

Western Port Biosphere AGM

@robgell

29 November 2023

Lang Lang coast

c. 1974

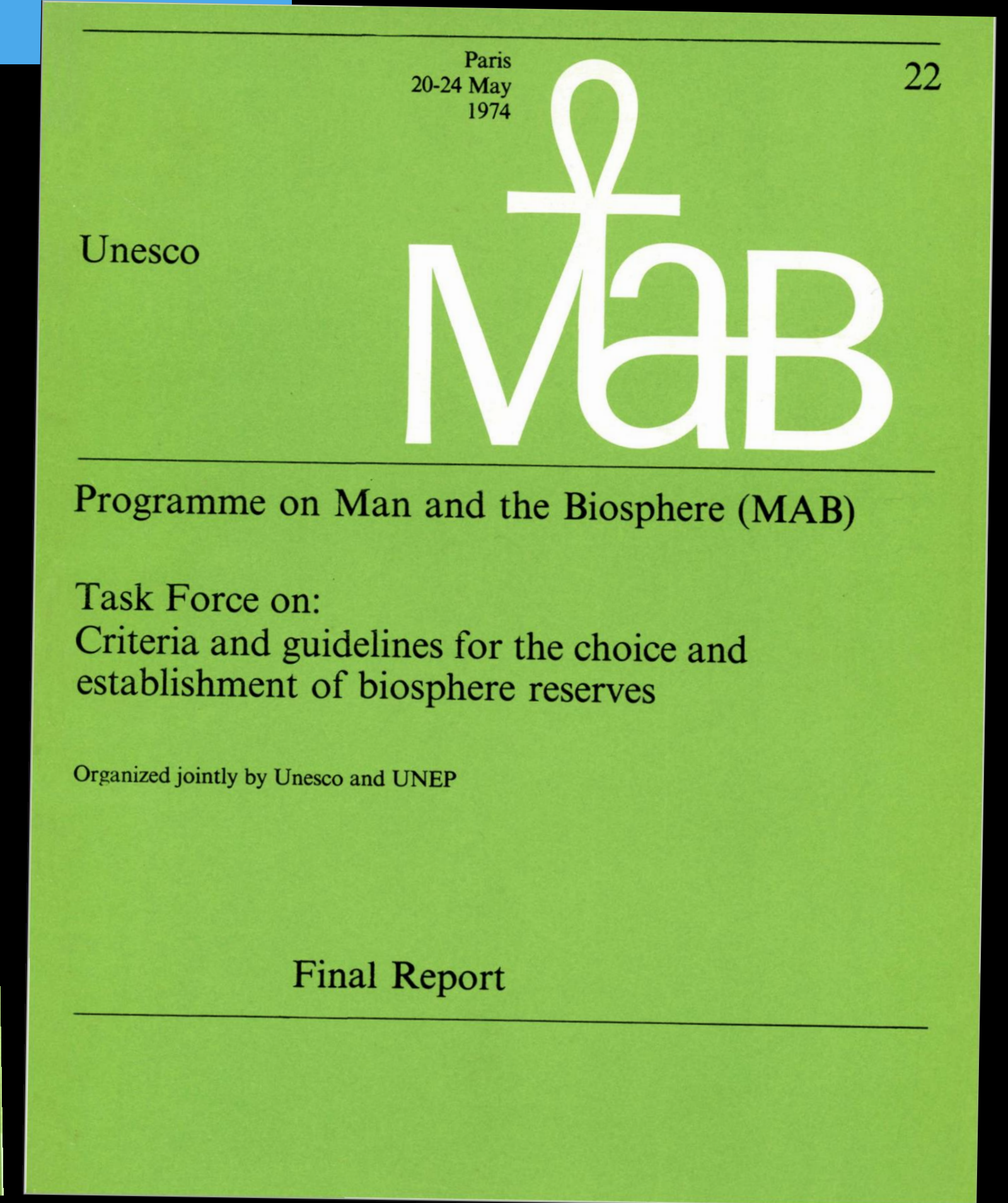
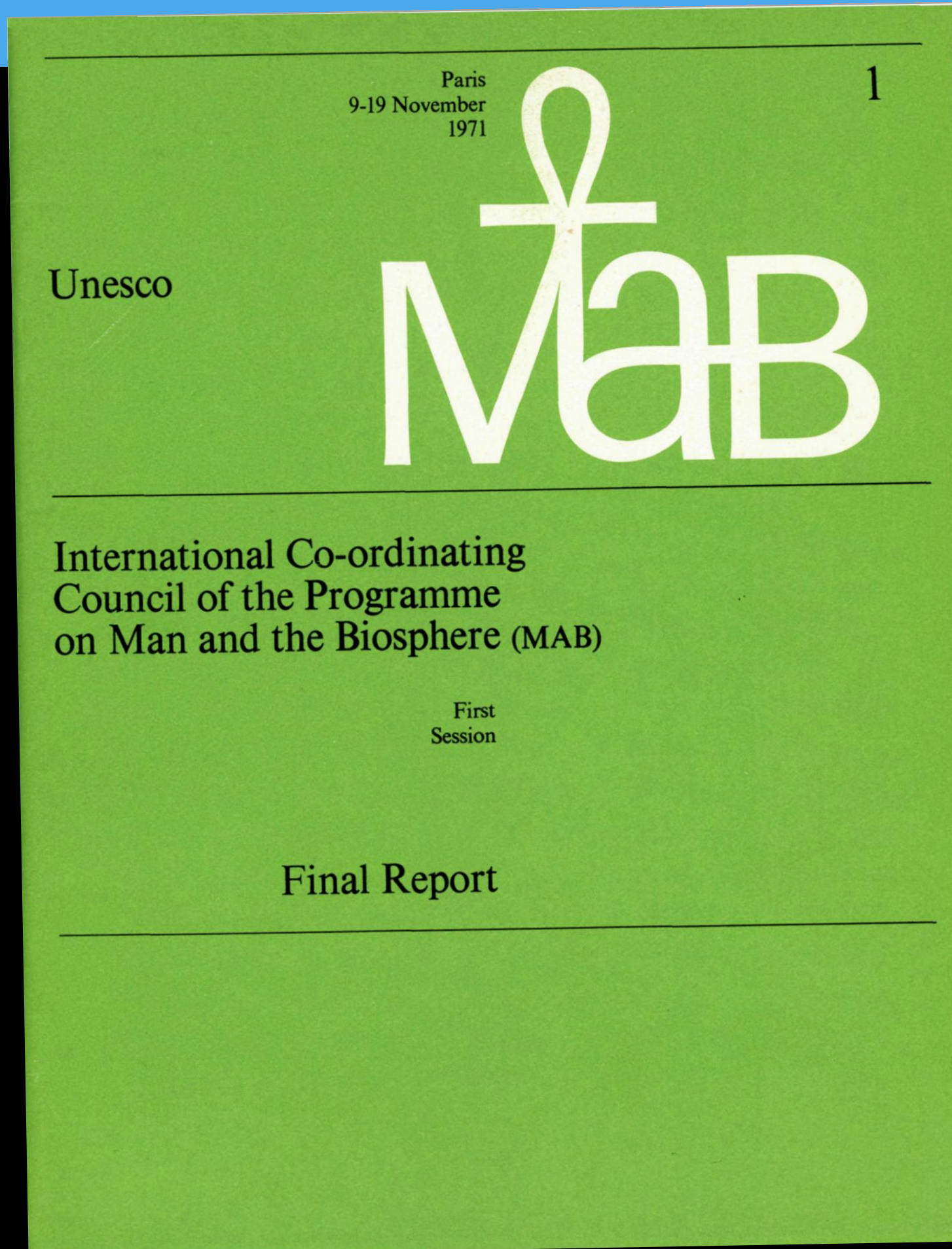


UNESCO - Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB)

Launched in 1971, UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) is an Intergovernmental Scientific Programme that aims to establish a scientific basis for the improvement of relationships between people and their environments.



unesco



Articles/Reports

[1995 Biosphere Reserve Managers' Workshop. October 29-31, 1995. Hyatt Dulles, Washington, DC.](#) (1995)

[Access 1996: A Directory of Permanent Plots Which Monitor Flora, Fauna, Climate, Hydrology, Soil, Geology, and the Effects of Anthropogenic Changes at 132 Biosphere Reserves in 27 Countries](#) (July 1996)

[Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves](#) (reprint from Nature and Resources, Vol. XX, No. 4 Oct.-Dec. 1984)

[Addition of Sites to Existing Biosphere Reserves](#) (Draft, July 1991)

[A Practical Guide to MAB](#) (June 1987)

[Assessment of Scientific Information and Activities at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument Biosphere Reserve](#) (Peter S. Bennett, R. Roy Johnson, and Michael M. McCarthy, July 1990)

[Biosphere Reserves and the Conservation of Traditional Land Use Systems](#) (William P. Gregg, Jr., Mar. 29-Apr. 2, 1988)

[Biosphere Reserves and Sovereignty: A Story for the United States Man and Biosphere \(MAB\) Community](#) (Vernon (Tom) Gilbert, January 2016)

[Biosphere Reserves: Expanding the Functional Area for Conservation Through Cooperation](#) (William P. Gregg, Jr., 1992)

[Biosphere Reserves in Action: Case Studies of the American Experience](#) (June 1995)

[Biosphere Reserves of The World: Principles & Practices](#) (Philip J. Nyhus and Michael S. Adams, 1995)

[Biosphere Reserve Managers' Survey](#) (1995)

[Biosphere Reserves / Réserves de la biosphère](#) (Canadian Man and the Biosphere Committee, 1982)

[Buck Island Fish and Shellfish Populations](#) Biosphere Reserve Research Report No. 26 (William Tobias, Eric Telemaque and Michael Davis, 1988)

[Building Resource Inventories on a Global Scale](#) (William P. Gregg, Jr., Erica Serabian and Michael A. Ruggiero, *George Wright Forum*, Vol. 10 No. 1, 1993)

[Building Science Programs to Support the Multiple Roles of Biosphere Reserves](#) (William P. Gregg, Jr., Sep. 26-Oct. 2, 1983)

[Classification of Coastal and Marine Environments for Identification of Biosphere Reserves](#) (Final Report, December 1986)

[Constable Commission](#) (Final Report, March 1995)

[Designation of U.S. MAB Areas and Recognition of Entities Contributing to the U.S. Biosphere Reserve Program](#) (February 1996)

[Development of the Biosphere Reserve Network Under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Program](#) (Vernon C. Gilbert and William P. Gregg, Jr., August 1981)

[For life, for the future. Biosphere reserves and climate change: A collection of good practice case studies](#) (Lutz Möller, ed., German Commission for UNESCO, 2011)

[Future Development of the MAB Programme](#) (2000)

[Great Smoky Mountains National Park as a Biosphere Reserve: A Research/Monitoring Perspective](#) (Raymon Hermann and Susan Bratton, National Park Service, 1977)

[Guidance for Regional MAB Organizational Efforts](#) (1990)

[Guidelines for the Selection and Coordination of Biosphere Reserves in the United States](#) (Draft, March 1989)

[Initial Inventory of Three Permanent Forest Plots in the Virgin Islands National Park](#) Biosphere Reserve Research Report No. 27 (John E. Earhart, Anne E. Reilly an Matt Davis, 1988)

[Interview Notes: Feasibility Study for an Ozark Man and the Biosphere Cooperative](#)

[Long-Term Ecological Monitoring in Biosphere Reserves](#) (August 1979)

[Long-Term Ecological Research Sites: Value and Experience in the Man and the Biosphere Program](#) (William P. Gregg, Jr., 1988)

[Man and the Biosphere Program](#) Hearing before the Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research and Environment of the Committee on Science and Technology, U.S. House of Representatives, Ninety-Eight Congress, First Session, April 5, 1983

[Man and the Bisphere Programme](#) (©UNESCO, 1980)

[Management of Natural Resource Information for the Virgin Islands National Park and Biosphere Reserve](#) Special Biosphere Reserve Report (Island Resources Foundation, 1988)

Paper presented at First International Congress on Biosphere Reserves, Minsk, Byelorussian SSR, 26 Sept.-2 October 1983.

BUILDING SCIENCE PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT THE MULTIPLE ROLES OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES

William P. Gregg, Jr.
National Park Service
19th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240
United States of America

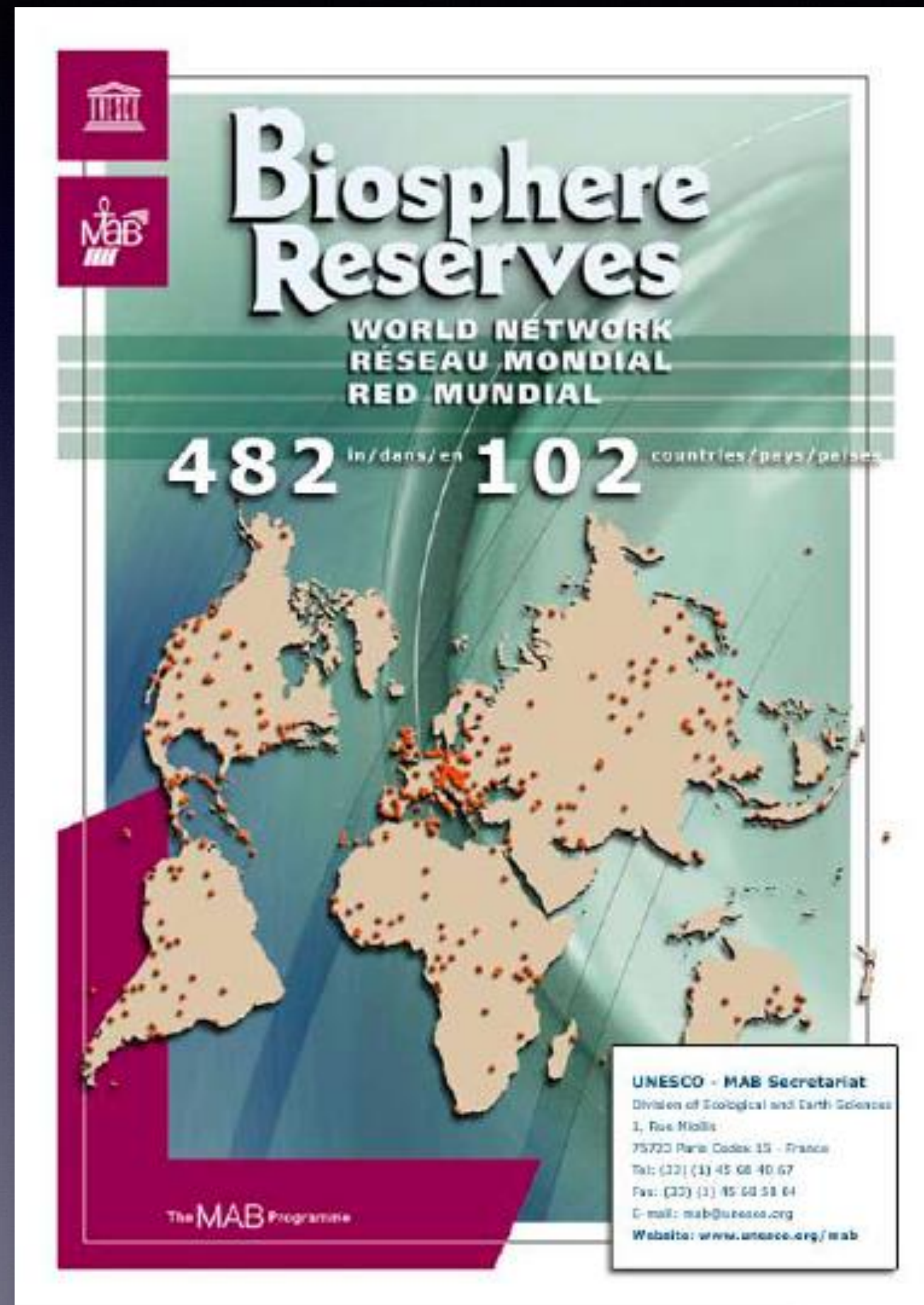
ABSTRACT

Biosphere reserves conserve representative examples of the world's ecosystems; contribute to maintaining their genetic diversity; and serve as global benchmarks of environmental quality, as centers for developing the knowledge and skills needed for integrated development of particular biogeographic regions, and as focal points for education and training to improve the capabilities of specialists and local people. A large network of protected sites is being established, yet immense challenges remain in developing scientific capabilities which maximize its contribution toward effective policies and programs at the local, regional, and global level for sustainable conservation of natural and managed ecosystems. Approaches for phased development of science programs to carry out the multiple roles of biosphere reserves are discussed, with special emphasis on inventory and ecological measurement in core zones. Attention is given to the urgent need to develop the special capabilities of biosphere reserves in fostering cooperation among nations, between natural and social scientists, and between the scientific community and sectors responsible for making and implementing decisions on the protection, management, and use of ecosystems. The particular constraints associated with applying the biosphere reserve designation to other types of protected areas with more narrowly focused objectives are recognized and possible ways to mitigate problems are suggested.

1. INTRODUCTION

The 1974 report of the Task Force on Criteria and Guidelines for the Choice

“Man and the Biosphere”



AUS AUSTRALIA / AUSTRALIE / AUSTRALIA

- 1 Croajingolong 1977
- 2 Kosciuszko 1977
- 3 Macquarie Island 1977
- 4 Prince Regent River 1977
- 5 Unnamed 1977
- 6 Uluru (Ayers Rock-Mount Olga) 1977
- 7 Yathong 1977
- 8 Fitzgerald River 1978
- 9 Hattah-Kulkyne & Murray-Kulkyne 1981
- 10 Wilson's Promontory 1981
- 11 Riverland 1977
Originally Danggali Conservation Park
extended & renamed as Bookmark in 1995
renamed as Riverland in 2004
- 12 Mornington Peninsula and Western Port 2002
- 13 Barkindji 2005



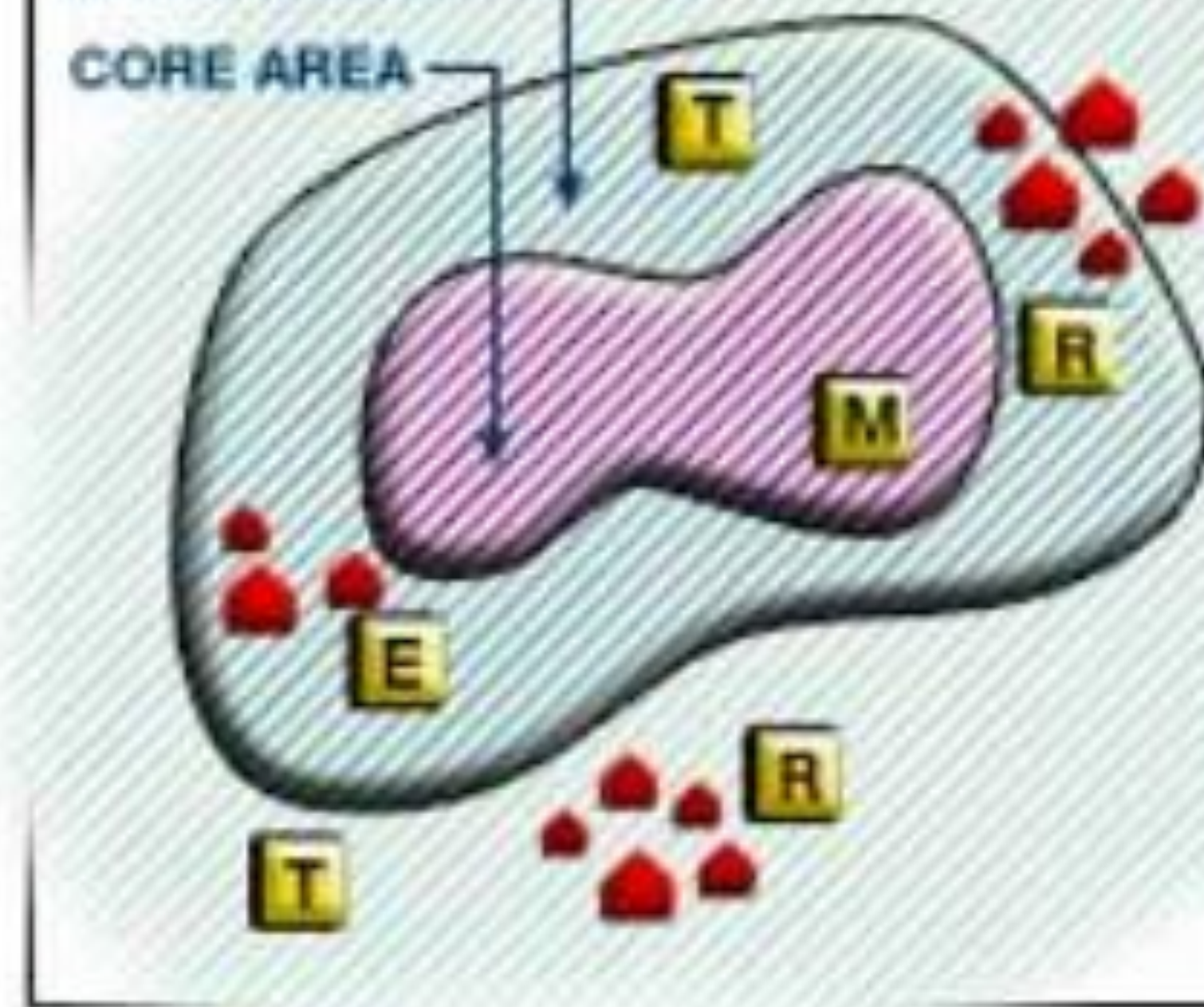
The MAB Programme

World Network of Biosphere Reserves

Mornington Peninsula and Westernport

Biosphere reserve zonat

TRANSITION AREA
BUFFER ZONE
CORE AREA



R

M

E

T

Education and training

Tourism and recreation

MORNINGTON
PENINSULA AND
WESTERN
PORT

BIOSPHERE
RESERVE

STAGE 1
NOMINATION



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



Biospheres: 3 basic functions

A conservation function :

- to contribute to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation;

A development function :

- to foster economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable;

A logistic function :

- to provide support for research, monitoring, education and information exchange related to local, national and global issues of conservation and development.



“What does that mean?”

- **Capacity building** : through education, technical training, and public awareness
- **Exploring novel ecological theory and practice** :
e.g. relationship between culture and ecology, quality economies, urban ecology etc
- **Promotion of solutions** to “sustainability”
- **“Living laboratories”**

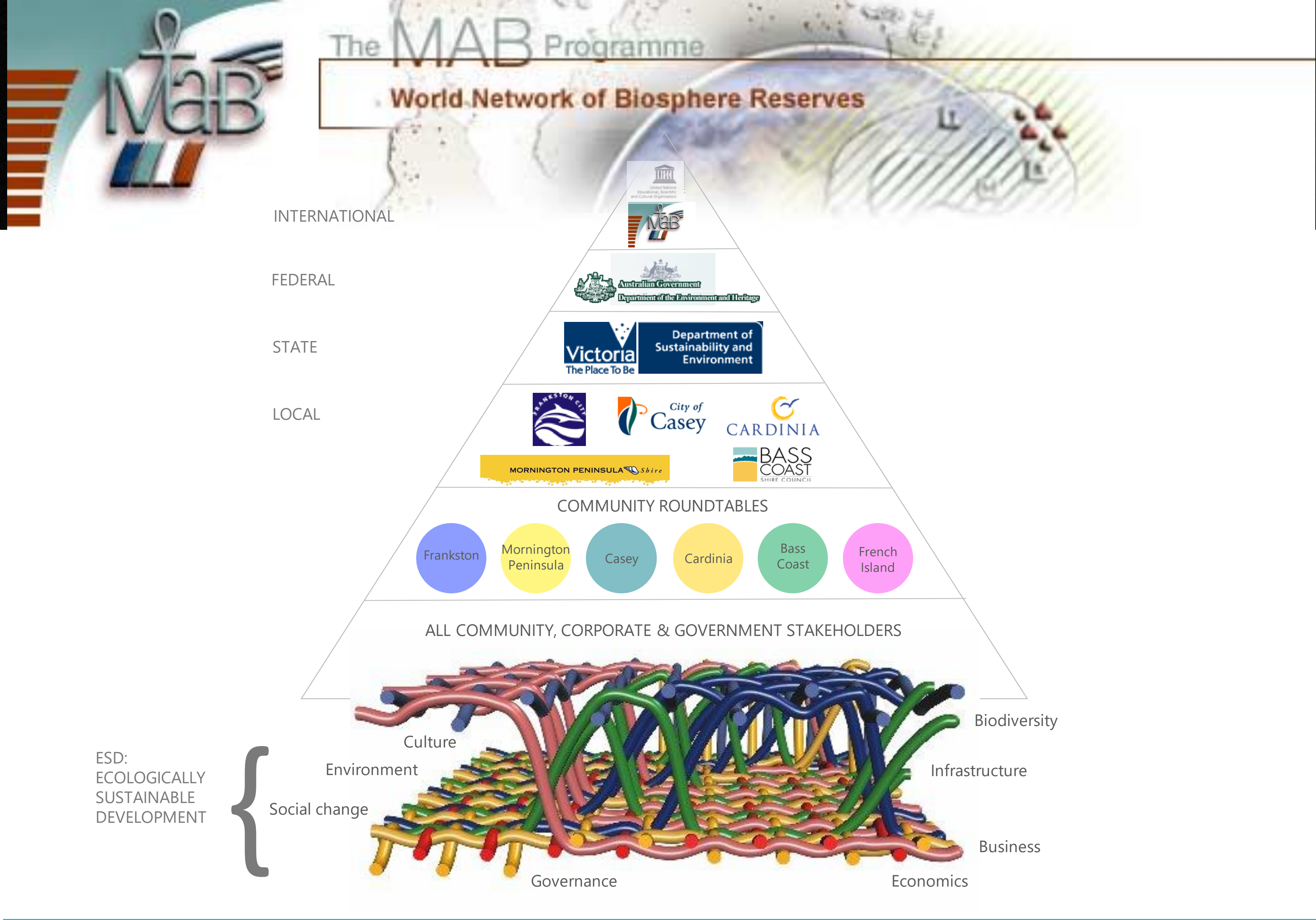


The MAB Programme

World Network of Biosphere Reserves

Mornington Peninsula and Westernport Biosphere Reserve





BIOSPHERE PROGRAMS & PROJECTS 2006

PROGRAMS	PROJECTS 2006	Status
Public awareness & communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man and Biosphere –high profile event June (in conjunction with Barkindji Biosphere) • Website launched • Public awareness campaign June-December • Roadside Signage Project ‘Entering’ and ‘Leaving’ the Biosphere – Shires and VicRoads • Local Sustainability Accord Strategies 	<i>Under development</i> <i>Under development</i> Proposed Proposed Proposed
Biodiversity & natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint ‘State of Western Port’ Forum with CMA 18th May • Southern Brown Bandicoot Recovery • Showcasing of projects – eg. Landcare, WP Seagrass and Mangrove Projects • Local Accord, Strategies 	In progress <i>Under development</i> Proposed Proposed
Education & training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosphere Ambassadors – enlist high profile sustainability achievers to promote Biosphere • Biosphere Mentors – train volunteers for one to one work with businesses, schools, community groups • Biosphere Skills Bank – engage highly skilled retirees for project support 	Proposed Proposed Proposed
Agriculture & horticulture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-farm Environment Management Systems with DPI • Local Accord strategies • Landcare partnerships 	Proposed Proposed Proposed
Sustainable communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bass Coast Business Sustainability Program • Casey Coastal Villages Sustainable Community Development • Waterline Project Support • WP Greenhouse Alliance (WPGA) collaboration 	In progress <i>Under development</i> Proposed In progress
Sustainable business & tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Accord Strategies • Ecotourism development– Biosphere core areas (WP Ramsar, Phillip Is., French Is., Pt Nepean etc) • Business Sustainability Program – tourism businesses • Potential Qantas/Telstra Biosphere Promotion (in conjunction with Barkindji Biosphere) 	Proposed Proposed In progress <i>Under development</i>
Research & monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosphere-wide R&D data base initiated • Biosphere sustainability monitoring • ‘Sustainability Index’ Research Project • Biosphere branding of sustainable agriculture and ecotourism products 	Proposed Proposed Proposed Proposed



Western Port - Feeling the Heat a Hypothetical

Moderated by Biosphere Reserve Foundation
Chair Rob Gell



It's 2025, and the heat is on Western Port Bay.
Can we cool it down?

In 1973 Professor Maurice Shapiro led the Western Port Bay Environmental Study. His report two years later highlighted the rich biological diversity of Western Port and its catchment, and advised on desirable land practices to maintain the area's health. The landmark report resulted in a wide range of protective measures, however, these days Western Port Bay is still facing major issues due to urban development, seagrass loss, litter and diminished water quality.

In the Hypothetical format made famous by Geoffrey Robertson QC, we fast forward to 2025 and grapple with the additional pressures of climate and population change. An assembly of expert and local panellists will take on these challenges and more in a thought-provoking unscripted discussion about the future for Western Port and its catchments.

10am - 1pm, Friday 1 June 2007
Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeview Room
Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham. Melways 215 H5

An initiative of the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation and the Department of Sustainability and Environment Port Phillip Region

Western Port Feeling the Heat a Hypothetical

in Peninsula and Western Port
of Sustainability and Environment

Western Port - Feeling the Heat a Hypothetical

The spotlight is on Western Port and its future issues as they emerge and evolve. In a refreshing and entertaining format, the Hypothetical will examine the roles of various players in addressing the key challenges. While the discussion will focus on Western Port, it will have broader relevance to the increasingly mainstream debate about many issues of sustainability.

Key issues that might be explored include:

- Ongoing urban development in the Casey-Cardinia Growth Area
- Transport systems infrastructure and management
- Sustainable land management, especially around the coast
- Economic drivers for sustainability
- Options for securing energy and water services in a changing climate
- Information needs for wise decision-making into the long-term future.

Moderator - Rob Gell

Panel

A panel representing a cross-section of stakeholders will respond to a range of challenges presented through the scenario by the moderator. The panel will include:

Prof. Michael Buxton	RMIT, Land Use Planning Policy and Practice
Lorraine Wreford	Councillor, City of Casey.
Prof. John Swan	Director of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the original Shapiro study
Lloyd Fleming	Senior Manager, ANZ
Francis Grey	Economist
Larissa Brown	Executive Director, Centre for Sustainability Leadership
Julie Weatherhead	Local Landcare and environment campaigner
Chris Chesterfield	General Manager Waterways, Melbourne Water

Morning Tea

Light refreshments will be served.

Focus

The panel will return, in their expert capacities, to discuss the issues that the case study uncovered and to conclude the debate.

Light lunch

At the conclusion of the Hypothetical you are invited to stay on for a light lunch.

Registration

Western Port Biosphere Hypothetical
10:00 am - 1:00pm,
Friday 1 June 2007
Cardinia Cultural Centre,
Lakeview Room
Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham
Melway ref: 215 H5

TITLE: _____

FIRST NAME: _____

SURNAME: _____

POSITION: _____

ORGANISATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FACSIMILE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Payment: ☐ \$44 Biosphere Reserve Foundation Members
☐ \$55 Non Foundation members
☐ \$22 Community & Concession

☐ Tick box if you wish to join the Foundation

Tax invoice: ABN 15 107 484 408 Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve

This includes admission, refreshments and lunch.
A copy of the proceedings will also be sent to you after the event.

Payment method:

☐ CHEQUE (made payable to Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation Ltd)

By CREDIT CARD:

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

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To place your booking, please complete this form and return it with payment details to:

Jack Krohn, Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation Ltd

PO Box 261, Hastings 3915

Tel: (03) 5979 2167

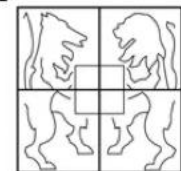
Fax: (03) 5979 2167

We regret that no refunds will be available, however, substitute guests are welcome to attend. This invoice will be a tax invoice for GST when payment is made.

One word, **Delfin**



Institut d'études
politiques de Paris
Cycle supérieur de sociologie



SCIENCES PO

Laboratoire CNRS
espace et culture
Université de Paris-Sorbonne (Paris-IV)



How a Powerful Minority has Exploited UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Status:

A case study of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, South Africa

Détournement par une minorité puissante d'une réserve de biosphère de l'UNESCO:

Une étude sur la réserve de biosphère de Kogelberg, Afrique du Sud

Mémoire présenté en vue de l'obtention du Master Recherche en
Sociologie de l'action : organisation, marché, régulation politique

par

M. Glen Hyman

sous la direction de

Julien Barrier



Glen Hyman

Glen Hyman is a Deputy Chair of the Urban Specialist Group of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, which provides informal technical and policy advice on the interdependence of urban people and their natural environments. Glen's academic research is similarly focused on the governance of relationships between nature and cities. With a humanities degree from the University of Chicago, a Geography Masters from the Université de Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV), he is currently concluding his doctoral work at Sciences Po with the Center for the Sociology of Organizations CSO. His thesis is a comparative study of the consequences of introducing UNESCO Biosphere Reserves near urban areas in Australia, Canada and South Africa.



Australian Geographer, Vol. 40, No. 4,
pp. 409–427, December 2009

Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

Unfulfilled Promise: the case of the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve, Australia

DAVID MERCER & GLEN HYMAN, *RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia; Sciences-Po, Paris, France*

ABSTRACT UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) was established in 1968. Since then, its flagship project has been the designation a worldwide network of multi-functional biosphere reserves (BRs). Australia has 15, and one of the more recent is the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve (MPWPBR, 2002), located in the peri-urban region to the south of metropolitan Melbourne. It is subject to a range of pressures. The paper examines these and explores the lost opportunities represented by the limited stature of BR status in Victoria. A particular focus is the current State government's pro-growth policy which involves relaxing controls on outer suburban residential expansion and the encouragement of freeway construction. These have major implications for the MPWPBR.

KEY WORDS Biosphere reserves; Australia; peri-urban regions; Melbourne; coastal development.

UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) has been building a global network of representative, multi-functional biosphere reserves (BRs) in diverse ecological settings. There has been a growing concern about the role and function of BRs (Price 2002) and some have questioned whether this 'reinvention' process will continue. BRs are defined as areas of land or water with high biodiversity values, managed through a system of legal protection, guaranteeing long-term preservation. Frequently, these areas are pre-existing national parks or similarly protected areas. The models surrounded such core areas by successively less well-protected transition zones containing settlements and commercial areas. With conservation of the protected areas they enveloped, the later iterations of the concept afford sites greater flexibility in pattern to local conditions.

Key functions of BRs encompass what at first glance might appear to be conflicting aims of conservation, sustainable development,

Western Port Biosphere - Chair's Report

12 December 2013

I wish to inform the Board that in the next two weeks I will be writing to the Executive Officer to formalise my intention to resign as Chairman of the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation Board.

I have a number of reasons for choosing to stand down at this time.

1. Simply, it's time. It's time for someone else to take on the role that I have enjoyed for more than a decade. Someone with the vision, capability and drive to lead the organisation into its next period of development. I have been able to be Chair during the biosphere's initial phase. It must move to a new level.

I believe that as Chair, and considering my somewhat public profile, and engagement over a number of years in both environmental not-for-profit and government organisations that I have been able to provide a level of comfort to key participants in the biosphere.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the role, I think the organisation has "come of age" in recent years and is now established, financially stable with wonderful new programs now emerging. It's a good time to finish my term.

2. I think it is now time that the critical proponents of the Western Port Biosphere, our five local governments, take on a higher level of responsibility for the organisations success and I intend to remove that level of comfort with the expectation that it will enable the Western Port Biosphere to move to its next level of development.

The Man and Biosphere program of UNESCO, and in particular the biosphere concept, is not an easy one to understand. It is essential that the Western Port Biosphere's proponents understand what the concept is and support the notion that they supported at its inception. I continue to believe that it is one of the most valuable concepts we have available to provide exemplars of a society that is potentially ecologically sustainable.

I believe that this Biosphere has been able to be remarkably successful through reliance on the efforts of the Executive Officer, the first to persist in the position for more than about 18 months, and a few dedicated individuals who have refused to let the concept stall.

It is essential that a broader group step up to embrace the biosphere concept through engagement in a broad suite of projects and programs. This has not been done to date. I am hopeful that by standing down critical stakeholders will be forced to reassess their roles and commit to a different level of engagement.

3. I'm not as young as I was when I took on this role; I don't reside within the biosphere and I believe that this is the right time for the organisation to choose a new Chairperson.
4. Despite my age, I find that I have a number of emerging business commitments that will increase over the next year or two. Hopefully they will then subside, but for the foreseeable future, I will need to support my business partners in these new ventures that frankly I need be successful.
5. If it is the wish of the Board I will stay in the position until a successor is found but I will not continue beyond mid-year 2014.
6. I wish to thank everyone on the Board, past members of the Board and particularly Cecelia for the support that I have been given over the last ten years. It has been a wonderful experience which I will always remember with an overwhelmingly positive view.
7. The Biosphere will always be welcome to consider me a devoted supporter of its work; now and in the future and I will happily continue to support its objectives and programs.

Robert A. Gell
11 December 2013





The Royal Society of Victoria



