

## **The new role of botanic gardens for conservation: Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)**

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The importance of ex situ conservation such as seed banks and living collections in botanic gardens cannot be overstated. However, in contrast, the in situ conservation functions of botanical gardens have not been recognised as important. While botanic gardens are primarily established for ex situ conservation purposes, some also serve as crucial sites for conserving biodiversity-rich areas. In all cases, the plants, insects and their interactions in botanic gardens contribute to in situ conservation of botanic gardens. Moreover, as human activities continue to impact natural environments and landscapes evolve from rural to urban settings, botanic gardens are increasingly recognised for their potential in bridging the gap between nature and urban ecosystems, thus conserving urban biodiversity. The draft Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2030 emphasises the pivotal role of botanic gardens in urban biodiversity conservation and ecosystem connectivity. Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) are also gaining attention as an effective tool for conserving and managing biodiversity alongside protected areas. Consequently, the Korea National Arboretum aims to identify OECMs applicable to botanic gardens in Korea, particularly those situated within native environments. Evaluations conducted for the Korea National Arboretum and the National Baekdudaegan Arboretum have highlighted the necessity for sustainable and equitable governance practices to be designated as OECMs.