

2. BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT

UNESCO's activities related to conservation, sustainable use and management of biodiversity entail the introduction and application of methods for reversing the rate of loss of biodiversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet current and future human needs and aspirations.

<u>Biodiversity conservation for livelihoods in UNESCO sites</u>	<u>Networks and partnerships</u>	<u>Dialogue for conflict prevention</u>
World Network of Biosphere Reserves	The Rapid Response Facility	Dialogue in Biosphere Reserves
World Natural Heritage sites	MAB Regional & Ecosystem Networks	From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential
	South-South Cooperation	Biodiversity Conservation in Regions of Armed Conflict
	Biosphere Connections	
	The Great Apes Survival Project	
	Partnership on coastal and marine protected areas	
	HELP Initiative	

2.a) Biodiversity conservation for livelihoods in UNESCO sites

Through its interdisciplinary approaches, UNESCO seeks to encourage the identification, protection and sustainable development of its designated sites such as the world natural heritage sites and the world network of biosphere reserves. Sustainable tourism is promoted as a tool for

- [World Network of Biosphere Reserves](#) is a global network of sites designated under the MAB Programme and dedicated to demonstrating and sharing best practices on innovative approaches to reconcile socio-economic development and conservation and sustainable and equitable use of biodiversity on [ecosystem](#) and [regional](#) levels, including through development of [quality economies](#).
- [World Natural Heritage Sites](#) designated under the World Heritage Convention ensure the long-term protection and conservation of inscribed natural heritage sites. [The World Heritage Marine Programme](#) and [the World Heritage Forest Programme](#) are particularly focused on forest conservation and the maintenance of the marine areas. [The World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme](#) encourages sustainable tourism actions at World Heritage sites, develops policies and processes for site management.

2.b) Networks and partnerships

UNESCO is developing innovative ways to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in partnership with other organisations and relevant actors.

- [MAB Regional and Ecosystem Networks](#) support the implementation of the MAB Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
- [South-South Cooperation Programme](#) identifies how to provide sustainable and decent livelihood for the inhabitants of the Humid Tropics as a basic requirement for development.
- [Biosphere Connections Programme](#) contributes to the promotion and conservation of biodiversity, and the sustainable use of natural resources in all the countries and regions that Star Alliance member airlines operate, by connecting the networks offered by all the constituent partner organisations.
- [The GRASP \(Great Apes Survival Project\)](#) addresses the crisis of the extinction of great apes.
- [Partnership on coastal and marine protected areas](#) focuses on marine and coastal protected areas.
- [The Rapid Response Facility](#) provides timely resources to address threats and emergencies affecting natural world heritage sites and surrounding areas of influence - and to do so quickly, flexibly and in real time.
- [HELP \(Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy\) Initiative](#) creates a new approach to integrated catchment management through the creation of a framework for water law and policy experts, water resource managers and water scientists on water related problems.

2.c) Dialogue for conflict prevention

Fostering dialogue and concentration among stakeholders under different cultural and social economic contexts is of key importance to prevent conflicts and share benefits of biodiversity conservation and management in a sustainable development perspective.

- [**Building dialogue in biosphere reserves**](#) contributes to improving interactions between ecosystems and societies.
- [**From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential Programme \(PCCP\)**](#) facilitates multi-level and interdisciplinary dialogues to foster peace, cooperation and development related to the management of shared water resources.
- [**Biodiversity Conservation in Regions of Armed Conflict: Protecting World Heritage in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**](#) ensures the conservation of World Heritage Sites by mobilizing financial, logistical, technical and diplomatic support at the regional and international levels.