



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

RESULTS OF THE MEETING

Date: 10–12 December 2014

Venue: Castro, Chiloe Island, Los Lagos Region, Chile

Organized by: UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) and the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF)

Participants from five countries:

Chile: MAB Focal Point, Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director of the Region of Los Lagos, the Provincial Governor, the Regional Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Mayor of the city of Castro, the Manager of Protected Areas, Regional Directors of the Los Lagos, Valparaiso and Coquimbo regions, representatives of the Regional Directors of the Magallanes and Aysen regions, Regional Coordinators of the Fray Jorge, Juan Fernández Archipelago, Laguna San Rafael and Cape Horn Biosphere Reserves, Representative of the Wildlife Heritage of the Los Lagos Region.

Representative of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia

Representative of the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador

Representative of the National Environmental Authority of Panama

Representative of the National Service of Protected Natural Areas (SERNANP) of Peru

UNESCO: Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

As a result of the Kick-off meeting for the BRESEP project the following agreements were reached:

1. Update biosphere reserves that do not meet the post-Seville criteria.
2. Follow-up on recommendations regarding the periodic review, to fulfil the criteria of the Statutory Framework.
3. Establish a Management Committee in biosphere reserves that do not as yet have one.
4. Develop/update management plans for each of the biosphere reserves.
5. Implement management plans in biosphere reserves where these are already approved.
6. Evaluate the possibility of creating biosphere reserves in potential marine coastal and island areas: Chiloé (Chile), Subregion Sanquianga-Gorgona (Colombia), Coiba. (Panama).

7. Define participation and communication strategies and activities for biosphere reserves.
8. Define educational and cultural activities to involve the local population of the biosphere reserves.
9. Define the strategy and protocols for products and/or services that could merit the 'Biosphere Reserve' brand.
10. Promote international cooperation among the five countries participating in the BRESEP and SPINCAM project.
11. Promote the exchange of experiences and best practices among biosphere reserves.
12. Promote the development of applied research and training programmes in biosphere reserves.
13. Disseminate activities carried out on the different biosphere reserves.
14. Promote the creation of a legal framework for biosphere reserves in countries where this does not exist, so as to facilitate its proper organization and functioning. This will allow these territories to make a better contribution to the sustainable development of each country.
15. Define needs and potential projects in biosphere reserves for possible funding by UNESCO and other potential sources.
16. The BRESEP project will continue its activities over the next three years in the participating countries.

Castro, 12 December 2014