



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

IX Meeting of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves





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1

The MAB Programme and the World
Network of Biosphere Reserves

2

Marine, Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

3

World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

4

Highlights of MAB activities

SUMMARY



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The MAB Programme

Our Vision

A world where people are conscious of their common future and their interactions with the planet, and act collectively and responsibly to build thriving societies in harmony within the biosphere.

Our Mission

- **Develop and strengthen models of sustainable development through the World Network of Biosphere Reserves**
- **Communicate experiences and lessons learned, and facilitate the global diffusion and application of these models**



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The MAB Programme

Biosphere Reserves: learning places for sustainable development

Sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems, including conflict prevention and management of biodiversity.

Biosphere reserves are places that provide local solutions to global challenges.





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The MAB Programme

The 3 Functions of Biosphere Reserves are pursued through their 3 zones



**Conservation of biodiversity
and cultural diversity**



**Economic development in a
socio-culturally and
environmentally sustainable**



**“Logistic” support,
underpinning development
through research and training**



HUMAN SETTLEMENT



RESEARCH



EDUCATION & TRAINING



TOURISM & LEISURE



Core area

Conservation and monitoring



Buffer zones

Activities with sound ecological practices



Transition areas

Stakeholders work to sustainably manage resources



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The World Network of Biosphere Reserves

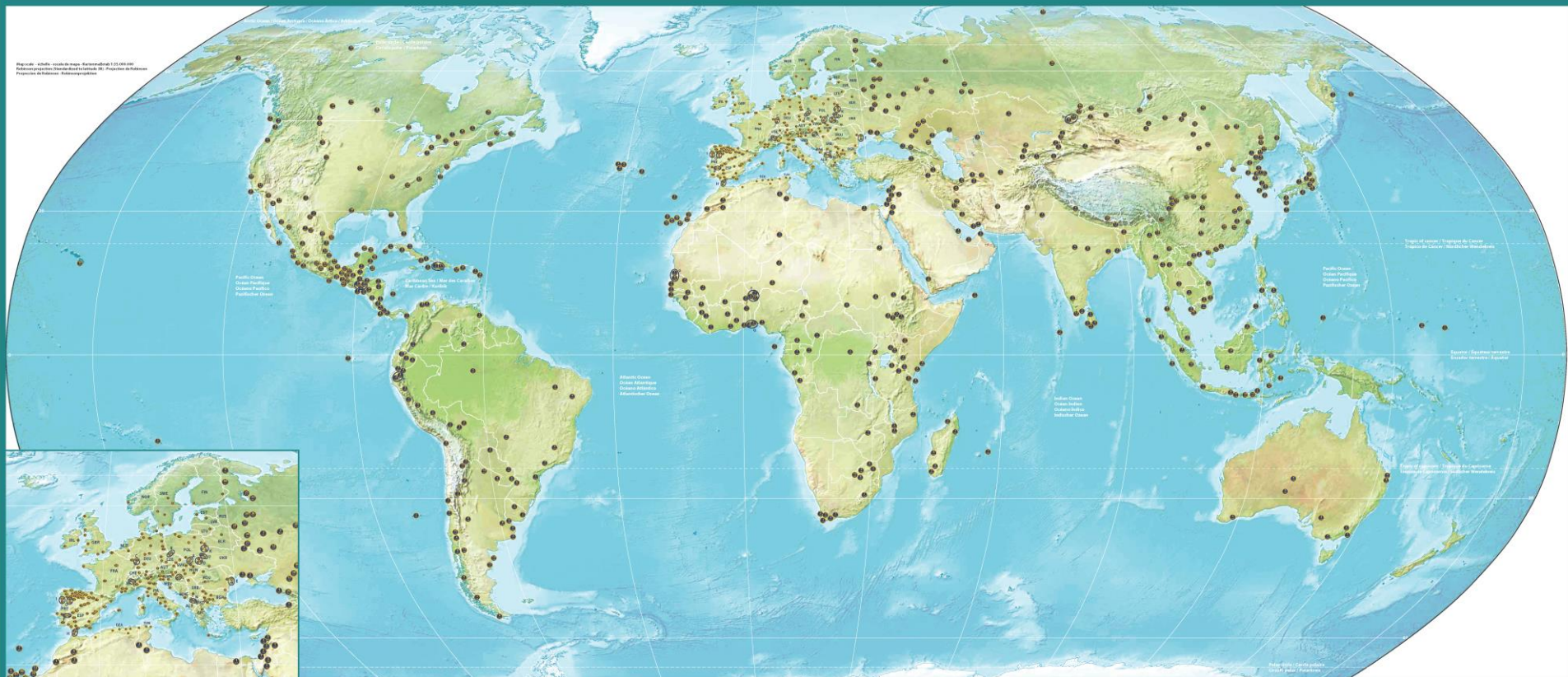
WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES
RÉSEAU MONDIAL DES RÉSERVES DE BIOSPHERE
RED MUNDIAL DE RESERVAS DE BIOSFERA
WELTNETZ DER BIOSPHÄRENRESERVATE
2019-2020



National Commissions for UNESCO
of Germany, Austria,
Switzerland and Luxembourg

701 Biosphere Reserves
Réserves de biosphère
Reservas de Biosfera
Biosphärenreservate

124 countries
pays
países
Staaten



World Network of Biosphere Reserves



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The World Network of Biosphere Reserves

Facts & Figures

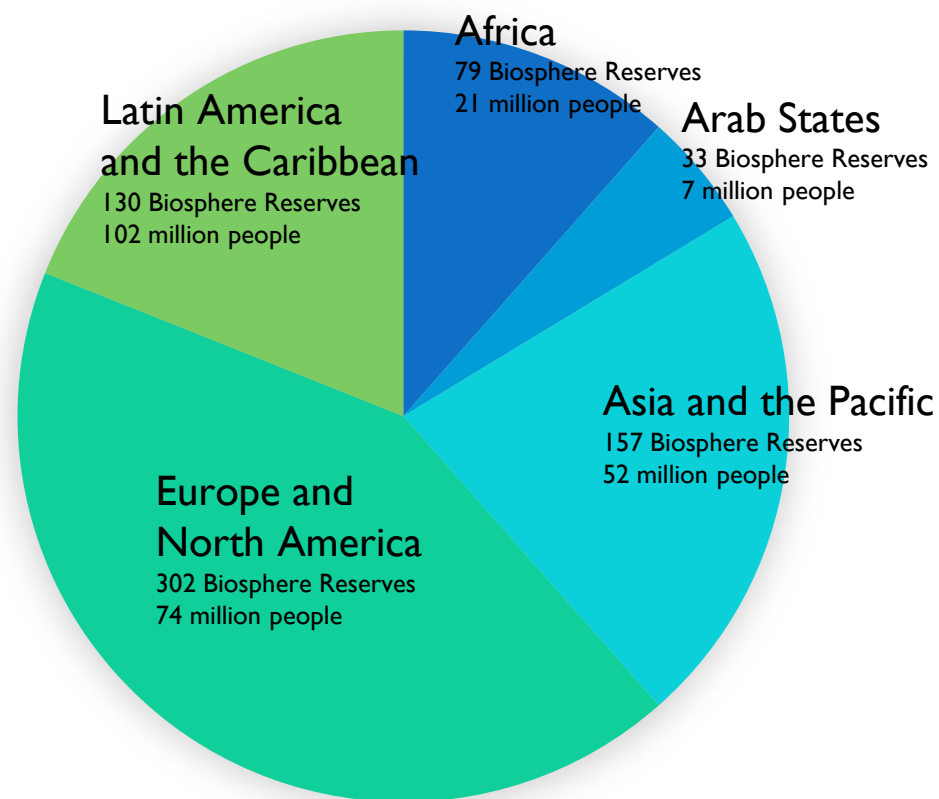
701 Biosphere Reserves

124 countries

21 Transboundary Biosphere Reserves

2 Transcontinental Biosphere Reserves

Home to over 250 million people





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Marine, Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Shared characteristics and common challenges

Sensitive sites due to:

- high level of biodiversity
- great amount of endemism
- rare ecosystems

Poverty, natural disasters,
depopulation, loss of traditional
culture and invasive species upset
the balance of ecosystems.





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Marine, Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Facts & Figures

Biosphere Reserves with Marine,
Island and Coastal Areas

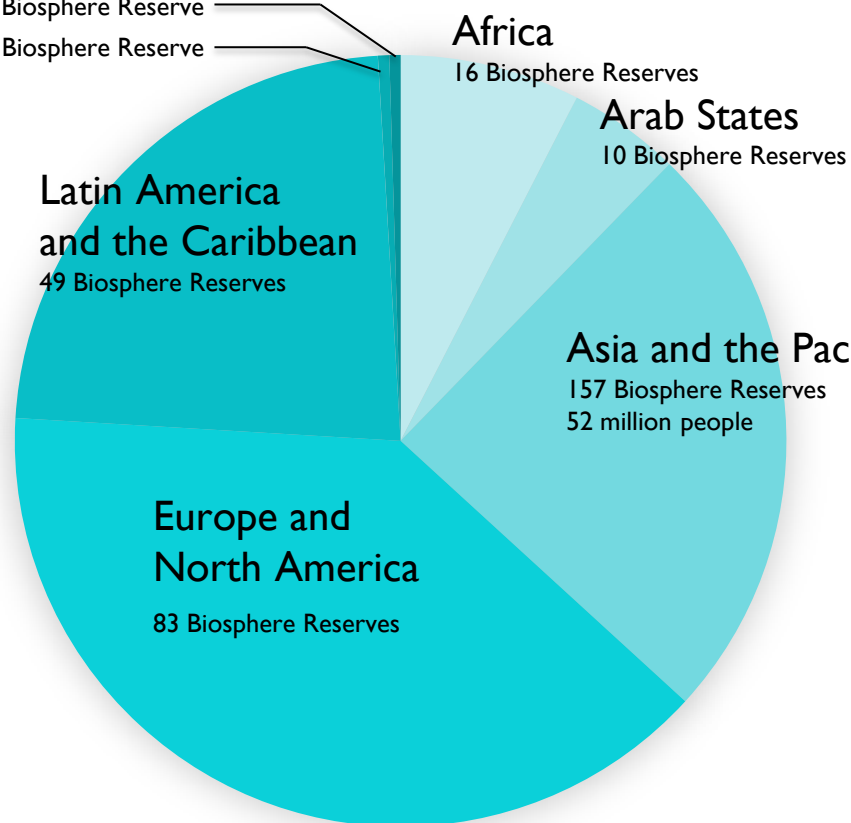
212 Biosphere Reserves

74 countries

Mexico has most of them (19)

Europe and Arab States - 1 Biosphere Reserve

Africa and Arab States - 1 Biosphere Reserve





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World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Facts & Figures



92 member Biosphere Reserves across the world



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World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Facts & Figures



Two technical secretariats working together in
Jeju (Republic of Korea) and Menorca (Spain)

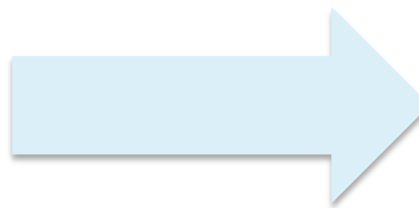


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World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Goal & Vision

The network was launched in 2009 to foster sustainable development in island and coastal areas and to promote adaptation and mitigation strategies on Climate Change



To make the most of this potential, the Network emerges as a forum for cooperation and knowledge transfer between distant territories facing common challenges.





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World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Research Project of Climate Change in ICBRs

1st Stage

(2014-2015)

"The Impacts of Climate Change on Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves"

2nd Stage

(2015-2017)

Establishment of Strategies Responding to Climate Change on ICBR

3rd Stage

(2018-2020)

"The Value of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves as a Source of Carbon Sink"

Research sites

Jeju Island Biosphere Reserve (South China Sea)
Macchabee-Bel Ombre Biosphere Reserve (Indian Ocean)
Menorca Biosphere Reserve (Mediterranean Sea)
Principe Island Biosphere Reserve (Gulf of Guinea)
St. Mary's Biosphere Reserve (Caribbean Sea)



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World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

6th UNESCO Training Course for Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserve Managers

 **Jeju Island Biosphere Reserve, the Republic of Korea**

 **October 1st to 3rd, 2018**

 **Participants from:**

- Peninsula de Guanahacabibes (Cuba)
- Wakatobi (Indonesia)
- Quirimbas (Mozambique)
- St. Mary's (St. Kitts and Nevis)
- Nanji Islands (China)
- Sahamalaza-Iles Radama (Madagascar)
- Commander Islands (Russia)
- Socotra Island (Yemen)
- Cape West Coast (South Africa)
- Nam Ha NBCA (Laos)
- Palawan (Philippines)





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Highlights of MAB Activities

Biosphere Reserves as a Tool for Coastal and Island Management in the South-East Pacific Region (BRESEP)



Pacific coast of Latin America



Between 2014 and 2018



- Goals:**
- Create and strengthen existing biosphere reserves in coastal zones and islands in the South-East Pacific in Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru
 - Promote biosphere reserves as a tool of sound innovative practices that bring added value to local socioeconomic activities and
 - Improve the livelihoods of the region's populations.





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Highlights of MAB Activities

Biosphere Reserves as a Tool for Coastal and Island Management in the South-East Pacific Region (BRESEP)



Results:

- First transboundary biosphere reserve in South America. Bosques de Paz (Ecuador-Peru)
- Extension of four biosphere reserves to include coastal or marine area
- Six BR improved their governance by creating a management committee/plan
- Over 15 training courses and meetings
- First forest fire workshop for BR
- First IberoMAB Youth Forum
- Joint work with IOC to improve marine social planning





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Highlights of MAB Activities

Restoration of ecosystems in Haiti



La Selle Biosphere Reserve, Haiti



Since 2018



Goals:

- contribute to sustainable human and economic development
- recovery of forest resources
- rehabilitation of ecosystem services
- promotion of actions that imply a socioeconomic benefit



Results:

- Creation of plant nurseries in three locations in the Biosphere Reserve
- Distribution of agroforestry seedlings, such as coffee, papaya and fruits
- The children of people engaged in the reforestation receive free education with focus on sustainability





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Highlights of MAB Activities

Exhibition “Our Biosphere, Our Future: Local Actions for the Sustainable Development Goals”



UNESCO Headquarters – Paris, France



June 17th – 21st 2019 (during the 31st MAB ICC)



Goals: • Raise awareness about projects in Biosphere Reserves that address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





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Upcoming Events

2019

- **2nd MAB Youth Forum** | September – Chiangbaishan, China
- **UNESCO General Conference** | November – Paris, France
- **UNFCCC COP 25** | December – Santiago, Chile

2020

- **IUCN Congress** | June 2020 – Marseille, France
- **COP 15** | October – China





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Stay up to date of all our activities

<http://www.unesco.org/mab/>



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Thank You!

Merci!

Dr. Miguel Clüsener-Godt

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Secretary, Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme