

24 NEW SITES JOIN THE WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES IN 2018

The International Co-ordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme has added [24 new sites to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves](#) during its meeting in Palembang (Indonesia) held from 23 to 28 July 2018. New reserves are designated every year by the MAB International Co-ordinating Council, a body with a rotating elected membership of 34 UNESCO Member States.

[Biosphere reserves](#) are sites destined to reconcile the conservation of biodiversity and human activity through the sustainable use of natural resources. One of their objective is to give rise to [innovative sustainable development practices](#).

The 24 new Biosphere Reserves joining the MAB World Network in 2018 are located in Burkina Faso, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Madagascar, Republic of Moldavia, Mozambique, Netherlands, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania.

The MAB network now numbers [686 Biosphere Reserves in 122 countries](#), including 20 transboundary sites.

Established by UNESCO in the early 1970s, the [Man and the Biosphere](#) is an Intergovernmental Scientific Programme that aims to establish a scientific basis for the improvement of relationships between people and their environment. [Biosphere reserves](#) 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.

To know more

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[Photo gallery of the new Reserves](#)

[List of MAB Reserves by world regions](#)

[MAB programme brochure](#)

[UNESCO MAB Brand and toolkit](#)

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