



Facilitation guide for 2019 MAB YOUTH FORUM

Committed to Biodiversity



**Global Youth
Biodiversity
Network**



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1. 2019 MAB Youth FORUM Committed to Biodiversity

a. Context



The fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 15) will be held in China in 2020. It is expected to adopt the new Global biodiversity framework – a "New Deal for Nature and People" for the entire international community. Inscribed in the 2050 Vision "Living in Harmony with Nature", it will address the challenge of biodiversity and

ecosystems loss and to ensure that the solutions and benefits nature provides are integrated in systemic, inclusive, and transformative actions to benefit human well-being, the economy, and the planet. The decisions to be taken on that occasion will be of great relevance to youth, whose future daily lives will be strongly impacted by those desired transformations, but also considering the crucial role they will play in shaping and implementing them.

b. Objectives of the forum



The 2019 MAB Youth Forum will have the main purpose of offering youth an opportunity to engage more concretely in the preparation and running of CBD COP 15, elaborate their contribution to its debates and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want, being actors of change in their territories, engaging in the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and the climate change actions, and contributing to Sustainable Development Goals in general. Concretely, the forum aims to:

- ❖ Build capacity among the Man and Biosphere (MAB) community on Biosphere Reserves (BRs), the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR), UNESCO's MAB Programme, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
- ❖ Mobilize the MAB Youth community in view of its involvement in the path towards COP15
- ❖ Help the MAB Youth community prepare their own strategy and inputs for COP15 and other important events
- ❖ Release a declaration, including an action plan, on major issues mainly focused on biodiversity, climate change, and in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

c. How to achieve these objectives?

To enable an environment that will allow the achievement of the objectives of the forum, the activities have been designed to:

- ❖ Create a better understanding of key concepts such as BRs, WNBRs, MAB, CBD and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework through lecture sessions and outdoor sessions
- ❖ Foster connection and the sense of community among the MAB Youth community through interactive sessions and facilitate collaboration

Lecture sessions (Venue: Plenary Hall)



These sessions will take a format of lecture at the Plenary Hall. The speakers for each session have already been identified. The role of the facilitation team is to collect questions for the Open Forum at the end of each presentation or batch of presentations. We will use the website Slido which is a tool used for interactive Q&A sessions, or Post-its in case the internet connection is not good enough.

Day 1: 15/09/2019

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|-------------|---|
| 11:10-11:20 | Brief introduction of the CBD implementation in China by Chinese CBD focal point: Overview on how CBD is implemented in China |
| 11.20-11.30 | Brief introduction of the MAB in China by Chinese MAB National Committee: Overview on how MAB works in China |
| 12:00-13:00 | Introduction to the CBD by GYBN: to understand biodiversity governance |

Day 2: 16/09/2019

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|-------------|--|
| 09:00-10:00 | Implementation of the CBD by GYBN: to understand how the international policy is translated to action at regional, national and local level. |
|-------------|--|

Day 3: 17/09/2019

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 08:30-09:30 | How Post 2020 can be a building block towards solving the Planetary Crisis by GYBN: to understand the importance of Post 2020 and biodiversity as among the multiple means to achieve sustainable development. |
|-------------|--|

Day 4: 18/09/2019

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|-------------|--|
| 09:30-10:00 | Input on how to create implementable action plans based on the declaration by GYBN: to provide guidance on different approaches and activities that can be taken by the MAB Youth community to be effective drivers for system change. |
|-------------|--|

Outdoor sessions (Changbaishan BR & Museum)

These sessions aim to explore the Changbaishan BR, build the sense of community among participants and reconnect them to nature and culture within the BR. Note for Facilitators: Requires registration at the registration desk on DAY 0: 14 Sept 2019. The role of the facilitation team is to engage with the participants and make sure that all participants are well integrated in the group.



Day 1: 15/09/2019

14:00-19:00 Excursion to discover Changbaishan BR: **to reconnect with nature and build the sense of community among participants**

Day 3: 17/09/2019

17:30-19:00 Visit at the Changbaishan Museum: **to gain knowledge on the relevance of cultural and natural heritage and how to preserve it**

Interactive sessions (Lake & MAB Youth Village)

These sessions aim to engage participants into discussions and dialogues on their experiences, issues and challenges in their own BR community in order to identify commonalities and differences. These exercises have been designed to enable an environment for the community to come up with a Declaration that will recapitulate their concerns, asks/recommendations and

actions as a MAB youth community. Additionally, it is our aim for the participants to come up with a clear road map from now to 2020 and beyond on how they engage as an active youth community committed to biodiversity. The role of facilitators is to moderate all discussions under this session.



Day 2: 16/09/2019

10:00-11:00 Group discussion 1 "MAB Analysis 1 - SW": **to identify the Strengths and Weaknesses of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).**

11:00-12:00 Feedback on group activity 1 "MAB Analysis 1 - SW": **to pitch in 3 minutes the key Strengths and Weaknesses of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions.**

14:00-15:00 Fishbowl discussion 1 "MAB Analysis 1 - SW": **to deepen the group findings based on the group activity 1 feedback and to give room for a more open discussion among the entire participant group.**

- 15:00-16:00 Group discussion 2 “MAB Analysis 2 – OT”: to identify the **Opportunities and Threats** of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).
- 16:00-17:00 Feedback on group discussion 2 “MAB Analysis 2 – OT”: to pitch in 3 minutes the key **Opportunities and Threats** of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions.
- 17:00-18:00 Fishbowl discussion 2 “MAB Analysis 2 – OT”: to deepen the group findings based on the group activity 2 feedback and to give room for a more open discussion among the entire participant group.

Day 3: 17/09/2019

- 10:00-12:00 World café 1: “Living in Harmony with Nature, Sustainable Living, and Climate Change”: to brainstorm on and solidify the concepts of (i) living in harmony with nature, (ii) sustainable living, (iii) climate change and biodiversity
- 14:00-15:30 World café 2 “the Role of the MAB youth community”: to brainstorm on how the MAB youth community can play a key role to ensure (i) living in harmony with nature, (ii) sustainable living, (iii) climate action.
- 15:30-16:30 Feedback on world café 1 & 2: to pitch the key takeaways from the world café 1 and 2
- 16:30-17:30 Fishbowl discussion on Feedback of world café 1 & 2: to deepen the group findings based on the World Café 1 & 2 feedback and to give room for a more open discussion among the entire participant group

Day 4: 18/09/2019

- 10:30-12:00 Group activity 3 “Action Plan”: to come up with concrete actions to implement the declaration, and define a clear roadmap for implementation

d. Expected outcomes



Declaration

“MAB Youth Community: Committed to Biodiversity and Sustainable Living “

This declaration is an official statement containing the concerns, asks/recommendations, and commitments of MAB Youth Community on biodiversity and sustainable living from now to 2020 and beyond.

Strategy and Action Plan

A Strategy and Action Plan will be the document that will guide the implementation of the declaration. It will take a form of a roadmap that outlines clear steps for joint actions by the community.



2. Core facilitation methods/techniques

a. What is a Facilitator?



A person who helps a group of people:

- ❖ have an effective dialogue without taking any side of the argument, especially in order to reach a consensus
- ❖ understand their common objectives, and assists them to plan to achieve them without taking a particular position in the discussion



A facilitator is:



Chair

- ❖ Gives concise and clear guidance on the objectives of the session
- ❖ Sets ground rules for the group
- ❖ Ensures that the group is on track and tackles the themes that must be covered during the session
- ❖ Continually assesses and reacts accordingly to keep track of the discussion
- ❖ Moderates differing opinions and contributes helpful and relevant background information
- ❖ Keeps the discussion lively and on track
- ❖ Balances participation and intervenes as needed



Inquisitor

- ❖ Asks concise and clear questions
- ❖ Probes beneath the surface
- ❖ Pushes the group to talk specifics rather than generalities



Time keeper

- ❖ Gives sufficient time to everyone in the group to talk
- ❖ Follows the time frame allocated to cover all subjects
- ❖ Doesn't spend time too much or too little time on any one single element

b. Interactive sessions

Objective: To engage participants into discussions and dialogues on different issues relevant to the BR community



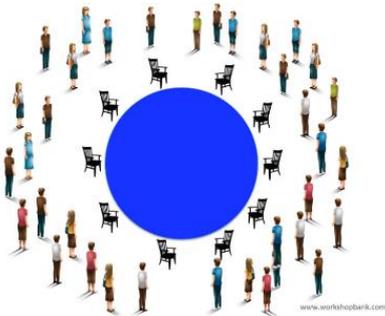
Group discussion: MAB Youth Village

- 2 facilitators will be in charge of 7-15 participants.
- You will guide the group to achieve the objectives of the group discussion.
- Post-its, flipcharts and markers are provided



Feedback session: Plenary at the Lake

- The facilitators have to make sure that the group comes up with few main takeaways at the end of every group discussion.
- These main takeaways are to be presented to the whole group at the plenary at the lake.
- All feedback sessions will take a format of a pitch of 3 minutes/group, with just 1 presenter per group. Facilitators have to identify the group rapporteur among the group.



Fishbowl discussion: Plenary at the Lake

- To deepen the discussion, the facilitators will moderate a fishbowl discussion. This is a format of a panel discussion wherein chairs are arranged in an inner circle. This is the fishbowl. The remaining chairs are arranged in concentric circles outside the fishbowl. A few participants are selected to fill the fishbowl, while the rest of the group sit on the chairs outside the fishbowl. The moderator introduces the topic and the participants start discussing the topic. The audience outside the fishbowl listen in on the discussion.
- We will be doing an open fishbowl, wherein one chair is left empty. Any member of the audience can, at any time, occupy the empty chair and join the fishbowl. When time runs out, the fishbowl is closed and the moderator summarizes the discussion.
- This session will be also used as a wrap up session on the key takeaways from the Feedback Sessions, that will ultimately feed into the declaration and strategic and action plan.
- Facilitators are tasked to moderate discussions and take note of information that will be useful for the Declaration.



World café: MAB Youth Village

- This activity is a structured conversational process for knowledge sharing in which groups of people discuss a topic at several tables, with individuals switching tables periodically and getting introduced to the previous discussion at their new table by a "table host". This format creates a safe, welcoming environment in which to intentionally connect multiple ideas and perspectives on a topic by engaging participants in several rounds of small-group conversation.
- 1-2 Facilitators will be assigned per table and will play the role of table host. The facilitator will also summarize the discussions at their assigned table and present it at the Feedback Session that will follow.

c. Guidance for each interactive session

Day 2: 16/09/2019	
10:00-11:00	Group discussion 1: “MAB Analysis 1 – SW”
Objective	To identify the Strengths and Weaknesses of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are aspects/activities of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are successfully contributing to conserve in situ of biodiversity, based on your country’s experience? - What are aspects/activities of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are successfully contributing to sustainable development targeting local community, based on your country’s experience? - What are aspects/activities of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are successfully contributing to logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach), based on your country’s experience?
Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the <u>internal</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions conserve in situ of biodiversity, based on your country experience? - What are the <u>internal</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions to sustainable development targeting local community, based on your country experience? - What are the <u>internal</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions to logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach), based on your country experience?
11:00-12:00	Feedback on Group discussion 1: “MAB Analysis 1 – SW”: to pitch in 3 min the key Strengths and Weaknesses of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions
Description feedback	The facilitators have to identify one rapporteur from the group that will pitch at the plenary at the lake their main takeaways which must be 3 minutes.
14:00-15:00	Fishbowl discussion 1: “MAB Analysis 1 – SW”: to deepen the group findings based on the group activity 1 feedback and to give a room for more open discussion among the entire communities.
Description fishbowl	Few volunteers from the participants will be asked to join a panel that will deepen the discussion based on these key takeaways. The facilitators team will come up with a quick wrap up based on the group feedback that will guide the fishbowl discussion.
Outcomes	<p>Main takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengths MAB, WNBR and BR in: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weaknesses MAB, WNBR and BR in: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).
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Day 2: 16/09/2019	
15:00-16:00	Group discussion 2: “MAB Analysis 2 – OT”
Objective	To identify the Opportunities and Threats of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the main priorities to be undertaken by MAB, WNBR and BR to strengthen their contribution to conserve in situ of biodiversity based on your country experience? - What are the main priorities to be undertaken by MAB, WNBR and BR to strengthen their contribution to sustainable development targeting local community based on your country experience? - What are the main priorities to be undertaken by MAB, WNBR and BR to strengthen their contribution to logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach), based on your country experience?
Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the <u>external</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions to conserve in situ of biodiversity, based on your country experience? - What are the <u>external</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions to sustainable development targeting local community, based on your country experience? - What are the <u>external</u> limitations of the MAB, WNBR and BR that are hindering their optimal contributions to logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach), based on your country experience?
16:00-17:00	Feedback on Group discussion 2: “MAB Analysis 2 – OT” : to pitch in 3 minutes the key Opportunities and Threats of MAB, WNBR and BR in achieving their main functions.
Description feedback	The facilitators have to identify one rapporteur from the group that will pitch at the plenary at the lake their main takeaways which must be 3 minutes.
17:00-18:00	Fishbowl discussion 2 “MAB Analysis 2 – OT” : to deepen the group findings based on the group activity 1 feedback and to give room for a more open discussion among the entire communities.
Description fishbowl	Few volunteers from the participants will be asked to join a panel that will deepen the discussion based on these key takeaways. The facilitators team will come up with a quick wrap up based on the group feedback that will guide the fishbowl discussion.

Outcomes	<p>Main takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities MAB, WNBR and BR in: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach). - Threats MAB, WNBR and BR in: (1) conserve in situ of biodiversity; (2) sustainable development targeting local community; and (3) logistic support (education, networking, research and monitoring and outreach).
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Day 3: 17/09/2019	
10:00-12:00	World café 1: “Living in Harmony with Nature, Sustainable Living, and Climate Change”: to brainstorm on and solidify the concepts of (i) living in harmony with nature, (ii) sustainable living, (iii) climate change and biodiversity
5 tents (switch table every 15 min)	<p>Theme 1: Living in harmony with nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What does “living in harmony” with nature mean? - What are the main barriers to achieving “living in harmony with nature” presently?
5 tents (switch table every 15 min)	<p>Theme 2: Sustainable living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What does sustainable living mean? - What are the priority actions for the different actors in society to achieve sustainable living?
4 tents (switch table every 15 min)	<p>Theme 3: Climate change and biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the connections between biodiversity and climate change? - How can we use these connections to address the biodiversity and climate crises?
Description World café 1	Every 15 minutes participants have to move to a different tent with different topic. Facilitators will guide the discussion and play the role as a rapporteur.
14:00-15:30	World café 2 “the Role of the MAB community”: to brainstorm on how the MAB youth community can play a key role to ensure (i) living in harmony with nature, (ii) sustainable living, (iii) climate action.
5 tents (switch table every 15 min)	Theme 1: What actions can the MAB youth community take to ensure that MAB, WNBR and BR effectively contributes to achieving “living in harmony with nature”?
5 tents (switch table every 15 min)	Theme 2: What actions can the MAB youth community take to ensure that MAB, WNBR and BR effectively contributes to achieving “sustainable living”?

4 tents (switch table every 15 min)	Theme 3: What actions can the MAB youth community take to ensure that MAB, WNBR and BR effectively contributes to “climate action” ?
Description World café 2	Every 15 minutes participants have to move to a different tent with different topic. Facilitators will guide the discussion and play the role as a rapporteur.
15:30-16:30	Feedback on world café 1 & 2: to pitch the key takeaways from the world café 1 and 2
Description feedback	Every rapporteur per tent has 3 minutes to pitch the key takeaways from the world café 1 & 2
16:30-17:30	Fishbowl discussion on Feedback of world café 1 & 2: to deepen the group findings from the world café 1,2,3 feedback and to give a room for more open discussion among the entire communities
Description fishbowl	Few volunteers from the participants will be asked to join a panel that will deepen the discussion based on these key takeaways. The facilitators team will come up with a quick wrap up based on the group feedback that will guide the fishbowl discussion.
Outcomes	Main takeaways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Living in harmony with nature - Sustainable living - Climate change and biodiversity - Role of the MAB youth community

Day 4: 18/09/2019	
10:30-12:00	Group activity 3: to wrap up on key actions to implement the declaration and get a roadmap for implementation
Description group activity 3	Based on the first part draft of the declaration, every group will come up with strategic and actions plan to implement the declaration. Taking a form of road map until COP15 and beyond.
Outcomes	Declaration and Strategic and Action Plan