

The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan master plan: A vision for plant conservation and amenity in Western Sydney

M. Elgey^{*}, J. Siemon, A. Filipovski, J. Kelly, and D. Wriggly

Botanic Gardens of Sydney, Australia

^{*}Corresponding author email: michael.elgey@botanicgarden.nsw.gov.au

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The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan (ABGMA) is the largest botanic garden in Australia, covering 416 hectares of curated botanical collections, native woodland, arboreta, and grassland in south-western Sydney. The garden hosts a collection of 155,000+ plants on display in the curated collections, 30 ha of critically endangered remnant woodlands, the Australian PlantBank, the National Herbarium of NSW, a conservation production nursery, and a range of visitor attractions and educational programs. The ABGMA Master Plan, launched in 2022, is a strategic document outlining the vision, objectives, and actions for the development and management of the garden over the next 25 years. The Master Plan aims to enhance the garden's role as a leader in plant conservation and a destination for recreation, education, and tourism.

The Master Plan is based on six key moves: world-leading botanical sciences, connection to the country, globally unique nature experiences, tourism and events, sustainability and innovation, and ease of access and getting around. These reflect the garden's mission to conserve and celebrate the diversity and beauty of Australia's flora, to connect people with nature while fostering scientific discovery and innovation, and to adapt to the challenges of climate change and urbanisation. The Master Plan also identifies the potential partnerships and collaborations to enable the garden to achieve its goals and contribute to the regional and national agendas for biodiversity conservation, environmental education, and sustainable development. The Master Plan is a statement of the garden's commitment to its core values and purpose and its aspiration to be a world-class botanic garden that showcases and protects the rich and unique flora of Australia.