



# International Workshop

## The Role of a National Botanical Garden in the Rebuilding of Haiti

Caribe Convention Center, October 23-25, 2011

Theme: Rebuilding Haiti by rebuilding and protecting its Environment

Organized by: Cayes Botanic Garden, Haitian government, Private sector.

Supported by , Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden, , French Botanic Gardens, National Tropical Botanic Gardens, Missouri Botanical Garden, Cornell Plantation, Montreal Botanic Garden, BGCI (Botanic Gardens Conservation International), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Denver Botanical Garden, APGA (American Public Gardens Association),

Sponsor: CONHANE,

### **A) Workshop Purpose**

The guiding purpose behind this workshop is to assess and coordinate the interests, resources, and capacity of the Haitian government, NGOs, and private partners in order to establish a National Botanic Garden in Haiti.

### **B) Workshop theme**

Rebuilding Haiti by rebuilding and protecting its environment

### **C) Workshop vision**

Through sharing information and experiences amongst experts, stakeholders, and Haitian leaders, we seek to foster discussions that will result in coordinated actions that will result in the establishment a National Botanic Garden in Haiti.

### **D) Who should attended**

Participants from Haitian government, Ministry of the environment, Interior, tourism, Education and Agriculture, Private-sector businesses, Non-governmental organizations, livelihood- aid organizations, & International embassy officials are welcomed to attend the workshop.

### **E) Workshop background**

Haiti is one of few countries in the world without a national botanical garden. However, the Haitian constitution (1987) states: *Within the framework of protecting the environment and public education, the State has the obligation to proceed to establish and maintain botanical and zoological gardens at certain points in its territory.* Unfortunately, after 24 years, a Haitian National Botanic Garden has yet to be realized. In 1993, the famous African-American dancer Katherine Dunhan decided to transform her Haitian property into a National Botanical Garden and asked Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson, President of Missouri Botanic Gardens for his help. Dr. Wyse-Jackson subsequently travelled to Haiti and wrote a development plan for the proposed botanic garden. Sadly, the political and security situation in Haiti deteriorated so much that it

became impossible for this work to continue. Today, the establishment of a National Botanic Garden in Haiti remains a dream.

Following the devastating 2010 earthquake and the on-going environmental and humanitarian crises in Haiti, the importance of having a botanical garden as a center for the conservation of plant resources, horticultural training and environmental education is more urgent than ever. This two-day international workshop will represent a major step forward in efforts to establish this garden. Key leaders and experts from Cornell Plantation, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, Colorado University, French Botanical Gardens, National Tropical Botanic Garden, Kew Garden, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Denver Botanical Garden, and Montreal Botanical Garden will be in Haiti to share experiences with Haitian leaders from the public and private sectors to explore the fundamental role of a National Botanical Garden for Haiti, and to support the realization of this dream.

## **F) Workshop Program**

| <b>Date</b>               | <b>Events</b>  | <b>Responsible</b>  |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Day 1<br/>23 Oct.</b>  | Welcome to workshop delegates and<br>Dinner with the government  | Minister of Environment and<br>Agriculture/ Premiere/<br>Haitian Chamber Commerce president               |
| <b>Day 2<br/>24 Oct.</b>  |  |   |
| <b>8 – 8:30 am</b>        | Registration and Breakfast   | Workshop organizers   |
| <b>8:30 - 9</b>           | Welcome and Introductions  | Minister of Environment and<br>Agriculture/ Haitian Prime Minister/<br>Haitian Chamber Commerce president |
| <b>9 -10:30<br/>Panel</b> | The Role of National Botanic Gardens globally<br>Tropical Botanic Garden in USA.<br>Botanic Gardens in the Caribbean | Dr. Peter Wyse-Jackson<br>Chipper Wichman<br>Melissa Abdo   |
| <b>10:30 -11</b>          | Pursuing a National Botanical Garden in Haiti  | William Cinea<br>Dr Jean Andre Victor<br>Jean Camille Bissereth   |

|                                  |   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 11-12                            | Botanic Garden Development and Management<br>Education<br>Conservation<br>Horticulture  | Dr. Donald Rakow<br>Leigh Morris,<br>Dr. Chad Husby<br>Sarada Krishnan       |
| 12-1 pm                          | Lunch   |  |
| 1-2                              | Botanical garden healthcare and culture   | Dr. Sabine Thomas<br>Michel Oriole   |
| 2 - 3                            | Botanic garden design   | Emmanuel Didier<br>Ricardo G. García,  |
| 3 - 4<br>Panel                   | Partnership to establish a National Botanic<br>Garden in Haiti  | Gilles Vincent<br>Madeline Dobbs<br>Chipper Wichman<br>Fanch LE HIR          |
| <b>Day 3</b>                     | <b>Events</b>   | <b>Responsible</b>   |
| 8 – 8:30                         | Breakfast   |  |
| 8;30- 10<br>I<br>II<br>III<br>IV | <b>Workshop series at the same time</b><br>Botanic garden funding<br>Botanic garden management and development<br>Botanic garden site and design<br>Haitian botanic garden partnership<br>Botanical garden healthcare and culture |  |
| 10-12                            | Presentation, discussion<br>Consultants check out   | Presentation   |
| 12 – 1 pm                        | Lunch   |  |
| 1 – 2                            | Discussion to select project management group<br>members, including roles & responsibilities,<br>Core Group proposition to run the project  |  |
| 2-3                              | Resolutions   | Agriculture Ministry, Environment, and<br>Commerce Chamber and civil Society |

### **Speakers (Confirmed)**

1. Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson, President, Missouri Botanical Garden
2. Dr. Don Rakow, Executive Director, Cornell Plantations,
3. Dr. Sabine Thomas, NIH/NCCAM Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Bastyr University Research Institute
4. Gilles Vincent, President, Montreal Botanical Garden
5. Melissa Abdo, International Conservation Projects Officer Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
6. Architect Emmanuel Didier, Azur Ground and Professor University of Colorado, Denver
  
7. Leigh Morris, Education Director, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
8. Sarada Krishnan, Horticulture Director, Denver Botanical Garden.
9. Chipper Wichman, President, National Tropical Botanic Garden
10. Fanch LE HIR, Vice-President, French Botanic Garden
11. Ricardo G. García, Dominican Republic Botanical Garden
12. Madeline Dobbs, Director Development and Marketing, APGA (American Public Garden Association)
13. Chad Husby, Collections Manager and Botanist at the Montgomery Botanical Center

### **Speakers and facilitators (to be confirmed)**

1. BGCI (Botanic Gardens Conservation International)
2. Hilaire Jean Vilmond
3. Michelle Oriol,
4. Montgomery Botanical Center
5. Botanic Garden of Xalapa, Mexico

### **Keynote Address 1: Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson**



#### **President, Missouri Botanical Garden**

Peter Wyse Jackson is the president of the Missouri Botanical and George Engelmann Professor of Botany at Washington University in St. Louis. Born in Kilkenny, Ireland, Wyse Jackson obtained a B.A. in botany and an M.A. from Trinity College Dublin, where he subsequently also obtained a Ph.D. for work on the taxonomy of Irish Cruciferae.

In 1981, Wyse Jackson was appointed curator of the Trinity College Dublin Botanic Garden. In 1987, he moved to Kew to join IUCN, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, where he helped to establish the international network organization for botanic gardens that became Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI). In 1994 he was appointed secretary general of BGCI and in 2005; he was appointed director of the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland.

He has worked extensively with botanic gardens and their network organizations worldwide, helping to establish or develop botanic gardens and other organizations in over 30 countries.

### **Keynote Address 2: Melissa Abdo**



#### **International Conservation Project Officer, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden**

Melissa E. Abdo is the International Conservation Projects Officer for Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and is thrilled to lead plant exploration and conservation efforts in some of the world's most floristically intriguing and biodiversity areas. A botanist inspired by Fairchild's magnificent gardens and seminal history, Ms. Abdo continues the Fairchild legacy through floristic research on plant diversity and rare plant conservation in under-explored tropical forests. She has extensive international experience gained via work and travel in over 25 countries. Her work to date has focused on supporting effective protected area

& landscape management through increasing connections between people and plants, and through utilizing technologies such as GIS to integrate complex layers of data. She directly supports conservation and research projects in two geographic focal areas: Southeast Asia and the Caribbean. She also co-authored the Caribbean chapter of the new book *The Biology of Island Floras*. Most recently, Ms. Abdo and her Jamaican collaborators were recognized with a grant from the MacArthur Foundation to apply conservation science to conserve the Greater Cockpit Country ecosystem of Jamaica, one of the Caribbean's last remaining large forest areas. She greatly looks forward to working with local Haitian partners in order to support the development of a National Botanic Garden for Haiti

**Keynote Address 3: Emmanuel Didier**



**Azur Ground, Co-founder and instructor at the College of Architecture and planning at the University of Colorado Denver.**

Emmanuel Didier is co-founding principal of Azur Ground, based in Colorado, and instructor at the College of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado Denver. For over ten years, Emmanuel has built a diverse practice with award winning projects such as the Kigali Sub-Area Plans in Rwanda and Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania. Clients include numerous public gardens and botanical gardens such as the Pennsylvania State University Arboretum, Botanica - The Wichita Gardens in Kansas, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Florida, and the National Zoo in Washington DC. Emmanuel's projects develop a 'bridge' between art and science; creating designs that are powerful and beautiful, revealing and celebrating a sense of place and inherent respect for the land and future generations.

Emmanuel holds master degrees in Architecture and Landscape Architecture from the University of Virginia, along with a Fine Arts degree from the École des Beaux Arts located in his native country of France. Along with his design work, Emmanuel pursues an interest in fine arts through personal and professional drawing and painting. Over the last six years, Emmanuel has worked on a continuing series of watercolor illustrations of renowned American gardens, for the National Public Television series *Garden Story*.

#### **eynote Address 4: Dr. Donald Rakow**



#### **President, Cornell Plantations**

Donald A. Rakow has served as either the Elizabeth Newman Wilds Director or associate director of Cornell Plantations for over eighteen years. He is also an associate professor in the Department of Horticulture, specializing in the areas of public garden management, and the history of public gardens.

Under Dr. Rakow's leadership, Cornell Plantations has focused on supporting the academic program at Cornell. As part of this effort, Dr. Rakow has introduced an undergraduate course in Public Garden Management as well as a Master of Professional Studies specialization in Public Garden Leadership. Plantations continue to experience much change and growth, including the completion of the Brian C. Nevin Welcome Center, as a result of successful master planning, fundraising, and collections expansion.

Dr. Rakow has lectured throughout the U.S. and abroad. He has led Cornell Adult University study tours to the gardens of England, Scotland, Paris, Provence, Tuscany, and the Netherlands. He is the co-author of the recently published text, *Public Garden Management* from John Wiley and Sons.

#### **Keynote speaker 5: Dr. Sabine Thomas**



Les Cayes Botanical Garden, Board Director

Dr. Thomas obtained a B.A in Sociomedical Sciences from Mount Holyoke College and a Doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine from Bastyr University in the U.S. She is currently a National Institute of Health/National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NIH/NCCAM) post-doctoral research fellow investigating the role of Integrative, Traditional Complementary and Alternative Medicine in community and global health. Her projects include researching the role

of natural medicine in the Haitian healthcare system. Dr. Thomas is also President and co-founder of Sound And Sustainable Innovative Health Alliances (SASIHA) an organization whose mission is “to break the cycle of disease, through intergenerational conversation by promoting the utilization of traditional medicine and environmental health education.”

She is a member of the international board of directors of Les Cayes Botanical Garden.

### **Keynote Address 6: Gilles Vincent**



#### **President, Montreal Botanical Garden**

Mr. Gilles Vincent studied at the University of Montréal in Biological Sciences and went on to earn his Master degree in botanical Sciences in 1983. His graduating thesis was on the complete analysis of the Kanawake Reservation’s flora near Montréal.

In 1982 he was hired as a botanist at the Montreal Botanical Garden and rapidly became the flora expert of the indigenous plants of Southern Québec.

He has published several dozen scientific articles in the field of botany and then specifically focused in the area of biotechnology where he again became the resident specialist in the treatment of sewage water by using aquatic plants in the restoration of potable water in dying ecosystems. His expertise in this field has resulted being sought after as a guest speaker at conferences internationally, notably in Asia and Europe. As a result of his keen interest he was rewarded by being appointed to the post of Conservator of the Montreal Botanical Garden for 2 years.

From March 1997 to June 1999 he was promoted Director of the Montreal Botanical Garden.

Though he did a stint as C.E.O. in a private retail company from July 1999 to February 2003, he returned in March 2003 to again occupy the position of Director of the Botanical Garden. Under his direction, many new events were implemented such as the “First Nations Garden”, the “City gardens”, the Courtyard of the Senses, the “Peace Garden” and events like “Butterflies go free” and the “Great gardening week-end”.

### Keynote Speaker 7: Leigh Morris



#### Head of Education – Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Scotland

Leigh Morris gained 10+ years of experience in commercial crop production, predominantly ornamentals, before moving into horticultural education. He became Head of Education at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in 2004, where he now oversees their formal education programmes from primary school up to post graduate studies. Leigh has led the development of a range of new curriculum, including the RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture, which is now endorsed by BGCI and is being delivered globally. Leigh is also involved in a range of overseas consultancy projects for RBGE including fulfilling a lead role in the development of new botanical gardens in Lao PDR and Oman, where he has spent a significant amount time over the last 3 years. Qualified up to MSc in ‘International Horticulture’, he has presented at a number of conferences, written for a range of publications and within wider UK horticulture he chairs the ‘Grow Initiative’ (to promote horticulture careers) and is the current President Elect of the UK Institute of Horticulture.

### Kenote Speaker: 8, Ricardo G. García



#### Director, Dominican Republic Botanic Garden

Lic. en Biología, Univ. Autónoma de Santo Domingo, 1986. Máster en Ciencias Biológicas, Univ. de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayagüez, 1991. Post grado en Taxonomía, Univ. de la Plata, Argentina, 1991. Ha ocupado varias posiciones; Director General, Jardín Botánico Nacional Dr. Rafael Ma. Moscoso; Taxónomo del Jardín Botánico; Editor de la Revista Moscosoa; Profesor de Botánica en la Univ. Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Pontificia Univ. Católica Madre y Maestra de Santiago de los Caballeros y ayudante de profesor en Botánica, Univ. de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayagüez.

Ha publicado numerosos artículos científicos y contribuciones a libros y revistas. Ha descubierto más de 15 especies nuevas para la ciencia, algunas de las cuales ha nombrado y otras han sido nombradas en su honor: **Coccothrinax boschiana**, **Calypttranthes garciae**, **Psidium**

**bahorucanum, Cojoba bahoruscensis, Cojoba urbanii, Acacia oviedoensis, Phialanthus hispaniolae, Tabebuia ricardii, Zephyrantes ciceroana** y el género **Garciadelia**. Ha participado como expositor en Congresos, Simposios y Seminarios Nacionales e Internacionales sobre Botánica, ecología y conservación. Sus colecciones, solo o junto a otros colegas sobrepasan los 30,000 números de plantas de la Isla Española y Puerto Rico.

Fue presidente y miembro fundador de la Red de Herbario de Mesoamerica y el Caribe; Secretario ejecutivo del IX Congreso Latinoamericano de Botánica; Secretario de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Botánica y Miembro de número de la Academia de Ciencias de la República Dominicana.

**Kenote speaker: 9 Sarada Krishnan**



**Director of Horticulture at Denver Botanic Gardens**

Sarada Krishnan is Director of Horticulture at Denver Botanic Gardens where she is responsible for directing the design and maintenance of the horticulture displays and collections and for developing and leading global initiatives. She owns coffee plantations in the Blue Mountains of Jamaica under Diversity Company Limited. She is also involved with the Boston-based non-profit organization FAMILY, Inc. providing her expertise in coffee growing in developing a sustainable agroforestry system among coffee growers and reviving the coffee industry in the Verrettes Commune of Haiti.

She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from India, where the focus was on tropical horticulture. She has a Master of Science degree in Horticulture from Colorado State University, with a research focus on the propagation of native Colorado flora specializing in plant tissue culture. Her doctoral research at University of Colorado, Boulder was on conservation genetics of the wild coffee (*Coffea* spp.) in Madagascar. Working on four Malagasy *Coffea* spp., her

research compares the genetic diversity of the existing ex situ germplasm with extant wild populations and makes recommendations for conservation management.

Sarada has served as a board member of the Association of Zoological Horticulture, Colorado Native Plant Society and the Colorado Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. She currently serves on the City of Westminster's Open Space Advisory Board, Denver Zoo's Asian Cultural Advisory Committee and the Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Association's Perennial Committee. She is a faculty affiliate with Colorado State University's Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture and a board of director of Plant Select® and Butterfly Pavilion.

#### Botanic Gardens as Extension Agencies Imparting Knowledge to the Community

Typically extension agencies through the land grant university system have been key in imparting new research and knowledge to local farming communities. In the absence of such an organized system, botanic gardens should take a leadership role in serving this role. At the International Workshop on establishing a National Botanical Garden in Haiti, Sarada will be speaking about how botanic gardens can make an impact on the local community by being the agents imparting knowledge on sustainable agricultural/horticultural practices.

#### **Keynote speaker: 9 : Fanch LEHIR**



**Agronome de formation et titulaire d'un Master de gestion de l'environnement**, Fanch LE HIR travaille depuis 1979 au Conservatoire botanique national de Brest (France), établissement spécialisé dans la conservation des espèces végétales menacées de disparition, à une échelle locale et une échelle internationale. D'abord responsable des collections botaniques et de la conservation ex situ, il est aujourd'hui chargé de projets internationaux au sein du Conservatoire. Il intervient principalement sur Madagascar en préparant des projets de conservation de la flore locale par le biais de pépinières villageoises avec des institutions locales ou des ONG. Il suit également des partenariats avec le Vietnam (conservatoire du bambou, projet de jardin botanique dans un parc national). Au niveau des Caraïbes, il a travaillé par le passé sur la flore endémique

de Guadeloupe et Martinique et s'investit aujourd'hui sur la flore de Guyane française par le biais d'inventaires botaniques, élaboration d'une liste rouge, projet de conservatoire botanique.

Administrateur de l'association JBF (Jardins botaniques de France et des pays francophones) depuis une quinzaine d'années, il est aujourd'hui vice-président et s'intéresse plus particulièrement aux échanges entre les jardins botaniques du Nord et ceux du Sud.

### **Intervenant 11 : Chad Husby**



**Collections Manager and Botanist at the Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC).** Dr. Husby obtained a B.S. in biology and mathematics at Alma College, an M.S. in Horticulture from Virginia Tech, a Master of Applied Statistics at Ohio State University and a Ph.D. in Biology from Florida International University. He endeavors to foster greater collaboration among botanical institutions to advance plant collections, plant science and horticulture. Dr. Husby has worked in laboratory research, field research, statistics research, floristic inventory, living collections development, propagation of rare plant species for conservation, and botanical and horticultural education. His academic research has focused on plant ecophysiology, biomechanics, horticulture, weed risk assessment, ex-situ conservation, statistical sampling, and phylogenetics. Through collaborative efforts with other botanical institutions in the US and overseas, Dr. Husby has greatly expanded the tropical conifer collection at MBC, which has become one of the largest in the world with over 200 taxa, many of which are in dire need of conservation.