

The 6th International Congress on Education

About the Congress

At the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, world leaders affirmed the fundamental role of education in sustainable development. Such high level endorsements have paved the way for the United Nations to declare 2005-2014 the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. The work of this UN Decade is critical for the attainment of the eight Millennium Development Goals.

The 6th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens will bring together educators involved in plant-based education to share experiences and discuss educational practices, policies and research. By providing a forum to explore future collaborative projects in ESD, the Congress will examine the already effective contribution of botanic garden education programmes to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Keynote speakers

The following key note speakers are confirmed:

Dr Cristian Samper, Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, USA

Kim Wilke, an innovative landscape architect, urban designer and environmental planner, UK

Gillian Martin Mehers, Director of International Training, LEAD International, UK

Congress Themes

- **Achieving sustainability: ideas and solutions**

The United Nations has declared 2005-2014 the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. This congress will highlight the vital role botanic gardens can play in education to help society find solutions to the challenges of sustainable development.

- **Public awareness of plants**

Target 14 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) is concerned with raising public awareness about the importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation. Presentations will highlight the inspirational work of botanic gardens in this field and future ways of working together.

- **Reflection on practice**

Are there innovative and more efficient ways of running our education programmes? Can theory, policy and practice be integrated in a useful and productive way? These questions will be explored through presentations that will demonstrate how reflection and evaluation are integral to the success of our education programmes.

- **Education for all: working with challenging audiences**

How do we engage people or audiences who have little interest in plants or in visiting a botanic garden? The sustainable development agenda requires the involvement of everyone and so this is a challenge we cannot ignore. Through sharing case studies, we will encourage delegates to reach out to new groups and explore ways in which they can connect these audiences to their environment.

n in Botanic Gardens



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Oxford

The beautiful city of Oxford has a long and colourful history waiting for you to discover. With a bustling city centre, ancient pubs and an eclectic collection of restaurants, Oxford is a great place to stay and visit. It is also full of impressive architecture, with the university colleges, libraries and numerous museums adding to the attraction.

Climate

September can be lovely in the U.K with average temperatures between 11- 19°C. However, it is also wise to be prepared for cooler temperatures and the occasional rain shower!

Accommodation

Accommodation during the congress is offered at Christ Church College. Delegates will have the option to stay in either single or twin study bedrooms with access to spacious quads and gardens, a renowned picture gallery, Oxford Cathedral and the tranquil Christ Church Meadow. Christ Church College was founded by King Henry VIII in 1546 and remains to this day a unique combination of College and Cathedral.

Pre & post congress tours

There will be a pre congress tour to the Eden Project and a post congress tour to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Scotland. Further information will be announced on the congress website and in the e-newsletter.

Join us in what promises to be a stimulating Congress and explore how your institution can more effectively contribute to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Log on to www.bgci.org/educationcongress now!





6th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens

September 10th –14th 2006 Oxford, UK

The Congress offers a significant opportunity to share your experiences, research and education programmes with the international botanic garden education community.

Sign up on-line to receive updates via our monthly congress newsletter

www.bgci.org/educationcongress/signup.htm

If you do not have access to the internet and would like to receive paper updates about the Congress please complete the following form.

TITLE (DR/MS/MR/OTHER)

SURNAME

FIRST NAME

JOB TITLE

ORGANISATION

MAILING ADDRESS

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FAX: (INCLUDING CODE)

Please tick here if you would like further information on presenting a paper, poster or workshop

Return to: Education Department,
BGCI, Descanso House, 199 Kew Road, Richmond
Surrey TW9 3BW, UK

Congress Organisers

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

BGCI networks botanic gardens around the world for plant conservation and environmental education. It works with 550 members in 118 countries to provide technical support and guidance, particularly in education. BGCI publishes the education review, Roots and has produced guidelines on environmental education and education for sustainable development.

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

The University of Oxford Botanic Garden, founded in 1621 and is the oldest botanic garden in Britain. Its mission is “to promote learning and glorify nature”. Thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds use the garden, learning about plants through an innovative education programme.

Sign up on-line to receive updates via our monthly congress newsletter www.bgci.org/educationcongress/signup.htm

Education Department
BGCI, Descanso House
199 Kew Road, Richmond
Surrey TW9 3BW, UK



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The 6th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens

University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Sunday 10th – Thursday 14th September 2006



BGCI

Plants for the Planet

ACHIEVING SUSTAINABILITY:

IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS

PUBLIC AWARENESS OF PLANTS

REFLECTION ON PRACTICE

EDUCATION FOR ALL, WORKING

WITH CHALLENGING AUDIENCES

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN

THE NATURE
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