

Empowering youth & the Mab Youth Forum

Progressing the objectives of the MAB Youth Forum, and strengthening opportunities for Youth empowerment through involvement in the governance & management of biospheres

3rd April 2019



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World network of biosphere reserves

Local Actions for Global Challenges

MaB YOUTH FORUM 2017

- An unique event for youth and an opportunity to establish contacts, exchange experiences and elaborate proposals for the future.

- **EMPOWERING YOUTH**

Young people should not be kept isolated from the MAB Programme and the governance of the Biosphere Reserves, only attending events or participating in activities specifically targeting MAB Youth.

They must be given a real opportunity to be considered more consistently in the governance and in the activities of the MAB Programme and of their Biosphere Reserves.



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Practical actions identified

- Designate delegates at all levels of MaB Programme
- Train them, let them see how the MAB governance works so they can get involved in meetings and decision-making process, at all levels
- Create a platform to connect youth leaders from all over the world and allow them to build projects together



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Big ideas identified

- Use a language accessible to youth
- Improve the link between schools and Biosphere Reserves
- Providing them financial support and give them confidence
- Involve them in the production of guidelines and management plans



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Next steps

- Organisation and preparation of a **second MAB Youth Forum**
 - > selection of representatives from Biosphere Reserves within the EuroMAB network
 - > preparation of the workshops content, involving the MaB Youth Network
- Outputs of this 2nd MYF will be used in the negotiations of the COP15 of the CBD



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