2024-25 Annual Report

Australian Seed Bank Partnership

Safeguarding Australia's flora, through a national network of germplasm collections

Contents

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership recognises First Nations Peoples throughout Australia, including their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

The Partnership recognises that these connections to Country include the people, plants, animals, land, water and sky. As we continue to work across Australia to support long-term conservation of Australia's rich and endemic flora, we will strive to build and maintain honest and trusting relationships with First Nations Peoples.

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Cover: The Fragrant Candlebush (*Agastachys odorata*) at Lake Burbury (Image: James Wood).

This page: Collectors from the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre visited Evelyn Downs in 2025 to search for the Arckaringa Daisy (*Olearia arckaringensis*) (Image: Dan Duval).

Letter from the Chair

As we reflect on another busy year for the Australian Seed Bank Partnership (ASBP), I want to begin by acknowledging the invaluable contributions of our long-standing Council members, Dale Arvidsson (Brisbane) and Bryan Harty (Darwin), who have recently moved on to new adventures. Their dedication and expertise have shaped both the Council and the Partnership, and we thank them sincerely for their service.

This year has seen significant progress across our initiatives. We successfully completed two major projects supporting the conservation of 23 threatened plants. Our ongoing projects continue to make great progress, from the Securing the Future Project protecting ten priority plants, to the Myrtle Mayday Project safeguarding 32 species from myrtle rust. Additional initiatives to secure threatened plants in peri-urban bushland and a new research scholarship further demonstrate the scope and impact of our work.

We have also made meaningful steps in First Nations engagement. Through the Seeds of Our Country Appeal, we raised funding to support attendance at a First Nations Seed Workshop and establish co-designed conservation projects. Our National Steering Committee has made progress on developing Collaboration Principles that will strengthen relationships and focus on outcomes for Indigenous stewardship of Country.

Our collections, facilities, and digital tools have also advanced. The Australian Virtual Seed Bank portal has been upgraded, providing access to nearly 59,000 accessions and 17,000 germination trials. We continue to raise awareness and share knowledge through our PlantChat Webinar Series, and contributions to the World Wide Wood initiative on Google Arts & Culture.

Fundraising efforts this year were highly successful, with over $460,000 secured, supporting critical projects and strengthening our capacity to conserve Australia's native flora.

Looking forward, in September, we will showcase the incredible work of our network at the 2025 Australasian Seed Science Conference. This exciting conference program will highlight the innovative science, conservation techniques, and collaborations that define the ASBP. As we prepare to connect with colleagues and the next generation of scientists and practitioners, we do so with optimism for the conservation challenges and opportunities ahead. To help us meet these challenges, we are look forward to forging a closer relationship with Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand to progress our mutual objectives to elevate the work of Botanic Gardens in plant conservation.

A sincere thank you to all our Partners, supporters, and volunteers for your dedication, energy, and expertise. Together, we have achieved some truly remarkable outcomes for the conservation of Australia's plant diversity, and I encourage you to explore these achievements in this report.

Michael Harvey
Chair, Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Inc.

Year in review

Completed two projects

The **Critically Endangered Project** supported conservation of 22 threatened plants

The **Grass Roots Giving Project** improved long-term prospects for the Midlands Greenhood Orchid

Progressed six projects

Securing the Future Project will conserve ten of the Priority Plants in the Threatened Species Action Plan

Myrtle Mayday Project will create insurance collections for 31 species at risk of Myrtle Rust

Lofty Legacies Project will secure Cleland's Wallaby-Grass and Shade Tussock-Grass

Genetics in a Bottle Project will study the genetic diversity of the Ormeau Bottle Tree

Roots of Resilience Project will safeguard six threatened plant species in South Australia's Northern and Yorke region

A research scholarship will investigate the impact of climate change on seed germination

Made progress in First Nations engagement through

Our **Seeds of Our Country Appeal** raised $40K to support attendance at an Indigenous Seed Workshop, and to establish co-designed seed conservation projects

Drafting our **Collaboration Principles**

Working with Raukkan Indigenous rangers to conserve a critically endangered *Spyridium* for the **Securing the Future Project**

Continued our Collections Review to analyse all Partnership collections made over 20 years

$492,000 raised from grant awards and donations

Completed an upgrade of the **Australian Virtual Seed Bank** portal

Partnered in the **World Wide Wood** initiative on the Google Arts Culture Platform

Held three webinars for our new **PlantChat series**

Achievements against our outcomes

Our work this year has been guided by the four key outcome areas outlined in our Strategic Plan (see page 30 for more information). This section highlights the achievements under each area, showcasing the collective efforts of our Partners to conserve Australia's plant diversity for the future.

Outcome 1 Growing our collections, research and restoration contributions

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership (ASBP) has worked over the past year to further *ex situ* conservation, plant science and species recovery across Australia. Join us as we explore these projects, outlining how collaboration has led to both local and nationwide outcomes.

Completed Partnership projects

Critically Endangered Project

From 2022 to 2024, our Critically Endangered Project provided a targeted effort to collect and support recovery of some of Australia's most at-risk flora. Key partners included the Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre, and both the Kings Park and Kensington branches of the Western Australian Seed Centre. Together we designed a project to secure seed collections and initiate recovery efforts for ten Critically Endangered plants (listed under either national or state legislation).

Each partner began with pre-collection field surveys to locate target species, assess population health and determine optimal collection timing. Collections were prioritised for previously unbanked species, and to improve the genetic representation of existing accessions. Once seed was secured, teams developed germination protocols and applied recovery techniques such as establishing seed production areas and translocations.

Our Partners exceeded project targets, supporting conservation of a total of 22 listed species including 16 Critically Endangered and six other Threatened species. Of these, 15 were orchids, three were grevilleas, and the remaining four were comprised of a bitter pea, a eucalypt, a feather flower and a daisy. Work involved seed collection and long-term storage, germination testing, and restoration activities including translocations and establishment of seed production areas. Importantly, the project also leveraged over $132,000 in in-kind support from Australian partners, maximising the impact of project funding

One major success was delivered by the Western Australian Seed Centre, Kensington. They enhanced a long-running translocation of *Grevillea batrachioides*, a species with fewer than 20 individuals remaining in the wild. Following seed collection and propagation, 61 nursery-grown seedlings were planted in 2024, boosting the translocated population's long-term viability and genetic resilience.

We acknowledge the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew for its financial support of the project and enduring commitment to international plant conservation through the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership. We also warmly acknowledge our project partners for their scientific expertise, field experience and unwavering dedication, without which this project would not have been possible..

Grevillea batrachioides in flower (Image: Andrew Crawford).

Pantry to propagation: Creative solutions for orchid conservation

As part of our Critically Endangered Project, the Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program explored innovative approaches to help conserve the Critically Endangered Golfer's Leek Orchid (*Prasophyllum incorrectum*).

Many native orchid seeds need a fungal partner to germinate by providing essential nutrients that allow tiny orchid seeds to sprout. Traditionally, oatmeal has been used as a food source to grow these fungi in the lab. But recent trials discovered that brown rice, quinoa, and polenta offer highly effective alternatives, and can even improve conservation outcomes.

The results?

- Faster germination, with seedlings reaching key growth stages sooner than ever recorded.
- Stronger, more robust seedlings, better equipped to transition to nursery care.
- New germination protocols will enhance future conservation efforts for other critically endangered orchids,

This new recipe for success is helping to improve *ex situ* conservation techniques and giving Australia's rarest orchids a greater chance of recovery.

Prasophyllum incorrectum flowers (Image: Tim Rudman at https://flic.kr/p/9sDgzr).

Grass Roots Giving Project

PROJECT OUTCOMES

38 plants caged and hand pollinated

Seed collected from **17** plants

2 germination protocols developed using mycorrhizal symbionts

In June 2023, the Partnership ran an appeal seeking community support to fund a grassland conservation project. Over $5,500 was raised thanks to public donations, including generous contributions from the Wild Country Environmental Fund and the Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens. This funding supported our Grass Roots Giving Project, allowing the Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program to conserve the critically endangered Midland Greenhood Orchid (*Pterostylis commutata*). This grassland orchid is endemic to the Tasmanian Midlands and is found in low numbers across severely fragmented sub-populations. It is threatened by altered fire regimes, grazing and slashing, and weed invasion.

Between December 2023 and June 2025, this project made significant advances in the conservation of this species. Survey efforts in 2024–25 uncovered three new sub-populations boosting the known population from an historic estimate of just 50 plants to a recorded 183 individuals across new and existing sites. This discovery represents a substantial improvement in understanding the species' distribution and has important implications for its conservation status. At one sub-population on Kingston Farm, temporary fencing was installed to protect plants from grazing, while flowering individuals were hand-pollinated to maximise seed production. In February 2025, seed was collected from 17 plants, yielding an estimated 186,915 seeds now secured for long-term storage and future propagation.

The project also delivered important progress in the species' propagation research. Mycorrhizal fungi that are essential for the orchid's germination were isolated from plants in the field and cultured, with six isolates now in secure storage. Using seed collected in 2023, the first symbiotic germination trials for the species were undertaken, resulting in two successful germination protocols. While growth to the green leaf stage took around six months, these protocols establish a vital foundation for future refinement. Together, the field surveys, seed banking, and germination research achieved through this project have strengthened the long-term prospects for the Midland Greenhood and will inform future conservation and restoration efforts.

We would like to thank our followers for their ongoing support, as well as the incredible land managers at Kingston Farm, a property which is managed for both wool production and biodiversity conservation with the support of M.J. Bale and the Midlands Conservation Partnership.

Flowering Midland Greenhood (Image: Fiona Walsh).

Ongoing Partnership projects

Six Partnership projects are ongoing, with project outcomes current as of 30 June 2025.

Securing the Future Project

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- **11** collections of **8** taxa
- **17** germination trials of **6** taxa
- Seed imagery captured for **5** taxa
- Flora survey of **2** taxa
- Soil seed bank research for **1** taxon
- Tissue culture and cryo protocol developed for **1** taxon
- Translocation for **2** taxa

Our Securing the Future Project will prevent extinction and improve the trajectory of ten priority plant species from the Threatened Species Action Plan. The project will deliver a comprehensive program of seed collecting, germination trials, propagation, reintroductions, research and long-term seed banking of ten priority plants from South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.

This work will improve the representation and genetic diversity of collections in Australian seed banks, with seeds and data available for research and restoration. The project will also support public awareness of action to conserve priority plant species.

Running until the end of 2025, the project has so far achieved incredible results. For the Arckaringa Daisy, surveys in 2024 and 2025 found 2,800 plants, a major increase in population numbers and secured seed from three sub-populations. Work on Foote's Grevillea saw over 2,800 seeds banked, 100 per cent germination success in trials, and 341 seedlings planted across new and augmented translocation sites, alongside soil seed bank research revealing limited natural reserves. The Giant Andersonia, Small-flowered Snottygobble and Wongan Eriostemon all had significant seed collections completed and seedling imagery produced for field identification, with Wongan Eriostemon achieving strong germination rates in trials.

Leonie Monks planting a Foote's Grevillea seedling into a translocation site (Image: Andrew Crawford).

Work on Narrow-leaf Eremophila secured over 11,500 seeds, achieved >90 per cent germination in trials, and planted 509 seedlings into a translocation site. Efforts for the Tangled Wattle included comprehensive genetic sampling, establishment of a seed production area, and the successful development of both tissue culture and cryogenic storage protocols, a national first for the species. For the Woods Well Spyridium, seeds were repatriated from the UK and propagated by Raukkan Rangers in preparation for a major translocation in late 2025. Finally, over 1,200 seeds were secured for the Stiff Groundsel, and an *ex situ* living collection is being prepared for future seed production.

Together, these achievements enhance the long-term survival prospects for some of Australia's most imperilled flora. We acknowledge the support provided for this project by the Australian Government's Saving Native Species Program. Funding was provided under the Priority Species Grant aiming to improve outcomes for priority plants from the Threatened Species Action Plan.

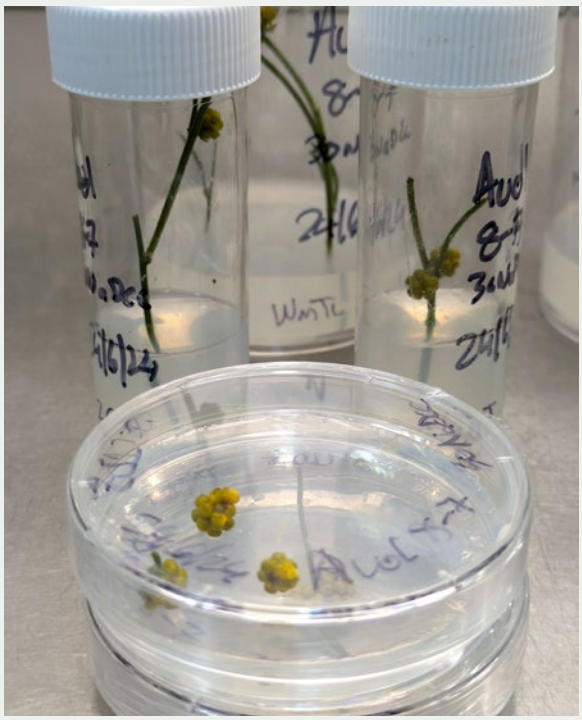
Dr Rebecca Miller from the Victorian Conservation Seedbank collecting seed from Stiff Groundsel (Images: David Roberts & Rebecca Miller).

Ice cold insurance policy for the Tangle Wattle

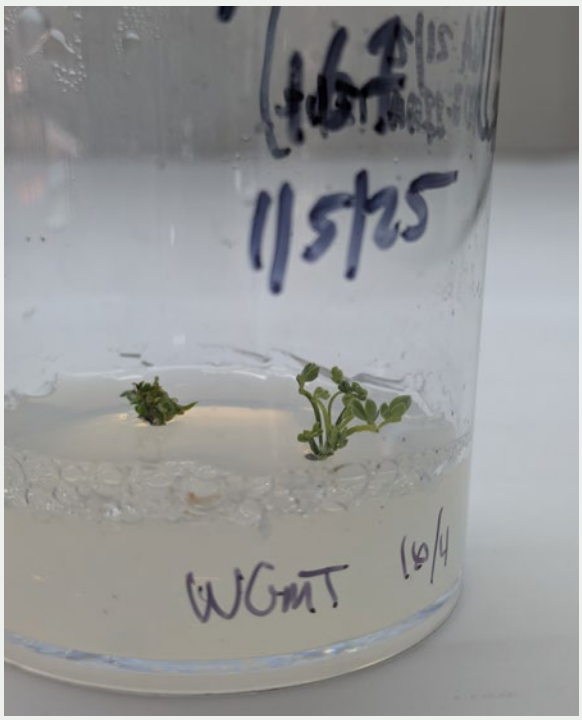
Conservation efforts for the Tangled Wattle (*Acacia volubilis*) under this project have broken new ground for *ex situ* plant conservation. Researchers at the Western Australian Seed Conservation Centre have developed the first successful tissue culture protocol for the species, growing new plants from callus tissue through a process known as somatic embryogenesis. This method has so far been more effective than harvesting and propagating cuttings.

Building on this, they also created a cryogenic storage protocol using droplet vitrification, enabling callus cultures from eight wild populations to be frozen in liquid nitrogen and later regrown with over 80 per cent survival. This dual approach provides a secure, long-term backup for the species, safeguarding its genetic diversity against future threats and giving conservationists powerful new tools for restoration.

A wild *Acacia volubilis* plant in flower (Image: Joshua Kestel).



Tissue culture initiation using cuttings taken from wild populations (Image: Bryn Funnekotter).



A plantlet produced from tissue culture protocols (Image: Bryn Funnekotter).

Myrtle Mayday Project

PROJECT OUTCOMES

4 collections of **4** taxa

Flora survey of **6** taxa

Myrtle rust is a devastating plant disease that affects over 400 native species in the Myrtaceae family, with no cure available at a landscape scale. In 2022–23, a national survey was undertaken to determine which Australian Myrtaceae species were held in conservation collections. This crucial survey revealed the species missing from collections, and those that are poorly represented. Building on this baseline, our Myrtle Mayday Project focuses on safeguarding our most at-risk plants through *ex situ* conservation, including targeted seed collection, germination research and secure long-term storage.

From early 2025 to mid-2026, the project will work to secure seed from 31 threatened species across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia before it's too late. The project combines national expertise in seed science and threatened species recovery. Together, we will undertake reconnaissance surveys, collect and bank seeds, and conduct germination trials to unlock the knowledge needed for future restoration efforts.

Early work has already yielded promising outcomes, with the first-ever seed collection made from a population of *Darwinia meeboldii* and from one of two surveyed populations of *Darwinia squarrosa*. Surveys for *Verticordia densiflora* var. *pedunculata* resulted in fruit collections from four populations, while *Verticordia plumosa* var. *ananeotes* was successfully collected from 15 plants. Surveys for *Eucalyptus phoenix* revealed no fertile plants post-2019–20 fires, underscoring the importance of ongoing monitoring.

Further surveys and collections are planned for the 2025–26 summer season, with many species yet to be located and seed to be processed. By combining science, strategy and collaboration, the Myrtle Mayday Project is building a critical safety net for some of Australia's most vulnerable flora.

This project is supported by the Australian Government's Saving Native Species Program, contributing to national targets in the Threatened Species Action Plan.

Verticordia densiflora var. *pedunculata* and *Darwinia meeboldii* were located during surveys under this project (Images: Andrew Crawford).

Roots of Resilience Project

The Roots of Resilience Project is a new conservation project funded through the Grassroots Grants program of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board in South Australia. With $10,000 in funding, the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre (SASCC) will focus on safeguarding six threatened plant species within the Northern and Yorke region, particularly near the Clare Valley. The project will aim to secure seed from the following target species: *Acacia spilleriana*, *Leptorhynchos elongatus*, *Swainsona procumbens*, *Mentha satureioides*, *Senecio macrocarpus*, *Euphrasia collina* subsp. *osbornii*, *Swainsona behriana* and *Ptilotus angustifolius*. These invaluable collections will be processed and held in long-term storage at the SASCC at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, ensuring they are available for use in community-led threatened flora recovery projects and grassroots habitat restoration efforts.

While seed collection is the primary focus, the project will also deliver important additional outcomes. Dedicated survey work will target all known remnant populations, as well as historic sites not seen for decades, and will search for new populations. Data from these surveys will be entered into the State Herbarium and the Biological Database of South Australia informing future threatened species assessments. Partnerships, such as with the Clare Valley Private Lands Group, will ensure these species are included in local habitat restoration projects, addressing current gaps in seed availability. Plants propagated from the banked collections will be used to create insurance populations and to bolster small, declining populations, providing a genetically robust *in situ* resource for future collections. By integrating these threatened species into community-led restoration, the project will also raise their profile, fostering local stewardship and empowering landowners and communities to play a leading role in their conservation. The project is scheduled for completion by mid-2026.

Swainsona procumbens is a target species for this project (Image: Linda Irwin).

da Irwin

Lofty Legacies Project

This new conservation initiative made possible by the generosity of donors to our 2024 Seeds of Our Cities Appeal, with matched funding from the Wild Country Environmental Fund. Led by the SASCC, the project focuses on two grass species found only in the Mount Lofty Ranges, Cleland's Wallaby-Grass (*Rytidosperma clelandii*) and Shade Tussock-Grass (*Poa umbricola*). These species are part of the unique natural heritage of the Adelaide Hills, where urban development meets biodiversity-rich native woodland.

Over the life of the project, the team will carry out targeted seed collection, aiming to secure at least 5,000 seeds per species for long-term storage in secure conservation seed banks. This work will safeguard the genetic diversity of both grasses, while germination testing and propagation trials will help develop practical guidelines for their future restoration. The project will also produce at least 100 healthy seedlings per species, which will be translocated to remnant Stringybark woodland within the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden, supporting habitat restoration efforts.

A core element of the Lofty Legacies Project is community engagement. Volunteers and local groups will have opportunities to participate in seed collection and learn more about the conservation of native grasses. This hands-on involvement not only supports the project's immediate goals but also helps cultivate a deeper connection between people and the biodiversity in their own backyard. By combining scientific expertise, long-term seed banking and community participation, Lofty Legacies will help ensure that these distinctive Mount Lofty Ranges species thrive for generations to come.

Seed from Cleland's Wallaby-Grass and Shade Tussock-Grass (Image: South Australian Seed Conservation Centre).

Genetics in a Bottle Project

Our Genetics in a Bottle Project is helping to understand the genetic diversity of one of Australia's rarest trees, the Ormeau Bottle Tree (*Brachychiton* sp. *Ormeau)*. Found only in the upper Pimpama River catchment in south-east Queensland, this Critically Endangered species is under significant pressure from habitat loss and potential hybridisation with related species. By understanding the species' genetic blueprint and connectivity between populations, the project will guide recovery actions and inform potential *ex situ* conservation measures.

Utilising funds from a private donor, the Australian Seed Bank Partnership engaged the Brisbane Herbarium to conduct comprehensive genetic testing of all known populations in 2025, with a focus on three key sites in the catchment. This work is supported by our community partner, North East Albert Landcare Group, whose volunteers are providing vital in-kind support by collecting leaf samples in the field. These samples will be analysed using advanced genetic techniques to assess gene flow, population structure and the extent of hybridisation with neighbouring *Brachychiton rupestris*.

The findings from this project will help prioritise seed collection, propagation and planting strategies to maintain the species' genetic health. By combining community expertise, scientific capability and targeted funding, we are building the evidence base needed to give the Ormeau Bottle Tree its best chance of survival.

Climate and Germination Research Scholarship

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership will receive $20,000 from the National Parks Conservation Trust to establish a Climate and Germination Research Scholarship. This funding, originally donated to the Parks Trust by Cambooya Pty Ltd in 2023 to support research on the impact of climate change on seed germination, will now be redirected to the Partnership following the Trust's closure on 31 July 2025. In line with our mission to advance seed science and collaborate with universities, the scholarship will support research in partnership with institutions such as the Australian National University and the Australian National Botanic Gardens, while fostering the next generation of conservation scientists.

Ormeau Bottle Tree can grow up to 25 metres high (Image: Paul Donatiu).

Outcome 2 Growing our investments in our facilities and people

Investment in our people and facilities is crucial to the continuation of the Partnership, and we are committed to equipping the next generation of conservation scientists and practitioners with the necessary skills and expertise. This increased future capacity and capability will allow us to respond better to threats, restore native habitats and secure better biodiversity outcomes for Australia. Learn about how we have worked towards this goal below.

Collections Review Project

The Partnership's Collections Review Project aims to examine seed collections secured in Australia's conservation seed banks between 2000 and 2020. The project is designed to strengthen our understanding of existing collections and guide future priorities for collecting and research at both national and sub-national levels. This will help direct investment in staff and facilities, inform local, regional and national collecting strategies, and support cutting-edge biological and ecological research.

This year, significant progress has been made towards the development of a comprehensive management report for our governing council, including detailed recommendations for the future of the Partnership. Initial progress has also been made on drafting a journal article that will showcase the representativeness, functionality and value of Partnership germplasm collections. These outputs will not only identify gaps in our collections but also highlight opportunities to enhance the capacity of Partnership staff and facilities, ensuring our efforts remain strategic and impactful in line with our Strategic Plan.

Representativeness Working Group

The ASBP National Steering Committee created a Representativeness Working Group to establish clear and measurable ways to assess how well our seed bank collections capture the diversity within a species. Aligned with our Implementation Plan, the group is working to define what constitutes a 'representative collection' by 2026, considering factors such as accession size, collection range, genetic information and maternal lines. The group is developing a definition that, when applied across our national collections, will support more strategic, informed conservation of native plant diversity in Australian seed banks.

The Partnership's Representativeness Working Group met in October 2024 (Image: ASBP).

Brad Bianco from the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre surveying the Superb Groundsel (*Senecio megaglossus*) at Black Rock Plain (Image: SASCC).

Fundraising

This financial year, the Partnership successfully secured vital funding to strengthen both our conservation projects and the expertise of our team. We submitted applications across four grant streams and were awarded two significant grants: $300,000 for the Myrtle Mayday Project (page 9) and $10,000 for the Roots of Resilience Project (page 8). Additionally, a $20,000 grant from the National Parks Trust will support a Climate and Germination Research Scholarship, with activities planned for the coming year. Alongside these grants, generous donations totalling over $162,000 have further bolstered our efforts, directly contributing to key initiatives and capacity building. These funds, which include over $4,400 of general donations, have supported:

- Saving Orchids For the Future Program: $100,000
- Seeds of Our Country Appeal: $40,000
- Genetics in a Bottle Project: $10,000
- Australasian Seed Science Conference: $7,600

Together, this funding enhances our ability to invest in critical infrastructure, advance innovative research and develop the skills of conservation practitioners, all essential to securing Australia's native flora for the future.

The Partnership was successful in our grant application for our Myrtle Mayday Project (Image: ASBP).

Outcome 3 Improving engagement and partnerships with Australia's First Nations Peoples

The Partnership is committed to Reconciliation with Australia's First Nations Peoples and our aim is to support best practice conservation in line with cultural expectations. We also strive to support co-development and co-delivery of seed conservation projects on Country, and share any benefits of these collaborative efforts with Traditional Custodians. This year we made progress against this outcome through the work discussed below.

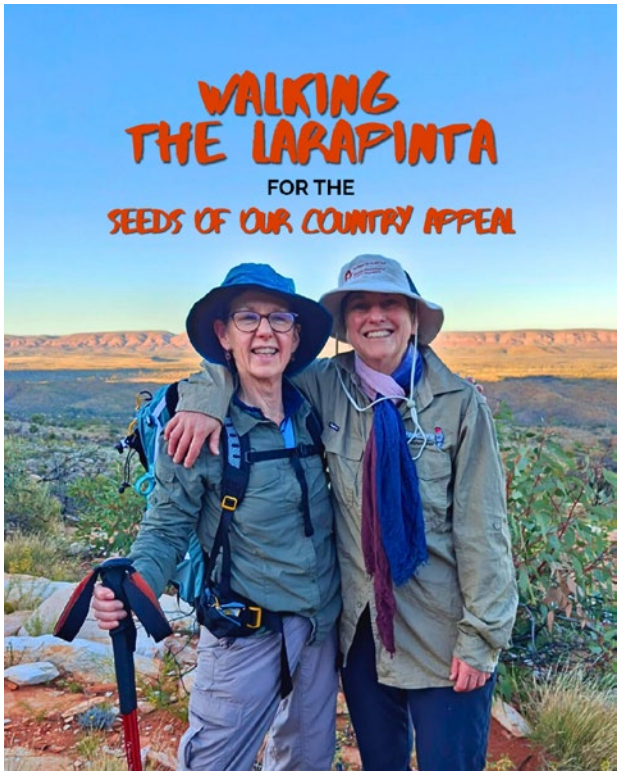
Seeds of Our Country Appeal

The Seeds of Our Country Appeal was launched in March 2025, raising $40,000 to strengthen First Nations–led seed conservation and deepen our partnerships with Traditional Custodians. This dedicated fundraising focused on two key goals that align closely with our commitment to reconciliation and best practice conservation in line with cultural expectations.

Goal 1 was to support Indigenous delegates to attend a dedicated Indigenous Seed Workshop at the 2025 Australasian Seed Science Conference. This premier national forum will foster learning, networking and the exchange of traditional and scientific knowledge. By supporting attendance, we aim to up-skill the next generation of First Nations leaders in seed banking and conservation.

Goal 2 was to establish pilot seed conservation projects on Country in collaboration with First Nations communities. With these projects we aim to strengthen partnerships between land managers and scientists, provide hands-on training tailored to community needs, and lay the groundwork for long-term conservation partnerships.

While we recognise there is more to be done to achieve our aspirations in this space, the Seeds of Our Country Appeal marks a significant step towards meaningful partnerships with First Nations Peoples.



The Partnership's National Coordinator, Kathy Eyles, walked the Larapinta Trail in support of the appeal (Image: Kathryn Eyles).

First Nations Collaboration Principles Working Group

As part of our commitment to strengthening engagement with Australia's First Nations Peoples, the Partnership has established a First Nations Collaboration Principles Working Group. In October 2024, the group met to discuss how Partners are currently engaging with First Nations communities and to identify opportunities for more meaningful and respectful collaboration. These discussions are informing the development of shared principles to guide beneficial relationships and ensure First Nations perspectives are embedded in our conservation work. This process will require ongoing consultation with Partners and the communities they work alongside, supporting culturally informed approaches to seed conservation and research.

Securing the Future Project

As part of the early stages of the Securing the Future Project, the SASCC worked alongside Raukkan Indigenous rangers to survey known and predicted habitat for the critically endangered Woods Well Spyridium (*Spyridium fontis-woodii*). In 2024, only four wild individuals were located, highlighting the urgency of conservation action.

Under the project, previously banked seed was germinated, with 400 seedlings nurtured at the Raukkan Native Plant Nursery by First Nations horticulturists. In late 2025, the nursery-grown plants will be translocated into Messent Conservation Park, ensuring the Woods Well Spyridium regains a foothold in its natural landscape. This collaboration not only safeguards a rare and culturally significant species, but also supports knowledge sharing, skills development and long-term stewardship between conservation scientists and the Raukkan community.

Raukkan horticulturists have grown Woods Well Spyridium seedlings ready for translocation (Image: Robert Mongravius).

Outcome 4 Developing and sharing knowledge

Key to our aims is the sharing of our knowledge and data to support environmental decision-makers and on-ground practitioners to implement conservation strategies, policies and programs. To increase awareness of the work of seed banks, the Partnership also works across various digital platforms. Publicising our achievements is crucial for increasing stakeholder engagement, generating support and sourcing donations that allow our work to continue. In the past 12 months, the Partnership has again been working to develop and share knowledge about germplasm conservation, and we are excited to share the progress.

Australian Virtual Seed Bank Portal

In line with our goal of developing and sharing knowledge, the Partnership continues to maintain and enhance the Australian Virtual Seed Bank Portal, hosted by the Atlas of Living Australia since 2012. This publicly accessible resource is updated annually to ensure that researchers, land managers and conservation practitioners have access to the most current seed collection and germination data for Australia's native flora. This year's update introduced a new portal statistics page, offering an at-a-glance overview of the collections we hold, including the number of species listed in the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). We also incorporated data from the 2024 collecting and testing seasons, ensuring the portal continues to serve as a vital tool for conservation research and management. The portal now contains datasets from 11 seed banks including 58,985 accessions and 17,255 germination trials. We hold information about 13,008 plants including 942 EPBC-listed species.

PlantChat Webinar Series

The Partnership's PlantChat Webinar Series is tailor-made for biodiversity policymakers, program managers, data specialists and conservation practitioners, offering a platform to share the latest plant conservation activities shaping the future of threatened species recovery and ecosystem restoration across Australia. This year we hosted three webinars on our looming seed deficit, recovery strategies for myrtle rust and the power of citizen science through iNaturalist. The series continues to foster knowledge exchange, highlight innovative conservation practices and strengthen connections between science, policy and on-ground action, ensuring our collective expertise is shared to benefit Australia's unique native flora.

Our third webinar, presented by Thomas Mesaglio, outlined how plant photos can help drive real science (Image: ASBP).

World Wide Wood

In May 2025, the Australian Seed Bank Partnership joined the global World Wide Wood initiative on the Google Arts & Culture platform—the world's largest online database of tree stories, featuring over 400 exhibits from more than 100 partners across 36 countries. This immersive project celebrates the beauty, diversity and importance of the world's oldest, tallest and largest organisms through photography, video, 3D models, audio, and educational resources.

Our dedicated profile features nine expert-led stories showcasing Australian seed conservation, highlighting the critical role trees play as ecosystem engineers and the value of conserving their seeds for future restoration. By contributing to this global platform, we are sharing Australian expertise with a worldwide audience, strengthening awareness and understanding of the vital connections between seeds, trees and healthy ecosystems.

Andrew Cox (left) and Brett Summerell (right) at the Global Nature Positive Summit, Oct 2024 (Image: ASBP).

Forums

This year, the Partnership has actively contributed to a range of national and international forums, sharing knowledge and strengthening collaboration across the plant conservation sector:

- IUCN Australian Committee Ecosystem Restoration Workshop, Sept 2024: Presentation on *Native seed and ecological restoration: Challenges for scaling up* (Kathy Eyles)
- Global Nature Positive Summit, Oct 2024: Facilitated a Spotlight on Science conversation on *Seed bank research to restore plant biodiversity* (Brett Summerell, Andrew Cox)
- 14th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference, Oct 2024: *Seeding success* poster (Bradley Desmond) and session chair (Kathryn Eyles)
- Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens Thursday Talks:
  - Feb 2025: *Small seeds, big impact* (Bradley Desmond)
  - May 2025: *International and national frameworks for plant conservation* (Kathy Eyles)
- Australian Network for Plant Conservation's Strategic Planning Workshop, Feb 2025: Presentation on *International and national frameworks for plant conservation* (Kathy Eyles)
- International Plant Conservation Conference, Mar 2025: Presentation on *Ex situ conservation: key to reversing Australia's plant biodiversity loss*, and workshop participation in *Learning from crisis* (Kathy Eyles).

These contributions have helped raise the profile of the Partnership's work, fostered collaboration with peers and ensured that Australian seed conservation expertise is part of global conservation conversations.

Publications

Apart from the many research publications developed by our Partners, the Partnership has prepared articles and papers to promote awareness of our work at the project and national levels:

- *Samara International Newsletter for the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership*
  - Issue 11: 'Securing Australia's rarest plants: The Critically Endangered Project'
- *Australasian Plant Conservation*: the Bulletin of the Australian Network for Plant Conservation
  - Issue 33(2): 'Partner highlights from 2023–24'
  - Issue 33(3): 'Seeds of Hope Project'
  - Issue 33(4): 'The Australian Virtual Seed Bank: A growing resource for plant conservation'
  - Issue 34(1): 'Outcomes of our Critically Endangered Project'
- Educational posters:
  - Seed speak A–Z
  - *Seeding success: Community collaboration for plant conservation.*

Social media

This year the Partnership invested in improving our social media presence by sharing weekly Partner stories, seed science knowledge and raising awareness for our Seeds of Our Cities Appeal. Across Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn Channels, we shared 322 posts and stories reaching over 125,000 people. Across our platforms we saw an increase in followers (+6 per cent on Facebook +61 per cent on Instagram and +100 per cent on LinkedIn). Our most popular post related to our work to conserve the Tangled wattle (*Acacia volubilis*) for our Securing the Future Project. Check out our channels to follow our journey.

The Endangered *Acacia volubilis* is a target species for our Securing the Future Project (Image: Andrew Crawford).

Partner highlights

Learn about our Partners' highlights for this financial year.

Alice Springs Desert Park

Following the 2019–20 summer bushfires, the UK Government funded recovery work through an 'Emergency Seed Collecting Fund to Save Australian Native Flora'. While this initiative concluded in 2022, planned seed collection work at Alice Springs Desert Park related to the project was delayed due to staffing constraints. With the curation team now back on board, these important activities have resumed.

Over the past year, the Park's team joined forces with the Northern Territory Herbarium to collect seed from *Olearia macdonnellensis*, an endangered daisy found only in a few small populations in Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park. A significant population of over 300 plants was recorded during the August 2024 trip, which was the first documented collection of this species since 2012. These new records are providing valuable, up-to-date insights into the species' health and distribution. A good quantity of seed was collected and is now being processed for germination trials. This research will examine the impact of Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) competition, as well as seasonal germination patterns and rates. The work will strengthen conservation outcomes for *Olearia macdonnellensis*, ensuring this unique Central Australian daisy has a better chance of survival.

Olearia macdonnellensis in flower (Image: M.J Barritt).

Australian PlantBank

In November 2024, PlantBank's Seedbank & Conservation Collections teams were joined by Dr Brett Summerell (Chief Scientist and Director of Science, Education & Conservation) and Simon Duffy AM (Chief Executive) for a seed collecting team trip to the Warrumbungles region in north-west New South Wales. This team focused on species not yet represented in the Seedbank, as well as regional endemics. They traversed areas with limited botanical records including the Breadknife Walking Track, Tara Cave and other remote trails in Warrumbungle National Park and the Pilliga. The trip was a valuable opportunity for the team to deepen understanding of the unique species and communities of western New South Wales.

The collecting team at the start of their week in the Warrumbungles region of New South Wales. L–R: Sam Padgett, Alex Thomsen, Katherine Thomson, Stefanie Carusi, Graeme Errington, Ruby Paroissien, Laura Watts, Simon Duffy AM, Brett Summerell, Nathan Emery (Image: Nathan Emery).

While the primary goal was to collect seeds, they also gathered voucher specimens for the NSW Herbarium and recorded key observations on species locations and seed readiness to support more efficient future collecting. After five days in the field, the team made 20 seed collections and obtained 30 voucher specimens, including the Ruby Urn Heath (*Melichrus erubescens*) and Fan Grevillea *(Grevillea ramosissima*), both new additions to the Seedbank.

Another notable success from the trip was the collection of seeds from one of New South Wales' rarest plants, the Critically Endangered *Myriophyllum implicatum*. Once thought extinct in the state, this tiny water milfoil survives along the moist edges of temporary freshwater gilgais. The team painstakingly combed through sun-baked soil on hands, feet and stomachs in search of its minuscule 1 mm seeds. With only a few seeds initially found, living plants were carefully extracted and transported to nursery tanks at the Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan. From these small seed production islands, more than 1,000 seeds were eventually collected. The species' dormancy and germination requirements are now under investigation.

Collectors were joined by Species Project Coordinator Terry Mazzer to search drying gilgais for tiny seeds of *Myriophyllum implicatum* (Image: Nathan Emery).

Whole *Myriophyllum implicatum* plants were brought to the Australian Botanic Garden where Horticulture staff created small floating seed production islands in nursery tanks (Image: Nathan Emery).

National Seed Bank

The National Seed Bank (NSB) has been undergoing an upgrade this year to increase freezer, laboratory and office capacity, and the ability to store new seed collections and work with difficult-to-store seeds. To allow for this, the team relocated to temporary accommodation at the Australian National Botanic Gardens, taking with them everything needed to keep seed collecting, banking and research workflows going in the meantime.

The relocation process began in September 2024 and five staff and 16 volunteers worked meticulously to maintain the safety and quality of over 8,500 seed collections and numerous germination tests. Meanwhile, removalists relocated two laboratories, four offices and all the necessary freezers, fridges and incubator equipment.

Relocating the collections took place in stages. To ensure that the ~6,000 banked collections were maintained at -20˚C, the freezers were moved one by one over the course of a week and allowed to acclimatise before collections were relocated. The ~2,500 dry room collections were stored at the Australian Tree Seed Centre at CSIRO while a temporary dry room was built.

Pip Alvarez and Tom North relocating collections to a temporary dry room (Image: © ANBG 2025).

During the move relocation, most functions of the NSB continued, including:

- a five-yearly stocktake of 8,648 accessions,
- ~35 field trips over the collecting season (with 26 volunteers)
- seed processing, counting and imaging (with 16 volunteers)
- germination testing (initial and retesting)
- completion of the Survive and Thrive project examining conservation and research of 12 fire-affected subalpine species
- preparation of conference posters and presentations.

The team will use the knowledge gained about moving collections safely to help make a successful move into the upgraded facilities later in 2025.

Seeds of leadership: Dr Lydia Guja's Legacy

After more than 12 years leading the National Seed Bank (NSB) at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG), Dr Lydia Guja has taken an exciting opportunity to play a different role in protecting our natural environment. While her departure is a big change, her legacy lives on in the strong team and culture of excellence she built. Lydia leaves behind a bigger, more strategic NSB, and we wish her every success in this next chapter. Here, Lydia reflects on her time:

How did you get started at the NSB?

I joined in 2012 for an 18-month opportunity as a Seed Conservation Biologist. As a third year PhD student writing a thesis on seed ecology it was a dream job. I'm grateful to Judy West, Lucy Sutherland and Andrew Young who trusted me with this opportunity and had such vision.

What are some ways that the NSB changed during your tenure?

From 2012 to 2024, the NSB expanded by hundreds of accessions each year, growing from a focus on individual threatened species to also include threatened communities, climate-vulnerable habitats and culturally significant plants. Research impact deepened through collaborations with universities, international groups and regular publications. The team grew from one to seven staff, balancing core conservation with new research opportunities. With support from the Friends of the ANBG, we also upgraded facilities and expanded storage to keep pace with collections and outputs.

Were there any key collaborations or partnerships that helped define your time?

Collaborations were central to my time at the NSB, providing opportunities to share knowledge and strengthen conservation outcomes across Australia and internationally. A defining achievement was helping open access to Australia's seed conservation data through the Australasian Virtual Seed Bank Portal, which transformed how researchers and practitioners can discover and use collections nationwide. Internationally, I contributed to the development of SeedArc, a global database of seed germination data, and was proud to see Australian alpine research integrated into global syntheses that revealed new insights into alpine plants. One highlight closer to home was working with the ASBP to deliver the 2021 Australasian Seed Science Conference, which brought together 425 participants from 34 countries.

Lydia Guja and Tom North seed collecting in the Australian Alps (Image: © ANBG 2025).

What is one of your fondest memories?

The morning teas with volunteers who offer a wealth of life lessons and inspiration, giving up their own time to process seeds every week, or to undertake remote treks in search of new seeds to collect. Their passion for conservation is infectious and a reminder that we can each do something to make a difference and help the environment.

What advice would you give to someone aspiring to manage a conservation seed bank one day?

Be open to new ideas and new ways of doing things. Seed banking has a long and successful history but keeping pace with global climate change, the biodiversity crisis, biosecurity threats and food security issues will inevitably require continuous improvement to how we conserve and study seeds.

Where are you now?

I'm a Principal Ecologist at Umwelt (environmental and social consultants). The work is diverse and I'm enjoying the opportunity to work in broader ecology; getting up close to reptiles, amphibians and birds – as well as plants. Stay in touch via Lydia.Guja@umwelt.com.au

South Australian Seed Conservation Centre

The Superb Groundsel (*Senecio megaglossus*) is a bushy perennial shrub, easily recognised by its bluish-green foliage and large, vibrant yellow daisy-like flowers. Endemic to South Australia, this nationally vulnerable species was once found throughout the central Flinders Ranges, stretching south to the Mount Lofty Ranges. By the late 1990s, the species was thought to persist only in the Dutchmans Stern area, with most of the outlying populations presumed extinct. However, very few surveys had been conducted to confirm the presence or absence of these other historical populations.

In 2023, with support from the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species, the South Australian Seed Conservation Centre launched a project aimed at reviewing all historical records, searching for new populations, collecting seed from genetically diverse plants, and cultivating individuals for the establishment of insurance populations. Extensive fieldwork followed, many miles on foot up and down rivers and gorges; it became evident that the species had vanished from many previously recorded locations. Indeed no seed had been collected from anywhere besides the Dutchman Stern and it was thought that no populations existed outside this region.

Superb Groundsel in full bloom (Image: Jerry Smith).

SASCC staff and landholder planting in the exclosure along a tributary of the Marne Gorge (Image: Jerry Smith).

Some dedicated sleuthing by the team at the SASCC lead to a breakthrough via a vague 1985 record by G Kuerschner some 100 km from the Dutchman's Stern. After careful searching in this area almost 40 years since last being seen, a small population of 34 plants was rediscovered clinging to the steep rocky slopes, naturally shielded from grazing. A successful seed collection was made from this population, securing valuable genetic material disjunct from the main population.

While searches for other populations continued, seeds were propagated and nurtured at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens in preparation for future translocation. A property near the historic range was selected for the first translocation effort. The site, along a tributary of the Marne River, offers ideal habitat: chocolate loam soils, outcropping calcrete and protection under a Heritage Agreement. Importantly, the landowner is committed to supporting long-term conservation efforts.

In June 2025, after much-needed rainfall following a prolonged drought, SASCC staff and the landowner constructed an exclosure to protect the young plants from grazing by kangaroos, deer and rabbits.

A total of 100 healthy plants were carefully planted within the protected area. Their survival, growth and seed production will be closely monitored to assess the success of the translocation. After 40 years, the Superb Groundsel has returned to the Marne River Catchment, a hopeful step in the recovery of this rare and beautiful species.

Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre

This last year has marked a turning point for one of Tasmania's most threatened orchids—the Midlands Greenhood (*Pterostylis commutata*). Once known from just five small locations with an estimated total population of 50 plants, support from the Partnership's 2023 Grass Roots Giving Project (page 5) uncovered three new sub-populations, dramatically increasing the known population size. A total of 183 plants were observed including 116 plants at newly discovered sites and an additional 31 plants at a known Kingston Farm sub-population. These findings represent a major boost for the species' conservation outlook and underscore the importance of continued on-ground survey efforts.

Conservation efforts at Kingston Farm have been especially fruitful due to a committed landowner, with 20 flowering plants caged and hand-pollinated. In February 2025, seed was collected from 17 plants, yielding an estimated 186,915 seeds, which have been cleaned and stored at the Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre (TSCC) for future propagation and long-term security.

Another milestone was achieved in the lab: six mycorrhizal fungi were isolated from a plant at Kingston Farm, enabling the first successful symbiotic germination trials for the species. Using seed collected in 2023, researchers established two successful germination protocols. Though growth has been slow, with seedlings reaching the green leaf stage after six months, this foundational work opens the door to future translocation efforts and the creation of a seed orchard in coming years.

Midland Greenhood (*Pterostylis commutata*) in bloom at Kingston Farm, with hand pollination used to stimulate seed production (Images: Fiona Walsh).

With seed and fungal material now banked and proven germination methods in place, 2025–26 will focus on scaling up propagation and trialling improved orchid media to enhance germination success. This work represents a standout example of integrated *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation in action, and is just one of several threatened orchid species being safeguarded through the Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program in partnership with the TSCC.

Victorian Conservation Seedbank

This year, the Victorian Conservation Seedbank (VCS) safeguarded 42 new species in its collections, including 24 that had never before been represented in the seed bank. Many of these came from the spectacular Grampians/Gariwerd National Park, a biodiversity hotspot home to plants found nowhere else on Earth. In December 2024, the VCS team ventured into the park to collect seeds from some of its most vulnerable plants, securing collections from six that were completely new to the seed bank. Among them was the striking *Pimelea pagophila*, found only on the windswept peaks of Mount William.

Further trips planned for January 2025, but nature had other plans. Large bushfires swept through almost 80 per cent of the park, burning for several weeks and impacting many of the sites where collections had been made, and were yet to be made. With the increasing frequency and intensity of bushfires threatening the survival of the park's unique flora, the National Park will remain a top priority for the VCS in the years ahead, ensuring these irreplaceable species have a safe future, no matter what challenges come their way.

Flowers and seed of *Pimelea pagophila* (Images: Bob Hare and Ian Clarke).

Western Australian Seed Centre, Kensington

The Small-flowered Snottygobble (*Persoonia micranthera*) is a Critically Endangered plant known only from a few mountain peaks in the Stirling Range, Western Australia, with mature plants currently only found at two locations. As part of the Partnership's Securing the Future Project, supported by the Australian Government's Saving Native Species Program, seed collections were made from these two populations. One of these collections was significant in that it is the largest collection of the species (almost three times the number of seed) made in the 20 years the species has been targeted for *ex situ* conservation. This seed will now be used to produce plants that will be added to a seed production area with the aim of increasing the quantity of seed available for seed-based recovery of the small-flowered snottygobble.

This year, the WA Seed Conservation Centre bagged flowers of the Small-flowered Snottygobble and collected significant quantities of fruit (Images: Andrew Crawford).

Western Australian Seed Centre, Kings Park

In October 2024, a team set out on a ten-day expedition through Western Australia's vast Goldfields region in search of species that would be resilient and suitable for display in the Western Australian Botanic Garden. Target species were carefully chosen, preferring those many with little or no representation in Kings Park's seed collections.

Earlier in the year, the Goldfields had received unprecedented rainfall, setting the stage for an exceptional spring. The trip came at just the right time to witness a surge of flowering and fruiting, including the rare appearance of inland ephemeral species seldom seen in the wild. The team travelled through an extraordinary range of landscapes including salt lakes, eucalypt woodlands, ironstone ranges, mulga country and sweeping grasslands. They visited conservation reserves from Baladjie Lake to Mount Manning Range, and venturing as far as Leonora and Laverton.

From these regions they made standout collections from *Petrophile circinata*, *Leptosema chambersii*, *Ptilotus helichrysoides*, *Calytrix amethystina* and *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* subsp. *arida*. These seeds and cuttings are now part of Kings Park's living collections and have replenished ageing conservation seed stocks. Over time, they will contribute to public education, inspire visitors in the gardens and strengthen efforts to protect Western Australia's remarkable flora for the future.

Seed collecting in the Eastern Goldfields, October 2024 (Image: Mathew Stray).

Ptilotus helichrysoides in full flower (Image: Mathew Stray).

Our organisation

Our vision

A future where Australia's native plant diversity is valued, understood and conserved for the benefit of all.

Our strategic focus

To deliver a national effort that contributes to the conservation of Australia's native plant diversity through collaborative and sustainable seed and germplasm collecting, banking, research and knowledge sharing.

Our services

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership (ASBP) is a national collaboration of seed banks and flora-focused organisations delivering strategic conservation actions for Australia's native seed. Our dedicated Partners and Associates undertake widespread collecting and complex research to support *ex situ* seed conservation, as well as seed science that underpins these efforts.

Our main areas of service include:

Germplasm collection and storage

Our native flora face an uncertain future due to the impacts of a rapidly changing climate, biological invasions, land clearing and severe weather events. *Ex situ* seed banking is an essential tool for the safe and efficient storage of wild plant genetic material. This cost-effective method for maintaining genetically diverse and representative collections allows a network of seed banks to strategically store, conserve and research our diverse Australian flora.

Knowledge sharing

Our national network of experts contribute to the development of policies, programs, research and on-ground projects that seek to improve biodiversity outcomes. We do this by sharing our knowledge and expertise, highlighting good news stories and updating national guidelines and standards. We continuously strive to improve our plant conservation data and make it openly available through the Australian Seed Bank Online platform.

Science and research

Our seed science endeavours are critical to understanding the biology and ecology of the seeds we collect and for developing specific methodologies for germinating and storing seed. Our research into the evolution and adaptability of native species informs restoration projects across the country.

Using our collections

The seeds we secure are always collected for a reason beyond a life in the bank. Collections are used for growing on and planting out at both *in situ* and *ex situ* locations. These plants play an important part in translocation or restoration projects to bolster wild populations and ecosystem management. Germinants from germination trials are also used for seed production areas or living collections in botanic gardens to help educate the public about our work.

Our outcome areas

Four outcome areas will guide the evolution of the Partnership into its next decade.

Outcome 1
Growing our collections, research and restoration contributions

Outcome 2
Growing our investments in our facilities and people

The Partnership will increase the representation of native species and their genetic diversity across our collections. We will focus on increasing the representation of the Australian flora, and the collection and storage of maternal lines to better understand the genetic diversity within species in *ex situ* collections, particularly those secured during our earlier work. This information will inform the prioritisation of future collecting programs, translocations, restoration and research, particularly for threatened species. The Partnership will continue to be at the international forefront of *ex situ* conservation science by supporting and undertaking research into germplasm storage, seed biology and ecology, and informing the management and use of collections to contribute substantially to the global discourse on plant conservation, propagation and use in translocations and ecosystem restoration. The use of Australia's seed collections will continue to increase as further research and restoration opportunities are created through Partner projects and collaborations with governments, First Nations Peoples and land managers across the continent and throughout the region.

Growing investments in seed bank facilities and people is crucial to ensuring Australia's seed banks grow their capacity and capabilities to address increasing threats to biodiversity and increasing demand for the use of collections. This will be done in line with international gene banking standards, scientific advances in germplasm conservation and international standards for ecosystem restoration. We will continue to invest in training opportunities through collaborations with universities, academic institutions and conservation organisations to equip the next generation of conservation scientists and practitioners with the necessary skills and expertise. We will work with governments, business and the philanthropic community to secure these strategic investments. We will ensure these investments continue to grow in line with conservation needs, providing greater future capacity and capability to respond to threats, restore native habitats and secure better biodiversity outcomes for Australia.

Outcome 3 Improving engagement and partnerships with Australia's First Nations Peoples

Outcome 4 Developing and sharing knowledge

The ASBP recognises First Nations Peoples throughout Australia, including their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. Our facilities are located on many different lands throughout Australia, and we undertake collecting, research, translocations and restoration activities across many more.
The Partnership is therefore committed to Reconciliation with Australia's First Nations Peoples. Over the coming years, we will build on our existing collaborations with Indigenous groups to support best practice conservation in line with cultural expectations. We will seek to learn together and improve our understanding and approaches to working on Country for better biodiversity outcomes. We will also strive to secure funding that supports co-development and co-delivery of seed conservation projects on Country, and share any benefits realised through these collaborative efforts, including knowledge and expertise, to complement the work of Traditional Custodians in conserving flora on Country.

We will continue to support the implementation of better conservation strategies, policies and programs at the local, national and international levels by working with governments, industry and the community. We will share our knowledge and data with environmental decision-makers and on-ground practitioners. The Partnership will continue to provide open access to seed and germination data across our Partnership collections online through the Australian Virtual Seed Bank. We will advocate for best practice germplasm conservation by encouraging awareness and use of the guidelines for *Plant germplasm conservation in Australia* (3rd edition) (Martyn Yenson et al. 2021, published by the Australian Network for Plant Conservation (ANPC)), and we will build capacity across the sector by actively sharing our knowledge with the global seed banking and conservation community to enable transformation of the sector.

Our Partners

The Partnership is an alliance of organisations including at least one conservation seed bank in every Australian state and territory, as well as state environment agencies and non-government organisations including the ANPC, Greening Australia and the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Our links across conservation and restoration seed banks, governments and the plant conservation sector allows for strategic national collaborations, enabling our goals to be achieved on a countrywide scale.

Our Partners are located across the country and work together to safeguard Australian plants.

Partner organisations of the Australian Seed Bank Partnership

1. George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens – Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (GBDBG)

2. Alice Springs Desert Park – Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory (ASDP)

3. The Western Australian Seed Centre, Kings Park – Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA)

4. The Western Australian Seed Centre, Kensington – Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)

5. South Australian Seed Conservation Centre – Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, South Australia (BGSH)

6. Australian Grains Genebank – Agriculture Victoria Research Division, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (AGG)

7. The Victorian Conservation Seedbank – Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (RBGV)

8. Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre – Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (RTBG)

9. National Seed Bank – Australian National Botanic Gardens, Parks Australia (ANBG)

10. Australian Tree Seed Centre – CSIRO (ATSC)

11. The Australian PlantBank – Australian Botanic Gardens, Mount Annan, Botanic Gardens of Sydney (BGoS)

12. Brisbane Botanic Gardens Seed Bank – Brisbane City Council (BBG)

13. The Queensland Herbarium – Department of Environment and Science, Queensland (DESQ)

14. Greening Australia (GA)

15. Australian Network for Plant Conservation (ANPC)

16. Millennium Seed Bank Partnership – Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK (MSBP)

Associate organisations of the Australian Seed Bank Partnership

The Partnership delivers across a diverse range of operational and theoretical areas in collaboration with like-minded individuals, organisations and institutions both within and external to Australia. These Associates support the Partnership to deliver on our objectives across seed collection and banking, applied research, restoration and translocation action and the development of guidelines, standards and scientific advice to governments, business, individuals and land managers. Our current Associates include:

- Atlas of Living Australia
- Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
- Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand Inc.
- Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research
- Environs Kimberley
- Plant Health Australia

A list of the organisations that supported the Partnership this year can be found in our acknowledgements section.

During surveys for our Myrtle Mayday Project, the team from the Victorian Conservation Seedbank collected seed from the Silver-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus elaeophloia*). (Image: Rebecca Miller).

Our history

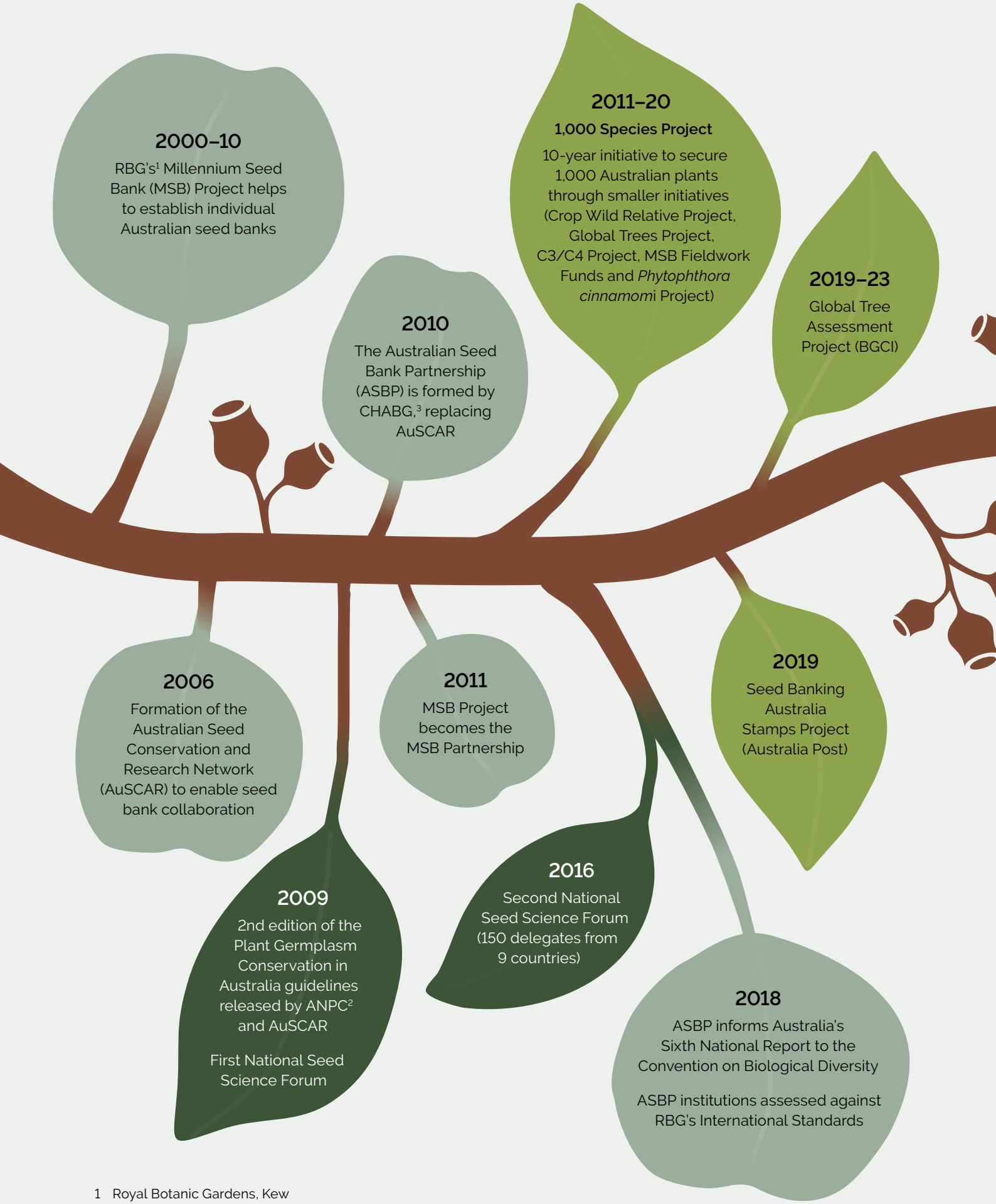
The drive to bank Australian seed for conservation began well before the year 2000, though efforts increased significantly with the start of the Millennium Seed Bank Project supported by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. This international project aimed to safeguard 24,000 global plant species from extinction by 2010, in line with the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). Australia's contribution to this effort was significant, supported greatly by the establishment of the Australian Seed Conservation and Research Network (AuSCAR) in 2007. This network provided Australian seed banks with the opportunity to collaborate more effectively at the multi-jurisdictional level, providing more strategic species targeting for conservation and research across several states.

Building on the success of AuSCAR, the Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens formally established the Australian Seed Bank Partnership (the Partnership) in 2010. The Partnership was the first countrywide alliance of seed banks and other organisations delivering collaborative seed collecting, banking, research and knowledge sharing.

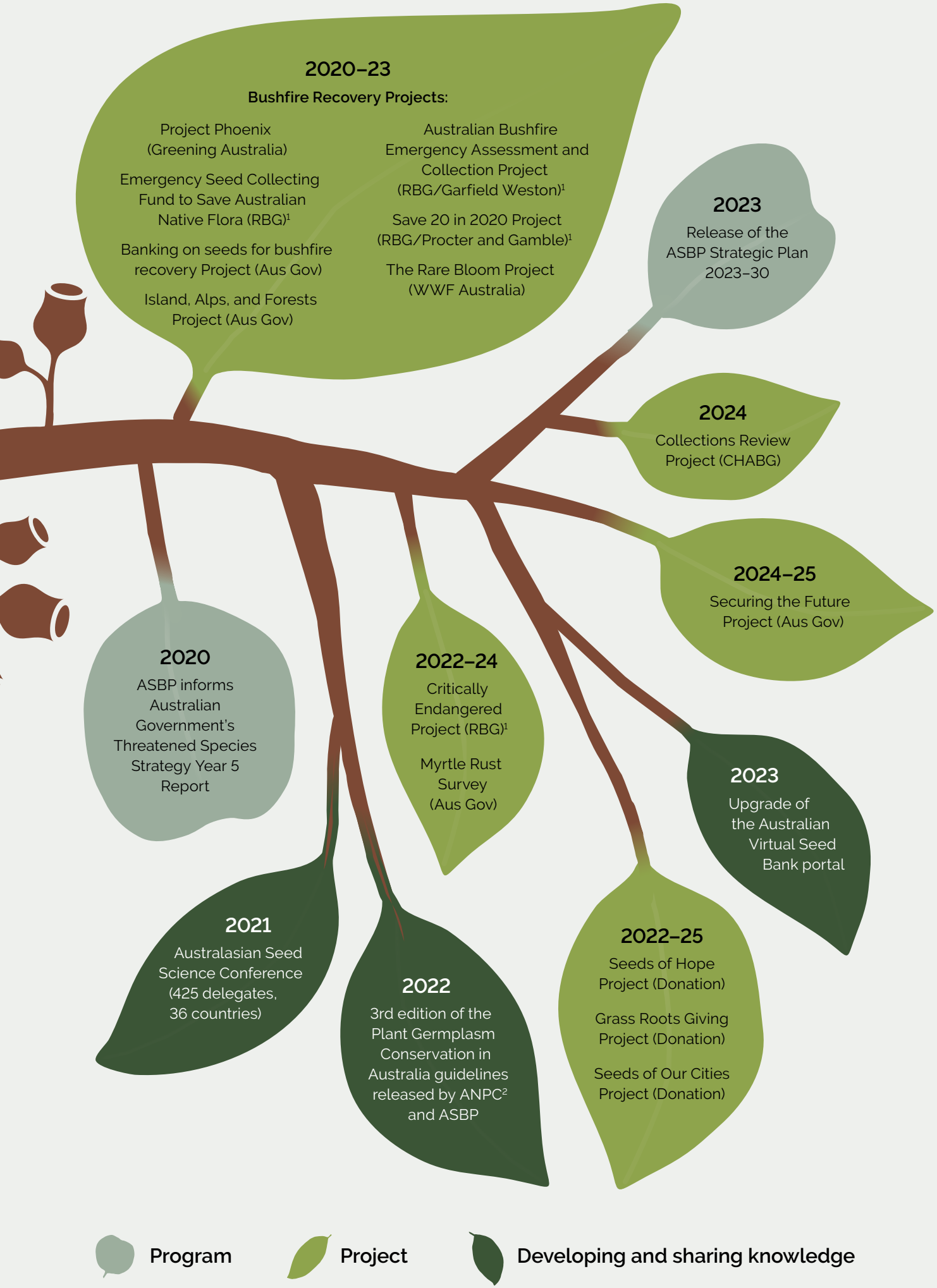
In our first decade, the Partnership embarked on the '1,000 Species Project', which aimed to secure previously unbanked Australian flora through funded initiatives for threatened species, priority tree and grass species, plants impacted by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, and crop wild relatives. These combined efforts enabled the Partnership to secure over 1,400 species, contributing to the second decade of targets of the GSPC.

Since the 2019–20 summer bushfires, the Partnership has worked tirelessly to deliver emergency post-bushfire seed collecting and research projects. In recent years our focused has been to secure plants requiring urgent management intervention; regional priority plants; Myrtle Rust–impacted species; culturally significant flora; and Threatened species listed under national, state and territory environmental legislation.

The following graphic illustrates our achievements since the year 2000. We welcome you to join us as together we write the next chapter in Australian seed banking.



1 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
2 Australian Network for Plant Conservation
3 The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens


2020–23
Bushfire Recovery Projects:
Project Phoenix (Greening Australia)
Emergency Seed Collecting Fund to Save Australian Native Flora (RBG)[1]
Banking on seeds for bushfire recovery Project (Aus Gov)
Island, Alps, and Forests Project (Aus Gov)
Australian Bushfire Emergency Assessment and Collection Project (RBG/Garfield Weston)[1]
Save 20 in 2020 Project (RBG/Procter and Gamble)[1]
The Rare Bloom Project (WWF Australia)
2023
Release of the ASBP Strategic Plan 2023–30
2024
Collections Review Project (CHABG)
2024–25
Securing the Future Project (Aus Gov)
2020
ASBP informs Australian Government's Threatened Species Strategy Year 5 Report
2022–24
Critically Endangered Project (RBG)[1]
Myrtle Rust Survey (Aus Gov)
2023
Upgrade of the Australian Virtual Seed Bank portal
2021
Australasian Seed Science Conference (425 delegates, 36 countries)
2022
3rd edition of the Plant Germplasm Conservation in Australia guidelines released by ANPC[2] and ASBP
2022–25
Seeds of Hope Project (Donation)
Grass Roots Giving Project (Donation)
Seeds of Our Cities Project (Donation)
Program
Project
Developing and sharing knowledge

Our governance

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated (CHABG) draws on the expertise of senior executives from Australia's capital city botanic gardens, who guide the strategic direction of the Partnership's work, ensuring we address national plant conservation priorities and contribute to international conservation targets.

Members of the CHABG Management Committee at 30 June 2025

Mr Michael Harvey – Director, Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, South Australia (Chair)

Mr Yann Gagnon – Director, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (CHABG Secretary)

Ms Sue McDougall – Director of the Western Australian Botanic Garden (Treasurer)

Mr Simon Duffy – Chief Executive, Botanic Gardens of Sydney

Mr Bryan Harty – Director, George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

Ms Prue McGruther – A/g Curator, Brisbane Botanic Gardens (Proxy)

Dr Rebecca Pirzl – Branch Head, Science and Australian National Botanic Gardens Branch (Proxy)

Mr Chris Russell – Director and Chief Executive, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Mr Michael Harvey

Mr Yann Gagnon

Ms Sue McDougall

Mr Simon Duffy

Mr Bryan Harty

Ms Prue McGruther

Dr Rebecca Pirzl

Mr Chris Russell

Other position holders

Dr Judy West – CHABG Public Officer

Dr Judy West

Australian Seed Bank Partnership Secretariat

The role of the coordinators is to provide strategic leadership and program management to oversee the implementation of the Partnership's strategic plan, projects and operations. They support national *ex situ* seed conservation programs, capacity building and research collaborations. Working with the members of the Partnership, they secure the necessary funds for operations and programs that will realise the outcome areas for the Partnership. These positions are generously supported by funding provided by the Director of National Parks, and are hosted at the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra.

Dr Kathy Eyles – National Coordinator, Australian Seed Bank Partnership

Mr Bradley Desmond – Coordinator, Australian Seed Bank Partnership

Dr Kathy Eyles

Mr Bradley Desmond

National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee brings together a team of leading experts from across the Partnership, who help guide the delivery of the Partnership's Strategic Plan and practical plant germplasm conservation programs and projects. These experts range from seed scientists, botanists, taxonomists and ecologists to horticulturalists and plant conservation ambassadors. At June 2025 the committee members were:

Australian Seed Bank Partnership	Dr Kathy Eyles, National Coordinator Mr Bradley Desmond, Coordinator
Millennium Seed Bank Partnership Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK	Ms Jennifer Peach, Conservation Partnership Coordinator (Europe and Oceania)
National Seed Bank Australian National Botanic Gardens, Parks Australia	Dr Thomas North, Curator Dr Gemma Hoyle, Seed Scientist
The Western Australian Seed Centre, Kings Park Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority	Dr David Merritt, Principal Research Scientist (**Committee Chair**) Ms Sue McDougall, Director of the WA Botanic Garden
South Australian Seed Conservation Centre Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, South Australia	Mr Jerry Smith, Senior Scientific Officer
The Western Australian Seed Centre, Kensington Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions	Dr Andrew Crawford, Seed Bank Manager
The Australian PlantBank The Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan, Botanic Gardens of Sydney	Dr Nathan Emery, Manager of Seedbank and Conservation Collections
The Victorian Conservation Seedbank Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria	Dr Rebecca Miller, Research Scientist—Seed Science Dr Alastair Robinson, Manager Biodiversity Services
Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens	Mr James Wood, Seed Bank Manager

Annual financial report

Financial Report Review

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Contents

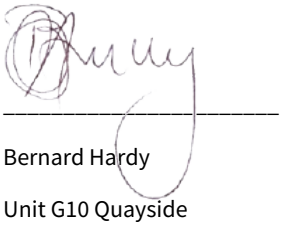
Reviewer's Independence Declaration

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2025, there have been:

1. no contraventions of the independence requirements as set out in *Associations Incorporation Act (ACT) 1991;* and

2. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.



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Bernard Hardy

Unit G10 Quayside
50 Eastlake Parade
Kingston ACT 2604

Dated: 21 October 2025

Committee's Report

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Committee's Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Committee Member	Date Started	Position
Dale Arvidsson	18/03/2015	Ordinary Member
Alan Barrett	18/10/2018	Ordinary Member
Yann Gagnon	24/11/2022	Secretary
Brett Summerell	09/09/2013	Treasurer to 24 October 2024
Michael Harvey	05/07/2021	Chairperson
Rebecca Pirzl	30/10/2023	Proxy Member (15/02/25 - 30/06/25)
Peter Byron	19/03/2024	Ordinary Member
Chris Russell	20/06/2024	Ordinary Member
Simon Duffy	03/06/2024	Ordinary Member
Bryan Harty	01/07/2013	Ordinary Member
Sue McDougall	25/10/2024	Treasurer from 25 October 2024
Prue McGruther	04/04/2025	Proxy Member (04/04/25 - 30/06/25)

Meetings of Committee Members

During the financial year, a number of committee meetings were held. Attendances by each of committee member during the year were as follows:

Committee Members Name	Number Eligible to Attend	Number Attended
Dale Arvidsson	4	3
Yann Gagnon	5	5
Brett Summerell	3	3
Michael Harvey	5	5
Rebecca Pirzl	2	1
Peter Byron	3	3
Chris Russell	5	5
Simon Duffy	5	4
Bryan Harty	4	2
Sue McDougall	4	4
Prue McGruther	1	1

Principal Activities

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated is a not-for-profit Association established for the purpose of supporting:

- the protection, conservation and enhancement of Australian plants and their ecosystems.
- the provision of information and education.

- undertaking research about plants and plant communities.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit after providing for income tax for the financial year amounted to $16,474.30.

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:

Michael Harvey (Chairperson)

Dated: 3/11/2025

Sue McDougall (Treasurer)

Dated: 3/11/2025

Income and Expenditure Statement

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Income		
Contributions	26,000	26,000
Donations	154,568	4,624
Grants Received	387,500	391,091
Total Income	**568,068**	**421,715**
Gross Surplus	**568,068**	**421,715**
Other Income		
Interest Income	2,077	1,039
Total Other Income	**2,077**	**1,039**
Expenditure		
Accounting Fees	3,651	6,558
Bank Fees	564	-
General expenses	4,362	10,253
Grant Payments	387,480	386,050
Insurance	559	2,934
Interest Paid	-	438
Project Payments	154,568	9,045
Website Costs	2,487	-
Total Expenditure	**553,671**	**415,278**
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Income Tax Adjustments	**16,474**	**7,476**
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Tax	**16,474**	**7,476**
Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax	**16,474**	**7,476**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Assets and Liabilities Statement

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
As at 30 June 2025

	NOTES	30 JUNE 2025	30 JUNE 2024
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	518,156	313,563
Trade and Other Receivables		-	2,200
GST Receivable		-	18,301
Total Current Assets		**518,156**	**334,064**
Non-Current Assets			
Term Deposits		100,000	100,000
Total Non-Current Assets		**100,000**	**100,000**
Total Assets		**618,156**	**434,064**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
GST Payable		1,851	-
Total Current Liabilities		**1,851**	**-**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Other Non-Current Liabilities			
Projects		366,642	365,203
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities		**366,642**	**365,203**
Total Non-Current Liabilities		**366,642**	**365,203**
Total Liabilities		**368,494**	**365,203**
Net Assets		**249,662**	**68,861**
Member's Funds			
Retained Earnings		85,335	68,861
Reserves		164,327	-
Total Member's Funds		**249,662**	**68,861**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the ACT Associations Incorporation Act 1991. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

Financial Assets

Investments in financial assets are initially recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value, which is equivalent to their market bid price at the end of the reporting period. Movements in fair value are recognised through an equity reserve.

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

	2025
2. Cash on Hand	
Westpac 224159 Project Management	273,884
Westpac 224167 Administration	82,604
Westpac 642852 Public Fund	161,668
Total Cash on Hand	**518,156**

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

True and Fair Position

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

We, Michael Harvey, and Sue McDougall, being members of the committee of The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated, certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2025.

Michael Harvey (Chairperson)

Dated: 3/11/2025

Sue McDougall (Treasurer)

Dated: 3/11/2025

Review Report

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Report on the Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2025, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control that the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2415 *Review of a Financial Report*: *Company Limited by Guarantee or an Entity Reporting under the ACNC Act or Other Applicable Legislation or Regulation*, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the ACNC Act including: giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian* Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC Regulation). ASRE 2415 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Conclusion

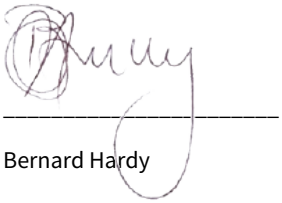
Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report of The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* including:

(a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and

(b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



Bernard Hardy

Unit G10 Quayside
50 Eastlake Parade
Kingston ACT 2604

Dated: 21 October 2025

Certificate By Members of the Committee

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2025

I, Michael Harvey, c/o Australian National Botanic Gardens, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON ACT 2601 certify that:

1. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 3 November 2025.
2. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Michael Harvey (Chairperson)

Dated: 3/11/2025

Acknowledgements

The Australian Seed Bank Partnership would like to thank all of our supporters.

The financial support we receive through grants, philanthropy and public donations makes a significant contribution to conserving Australia's native plant diversity. A special thank you to all the organisations and individuals who provided funding and donated to the Partnership this year.

Our Partner and Associate organisations also provide crucial in-kind contributions that make what we do possible. The time, effort and expertise that is provided by Partner organisations for the love of native plants makes a tangible difference in what we can achieve.

Our work benefits greatly from the invaluable dedication and skills of volunteers who join us in the field and in seed banks to secure and process the seeds we collect. Their generous contributions ensure our native plants are provided with the best chance to survive in an uncertain future, and allow our seed scientists to focus their time on solving complex challenges with seed dormancy and germination.

Anyone in Australia or around the world can help us in our mission to conserve Australia's native plant diversity. Please contact us if you have an interest in supporting our work into the future.

Organisation/individual	Support provided
Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Funding for the **Securing the Future** and **Myrtle Mayday Projects** through the Australian Government's Saving Native Species Program.
Wild Country Environmental Fund	Co-funding to support the **Lofty Legacies** and **Grass Roots Giving Projects**
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	Provision of funding for the **Critically Endangered Project**
Northern and Yorke Landscape Board	Funding for the **Roots of Resilience Project**
National Parks Conservation Trust	Funding for the **Climate and Germination Research Scholarship**
Director of National Parks	Hosting the Partnership Secretariat
Hogan Lovells	Pro bono legal services
Shiree DeSilva	Valued volunteer with the Partnership Secretariat

Get involved

Check out our website to learn more about our initiatives

Partner with us to conserve Australian native plants

Donate to support our efforts

Connect with us on social media to follow our journey

Australian PlantBank staff preparing seed collections and voucher specimens under the shade of remnant Quinine Trees (*Alstonia constricta*) (Image: Nathan Emery).

Your donations will make a difference

People like you enable the Partnership to secure plant species for generations to come. With your help we can find and collect our native flora, and invest in world-leading science to unlock their germination secrets. Our nationwide network of seed banks can then safely store these precious genetic parcels of hope until they are needed for the restoration of Australia's landscapes.

Your donation will support the work of the Partnership. Our governing body (the Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens) and our National Steering Committee oversee the management of donations, so you can rest assured that your gift will go directly to the conservation of Australia's native flora.

Donating to the Partnership is simple when using the secure PayPal portal on our website. We welcome contributions of any size and can work with you to design a package that suits the parts of our work that you would like to support.

The Council of Heads of Australian Botanic Gardens Inc (trading as the Australian Seed Bank Partnership) is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ABN: 58153442365). We are an environmental organisation with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status, and all donations over $2 are tax deductible.

Contact us

Australian Seed Bank Partnership
c/o Australian National Botanic Gardens
GPO Box 1777
Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

coordinator@seedpartnership.org.au
+61 (0)2 6250 9473
seedpartnership.org.au

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@AustralianSeedBankPartnership
@SeedPartnership

Collections of *Darwinia squarrosa* were made in Stirling Range National Park for our Myrtle Mayday Project (Image: Andrew Crawford).