



Newsletter

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1st Training Course for Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves Managers

The 1st Training course for Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves Managers was held during 21st~25th, October, 2013 at Jeju World Natural Heritage Center.



This program was implemented for the first time for establishing Biosphere Reserve Network all over the world and strengthening information exchange under the recognition that basic education on BR management is required, since the Network Secretariat was established in two regions, Jeju, Korea and Menorca, Spain.

The participating countries and BRs are such as; Wakatobi BR, Sulawesi, Indonesia; Can Gio Mangrove BR, Vietnam; Snake Island and Laotie Mountain BR, China; Macchabee/Bel Ombre BR, Mauritius; Cape West Coast BR, South Africa; Socotra BR, Yemen; Noosa BR, Australia and Samothraki, Greece who have applied for BR status (8 BRs in 8 Countries).

The Edu-program was on the progress which lectures and presentation with discussions in the morning section and the field trip around the Jeju BR and other interesting places in the afternoon.

This Edu-program was a great opportunity not only for the participants, but also for UNESCO and WNICBR Jeju Secretariat to know each other and deal with the best way to establish further network system. Moreover, as this Edu-program had a successful result, we can prospect the Edu-program as an annual one from next year.

From the lectures, we introduced our WNICBR Jeju Secretariat and provided the participants with information, that there were many efforts to make up this network system. We also mentioned what we should do for the further network relationship.



From this introduction, the participants acquired many a wide range of information on Jeju BR and also Korea BRs which lead themselves to high motivation and useful ideas they can apply to their own BRs.

The lectures were “UNESCO MAB Programme and Future Perspective of BR” by Prof. Cho Do-Soon (vice-chair of MAB Committee of Korea), “Economic Value of Nature as Environmental Resources in Jeju Island, South Korea” by Dr. Jeong

Dai-Yeun (Director of Asia Climate Change Education Center), “Sustainable Community Development Based on Ecotourism : With Three Cases in Korean Coast” by Dr. Je Jong-Geel (member of MAB National Committee of the Republic of Korea), “Impact of Climate Change on Terrestrial Ecosystems in Jeju Island” by Dr. Kim Chan-Soo (Warm-Temperate and Subtropical Forest Research Center, Korea Forest Research Institute), “Biodiversity Conservation and Sacred Sites” by Dr. Cho Do-Soon, “General Overview on the Global Network of Biosphere Reserves” by Dr. Miguel Clusener-Godt (Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, MAB, UNESCO).

The participants also had a presentation and discussion on each BR, and introduced their advances and efforts to increase network relationship among others.

The participants had a great time in field trip of Jeju BR which was a perfect chance and experience to feel and learn. Moreover, for Jeju BR, it was a great opportunity to introduce the scenery to the worldwide BRs. Especially, Gotjawal and Ecological Forest were a terrific place to show the Jeju BR’s unique feature, and the participants shared various comments to build up ideas.

Moreover, introducing the participants about low-carbon green technologies such as Smart Grid which is one of the main strategy that Jeju BR is dealing with the Climate Change, and plan for preparing the waterlogging damage by the sea level rising, helped them to know about Jeju BR’s situation and compare to the situation of their BRs.

Moru Green Tea Farm is a place where Jeju BR is proceeding branded industry. The Farm does not use any agricultural pesticides and only raise the organic green tea by nature friendly method which made up a great interest from the participants.

Olle tracking and Seongsan Ilchulbong (Sunrise Peak) were the field where the participants could experience the ecotourism of Jeju which is important for sustainable development and conservation.



Before this Edu-program, many worldwide BRs worked on conservation and research on their own BRs. From now on, the participants who attend this program are willing to exchange information and become to focus on establishing worldwide network for the BRs.

This also means that even for Jeju and Menorca Secretariat, it would be a great opportunity to proceed network each other.

At last, hopefully, more BR managers participate in Edu-program in next year for the development of the worldwide network.

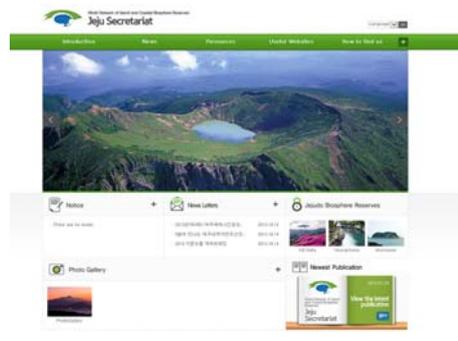
Opening Website of WNICBR Jeju Secretariat

The WNICBR jeju Secretariat Website has been established in 15th, November, 2013. This website will be the beginning of sharing informations and strengthen worldwide network system.

Providing useful information at the "Notice" section, managing the Q/A section, and plenty of promotions will be a great chance to introduce Jeju Secretariat to the worldwide BRs. The worldwide BRs can reinforce network among other as well.

Moreover, it will be a great connection with UNESCO and Menorca Secretariat which enhance cooperation and network.

Not only BR managers, but also anybody who are interested in BR could come into our website and do activities as search, Q/A etc at any time.



Website Address : <http://wnicbr.jeju.go.kr/index.php/eng>

Delegations from Cat Ba Biosphere Reserve, Vietnam visiting Jeju

Delegations from Cat Ba Biosphere Reserve, Vietnam (hereafter Cat Ba BR) had visited Jeju during November 28th~30th, 2013 and exchanged informations with Jeju Biosphere Reserve.

The purpose of this visiting was to understand and apply to their own circumstances about Jeju management mechanism for coordinating UNESCO triple crown titles (such as World Heritage, Biosphere Reserve, Global Geopark), branding of local products, green economy (including agriculture and fisheries), cultural preservation, national park management, community-based ecotourism and climate change responses, etc.

Visiting delegations were Dr. Do Trung Thoai, Vice Chairman of Haiphong City People's Committee and Director of Cat Ba Archipelago Biosphere Reserve, Dr. Pham Van Ha, Vice Director of Haiphong City Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Bich Dung, Vice Director of Haiphong City Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hoang Van Thap, Director of Cat Ba National Park, Mr. Vu Huy Thuong, Manager of Haiphong City Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr. Le Thanh Tuyen, Officer of the Cat Ba Archipelago Biosphere Reserve Management Board Office.



At the first day, delegations visited the Climate Change Exhibition Hall and learned about the strategy responding to Climate Change which Jeju is facing at. Especially, as the sea level near the Dragon Head Shore

is rising rapidly because of the Global Warming, we introduced that it is an important research area and what our efforts are to reduce the carbon dioxide.

At the second day, discussion meeting between Jeju and Cat Ba was held in the afternoon. During this meeting, Jeju and Cat Ba exchanged informations by introducing their area feature, respectively.

Jeju has established an integrated coordinating system in World Heritage Center, as it had been registered as Biosphere Reserve (2002), World Heritage (2007), Global Geopark (2010). It has been operated with 60 employees and the financial budget (19 billion KRW per year).

After Jeju achieved UNESCO triple crown, the incoming tourists are

Commemoration events of the 20th anniversary of the Biosphere Reserve of Menorca

On the 8th of October 2013, at the Teatro Principal in Mahon, an institutional ceremony was organized by the President of the Island Council of Menorca to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the declaration of the Island of Menorca as a Biosphere Reserve.

At this event, the President of the Island Council of Menorca, Mr. Santiago Tadeo, read a declaration signed by all political parties with representation in this institution for the continued promotion of the values set forth by UNESCO's MaB program within the Biosphere Reserve of Menorca. Additionally, tribute was paid to those individuals, entities and politicians who have helped make possible the success of these first 20 years of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.

The headlining speaker at the event was Mr. Miguel Clüsener, Director of the Department of Ecological



increasing constantly every year, which became more than 10 million incoming tourists in the year 2013. Among those, 1.5 million tourists visited Mt. Halla and 3 million tourists visited Seongsan Ilchulbong Tuff cone. On this account, it is considered to charge an entrance fare to manage and preserve the area nature. Moreover, developing branding products in Biosphere Reserve and Geopark would strengthen the secondary industries.

Cat Ba BR, Haiphong City, Vietnam, has been invested with 2.5 billion USD and among this budget, 46% are invested by Korea. Moreover, the first industries (agriculture and fishery) occupy 50% and tourism industries occupy 50% in Cat Ba BR. (tourism 78%, manufacturing 4%, agriculture and fishery 17% in Jeju).



The Cat Ba area is targeting to register World Heritage and Global Geopark in the close future. For this reason, Cat Ba wants to exchange informations and establish network with Jeju.

Delegations had a field experience at Smart Grid Exhibition Hall and Moru Green Tea Farm (Jeju BR branding enterprise).

In Smart Grid Exhibition Hall, they found out how Jeju efforts to proceed the low-carbon industries against the Climate Change. In Moru Green Tea Farm, they were interested in the way how Jeju is working on the sustainable development by branding products. Moru Farm is a role model because it grows the green tea plants with nature-friendly organic method without using agricultural chemicals.

For the tourism trip, the delegations went to Soesokkak (mysterious puddle) and Cheonjiyeon Waterfall to experience the ecotourism, and at last, they they experienced the Jeju traditional market.



This visiting became a good start to establish and strengthen network system between Jeju and Cat Ba. In addition, as they are all public servant in their each position, we can expect positive effect for increasing the budget for Fund-in-Trust in the future.

Sciences of the UNESCO, primarily addressing the challenges that Menorca, as a Biosphere Reserve, will be faced with in the future.

The ceremony was rounded out by the Vice-president of the MaB Spain Committee, the Mayor of the town of Mahon, the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Territory from the Regional Government and by the President of the Island Council of Menorca, all of whom contributed to the event with their respective speeches.

Also within the framework of this celebration, the Menorcan Institute of Studies (www.ime.cat), from the 26th of October to the 14th of December, put together a total of four guided outings to different areas of the island that are unique for their natural and cultural values, in both rural and urban surroundings, with the goal of increasing awareness of said values and the reality of the biosphere reserve among the general population.

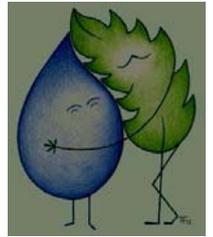
This initiative was well received by the local population and participation was successfully high.

For more information: <http://www.biosferamenorca.org>

VI Environmental Conference of the Balearic Islands

On the 14th and 15th of November, the VI Environmental Conference of the Balearic Islands was held at the headquarters of the Institute of Menorcan Studies, organized by the Natural History Association of the Balearic Islands in collaboration with the University of the Balearic Islands. The goal of this conference was to provide a setting in which scientists and expert naturalists from different disciplines could present their research and lines of work to the public, with a common subject that is the Balearic Islands. In this way, the naturalists could discover what type of work is being carried out in fields different from their own. It should be noted that these environmental aspects are especially sensitive to the integration of knowledge from various and apparently distinct spheres.

This conference was a success in several ways: it revealed the discoveries and research of naturalists over recent years, increased the awareness of the general public, facilitated the exchange of experiences and provided vast information on issues of environmental education.



For more information: http://www.shnb.org/SHN_jornadesJMA6.html

The book of minutes and summaries can be downloaded at:

http://www.shnb.org/SHN_jornadesJMA6Comunicacions.html

Conference on the 20th anniversary of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve

Since the declaration of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve in the year 1993, a conference has been held every five years to monitor the evolution of the island toward sustainable development. Until now, conferences had been held in celebration of the 5th, 10th, and 15th anniversaries.

The conference celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Biosphere Reserve was held from the 18th to the 22nd of November and on the 3rd of December. It was organized by the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency and the Menorcan Institute of Studies, the scientific body associated with the reserve.

At the conference, an evaluation of the current state of the Island of Menorca was made from varying points of view and was organized into areas of work of intersecting subjects such as: environmental vectors (water, energy, waste), territory and landscape, education and social well-being. Debate was also carried out regarding other crucial issues such as sustainability with which the island will be faced in the near future.

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