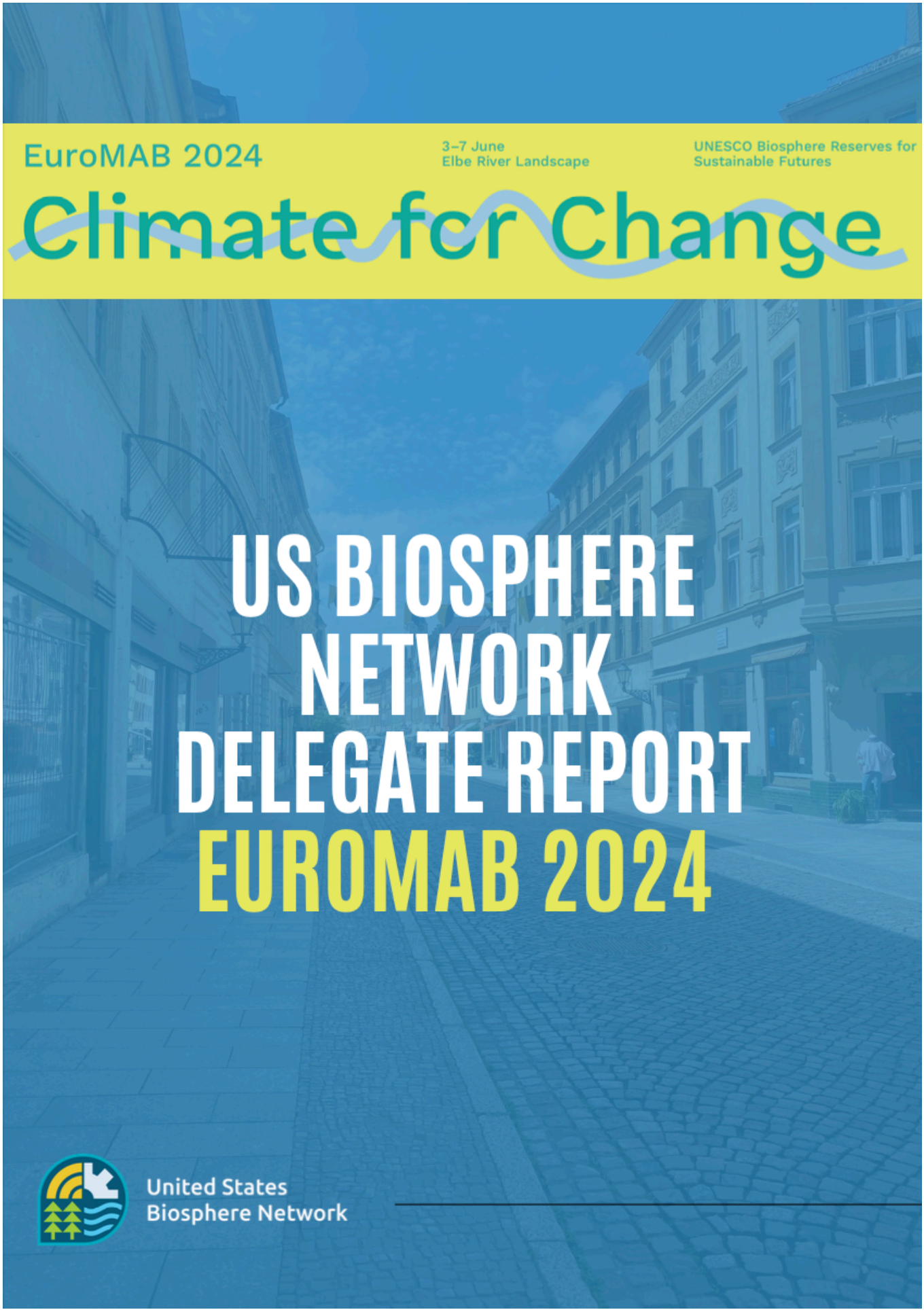


EuroMAB 2024

3–7 June
Elbe River Landscape

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves for Sustainable Futures

Climate for Change

US BIOSPHERE NETWORK DELEGATE REPORT EUROMAB 2024

United States
Biosphere Network

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Location

EuroMAB is the regional network of biosphere reserves spanning Europe, Canada, and the U.S. In 2024, EuroMAB was held in the Elbe River Landscape Biosphere Reserve, located in the town of Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany. The event was hosted by the German MAB National Committee, the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt, and the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve "Elbe River Landscape." This biennial four-day conference brought together stakeholders from over 300 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves across 41 countries in Europe and North America. The full EuroMAB 2024 program is available at http://www.euromab2024.de/

1.2 Conference Theme: Climate for Change

The theme of EuroMAB 2024 was "Climate for Change – UNESCO Biosphere Reserves for Sustainable Futures." The conference focused on the role of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development.

1.3 U.S. Delegation

Five US delegates attended the 2024 EuroMAB conference. Jenelle Booker and Katie Darr were specially invited to attend as delegates of the EuroMAB Youth Conference and participated in the main event.

US Delegation: Pictured from left to right
Dr. Annika Keeley, Jenelle Booker, Dr. Jeremy Dertien, and Dr. Kelly Cerialo. Photo credit: Dr. Kelly Cerialo

- Jenelle Booker, Chair, US Biosphere Network Youth Board, master's student, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- Dr. Kelly Cerialo, Coordinator, US Biosphere Network, Co-Chair, Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Region, Associate Professor, Paul Smith's College
- Katie Darr, Coordinator, Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network, Chair, US Biosphere Network Communications Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee Coordinator, Lake Champlain Basin Program
- Dr. Jeremy Dertien, Postdoctoral Researcher, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research
- Dr. Annika Keeley, Senior Conservation Scientist, Center for Large Landscape Conservation, IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group

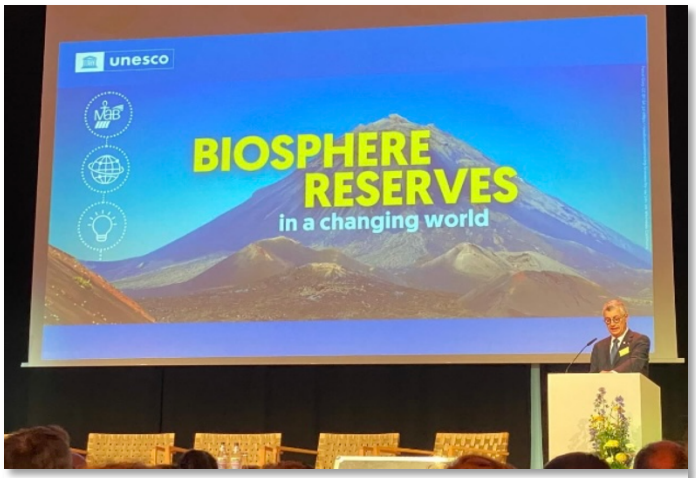
1.4 Summary of Plenary and Panel Discussions

The conference featured a variety of plenary and panel discussions. Highlights included:

- **Keynote Address**: Delivered by Prof. Dr. Josef Settele on "Biodiversity loss and climate change – local solutions for global crises."
- **Panel Discussion**: On "UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and Climate Change," featuring experts Anke Hollerbach (Germany), Rosana Cerkvenik (Slovenia), Dr. Jeremy Dertien (USA), Natalia Beltrán Díaz

(Spain), and Marie Curtet (France) who discussed local and global climate challenges in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and innovative solutions.

- **Interactive Session**: "Road to Hangzhou 2025," where Dr. António Abreu, the UNESCO MAB Secretary discussed plans for the upcoming World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in China in 2025. The German Commission for UNESCO led an interactive session to gather input from the EuroMAB community for the upcoming World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in 2025. A *Message from EuroMAB Towards the World Congress of Biosphere Reserves 2025* was drafted and was shared with the MAB Secretariat, organizers of the World Congress of Biosphere Reserves, and members of the 2025 MAB Action Plan drafting team.



Plenary Presentation: "Road to Hangzhou 2025" with Dr. Antonio Abreu, UNESCO MAB Secretary
Photo credit: Dr. Kelly Cerialo

Plenary Panel Discussion: "UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and Climate Change" Photo credit: Dr. Annika Keeley

SECTION 2: THEMES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The US delegation attended a variety of workshops focused on topics including climate change, connectivity, nature-based solutions, youth engagement, and mountain biosphere reserves. Key themes and lessons learned from these workshops are highlighted below.

2.1 Overview and Lessons Learned from Workshops

Connectivity Conservation in Biosphere Reserves

The purpose of the workshop was to share guidelines and insights about connectivity conservation and discuss challenges and opportunities of establishing ecological corridors in biosphere regions. The IUCN Connectivity Guidelines define ecological corridors in the context of ecological networks and lay out best practices for planning and implementation. The European Union has included connectivity in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 which calls for a coherent and resilient Trans-European Nature Network connected with ecological corridors. The NaturaConnect initiative aims to co-develop knowledge and provide tools and capacity building to support Member States in implementing an ecologically representative, resilient and well-connected trans-European nature network. The recently published 'Guidelines and primer for connectivity planning in Europe' summarizes connectivity concepts and approaches, global and EU policy instruments addressing connectivity, and

connectivity projects in Europe and information needs in Part 1. Part 2 contains tools and a framework for the implementation of projects.

Two case studies illustrated aspects of connectivity planning and implementation in biosphere reserves, highlighting challenges and solutions. In Romania, genetic data on brown bears inform the siting of corridors and crossing structures to mitigate the fragmenting effects of roads. In British Columbia, Canada, an initiative led by the Squamish Environment Society, the Howe Sound Biosphere Region Initiative Society, and a coalition of local and regional planning authorities support land managers in safeguarding and restoring pathways of wildlife connectivity that are needed to increase the prospects of ecosystem resilience.

During a discussion session, participants shared insights on connectivity challenges, aspects of biosphere regions that facilitate establishing ecological corridors, socio-cultural challenges and opportunities for planning and establishing ecological corridors, and technical challenges around planning for connectivity conservation. The key take-aways of the workshop were the need for biosphere regions to be aware of the need for connectivity conservation and the usefulness of the IUCN guidance on ecological corridors for biosphere regions.

Sustainable Power for Protected Areas Exploring Renewables & Risks in Biospheres

The purpose of the workshop was to explore how the development and management of renewable resources can be done to benefit humans and not harm nature. In Lithuania, from a discourse on renewable energy within protected areas, plans emerged for a wind energy park in the Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve's transition zone. However, the process also exposed gaps in scientific understanding and persistent research limitations amid rapid technological advancements.

Wittenberg Market Square. Photo Credit: Katie Darr

Key takeaways from discussions about benefits, risks & challenges, and suggestions include that renewables contribute to climate mitigation, increase tax-based earnings, and can provide local energy for locals with the potential benefits of being cheaper, decentralized, and independent. However, there is the risk that renewables cause mortality of birds and bats, habitat loss and fragmentation, change the landscape aesthetics, decrease the economic value of properties, and reduce the emphasis on decreasing energy consumption. Suggestions were to:

- involve the local communities in planning,
- take sufficient time for environmental studies and collect data to inform the renewable project development and then monitor the impacts,
- plan ecological corridors to ensure that renewable energy projects don't fragment the landscape,
- implement habitat mitigation project to offset the damages caused,

- implement mitigation measures to minimize the damages caused (e.g., switching wind turbines off during migration),
- consider developing small solar projects (e.g., on roofs) instead of a large project, and
- make fences around solar power plants wildlife friendly.

How could (parts of) UNESCO Biosphere Reserves be considered as "Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures" (OECMs)?

This workshop explored the concept of Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) including attempts at a unified definition for the term and the potential for portions of biosphere reserves to maintain an OECM designation. The workshop leaders and speakers were a mix of administrative and academic stakeholders who either research the topic, work to advance the concept or who are applying the OECM designation in their biosphere.

What exactly defines an OECM is still rather broad and regionally specific. Generally, it is a form of land designation or planned sustained action that conserves biodiversity, if that is the stated goal or not, and which lies outside of a traditional protected area (PA) designation. However, even that general definition was debated in the workshop as some found that biodiversity conservation must be a stated goal of OECMs. Canada is one of the few countries to have a legally designated definition of an OECM, which includes that the OECM must have the same level of biodiversity protection as a traditional PA in the Canadian PA system. The United States includes conservation easements as a clear form of OECM, though biodiversity conservation is not necessarily a stated goal of many conservation easement agreements.

Wittenberg, Germany
Photo Credit: Dr. Kelly Cerialo

The tax incentives available via conservation easements, at least in the form used by the U.S are rarely available within Europe, whereas infrastructure such as Common Lands hold potential as OECMs within Europe. Ultimately, it may be necessary to have a wide variety of national or biogeographic-specific definitions and funding schemes for OECM.

There is a major interest in the OECM designation, in part, because it could be used as a means of achieving area-based conservation targets by 2030 as laid out in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. If OECMs can be recognized as areas of adequate protection to meet these targets, then the buffer zones of biospheres (the zonal area between the core and transition zones) could be good candidates to carry an OECM designation. The buffer zones are supposed to maintain a higher level of protection and sustainable actions than the transition zone making them ideal candidates. However, the lack of a regulatory authority through the biosphere reserve designation makes the classification of buffer zones as OECMs very case-by-case.

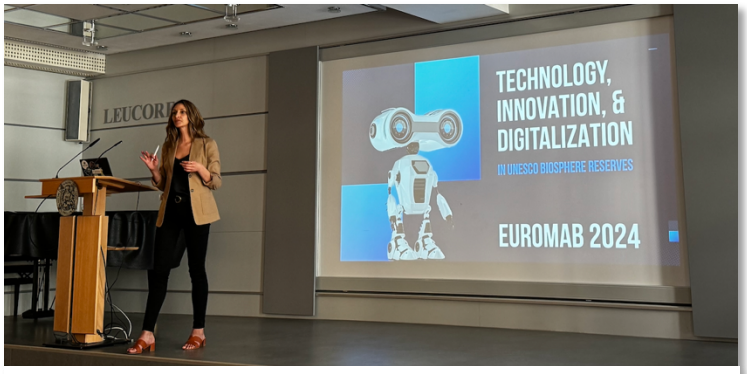
The “Biospheres as Effective Conservation Measures” (BECOME) project (https://become.w.uib.no/) is a multi-year EU funded project exploring different biosphere case studies and scenarios to see the potential for

biospheres to act as or contribute to an OECM. In addition, there is a European Common Lands/OECM conference this December 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland (https://ruralcommons.eu/index.html).

Technology, Innovation, and Digitalization in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves

This workshop was co-led by Dr. Kelly Cerialo (USA), Dr. Katja Malmborg (Norway), Katie Darr (USA), Chiara Viappiani (Italy), and Tommaso Beltrami (Italy). The workshop explored the use of technology, innovation, and digitalization in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves to address climate change. As Biosphere Reserves face increasingly complex challenges, from climate change to biodiversity loss, leveraging technological advancements is crucial for effective conservation and sustainable development.

Through presentations, case studies, and interactive discussions, participants examined how these technologies could enhance monitoring, management, and community engagement in Biosphere Reserves. The workshop fostered collaboration, the exchange of best practices, and introduced new approaches to harnessing technology for the benefit of both people and nature. The workshop featured four international case studies that harnessed technology and community participation to address climate change.



Dr. Kelly Cerialo presenting during the "Technology, Innovation, and Digitalization in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves" workshop. Photo Credit: Katie Darr

The case studies included:

- *Tuscan Emilian Apennine Biosphere Reserve, Italy:* This case study discussed government-funded technology infrastructure in the biosphere to reduce carbon emissions including e-bike charging stations and electric buses.
- *Ledro Alps and Judicaria Biosphere Reserve, Italy:* Biosphere Bioblitz - The use of the iNaturalist app to collect and catalog biodiversity in three mountain biospheres - Tuscan Emilian Apennine Biosphere Reserve (Italy), Ledro Alps and Judicaria Biosphere Reserve (Italy) and the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Region (USA).
- *Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Region, USA*: State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry's Climate Atlas - A transboundary (USA and Canada) climate atlas developed by Dr. Daniel Cronan and Sara Constantineau to assemble and integrate current data and information on key climate and environmental parameters into an open access database using ArcGIS to provide a holistic view of the climate issues affecting this transboundary bioregion.

Dr. Katja Malmborg leading an interactive discussion during the workshop. Photo Credit: Dr. Kelly Cerialo

- *Nordhordland Biosphere Reserve, Norway; Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve, Sweden; and Vindelälven-Juhttátahkka, Sweden:* The use of Public Participation GIS (PP-GIS) - A digital online tool that allows citizens to map the spatial distribution of ecosystem services and other data.

During an interactive discussion, participants shared examples of technology and innovation in their own BRs including the use of citizen science apps to track biodiversity, drone invasive species monitoring, PPGIS, etc. They also discussed ideas for technology that they would like to see in BRs in the future including the use of AI for climate monitoring, modeling, and forecasting including the "Smart Biosphere" project in the North Devon BR.

Key takeaways from the workshop were that the technology used in BRs to address climate change varies widely in funding requirements, ranging from free downloadable apps (e.g., iNaturalist) to multi-million-dollar government-funded infrastructure projects (e.g., e-bike charging stations in Italy). There is an interest in new technologies in BRs to address climate change including AI, GIS, PP-GIS, and biodiversity monitoring apps. Lack of funding, need for technological training, and staff capacity are frequent barriers to implementing new technology to address climate change in BRs. A common theme in the workshop was the benefit of community-participation in the development and/or use of technology in BRs to address climate change such as PP-GIS or iNaturalist.

Nature Based Solutions – Biosphere Reserves as Drivers for Change

This workshop, led by Johanna MacTaggart from Sweden discussed Nature-Based Solutions (NBS), which are solutions to societal challenges inspired and supported by nature. Four case studies were presented that featured the use of nature-based solutions in BRs, including a case study from a Moldovan BR that featured NBS educational resources and training. Although NBS' long-term benefits are well known, technically engineered concepts that deliver more immediate impacts are often chosen to address climate change challenges.

Walking excursion to the Elbe River Biosphere Reserve
Photo Credit: Katie Darr

The workshop emphasized that for NBS to be successful, involvement from multiple stakeholders is key. However, more practical experience and know-how are needed. The aim of this workshop was to contribute to the understanding of how Biosphere Reserves (BRs) can inspire more frequent use of NBS to address climate change challenges by developing tools for knowledge generation. By showcasing methods used in BRs, such as multi-stakeholder approaches and learning sites, this workshop led to a greater understanding of BRs as drivers toward a more sustainable way of living through the use of NBS.

During a discussion session, participants shared insights on NBS, including educational resources and training about NBS for youth and adults. An example of a Nature-Based Solution (NBS) in a biosphere reserve is the restoration of wetlands to manage flood risks and enhance biodiversity, such as the wetland restoration in the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve. This project aims to restore natural hydrological regimes and habitats in the Danube Delta, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, to mitigate flood risks, improve water quality, and enhance

biodiversity. A key takeaway from this workshop is the opportunity for BRs to participate in and share educational resources about NBS in the World Network of BRs.

Future Visioning in Biosphere Reserves: Intergenerational Pathways for Change

This workshop was moderated by Anna Kovbasniuk (MAB Youth Focal Point), Marie Curtet (MAB France), and Alice Roth (MAB France). Presenters were Abigail Sykes (Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve, Sweden) and Katja Malmborg, PhD (University of Bergen/Nordhordland Biosphere Reserve).

The workshop introduced methodologies for creating safe and open spaces for different generations to dialogue and share their visions for the future of their Biosphere Reserve. These participatory methodologies aid managers in strategic plan development by identifying local values, interests, and visions for the biosphere reserve. Participatory processes prioritize and privilege local knowledge and, therefore, are a success tool for BR community engagement. Methods mentioned were: Participatory Scenario Planning, SciFi Prototyping, Seeds of Good Anthropocene, and PP-GIS (Public Participation GIS).

EuroMAB Youth Conference Participants
Photo Credit: Stefanie Wetzel

Abigail Sykes is the project manager for the What If-foresight process for the Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve. Abigail presented the basis of her project, "Brokering peace with nature through foresight in the Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve." The project is an embodied visualization practice for Biosphere Office staff, the Advisory Group for Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve, and was done in the context of this year's theme "nature's smart solutions." Although the results of the process were not shared, Abigail and the Biosphere Office did identify future visions for the biosphere reserve, and the resulting report will be the basis for Vettenrike's 2025-2030 action plan.

Katja Malmborg, PhD is a postdoctoral fellow in the "BIOSPHERE" project at the University of Bergen. Katja led a shortened version of a participatory process for sustainable and practical land planning in the Nordhordland Biosphere Reserve and Alver municipality in western Norway. The workshop was loosely based on the Seeds of a Good Anthropocene methodology and was held in three parts:

1. Participants self-organized into groups based on their value ethics for nature's services (provisioning, regulating, cultural).
2. Smaller groups then discussed and established linkages between individual visions for the Landscape, Livelihoods, and Lifestyles of a biosphere region.
3. Finally, individuals shared "seeds" (existing activities, projects, initiatives, and organizations) that would lead to the smaller groups' collective visions. Visions and seeds were then shared out to the larger group. As a result, the larger group could identify commonalities in Livelihoods, Lifestyles, and Landscape across value-ethics and identify projects and initiatives across the North American and European network.

Exploring and Discussing the Integrative Protected Area Management (IPAM) Toolbox - What is the Recent State of Management in your Biosphere Reserve?

- This workshop was led by Elisabeth Wiegele (Junior Researcher on Sustainable Management of Conservation Areas, Austria) and Michael Jungmeier (UNESCO Chair for the Sustainable Management of Conservation Areas, Austria).
- The workshop introduced participants to the recently launched *Integrated Protected Areas Management (IPAM) Self-Assessment Toolbox.* The interactive tool enables site managers to carry out a quick self-assessment at all stages from planning and site designation, long-term management, management beyond borders, and repeal and termination. The self-assessment questionnaire enables users to evaluate the current state of their site, identify challenges, and develop tailored strategies and appropriate actions to overcome the identified challenges. The toolbox can be accessed at https://ipam.mca.tools/.
- A key takeaway was the value of using the IPAM toolbox self-assessment to honestly evaluate biosphere region management activities, operations, and efficacy, particularly in advance of a periodic review.

Engaging Youth Leadership in Biosphere Reserves to Advance Agenda 2030

This workshop was led by Zoe Compton (Programme Officer, Natural Sciences at the Canadian Commission for UNESCO), Kal Ledoux (Muskeg Lake Cree Nation Youth Representative), and Alex Hawkins (Fundy Biosphere Region). The workshop briefly introduced the Canadian Commission for UNESCO's Toolkit for Youth Engagement in UNESCO Designated Sites before each presenter detailed their pathways into the MAB Programme. Youth engagement strategies at the site level, particularly those for high school students, were highlighted by each presenter. Most strategies and projects around youth engagement involved skill building, mentorship and/or monetary compensation for involvement.

EuroMAB Youth Conference Participants. From left to right: Suliyat Olajumoke Osundun, Bernadette Afful, Jenelle Booker, and Saleem Haddad. Photo credit: Jenelle Booker

The second half of the workshop was self-directed, small group dialogue. Groups were formed to create an even balance of site-managers and youth, and concerns, questions, and suggestions were made from both 'sides.'

Main takeaways were:

- Site managers have difficulty filling positions within the BR sites due to low number of applicants and inability to retain new employees. Youth suggested employing professionals with backgrounds or experience in contacting and communicating with youth (i.e. teachers/professors, sports coaches, individuals with children/grandchildren) to help with recruitment and retention.
- There is a lack of 'open spaces' for intergenerational conversations within site management for young, mid-career, and senior professionals to 'connect' and build a culture in which young professionals can buy into. These spaces can reduce the perception of a 'generation gap' within the workplace.

2.2 Overview and Lessons Learned from EuroMAB Youth Conference

Summary of EuroMAB Youth Conference

Jenelle Booker and Katie Darr were among the 35 young people aged 18-30 from the US, Canada, and Europe that participated in the EuroMAB Youth Conference. Participants included BR professionals, students studying BRs, and several participants for whom EuroMAB was their first introduction to BRs. The Youth Conference program is available at https://www.euromab2024.de/youth-workshop. In addition to discussions about strategies for effective youth empowerment, key themes included strategic communication, community involvement, and reciprocal engagement between communities, BRs, and regional and global networks.

Philippe Pypaert - Recent Activities of the MAB Youth Network

- Youth participation and empowerment has had a global presence across workshops, conference, and forums at the international and regional level.
- The Open-Ended Working Group of Youth Involvement in the MAB Programme has updated recommendations for 2024.
- Youth involvement can be visualized as a pyramid with site-level management at the base, moving to MAB 'focal points' at the national and regional level, and Youth representatives in MAB ICC Congress. This visualization emphasizes the feedback loop that needs to occur to connect site level work to the global picture and bring learning and resources from global, regional, and national networks back down to the site level.

- MAB Youth and their engagement occurs within the umbrella of broader UN and UNESCO initiatives.
- Information exchange and dissemination on youth involvement should move up the pyramid through advocacy reports and down the pyramid through actionable feedback. The way information is exchanged, and the method of delivery will likely differ between levels of the pyramid.

- BRs have a responsibility to share their stories as model regions with their communities, governments, and global networks.
- Community involvement in BRs is paramount, conservation requires more than just nature protection. BRs should be taken seriously at the local level and community engagement should be about more than teaching.
- BRs in many places are very dominated by academics and should work to bring in the other members of the community.

Emmanuel Furteau - French Biospheres as Models for Participatory Processes

- BR designations require community engagement across several years. The participatory process includes four steps:
    1. INFORMATION about the BR through public meetings and digital sources;
    2. APPROPRIATION of the BR concept through stakeholder engagement;
    3. CO-CONSTRUCTION of 10-year plan for BR objectives and actions through participatory workshops in town halls and "World Coffee" meetings;
    4. and DECISION on the designation.
- It is a challenge to balance the bottom-up, participatory spirit with representative decision making. Stakeholders are gathered twice a year through the Management Committee to reflect on accomplishments and discuss action on planned items moving forward. The Steering Committee then takes these recommendations from the management committee and makes the final decision.
- BRs need to communicate and raise awareness of BRs to inhabitants regularly and from multiple points of view. Contextualizing BR activities and objectives within SDGs are an effective strategy for appropriation of the designation.
- Presented multiple avenues for community and youth engagement including: Leveraging socio-economic networks to create 'Eco-Players' or BR ambassadors in industry or policy (i.e. farmers or mayors), MAB Youth Camps, and the Co'MAB Association, led by students and graduates of the University of Toulouse's Man and Biosphere Master's Program, is a key factor in promoting young adults in the management of biosphere reserves.

Open Spaces was a dynamic workshop structure that works around a specific theme rather than a specified agenda. Principles of Open Spaces prioritize learning, flexibility, and flow. Participants had an opportunity to host an Open Space of their choosing. Below are the Open Spaces attended by and/or moderated by US Youth Representatives.

- *EuroMAB Youth Conference Message Drafting*, Anna Kovbasniuk (Norway) & Celine Christoffers
- *The Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit Discussion*, Katie Darr (Champlain-Adirondack, US)
- *Youth Engagement Toolkit and Frameworks: What Do They Look Like + What They Should Be*, Jenelle Booker (US Biosphere Network)
- *EUROPARC Federation Youth Council - All About It*, Marla Schulz (Elbe River, Germany) & Hermione Pocock (Yorkshire Dales NP, UK)

Storytelling by Frederique te Dorsthost

This interactive workshop mixed theory and practice to equip youth participants with tools to build and tell impactful stories. Stories are a powerful tool that shape identity and behavior. Frederique te Dorsthost cautioned participants to be aware of how the stories we tell ourselves can hold us back, referencing the "biosphere

reserves are invisible" narrative. When developing stories, it is important to identify the goal to be achieved by the story and the audience which helps inform the story's content and container (video, factsheet, spoken word, etc.).

Resources

- New Spirit, bridging the gap between generations, is an Erasmus+ project focused on navigating intergenerational workplaces and approaching the generational gap. The project created a handbook, toolbox, and training program. Free to access online.
- APEL, Active youth participation through empowered leadership, is an Erasmus+ project focused on coaching leadership skills in youth. The project created coaching cards and training manual. Free to access online.

SECTION 3: RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS FOR USBN

1. Plan and implement ecological corridors in addition to core areas, buffer zones, and transition areas, in order to maintain or restore effective ecological connectivity, reduce fragmentation and increase resilience of biosphere regions.
2. Develop twinning agreements with USBRs and BRs in Europe possibly with similar geographic features.
3. Leverage organizations and programs in Europe to help build capacity for USBN - ex. EUROPARC, EU, Earth Network (Italy), Abrdn Foundation.
4. Shift language and strategies around youth 'engagement' and 'involvement' to 'empowerment.'
5. Support and promote the integration of technology in BRs to support biodiversity conservation and to monitor and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
6. Identify and establish platforms for BRs to communicate and share knowledge between EuroMAB meetings, for example a EuroMAB version of "Biosphere Bites."
7. Tell the story and value proposition of biosphere regions to audiences beyond the already converted.
8. Identify and share opportunities and best practices for community engagement in US biosphere regions.
9. Identify participatory processes for strategic planning and monitoring in BRs that considers diverse values, visions, and future goals.
10. Explore innovative funding opportunities for Biosphere Reserves (BRs) to build capacity. For example, consider creating a non-profit with consulting services and a foundation within the BR governance structure, as seen in the Manicouagan-Uapishka Biosphere Reserve in Canada.

EuroMAB Conference Participants
Photo Credit: Photo Credit: Stefanie Wetzel