

# Main development of MAB since the 12<sup>th</sup> ISG meeting

Room IV  
UNESCO Headquarters  
10 May 2017

# **1. The statutory duties and procedures related to MAB and WNBR**


# Endorsement LAP at the 200<sup>th</sup> EXB

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

**200 EX/Decisions - 5.I.B** Progress report on the implementation of the MAB Strategy for 2015-2025 and the associated Lima Action Plan for UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves 2016-2025


- *Endorses the Lima Action Plan;*
- *Encourages Member States, in close cooperation with the MAB Secretariat, to undertake and promote actions contained in the Lima Action Plan for the effective implementation of the MAB Strategy for 2015-2025, through their MAB National Committees, biosphere reserves, regional and thematic MAB networks and relevant public and private stakeholders;*
- *Requests the Director-General to present **a progress report** on the implementation of the MAB Strategy for 2015-2025 and the Lima Action Plan to the General Conference at its **39th session.***

# A New Roadmap for the MAB Programme and its WNBR: MAB Strategy (2015-2025), Lima Action Plan (2016-2025), Lima Declaration




A New Roadmap for the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves

**MAB Strategy (2015-2025)**  
**Lima Action Plan (2016-2025)**  
**Lima Declaration**






Une nouvelle feuille de route pour le Programme sur l'Homme et la biosphère (MAB) et son Réseau mondial de réserves de biosphère

**Stratégie du MAB (2015-2025)**  
**Plan d'action de Lima (2016-2025)**  
**Déclaration de Lima**


Una nueva hoja de ruta para el Programa sobre el Hombre y la Biosfera (MAB) y su Red Mundial de Reservas de Biosfera

**Estrategia del MAB (2015-2025)**  
**Plan de Acción de Lima (2016-2025)**  
**Declaración de Lima**


خريطة جديدة لبرنامج الإنسان والمحيط الحيوي وشبكته العالمية لمحميات المحيط الحيوي

استراتيجية برنامج الإنسان والمحيط الحيوي (٢٠٢٥ - ٢٠١٥)  
خطة عمل ليمّا (٢٠٢٥ - ٢٠١٦)  
إعلان ليمّا





Новая дорожная карта для программы «Человек и биосфера» (МАБ) и ее Всемирной сети биосферных резерватов

**Стратегия МАБ на 2015-2025 гг.**  
**Лимский план действий для программы ЮНЕСКО «Человек и биосфера» (МАБ) и ее Всемирной сети биосферных резерватов на 2016-2025 гг.**  
**Лимская декларация**

人与生物圈计划新路线图及其世界生物圈保护区网络

**人与生物圈计划战略（2015-2025）**  
**利马行动计划（2016-2025）**  
**利马宣言**



# Preparation of 39C/5 (2018 – 2021)

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

- The MAB Secretariat worked intensively on the preparation of 39C/5, as part of the overall preparation of the Sector for Natural Sciences.
- The new workplan is RBB based with 4 budget scenarios. While all wish for the best budget scenarios, the Secretariat foresee two lower budget scenarios (507, 518) more realistic.
- If approved by 39<sup>th</sup> GC, MAB and WNBR would have one separate ER (Expected Result) and one joint ER with IGGP on UNESCO sites for SDGs. Budget situation will remain similar to 38C/5 and be very tight.
- Cross-cutting cooperation e.g. on climate actions will be reflected in different SC ERs.

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

- 26 BR nominations including 4 TBRs
- 96 Periodic Review Reports
- 104 Follow-Up to ICC
- 12 Extensions
- 8 withdrawals
- A good progress in wrapping up the MAB Exit Strategy



1<sup>st</sup> TBR in South America: Bosques de Paz (Ecuador & Peru)

A trans-regional TBR: Great Altay (Russian Fed. & Kazakhstan)

## 2017 MICHEL BATISSE AWARD FOR BIOSPHERE RESERVE MANAGEMENT

The Advisory committee noted the need to reflect on the possible reduction of the frequency of this award in order to increase the quality of the applications, e.g. having Award only for every two to three years.

## 2017 MAB YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD (MYA) Scheme

The MAB Secretariat has proposed to revise the current criteria and conditions for the selection of the MAB Young Scientists Award winners and to maximize the extent to which they contribute towards research-focused actions of the Lima Action Plan and to the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. In addition, a proposal to raise the visibility of the achievements and the impacts of the MAB YSA over the years and to strengthen the Scheme accordingly has been drafted

# Two sessions of MAB Bureau held

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

Two sessions of MAB Bureau held in September 2016 and March 2017 respectively, for the follow up of Lima Congress and the preparation of MAB Council meeting in June 2017



# Preparation of 29<sup>th</sup> MAB Council

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

- **The 29<sup>th</sup> MAB Council will be held in Paris during 12-15 June 2017.**
- Invitation to MAB Council members sent, with the agenda and timetable.
- Documents are being finalized and translated

The web site for documents:

- <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/man-and-biosphere-programme/about-mab/icc/icc/29th-session/>

## **2. Highlight of MAB activities since Lima**

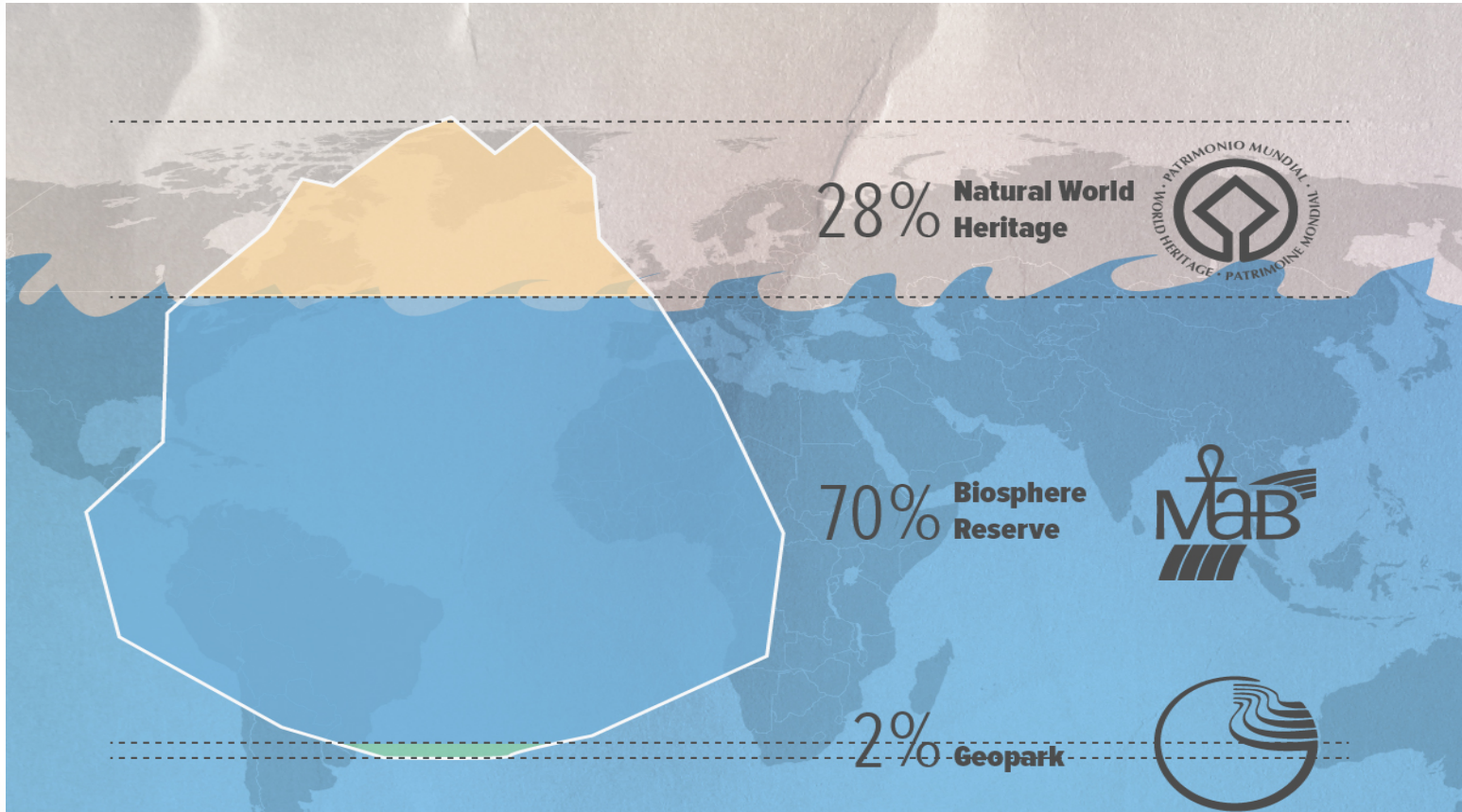
# Biosphere Reserves cover all major ecosystems types of the planet Earth



home of over 200 million people: rich cultural diversity and great variety of development contexts

# UNESCO designated sites

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UNESCO designates sites to encourage national governments and local communities to identify special sites and work together to ensure their conservation and sustainable use for current and future generations

# Area (ha) protected by UNESCO sites at the global level

- 10,000,000 ha - **Natural World Heritage**
- 10,000,000 ha - **Biosphere Reserve**
- 10,000,000 ha - **Geopark**

## Europe and North America

**72 sites**  
84,484,241 ha  
**302 sites**  
200,475,695 ha  
**66 sites**  
14,896,600 ha

## Latin America and Caribbean

**42 sites**  
36,910,800 ha  
**125 sites**  
295,427,405 ha  
**2 sites**  
424,400 ha

**74 sites**  
106,737,436 ha  
**142 sites**  
80,992,145 ha  
**38 sites**  
3,392,700 ha

## ASIA

## Africa

**42 sites**  
39,687,534 ha  
**70 sites**  
71,953,810 ha  
**0 sites**  
0 ha

## Arab States

**8 sites**  
938,323 ha  
**30 sites**  
27,670,870 ha  
**1 sites**  
573,000 ha

# MAB input in COP 22

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

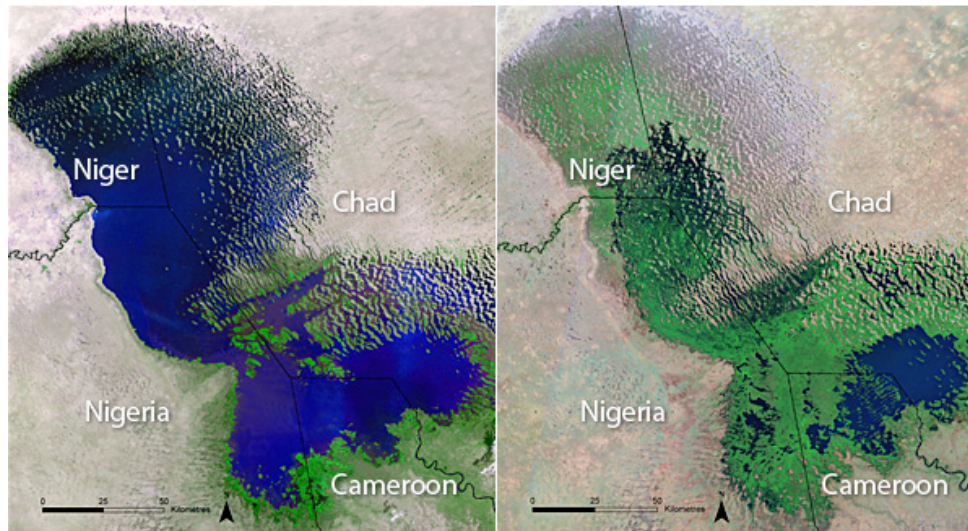
**MAB, through a dedicated staff member, is co-chair of the UNESCO Task Force on Climate Change. This has included the preparation of the updated UNESCO Strategy for Action on Climate Change, approved by the Executive Board at its 201<sup>st</sup> session, and UNESCO's engagement with the UNFCCC and the COP 22 in Marrakech. MAB and the WNBRs have been duly reflected in the UNESCO climate change strategy and in relation to COP 22.**

# Highlight of MAB activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-)

- **Support to the preservation of Lake Chad**

Lake Chad 1972 / 2007



Submission of an intersectoral ( SC : MAB and IHP; WH) project with the Lake Chad Basin Commission to the African Development Bank (about 6.5 million USD). The project aims at conserving biodiversity and strengthening resilience of the Lake Chad ecosystems and communities by applying BR approach and World heritage Convention.

- Swedish biosphere reserves as arenas for implementing the 2030 Agenda
- The Austrian Biosphere Reserves in the light of changing MAB strategies
- The Economic Impact of Labeled Regional Products: The Experience of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Entlebuch
- BGCI partnership in ecological restoration
- New MYA proposals



# Highlight of MAB activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-)

- **New UNESCO Chair on World Heritage and Biosphere Reserve Observation and Education**

**5th Chair contributing to the achievements of the MAB Programme.**



A newly established UNESCO Chair on World Heritage and Biosphere Reserve Observation and Education was launched at the Heidelberg University of Education (Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg), in Heidelberg, Germany on 25 November 2016.

The purpose of the Chair is to promote an integrated system of research and its application, training and education, based on modern geo-information technologies and geo-ecological methods, in order to analyse, model and visualize environmental changes at UNESCO designated sites.

# Highlight of MAB activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

- **New project on reforestation of the La Selle Biosphere Reserve, Haiti**
- **MAB Workshop Suriname**

Seeking the possibility to establish the first biosphere reserve in the Suriname/ Guyane region.

Suriname is currently working on the creation of the MAB National Committee of Suriname and a consultant is helping to prepare the documentation needed for submission of the designation form.



# New MAB achievements and activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

## Choba choba chocolate. Collaboration between Gran Pajatén BR, Peru & Entlebuch BR, Switzerland



# Recent workshops and training

## MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

on Green Economies, Biosphere Reserves Products and Services, as well as labelling:

- **Biosphere Reserves in Ghana, Nigeria and Tanzania**, under KOICA funded green economy projects
- **Bogota, Colombia, June, 2016:** BRs from Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru
- **Tumbes, Peru, August 2016:** For Ecuadorian and Peruvian BRs
- **Parma, Italy, August-September 2016:** BR branding through high quality products and gastronomy
- **Jabal Moussa BR, Lebanon, September 2016:** for Lebanese BRs
- **Santa Marta, Colombia, November, 2016:** For Colombian BRs



# New MAB achievements and activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

## UNESCO Biosphere Excursions Ethiopia and United Arab Emirates



- Participants carried out individual multiplier projects in between Part One in Ethiopia and Part Two in the United Arab Emirates.
- Participants developed their own ideas to address one environmental challenge they were concerned about in their community.
- They were responsible for the acquisition of potentially needed funds as well as institutional and individual support.

## EuroMAB Meeting, 4-7 April 2017 Sarlat, France

**Euromab 2017** seeks to identify which new types of partnerships are necessary for an ecological transition, how to set them up, and how to durably maintain and promote them. The aim is to involve or enhance the involvement of other socio-economic, scientific and university actors, as well as artists and communication specialists.

**EuroMAB 2017** also focuses on the links built up by individuals with nature and with their territory and seeks to reinforce these links to attain the sustainable development goals.

**EuroMAB 2017**, will facilitate setting up collective approaches and collaborative projects by organizing conferences and participative workshops.



# New MAB achievements and activities

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

## 8th Meeting of the SACAM Network 24-25 October 2016 Almaty, Kazakhstan



The theme of the meeting was “Biosphere Reserves and Sustainable Development”. Representatives from MAB Programme in the South and Central Asian region, including MAB National Committees and biosphere reserve (BR) managers and experts from national and international organizations attended the meeting. The aim was to discuss how to jointly promote BRs to serve as models for sustainable development, including how to better apply the Sustainability Science framework in BRs from the region and how the MAB Programme could collaborate with other UNESCO relevant scientific programmes and designated sites such as Global Geoparks and World Heritage Sites, and other internationally designated sites (e.g. RAMSAR sites).

## Next ArabMAB Meeting, 22-24 May 2017, Algiers, Algeria

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ArabMAB

Implementing the new MAB Strategy 2016-2025 to the Arab region

Workshop on “Governance, financial management & green economy”

Creativity Contest: Young people from 15-35 living in or around a biosphere reserve are invited to send a visual artwork on biosphere reserves and environmental conservation.



# MAB Youth Forum 2017

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-)

**1st MAB Youth Forum: 18-22  
September 2017**

**Po Delta Biosphere Reserve,  
Italy with Venice to lead and  
extra-budgetary funding**

**2017 MAB  
YOUTH  
FORUM**

Online application platform opened in December:

Region	Students/Researchers	Earning their Livelihood in BRs	Civil Society/Associations	Total
Africa	18	3	9	30
Arab States	3	2	1	6
Asia and the Pacific	4	1	10	15
Europe & North America	6	2	4	12
Latin America and the Caribbean	2	0	3	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>68</b>

## Youth Leadership Camp for Climate Change 2017 Gunung Leuser & Cibodas BR, Indonesia



Collaboration with UNCT: Learn through **UNITAR** and the Climate Reality Project. 3-day camp in Cibodas BR and Gunung Leuser BR. The camp gathered a total of 150 youth (between 17 and 25 y.o.) and provided them with a deeper understanding on climate change and how to communicate the subjects to their peers and wider community.

## 3. MAB partnership

# Relationships with CBD, IPBES and other UN partners

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

## **CBD COP13 Cancun, Mexico, Dec 2016**

UNESCO MAB Secretariat represented UNESCO at COP13 at High Level Forum and Summit Muchtanbal on Indigenous Experience: Traditional Knowledge and Biological and Cultural Diversity.

## **UN Climate COP 22, Marrakech, Nov 2016**

MAB Secretariat provided overall support for ADG/SC coordination for UNESCO presence and interventions at COP 22, Marrakech, Morocco, including brought on board to the COP information on MAB/WNBR and LAP.

# Relationships with CBD, IPBES and other UN partners

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

## IPBES, Bonn, Germany March 2017

MAB Secretariat attended the 5th plenary of the IPBES meeting as focal point for UNESCO. A main contribution toward IPBES from MAB would be input for the review of the global assessment report (to be presented in 2018 in Colombia) as well as to the scoping assessment on sustainable use. UNESCO MAB continues engaged for work on Indigenous and Local knowledge led by colleagues of LINKS

## UNDP Comoros requested UNESCO support to new BRs nomination

Mission to Ile de Moheli, Comoros, October 2016. This will be an island BR in future. MAB Secretariat participated in the Steering Committee of the UNDP project.

# Fundraising and extra-budgetary project development

Bureau of the International Coordinating Council of the MAB Programme

## 4th Responsible Planet Encounter

The IV Encuentro Planeta Responsable – a dedicated forum for companies and experts committed to improving the planet through innovation, sustainability and corporate social responsibility took place in Barcelona, Spain on 27 February 2017. UNESCO MAB was the guest of honour. The host was Prisma Publications. More than 20 experts and senior managers discussed ways to promote good governance practices, measure social and environmental impact of companies, and improve visibility for the initiatives that promote responsible approaches to using our planet's resources.



# **A special panel will be made for MAB partnership with private sector on 14 June during MAB ICC**

# **4. Improving participation, quality and the related instrumentation of WNBR**



# Completion of the MAB Exit Strategy since 2013

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

Over last four years, there has been a substantial improvement in a large number of sites concerned with the Exit Strategy:

126 BRs out of 270 sites concerned have been considered meeting Seville Criteria, and many other sites are also in the process of improving.

138 sites from 49 countries are not yet meeting the criteria.

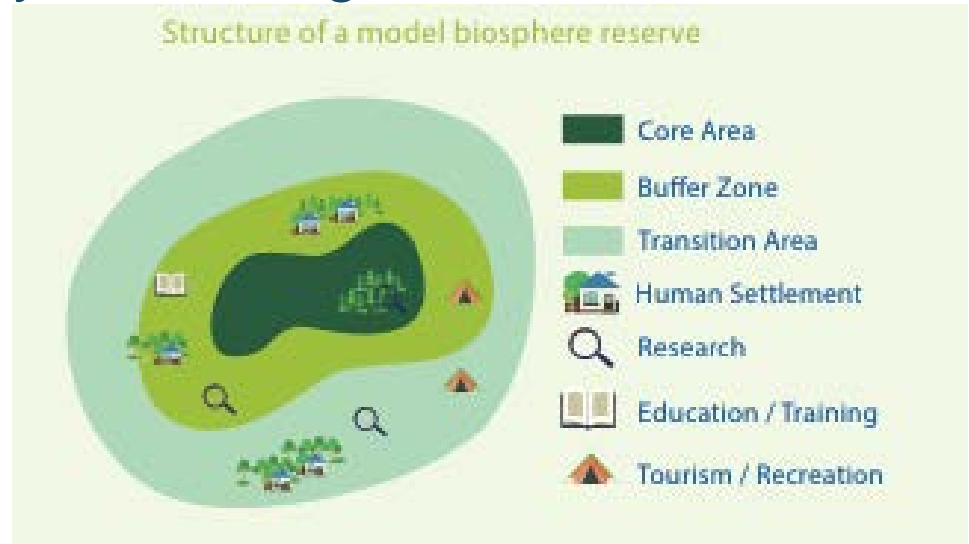
It is expected MAB Council will be able to wrap up the implementation of the Exit Strategy at its current session and move forward.

# Biosphere reserves: Three zones, three functions

They consist of three interrelated zones that aim to fulfil three complementary and mutually reinforcing functions:

- The **core area** comprises a strictly protected zone that contributes to the conservation of ecosystems, species and genetic variation.

- The **buffer zone** surrounds the core area. Is used for ecological practices that can reinforce scientific research, monitoring, training and education.



- The **transition area** is where communities foster socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable economic and human activities.

A prototype of the Operational Guidelines for WNBR and terms of reference for MAB Expert Working Group have been proposed for the MAB ICC at its 29<sup>th</sup> Session to consider

# MAB Communication Strategy

13th Consultation meeting of the International Support Group for the Man and the Biosphere programme (ISG-

Kick off meeting for the MAB global communication strategy, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January with a draft strategy ready to be examined by MAB Council.



# A major gap in the participation of MAB/WNBR

75 Member States still have no Biosphere Reserves designated in their territories. Effort has been made to narrow this gap, and currently more than 10 countries have been actively engaged in dialogue and technical consultation. Although a long-term task, one can expect that every year, two to three countries would join the WNBR



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Man and  
the Biosphere  
programme



**Sustainable  
Development  
Goals**

# Thank you!

**Room IV  
UNESCO Headquarters  
10 May 2017**