

W-6 Enabling Change: A menu of opportunities for climate adaptation action

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Duration: 90 minutes

Target audience: Collections managers and curators, horticulturists, landscape designers and architects, garden directors, conservation practitioners, sustainability managers

Objectives:

- Participants will learn how gardens are managing climate adaptation planning and landscape succession through resiliency principles and practices.
- Participants will gain greater understanding of tools and resources available and engage in discussions with the “menu of adaptation strategies and tactics”. Through engagement and small group discussion of adaptation actions, participants will share their knowledge, provide input to the feasibility of the menu and take with them new ideas for adaptation action.
- Participants will also consider the benefits of climate adaptation and succession planning and ideas for how to embed long-term thinking in decision making.
- Participants will learn more about the Climate Change Alliance of Botanic Gardens.

Abstract: Climate change is the new ‘normal’ and botanic gardens around the world are learning to adapt to climate impacts in critical ways. We have much to share in collectively anticipating and planning for complex futures. Join us and learn how gardens are working together at local and global scales to transition our landscapes, horticultural techniques, and ways of thinking.

Embracing adaptive management and continuous learning is critical to facing our uncertain future and we must match the pace and scale of climate change.

This workshop will showcase the diversity of ways that gardens are taking action to adapt to a changing climate and the ‘Menu of Adaptation Actions for Botanic Gardens’ that is being developed as a collaborative resource to inspire gardens. Participants will learn about principles and practices for adaptive management as well as valuable opportunities e.g. leveraging technology, integrated plant conservation, and fundraising to advance our missions and conservation objectives. Participants will share successes and challenges in their gardens and provide input that will guide the development of the Menu of Adaptation Actions for Botanic Gardens.

These exercises build upon the outcomes of the workshop held in Melbourne at the 7th GBGC in 2022, which was a collaborative effort between UBC, Morton Arboretum, RBGV, and the Climate Change Alliance of Botanic Gardens, acknowledging that we are all well underway on this journey, and are all the stronger for the support we give each other.