

W-15 Tree Day: Community-Based Solutions: Durable approaches to habitat and species stewardship

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Duration: 90 minutes

Target audience: All stakeholders interested in supporting or directly participating in community-based conservation efforts.

Objectives: In this session, participants will:

- Hear from diverse organisations about community conservation projects.
- Learn about inclusive conservation project planning and implementation.
- Have the opportunity to engage in discussion (led by the workshop leads) and share experiences, vet potential project ideas, explore barriers to entry, etc.
- Be able to contribute to guidance frameworks for enhanced participation in community-based solutions.

Abstract: With over a third of the world's tree species under threat, creative solutions to environmental challenges are more critical than ever. Of equal importance are inclusive, cross-disciplinary planning processes and outcomes that support local livelihoods. Botanic gardens are well positioned to engage with local communities and support such integrated conservation efforts. The need for these partnerships is particularly acute in biodiversity hotspots where most threatened species occur. In this session, we will highlight successful collaborations between community stakeholders and botanic gardens/botanical NGOs. Presenters will also share best practices for engaging with diverse stakeholders, while acknowledging challenges and limitations. We encourage participants to share their own experiences during our discussion time, so that together we can begin road mapping how botanical organisations of all sizes and capacities can enhance engagement in this realm.