



news from the  
**Biosphere World Network**



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

**Version française**

Welcome to the electronic newsletter of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves!

Biosphere reserves are sites which seek to reconcile socioeconomic development, and conservation of biodiversity based on local community efforts and sound science. They constitute ideal places to test and demonstrate new approaches to sustainable development at a regional scale providing lessons which can be applied elsewhere.

This newsletter provides a regular overview of new initiatives, events and publications related to the biosphere reserve activities and scientific achievements of the MAB Programme.

### In this issue

- [2010 International Year of Biodiversity](#)
- [Economic Value of Ecosystem Services in the Maya Biosphere Reserve](#)
- [Advanced Afforestation in the Kien Giang Biosphere Reserve](#)
- [Gastronomy in the Focus of Biosphere Reserves Partnership](#)
- [Australia and Cambodia Share Biosphere Reserves' Tourism Experiences](#)
- [Success of the Feynan Eco Lodge in the Dana Biosphere Reserve](#)
- [Photo Exhibition of Biological Diversity of the El Cielo Biosphere Reserve](#)
- [Braunton Burrows-North Devon Biosphere Reserves host Marine and Coastal Conference for Teachers](#)
- [Marine and Coastal Management in Biosphere Reserves](#)
- [2009 Gold SEED Award for a Grassroots Initiative in K2C Biosphere](#)
- [Biosphere: Tomorrow is Now](#)
- [MAB Training Seminar in Latin America](#)
- [Madrid Action Plan in Pacific Biosphere Reserves](#)
- [New Publications](#)

### News

#### 2010 International Year of Biodiversity

The United Nations declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). UNESCO and its MAB Programme join the Convention on Biological Diversity, the lead UN body and other partners to make the IYB an effective instrument to advance the cause of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and management. UNESCO will lead several activities which aim to fill the gaps in our knowledge of biodiversity; catalyze further international action for its sustainable use; and educate and raise awareness on the importance of biodiversity for human well-being. [More](#)

Contact: [s.arico@unesco.org](mailto:s.arico@unesco.org)

#### Economic Value of Ecosystem Services in the Maya Biosphere Reserve

According to the latest report released by the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) initiative, in Guatemala, investment in the protection of the Maya Biosphere Reserve is generating an annual of income of some US\$50 million a year. It has generated 7,000 jobs and boosted local family incomes. [More](#)

Contact: [www.teebweb.org/](http://www.teebweb.org/)

#### Advanced Afforestation in the Kien Giang Biosphere Reserve

For the first time in Viet Nam, advanced afforestation techniques have been used to buffer coastal areas from

the sea in the Kien Giang Biosphere Reserve. [More](#)

Contact: [CERE@hn.vnn.vn](mailto:CERE@hn.vnn.vn)

#### **Gastronomy in the Focus of Biosphere Reserves Partnership**

In the framework of the partnership between the Rhön Biosphere Reserve in Germany and the Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Region (K2C) in South Africa, a cook from K2C did a training and study visit to the German site. In various Rhön restaurants, the cook learned 'hands-on' about the tasks and goals of a biosphere reserve and what it means for gastronomy. [More](#)

Contact: [doris.pokorny@brrhoenbayern.de](mailto:doris.pokorny@brrhoenbayern.de)

#### **Australia and Cambodia Share Tourism Experiences in Biosphere Reserves**

Recently, Cambodia's tourism minister Dr Thong Khon travelled to Noosa Biosphere Reserve in Australia to learn about how the site is managed. In particular, the visit focused on sharing experiences on tourism management in biosphere reserves and development of sustainable tourism that is mindful of the environment and of preserving both countries' biosphere reserves. [More](#)

Contact : [www.noosabiosphere.org.au](http://www.noosabiosphere.org.au)

#### **Success of the Feynan Eco Lodge in the Dana Biosphere Reserve**

Feynan Eco Lodge, situated within the Dana Biosphere Reserve in Jordan, has been rated by National Geographic as one of the top 50 eco lodges in the world and one of the top 10 eco lodges located in deserts, jungles, mountains, and savannas. While the eco lodge helps to raise funds for the biodiversity conservation, it also provides employment opportunities for local Bedouins. [More](#)

Contact: [dhana@rscn.jo](mailto:dhana@rscn.jo)

**More news on the [MABNet](#)**

---

### **Events**

#### **Photo Exhibition on Biodiversity of the El Cielo Biosphere Reserve**

Due to the abundant biodiversity that it preserves and because it is one of the main ecotouristic destinations in Tamaulipas, the El Cielo Biosphere Reserve was the subject of a photographic exhibition set up by the School of Communication Sciences. [More](#)

Contact: [vidasilvestre@hotmail.com](mailto:vidasilvestre@hotmail.com)

#### **Braunton Burrows-North Devon BR Hosts Marine and Coastal Conference for Teachers**

For the first time in this biosphere reserve situated in the United Kingdom, a Marine and Coastal Conference for teachers and educators focused on learning opportunities about North Devon's world-class marine and coastal landscapes. The key aim of the conference was to bring together a diverse group of educators from a variety of organisations which will share their expertise and educational resources. [More](#)

Contact: [fionafs@ndbf.org.uk](mailto:fionafs@ndbf.org.uk)

#### **Marine and Coastal Management in Biosphere Reserves**

The first Iberoamerican seminar on Marine and Coastal Conservation in Biosphere Reserves was held within the framework of the National Meeting of Coastal Management of Brazil in November 2009. The declaration of the participants of the seminar has recently been published. [More](#)

Contact: [m.clusener-godt@unesco.org](mailto:m.clusener-godt@unesco.org)

#### **2009 Gold SEED Award for a Grassroots Initiative in K2C Biosphere**

Development of biocultural community protocols in Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Reserve in South Africa has been recognized as an outstanding social and environmental project, thus awarded the prestigious 2009 Gold SEED Award. The SEED initiative was founded in 2002 by UNEP, UNDP and IUCN to contribute towards the Millennium Development Goals and the commitments made at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. [More](#)

Contact: [www.seedinit.org/](http://www.seedinit.org/)

#### **Biosphere: Tomorrow is Now**

"BIOSPHERE Tomorrow is Now" is the most comprehensive documentary of the history of Quebec television created with the support and cooperation of UNESCO-MAB. It presents concrete testimonies, clear actions and practices in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. [More](#)

Contact: [m.bouamrane@unesco.org](mailto:m.bouamrane@unesco.org)

### **MAB Training Seminar in Latin America**

The MAB Programme organized in La Plata, Argentina, the training seminar for biosphere reserves and MAB National Committees in Latin America. This training seminar was the last of a series of 7 seminars that trained all MAB National Committees and biosphere reserves managers in Latin America and the Caribbean. [More](#)  
Contact: [m.clusener-godt@unesco.org](mailto:m.clusener-godt@unesco.org)

### **Madrid Action Plan in Pacific Biosphere Reserves**

The international meeting on "Implementing the Madrid Action Plan in Pacific Biosphere Reserves: Pacific Island approaches to integrated coastal conservation and sustainable human development" was held in December 2009 in collaboration with the East-West Center and the Pacific Science Association at the East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii Islands, USA. [More](#)  
Contact: [m.clusener-godt@unesco.org](mailto:m.clusener-godt@unesco.org)

Future events on the [MABNet](#)

---

### **Publications**

- [TEEB for Policy Makers: Summary: Responding to the Value of Nature](#)
- [UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change](#)
- [The Role of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Governance for Sustainability: Selected Cases from Canada](#)
- [Co-Modeling Process, Negotiations, and Power Relationships: Some Outputs From a MAB Project on the Island of Ouessant](#)
- [Ecuador's Yasuní Biosphere Reserve: a brief modern history and conservation challenges](#)

More publications on the [MABNet](#)

See [National and regional newsletters](#)

We appreciate your comments and contributions to next issues of the newsletter!

Contact us at [mab@unesco.org](mailto:mab@unesco.org)

[www.unesco.org/mab](http://www.unesco.org/mab)

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the UNESCO MAB Programme