

# The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

### ‘Plant Conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals’

Organised by:

Global Partnership for Plant Conservation  
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Botanic Gardens Conservation International  
Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis, Missouri, U.S.A.

28-29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016

Conference Web site: <http://www.mobot.org/gppc>

Conference Email address: GPPC2016@mobot.org



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

**An International Conference on ‘Plant Conservation and the Sustainable Development Goals’ will be held at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St Louis, U.S.A. on 28-29 June, 2016. The objectives of the meeting will include:**

- Showcase examples and share experience from around the world on **GSPC** implementation, particularly supporting the achievement of the **CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020** and the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets** and how these contribute to the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** ;
- Provide guidance and support for national and regional GSPC implementation that contributed to the achievement of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**;
- Highlight priorities and objectives for future plant conservation action;
- Draw new attention to the essential importance of plants for global sustainability and in addressing poverty, securing human wellbeing, peace, stability and overcoming climate change.

### **Who should attend the conference?**

- National focal points for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
- Plant conservationists
- Representatives of
  - GPPC partner organisations
  - Donor Agencies interested in biodiversity conservation
  - National biodiversity organisations and development agencies
  - Potential GPPC members
  - Regional biodiversity conservation bodies

Participation may be limited so please register your interest in attending as soon as possible.

Opportunities for speakers to present papers that address the subject and objectives of the conference will be available.

### **THE CONFERENCE**

Biodiversity and sustainable development are inextricably linked. Biodiversity, at the level of ecosystems, species and genes, forms the foundation of Earth’s life support systems, provides services that underpin human lives and prosperity. Our social and economic well-being depends on biodiversity, as does our future. We recognize that a healthy environment, rich in plants and biodiversity is essential if the great challenges faced by the world – poverty, securing human wellbeing, peace, stability and climate change - are to be addressed.

World leaders gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York in September 2015 adopted the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, an ambitious set of universal goals and targets to tackle the challenges facing the world today. Given its importance for sustainability and human

well-being, it is not surprising that biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, including aquatic and terrestrial wildlife and genetic resources, feature prominently in the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, including in poverty eradication, food security and sustainable agriculture, sustainable water management, economic growth, cities and human settlements, sustainable consumption and production, and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions. The new global Agenda for Sustainable Development includes 17 Goals and 169 targets for these goals. This 15-year plan replaces the previously adopted **Millennium Development Goals** and extends to 2030.

Effective plant conservation will be essential to the achievement of the Agenda for Sustainable Development. The goal of this conference is to bring together plant conservation scientists, policy makers and practitioners from throughout the world to share methods and results that will advance plant conservation measurably and to consider and review the importance of plants for in the achievement of sustainability. We hope that the conference will attract a wide range of participants to share their experiences and further the achievement of the **Global Strategy for Plant Conservation** in this the **U.N. Decade of Biological Diversity**.

In October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the **Convention on Biological Diversity** (CBD) adopted an update of the **Global Strategy for Plant Conservation** (GSPC) for the period 2011-2020. This updated GSPC includes 16 targets for plant conservation to be achieved by 2020.

The role of the **Global Partnership for Plant Conservation** (GPPC) is recognised by the CBD in supporting GSPC implementation worldwide and this conference aims to help guide future plant conservation priorities.