



# Achieving Target 8 of the GSPC

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## Progress towards the target/issue

### Overview of progress

- Variable progress between countries
- Unlikely to be achieved by some mega-diverse countries, but others (e.g. China, South Africa, Australia) will largely meet targets.
- Full review will be conducted before 2020

### How is this measured / indicators of progress

- BGCI's PlantSearch database provides a tool
- This is will be further developed
- Restoration & reintroduction register to be developed by BGCI in collaboration with GPPC partners



## Constraints to progress

### Key issues constraining progress

- Lack of information on which species are threatened (i.e. slow progress with Target 2)
- Lack of information on seed storage behaviour for many species
- Many tropical species have recalcitrant seeds, and more technically difficult and expensive conservation methodologies are required.
- Conservation genetics often neglected due to cost, lack of expertise and time required
- No 'stud book' databases or equivalent in BG community that will enable optimal genetic diversity in ex situ conservation and reintroductions

### Opportunities to overcome these / enhance progress to 2020

- More progress on Target 2 in recent years
- Enhanced networking to share information
- Dedicated networks and partnerships – MSBP / CFC / BGCI –GSCC
- BGCI and MBG working on next generation PlantSearch that will enable access to accession/individual plant information.



## Progress towards target / issue

### **Examples / models for others to use**

- Good examples presented from Australia, China, South Africa and the USA
- Guidelines for reintroduction / translocation being updated by CPC and ANPC



## GSPC post-2020

### Is the target(s) fit for purpose post-2020?

Omissions that were discussed included:

- The need for explicit reference to maximising genetic diversity of ex situ conservation collections
- Broadening the use of collections beyond restoration to include species reintroductions, translocation, novel species assemblages, and use in agriculture, horticulture and forestry.



## GSPC post-2020

Discussion focused around the following points:

- The need for the vision to be more ambitious and explicit: “No plant species becomes extinct” linked to a series of time bound milestones towards achieving this
- Milestones should be set by individual countries, based on available capacity, but these should be SMART and binding
- Potential separation of the conservation and restoration parts of the target – the conservation component focusing on conserving all rare and threatened plant species and the restoration component focusing on a subset of threatened species for conservation, ecosystem services and use of the species in agriculture, horticulture, forestry etc.



## GSPC post-2020

- Recognition and explicit mention in milestones that a range of conservation interventions will be required, including long term ex situ conservation, long term management in human transformed landscapes (e.g. in cases of loss of pollinators, dispersers etc.), translocation, reintroduction and restoration.
- More explicit mention of the need for conserving genetic diversity ex situ
- Potential to combine Targets 7 and 8 around ‘integrated species conservation’.



## GSPC post-2020

### Is the target(s) fit for purpose post-2020?

- How does it link with other national / international processes
- Species availability ex situ supports restoration – which is an important part of efforts to combat desertification and climate change (although the focus of such restoration is ecosystem services, not biodiversity conservation)
- Ex situ also supports efforts in city greening and urban biodiversity conservation
- Links should also be made to the Global Plans of Action for PGRFA and FGR, which have many of the same conservation and sustainable use targets.
- Making a diverse array of species available will increase resilience in all of these processes





## GSPC post-2020

Any other comments / suggestions from the group

- Based on the assumption that it may not be possible to conserve all species ex situ, phylogenetic approaches to conservation may be beneficial from the gene capture perspective.

