



4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress

Addressing global change:
a new agenda for botanic gardens

13th - 18th June 2010, Dublin, Ireland



Organised by Botanic Gardens Conservation International
& the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland
Supported by the Office of Public Works,
Government of Ireland



About the Congress

The Global Botanic Gardens Congress is the premier international event for botanic gardens, held every three years. It is organised by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) and its partner network organisations representing botanic gardens throughout the world.

The Congress represents the foremost opportunity for representatives of the world's botanic gardens to meet and report on or review progress towards achieving the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation, the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity's Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and to share experiences on the challenges in implementing their own individual missions.

The last Congress was held in Wuhan, China in 2007, which was attended by over 800 delegates. Previous Global Botanic Garden Congresses have been held in Barcelona, Spain (2004) and Asheville, North Carolina, U.S.A. (2000), building on the foundations provided by BGCI's earlier botanic garden conservation congresses held in Cape Town, South Africa (1998); Perth, Western Australia (1995); Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1992); Réunion Island, Indian Ocean (1989) and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain (1985).



Welcome

Dear Colleagues and Friends

On behalf of the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland I have great pleasure in inviting you to participate in the 4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress, which is being held in Dublin, the renowned, exciting and vibrant capital of Ireland.

This will be an extremely important Congress for botanic gardens coming in 2010, a milestone year for international biodiversity conservation. During the Congress, botanic gardens will be able to evaluate not only the important progress made towards the achievement of the United Nation's 2010 biodiversity conservation target and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation but also review the priorities we must all set to guide our individual and collective actions for the good of the planet over the coming decade.

It is a great honour for Ireland's National Botanic Gardens to host this global congress, working with Botanic Gardens Conservation International and bringing together representatives of the world's botanic gardens for the first time in this part of Europe. We hope that many of you will be able to join us, not only to participate in what promises to be a significant landmark for the world's botanic gardens but also to enjoy Ireland's legendary hospitality and the beauty and diversity of its landscapes and gardens.

We look forward to welcoming you to the National Botanic Gardens, an historic institution founded in 1795, but a botanic garden that is very much aware of its modern roles and growing responsibilities to contribute to ensuring a sustainable future for our people, plants and planet.

Peter Wyse Jackson Ph.D
Director, National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

Dear Colleagues and Friends

BGCI is delighted to invite you to participate in the 4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress. 2010 will be a busy year for all involved in biodiversity conservation with the Convention on Biodiversity convening in Japan to review the 2010 Biodiversity Target and to endorse suggestions for a new phase of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). The 2010 Botanic Gardens Congress will provide a timely opportunity for us in the botanic garden world to celebrate our considerable achievements in relation to the GSPC and to consolidate our ideas on the way forwards.

The International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation was originally agreed in Asheville back in 2000. While this has provided an essential framework for the conservation work of botanic gardens over the past ten years, it is clear that the external environment in which we are working has changed considerably. The challenges in plant conservation are not diminishing and the global impact of climate change requires an ever greater commitment to secure plant diversity. The imperative for botanic gardens to use their skills, expertise and botanical resources to repair the damaged earth is also increasing. The 4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress provides the opportunity to look ahead, influence the policy debate, plan for action and renew our common agenda.

I am convinced that the excellent hospitality that I know will be provided by our Irish hosts will enhance our potential for networking, enjoyment and action planning. On behalf of BGCI I look forward to seeing you in Dublin!

Sara Oldfield
Secretary General, Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)

Congress Theme

Addressing Global Change: a new agenda for botanic gardens

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

BGCI is an international organisation created in 1987 to ensure the world-wide conservation of threatened plants, the continued existence of which is intrinsically linked to global issues including poverty reduction, sustainable development and climate change. BGCI represents over 500 members - mostly botanic gardens - in over 120 countries. It aims to support and empower its members and the wider conservation community so that their knowledge and expertise can be applied to reversing the threat of extinction facing one third of all plants.

BGCI supports the development and implementation of global policy – specifically the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) - at a global, regional, national, and local level. It works in a catalytic way, through its Secretariat in London and regional offices around the world to deliver appropriate solutions for plant conservation. It produces a range resources and publications, organises regular international gatherings and implements direct conservation programmes. BGCI's vision is a world in which plant diversity is valued, secure and supporting all life.

To create this world, its mission is: "To mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet".



The National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

The National Botanic Gardens is Ireland's premier botanical institution receiving over 600,000 visitors each year. Founded in 1795, the National Botanic Gardens are noted for their fine plant collections, holding over 17,000 plant species and varieties from around the world. Famous for their beautiful landscaped gardens and exquisitely restored and planted glasshouses, notably the Turner Curvilinear Range and the Great Palm House, both recipients of the Europa Nostra award for excellence in conservation architecture. The institution includes Ireland's National Herbarium and extensive library and botanical art collections. The Gardens include such features as the herbaceous borders, rose garden, woodland garden, the ponds, rock garden, arboretum and an organic fruit and vegetable garden. Training is an important component of its work and the institution includes Ireland's leading Horticultural College.

Its mission is "To ensure that plant diversity is cherished and nurtured in Ireland and throughout the world." This mission is achieved by developing and implementing extensive work on biodiversity, in Ireland and overseas in science, conservation, education, sustainability and horticulture. Its work includes wide-ranging activities in environmental education, particularly for children. In recent years a range of new dynamic research programmes have been developed, particularly in the field of conservation biology.

Scientific Programme

The Congress will include a diverse and stimulating programme of plenary keynote addresses, symposia and workshops on the most challenging current concerns of botanic gardens worldwide, including biodiversity conservation, climate change, sustainability, environmental education, innovative horticulture and collections management, and much more. Specific opportunities to consider the following themes and priorities will be provided:

- The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation – 2010 and beyond
- Addressing the threat from invasive aliens, pests and diseases
- Building sustainable botanic gardens
- Frontiers of science and conservation biology research in botanic gardens
- Addressing climate change through botanic gardens
- Poverty alleviation – the special roles of botanic gardens in achieving the Millennium Development Goals
- Spreading the word – effective messages for change – Environmental education in botanic gardens
- Botanic garden horticulture – including collections management and priorities, as well as how botanic gardens must face the challenge of providing access to their collections and benefit sharing (ABS)
- Capacity and training – strengthening botanic gardens and their networks for the tasks ahead.

Call for Papers

Submissions for the scientific programme are invited from interested participants. Proposals for oral presentations and poster papers, workshops, symposia, round tables and other events will be accepted. Based on submitted abstracts, the Scientific Committee will consider all proposals made for inclusion in the programme. Details of the format for submissions and abstracts will be included in the Congress website.

Language

The official language of the congress will be English

Preliminary Congress Schedule

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11-13th June, 2010 | - Pre-congress tours |
| 12th June, Saturday | - Pre-congress workshops (at the National Botanic Gardens). |
| 13th June, Sunday | - Pre-congress workshops and regional network meetings - Registration and poster set-up - Guided tours and evening welcome reception at the National Botanic Gardens. |
| 14th June, Monday | - Monday morning, Official Opening - Plenaries and other congress sessions continue - Evening Reception |
| 15th June, Tuesday | - Plenaries and other congress sessions continue |
| 16th June, Wednesday | - All day excursions and study visits. This will include a visit to the National Botanic Gardens' Kilmacurragh Arboretum in Co. Wicklow. - Evening congress dinner at the National Botanic Gardens, followed by typical Irish entertainment. |
| 17th June, Thursday | - Plenaries and other congress sessions continue - Cultural evening for delegates with bookable pub crawls, concerts and theatre visits. |
| 18th June, Friday | - Morning: Final congress sessions and close before lunch - Departure of delegates - Post-congress tours depart |
| 18-20th June | - Post-congress tours |

Pre And Post Congress Tours

Two tours are planned and will be organised before and after the Congress so that delegates may participate in both study tours. The tours will be two nights in duration, travelling by coach and departing from and arriving back in Dublin.

Great Gardens of the south and east of Ireland

This tour will visit some of the remarkable, historic and diverse public gardens of the east, south and south-west, including the J.F. Kennedy National Arboretum in Co. Waterford; Fota Arboretum, Co. Cork; Mount Congreve, Co. Waterford; Muckross and the Killarney National Park, Co. Kerry; Inacullin Island, Co. Kerry. These gardens include huge collections of temperate plants, and are particularly rich in tender and rare trees and shrubs from all parts of the world.

Ireland's Native Plant Diversity

This tour will visit key natural habitats, boglands, native oak woodlands and the karst landscape of the Burren in Co. Clare (famous for its rich assemblage of Arctic-alpine and Mediterranean plants). The tour will also feature some ancient and historic sites and natural wonders, such as the early Christian monastery at Clonmacnoise and the spectacular Cliffs of Moher.



Ireland

Ireland is an English speaking island on the north western edge of Europe. It is 486 km long and 275 km wide. The Republic of Ireland occupies three-quarters of the island and its capital city is Dublin. It is easily accessible by car, train, or bus. Ireland, with its beautiful scenery, offers a range of attractions to visitors including ancient archaeological sites and monuments, diverse landscapes, habitats, gardens, flora and fauna, a variety of activities including sports, as well as traditional dancing and music. It has a population of 4.5 million, over one million of whom live in Dublin.

Dublin, Ireland's capital city, is steeped in history and buzzing with energy. Medieval, Georgian and modern architecture provide a backdrop to a friendly cosmopolitan city. Dublin is a thriving centre for culture and is home to a great literary tradition, its native sons include Shaw, Yeats, Joyce and Beckett. The city's attractions include castles, museums, art galleries, pubs and cafes. Within half an hour of the city are mountain walks, stately homes and gardens, sandy beaches and fishing villages. Dublin is a vivacious and welcoming capital. It has great transport links so delegates will find travelling here easy and the compactness of the city means it's only a leisurely walk to your next stop. It is well renowned for its friendliness and generous hospitality so visitors won't be disappointed. There is one major international airport in Dublin, situated approximately 10km north of the city center.

A city of fine Georgian buildings, Dublin has excellent shops, museums, art galleries, antique shops and a range of pubs and restaurants. It has four major theatres, including the world famous Abbey theatre, concert facilities, art galleries and cinemas.

Ireland enjoys a temperate climate, with mild winters and relatively cool summers. Mean daily temperature in June is 18 °C. Dublin enjoys reasonable sunshine and rain belts reaching the east coast are frequently light and generally clear within a few hours. However it is always wise when travelling to Ireland to pack rain gear or an umbrella

Congress Venue

The Congress will be held at The Helix, a modern conference, theatre, arts complex opened in 2002, located on the campus of Dublin City University. It is situated a short distance from the National Botanic Gardens at Glasnevin, is within 15 minutes drive of Dublin Airport and only minutes from the city centre. It is well served by public transport routes.

Social Programme

An exciting social programme has been put together to enable delegates and accompanying persons to meet up with old friends and colleagues in a relaxed environment. These will include a welcome reception, a state reception and congress dinner.

Accommodation

A range of accommodation will be available to suit all budgets, including university accommodation, 3 star, 4 star and 5 star hotels, all convenient to the congress venue.



Important Dates

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1st October 2009 | Deadline for submission of abstracts |
| 1st February 2010 | Notification of acceptance of abstracts |
| 1st March 2010 | End of early registration |

For Further Information

Please see the congress website www.4GBGC.com for regular updates

For information on registration fees, accommodation, invitation letters, visas and social programme please contact:

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For enquiries relating to the scientific programme and abstracts please check on the website and:

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Expression of Interest

Complete this form online www.4GBGC.com

Name

Organisation

Address

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I am interested in accommodation within the following categories (please tick box)

- University Accommodation
- 3 Star Accommodation
- 4 Star Accommodation
- 5 Star Accommodation

I would be interested in exhibiting at the trade exhibition

- Y N
- Please send me further details.

I would be interested in discussing opportunities for sponsorship of the Congress

- Y N
- Please send me further details.



Please complete this form online at www.4GBGC.com

or fax/post it to:

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