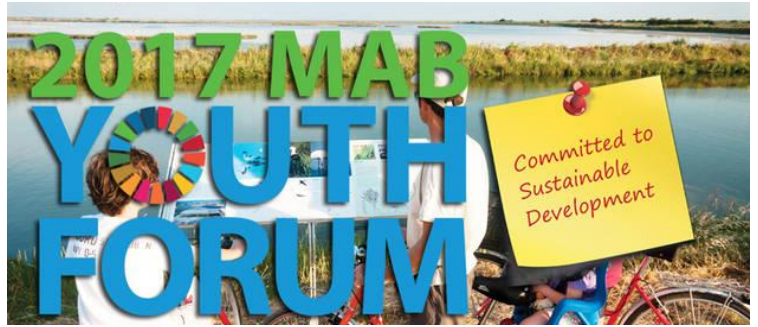


MAB UNESCO YOUTH FORUM

ORGANIZED BY THE *MAN AND BIOSPHERE* MAB PROGRAMME

The [Man and the Biosphere \(MAB\) Programme of UNESCO](#) in collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Bureau located in Venice organizes the [2017 MAB Youth Forum committed to sustainable development](#).

Announced for the first time during the 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in Lima, Peru, the Forum will take place from 18 to 23 September 2017 in the heart of the Biosphere Reserve of the Po Delta.



The Forum is addressed to youth aged between 18 and 35, who live or work in Biosphere Reserves, or who study or conduct research in these areas. The participants will be nominated by their respective biosphere reserve managers / coordinators, and supported by their MAB National Committees.



The Forum is conceived as an event that will provide young people with a unique opportunity to meet, debate and share their vision and commitment to sustainable development. It aims to become a place where strategies and action proposals can be discussed and implemented in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum is fully aligned with [UNESCO's Operational Strategy on Youth](#).



The 5 days will be organized in plenary sessions and parallel sessions, which will be carried out in various symbolic places of the Po Delta, in order to encourage exchanges between the participants and the actors of the territory.

A large-scale, online consultation will shortly be implemented among youth stakeholders of the MAB, which will provide an opportunity to define their expectations and the issues which will be debated during the Forum. [At the moment, 3 thematic areas](#) around which to develop the preparation and implementation of the Forum have been identified:

- The contribution of young people to the life of Biosphere Reserves
- Research and studies into the sustainable development of Biosphere Reserves
- A sustainable future for the youth of Biosphere Reserves.



The organizers of the Forum will be able to cover the travel costs for up to 100 participants, particularly those from Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.

MAB Youth ambassadors will be designated at the end of the Forum and charged with the mission of representing the MAB Youth community during the 2017 UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris and presenting the messages from the Forum to the International Co-ordinating Council of the MAB Programme in June 2018.

The World Network of Biosphere Reserves of the MAB Programme currently counts 669 sites in 120 countries all over the world, including 16 transboundary sites.

To know more and participate

[2017 MAB Youth Forum](#)

[Application form](#)

[MAB Programme](#)

[UNESCO Venice Office website](#)

