

BGCI – Conserving plants in a changing world



The world today is changing more rapidly than at any time in human history. Climatic changes are intimately connected with plants that harness the sun's energy and maintain ecosystems for all life on earth.

In 2006, BGCI, together with the Viera y Clavijo Botanic Garden, convened a meeting of the 'Gran Canaria' group. As a result of the meeting, the Group formulated a declaration calling for immediate action on climate change and plant conservation:

The Gran Canaria Declaration II on Climate Change and Plant Conservation:

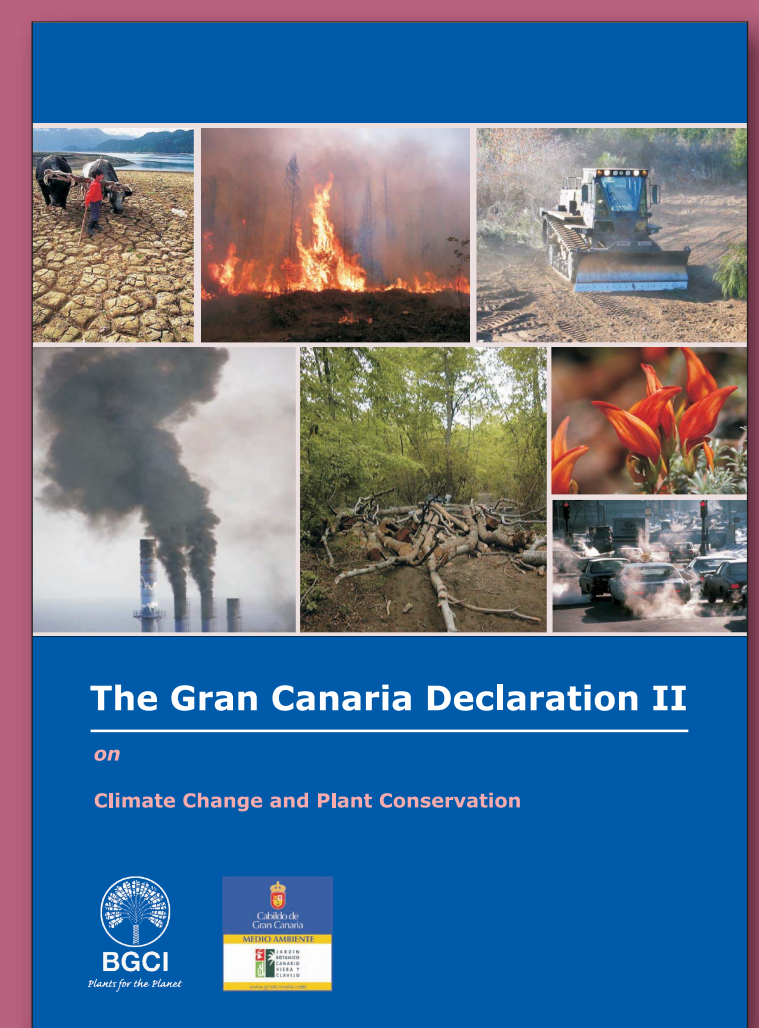
- Recommends the preparation of an Action Plan on climate change and plants
- Calls on governments to take urgent action to protect the world's plants
- Recognises the role of plant diversity in ensuring the functioning of ecosystems
- Considers *ex situ* collections essential as the basis for restoration programmes and to support livelihood adaptations
- Considers botanic gardens to have a leading role to play in raising awareness of the issues.

BGCI – establishing an information service

In response to the *Gran Canaria Declaration II*, BGCI is setting up a plants and climate change information service, in order to:

- Gather, collate and synthesise existing information on climate change and plant diversity
- Provide results on bioclimatic modelling of future plant distributions and abundance
- Support botanic gardens in education and awareness raising
- Identify conservation priorities, guide policy and assist conservation planning.

If you wish to contribute to the information service, please contact BGCI.



For further information visit:

www.bgci.org

Botanic Gardens Conservation International



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Plants for the Planet