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Man and the Biosphere Programme

APPLICATION FOR THE YEAR 2026 MAB YOUNG SCIENTISTS AWARDS

Please fill in and sign your application and mail it to your MAB National Committee in your home country for endorsement before it is sent to via the application platform: https://surveys.unesco.org/612476?lang=en.

Please pay careful attention to the following:

- This application form must be uploaded onto the platform;
• Handwritten applications will not be considered;
• This form must be endorsed and signed by the MAB Committee, MAB focal point or--where there is no MAB Committee or MAB Focal point-- the National Commission to UNESCO of your home country. Where your research occurs in a country other than your home country, you must also have an endorsement from that country. Applications that are not endorsed by the relevant government entity will not be accepted.
• Applications must be received by UNESCO no later than 7 May 2026 to be eligible.
• ONLY APPLICATIONS IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH ARE ACCEPTED.

Please indicate whether your proposed study will be related to island, coastal and maritime issues in biosphere reserves. In this case you are eligible for the MAB Young Scientist Award - Albert I of Monaco on island, coastal and maritime issues in biosphere reserves.

Application to the MAB Young Scientist Award - Albert I of Monaco on island, coastal and maritime issues in biosphere reserves.

Application to the MAB Young Scientist Award - general

1. LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. First name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Sex: Male / Female

5. Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Complete address:
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Table with 3 columns: Institution, Date, Degree/Diploma. Contains three rows of blank lines for data entry.

9. Previous research experience: \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Country where research is to be undertaken (in case the study is planned in countries other than the applicants' home country, please attach written evidence to indicate the support of the MAB National Committee concerned):

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11. Title of study: \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Summary description of the proposed research study. Highlight main purposes, methods and expected results of the research to be undertaken. If necessary, you may add up to two more pages (**no additional material**, e.g. certificates, articles, CV, etc. should be annexed to the application):

13. a) Indicate if and how the proposed study will relate/contribute to your country's MAB Programme and the UNESCO MAB Youth Network.

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b) Is the research site in a UNESCO designated biosphere reserve? Yes / No

If so, in which biosphere reserve? \_\_\_\_\_

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14. Provide concise information on past and existing research in related areas (please discuss linkages with existing studies and explain how you will avoid duplication).

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15. Expected starting date and duration of the study (maximum 24 months, including submission of the final report to UNESCO after signature of the MAB National Committee)

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16. Expected date for submission of final report to MAB National Committee, or UNESCO National Commission

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17. Name(s) of institution(s) associated with the study and support provided by the institution(s)

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18. Estimated cost of the proposed study and amount requested from UNESCO-MAB. (Individual research grants will be made available up to an amount of US \$5,000. Smaller requests have greater chances of approval. Please clearly indicate the total amount requested, and a breakdown of expenditures, in US \$. Please note that duplication of already financed activities will not be accepted.)

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(Date)

(Signature of Applicant)

**NB: Your application must be signed on the next page by your MAB National Committee\***

APPLICATION ENDORSED BY PRESIDENT / SECRETARY OF MAB NATIONAL COMMITTEE\*  
FOR SUBMISSION TO UNESCO

(DATE) (SIGNATURE of President / Secretary of the MAB National Committee)

(NAME of President / Secretary of the MAB National Committee)

MAB National Committee address:

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Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTE TO MAB NATIONAL COMMITTEES\* AND APPLICANTS

#### Criteria for endorsement and selection of MAB Young Scientists Awards

- To be eligible, award applications must be made on the MAB Young Scientists Award application form (in English or French) and follow-up technical requirements stated there. The application must be endorsed by the applicant's MAB National Committee\*, which may endorse **only two** applications per year from applicants who are **not older than 35 years of age** (at the closing date of the application).
- Applications must contain concise information of past and existing research in areas concerned in order to present linkages and avoid duplications and ensure that already completed projects are not funded.
- Priority is given to interdisciplinary projects carried out in biosphere reserves designated under the Man and the Biosphere Programme or potential biosphere reserves, and which contribute to the implementation of the Hangzhou Strategic Action Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this regard, applicants should identify in their applications if and how their research contributes to the research-related actions of the Hangzhou Strategic Action Plan and to the SDGs.
- Applicants from developed countries are eligible for Awards only in exceptional cases or if working in joint partnership with developing countries.
- Awards are set at a maximum of US \$5,000 each.
- Research supported by an Award should be completed within 2 years.
- Candidates must accept to submit reports of Award funded research to the MAB Secretariat in Paris and to their MAB National Committees\*, and agree to the possibility of UNESCO publishing the results of their research.
- International travel expenditures are usually not covered under these Awards.

**\*For the countries in which a MAB National Committee does not exist or is not fully operational, the National Commission for UNESCO will ensure the selection of candidates according to the above criteria.**

#### Payment Procedure for MAB Awards

Award payments are split into two instalments:

1st payment: Upon reception of the electronic signature of the Letter of Agreement accompanied by a calendar of activities for the research study.

2nd payment: Upon receipt and approval by UNESCO of a final report (duly signed by the MAB National Committee), the original signed letter of agreement (sent by mail to UNESCO headquarters), photos of yourself and research site, as well as a form authorizing UNESCO to use the information from the report in UNESCO publications and on the UNESCOMABnet.

Application forms for MAB Young Scientists Awards are available from:

<https://www.unesco.org/en/man-and-biosphere/young-scientists>

Applications are made **only** via: <https://surveys.unesco.org/612476?lang=en>

Eventual questions: [mab@unesco.org](mailto:mab@unesco.org)