

# A Biosphere Reserve for the Tilba District?



Man and  
the Biosphere  
Programme

**Building Biocultural diversity;  
Resilience and Sustainable living –  
that's my BR!**



# What are Biosphere Reserves?

Biosphere reserves were established by UNESCO in 1972 under the Man(*sic*) and the Biosphere programme to recognise spaces on the planet where people and nature were striving to live sustainably. *Reserve* now has connotations of “lock-up”, but that was not, and is not, the **prime purpose** of Biosphere reserves.....





# Biosphere Reserves

- are “*special places for people and nature*”.
- are areas of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems promoting solutions to reconcile biodiversity conservation with its sustainable use.
- **738 biosphere reserves** in 134 countries

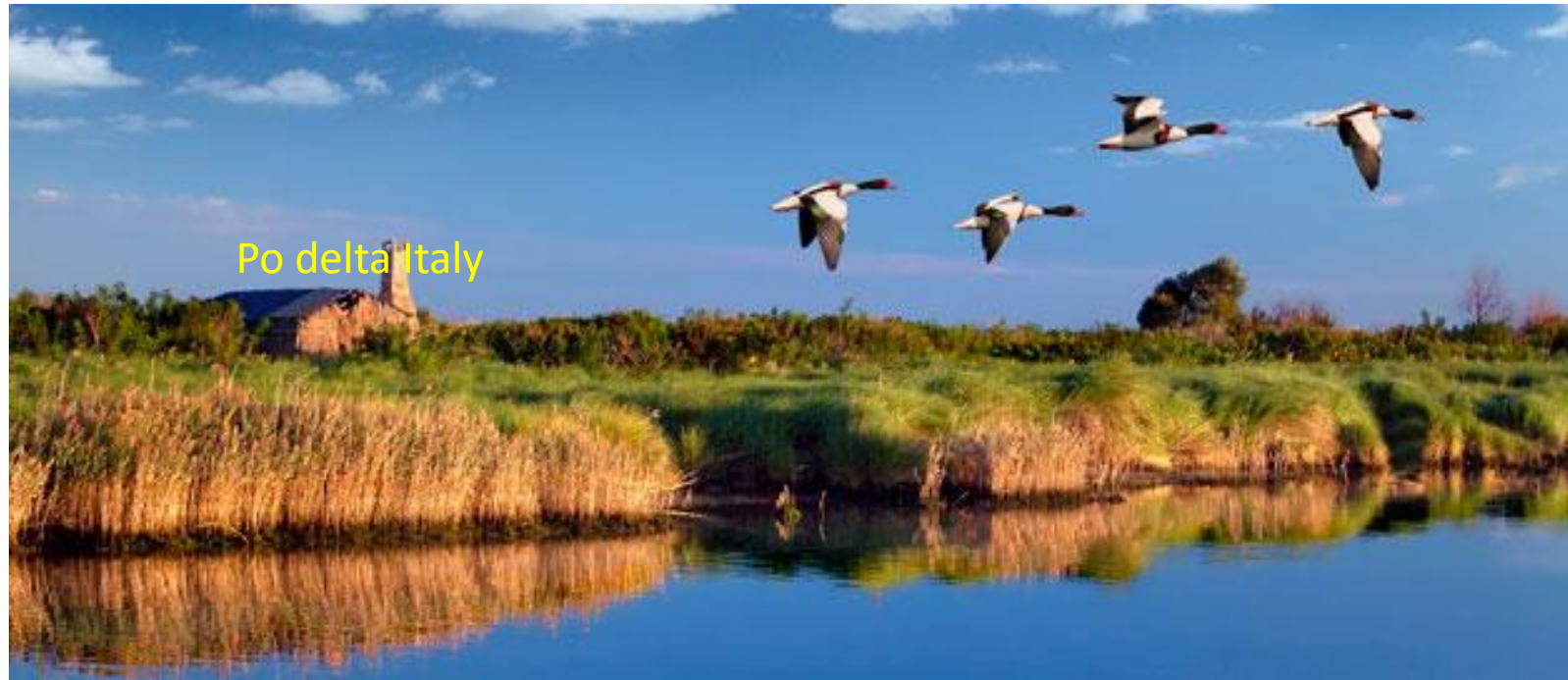


Great Nicobar, India



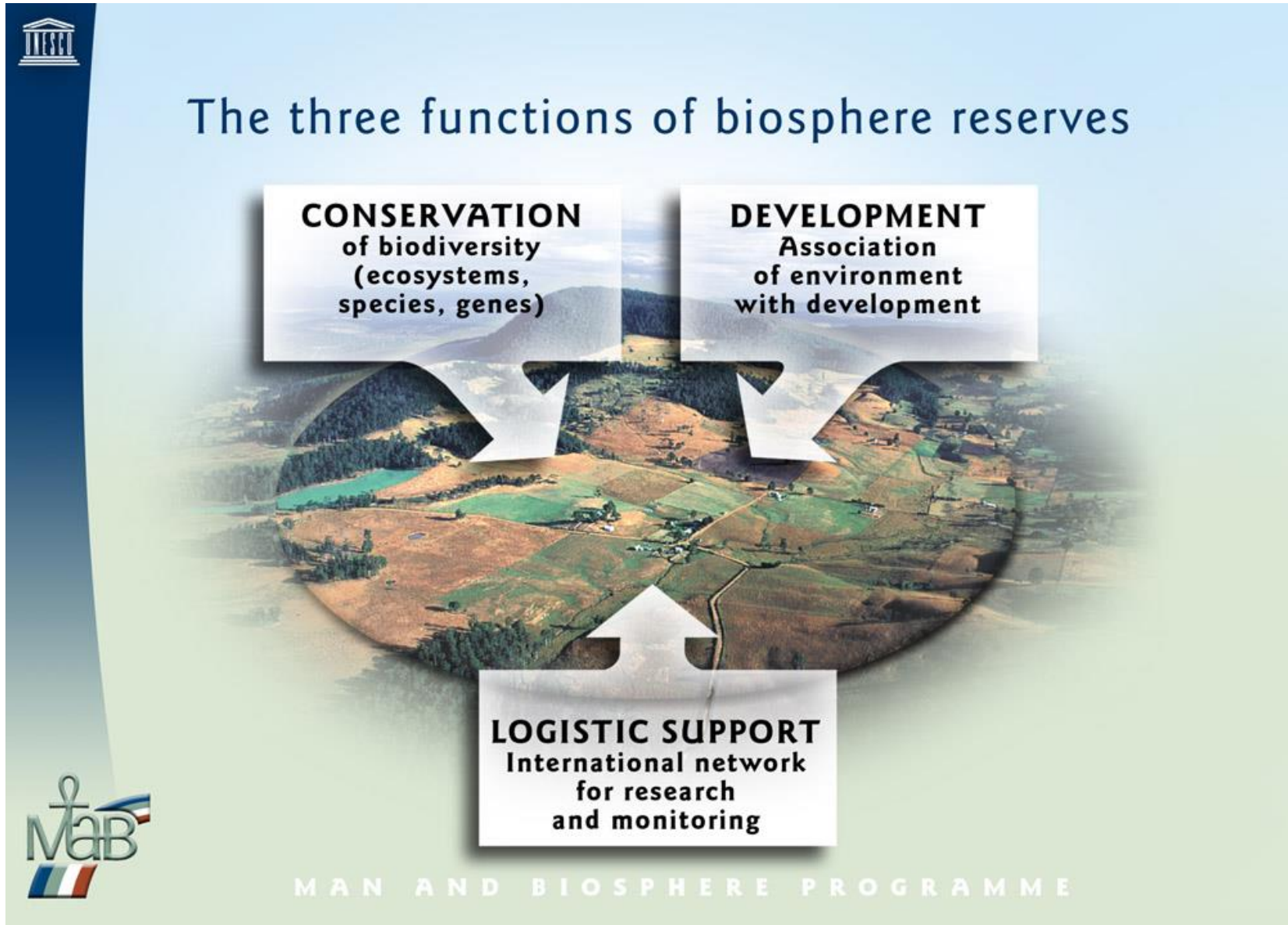
# Biosphere Reserves

- are nominated by national governments.
- remain under the sovereign jurisdiction of the countries in which they are situated.
- are subject to a periodic review process to improve the functioning of sites designated more than 10 years previously





# Biosphere reserves perform three main roles:



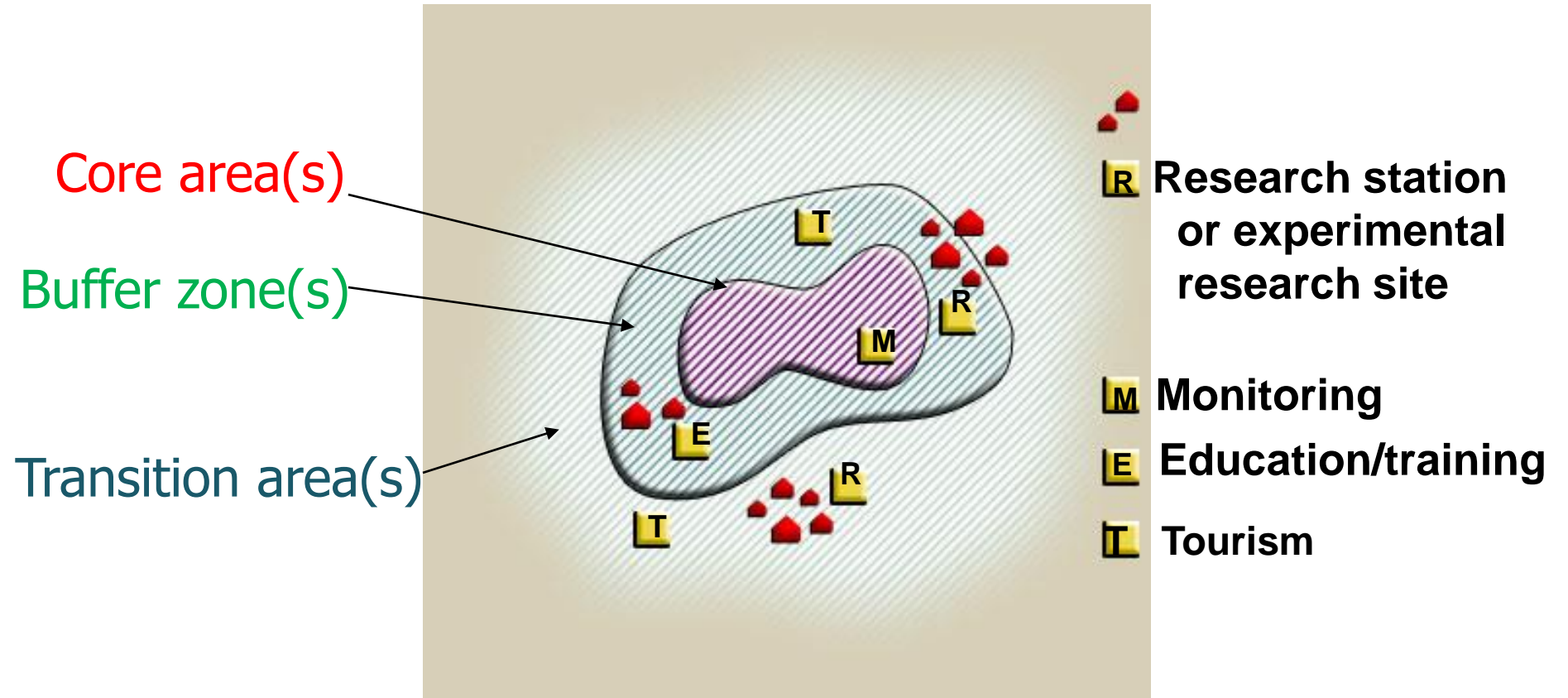
## Biosphere reserves perform three main roles:

- ✓ Conservation *in situ* of natural and semi-natural ecosystems and landscapes
- ✓ Demonstration areas for ecologically and socio-culturally sustainable use; and
- ✓ Logistic support for research, monitoring, education, training and information exchange



Okue BR  
Japan

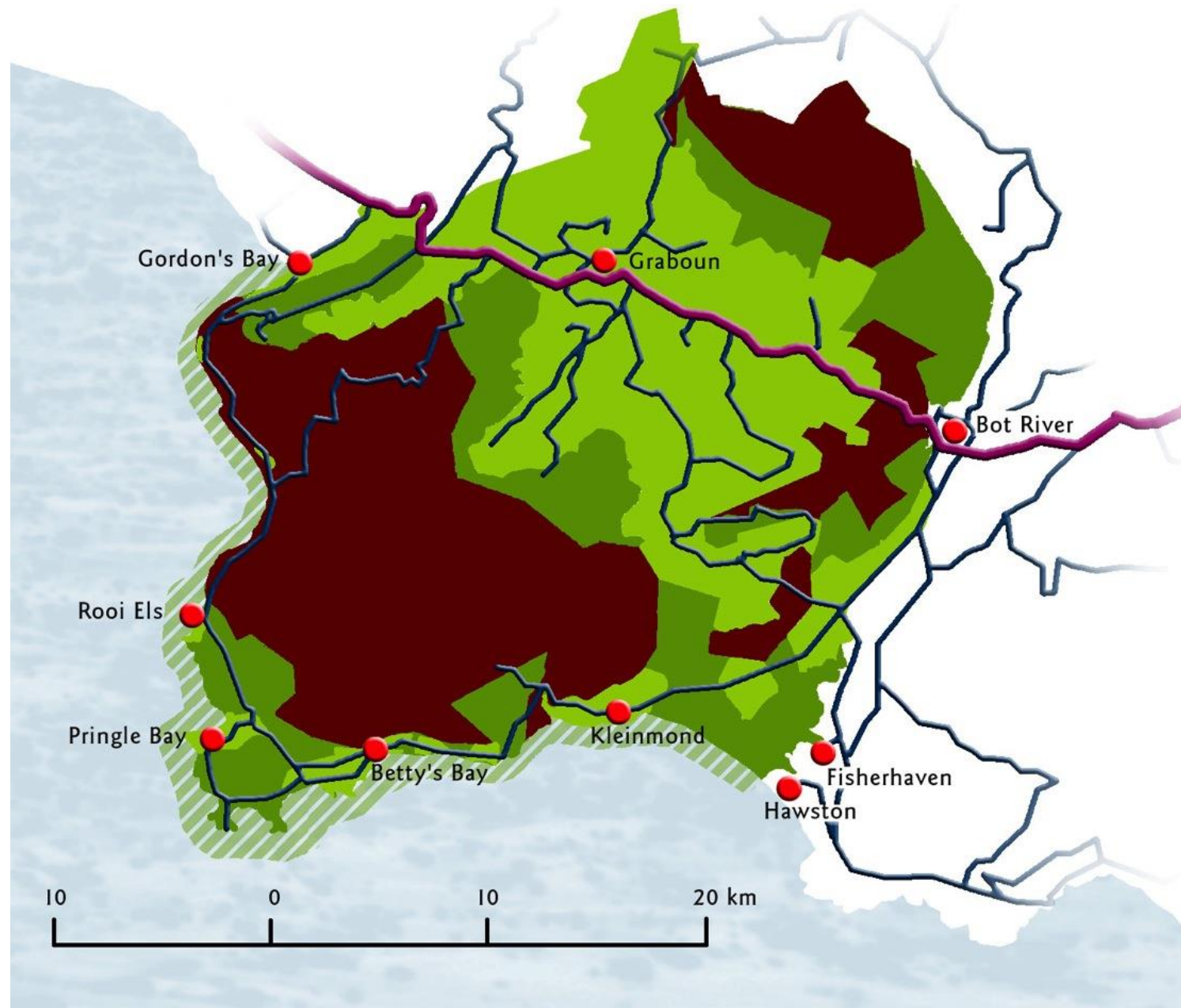
These functions are associated through a zonation system:



This schema can be adapted to various ecological, socio-cultural and legal contexts

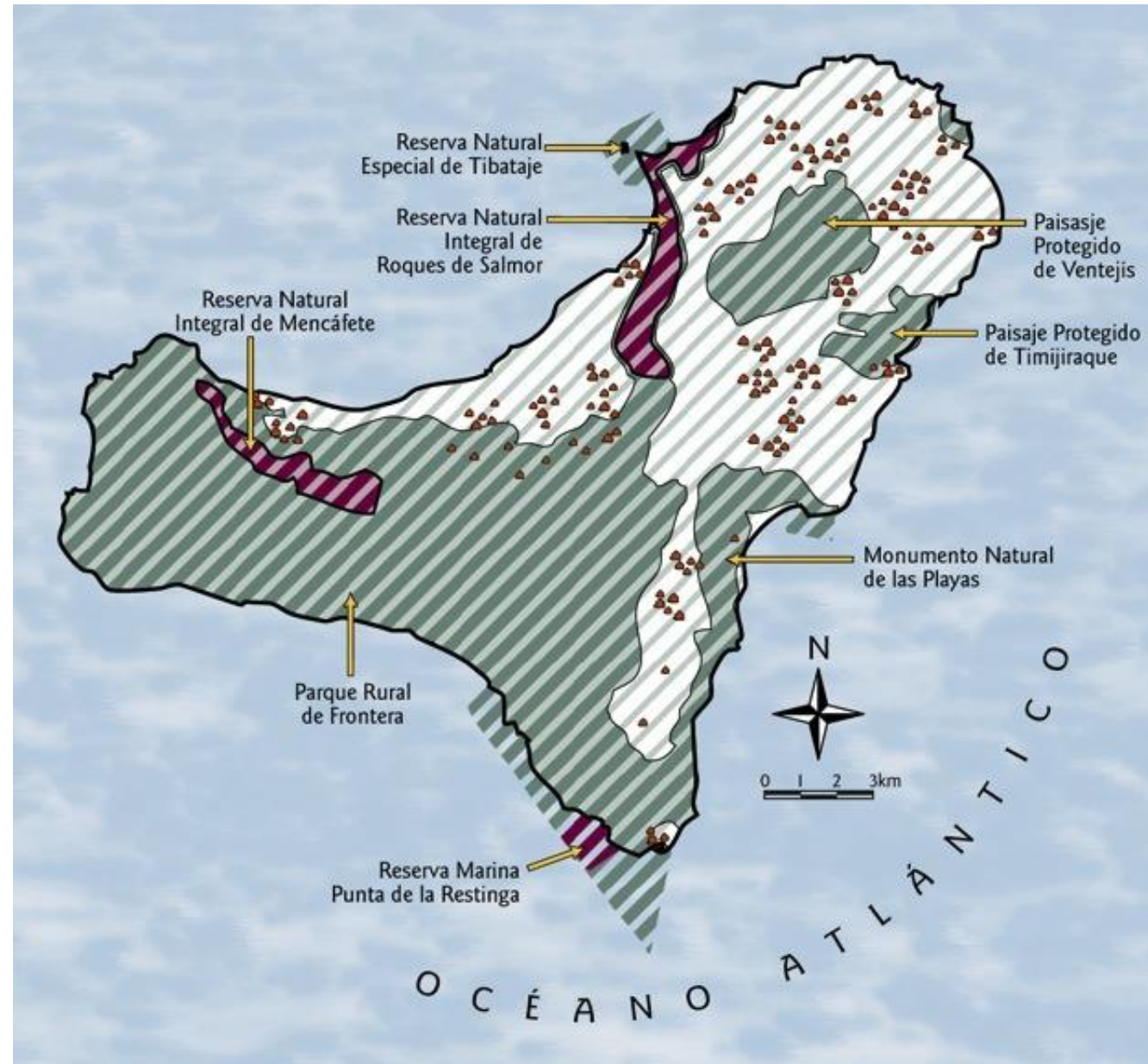


# How does it work?



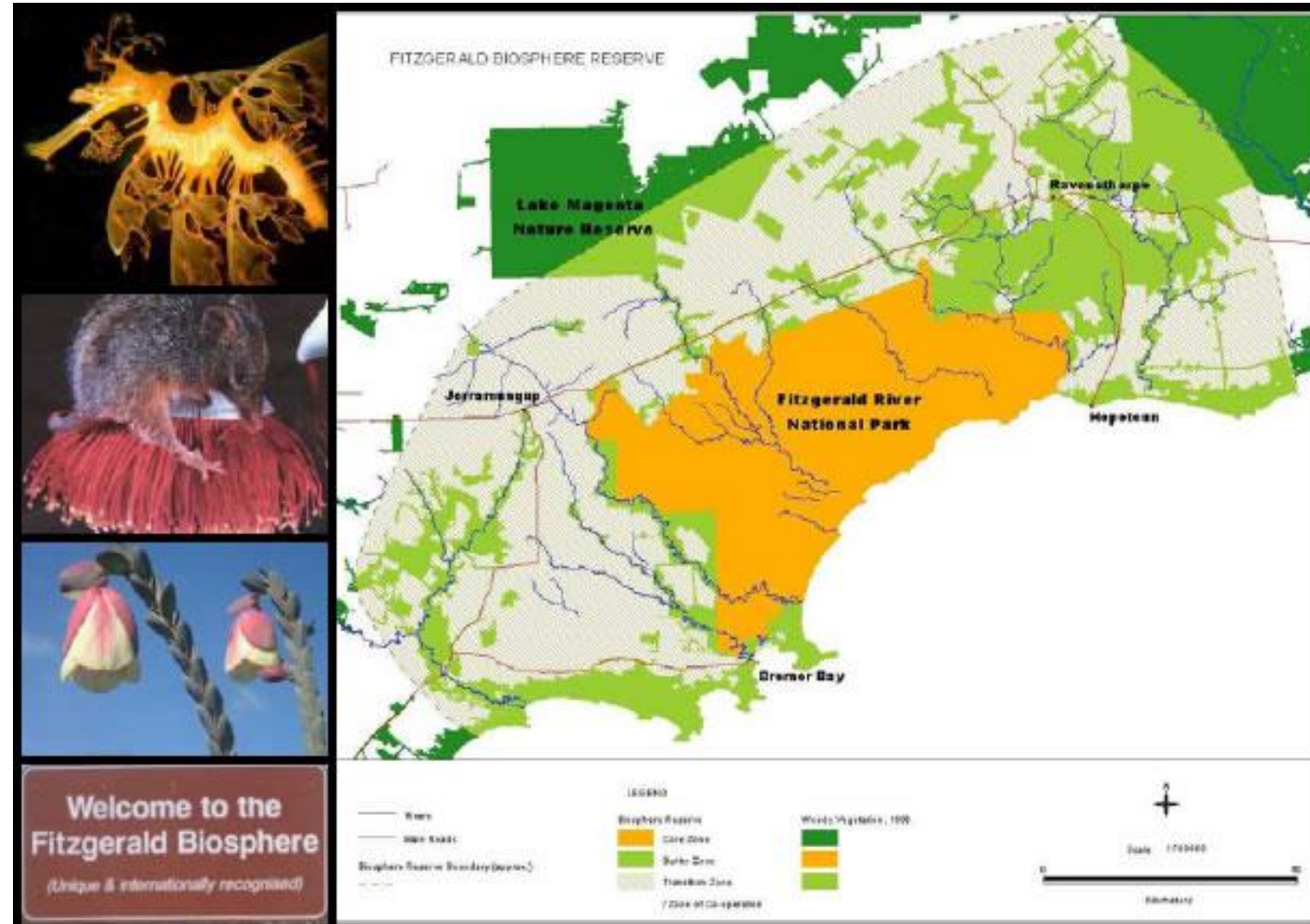


# How does it work?





# How does it work?









The **core area** is managed with a strong emphasis on conservation and the production of ecosystem services. The core area is managed primarily for conservation.

also the potential to serve as an **important asset for economic development through ecotourism** and provide significant opportunities for furthering understanding of ecosystem process and evolution through **research and monitoring**.

The **buffer area** is seen as a highly productive landscape that is currently managed primarily for sustainable development with potential to assist conservation in the core(s).

An area where a range of **environmental rehabilitation activities** can take place through land managers and landholders who have made a choice to rehabilitate and conserve the environmental values of their lands while still obtaining private amenity from them.



The objective for the **transition area** is to increase the level of recognition amongst the managers of these lands of the need to conserve and incrementally increase the environmental values of the area

The **transition area** allows for intensive social, cultural and economic activities to take place in proximity to the **buffer** which filters the impacts of human activities on the **core** areas

# Australian Biosphere Reserves



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy

Prince Regent  
Nature Reserve

Uluru - Kata Tjuta  
National Park

Unnamed  
Biosphere Reserve

Fitzgerald  
Biosphere  
Reserve

Riverland  
Biosphere  
Reserve

Barkindji  
Biosphere Reserve

Yathong  
Nature Reserve

Great Sandy  
Biosphere Reserve

Noosa  
Biosphere  
Reserve

Haltah-Kulkyne  
National Park

Mornington Peninsula  
& Western Port

SW Tasmania  
National Park

Yathong  
Nature Reserve

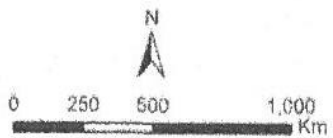
Kosciuszko  
National Park

Croajingolong  
National Park

Wilson's Promontory  
Marine Park &  
Marine Reserve

## Legend

- Biosphere Reserves (current)
- Biosphere Reserves (delisted)

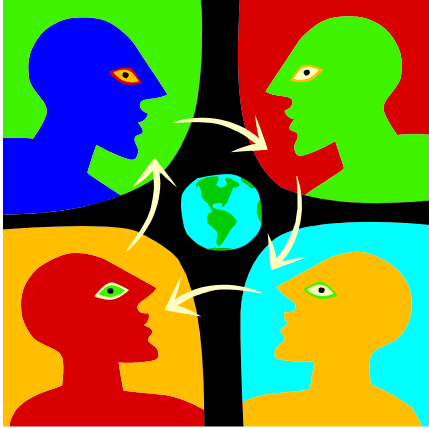


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# Biosphere Reserves are about conversations



Looking obliquely at the global sustainable development debate;

So as to promote new thinking, new ideas, new energy, in that debate

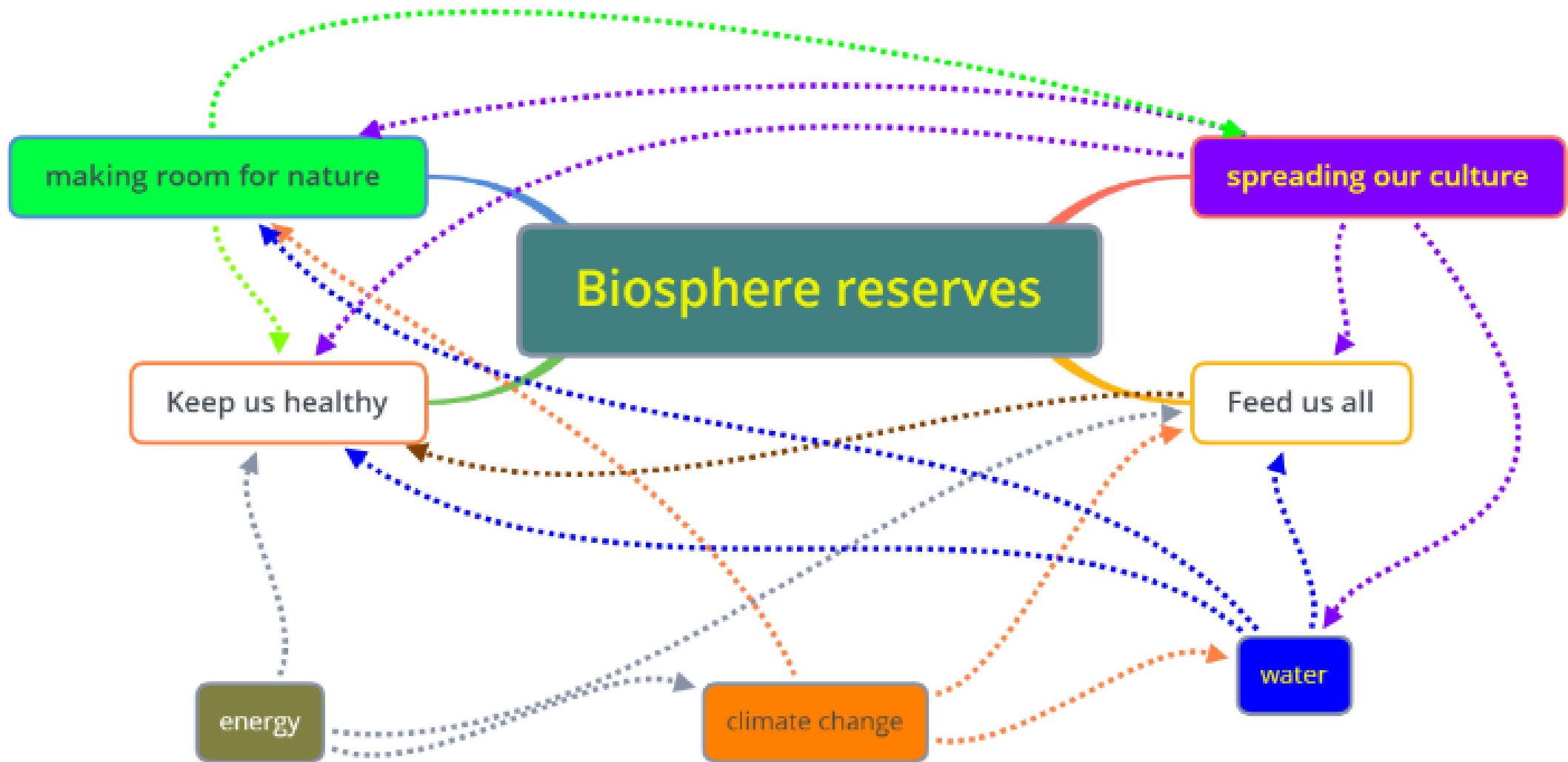


# What conversations should we have in and about Biosphere Reserves ?

At Government level, the sustainable development debate has failed to engage, failed to deliver – yet second and third sectors are becoming energised, but need a vehicle to help government become fully engaged..







# So what do Biosphere Reserves do?

## Spreading our Cultures

- ✓ Culture the forgotten “fourth leg” of sustainable development;
- ✓ Recognition of importance of language, literature and local knowledge;
- ✓ How cultural diversity helps us live across a diverse world;
- ✓ Contribution of culture to economic development.



# So what do Biosphere Reserves do?

## Feed us all

- ✓ Agriculture linked with nutrition *via* cultural acceptability, food accessibility, environmental sustainability, and sustainable diets;
- ✓ Balancing land and water use for Agriculture with other needs (including those of the rest of nature);
- ✓ Creating economic models for agriculture at different scales.

# So what do Biosphere Reserves do?

## Keep us healthy

- ✓ Promoting wellness: - EcoHealth and One Health are new approaches focusing on health and ecosystems, and fostering international collaboration;
- ✓ Links between health and climate change, water supply, and energy resources – promoting economic security;
- ✓ Links between health and nutrition;
- ✓ Links between nature, culture and human well-being.



# So what do Biosphere Reserves do?

## Help us Make room for Nature

- ✓ Better conservation and management of biodiversity;
- ✓ Development of ex-situ biodiversity conservation;
- ✓ Designing nature into cities, using nature to help manage human living environments;
- ✓ Enhancing delivery of ecosystem services, through better valuation and economic understanding.

# So what do Biosphere Reserves do?

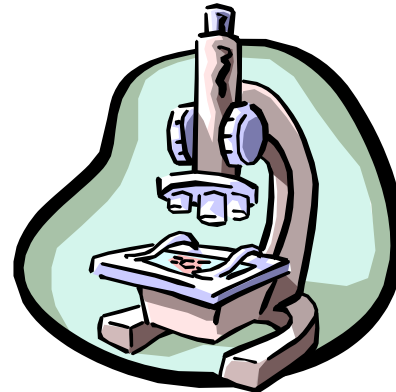
## The ideal global outcome

- ✓ The outcome should be a more energised and focussed global approach to sustainable development;
- ✓ This outcome should link to UN and related global progress to realising an effective green economy;
- ✓ It should also reinforce achievements made under the Rio Conventions for 2030.
- ✓ And finally contribute in a real way to better environmental futures through community engagement.



# Biosphere Reserves: Who benefits?

- ✓ *Local communities*
- ✓ *Scientists*
- ✓ *Ministers and Government decision-makers*
- ✓ *business*



# Biosphere reserves can ...

- provide a voluntary working tool for land and water management in the wider land- and sea-scape
- link up protected areas through a mosaic of corridors (for example in Brazil)
- allow holistic planning of urban areas and their hinterlands (for example Arganeraie with the city of Agadir , Morocco)


Private companies, landowners, fishermen, and farmers take most of the actions that affect biodiversity.

Governments simply need to provide the critical role of leadership, particularly by setting rules that guide the use of natural resources.



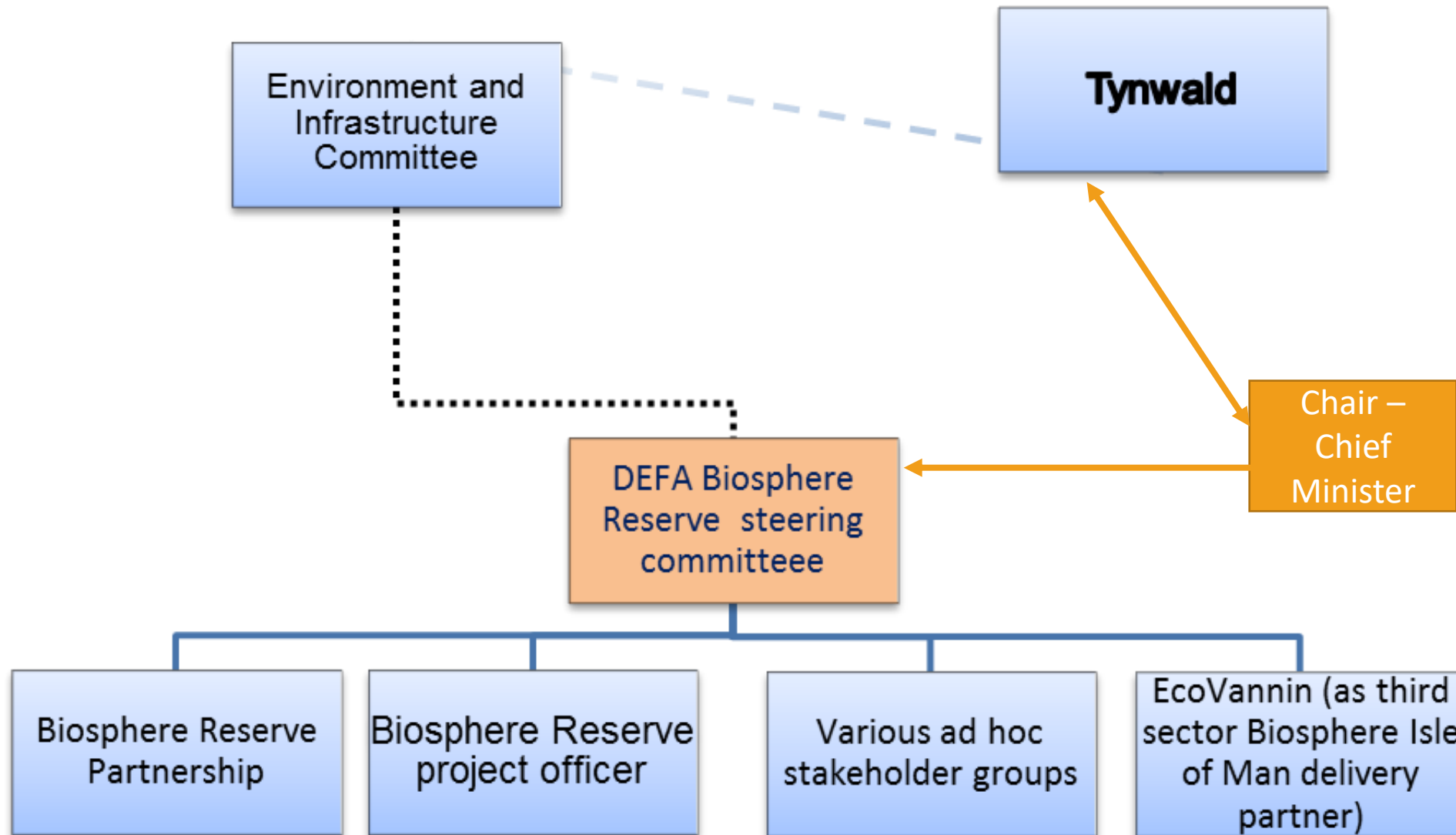
Landcare: an intersecting programme



A scenic view of the Kogelburg Biosphere Reserve in South Africa. The foreground shows a rocky beach with many birds, likely terns, scattered across the dark rocks. The middle ground features a coastal town with several buildings, some with red roofs, situated on a slight rise. The background is dominated by a large, rugged mountain with a steep, rocky slope. The sky is clear and blue.

**Governance questions are key to the success of sustainable use of biodiversity at any level, but arguably even more so at the landscape level, where usually many different needs and expectations of different stakeholder groups have to be considered.**

**Kogelburg Biosphere Reserve, South Africa**



**Isle of Man Biosphere Reserve - Governance structure**

# How Do BRs get nominated?

- At **year 0 in June** at the ICC meeting new BRs are accepted;
- Before that there is a **UNESCO acceptance process**, with nominations submitted by **September 30 year -1**;
- And before that there are **sign-off processes** with the **National Commission for UNESCO, National Mab Committee, DCCEEW Minister**;
- Meaning any submission must be submitted to DCCEEW by latest **June30 of Year -1**.



# So, the TILBA proposal – how to do it?

First, develop a map of the proposed BR with Zones;

Second, use this to make sure all elements of the community and stakeholders are on-side;

Finally, remember the 30 September key date...

And one more key date –

November 3, *International Day for Biosphere Reserves*

First celebration, 2022..

Good day for early announcement of intent?



And so, at Claquot, and all other Biosphere Reserves around the world, the story continues...

Will Tilba be next?? 😊