FACTSHEET FOR PARTNERS

UNESCO Biosphere Isle of Man encompasses our entire island and territorial waters. We were the first whole nation UNESCO Biosphere in the world!

WHAT IS A BIOSPHERE?

A Biosphere is a place where people and the rest of nature thrive together, guided by three core functions:

- **Culture & nature conservation**
- **Sustainable development**
- **Learning**

Each Biosphere is unique, with its own local opportunities and challenges.

UNESCO & MAB

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme is UNESCO's leading initiative in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, enhancing the relationship between people and their environments.

Biospheres share knowledge, test new ideas, and demonstrate how we can live and work sustainably in practice.

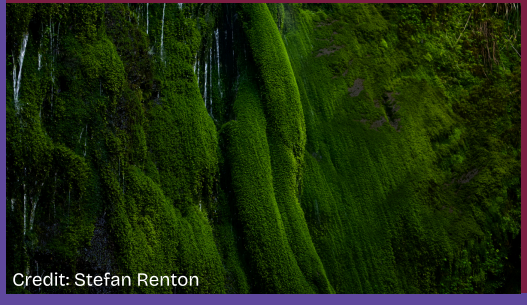
UNESCO BIOSPHERE ISLE OF MAN



Credit: Manuela Swiatek



Credit: John Keelan



Credit: Stefan Renton

- The Isle of Man joined the World Network of Biosphere Reserves in 2016 - one of 797 Biosphere Reserves across 147 countries (Nov 2026).
- Biosphere IOM has no legal or statutory powers. Instead, it acts as a catalyst for change, supporting a regenerative economy, promoting sustainable living, celebrating our natural and cultural heritage and facilitating collaborations.
- The Biosphere Vision & Strategy 2021-26 has guided Biosphere work; a new strategy is in development.
- The small Biosphere IOM team work with Partners and the wider community to facilitate collaboration and action. They also represent Biosphere Isle of Man within the global MAB and UNESCO family.
- The Biosphere team is funded and hosted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture, and is supported by the Biosphere Board.
- The State of the Biosphere report showcases how the Isle of Man developed as a Biosphere in its first decade.

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RESPONSIBILITIES

By partnering with Biosphere Isle of Man you have pledged to:

1. Protect our natural resources
2. Develop our economy in a sustainable way
3. Support and promote our cultural heritage
4. Make a positive environmental impact where possible
5. Engage with the local community
6. Promote our outstanding land and seascape through active involvement with UNESCO Biosphere Isle of Man

You may not be working on all of these yet, and that's fine! Being a Partner is a commitment to learn and improve.

We'll send an anniversary email to each year - it's a good time to review your Partner profile. and let us know of any changes.
If we're unable to contact you, you may be removed as a Partner, so keep us up to date!

OPPORTUNITIES

You'll receive our monthly newsletter and invitations to Partner Network events. Where possible, we offer support for proposed Partner projects and initiatives.

We love to share good news stories, events, and initiatives - keep in touch and let us know what you're up to!

You can use our logo on letter-heads, email sign-offs, websites, products and promotional material, following our brand guidelines. If you need any guidance just contact the team.

PARTNER NETWORK

The Biosphere Isle of Man team host events to bring Biosphere Partners together to connect and share learning. Keep an eye on our newsletters and social media, or if you are interested in hosting one yourself, please contact the team biosphere@gov.im

VOLUNTEER HUB

Looking for volunteers?
Check out our Volunteer Hub!

USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

UNESCO Biosphere Isle of Man website:
www.biosphere.im
Global Sustainable Development Goals:
sdgs.un.org/goals



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