

First Announcement

4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves: A New Vision for the Decade 2016-2025

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves for Sustainable Development

14-17 March 2016, Lima, Peru

Introduction

The 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves will take place in the city of Lima, Peru, on 14-17 March 2016.

This meeting will involve all National Committees of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme and experts directly involved in the practical implementation of biosphere reserves, including: representatives of governments, biosphere reserves, local communities, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions, and organizations and institutions from all over the world working with the MAB Programme.

The Congress will address issues related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, such as education for sustainable development, the economic viability of nature conservation systems, biodiversity, and the protection and sustainable use of natural resources, among others.

During the Congress, experts will discuss progress and obstacles related to biosphere reserve issues and work to develop a new vision for the future.

Objectives of the Congress

The 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves has three main objectives:

- Review of the implementation of the Madrid Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves 2008-2013, the Seville Strategy and the Statutory Framework of 1995.
- Assess the lessons learned and the new challenges to be faced by the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
- Develop and launch an Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves for 2016-2025.

Expected results

As a result of the papers presented at the Congress and the contributions of participants the following outcomes are expected on the last day of the Congress:

- The Lima Declaration
- The Lima Action Plan of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves for 2016-2025.

Organizers

- Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM) and the National Service of Natural Areas Protected by the State (SERNANP)
- Secretariat of the Man and Biosphere Programme at the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO
- MAB National Committee of Peru

Registrations

Entry to the 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves is free. Registration will commence from June 2015 upon invitation.

The detailed Programme will be available in June 2015.