

ABN 25 952 427 724

To: Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand Association (BGANZ) is the not-for-profit, peak body representing all Botanic Gardens in Australia and New Zealand.

Since the establishment of BGANZ in 2004, the Australian National Botanic Garden (ANBG) has been an important member and vital contributor to the development and growth of BGANZ. ANBG has given in-kind resource support to BGANZ and has also assisted with expert advice in establishing BGANZ governance and structures.

ANBG has assisted development of the biennial BGANZ Conference, which is attended by all member gardens and many interested Friends' groups. ANBG employees share their knowledge across a range of expertise, with all Botanic Gardens, including smaller, regional gardens, at BGANZ national conferences.

ANBG was a key driver in establishing a National Botanic Gardens Day in 2016. Botanic Gardens Day aims to celebrate the work and spaces of Botanic Gardens, and to increase awareness of the Australian public to the vital conservation and research work Botanic Gardens undertake. Botanic Gardens Day is held on the last Sunday in May each year. Over 70 Botanic Gardens take part, with over 150,000 visitors recorded each year.

The ANBG has also plays an active role in the region partnering with south-east regional botanic gardens on a range of conservation and capacity building projects.

A new BGANZ Partnership Project is aiming to partner BGANZ with private companies as BGANZ aims to increase financial resources, to enable it to increase advocacy on behalf of Botanic Gardens and improve member benefits. ANBG has taken a critical role in development of this project. BGANZ acknowledges the key role ANBG has played in the inception, and development, of the not-for-profit peak body for botanic gardens.

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