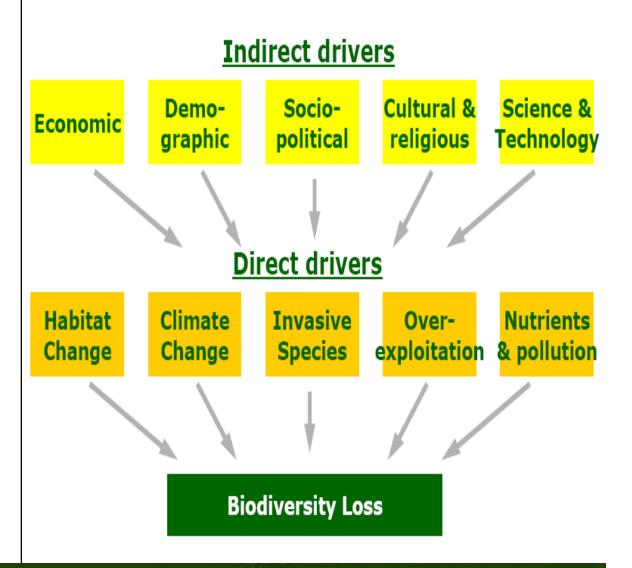


## 2020 Biodiversity Target

- Take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020
- in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services,
- thereby securing the planet's <u>variety of life</u>, and contributing to <u>human well-being</u>, and <u>poverty eradication</u>

### **Drivers of Biodiversity Loss**

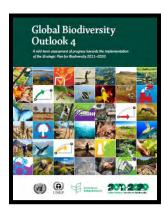
 Why is the link with human wellbeing, livelihoods, poverty alleviation and ecosystem services so important?





# Darwin Initiative (U.K.) grants awarded 2015

- Securing <u>livelihoods</u>, health and biodiversity through seascape-scale sustainable fisheries comanagement.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and climate resilience at Yayu Biosphere Reserve.
- To move to sustainable and resilient <u>livelihoods</u>, whilst conserving local biodiversity.
- Collaborative conflict management for community <u>livelihoods</u> and conservation.
- Supporting community conserved areas in Uganda for biodiversity and <u>livelihoods</u>.
- To demonstrate that <u>ecosystem services</u> and cultural values support the establishment and participatory management of three conservation areas.
- To improve <u>market opportunities</u> and skills in <u>sustainable harvesting</u> practices to increase income of 1000 low-income households in Vietnam.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and <u>ecosystem services</u> into community forestry in Nepal.
- To enable <u>smallholder farmers</u> to implement science-based interventions for enhancing and restoring ecosystem services and biodiversity in East African agricultural systems.
- Demonstrate to the conservation community the value of forest regeneration for biodiversity and <u>livelihoods</u>.



## **Aichi Target 1**

Target 'dashboard'—A summary of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, broken down into their components







On track to achieve target (if we continue on our current trajectory we expect to achieve the target by 2020)

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate (unless we increase our efforts the target will not be met by its deadline)



Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate (unless we increase our efforts the target will not the target ror away)



TARGET

## Awareness of biodiversity increased

By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

#### Why this target is important<sup>10</sup>

Addressing the direct and underlying drivers of biodiversity loss will require behavioral change by individuals, organizations and governments. Understanding, awareness and appreciation of the diverse values of biodiversity help to underpin the willingness of individuals to make such changes. Public awareness also underpins the political will for governments to act. Meeting this target requires that people are aware not only of the values of biodiversity in an abstract way, but know the concrete contributions of biodiversity to their lives, as well as the actions that can be taken to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.

#### SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET

#### TARGET ELEMENTS (BY 2020)

STATUS

People are aware of the values of biodiversity



People are aware of the steps they can take to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity



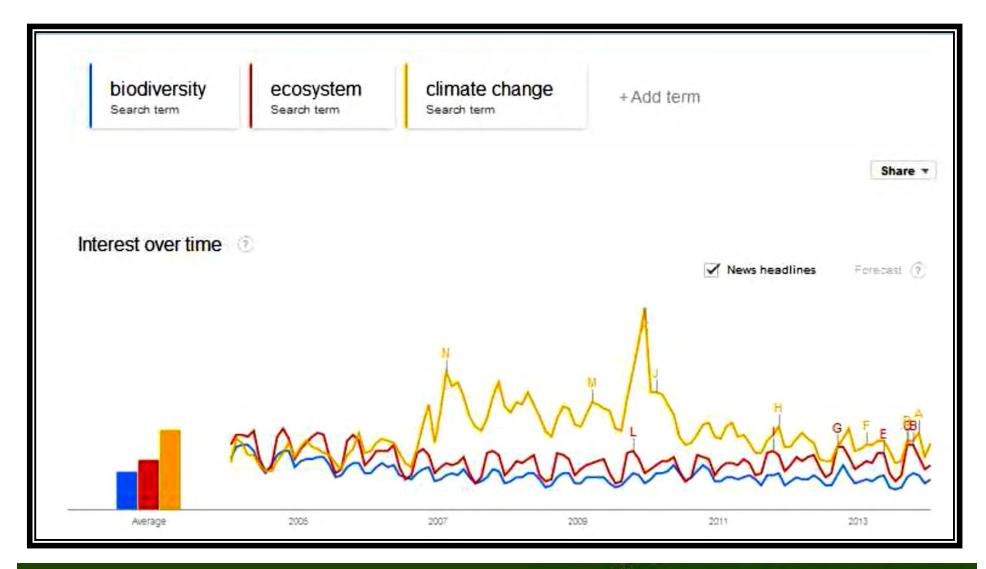
## Public Awareness of Biodiversity

Table 1.1: Biodiversity Barometer results for 2013. Source: Union for Ethical Bio Trade 2013.

Country	Percentage of respondents that have heard of biodiversity	Percentage of respondents that could provide a partial or correct definition of biodiversity	Percentage of respondents that could provide a correct definition of biodiversity
Brazil	96%	76%	51%
China	94%	86%	64%
France	95%	67%	39%
Germany	48%	34%	24%
India	19%	9.4%	0.4%
Japan	62%	50%	29%
Peru	52%	44%	7%
South Korea	73%	63%	47%
Switzerland	83%	55%	37%
United Kingdom	64%	39%	20%
USA	54%	36%	21%

<sup>\*</sup> Table from the Global Biodiversity Assessment

# Information derived from Google Trends for the search terms: "biodiversity" ("blue), "ecosystem" (red) and "climate change" (yellow) between January 2004 and February 2014.



### Missouri Botanical Garden

- Growing our audience to support environmental awareness

#### 2014

- Garden Attendance: **1,046,000**
- Visitors to the Children's Garden:126,000
- Students & teachers participating in education programs: 80,000
- Visitors to drop-in educational activities: 220,000
- Volunteers: 1,850 (150,000 hours worked)
- Members: 43,000





## **Education programs at the Missouri Botanical Garden**

- **50** professional educators
- **200** education volunteers
- Hundreds of classes, tours and workshops for adults and children each year
- Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden
- Teacher development resources



### **MBG Education & Community Outreach**

Connecting and relationship-building... starting where people live, work, learn, and play →

Driving behavior change in individuals...

Driving changes in institutional policies in practices...

Driving landscape change...



Q: In what ways could the landscapes around us improve quality of life for all?

### Sustainability

- Certified sustainable buildings
- Coordinates the greening of businesses
- Promotes sustainable building practices throughout the St. Louis region
- Annual Green Homes and Great Health Festival
- Provides "green resources" answer service
- Sustainable parking lots
- Single stream recycling
- Certified Green restaurant

### **Community**

- Local regeneration
- BiodiverseCity St Louis













## Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House

- Established in 1995 to "foster a greater understanding of plant and animal relationships in the environment in order to promote the conservation and restoration of natural habitats."
- Integrated into the Garden in 2001
- Important center for children's environmental education



#### **Shaw Nature Reserve**

2,400 acres of Ozark border landscape

- Native plants
- Conservation
- Ecological restoration (prairies, woodlands, wetlands)
- Reconnecting with nature

• Dana Brown Overnight Center





## Social networking – potential and opportunity

- 2014
- Visitors online to Missouri
   Botanical Garden: 10 million
- Total visits via mobile devices:3 million
- Social network followers:
   130,000 (Up 35% on 2013)
- MBG Gardening Help online:
   14 million visitors
- TROPICOS: 18 million page views





## **The Missouri Botanical Garden** in Madagascar





## MADAGASCAR The Missouri Botanical Garden in





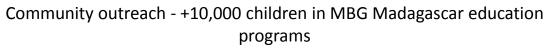
Madagascar

















Need to link our local botanic garden actions in biodiversity conservation more closely with future international, national & local policies, priorities and practices in -



- Sustainable development
- Community development, including poverty reduction
- Building public awareness of the essential importance of biodiversity in achieving sustainable development.







The United Nations is defining **Sustainable Development Goals** for a new sustainable development agenda to be launched at the Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015.

### What is this Congress about?

- Sharing experiences
- Propagating ideas
- Evaluating progress
- Determining future directions
- Deciding priorities
- Setting targets
- Celebrating success
- Inspiring leadership



