



International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation Registration Booklet



Background to the International Agenda

The **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation*** is a global framework for botanic garden policies, programmes and priorities in biodiversity conservation. It was prepared by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) between 1998 and 2000. The International Agenda was based on contributions from and consultations with over 300 institutions and individuals throughout the international botanic garden, botanical and conservation communities.

It was launched in June 2000 at the 1st World Botanic Gardens Congress (Asheville, North Carolina, U.S.A.). The **International Agenda** updates and replaces the earlier Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy (prepared by BGCI, IUCN and WWF, 1989).

The **International Agenda** has been included as a major contribution to the achievement of the **Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)**. The GSPC was adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in April, 2002.

The objectives of the **International Agenda** are to:

- i) Provide a common global framework for botanic garden policies, programmes and priorities in biodiversity conservation.
- ii) Define the role of botanic gardens in the development of global partnerships and alliances for biodiversity conservation.
- iii) Stimulate the evaluation and development of conservation policies and practices in botanic gardens to enhance their effectiveness and efficiency.
- iv) Develop a means to monitor and record the actions undertaken by botanic gardens in conservation.
- v) Promote the role of botanic gardens in conservation.
- vi) Provide guidance for botanic gardens on contemporary issues in conservation.

The **International Agenda** defines the global mission of botanic gardens worldwide in conservation as follows:

- Stem the loss of plant species and their genetic diversity worldwide.
- Focus on preventing further degradation of the world's natural environment.
- Raise public understanding of the value of plant diversity and the threats it faces.
- Implement practical action for the benefit and improvement of the world's natural environment.
- Promote and ensure the sustainable use of the world's natural resources for present and future generations.

***International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**

Wyse Jackson, P.S. and Sutherland, L.A. (2000), Botanic Gardens Conservation International, London, U.K. ISBN 0 9520275 9 3. Copies can be obtained from the Publications Department, BGCI, Descanso House, 199 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3BW, U.K. Fax: +44 (0) 20 8332 5956, E-mail: bgci@rbgkew.org.uk. Language versions available include Chinese, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation

Registration

Register your contributions to the **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation** to work for the implementation of the global mission of botanic gardens worldwide for conservation.

How to register your contributions to the **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**.

As proposed in the **International Agenda** (Section 3.2), botanic gardens may register their contributions to the achievement of the **International Agenda** by making a written undertaking to work for the implementation of its provisions. It invites botanic gardens to adopt the **International Agenda** as their (or part of their) institutional policy on conservation.

BGCI has undertaken to develop the **Registration System** (Section 3.3) for those institutions/organisations that have declared their intent to contribute to the implementation of the **International Agenda**. BGCI will maintain a list of institutions/organisations that have made such a declaration and monitor and evaluate the implementation of the **International Agenda**.

Please add your institution/organisation to the list of those working to implement the **International Agenda** by completing the Registration Form on the next page.

All registered institutions/organisations will be provided with the following:

- A formal letter of congratulation.
- A certificate of registration.
- Regular updates on the worldwide achievement of the **International Agenda**.
- Guidelines on how to report your achievements in conservation that contribute towards the **International Agenda**.
- A media kit to assist in publicising your adoption of the **International Agenda**.
- A copy of the BGCI logo (in electronic form) for use in your publications and other materials.
- A current list of registered botanic gardens.

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Why should my institution/organisation register with the **International Agenda**?

Registering with the **International Agenda** provides a clear indication of your institution's/organisation's commitment to plant conservation. It allows actions undertaken in support of plant conservation to be recognised and recorded internationally as contributions towards the global effort being made to conserve plant diversity. For example, contributions made by institutions to implementing the **International Agenda** will be reported by BGCI to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) towards the achievement of the Convention's Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

2) Is the **International Agenda** consistent with our institutional/organisational mission?

Registration with the **International Agenda** can provide an opportunity for the review of an institution's mission for conservation. It is unlikely that institutions currently undertaking roles in plant conservation or plant resource management will find their mission incompatible with the objectives and provisions of the **International Agenda**. However, it is recommended that the specifics of these missions are examined and compared.

3) What current and future activities of our institution/organisation will support the **International Agenda**?

It would be impossible for every institution to achieve all of the key tasks and recommendations outlined in the **International Agenda**. However it is recommended that all those participating in its implementation should:

- Assess current activities and priorities and check the status of these against the key tasks outlined in the **International Agenda**.
- Develop a plan for the implementation of the **International Agenda** including the specific roles that the institution will and will not undertake and consider policies related to the following:
 - access to genetic resources and benefit sharing
 - national strategies on the conservation of biodiversity
 - biotechnology

- networking/relationships with other sectors and/or organisations
 - cultural heritage
 - public education and awareness
 - ex situ conservation
 - research
 - identification and monitoring
 - sustainable development
 - impact assessment and mitigation
 - sustainable use of biodiversity
 - in situ conservation
 - technical and scientific cooperation
 - information exchange
 - technology transfer
 - integrated conservation
 - training and capacity building
- Develop partnerships and alliances to ensure a united and best practice approach to plant conservation, nationally and internationally.

4) Who has already adopted the **International Agenda**?

A list of registered institutions is on the BGCI Website (<http://www.bgci.org.uk>) and an updated list can be provided on request.

5) What additional responsibility does registration with the **International Agenda** place on my institution?

The only extra responsibility will be to ensure that the results of your work in conservation are communicated to BGCI so that BGCI can help monitor and evaluate the implementation of the **International Agenda** and report on progress to the International Botanic Gardens Conservation Congress, held every three years (**International Agenda** Section 3.6).

6) Why should my board of governors, governing body or director/senior staff sign the Declaration in support of the **International Agenda**?

Signing provides a clear statement of your institution's commitment to conservation and, for some institutions more generally, to the implementation of the CBD. This action can also contribute to your country's obligations under the CBD.

International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation Registration Form

Name of Institution	
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Type of Registration	Formal	Board Resolution or other form of approval from relevant governing bodies (e.g. university authorities, local, regional or national government)	<i>Please Tick</i>
	Informal	E.g. by Director/Senior staff.	

BGCI would welcome copies of any formal resolution, motion or other form of endorsement.

Name of responsible person	
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Position	
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Address	
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Email		Date of Registration	
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Declaration

This institution welcomes the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation as a global framework for the development of institutional policies and programmes in plant conservation for botanic gardens.

Without imposing any obligations or restrictions (legal or otherwise) on the policies or activities of this institution/organisation, we commit ourselves to working to achieve the objectives and targets of the **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**.

Signed		Date	
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Please sign and detach this registration form and send it to The Secretary General, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Descanso House, 199 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3BW, U.K.

Thank you for registering with the **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**. Please keep a duplicate copy of this form for your records.



Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)

The mission of BGCI is to build a world network for plant conservation. It was founded in 1987 and now includes over 500 member institutions in 111 countries, working together to implement the **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**.

The **International Agenda** represents a major contribution by the botanic gardens of the world to the achievement of global biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and increased public understanding of the importance of plant diversity and the threats it faces.

The **International Agenda** has been recognised by the Convention on Biological Diversity as an essential part of the achievement of the Convention's **Global Strategy for Plant Conservation** adopted in April, 2002.

If you wish to join the BGCI world network for plant conservation, please contact BGCI for further details.



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