

CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE OF BOTANIC GARDENS

In December 2018, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria hosted the inaugural Botanic Gardens Climate Change Summit.

Ten botanical organisations from around the world, as well as three peak botanic gardens bodies – Botanic Gardens Conservation International, the International Association of Botanic Gardens and Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand – attended the summit. There were representatives from Argentina, China, Spain, United Kingdom, Israel, USA, South Africa and Australia.

The outcome of the summit was the formation of the Climate Change Alliance of Botanic Gardens. The Alliance aims to use global collaboration to tackle the climate change threats facing plant species.

The co-creators of this Alliance signed a declaration to safeguard life by protecting landscapes. They agreed that **the time for action is now**.

In the next 50 years, 20–50% of current plant species in botanic gardens and urban landscapes will likely confront temperatures those species have never experienced before.

Dr Dave Kendal, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management, University of Tasmania

Purpose of the Alliance

To grow and sustain a global movement of botanic organisations that take action to protect and enable adaptation of botanical landscapes* in a changing climate.

Principles and Values

Our principles are adopted from *Living Systems* that are interconnected with the landscapes and plant communities for which we are stewards.

- **Self-organisation around a shared purpose**
- **Recruit for and celebrate diversity**
- **Maintain momentum and energy flows**
- **Nurture relationships**
- **Plan for resilience and adaptability**



Objectives

- **Safeguard and steward resilient botanic gardens** for the benefit of people and the planet
- **Share knowledge and expertise** to assist botanic organisations and governing bodies to make informed decisions about climate change adaptation
- **Provide a credible and authoritative voice** in the world's response to climate change with respect to botanic gardens and plants
- **Engage our communities** in how climate change is impacting our collections and landscapes, and empower them to act
- **Provide professional development opportunities** in botanic garden and landscape management in response to climate change.

Roles and Responsibilities

Partners and Members

Actively implementing Alliance objectives in their own spheres and advocating for action on landscape adaptation.

Associations

Connecting botanic organisations and accessing funds and resources to support the mission of the Alliance.

Secretariat

Convening the work of the partners to realise the objectives and activities of the Alliance and aiding the transition to a self-organising network.

Friends of the Alliance

Allies who provide technical, scientific and creative support and resources.

Next Steps

As botanic gardens, we can take steps **now** to prepare for our shifting climate. To find out more about the network and how your organisation would benefit from joining for free, email climatechangealliance@rbg.vic.gov.au

To see the complete charter, visit rbg.vic.gov.au/climatechangealliance