



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 biosphere reserve activities and scientific achievements of the MAB Programme.

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

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News

Ethiopia and Zimbabwe join the World Network of Biosphere Reserves

At its last meeting held in UNESCO, Paris in June 2010, the International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB-ICC) has added 13 new sites and 7 extensions in 15 different countries to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR), which now has 564 sites in 109 countries. First biosphere reserves in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe were also approved. [More](#) and [More](#)

Contact: mab@unesco.org

Ecuador Signs Historic Fund Agreement for Non-Drilling of Yasuni Biosphere Reserve Oil

The Government of Ecuador and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a historic deal establishing a trust fund to step up protection of Yasuni Biosphere Reserve from oil-drilling. The fund's objective is to hold at least 50 percent of the estimated US\$7 billion that tapping the oil would bring. [More](#)

Contact: carla.rossignoli@undp.org

Cooperation Agreement between Biosphere Reserves in Chile and France

A three year contract was recently signed to formalize cooperation aimed at partnered training of biosphere reserve management skills. As La Campana – Peñuelas (Chile) and Fontainebleau - Gâtinais (France) biosphere reserves have similar characteristics due to their comparable location in a metropolitan context, this partnership will allow them to exchange information and experiences and pave the way for sustainable regional development. [More](#) and [More](#)

Contacts: mgalvez@conaf.cl and j.pelenc@mab-france.org

Low-impact logging at the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve

The Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve (Canada) has actively engaged in promotion of low-impact logging in the area. Workshops on sustainable wood lot management are held at various times throughout the year with the

main goal to encourage all landowners, small-scale loggers and small-scale forestry companies to manage their wood lots in a sustainable manner. [More](#)
Contact: rnbr@mts.net

New Environmental Adventure for Visitors of the Dana Biosphere Reserve

Authorities are charting a hiking trail that links Feynan Eco-Lodge, one of the world's best eco-tourism lodges, to the ancient city of Petra, offering another environmental adventure for visitors to the Dana Biosphere Reserve (Jordan). [More](#)
Contact: adminrscn@rscn.org.jo

Combating Poverty through Conservation in Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve

The conservation-development model prepared by the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve represents a unique approach to combating poverty in Mexico. The new objective of the site's managers is to develop units of Social Return on Investment (SROI), which combine economic, social and environmental indicators to estimate the economic benefits of the actions taken. [More](#)
Contact: sierragordareserve@yahoo.com

More news on the [MABNet](#)

Events

Biosphere Day in Noosa

The Noosa Biosphere Day (September 19, 2010) in Noosa Biosphere Reserve (Australia) is set to include an international flavour with a planned exhibition of films and images from biosphere reserves all over the world. [More](#)
Contact: meq.lawrence@nfa.org.au

Climate Change and Visual Arts

In collaboration with Joensuu Art Museum and the Finnish Stone Center, the North Karelia Biosphere Reserve (Finland) is hosting an art exhibition on climate change to raise awareness of its impacts on the region and beyond.
Contact: timo.hokkanen@joensuu.fi

Developing the Biosphere Reserves Network in the SEE and Caucasus Regions

The International Workshop on Developing the Biosphere Reserves Network in the South-Eastern Europe (SEE) and Caucasus Regions, was held in Antalya (Turkey) from 15 to 19 of February, 2010 as a follow-up to the 2009 EuroMAB meeting. Biosphere reserve managers and MAB National Committee representatives from SEE and Caucasus countries explored topics of common interest that could be investigated further within the frame of a new coordinated experimental programme related to biosphere reserves in the region. **More link to the report**
Contact : nzal@unesco.org.tr

Biosphere Managers Workshop

Noosa Biosphere Reserve (Australia) will be hosting the Biosphere Managers Workshop in October 2010. The workshop is designed to produce a series of case studies of UNESCO biosphere reserves as living examples of education for sustainable development and biodiversity, in the current UN Decade and Year featuring these themes. [More](#)
Contact: mab@unesco.org

Urban Futures and Human and Ecosystem Well-being

As a contribution to the theme "Better Cities, Better Life" at the World Expo 2010 Shanghai, the MAB Programme together the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) are organizing an international symposium from 27 to 30 October 2010 in Shanghai, China. The principal outcome of the symposium would be an urban ecosystem initiative of the UNESCO-MAB Programme, SCOPE, CAS and its partners. [More](#)
Contact: z.vi@unesco.org

AfriMAB Meeting in Kenya

The regional meeting of African Biosphere Reserves and MAB National Committees (AfriMAB) will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 13 to 18 September 2010. The meeting will enable the exchange of information on the implementation status of the Madrid Action Plan in Africa and the agreement on the AfriMAB Charter and Statutes. The technical session will focus on sustainable financing mechanisms for Biosphere reserves. [More](#)
Contact: noeline.raondry-rakotoarisoa@unesco.unon.org

Future events on the [MABNet](#)

Publications

- [Lessons from Biosphere Reserves in the Asia-Pacific Region, and a Way Forward](#)
- [Reporting progress on internationally designated sites: The periodic review of biosphere reserves](#)
- [Many Eyes on Nature: Diverse Perspectives in the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve and Their Relevance for Conservation](#)
- [Sustainable Livelihood of the Community in Tasik Chini Biosphere Reserve: Local Practices](#)

More publications on the [MABNet](#)

See [National and regional newsletters](#)

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www.unesco.org/mab

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