



MISSOURI  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN

# News Release

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Missouri Botanical Garden Commits to Achieving UN Goals for Sustainable Development**

(ST. LOUIS): On September 25, the 193 country leaders attending the United Nations General Assembly adopted its new global Agenda for Sustainable Development, including 17 Goals and 169 targets for these goals. This 15-year plan replaces the previously adopted Millennium Development Goals and extends to 2030. Missouri Botanical Garden programs in the areas of botany, conservation, horticulture, education and sustainability are representative of many of these newly adopted global goals and targets. In St. Louis, and around the world, the Garden strives to improve the livelihood and wellbeing of humans and our environment.

“The Missouri Botanical Garden is committed to playing a leading role worldwide in helping to meet these exciting but challenging new goals over the coming years,” said Garden President Peter Wyse Jackson. “We recognize that a healthy environment, rich in plants and biodiversity is essential if the great challenges faced by the world – poverty, securing human wellbeing, peace, stability and climate change - are to be addressed.”

Last year, Wyse Jackson addressed the UN’s Convention on Biological Diversity regarding the worldwide implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

Among the goals most closely associated with the Garden’s mission are:

- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Many Missouri Botanical Garden projects already fit within the 169 targets and have an impact on the local, national and global scale. The Garden's work in Madagascar, for example, involves community development, local healthcare initiatives, science education opportunities for Malagasy students, training local farmers about sustainable practices, development of products to sell to others to improve economic conditions, protection of endangered species, ecological restoration and halting deforestation at biologically diverse locations.

In St. Louis, the Garden's work is equally important through its science and environmental programs for underserved preschoolers to sustainable education programs for adults and businesses. From Madagascar to Latin America to Africa to Tibet, Pakistan and the Southeastern United States, the Garden educates on sustainable practices, preserves biodiversity, rebuilds vital ecosystems through ecological restoration, discovers and protects new species of plants, and empowers local citizens with the tools to better their lives and protect the planet.

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The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 156 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display. For general information, visit [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org) or call (314) 577-5100 (toll-free, 1-800-642-8842). Follow the Garden on Facebook and Twitter at [www.facebook.com/missouribotanicalgarden](https://www.facebook.com/missouribotanicalgarden) and [http://twitter.com/mobotgarden](https://twitter.com/mobotgarden).