



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

**Biosphere reserves,  
ecosystem services,  
biodiversity and human  
well being**

**Meriem Bouamrane**

Programme specialist

Division of Ecological and Earth  
Sciences

MAB Programme

**SGA Network  
4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting  
Stellenbosch, South  
Africa**

**26-29 November 2012**



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

# Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

Intergovernmental scientific programme aiming at laying scientific basis for the improvement of people - environment relationships.

Commitment to sustainable development through

- Ecosystem/socio ecological research



- World Network of Biosphere Reserves (610 in 117 countries)



- Networking
- Partnerships
- Training and Capacity building



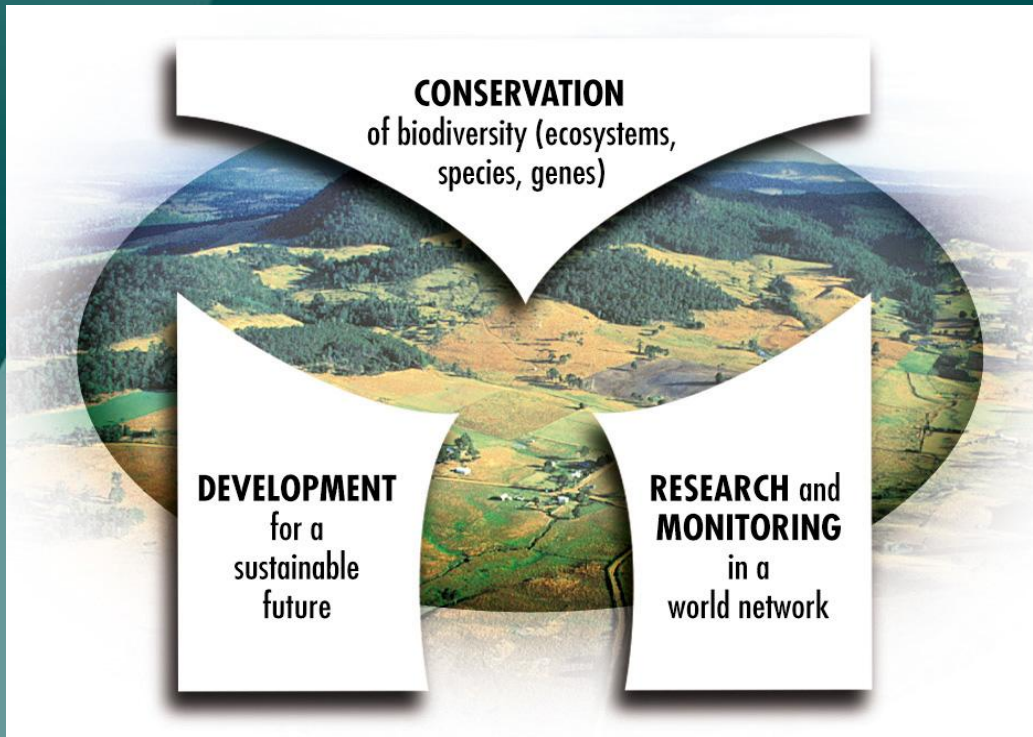


United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

## MAB & The World Network of Biosphere Reserves



- **Conserve biological and cultural diversity**
- **Propose innovative approaches to sustainable development**
- **Promote research, monitoring, education and training**



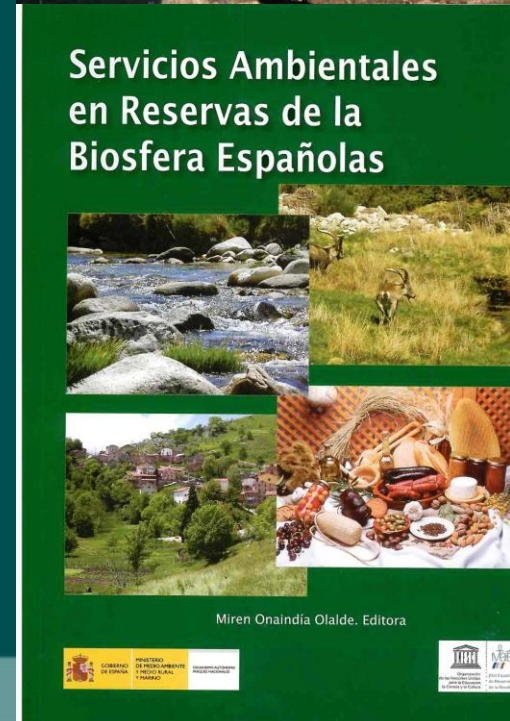
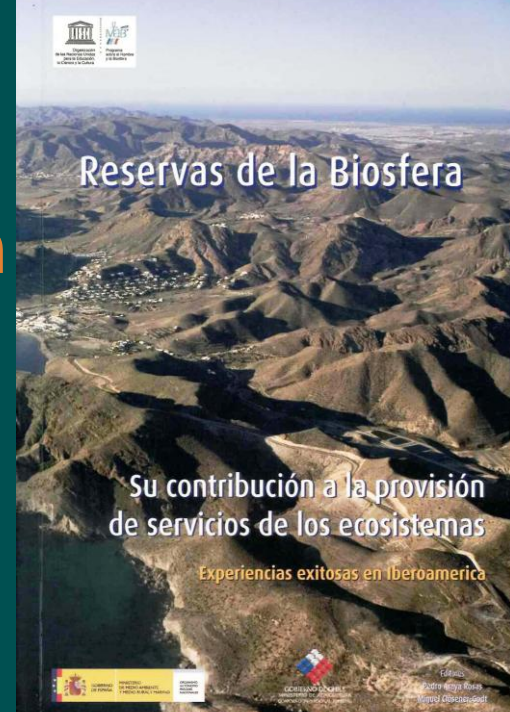
United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

# Biosphere reserves and ecosystem services

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (Kristianstad Vattenrike, Sao Paulo green belt BRs)
- Regional networks IberoMAB (2010), EuroMAB workshops (2011, 2012)
- Case studies of biosphere reserves (identification, assessment, inventory, monitoring, communication...)







United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

# Biodiversity, ecosystem services and indicators

	<b>BIOSPHERE RESERVE NOMINATION FORM</b>  (November 2012)
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>Biosphere reserves are areas of terrestrial and coastal/marine ecosystems, or a combination thereof, which are internationally recognized within the framework of UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB). They are established to promote and demonstrate a balanced relationship between humans and the biosphere. Biosphere reserves are designated by the International Coordinating Council of the MAB Programme at the request of the State concerned. Individual biosphere reserves remain under the sovereign jurisdiction of the State where they are situated. Collectively, all biosphere reserves form a World Network in which participation by States is voluntary.</p> <p>The World Network is governed by the Statutory Framework adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 1995 which presents the definition, objectives, criteria and the designation procedure for biosphere reserves. The Madrid Action Plan (2008-2013) nailed down and improved some of the requirements. The actions recommended for the development of biosphere reserves are set out in the "Seville Strategy". These documents should be used as basic references for the completion of this nomination form.</p> <p>The information presented on this nomination form will be used in a number of ways by UNESCO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for examination of the site by the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves and by the Bureau of the MAB International Coordinating Council;</li> <li>for use in a world-wide accessible information system, notably the UNESCO-MABnet and publications, facilitating communications and interaction amongst persons interested in biosphere reserves throughout the world.</li> </ol> <p>The nomination form consists of three parts: Part one is a summary indicating how the nominated area responds to the functions and criteria for biosphere reserves set out in the Statutory Framework, and presents the signatures of endorsements for the nomination from the authorities concerned. Part two is more descriptive and detailed, referring to the human, physical and biological characteristics as well as to the institutional aspects. Part three consists of two annexes: the first annex will be used to update the Directory of Biosphere Reserves on the MABnet, once the site has been approved as a biosphere reserve. The second annex will be used to provide promotion and communication materials of the biosphere reserve. Tables, illustrations and maps as appropriate throughout the nomination form are welcomed.</p> <p>The form should be completed in English, French or Spanish. Two copies should be sent to the Secretariat, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The original hard copy, with the original signatures, letters of endorsement, zonation map and supporting documents. This should be sent to the Secretariat through the Official UNESCO channels, i.e. via the National Commission for UNESCO and/or the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO.</li> <li>An electronic version (on diskette, CD, etc.) of the nomination forms and of maps (especially the zonation map). This can be sent directly to the MAB Secretariat:</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: right;">UNESCO Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences 1, rue Miollis F-75352 Paris Cedex 15, France Tel: ++33 1 45 68 41 51 Fax: ++33 1 45 68 58 04 Email: <a href="mailto:mab@unesco.org">mab@unesco.org</a> <a href="http://www.unesco.org/mab">http://www.unesco.org/mab</a></p>	

	<b>PERIODIC REVIEW FOR BIOSPHERE RESERVE</b>  (November 2012)
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>The UNESCO General Conference, at its 28th session, adopted Resolution 28 C/2.4 on the <i>Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves</i>. This text defines in particular the criteria for an area to be qualified for designation as a biosphere reserve (Article 4). In addition, Article 9 forseees a periodic review every ten years, based on a report prepared by the concerned authority, on the basis of the criteria of Article 4 and forwarded to the secretariat by the State concerned. The text of the Statutory Framework is given in the third annex.</p> <p>The form which follows is provided to help States to prepare their national reports in accordance with Article 9 and to update the data available to the Secretariat on the biosphere reserve concerned. This report should enable the International Coordinating Council (ICC) of the MAB Programme to review how each biosphere reserve is fulfilling the criteria of Article 4 of the Statutory Framework and in particular the three functions. It should be noted that it is requested, in the last part of the form (<i>Conclusion</i>), to indicate how the biosphere reserve fulfills each of these criteria.</p> <p>The information presented on this periodic review will be used in a number of ways by UNESCO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for examination of the site by the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves and by the Bureau of the MAB International Coordinating Council;</li> <li>for use in a world-wide accessible information system, notably for the UNESCO-MABnet and publications, facilitating communication and interaction amongst persons interested in biosphere reserves throughout the world.</li> </ol> <p>Kindly indicate if any part of this report should remain confidential</p> <p>The form consists of three parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part one is a summary highlighting the main changes in the biosphere reserve during the reporting period.</li> <li>Part two is more descriptive and detailed, referring to the human, physical and biological characteristics as well as to the institutional aspects.</li> <li>Part three consists of two Annexes (A): the first Annex (A.1) will be used to update the directory of biosphere reserves on the MABnet. The second annex will be used to provide promotion and communication materials of the biosphere reserve (A.2).</li> </ul>	



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

## Objectives and beneficiaries in biosphere reserves

- Basis for dialogue and discussions; transcend conservation development dilemma;
- Strengthening local values such as sense of ownership, traditional knowledge, cultural values and social participation;
- Fostering sustainable economic activities (ecotourism, generation of non-wood forest products, organic farming)
- Educational activities, communication to decision makers;



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



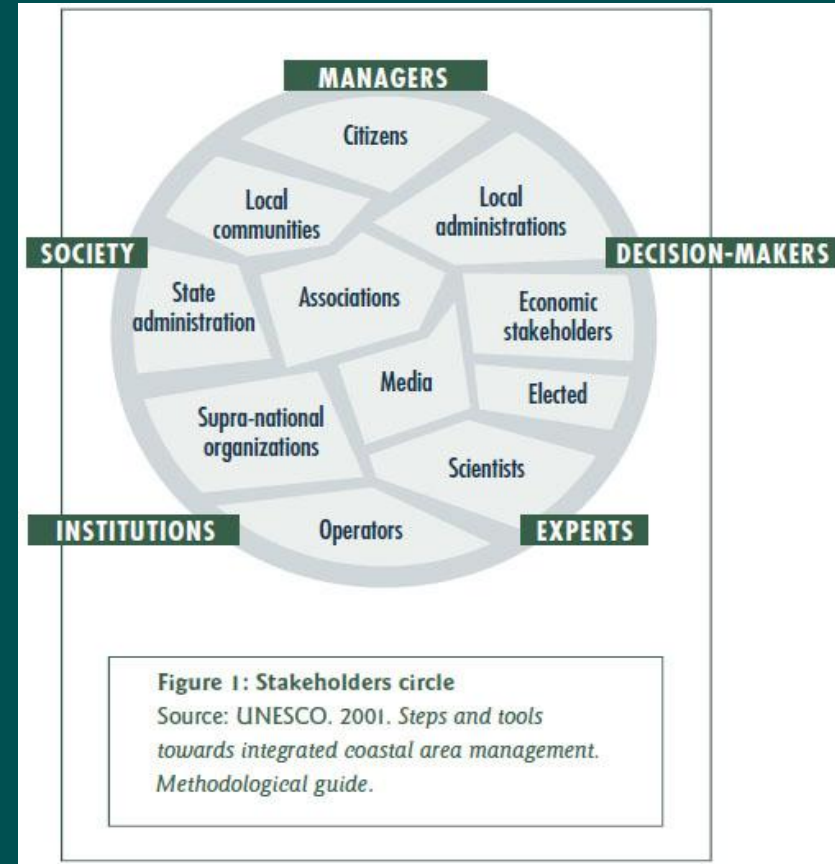
The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

- Ecosystem services benefit from co-management approaches, building on participation of local communities and implementing traditional management knowledge;
- Help identify conflicts, values and tradeoffs and enable better-informed decisions.



# Opportunities

- Discussion, dialogue methodology and tools for diversity of stakeholders;
- Co-construction of indicators to monitor changes;
- Diversity of information and combined knowledge systems (IPBES);
- Trends in quality and quantity of services







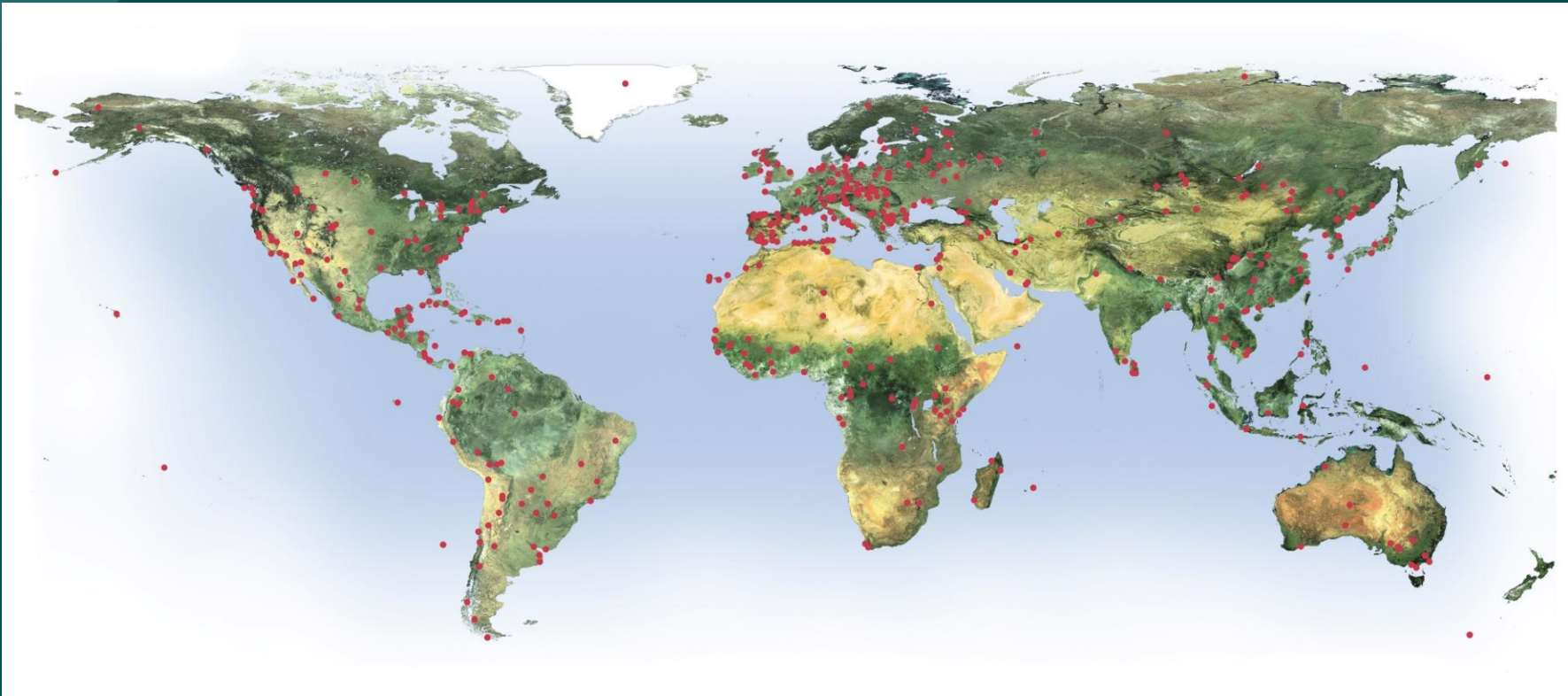
United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

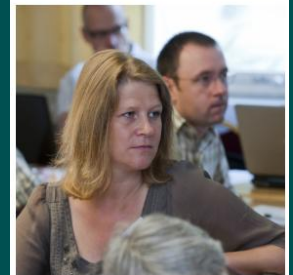


**Today, the World Network of  
Biosphere Reserves comprises 610  
sites in 117 countries (2012)**



## Challenges

- **Improve Access to biodiversity and ecosystem services information, knowledge;**
- **Adresss some research gaps (human well being, cultural services, interactions and trade offs) ;**
- **Improve networking: sharing of knowledge, tools, methodology, know-how and experience for cross fertilization ;**
- **Stimulate partnerships for building capacity and training.**





United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization



The MAN and the BIOSPHERE PROGRAMME

# UNESCO Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences

## MAB Programme

1 rue Miollis

75015 Paris, France

Tel: 33.1.45.68.41.11

[http:// www.unesco.org/mab](http://www.unesco.org/mab)

Email : [m.bouamrane@unesco.org](mailto:m.bouamrane@unesco.org)

