

BIOSPHERE RESERVES

The team of the Thematic Group on Biosphere Reserves brings you recent news

November 2018 – Edition 2

Most of the photos in this newsletter are property of UNESCO and refer to the biosphere reserves designated in 2018.

Dear BRTG member,

We are pleased to bring you the second issue of the Newsletter of the Thematic Group on Biosphere Reserves of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM). Our aim is to better connect the work of the CEM regarding issues such as ecosystem-based assessment, ecosystem governance, and resilience to activities within biosphere reserves, and to enhance collaborations between UNESCO and IUCN. One way to do this is through the exchange of information and good practices, so we invite you to read this newsletter and contribute to future issues – and let us know your proposals for future collaborative activities.

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1. Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve, India

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The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR) of Sikkim joined the World Network of Biosphere Reserves during the 30th session of the MAB ICC. The KBR is the highest Biosphere Reserve in India, including the third highest mountain peak in the world, Kanchenjunga (8,586 m). India has 18 Biosphere Reserves: 11 internationally designated by UNESCO and 7 designated only under national legislation.

Situated between 27°15'-27°57' North Latitude and 88° 02'-88°40' East Longitude, KBR, with an area of 2,931.12 Km², represents the Trans-Himalayan biota in the eastern part of Hindukush Himalayas. KBR is the only major conservation area, with great ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, natural and zoological significance, in this part of the Himalayan belt. It includes a range of ecosystems varying from subtropical to arctic, as

Khangchendzonga is the finest example of an independent mountain with its own glacial system radiating from its several summits. There are around 19 glaciers, among them the huge, fearsome and turbulent looking Zemu glacier which, with a width of 300 m and length of 26 kilometres, is perhaps the largest in Asia.

The land in the KBR is generally mountainous, made up of mountains and peaks, glaciers, and lakes and snow-covered alpine zone in the northern and western parts and temperate forests towards the south. In between, these sub-alpine scrublands and woodlands are found. The KBR also harbours quite a number of alpine lakes, which are deeply venerated by the local people.

2. Adaptation to climate change in different management scenarios of Mancha Húmeda Biosphere Reserve in the framework of the TACTIC Project (Tools for Assessment of Climate change Impact on Groundwater and Adaptation Strategies)

África de la Hera (IGME), David Pulido (IGME) and Anker L. Højberg (GEUS)
IGME-

coast. The central parts of the above mentioned bays show sandy sectors composed essentially by coarse sands or gravels and pebbles.

The biological aspects



1. **Urban biosphere reserves**

Modern compact cities: How much greenery do we need? *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 15(10), 2018

<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph15102180>

2. **Chocó Andino de Pichincha Biosphere Reserve, Ecuador**

Main characteristics. [Link](#)

Video (info in Spanish). [Link](#)

3. **International Journal of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves**

<http://biospherejournal.org/>

Alonso-Yanez, G. 2017. Exploring Curriculum for Science Education: Lessons from a Mexican Biosphere Reserve. *Journal of Education for Sustainable Development* 11:2, 86–101. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0973408218763443>

Arnberger, A., Eder, R., Alex, B., Hutter, H-P., Wallner, P., Bauer, N., Zaller J.G., Frank, T. 2018. Perceived health benefit(463(ei)-9(v)4(ed))TJ 0 Tc 12(uc)-8()13(/)-1an(c)-8(o)d(i)3(n-8(o)d(i)3u3(t/4