

20 NEW SITES JOIN THE WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES

The International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), has added [20 new sites to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves](#) (WNBR). The network includes 610 reserves in 117 countries.

The [Man and the Biosphere \(MAB\) Programme](#) improves the relationships between people and their environment globally. Launched in the early 1970s, the MAB Programme proposes an interdisciplinary research agenda and capacity building that target the ecological, social and economic dimensions of biodiversity loss and the reduction of this loss. [Biosphere reserves in practice](#) harmonize conservation of biological and cultural diversity, and economic and social development, through partnerships between people and nature. They also contribute to the transition to green societies by experimenting with green development options such as sustainable tourism and training for eco-jobs.

The World Network of the MAB Programme promotes North-South and South-South co-operation through sharing knowledge, exchanging experiences, building capacity and promoting best practices. On 2013 UNESCO was called to lead the United Nations [International Year of Water Cooperation](#) and the MAB Programme will focus cooperation and networking on issues related with water management.



To know more

[Complete list of the Biosphere Reserves](#)

[Photo Gallery of the new Biosphere Reserves](#)

[Nomination forms](#)