



NEWS from the Biosphere World Network



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.

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

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News

Training the African entrepreneurs in marketing medicinal plants

The Biotechnology for Sustainable Development in African Foundation (BDA) trains African entrepreneurs in the field of cultivating medicinal plants from a sustainable development perspective. BDA is conducting a pilot-project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) involving the Luki Biosphere Reserve, and envisions replicating the experience in other African countries. [More](#)

Contact: v.bouchard@bdafoundation.org

Two Chinese Biosphere Reserves will benefit from GEF Small Grants Programme

Two project proposals from Chinese biosphere reserves were recently approved under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme. The projects will focus on the Demonstration on Community Sustainable Development in Chebaling Biosphere Reserve, Guangdong Province, and the Rural Biogas Digesters Building Project in Mt. Wuyi Nature Reserve. [More](#) and [More](#)

Contact: r.iayakumar@unesco.org

Community efforts to monitor climate change in the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve

The Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT) is asking locals for help as part of an innovative way to monitor climate change in the region using salmonberries and phenology within the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve Region in Canada. [More](#)

Contact: rebecca@clayoquotbiosphere.org

Community based conservation in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve

Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve, Cambodia, extensively invests in ecotourism activities which provide local communities with alternative and sustainable livelihoods, linking education, as well as no-hunting and land use agreements, with the conservation of their local environment. [More](#)

Contact: secretariat@tsbr-ed.org

The Merck Group Sponsors Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Reserve

At the recent 22nd International Trade Fair for Instrumental Analysis, Laboratory and Biotechnology held in Munich Germany, the Merck group presented an innovative environmentally friendly initiative. For every Titripac® pack from Merck that is sold between the trade fair and the end of the year, 50 euro cents go to environmental projects in Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Reserve in South Africa. [More](#)
Contact: markus.kaiser@merck.de

Students of the University of North Texas travel to the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve

The University of North Texas' new Travel Learn Program includes a visit to the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve in Chile. This trip will enable participants to witness firsthand how scientists and students from UNT and its partner the University of Magallanes work together to link biological and cultural conservation with social well being through the Sub-Antarctic Biocultural Conservation Program. [More](#)
Contact: dianne.gibbons@unt.edu

More news on the [MABNet](#)

Events

International Year of Biodiversity - Call for Case studies form Biosphere Reserves

In the context of 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, biosphere reserves are invited to provide relevant case studies on the theme Biodiversity for Development. The case studies will be published on the MABNet and disseminated at the major events related to IYB. [More](#)
Contact: a.persic@unesco.org

Congo Basin Biosphere Bio-Carbon Forum

Biosphere Bio-Carbon Forum and Training Seminar will take place in Brazzaville, from 20 to 24 April 2010. This Forum will bring together regional stakeholders to discuss concrete steps toward strengthening the biosphere reserve network in Central Africa and using Congo Basin biosphere reserves as pilot sites to combat deforestation, protect biodiversity, and promote sustainable development through bio-carbon modalities. [More](#)
Contact: p.dogse@unesco.org

Seminar on Biosphere Reserves, Ecosystem Services and Sustainable Indicators

The International Seminar on Biosphere reserves, ecosystem services and sustainability indicators was held in Ouro Preto (Brasil) from 14 to 17 April 2010. One of the main objectives of the seminar was to promote the World network of Biosphere reserves through the systematic recording of relevant case studies on ecosystem services and public policies, ensuring their accessibility and dissemination. [More](#)
Contact: c.karez@unesco.org

Future events on the [MABNet](#)

Publications

- [Camel farms: a new idea to help desert ecosystems recover](#)
- [Conservation, community, and culture? New organizational challenges of community forest concessions in the Maya Biosphere Reserve of Guatemala](#)
- [Community - based management in two biosphere reserves in Madagascar – distinctions and similarities: What can be learned from different approaches?](#)
- [Recreation Value of Hara Biosphere Reserve using Willingness-to-pay method](#)

More publications on the [MABNet](#)

See [National and regional newsletters](#)

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Contact us at mab@unesco.org

www.unesco.org/mab

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