

Second Announcement

The 3rd Xishuangbanna International Symposium Botanical Gardens and Climate Change

January 13-16, 2014 Xishuangbanna, China



Organized by

Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Homepage: <http://xtbgsymposium2014.csp.escience.cn/>

The Symposium will be held at the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG), Chinese Academy of Sciences, in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, China.

The organizing committee has the pleasure to invite you to participate in the “3rd Xishuangbanna International Symposium – Botanical Gardens and Climate Change” to be held in Xishuangbanna, China on January 13-16, 2014.

The 3rd Xishuangbanna International Symposium, lasting for 4 days, will bring together leading scientists to present cutting-edge research, address current debates and assess future directions for botanical gardens in research and education about climate change. We warmly welcome your attendance at this symposium.

Local Information

Location:

Xishuangbanna is a Dai Autonomous Prefecture in the southern Yunnan, near the Myanmar and Laos borders. Xishuangbanna, with the Lancang (Mekong) River flowing through it, is well-known for its rich biodiversity and is the only place in China that still maintains large tracts of tropical rain forest. This has given it the reputation in China as the ‘Kingdom of Tropical Fauna and Flora’. Xishuangbanna is also rich in culture diversity, with 13 minority nationalities, of which the Dai make up a majority of the population.



Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden (XTBG) is a comprehensive botanical research institution belonging to the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), focusing on tropical forest ecology, conservation biology, and resource plant development. XTBG is located in Menglun Town, Mengla County, and is 60 km from Jinghong, the capital of Xishuangbanna Prefecture. With an area of 1125 ha, XTBG is the largest botanical garden in China and has the richest plant collections in the country. Over ten thousand species of tropical and subtropical plants are found in its 35 living collections. XTBG is also a famous tourist site in China, rated AAAAA.

For more information about XTBG, please go to our website <http://english.xtbg.cas.cn/>.



Weather:

Xishuangbanna has a tropical monsoonal climate. January is dry and relatively cold (around 10~20 °C). A thin sweater is usually enough in the morning and evening, while short sleeves are comfortable during the day. However, the organizing committee reminds you that most other places in China, including Kunming, colder than Xishuangbanna in January, so you need to bring enough clothes for flight transfers on your route.

Symposium venue:

The symposium will be held in the Conference Hall of the XTBG Research Center inside the Gardens.



Transportation

Flight Information:

Your final destination should be Xishuangbanna (Jinghong Gasa) Airport (Airport code: JHG). Xishuangbanna Airport receives regular direct flights from several major cities in China, including very frequent flights from Kunming, which connects with many cities in

Asia. Travelers from Europe can fly via Chengdu or Guangzhou and travelers from the USA can fly via Shanghai or Beijing. Other routes are possible and the cheapest and most convenient combination of flights will depend on your starting point and dates of travel.

Flight information is available at: <http://www.chinatraveldepot.com/>

Transportation to the symposium site:

It takes a little over an hour by car from the airport to XTBG.

A shuttle service will be provided by the Organizing Committee on 11th -12nd and on 16-17th January 2014. Please inform the organizing committee of your times of arrival and departure, including date, time and flight number, before January 1st, 2014 (xtbgsymposium@xtbg.org.cn).

Hotel Accommodations

XTBG and the adjacent Menglun town offer a range of accommodation options to suit all budgets. Twenty-seven rooms have been reserved at a discounted rate at the XTBG hotel inside the Gardens. Recommended hotels in Menglun town are listed in the table below. XTBG and Menglun town are popular destinations for tourists, so delegates are advised to book their accommodation well in advance.

Hotel	Room Type	Rate/RMB	Number of rooms	Internet Access
XTBG Hotel	Standard room	160	26	\
	Double Room	160	1	\
Cui Xin Hotel	Standard room	130	34	Free
	Double Room	130	11	Free
Li Du Hotel	Standard room	130	13	Free
	Double Room	130	4	Free

Visa Information

Please check with the Chinese Embassy or Consulate in the country you will be travelling from regarding visa requirements for entry to China, since these vary from country to country.

A **Tourist Visa (L Visa)** will in some cases be adequate for attending the Symposium. However, where a **Business Visa (F Visa)** is required, you will usually need a Letter of Invitation and a Visa Notification Form issued by the Symposium Organizing Committee. To obtain a Letter of Invitation and Visa Notification Form for your visa application, you will need to **complete and submit the following information, and email a photocopy of your passport** to xtbgsymposium@xtbg.org.cn

1. Full Name as it appears in your passport:
2. Date of Birth:
3. Gender:
4. Passport Number:
5. Nationality:
6. Name of your institute:
7. Date of your entry into China:
8. Duration of your stay in China:
9. The Chinese Embassy/Consulate where you will apply for the visa:
10. Purpose of your visit to China:
11. Number of entries:
12. Email address:

On receipt of this information, we will issue the documents needed to support your application by email or by fax. We will only do this for **registered participants**. You will then need to submit these documents along with your visa application to your local Chinese Embassy or Consulate. Although this application is usually straightforward, please allow plenty of time for your visa application to be processed. If you need further advice, please contact: xtbgxymposium@xtbg.org.cn.

Registration Fee

The registration fee is 800 RMB or 120 US dollar. This includes conference materials, welcome reception, banquet, lunches, dinner and refreshments on all 4 full days of symposium (Monday-Thursday, January 13-16, 2014), and local transportation. Students pay a reduced registration fee of 50%. All payments for registration fees can be made on arrival at the registration desk and have to be made in cash. We cannot handle credit card payments.

Programme

12 January (Sunday):

Arrival of participants, registration and reception

13 January (Monday):

Opening ceremony, plenary sessions, tour of XTBG and welcome dinner

14 January (Tuesday):

All day plenary session and group sessions

15 January (Wednesday):

Half day plenary session

Half day discussion, closing ceremony and banquet

16 January (Thursday):

Post-conference excursions

The final program will be available at the end of December

Conference Chairs



Prof. Jin CHEN, Conference Chair

Director of Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, CAS.

His research interests focus on plant-animal interactions. Prof. Jin CHEN was selected as the first Chairman of the Chinese Union of Botanical Gardens (CUBG). He was been honored as of the “Top 10 National Outstanding Science & Technology Workers” by the China Association for Science & Technology in 2010.



Prof. Richard T. CORLETT, Conference Co-Chair

Director of the Center for Integrative Conservation,
Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, CAS.

His research interests include terrestrial ecology and biodiversity conservation in tropical East Asia, and the impacts of climate change. He is a lead author for the Asia chapter of the 2014 Working Group II Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and a member of the Steering Committee of the IUCN Species Survival Commission Climate Change Specialist Group.

Keynote Speakers



Prof. Stephen BLACKMORE

Prof. Stephen John Blackmore is a British botanist and has been Regius Keeper of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh since 1999. Before this, he was Keeper of Botany at the Natural History Museum in London 1990-1999. He was awarded the Bicentenary Medal of the Linnean Society in 1992.



Prof. Richard PRIMACK

Prof. Richard Primack is a Professor of Biology at Boston University. His current research focuses on the impacts of climate change on flowering and leafing-out times of plants and the spring arrival of birds in Massachusetts, Japan, and South Korea, and the potential for ecological mismatches among species caused by climate change. Prof. Primack serves as Editor-in-Chief of the international journal Biological Conservation.

Dr. Jennifer SCHWARZ

Jennifer Schwarz Ballard, Ph.D. is the Associate Vice President of Education at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Since joining the Garden in 2005, she has focused on educational equity and climate change education in formal and informal contexts. Most recently, she authored curricula that engage students ages 12-18 in investigating the impacts of climate change on plants, ecosystems, and human society. Her current interests include exploring how an asset based approach to community engagement can be used to support broad-based action around climate change mitigation and adaptation.



Dr. Sara OLDFIELD

With a career in international plant conservation spanning over 30 years, Dr. Oldfield joined Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) as Secretary General in May 2005. Previously she worked as Global Programmes Director for Fauna & Flora International. Sara is also Chair of the IUCN/SSC Global Tree Specialist Group, responsible for promoting and implementing projects to identify and protect globally Red Listed tree species. She has published a number of research papers and books, the most recent of which is “Botanic Gardens: Modern Day Arks”.



Prof. Guo-Yi ZHOU

Prof. Guo-Yi ZHOU is the director of the Dinghushan Forest Ecosystem Research Station, South China Botanical Garden, CAS. His research focuses on the quantitative relationships between the structure and function of forest ecosystems on multiple scales. He was the leading contributor of the second prize for the National Science Achievement Award of China (2008).



Prof. Jian-Chu XU

Prof. Jian-Chu XU is a professor of Ethnoecology at the Kunming Institute of Botany, CAS. His research interests are the ethnoecology and human dimensions of global environmental change, including community-based conservation, land use/cover change, climate change impacts, and forest transitions and their implications for environmental service provision in mountain regions.

Grants

- (1) Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden will provide grants for ten scholars from developing countries, especially those in Southeast Asia. This grant includes a total budget of 5000 RMB and free registration for each candidate. Applicants must submit an abstract as well as a short CV to the Organizing Committee before 20th December 2013. Ideally the applicants should make an oral presentation fitting one of the general topics of this symposium.
- (2) Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden will provide free registration for two candidates from each of the institutions or organizations of the Chinese Union of Botanical Gardens.

Oral and Poster Presentations

Oral Presentations:

The date and time of your presentation will be in the final programme added to the conference website by late December.

Standard AV equipment will be provided, including projector, screen and laptop.

Please bring your presentation to the speaker preparation area, preferably when you register, but no later than on the morning of your presentation, so it can be downloaded onto our system.

PowerPoint presentations are recommended, ideally in the format of MS office 97-2003. If you are unsure of software compatibility, please also bring a PDF version as back-up.

You will NOT be able to present from your own laptop.

Plenary Presentations:

Presentation time will be 40 minutes, including the Q&A time at the end of your presentation.

Oral Presentations:

Presentation time will be 20 minutes, including the Q&A time at the end of your presentation.

There will be 20 minutes available at the end of each session for general discussions.

Should you have any questions regarding your presentations, please email us at

xtbgsymposium@xtbg.org.cn.

Poster Presentations:

The following guidelines will be helpful when you are preparing your poster:

A poster board will be provided for you. In order to fit these boards, all posters should be size A0 (0.8 x 1.2 m) and in portrait orientation.

Full use of colour, bold and larger typefaces is encouraged and all sections of the poster should be clearly legible from a distance of 2 metres.

The use of illustrative material, photographs etc is recommended.

Posters should be designed for quick impact and to attract immediate interest.

All posters should be accompanied by a presenter during the poster session. The presenter should be able to answer questions and provide further information.

Official Language

The working language during the symposium will be ENGLISH.

Contact

For more information about the 3rd Xishuangbanna International Symposium – Botanical Gardens and Climate Change, please contact xtbgsymposium@xtbg.org.cn.

The 3rd Xishuangbanna International Symposium
Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden
Chinese Academy of Sciences
Menglun Town, Mengla County, Yunnan Province 666303, P.R. China
Tel.: +86-691-8715460, Fax: +86-691-8715070
Email: xtbgsymposium@xtbg.org.cn
Website: <http://xtbgsymposium2014.csp.escience.cn/>