

Botanic garden capacity for conservation horticulture

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Conservation horticulture refers to the skills and knowledge required to maintain plants of conservation concern in *ex situ* living collections. This is a fundamental and expanding area of expertise that is often and uniquely manifested through the work of botanic gardens. As we face major environmental and social crises around the world, the conservation and outreach work of botanic gardens is becoming more and more imperative. Specialists in conservation horticulture are more important than ever as the plant conservation community scales-up our collective efforts to halt species extinction. This presentation will describe the current state of conservation horticulture in botanic gardens globally, and provide examples of how BGCI is working with partners to promote awareness of and capacity for this critical area of expertise.