



Tutorial „We are Biosphere reserves“ 19th October 2016, Parc Jura Vaudois, Switzerland

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Tutorial „We are Biosphere Reserves“

Agenda

- TOP 1 Welcome (Olaf Osterman and Christan Stauffer)
05 min**
- TOP 2 Introduction (Olaf Ostermann)
05 min**
- TOP 3 Case study 1: UNESCO BR Entlebuch (Florian Knaus, CH)
20 min**
- TOP 4 Case study 2: UNESCO BR Bliesgau/Schwarzwald
(Walter Kemkes, DE) 20 min**
- TOP 5 Discussion (Olaf Osterman and Christan Stauffer)
60 min**
- TOP 6 Conclusions (Olaf Ostermann)
10 min**

Introduction

What is a biosphere reserve?

MAB-Program

Definition

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Introduction

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

= UNESCO



→ Ecological Sciences for Sustainable Development

→ Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB)



Introduction

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme was launched in 1970 during the 16th session of the General Conference of UNESCO. It is an intergovernmental effort that seeks to establish a scientific basis for improving the relationship between human beings and the environment over the long term.

The MAB Programme undertakes the following activities: research, training, monitoring and education about biodiversity. It also implements pilot projects to search for innovative ways to reconcile the responsibility to safeguard nature and conserve biodiversity with the human imperative to use natural resources to improve social and economic well-being.

Introduction

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

Sevilla Strategy

Madrid Action Plan → Lima Action Plan (2016)

Introduction

What are Biosphere Reserves?

Biosphere reserves are areas of terrestrial and coastal ecosystems recognized by UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

All biosphere reserves work to reconcile biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, economic development, research and education.

Introduction

What are Biosphere Reserves?

Furthermore, they constitute “supporting sites for environmental sustainability”. These designated areas aim to evaluate interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing the changes and interactions that occur in social and ecological systems, including the prevention of conflicts and biodiversity management.

Biosphere reserves comprise three interrelated areas that aim to fulfil three basic functions, which are complementary and mutually reinforcing (Zonation).

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The core area consists of a legally protected area designed to ensure the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variations. A biosphere reserve can have more than one legally constituted core area, where research and other less disruptive activities are allowed.

The buffer zone is the area surrounding or abutting the core area, where ecological or similar activities are performed to contribute to research, follow-up, training and scientific education. Activities performed in this area include: environmental education, recreation, ecotourism, and applied and basic research.

The transition area is a strip of the reserve where a larger number of activities are authorized to promote economic development and human sustainability from social, cultural and ecological perspectives. It is considered a multi-purpose area, where activities such as agriculture are developed in a sustainable manner.

Introduction

What is the role of biosphere reserves?

Each biosphere reserve is intended to fulfil three complementary basic functions:

- Conservation,
- Development and
- Logistics.

The conservation function contributes to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation.

Introduction

What is the role of biosphere reserves?

The development function fosters economic and human development that is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable. In this context, it is possible to perform different productive activities subject to national rules, in order to ensure and strengthen the three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.

The logistical function provides support for research, training, monitoring, education and information exchange related to local, national and global issues of conservation and development.

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Introduction

669 UNESCO-Biosphere Reserves Worldwide

in

120 Countries

including 15 transboundary sites.

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Introduction

235 UNESCO-Biosphere Reserves in Europe*

In

33 Countries

*** Including those BR in the Asian part of the Russian Federation**



Case Studies

How are they managed?

What are the benefits for a protected area being declared biosphere reserve?

Thank you !

