

# Urban

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WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES  
**euromab 2017**  
building a sustainable future together



- Objectives
  - 1 Identify how urban areas should be considered essential to the MAB programme
  - 2. Investigate the functional links that exist between urbanised and more natural (rural) areas
  - 3. Highlight selected examples of good practice from diverse Biosphere Reserves related to urban areas
  - 4. Discuss how we can work together further to exchange, disseminate and spread good practice
  
  - Expected outcomes
  - 1. Understanding of the significance of urban areas to the MAB programme.
  - 2. Practical knowledge about inter-linkages between BRs and urban areas, and practical approaches, for replication.
  - 3. Agreed actions for future collaboration including network communications and potential projects delivery
  
  - Workshop format
- Presentations incl case studies, and round table discussions

- Main issues discussed

Engagement of local people, incl awareness of BR status

Sense of Place incl the natural environment

Bottom-up governance and engagement in BRs

Location and effectiveness of BR visitor centres

BR added value to urban communities already involved in other sustainability programmes

Buy-in of urban authorities to BR agenda

Transportation urban-rural, incl private car use

Urban pollution spreading

Infrastructure provision from rural to urban, pressures on ecosystem services

Ecological connectivity barriers from urban development

- Outputs

- Proposals – projects

Share existing and future good practice

- Partnerships

Business sector engagement – promotion, supply chain, funding

- Communication

Closed Facebook group of all interested BRs to create, linked to Proud to Share

Euromab 2019 Dublin – Urban focus

- Relevance to LAP

NO explicit focus on urban areas/issues, but relevant actions incl:

A.1(.1) Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals

A1.3. Establish alliances at local, regional, international levels for biodiversity conservation and benefits to local people

A1.5. Promote green/sustainable/social economy initiatives inside BRs

A7.1. Identify ecosystem services and facilitate their long-term provision, including those contributing to health and wellbeing

A7.2. Implement mechanisms for the equitable payment for ecosystem services (PES)

B2. Inclusive regional and thematic networks – incl. Urban?

- Relevance to SDG

No 11 Sustainable Cities + All others - UN 'Urban Agenda' – Urban BRs as pilot sites for SDGs implementation

