TUTORIAL "We are Biosphere Reserves"

What are Biosphere Reserves

- BR are terrestrial or coastal ecosystems recognized by the UNESCO MAB program
- They have a tourism (core buffer, transition zone)
- They have 3 mayor topics
  - Conservation
  - Sustainable development
  - Logistic (monitoring, research, education, information)

How are BR managed

- Different governance models in Europe
  - Steady centers
  - Local communities
  - County governors
  - State/national government

- Different budgets
  - In CH: Inhabitants tax
  - Contribution by local communities
  - Government budget

- Facilitating regional marketing
  - Local and value chain
  - Branding
  - Tourism activity

- Agriculture
  - Special breeds
  - Eco-farming

- Research
- Synergies
- Innovation
- Participation of local people
What are the benefits of being a BR?

- Best of international programme
- High political awareness, high environment awareness
- Boost for image + identification
- Better funding opportunities
- Higher effectiveness of public investment
- Health?
- Higher income + jobs by tourism and regional products
- Motive for regional development

What can/should EU/EPA do?

- Cooperate with EU/EPA
- Seek best practice examples
- Explain difference BR/Nature Park
- Making a project - benefits of BR - process of BR

Urge EU to recognize BR in their funding system

Initiate research: BR = integration, sustainable development