



GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS

Mitigating the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Background

The current COVID-19 crisis has affected the whole world. Not only has the disease claimed the lives of thousands of people, but it has resulted in the loss of livelihoods for a large part of the population and has highlighted important vulnerabilities in our societies and our economic system.

Furthermore, theories about its origin underline the need for human beings to be aware of the destruction of the environment and the loss of biodiversity, and to seek models of more sustainable development.

In this context, biosphere reserves can be a powerful tool to remedy the imbalances between humanity and nature.

Call for project proposals

The World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves, through its secretariats in the Biosphere Reserves of Menorca (Spain) and Jeju Island (Republic of Korea) and UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, invites biosphere reserves located in islands and coastal areas to submit projects aimed at mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their territories.

Priority will be given to project proposals coming from biosphere reserves located in Small Island Developing States.

Project proposals should be linked to the Lima Action Plan (2016-2025) of the MAB Programme and to Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Objectives.

Proposals should be oriented towards the following thematic areas:

- Education and capacity building
- Sustainable income generation
- Food security
- Ecosystem restoration

Once the projects have been evaluated according to the guidelines of the call, a committee formed by the secretariats in the Biosphere Reserves of Menorca and Jeju Island, the Spanish Autonomous Agency for National Parks (OAPN) and the MAB Programme, will select the best projects to be financed until the available budget is completed.

The maximum amount of the projects will be USD 15,000. These funds can be used as a "seed fund", so we encourage the selected projects to seek additional funds.

Project application and implementation

The application form should be sent to wnibr.menorca@cime.es with the Subject: "WNICBR-COVID-19 Project Proposal". Proposals must be sent by the MAB committee or MAB Focal Point of the corresponding country, before October 16, 2020. Any proposal sent after the deadline will not be considered.

Projects must be implemented before December 15, 2021.

Selected proposals will be announced by November 6, 2020.

The funds will be transferred in three payments:

- 33% at the signing of the contract with the presentation of the schedule and the detailed budget.
- 50% 6 months after signing the contract after submitting an intermediate report of activities and funds executed.
- 12% at the end of the project, and after the delivery and acceptance of the final report of the project and the financial report with the justification of the expenses.