



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Man and
the Biosphere
Programme



Ecosystem services & the management of African Man and Biosphere Reserves: a manual



What?

Ecosystem services & the management of African Man and Biosphere Reserves: a manual

- One of the main outputs of the EVAMAB project;
- Based on practical & theoretical insights;
- Reference manual for the AfriMAB network;
- Co-publication by UNESCO, Belspo and the EVAMAB consortium;

Format

- Concise, to-the-point
- Visual, not too much text

For whom?

MAB managers and administrators at multiple scales, ;including:

- National Park agencies
- Other national park managers
- Scientists and technical agencies
- Other key partners and stakeholders (communities, NGO's, development actors,...)

Why?

- To outline the significance of ecosystem services for the management of African MAB Reserves;
- To increase the awareness, knowledge and use of ecosystem services among stakeholders involved with African MAB Reserves ;
- To serve as a support & background document for the AfriMAB network and beyond;
- To support the management of Biosphere reserves in favour of both Nature and People;
- To serve as a transfer mechanism for key principles and approaches of ES in MAB sites.

How?

- By explaining the ES concept and linking it to the MAB context
- By presenting existing methodologies for ES assessments and valuation
- By presenting practical applications, and impacts of ES on management and decision making (success stories, guiding principles, recommendations)
- By highlighting case studies from African MAB reserves

Timeline & outreach

- EVAMAB workshop in Ethiopia (May 2019): presentation of draft structure + collection of inputs from the participants;
- Presentation at AfriMAB meeting (Sept-Oct 2019);
- October 2019: Ecosystem Services Partnership World Conference (Hanover, 21-25 Oct 2019);
- CoP15 (tentative: side event with UNESCO about ES). Joint event with UNESCO at COP 2020 in Beijing (November-December 2020).
- Potential trainings about Ecosystem services, and about the content of the EVAMAB manual

General structure

CHAPTER 1. Introduction

- Why this manual?
- Who is this manual for?
- How to use this manual?
- Science-policy interface

- **CHAPTER 2. MAB and Biosphere Reserves in Africa**

- Man And the Biosphere Programme
- Biosphere Reserves
- The MAB strategy and Lima action plan
- Challenges for African MAB Reserves

General structure

CHAPTER 3. Ecosystem services

- Introduction
- Why do we protect nature ?
- What are ecosystem services?
- Current trends of degradation
- How to measure ecosystem services?
- Ecosystem services and MAB

General structure

CHAPTER 4. Tools and methods for assessing ecosystem services

- Navigating the ever-changing landscape of ES tools and methods
- Tools for assessing ecosystem services
 - Methodology for selecting assessment tools that are suitable for MAB reserves
 - The main selected tools and their criteria
 - Case studies– tools applied in MAB sites
 - Reference to the IUCN manual
- Other participatory approaches that can help scoping knowledge and perception about ecosystem services
 - Multi-criteria Decision analysis
 - Methods to reflect stakeholder opinion (Nominal group technique, Q methodology,...)
 - Serious games as a negotiation tool

General structure

CHAPTER 5. Economic valuation of ecosystem services

- What are values?
- Why giving an economic value to ecosystem services?
- Economic valuation approaches
- Guidelines for reward mechanisms
- Case studies – examples from MAB sites

General structure

CHAPTER 6. Translating ecosystems services assessment results in effective actions and initiatives to consider in decision-making processes

- How can ES tools be used to trigger change ?
- Key stakeholders typology: who are the most impactful stakeholders and how can they be reached/involved ?
- Success stories

General structure

- CHAPTER 1. Introduction
- CHAPTER 2. MAB and Biosphere Reserves in Africa
- CHAPTER 3. Ecosystem services
- CHAPTER 4. Tools and methods for assessing ecosystem services
- CHAPTER 5. Economic valuation of ecosystem services
- CHAPTER 6. Translating ecosystems services assessment results in effective actions and initiatives to consider in decision-making processes

Main subjects of the working groups
(+ format, general structure and goals)

Discussions (3 groups)

- What do you expect from such a manual (content, format)?
- Are the goals of the manual well suited to MAB managers?
- Is any section missing to the general structure? Should the structure be adapted?