

# BIOSPHERE RESERVE NOMINATION FORM

[January 2013]

## INTRODUCTION

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.

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 actions recommended for the implementation of biosphere reserves are set out in the "Seville Strategy" and were further developed in the Madrid Action Plan (2008-2013). These documents should be used as basic references for the completion of this nomination form.

The information presented on this nomination form will be used in a number of ways by UNESCO:

- (a) for examination of the site by the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves and by the Bureau of the MAB International Coordinating Council;
- (b) 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.

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 promotional and communication materials of the biosphere reserve. Tables, illustrations and maps as appropriate throughout the nomination form are welcomed.

The form should be completed in English, French or Spanish. Two copies should be sent to the Secretariat, as follows:

1. 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;
2. 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:

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## **PART I: SUMMARY**

### **1. PROPOSED NAME OF THE BIOSPHERE RESERVE:**

[It is advisable to use a locally accepted geographic, descriptive or symbolic name which allows people to identify themselves with the site concerned (e.g. Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve, Bookmark Biosphere Reserve). Except in unusual circumstances, biosphere reserves should not be named after existing national parks or similar administrative areas.]

### **2. NAME OF THE COUNTRY:**

### **3. FULFILLMENT OF THE THREE FUNCTIONS OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES:**

[Article 3 of the Statutory Framework presents the three functions of conservation, development and logistic support. Explain in general terms how the area fulfills these functions.]

3.1 "Conservation - contribute to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation".

(Stress the importance of the site for conservation of biological and cultural diversity at the regional or global scales).

3.2 "Development - foster economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable".

(Indicate current activities and the potential of the proposed biosphere reserve in fulfilling the objective of fostering sustainable economic and socio-cultural development, including by securing flows of ecosystem services from the biosphere reserve).

3.3 "Logistic support - support for demonstration projects, environmental education and training, research and monitoring related to local, regional, national and global issues of conservation and sustainable development".

(Please indicate current or planned activities).

#### **4. CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION AS A BIOSPHERE RESERVE:**

[Article 4 of the Statutory Framework presents 7 general criteria for an area to be qualified for designation as a biosphere reserve which are given in order below.]

4.1 "Encompass a mosaic of ecological systems representative of major biogeographic region(s), including a gradation of human interventions".

(The term "major biogeographic region" is not strictly defined but it would be useful to refer to the Udvardy classification system ([http://www.unep-wcmc.org/udvardys-biogeographical-provinces-1975\\_745.html](http://www.unep-wcmc.org/udvardys-biogeographical-provinces-1975_745.html))).

4.2 "Be of significance for biological diversity conservation".

(This should refer not only to the numbers of endemic or rare species, but may also refer to species on the IUCN Red List or CITES appendices, at the local, regional or global levels, and also to species of global importance, rare habitat types or habitats with unique land use practices (for example traditional grazing or artisanal fishing) favouring the conservation of biological diversity).

4.3 "Provide an opportunity to explore and demonstrate approaches to sustainable development on a regional scale".

(Describe in general terms the potential of the area to serve as a site of excellence for promoting the sustainable development of its region (or "eco-region")).

4.4 "Have an appropriate size to serve the three functions of biosphere reserves"

(This refers more particularly to (a) the surface area required to meet the long term conservation objectives of the core area(s) and the buffer zone(s) and (b) the availability of areas suitable for working with local communities in testing and demonstrating sustainable uses of natural resources).

#### 4.5 Through appropriate zonation:

"(a) a legally constituted core area or areas devoted to long term protection, according to the conservation objectives of the biosphere reserve, and of sufficient size to meet these objectives".

(Describe the core area(s) briefly, indicating their legal status, their size, the main conservation objectives).

"(b) a buffer zone or zones clearly identified and surrounding or contiguous to the core area or areas, where only activities compatible with the conservation objectives can take place".

(Describe briefly the buffer zones(s), their legal status, their size, and the activities which are ongoing and planned there).

"(c) an outer transition area where sustainable resource management practices are promoted and developed".

(The Seville Strategy gave increased emphasis to the transition area since this is the area where the key issues on environment and development of a given region are to be addressed. Describe briefly the transition area(s), the types of questions to be addressed there in the near and the longer terms. The Madrid Action Plan states that the outer boundary should be defined through stakeholder consultation).

(d) Please provide some additional information about the interaction between the three areas.

4.6 "Organizational arrangements should be provided for the involvement and participation of a suitable range of inter alia public authorities, local communities and private interests in the design and the carrying out of the functions of a biosphere reserve".

##### 4.6.1 Describe arrangements in place or foreseen.

(Describe involvement of public and/or private stakeholders in support of the activities of the biosphere reserve in core, buffer and transition areas (such as agreements, protocols, letters of intent, protected area(s) plans)).

#### 4.6.2 Have any cultural and social impact assessments been conducted, or similar tools and guidelines been used?

(e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)'s Akwé: Kon guidelines; Free, Prior, and Informed Consent guidelines, Biocultural Community Protocols, etc.). *(UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) encourages biosphere reserves to consider and respect indigenous and customary rights through programmes or tools, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ([http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS\\_en.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf) when relevant and appropriate)).*

#### 4.7 Mechanisms for implementation:

Does the proposed biosphere reserve have:

"(a) mechanisms to manage human use and activities in the buffer zone or zones"?

If yes, describe. If not, describe what is planned.

"(b) a management policy or plan for the area as a biosphere reserve"?

If yes, describe. If not, state how such a plan or policy will be developed, and the timeframe. (If the proposed area coincides with one or more existing protected natural area(s), describe how the management plan of the proposed biosphere reserve will be complementary to the management plan of the protected area(s)).

"(c) a designated authority or mechanism to implement this policy or plan"?

"(d) programmes for research, monitoring, education and training"?

If yes, describe. If not, describe what is planned.

## 5. ENDORSEMENTS:

*(If a large number of Authorities are involved, please enclose the additional endorsement letters as a separate Annex).*

### 5.1 Signed by the authority/authorities in charge of the management of the core area(s):

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5.2 Signed by the authority/authorities in charge of the management of the buffer zone(s):

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5.3 Signed as appropriate by the National (or State or Provincial) administration responsible for the management of the core area(s) and the buffer zone(s):

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

5.4 Signed by the authority/authorities, elected local government recognized authority or spokesperson representative of the communities located in the transition area(s).

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

5.5 Signed on behalf of the MAB National Committee or focal point:

Full name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, email, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II: DESCRIPTION

### 6. LOCATION (COORDINATES AND MAP(S)):

6.1 Provide the biosphere reserve's standard geographical coordinates (all projected under WGS 84):

Cardinal points:	Latitude	Longitude
Most central point:		
Northernmost point:		
Southernmost point:		
Westernmost point:		
Easternmost point:		

6.2 Provide a map(s) on a topographic layer of the precise location and delimitation of the three zones of the biosphere reserve (Map(s) shall be provided in both paper and electronic copies). Shapefiles (also in WGS 84 projection system) used to produce the map must be attached to the electronic copy of the form.

If possible, also provide a link to access this map on the internet (e.g. Google map, website...).

### 7. AREA (see map):

Total: (ha)

	Terrestrial	Marine (if applicable)	Total
7.1 Area of Core Area(s):	_____ ha	_____ ha	_____ ha
7.2 Area of Buffer Zone(s):	_____ ha	_____ ha	_____ ha
7.3 Area of Transition Area(s):	_____ ha	_____ ha	_____ ha
<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____ ha	_____ ha	_____ ha

7.4 Brief rationale of this zonation in terms of the respective functions of the biosphere reserve. If a different type of zonation also exists indicate how it can coexist with the requirements of the biosphere reserve zonation.

(e.g., if national criteria exist for the definition of the area or zones, please provide brief information about these).

## 8. BIOGEOGRAPHICAL REGION:

[Indicate the generally accepted name of the biogeographical region in which the proposed biosphere reserve is located.] (The term "major biogeographic region" is not strictly defined but you may wish to refer to the Udvardy classification system ([http://www.unep-wcmc.org/udvardys-biogeographical-provinces-1975\\_745.html](http://www.unep-wcmc.org/udvardys-biogeographical-provinces-1975_745.html))).

## 9. LAND USE:

### 9.1 Historical:

(If known, give a brief summary of past/historical land use(s), resource uses and landscape dynamics of each zone of the proposed biosphere reserve).

9.2 Who are the main users of the biosphere reserve? (for each zone, and main resources used). If applicable, describe the level of involvement of indigenous people taking into account the "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples". ([http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS\\_en.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf)).

9.3 What are the rules (including customary or traditional) of land use in and access to each zone of the biosphere reserve?

9.4 Describe women's and men's different levels of access to and control over resources.

(Do men and women use the same resources differently (e.g., for subsistence, market, religious/ritual purposes), or use different resources?).

## 10. HUMAN POPULATION OF PROPOSED BIOSPHERE RESERVE:

[Approximate number of people living within the proposed biosphere reserve]

	Permanently	Seasonally
10.1 Core Area(s)	_____	_____
10.2 Buffer Zone(s)	_____	_____
10.3 Transition Area(s)	_____	_____
<b>Total:</b>	_____	_____

10.4 Brief description of local communities living within or near the proposed biosphere reserve. (Indicate ethnic origin and composition, minorities etc., main economic activities (e.g. pastoralism, tourism) and the location of their main areas of concentration, with reference to the map (section 6.2)).

10.5 Name(s) of the major settlement(s) within and near the proposed biosphere reserve with reference to the map (section 6.2): \_\_\_\_\_

10.6 Cultural significance:

(Briefly describe the proposed biosphere reserve's importance in terms of past and current cultural values (religious, historical, political, social, ethnological) and others, if possible with distinction between material and intangible heritage (c.f. UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972 and UNESCO Convention for the Safeguard of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003 ([http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=13055&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13055&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html) and [http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=17716&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=17716&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html))).

10.7 Specify the number of spoken and written languages (including ethnic, minority and endangered languages) in the biosphere reserve.

(Refer, for instance, to the UNESCO Atlas of Endangered languages (<http://www.unesco.org/culture/languages-atlas/index.php>)).

## 11. BIOPHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

11.1 General description of site characteristics and topography of area:

(Briefly describe the major topographic features (wetlands, marshes, mountain ranges, dunes etc.) which most typically characterize the landscape of the area).

11.2 Altitudinal range:

11.2.1 Highest elevation above sea level: \_\_\_\_\_ metres

11.2.2 Lowest elevation above sea level: \_\_\_\_\_ metres

11.2.3 For coastal/marine areas, maximum depth below mean sea level: \_\_\_\_\_ metres

### 11.3 Climate:

(Briefly describe the climate of the area, you may wish to use the regional climate classification by Köppen as suggested by WMO ([http://www.wmo.int/pages/themes/climate/understanding\\_climate.php](http://www.wmo.int/pages/themes/climate/understanding_climate.php))).

11.3.1 Average temperature of the warmest month: \_\_\_\_\_ °C

11.3.2 Average temperature of the coldest month: \_\_\_\_\_ °C

11.3.3 Mean annual precipitation: \_\_\_\_\_ mm, recorded at an elevation of \_\_\_\_\_ metres

11.3.4 Is there a meteorological station in or near the proposed biosphere reserve? If so, what is its name and location and how long has it been operating?

### 11.4 Geology, geomorphology, soils:

(Briefly describe important formations and conditions, including bedrock geology, sedimentary deposits, and important soil types).

### 11.5 Bioclimatic zone:

(Indicate the bioclimatic region in which the proposed biosphere reserve is located, refer to the table below and tick the appropriate box for each area of the biosphere reserve).

Areas	Average annual rainfall/mm	Aridity index		Core area(s)	Buffer zone(s)	Transition area(s)
		Penman	(UNEP index)			
Hyper-arid	P<100	<0.05	<0.05			
Arid	100-400	0.05-0.28	0.05-0.20			
Semi-arid	400-600	0.28-0.43	0.21-0.50			
Dry Sub-humid	600-800	0.43-0.60	0.51-0.65			
Moist Sub-humid	800-1200	0.60-0.90	>0.65			
Per-humid	P>1200	>0.90				

**Table 1: Aridity index resulting from the use of P/ETP**

*Mean annual precipitation (P)/mean annual potential evapotranspiration (ETP)*

### 11.6 Biological characteristics:

List main habitat types (e.g. tropical evergreen forest, savanna woodland, alpine tundra, coral reef, kelp beds) and land cover types (e.g. residential areas, agricultural land, pastoral land, cultivated areas, rangeland).

For each type, indicate:

- REGIONAL if the habitat or land cover type is widely distributed within the biogeographical region within which the proposed biosphere reserve is located, to assess the habitat's or land cover type's representativeness;

- LOCAL if the habitat or land cover type is of limited distribution within the proposed biosphere reserve, to assess the habitat's or land cover type's uniqueness.

For each habitat or land cover type, list characteristic species and describe important natural processes (e.g. tides, sedimentation, glacial retreat, natural fire) or human impacts (e.g. grazing, selective cutting, agricultural practices) affecting the system. As appropriate, refer to the vegetation or land cover map provided as supporting documentation.

## **12. ECOSYSTEM SERVICES:**

12.1 If possible, identify the ecosystem services provided by each ecosystem of the biosphere reserve and the beneficiaries of these services.

(Please refer to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Framework and The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) Framework (<http://millenniumassessment.org/en/Framework.html> and <http://www.teebweb.org/publications/teeb-study-reports/foundations/>)).

12.2 Specify whether indicators of ecosystem services are used to evaluate the three functions (conservation, development and logistic) of biosphere reserves. If yes, which ones and give details.

12.3 Describe biodiversity involved in the provision of ecosystems services in the biosphere reserve (e.g. species or groups of species involved).

12.4 Specify whether any ecosystem services assessment has been done for the proposed biosphere reserve. If yes, is this assessment used to develop the management plan?

### **13. MAIN OBJECTIVES FOR THE BIOSPHERE RESERVE'S DESIGNATION:**

13.1 Describe the main objectives of the proposed biosphere reserve, integrating the three functions (conservation, development and logistic), presented below (sections 14 to 16), including components of biological and cultural diversity. Please specify the indirect pressures and/or organizational issues.

13.2 Describe the sustainable development objectives of the biosphere reserve.  
(If appropriate, please refer to Agenda 21, Rio+20 and SDG post 2015).

13.3 Indicate the main stakeholders involved in the management of the biosphere reserve.

13.4 What consultation procedure was used for designing the biosphere reserve?

13.5 How will stakeholder involvement in implementing and managing the biosphere reserve be fostered?

13.6 What are the expected main sources of resources (financial, material and human) to implement the objectives of the biosphere reserve and projects within it?  
(Please provide formal commitments and engagements.)

### **14. CONSERVATION FUNCTION:**

14.1. At the level of landscapes and ecosystems (including soils, water and climate):

14.1.1 Describe and give the location of ecosystems and/or land cover types of the biosphere reserve.

14.1.2 Describe the state and trends of the ecosystems and/or land cover types described above and the natural and human drivers of the trends.

14.1.3 What kind of protection regimes (including customary and traditional) exist for the core area(s) and the buffer zone(s)?

14.1.4 Which indicators or data are used to assess the efficiency of the actions/strategy used?

14.2 At the level of species and ecosystem diversity:

14.2.1 Identify main groups of species or species of particular interest for the conservation objectives, especially those that are endemic to this biosphere reserve, and provide a brief description of the communities in which they occur.

14.2.2 What are the pressures on key species? In other words: what are the threats (example unsustainable management of forest), their immediate causes (drivers of change like forest change or habitat change), their underlying causes (example overgrazing, fire, pollution), and the main driving forces (example: economic, political, social, external, etc.) and the area(s) concerned?

14.2.3 What kind of measures and indicators are currently used, or planned to be used to assess both species groups and the pressures on them? Who undertakes this work, or will do so in the future?

14.2.4 What actions are currently undertaken to reduce these pressures?

14.2.5 What actions do you intend to take to reduce these pressures?

14.3. At the level of genetic diversity:

14.3.1 Indicate species or varieties that are of importance (e.g. for conservation, medicine, food production, agrobiodiversity, cultural practices etc).

14.3.2 What ecological, economic or social pressures or changes may threaten these species or varieties?

14.3.3 What indicators, at the level of the species, are used, or will be used, to assess the evolution of population status and associated use?

14.3.4 What measures will be used to conserve genetic diversity and practices associated with their conservation?

## **15. DEVELOPMENT FUNCTION:**

15.1. Potential for fostering economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable:

15.1.1 Describe how and why the area has potential to serve as a site of excellence/model region for promoting sustainable development.

15.1.2 How do you assess changes and successes (which objectives and by which indicator)?

15.2. If tourism is a major activity:

15.2.1 Describe the type(s) of tourism and the touristic facilities available. Summarize the main touristic attractions in the proposed biosphere reserve and their location(s).

15.2.2 How many visitors come to the proposed biosphere reserve each year? (Distinguish between single-day visitors and overnight guests, visitors only visiting the proposed biosphere reserve or only passing on the way to another place). Is there an upward or downward trend, or a particular target?

15.2.3 How are tourism activities currently managed?

15.2.4 Indicate possible positive and/or negative impacts of tourism at present or foreseen and how they will be assessed (linked to section 14)?

15.2.5 How will these impacts be managed, and by whom?

15.3. Agricultural (including grazing) and other activities (including traditional and customary):

15.3.1 Describe the type of agricultural (including grazing) and other activities, area concerned and people involved (including men and women).

15.3.2 Indicate the possible positive and/or negative impacts of these activities on biosphere reserve objectives (section 14).

15.3.3 Which indicators are, or will be used to assess the state and its trends?

15.3.4 What actions are currently undertaken, and which measures will be applied to strengthen positive impacts or reduce negative impacts on the biosphere reserve objectives?

15.4 Other types of activities positively or negatively contributing to local sustainable development, including impact/influence of the biosphere reserve outside its boundaries.

15.4.1 Describe the type of activities, area concerned and people involved (including men and women).

15.4.2 Indicate the possible positive and/or negative impacts of these activities on biosphere reserve objectives (section 14). Have some results already been achieved?

15.4.3 What indicators are, or will be used to assess the state and its trends?

15.4.4 What actions are currently undertaken, and which measures will be applied to strengthen positive impacts or reducing negative ones on the biosphere reserve objectives?

15.5 Benefits of economic activities to local people:

15.5.1 For the activities described above, what income or benefits do local communities (including men and women) derive directly from the site proposed as a biosphere reserve and how?

15.5.2 What indicators are used to measure such income or other benefits?

15.6 Spiritual and cultural values and customary practices:  
(Provide an overview of values and practices, including cultural diversity).

15.6.1 Describe any cultural and spiritual values and customary practices including languages, rituals, and traditional livelihoods. Are any of these endangered or declining?

15.6.2 Indicate activities aimed at identifying, safeguarding, promoting and/or revitalising such values and practices.

15.6.3 How should cultural values be integrated in the development process: elements of identity, traditional knowledge, social organizations, etc.?

15.6.4 Specify whether any indicators are used to evaluate these activities. If yes, which ones and give details.

(Examples of indicators: presence and number of formal and non-formal education programmes that transmit these values and practices, number of revitalisation programmes in place, number of speakers of an endangered or minority language).

## **16. LOGISTIC SUPPORT FUNCTION:**

### 16.1 Research and monitoring:

16.1.1 Describe existing and planned research programmes and projects as well as monitoring activities and the area(s) in which they are (will be) undertaken in order to address specific questions related to biosphere reserve management and for the implementation of the management plan (please refer to variables in Annex I).

16.1.2 Summarize past research and monitoring activities related to biosphere reserve management (please refer to variables in Annex I).

16.1.3 Indicate what research infrastructure is available in the proposed biosphere reserve, and what role the biosphere reserve will play in supporting such infrastructure.

### 16.2 Education for sustainable development and public awareness:

16.2.1 Describe existing and planned activities, indicating the target group(s) and numbers of people involved (as “teachers” and “students”) and the area concerned.

16.2.2 What facilities and financial resources are (or will be) available for these activities?

### 16.3 Contribution to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves:

16.3.1 How will the proposed biosphere reserve contribute to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, its Regional and Thematic Networks?

16.3.2 What are the expected benefits of international cooperation for the biosphere reserve?

16.4 Internal and external communication channels and media used by the biosphere reserve:

16.4.1 Is (will) there (be) a biosphere reserve website? If yes, what is its URL?

16.4.2 Is (will) there (be) an electronic newsletter? If yes, how often will it be published?

16.4.3 Does (will) the biosphere reserve belong to a social network (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)?

## **17. GOVERNANCE, BIOSPHERE RESERVE MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION:**

[Describe the following characteristics in the prospective that the site is being designated.]

17.1 Management and coordination structure:

17.1.1 What is the legal status of the biosphere reserve?

17.1.2 What is the legal status of the core area(s) and the buffer zone(s)?

17.1.3 Which administrative authorities have competence for each zone of the biosphere reserve (core area(s), buffer zone(s), transition area(s))?

17.1.4. Clarify the respective competence of each of these authorities. Make a distinction between each zone if necessary and mention any decentralized authority.

17.1.5 Indicate the main land tenure (ownership) for each zone.

17.1.6 Is there a single manager/coordinator of the biosphere reserve or are several people in charge of managing it? If one manager/coordinator, who designates and employs him/her (national authorities, environmental administrative agency, local authorities)?

17.1.7 Are there consultative advisory or decision-making bodies (e.g., scientific council, general assembly of inhabitants of the reserve) for each zone or for the whole biosphere reserve?

- If yes, describe their composition, role and competence, and the frequency of their meetings.

17.1.8 Has a coordination structure been established specifically for the biosphere reserve?

- If yes, describe in detail its functioning, composition and the relative proportion of each group in this structure, its role and competence.
- Is this coordination structure autonomous or is it under the authority of local or central government, or of the manager/coordinator of the biosphere reserve?

17.1.9 How is the management/coordination adapted to the local situation?

17.1.10 Is there a procedure for evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness of the management?

17.2 Conflicts within the biosphere reserve:

17.2.1 Describe any important conflicts regarding the access or the use of natural resources in the area considered (and precise period if accurate). If the biosphere reserve has contributed to preventing or resolving some of these conflicts, explain what has been resolved or prevented, and how this was achieved for each zone.

17.2.2 If there are any conflicts in competence among the different administrative authorities in the management of the biosphere reserve, describe these.

17.2.3 Explain the means used to resolve these conflicts, and their effectiveness.

17.3 Representation, participation and consultation of local communities:

17.3.1 At what stages in the existence of a biosphere reserve have local people been involved: design of the biosphere reserve, drawing up of the management/cooperation plan, implementation of the plan, day to day management of the biosphere reserve? Give some specific examples.

17.3.2 Describe how the local people (including women and indigenous communities) have been, and/or are represented in the planning and management of the biosphere reserve (e.g., assembly of representatives, consultative groups).

17.3.3 Describe the specific situation of young people in the proposed biosphere reserve (e.g., potential impacts of the biosphere reserve on youth, consideration of their interests and needs, incentives to encourage them to participate actively in the governance system of the biosphere reserve).

17.3.4 What form does this representation take (e.g., companies, associations, environmental associations, trade unions)?

17.3.5 Are there procedures for integrating the representative body of local communities (e.g., financial, election of representatives, traditional authorities)?

17.3.6 How long-lived are consultation mechanisms (permanent assembly, consultation on specific projects)? Make a complete description of this consultation. What are the roles of involved stakeholders compared to the role of the biosphere reserve?

17.3.7 What consultation mechanisms have been used, and who has been involved? Are they for specific purposes or long-term? What impacts have they had on decision-making processes (decisional, consultative or merely to inform the population)?

17.3.8 Do women participate in community organizations and decision-making processes? Are their interests and needs given equal consideration? What incentives or programmes are in place to encourage their representation and participation (e.g.: was(were) a “gender impact assessment(s)” carried out)?

17.4. The management/cooperation plan/policy:

17.4.1 Is there a management/cooperation plan/policy for the biosphere reserve as a whole?

17.4.2 Which actors are involved in preparing the management/cooperation plan? How are they involved?

17.4.3 Do local authorities formally adopt the management/cooperation plan? Are local authorities making reference to it in other policies and/or plans? If so, please provide details.

17.4.4 What is the duration of the management/cooperation plan? How often is it revised or renegotiated?

17.4.5 Describe the contents of the management/cooperation plan. Does it consist of detailed measures or detailed guidelines? Give some examples of measures or guidelines advocated by the plan? (Enclose a copy).

17.4.6 Indicate how this management/cooperation addresses the objectives of the proposed biosphere reserve (as described in section 13.1).

17.4.7 Is the plan binding? Is it based on a consensus?

17.4.8 Which authorities are in charge of the implementation of the plan, especially in the buffer zone(s) and the transition area(s)? Please provide evidence of the role of these authorities.

17.4.9 Which factors impede or help its implementation (e.g.: reluctance of local people, conflicts between different levels of decision-making).

17.4.10 Is the biosphere reserve integrated in regional/national strategies? Vice versa, how are the local/municipal plans integrated in the planning of the biosphere reserve?

17.4.11 Indicate the main source of the funding and the estimated yearly budget.

17.5 Conclusions:

17.5.1 In your opinion, what will ensure that both the functioning of the biosphere reserve and the structures in place will be satisfactory? Explain why and how, especially regarding the fulfillment of the three functions of biosphere reserves (conservation, development, logistic) and the participation of local communities.

**18. SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS:**

[Special designations recognize the importance of particular sites in carrying out the functions important in a biosphere reserve, such as conservation, monitoring, experimental research, and environmental education. These designations can help strengthen these functions where they exist or provide opportunities for developing them. Special designations may apply to an entire proposed biosphere reserve or to a site included within. They are therefore complementary and reinforcing of the designation as a biosphere reserve. Check each designation that applies to the proposed biosphere reserve and indicate its name]

Name:

- UNESCO World Heritage Site
- RAMSAR Wetland Convention Site
- Other international/regional conservation conventions/directives (specify)
- Long term monitoring site (specify)
- Long Term Ecological Research (LTER site)
- Other (specify)

**19. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (to be submitted with nomination form):****(1) Location and zonation map with coordinates**

[Provide the biosphere reserve's standard geographical coordinates (all projected under WGS 84).

Provide a map on a topographic layer of the precise location and delimitation of the three zones of the biosphere reserve (Map(s) shall be provided in both paper and electronic copies). Shapefiles (also in WGS 84 projection system) used to produce the map must also be attached to the electronic copy of the form. If applicable, also provide a link to access this map on the internet (e.g. Google map, website).]

**(2) Vegetation map or land cover map**

[A vegetation map or land cover map showing the principal habitats and land cover types of the proposed biosphere reserve should be provided, if available].

**(3) List of legal documents (if possible with English, French or Spanish synthesis of its contents and a translation of its most relevant provisions)**

[List the principal legal documents authorizing the establishment and governing use and management of the proposed biosphere reserve and any administrative area(s) they contain. Provide a copy of these documents.

**(4) List of land use and management/cooperation plans**

[List existing land use and management/cooperation plans (with dates and reference numbers) for the administrative area(s) included within the proposed biosphere reserve. Provide a copy of these documents. It is recommended to produce English, French or Spanish synthesis of its contents and a translation of its most relevant provisions]

**(5) Species list (to be annexed)**

[Provide a list of important species occurring within the proposed biosphere reserve, including common names, wherever possible.]

**(6) List of main bibliographic references (to be annexed)**

[Provide a list of the main publications and articles of relevance to the proposed biosphere reserve over the past 5-10 years].

**(7) Original Endorsement letters according to paragraph 5****(8) Further supporting documents.****20. ADDRESSES:****20.1 Contact address of the proposed biosphere reserve:**

[Government agency, organization, or other entity (entities) to serve as the main contact and to whom all correspondence within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves should be addressed.]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City with postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

**20.2. Administering entity of the core area(s):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City with postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

## 20.3. Administering entity of the buffer zone(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City with postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

## 20.4. Administering entity of the transition area(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City with postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annex I to the Biosphere Reserve Nomination Form, January 2013**

**MABnet Directory of Biosphere Reserves**

**Biosphere Reserve Description<sup>1</sup>**

**Administrative details**

**Country:**

**Name of BR:**

**Year designated:** *(to be completed by MAB Secretariat)*

**Administrative authorities:** (17.1.3)

**Name Contact:** (20.1)

**Contact address:** *(Including phone number, postal and email addresses)* (20.1)

**Related links:** *(web sites)*

Social networks: **(16.4.3)**

**Description**

**General description:** *(Site characteristics in 11.1; human population in 10)*

Approximately 25 lines

**Major ecosystem type:** (14.1)

**Major habitats & land cover types:** (11.6)

**Bioclimatic zone (11.5)**

**Location** (latitude & longitude): (6.1)

**Total Area** (ha): (7)

**Core area(s):** (7)

**Buffer zone(s):** (7)

**Transition area(s) :** (7)

---

<sup>1</sup> To be posted on the MABnet once the nomination has been approved. The numbers refer to the relevant sections of the nomination form.

**Different existing zonation:** (7.4)  
**Altitudinal range** (metres above sea level): (11.2)  
**Zonation map(s):** (6.2)

**Main objectives of the biosphere reserve**

**Brief description** (13.1)

Approximately 5 lines

**Research**

**Brief description** (16.1.1)

Approximately 5 lines

**Monitoring**

**Brief description** (16.1.1)

Approximately 5 lines

**Specific variables (fill in the table below and tick the relevant parameters)**

<b>Abiotic</b>		<b>Biodiversity</b>	
Abiotic factors		Afforestation/Reforestation	
Acidic deposition/Atmospheric factors		Algae	
Air quality		Alien and/or invasive species	
Air temperature		Amphibians	
Climate, climatology		Arid and semi-arid systems	
Contaminants		Autoecology	
Drought		Beach/soft bottom systems	
Erosion		Benthos	
Geology		Biodiversity aspects	
Geomorphology		Biogeography	
Geophysics		Biology	
Glaciology		Biotechnology	
Global change		Birds	
Groundwater		Boreal forest systems	
Habitat issues		Breeding	
Heavy metals		Coastal/marine systems	
Hydrology		Community studies	
Indicators		Conservation	
Meteorology		Coral reefs	
Modeling		Degraded areas	
Monitoring/methodologies		Desertification	
Nutrients		Dune systems	
Physical oceanography		Ecology	
Pollution, pollutants		Ecosystem assessment	
Siltation/sedimentation		Ecosystem functioning/structure	
Soil		Ecosystem services	
Speleology		Ecotones	
Topography		Endemic species	
Toxicology		Ethology	
UV radiation		Evapotranspiration	
		Evolutionary studies/Palaeoecology	
		Fauna	
		Fires/fire ecology	
		Fishes	
		Flora	
		Forest systems	
		Freshwater systems	
		Fungi	
		Genetic resources	
		Genetically modified organisms	
		Home gardens	
		Indicators	
		Invertebrates	
		Island systems/studies	
		Lagoon systems	
		Lichens	

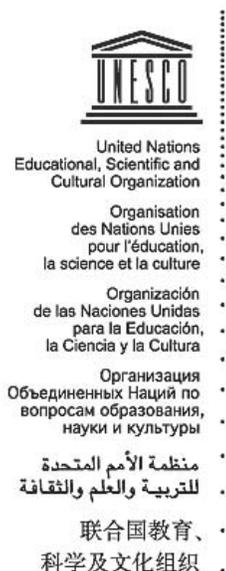
	Mammals	
	Mangrove systems	
	Mediterranean type systems	
	Microorganisms	
	Migrating populations	
	Modeling	
	Monitoring/methodologies	
	Mountain and highland systems	
	Natural and other resources	
	Natural medicinal products	
	Perturbations and resilience	
	Pests/Diseases	
	Phenology	
	Phytosociology/Succession	
	Plankton	
	Plants	
	Polar systems	
	Pollination	
	Population genetics/dynamics	
	Productivity	
	Rare/Endangered species	
	Reptiles	
	Restoration/Rehabilitation	
	Species (re) introduction	
	Species inventorying	
	Sub-tropical and temperate rainforest	
	Taxonomy	
	Temperate forest systems	
	Temperate grassland systems	
	Tropical dry forest systems	
	Tropical grassland and savannah systems	
	Tropical humid forest systems	
	Tundra systems	
	Vegetation studies	
	Volcanic/Geothermal systems	
	Wetland systems	
	Wildlife	

<b>Socio-economic</b>		<b>Integrated monitoring</b>	
Agriculture/Other production systems		Biogeochemical studies	
Agroforestry		Carrying capacity	
Anthropological studies		Climate change	
Aquaculture		Conflict analysis/resolution	
Archaeology		Ecosystem approach	
Bioprospecting		Education and public awareness	
Capacity building		Environmental changes	
Cottage (home-based) industry		Geographic Information System (GIS)	
Cultural aspects		Impact and risk studies	
Demography		Indicators	
Economic studies		Indicators of environmental quality	
Economically important species		Infrastructure development	
Energy production systems		Institutional and legal aspects	
Ethnology/traditional practices/knowledge		Integrated studies	
Firewood cutting		Interdisciplinary studies	
Fishery		Land tenure	
Forestry		Land use/Land cover	
Human health		Landscape inventorying/monitoring	
Human migration		Management issues	
Hunting		Mapping	
Indicators		Modelling	
Indicators of sustainability		Monitoring/methodologies	
Indigenous people's issues		Planning and zoning measures	
Industry		Policy issues	
Livelihood measures		Remote sensing	
Livestock and related impacts		Rural systems	
Local participation		Sustainable development/use	
Micro-credits		Transboundary issues/measures	
Mining		Urban systems	
Modelling		Watershed studies/monitoring	
Monitoring/methodologies			
Natural hazards			
Non-timber forest products			
Pastoralism			
People-Nature relations			
Poverty			
Quality economies/marketing			
Recreation			
Resource use			
Role of women			
Sacred sites			
Small business initiatives			
Social/Socio-economic aspects			
Stakeholders' interests			
Tourism			
Transports			

**Annex II to the Biosphere Reserve Nomination Form, January 2013**  
**Promotion and Communication Materials**  
**For the Proposed Biosphere Reserve**

*Provide some promotional material regarding the proposed site, notably high quality photos, and/or short videos on the site so as to allow the Secretariat to prepare appropriate files for press events. To this end, a selection of photographs in high resolution (300 dpi), with photo credits and captions and video footage (rushes), without any comments or sub-titles, of professional quality – DV CAM or BETA only, will be needed.*

*In addition, return a signed copy of the following Agreement on Non-Exclusive Rights. A maximum of ten (10) minutes on each biosphere reserve will then be assembled in the audiovisual section of UNESCO and the final product, called a B-roll, will be sent to the press.*



UNESCO Photo Library  
**Bureau of Public Information**

Photothèque de l'UNESCO  
**Bureau de l'Information du Public**

**AGREEMENT GRANTING NON-EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS**

Reference:

1.
  - a) I the undersigned, copyright-holder of the above mentioned photo(s) hereby grant to UNESCO free of charge the non-exclusive right to exploit, publish, reproduce, diffuse, communicate to the public in any form and on any support, including digital, all or part of the photograph(s) and to licence these rights to third parties on the basis of the rights herein vested in UNESCO
  - b) These rights are granted to UNESCO for the legal term of copyright throughout the world.
  - c) The name of the photographer will be cited alongside UNESCO's whenever his/her work is used in any form.
2. I certify that:
  - a) I am the sole copyright holder of the photo(s) and am the owner of the rights granted by virtue of this agreement and other rights conferred to me by national legislation and pertinent international conventions on copyright and that I have full rights to enter into this agreement.
  - b) The photo(s) is/are in no way whatever a violation or an infringement of any existing copyright or licence, and contain(s) nothing obscene, libellous or defamatory.

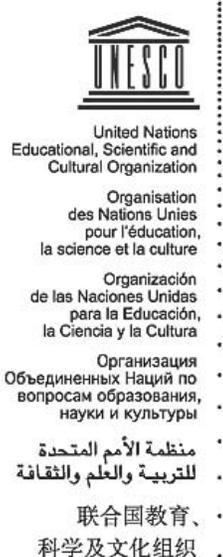
Name and Address :

Date :

Signature :

*(sign, return to UNESCO two copies of the Agreement and retain the original for yourself)*

Mailing address: 7 Place Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, Direct Telephone: 00331 – 45681687  
 Direct Fax: 00331 – 45685655; e-mail: [photobank@unesco.org](mailto:photobank@unesco.org);  
[m.ravassard@unesco.org](mailto:m.ravassard@unesco.org)



UNESCO Photo Library  
**Bureau of Public Information**

Photothèque de l'UNESCO  
**Bureau de l'Information du Public**

**AGREEMENT GRANTING NON-EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS**

Reference:

1.
  - a) I the undersigned, copyright-holder of the above mentioned video(s) hereby grant to UNESCO free of charge the non-exclusive right to exploit, publish, reproduce, diffuse, communicate to the public in any form and on any support, including digital, all or part of the video(s) and to licence these rights to third parties on the basis of the rights herein vested in UNESCO
  - b) These rights are granted to UNESCO for the legal term of copyright throughout the world.
  - c) The name of the author/copyright holder will be cited alongside UNESCO's whenever his/her work is used in any form.
  
2. I certify that:
  - a) I am the sole copyright holder of the video(s) and am the owner of the rights granted by virtue of this agreement and other rights conferred to me by national legislation and pertinent international conventions on copyright and that I have full rights to enter into this agreement.
  - b) The video(s) is/are in no way whatever a violation or an infringement of any existing copyright or licence, and contain(s) nothing obscene, libellous or defamatory.

Name and Address :  
 Date :

Signature :

*(sign, return to UNESCO two copies of the Agreement and retain the original for yourself)*

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Mailing address: 7 Place Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, Direct Telephone: 00331 – 45681687  
Direct Fax: 00331 – 45685655; e-mail: [photobank@unesco.org](mailto:photobank@unesco.org); [m.ravassard@unesco.org](mailto:m.ravassard@unesco.org)