

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

Thirty-first session

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room II (Fontenoy Building)
17 – 21 June 2019

Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda: MAB Young Scientists Awards Scheme

I. Selection of MAB Young Scientists Awards (MAB YSA)

1. The MAB Secretariat through the respective MAB National Committees and National Commissions for UNESCO received forty-eight (48) eligible applications from thirty-four (34) countries (Annex 1), twenty (20) of the applicants were women.
2. In accordance with the revised criteria and conditions for the MAB Young Scientist Awards (MAB YSA) approved by the 29th session of MAB-ICC the Bureau of the MAB Council will review the applications received and select the six (6) winners of the 2019 MAB Young Scientists Awards funded by UNESCO.
3. The MAB Council is invited to consider endorsing the six award winners as selected by the Bureau of the ICC.

II. Enhancement of MAB Young Scientists Award Scheme

4. Since the establishment of the MAB Young Scientists Award (YSA) Scheme in 1989 (within 30 years of the existence), the MAB Bureau has awarded 323 Awards to young scientists from 92 different countries. The Award Scheme has enabled young scientists - of which 46 % were women - to undertake over 300 research projects, most of which were carried out in or related to biosphere reserves (BRS). During the MAB Youth Forum 2017, 44% of the participants were young scientists. This clearly shows the importance and interest of young scientists towards UNESCO's MAB Programme.
5. The research projects carried out under the Award Scheme provide a wealth of information on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme related issues, including the three functions of BRs as well as in some cases on the integration of these functions. They address major environmental challenges facing the biosphere, such as *inter alia* climate change, the provision of ecosystem services, urbanization and socio-economic activities.

6. The International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB-ICC) at its 29th session on 12-15 June 2017 adopted the new criteria and conditions for the selection of MAB Young Scientists Award winners in order to address the Lima Action Plan (LAP) for Biosphere Reserves and relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in applications. The Council also agreed to enhance the visibility of the MAB YSA Scheme's achievements and impacts, and mobilize additional funds in order to increase the visibility of the achievements and strengthen the impacts of the MAB Young Scientists Award Scheme.

7. In this regard, the MAB Secretariat prepared a concept note for the project titled "UNESCO MAB Young Scientists Awards: helping young people help the planet". This note was presented at the 30th session of the MAB-ICC held in 2018, highlighting the fact that the main aim would be to adopt an integrated approach to increase the number of young scientists awarded and, at the same time, let them engage in promotional and dissemination activities through various communication activities (conferences, video messages, posts, etc.).

8. The long-term goal of the proposed project is to enhance the young scientists with opportunities and capacities to conduct scientific studies and research in biosphere reserves addressing the LAP and contributing to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to strengthen biosphere reserves as "sites of excellence" and "learning sites for sustainable development".

9. The 30th session of the MAB-ICC endorsed in general the concept note and encouraged the Secretariat to follow-up on mobilizing an appropriate funding of the MAB Young Scientists Awards Scheme and keep the Bureau well informed.

10. In order to pursue the MAB-ICC recommendations, the Secretariat presented the concept note and undertook initial discussions with potential donors/member states at several regional and sub-regional meetings – in particular, within Asia and Pacific. It got valuable inputs to develop a project proposal for extrabudgetary financing of this Scheme to be presented to potential partners by 30 September 2019.

11. The MAB Council is invited to take note of a current status on an enhancement of MAB Young Scientists Award Scheme. Taking into account 30 years of the existence of the MAB YSA Scheme, the Council is also invited to suggest modalities how to strengthen further a visibility of this Scheme, notably in the context of the MAB Strategy, the LAP and contribution to SDGs' implementation.

ANNEX 1: List of Eligible Applicants for the 2019 MAB Young Scientists Awards

	Gender	NAME	First name	Country	Region	Title of study
1	M	SCHAUMAN	Santiago Augusto	Argentina	LAC	Variable human pressures on Biosphere Reserves: the case of Argentina
2	F	DE GROOT	Grecia Stefania	Argentina	LAC	The link among local practices, conservation, sustainability and social roots: the role of floral resource availability and diversity at the landscape scale for small-scale beekeeping in the MAB Andino North-Patagonic biosphere Reserve
3	F	MIRZAYEVA	Samra	Azerbaijan	ENA	Creating artificial biosphere systems based on productivity of non-parasitic bacteria
4	M	YUSIF	Abiyev	Azerbaijan	ENA	Evolution of current state of the Shahdag national Park by using Remote Sensing methods and awareness of native people
5	F	KASHPEI	Irina	Belarus	ENA	Researching the status and distribution of the badger Meles meles in Belovezhskaya Pushcha Biosphere Reserve UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve and UNESCO World Heritage Site in Belarus as a tool to support management planning and community engagement
6	M	DEGBELO	Finagnon Galvius	Benin	AFR	Factors affecting farm's susceptibility to crop raiding by African elephants in W-Benin national park (Northern Benin)
7	M	GNONLONFOUN	Isidore	Benin	AFR	Assessing physiological responses and carbon sequestration dynamic of woody plants in response to vegetation fires and elephants' disturbances in Pendjari Biosphere Reserve in Benin, West Africa
8	F	SANTOS GARCIA	Andrea	Brazil	LAC	Mapping and assessing land degradation in Biosphere Reserves: towards sustainable development through governance opportunities
9	M	ALMENDRAS GARCIA	Diego	Chile	LAC	Marine Debris in Juan Fernandez Archipelagos
10	M	BARRIOS	Miguel David	Colombia	LAC	Ecological and population genetics approach for the conservation of seagrass ecosystems in the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve
11	M	NDZAI	Saint Fédriche	Congo (Rep)	AFR	Diversité écosystémique, floristique et estimation des stocks de carbone (aérien et organique) dans l'Unité forestière d'aménagement(UFA) Mbomo-Kellé, Département de la Cuvette-

						Ouest, République du Congo
12	F	BOKAKETI	Emmanuelle Graciase	Congo (Rep)	AFR	Etude comparative du carbone stocké par quelques espèces ligneuses
13	M	SOLIS AGUILAR	David A.	Costa Rica	LAC	Cultural geographical approach to Maleku indigenous people's practices in sacred places located in Tenorio volcano protected Zone and Caño negro national Wildlife Refuge
14	M	LEBRI	Marius	Côte d'Ivoire	AFR	Impact de l'élevage d'agouti dans les réserves de biosphère de Comoé et Taï en Côte d'Ivoire
15	F	BROOKS LAVERDEZA	Rosa Maria	Cuba	LAC	Conservation and sustainable use of flora in agroecosystems of Baconao Biosphere Reserve
16	M	BARNES	Isaac Yaw	Ghana	AFR	Ghana 101: using story telling through a geo-story map to highlight Bia River Biosphere Reserve's anthropogenic effect on community livelihood and adaptation
17	M	OPOKU	Yaw	Ghana	AFR	An ethnobotanical study of medicinal plants in the newly designated Lake Bosomtwe Biosphere Reserve of Ghana
18	M	HOCK	Ferenc	Hungary	ENA	Development of a register of invasive plants for the Pilis Biosphere Reserve and assessment of the expansion of invasive species in the Danube-valley based on data from the biosphere reserves
19	M	SIVADAS	Deepu	India	ASPAC	Estimating Carbon Sequestration potential of forests in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, India
20	M	TRIWIBOWO	Dimas	Indonesia	ASPAC	Simple water treatment system in peat swamp forest region in Cagar Biosfer Giam siak Kecil-Bukit Batu (GSK-BB)
21	F	ARDIATI	Fenny Clara	Indonesia	ASPAC	Isolation, screening, and assessment of White Rot Fungi in "Berbak and Sembilang" Biosphere Reserve for their potency in wastewater treatment
22	M	JAMEKHORSHID	Ahmad	Iran	ASPAC	Risk zoning map and behavior simulation of fire in Arasbaran Biosphere Reserve
23	F	BAILEY	Janel	Jamaica	LAC	Variations in Fat and Muscle distribution in athletes from different biosphere reserves
24	M	CAMPBELL	Eon	Jamaica	LAC	Quality of life in regard to sleep, nutrition and oxygen delivery of athletes from four biosphere reserves in Jamaica
25	F	MAMMADOVA	Aida	Japan	ASPAC	the role of Biosphere Reserves in "creating" international eco-

						entrepreneurship possibilities for youth in micro-financed transition areas of Russian and Japanese BRs
26	F	ABILOVA	Sholpan	Kazakhstan	ASPAC	Dendrochronological studies of Scots pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> L.) in the territory of the Katon Karagay Biosphere Reserve
27	M	KANTARBAYEV	Sanzhar	Kazakhstan	ASPAC	Study of the current state of the brown bear group (<i>Ursus arctos</i>) in East Kazakhstan
28	F	CHETTY	Keesha	Kenya	AFR	Identifying the relationship between baboon raiding deterrent methods and crop height in the Garden Route, Western Cape, South Africa
29	M	RAMANGASON	Hasinala	Madagascar	AFR	Dynamics of frugivores communities at Sahamalaza-iles Radama Biosphere Reserve and their implication for seed dispersal patterns and reforestation
30	M	BARRY	Tahirou	Mali	AFR	Etude socioéconomique et la cartographie de la réserve de biosphère de la Boucle de Baoulé au Mali (RBBB)
31	F	MARTINEZ CASTILLO	Violeta	Mexico	LAC	Coral resilience and coastal development: the ability of corals to survive a changing environment under anthropogenic stressors
32	M	SAENZ-CEJA	Jesus Eduardo	Mexico	LAC	Fire ecology and fire management in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve
33	M	DERDABI	Mohamed Rida	Morocco	ARAB	Contribution à l'analyse et au diagnostic de la pêche artisanale dans le Détroit de Gibraltar (rive marocaine) et ses différentes interactions
34	F	TOUJGANI	Ihssane	Morocco	ARAB	Caractérisation et valorisation des ressources génétiques locales du châtaignier commun <i>Castanae sativa</i> MILL.) dans la réserve de biosphère intercontinentale de la Méditerranée
35	M	PAUDEL	Kumar	Nepal	ASPAC	An assessment of potential biosphere reserves in Nepal, a case of Kangchenjunga landscape
36	M	JIMOH	Kazeem	Nigeria	AFR	Impact of green economy in biosphere reserve project (GEBR) as an alternative livelihood source on the poverty status of Omo Biosphere Reserve communities
37	M	FALEMARA	Babajide Charles	Nigeria	AFR	Comparative Assessment of Carbon Stock, Sequestration Potential and Economic Valuation of Tree species as Ecosystem Services in the Interrelated Zones of Omo Biosphere Reserve, Nigeria
38	M	EGOROV	Igor	Russia	ENA	Biosphere Reserve "Khakassky" as an instrument of socio-economic transformations of a peripheral region of Southern Khakassia

39	F	UNKOVSKAYA	Maria	Russia	ENA	Assessment of the ecological status of water bodies of the Great Volzhsko-Kamsky Biosphere Reserve by bottom sediments depending on anthropogenic and natural processes
40	M	NDATIMANA	Gilbert	Rwanda	AFR	Intensification for preservation /conservation of aquatic organisms
41	F	NDOUR	Sanou	Senegal	AFR	Ceratophyllum demersum L. et Najas marina L., 2 plantes aquatiques envahissantes dans la vallée du fleuve Sénégal : impacts écologiques et socioéconomiques de leur prolifération et stratégie de gestion
42	M	RATNAYAKE	Amila Sandaruwan	Sri Lanka	ASPAC	The late Holocene environmental changes in southeast to north coasts of Sri Lanka
43	F	CLARKE	Joyelle	St Kitts	LAC	Reframing Young minds: refashioning environmental conservation in the Green Valley MAB area through sustainable education
44	M	BADRELDIN	Ahmed	Sudan	ARAB	The conservational role of local communities on Jebel Al Dir Biosphere Reserve (JADBR), Sudan
45	F	AISSAOUI	Yousra	Tunisia	ARAB	La modélisation du traçage chimique des eaux usées dépolluées et leur valorisation dans le milieu rural agricole : application dans le système lagunaire du Bizerte
46	F	MNASRI	Intissar	Tunisia	ARAB	Sciences participatives pour le suivi et la gestion des espèces exotiques dans la réserve de la biosphère Zembra et Zembretta
47	F	HOANG THI	Hue	Vietnam	ASPAC	Study on the attitude of local people toward the use of disposable plastic products for proposing the policy of reducing plastic pollution in Xuan Thuy National Park, Nam Dinh (the Red River Biosphere Reserve)
48	F	HOANG THI	Lan	Vietnam	ASPAC	Functions and Services of Restored Mangrove Ecosystem in the Red River Biosphere Reserve