



EABRN , 20 years of History – and its Future

(East Asia Biosphere Reserve Network)

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1. Overview and History

2. Key Activities

(1) Regional Network Meetings

(2) Training Courses & Workshops

(3) Cooperative Studies and Activities

3. Achievements

4. Future Actions

1) Overview of EABRN

- **Name:** East Asia Biosphere Reserve Network
- **Member States :** ROK, China, Japan, DPRK, Mongol, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan
- **Secretariat :** UNESCO Beijing (Jakarta transferred to Beijing in 2003)
- **Functions :** exchange of information of and experiences in BR, training, regional cooperation
- **Funding :** from ROK, UNESCO and host Member states of Network events
- **Key Activities :** EABRN Meetings, Training Courses & Workshops, Cooperative Studies & Researches, Supporting BR publication

1. Overview & History

2) History of EABRN

- Similar ecosystems in the Region but a lack of opportunities to share information of and experiences in BR management in each country
⇒ Strengthened regional cooperation through exchange of information and cooperative studies among East Asian Biosphere Reserves



1. Overview & History

2) History of EABRN

- **Cooperative Scientific Study for Biosphere Reserve in East Asia**

(suggested by Oct. 1991, Dr. Hilling, UNESCO ROSTSEA)

: 1st Study (Beijing, China, Mar. 1994), 2nd Study ('94.8, Changbai BR China Aug.1994)

✧ Joined by ROK, China, DPRK, Mongol and Japan

⇒ Focused on facilitating exchange of information and cooperation among scientists and BR managers in the East Asian region



1. Overview & History

3) Establishment of EABRN(in 1995)

- 3rd Meeting for the East Asia BR Study
 - : (Date & Venue) Mt. Sorak, 29 May. – 2 Jun. 1995
 - : (Key outcomes) Official launch of EABRN & consultations on future cooperative activities
- ✂ Joined by : ROK, China, DPRK, Mongol, Japan ('Russia joined in 1999 and Kazakhstan in 2010)

Unesco Holds Workshop for Establishing Asia-Pacific Biosphere Reserve Network

A regional workshop to establish a biosphere reserve network in Asia and the Pacific will be held through June 2 in Seoul and Sokcho.

The workshop sponsored by Unesco opens today at Seoul Education and Culture Center in Yangjae-dong for a two-day conference and will then move to Mt. Sorak which the United Nations agency designated as a biosphere in 1982.

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Program launched in 1971 by Unesco is one of the foremost international efforts ever made to understand how humanity is affecting the biosphere and what can be done to avoid nature degradation.

Over a dozen Asian-Pacific countries, including Russia and Mongolia, will participate in the conference and the field trip.

North Korea, a Unesco member country that attended the East Asian biosphere conference in China last year, has been also invited. But whether they will attend the Seoul meeting is not yet clear, a spokeswoman for the Korean National Commission for Unesco said.

One of the key issues on the agenda is future cooperation in Asia and the Pacific through activities in biosphere reserves.

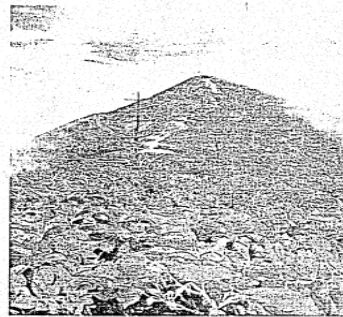
A conference on the East Asian biosphere issues opened yesterday prior to the workshop on Asian-Pacific MAB program at the center also known as the Seoul Temp Hotel.

After two days of talks the workshop will move to Sokcho to talk and look at the national park.

A recommendation to the international biosphere agency MAB/ICC will be adopted after the workshop along with an evaluation of the biosphere management of Mt. Sorak.

Special presentations during the conference will be made by Yoon Chang-won on the results of cooperative scientific study of East Asian biosphere reserves, and by Dr. N. Ishwaran of Sri Lanka, who will review international biosphere conferences and the Seville Strategy and the Statute on Biosphere Reserves.

The workshop will be accompanied by an exhibition of



Early summer alpine wild flowers bloom around Mt. Sorak's summit Taechong-bong. Unesco holds a regional workshop in Seoul and Sokcho, Kangwon-do to seek future cooperation on Asia and the Pacific through activities in biosphere reserves. Mt. Sorak was designated as a reserve in 1982 by the Man and Biosphere Program of the United Nations Agency. Korea Times File photos and material relevant to biosphere reserves, including introductions to Korean ecological organizations.





- The Regional Workshop for Establishing a Biosphere Reserve Network in Asia and Pacific(Mt. Sorak 30-31 May 1995)



Natarajan Ishwaran



Han Qunli



Yoon, Chang-Won

4) Brief History of EABRN

- (China 1994) 1st & 2nd Meetings for Cooperative Scientific Study for BR in East Asia
- (ROK 1995) 3rd Meeting for Cooperative Scientific Study for BR in East Asia & Regional Workshop for Establishing a Biosphere Reserve Network in Asia and Pacific
- (1996) 1st EABRN Cooperative Study
- (1999) Russia joined EABRN at the 6th Network Meeting
- (2004) 1st EABRN Training Course
- (2010) Kazakhstan joined EABRN at the 12th Network Meeting
- (Japan, 2015) 14th EABRN Regional Network Meeting
- ※ (2016-2017) 7th Training Workshop & 15th EABRN Regional Network Meeting in Kazakhstan

1. Overview & History

- **20th Anniversary of Establishment of EABRN in 2015**
 - Member States celebrated the 20th Anniversary at the 14th EABRN Regional Network Meeting (6-9 Oct. 2015, Shiga Highland BR, Japan)
 - Member States agreed on the revision and updating of the EABRN Statutes, which includes effective management of EABRN and its activities, changes in the Membership and the Secretariat and creation of the Organizing Committee
 - Members States agreed on future action plans and priority actions



2. Key Activities

1) Regional Network Meetings

- (How often) Every two years since 1994
- (Focus on) Sharing of experiences and examples in relation to BR in the region,
- Field assessment & Advisory mission for BRs in the hosting country



2. Key Activities

1) Regional Network Meetings

- All 14 Meetings, organized and held by each Member State
 - To date, 4 Meetings in China, 4 in Mongol, 3 in ROK, 2 in Japan, 1 in Russia

	time	venue	theme
1st	94.3	China	Cooperative Scientific Study of East Asian Biosphere Reserves
2nd	94.8	China	Cooperative Scientific Study of East Asian Biosphere Reserves-Tourism
3rd	95.5	Republic of Korea	Cooperative Scientific Study of East Asian Biosphere Reserves – Regional
4th	96.10	Japan	Logistic Functions of Biosphere Reserves
5th	97.8	Mongolia	Ecotourism Development and Transborder Conservation Cooperation in Asian BRs
6th	99.9	China	Ecotourism and Conservation policy in BRs and other Similar Conservation Areas
7th	01.9	Russia	Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of East Asian BRs
8th	03.8	Mongolia	Ecotourism Development in BRs and Transboundary Conservation Cooperation
9th	05.8	Republic of Korea	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Insular BRs
10th	07.9	Mongolia	Protection of Sacred Natural Sites: Importance for Biodiversity Conservation
11th	09.11	China	Implementation of MAB's Seville Strategy and Madrid Action Plan in Biosphere Reserves
12th	11.9	Republic of Korea	Implementation of Madrid Action Plan in Biosphere Reserves of Asian and Pacific with special focus on Coastal and Island BRs
13th	13.10	Mongolia	Biological and Social Consequences of Global Changes
14th	15.10	Japan	Activities in the transition area and the role of local communities in managing biosphere reserves

2. Key Activities

2) Training Courses & Workshops

- **(How often)** Every two years since 2004
- **(Objectives)** Capacity building at site levels, exchange of information among site managers, networking
- **(Topics)** Technical capacity building, such as GIS, management and governance of BRs



2. Key Activities

2) Training Courses & Workshops

- History

	time	venue	theme
1st	04.8	Beijing, China	Application of GIS in the Management of Biosphere Reserves
2nd	06.12	Beijing, China	Application of GIS in the Management of Biosphere Reserves
3rd	09.3	Beijing, China	Remote Sensing and GIS for Biosphere Reserve Management to Adapt Climate Change
4th	11.4	Beijing, China	Remote Sensing and GIS for Biosphere Reserve Management
5th	12.7	Changbaishan Biosphere Reserve, China	Biological Inventory and Database Construction
6th	15.5	Wudalianchi Biosphere Reserve, Heilongjiang Province, China	Sustainable Management of Biosphere Reserves

2. Key Activities

3) Cooperative Researches and Regional Cooperation

- **Regional BR Cooperation Initiatives**

- Jeju Initiative was created at the 9th EABRN Meeting → creation of the World Network for Islands and Coastal Area Biosphere Reserves

- BR Sister Sites and other cooperative activities



3. Achievements

- **Enhanced Regional Cooperation through Regular Network Meetings**
 - Cooperative Studies & Researches, Cooperative Initiatives, Cross-assessment of BRs, MOUs
- **Capacity Building through Training Courses**
 - For BR site managers, on GIS application and other data collection and analysis methodologies
- **Increased Status and Visibility of EABRN**
 - EABRN recognized as a success model by WNBR
- **First Regional Cooperative Mechanism on Ecosystems in the East Asia**
 - Ongoing regional cooperation with multi-stakeholder engagement, such as governments, academics and international organizations



4. Future Actions

- **Increased Participation**
 - Expand the Membership & Increase BR Sister Sites
- **Facilitated Exchange of Information**
 - Enhance exchange of information through online tools & Publish newsletters
- **Advanced Training Courses and Cooperative Studies**
 - Provide other BR Network Members with opportunities to participate EABRN Training Courses & Explore further opportunities for Cooperative Study
- **Increased Financial Contribution**
 - Encourage EABRN Member States to increase their funding & Identifying other sources of funding

Thank you