

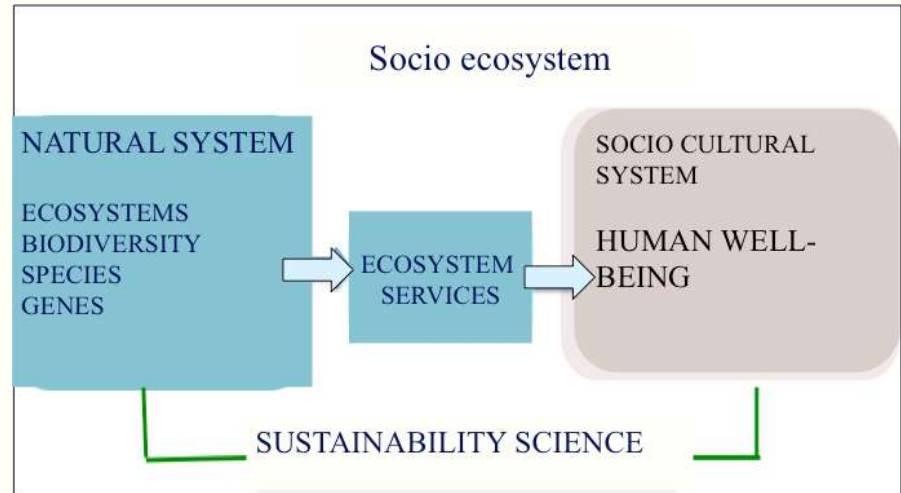
Linking the activities of scientists working in BRs to UNESCO programmes/structures/initiatives

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Workshop on scientific networking, 16 March 2016

1- Sustainability Science in Biosphere Reserves

Ecological and social processes connected



WNBR relevance for SD

615 sites from 120 countries

1.027 M ha

All major ecosystems types

170 M people and cultural diversity

Variety of development context

-A socio-ecological system:
*biophysical unit and its associated
social actors and institutions.*

2- UNESCO Chairs /UNITWIN Programme

Chairs Programme, 1992: the Programme aims to share knowledge and promote collaborative work

UNESCO supports the establishment of UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks in key priority areas of UNESCO to reinforce knowledge worldwide.

UNESCO Chairs on Sustainable Development, **47**

3- UNESCO Chair/BR Partnership A bridge between Science and Politics

UNESCO Chair



Biosphere Reserve

Decision makers



- *transferring knowledge between scientists, stakeholders, managers and decision makers*
- *promoting a research to come up with solutions for sustainability-related problems*

the link of political and scientific communities

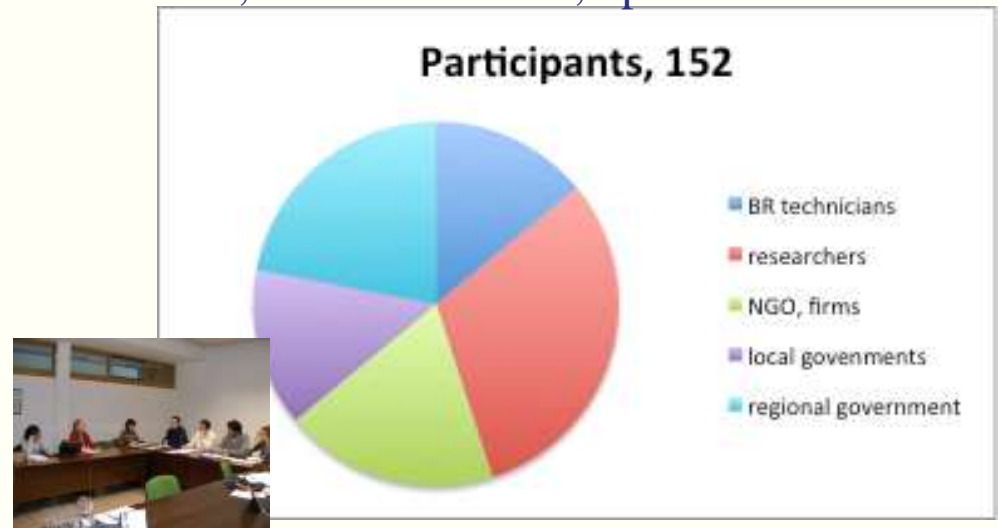
Participatory process to prioritize actions for a sustainable management

Urdaibai BR, 1984



Spain. Basque Country
Area: 22,000 ha; 22 towns
Population: 45,000 inh. (Gernika)
Primary sector: 14%
Industry: 28%
Construction: 8%
Services: 50%

Master Plan for Use and Management (by law)
1993, revision in 2003, updated in 2016

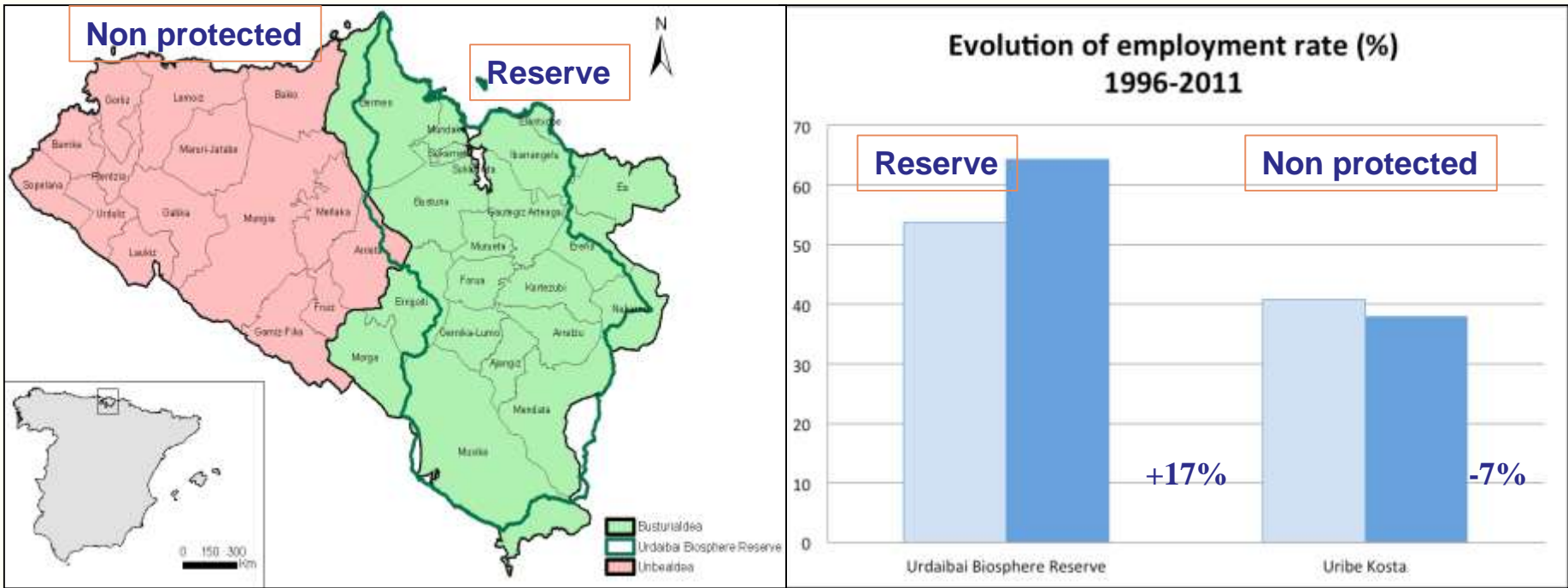


-Participatory processes lead to important social learning, relationship building and enhanced understanding by participants of other perspectives

Evolution from the first Master Plan until now

Conservation vs development ?

Comparing two similar socio-ecosystem: protected and non protected



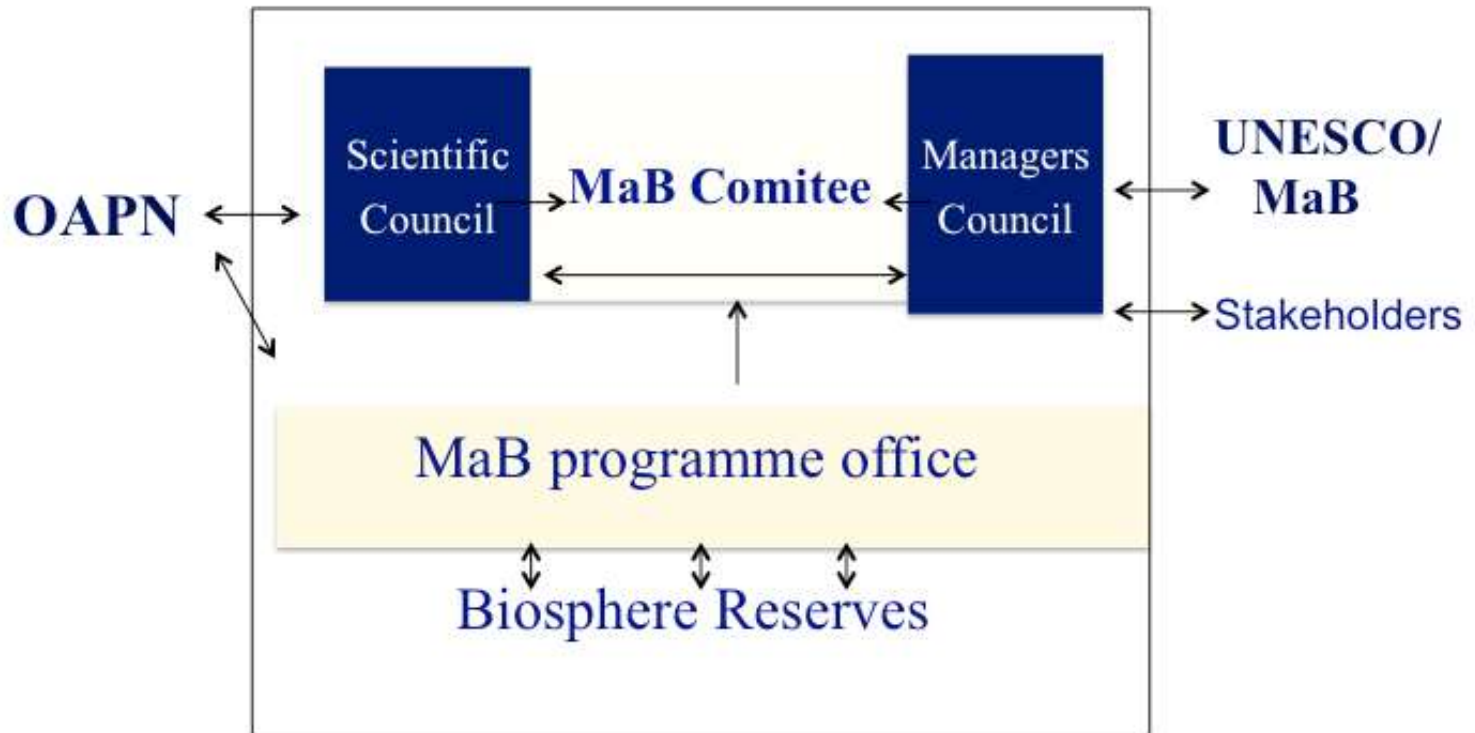
Positive evolution of socio-economic indicators in the Biosphere Reserve area

UNESCO Chair/BR Partnership

- III World Congress on MaB Programme. Madrid, February, 2008
 - World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. March 2009, Bonn, Germany
 - Linking research and management. Cátedras UNESCO/Reservas de Biosfera. Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve. Spain, 2009
 - IberoMab, Puerto Morelos, 2010
 - LIMA, 2016
- A4.1. Establish partnerships with universities/research institutions to undertake research. **Specially with UNESCO Chairs and UNESCO Centres**

4- Scientific Council in the Spanish MaB Programme

Spanish UNESCO-MaB programme



Election of member of the Scientific Council: proposed by universities and named by MaB Committee

Challenges

- BRs and *sustainability science* should be promoted in MaB programme and strengthened in the context of UN Agenda 30: **Sustainability indicators**
- Learning together: academic knowledge and experiences from local communities
- A bottom-up structure
- Advise to MaB committees at different scales and other programs.
- Relationships with other network and platforms

Thank you!

- work together to translate global principles of sustainability



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