

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
Twenty-seventh session

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room XII (Fontenoy Building)
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**Item 14 of the provisional agenda: INTERSECTORAL/INTERPROGRAMME PANEL
“EXPLORING JOINT ACTIONS/PROJECTS WITHIN POST 2015 AGENDA”**

1. Under this item, a panel is convened to strengthen collaboration of MAB programme with other UNESCO's Intergovernmental Scientific Programmes (ISP's) and Programmes within the contribution of UNESCO towards implementation of Post 2015 Development Agenda.
2. UNESCO is proactively engaged in the preparation of the post 2015 Development Agenda. In this changing world where societies across the world face new challenges and rising pressure, UNESCO will mobilize all its programmes and will foster cooperation in education, the sciences, culture, communication and information to contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's). The MAB strategy (2015-2025) is expected to be an important piece to their implementation and achievement.
3. In response to the emerging global sustainability challenges, UNESCO is putting in practice integrated science for sustainable development or sustainability science. In line with the interdisciplinary guiding principle for the activities defined throughout UNESCO Medium-term strategy (2014-2025), sustainability science promotes problem driven cross-disciplinary approaches where the field is defined by the problems it addresses rather than the disciplines it employs. UNESCO's networks are important to deliver sustainability science.
4. International cooperation, dialogue and multidisciplinary are at the heart of the MAB program and essential to strengthen the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. The report of the Evaluation of the Madrid Action Plan (MAP) by UNESCO Internal Oversight Service (IOS) (Document IOS/EVS/PI/139 REV., Paragraph 2.2.2, pp. 17-20) underlined the limited cooperation between BRs (8%) and MAB national committees (34%) with ISPs (8%) (E.g. IHP, IOC, IGCP, MOST, IBSP). This limited collaboration with other UNESCO Programmes has also been raised as a challenge by several delegations during the 10th International Support Group (ISG) meeting.
5. The objective of the panel is to provide a platform for MAB ICC Members and observers and representatives of UNESCO Education, especially ESD, Science, Culture and Communication and Information programmes relevant to MAB to share information, insights and perspectives of their work with a view taking stock of experiences and practices. The panel aims to discuss the improvement of the collaboration between MAB and other UNESCO relevant programmes and to identify possible joint projects/programmes to be implemented within Post 2015 Development Agenda and in the framework of the MAB strategy (2015-2025) and the forthcoming MAB Action Plan (2016-2025).
6. The Secretariat will communicate the name of the panelists and the detail of the sessions in a separate information document.

7. The Council is invited to provide guidance on improvement of collaboration between MAB and other UNESCO relevant programmes and to outline possible joint actions/projects in the Organization pertaining to the MAB programme within Post 2015 Development Agenda, the MAB strategy (2015-2025) and the forthcoming MAB Action Plan (2016-2025).