PhD placement/PIPS: Climate resilience in Horticulture

Placement supervisor:
Kevin Martin, k.martin@kew.org

Placement department:
Head of Tree Collections

Placement overview and objectives:
Assisting the Head of Tree Collections and Head of Plant Records to collect important data on the living collections. This will combine with the work of the tree volunteers who also help with this data collection. Finally, to assist with the collection of plant material for research in screening future tree species for 2050.

This research will allow us to understand climate/drought resilient trees and shrubs which can help us to adapt the landscape going forwards.

Tasks to be undertaken/possible projects:
- Working with volunteers to assist with the mapping of the living collection with GIS software.
- This will include the mapping of the collection using GIS system, taking height and diameter at breast height (DBH) measurements to monitor the health and the growth of the tree collection.

Required skills and experience:
- Basic GIS knowledge
- Experience working with databases

Skills and areas of knowledge that can be developed:
- Managing volunteers
- Field data collection
- Curation of living collections
- Collecting material for research

Location of work:
Kew, Richmond in the arboretum

Length of placement:
3 months

Provisional start date:
Spring/summer work