



# Newsletter

Publisher : Secretariat of Jeju (Republic of Korea), Menorca(Spain)

June 30, 2014

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the WNICBR



As many of us know, our network had the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of World Network of Islands and Coastal Biosphere Reserves in Palawan, the Philippines on the 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June,

2014. The main theme of this meeting was ‘Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves under Impact of Natural Disaster.’ Participants from 26 BRs in 19 countries presented about the impacts damaged from natural disaster and their cases of overcoming.

The 26 BRs were presented by Sung-Jun Pang (Jeju Island BR, Republic of Korea), Fernando Villalonga Bordes (Menorca BR, Spain), Lindy Atkin (Noosa BR, Australia), Antonio Domingos de Sousa Abreu (Principe BR, Sao Tome & Principe, Three BRs in Azores Corvo/Flores/Gracosa & Santana Madeira BR, Portugal), Parmananda Ragen (Macchabee/Bel Ombre BR, Mauritius), Ahmed Saeed Sulaiman (Socotra Archipelago BR, Yemen), Abdullah Shibau (Baa Atoll BR, Maldives), Li Yuhang (Nanji Island BR, China), Sin Jong-Nam (Mt. Chilbo BR, DPR Korea), Do-Soon Cho (Gochang BR, Republic of Korea), Toto Indraswanto (Siberut BR, Indonesia), Atanasius Guntara Martana (Wakatzobi BR, Indonesia), Smith Barthelus (La Selle BR, Haiti), Mario E. Gálvez Fernández (Cabo de Hornos BR, Chile), Everton Hannam J.P. (Future Portland Bight BR, Jamaica), Antonio Maynard (St. Mary’s BR, St. Kitts & Nevis), Heleen Podsedkowska (Blekinge Archipelago BR, Sweden), Toomas Kokovkin (West Estonian Archipelago BR, Estonia), Katja Bonnevier (Archipelago Sea Area BR, Finland), Peter Longsholm Jølbæk (North-East Greenland BR, Denmark), Micheel Angel Acosta Hernandez (El Hierro BR,

Spain), Antonio Mariano San Blas Álvarez (La Palma BR, Spain), Juli Caujapé Castells (Gran Canaria BR, Spain).

As Island and Coastal BRs have similar features and ecological environment, this meeting was a great opportunity to those who could exchange useful information responding to the natural disasters.

In addition, Dai-Yeun Jeong (Director of Asia Climate Change Education Center, Jeju, ROK) had a special session to present ‘Research Proposal on Climate Change in BRs’ and ‘Introduction to World Environment Hub in Jeju’, and the participants were interest in it.

At the last conclusion session, Statement including 7 agendas were drawn. It is uploaded at the website;

[http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/about-us/single-view/news/island\\_and\\_coastal\\_biosphere\\_reserves\\_issue\\_a\\_statement\\_after\\_meeting\\_in\\_palawan\\_philippines/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/about-us/single-view/news/island_and_coastal_biosphere_reserves_issue_a_statement_after_meeting_in_palawan_philippines/)

After the 2-day presentation session, there were a 2-day field visit program in Palawan BRs where participants could experience a wonderful natural environment and local culture and history. They visited Puerto Princesa Underground River World Heritage Site, Mangrove, Tree planting at the Pista Y Ang Kagueban site, Zero Carbon Resorts Prototype Cottage, Palawan Heritage Museum, Baragatan Festival, etc.

We appreciate the great support from Dr. Miguel Clüsener-Godt and all the staffs of PCSD (Palawan Council for Sustainable Development).

The variety of information and experiences from this 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will be published as a casebook study. All presenters are requested to provide appropriate content to Menorca or Jeju Secretariat.

email address are as below;

Menorca : [wnibr.menorca@cime.es](mailto:wnibr.menorca@cime.es)

Jeju : [sjmj079@hotmail.com](mailto:sjmj079@hotmail.com)

## The 26<sup>th</sup> MAB – ICC Session

International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme held its 26th session in Jönköping University, Sweden 10-13 June 2014. In this council, the new Bureau election implemented and several agendas were discussed. Among those agendas, 13 new biosphere reserves including Mt. Chilbo BR had designation approval, which become extended as 631 BRs in 119 countries for the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

Delegations from Republic of Korea represented Jeju Island and reported the activities of WNICBR. The subjects were Establishment background of WNICBR, Network Meeting, Research Project, Manager Training Program, etc. Especially, the Council members

praised the endeavor of Jeju Secretariat about the Manager Training Program and emphasized the necessity of strengthening the capacity building of managers to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Malaysia, Egypt, Algeria.



Therefore, Jeju Secretariat decided to implement the 2<sup>nd</sup> Manager Training Program this year. Details will be uploaded at the website soon.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PacMAB

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Pacific Biosphere Reserve Network (PacMAB) was held from April 23 to 25, 2014 in Nadi, Fiji, sponsored by WNICBR. The PacMAB was established in December, 2006 in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. Up to now, there are 12 state members such as Australia, New Zealand, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and etc. About 17 participants had presentations on the introduction of their BRs and activities they are implementing and planning for the future. It was a great time for all the participants to exchange



useful information and build the capacity of network.

Dr. Dai-Yeun Jeong (Director of Asia Climate Change Education Center, Jeju, ROK) presented two subjects;

- ① Management of Jeju Island BR and Introduction of WNICBR.
- ② Research Project on the Impact of Climate Change on Island and Coastal BR.

After the presentation, the statements were reported as follows;

- All the information and contents of this meeting would be published by South-Pacific BR Secretariat, UNESCO, located in Samoa.
- All presenters would participate in establishing strategies for conservation and sustainable development in South-Pacific BRs.
- Research Project on the Impact of Climate Change on Island and Coastal BR would be presented at the World Park Congress 2014, which will be held in Sydney, Australia, November 2014.

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Korean BR Network Cooperation

The management teams of 5 biosphere reserves in Korea had a 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop, organized and sponsored by the Korean MAB national committee. It was held on 26-27 May 2014, in the Mount Bukan Eco-Institute. Representatives from Ministry of Environment, Korean National Commission for UNESCO, MAB National Committee of ROK, and 5 Biosphere Reserves participated to exchange useful information and enhance the domestic network system. There are 5 Biosphere Reserves in Republic of Korea, such as Mount Sorak BR(1982), Jeju Island BR(2002), Shinan Dadohae BR(2009), Gwangneung Forest BR(2010), Gochang BR(2013). Among these BRs, Jeju Island, Shinan Dadohae, Gochang are the Island and Coastal BRs.

Moreover, there are some interesting facts. In case of Mount Sorak BR, it had been designated in 1982, earlier than the Seville Strategy in 1995. For this reason, it was focused on more conservation than sustainable development in that period, which has only 1% of transition area. On the other hand, Gochang BR, the latest designated BR, is the only BR in ROK which has the whole county as BR.

These BRs, which have different features, concerned and had deep discussion to overcome these issues.

The major discussion agendas of the workshop were;

- 1) Exchange management issues and enhance cooperation.

- 2) Discussion about appropriate method for using the Biosphere Reserve Logo.

- 3) Establishment of Domestic BR Network.

- 4) Discussion on the development of Domestic BR.

In addition, the representatives agreed to have the next meeting during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, to discuss on long-term strategies and promotion of BR products.



## Conference : “Experiences in Restoration of Habitats and Biodiversity Conservation”

From 2009 until June of 2014, the Island Council of Menorca developed the LIFE+RENEIX Project for the restoration of habitats of priority species on the island of Menorca. This Project has been funded by the EU LIFE+ program.

From the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2014, a conference was held in Ciutadella: “Experiences in restoration of habitats and biodiversity conservation”. The object was to exchange experiences and results regarding the restoration and recovery



of habitats around the Mediterranean area. This event was the closing ceremony of the Project.

The guest speakers came from different regions of Spain, Italy and Portugal to

discuss their experiences in several fields of research, from the genetic or ecologic diversity of populations, to the techniques used to act more directly on the environment.

For further information, please visit the project's website below:

<http://lifereneix.cime.es/Contingut.aspx?IdPub=9066&Menu=Simposium>



## **Marine Protection Project and Diversification of the Fishing Industry in the Menorca BR**

The Island Council of Menorca has signed an agreement with the Spanish Biodiversity Foundation, an agency of the Department of Food, Agriculture and Environment, in order to develop this project. The main goals are: to improve biodiversity, to foster actions that help the marine environment, to provide support for fishing communities in order to find new means to strengthen their economic situation and supply alternative sources of income.

This project is divided into three parts;

### 1. Training.

- Ecotourism course focused on the marine environment of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.
- Course focused on trade and added value techniques in fishing products.

### 2. Study-Research.

- Research on the implementation of new MPAs in the inner waters of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.
- Social and financial analysis of the sea fishing industry in the Menorca Biosphere Reserve. Potential opportunities for sustainable diversification in the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.

### 3. Dissemination.

- Conference to disseminate the project's outcome.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.biosferamenorca.org/Contingut.aspx?IdPub=732>

## **RENISLA2014 FORUM: 100% renewable energy, a possible future**

From the 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of June, the international RENISLA 2014 forum took place with the title "100% Renewable Energy, a possible future". This event took advantage of the inauguration of the Gorona del Viento hydroelectric power plant on the Biosphere Reserve Island of El Hierro (Canary Islands, Spain), hence becoming the first "100% renewable" island in the world as far as electrical energy is concerned. Many renowned experts in energetic sustainability, both nationally and internationally, attended the forum, as well as UNESCO representatives and delegates from the autonomic and island governments.

During these conferences, several inspiring experiences were shared that could be used as examples for those communities interested in going green and becoming energetically sustainable. Many necessary alliances and strategies were pointed out to ensure this essential transition to a 100% renewable future.

We currently know that being energetically self-sufficient is possible if we have faith in renewable energies. With regard to this great challenge, UNESCO sites, such as El Hierro Biosphere

Reserve, must play a fundamental role as international models of energy sustainable communities.

A delegation from Menorca took part in these events and presented the paper "The path to energetic sustainability".

Additional information at:

[http://195.76.147.227/elhierro/portal/?page\\_id=2493](http://195.76.147.227/elhierro/portal/?page_id=2493)

Declaration of El Hierro:

[http://195.76.147.227/elhierro/portal/?page\\_id=2548](http://195.76.147.227/elhierro/portal/?page_id=2548)



※ Contact : [sjmj079@hotmail.com](mailto:sjmj079@hotmail.com) (Jeju Secretariat), [wnibr.menorca@cime.es](mailto:wnibr.menorca@cime.es) (Menorca Secretariat)