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Man and
the Biosphere
Programme



Sustainable
Development
Goals

UNESCO designated sites and their key role in SDGs' implementation

Flavia Schlegel,
Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO
Huangshan Dialogue, China (01.11.2018)



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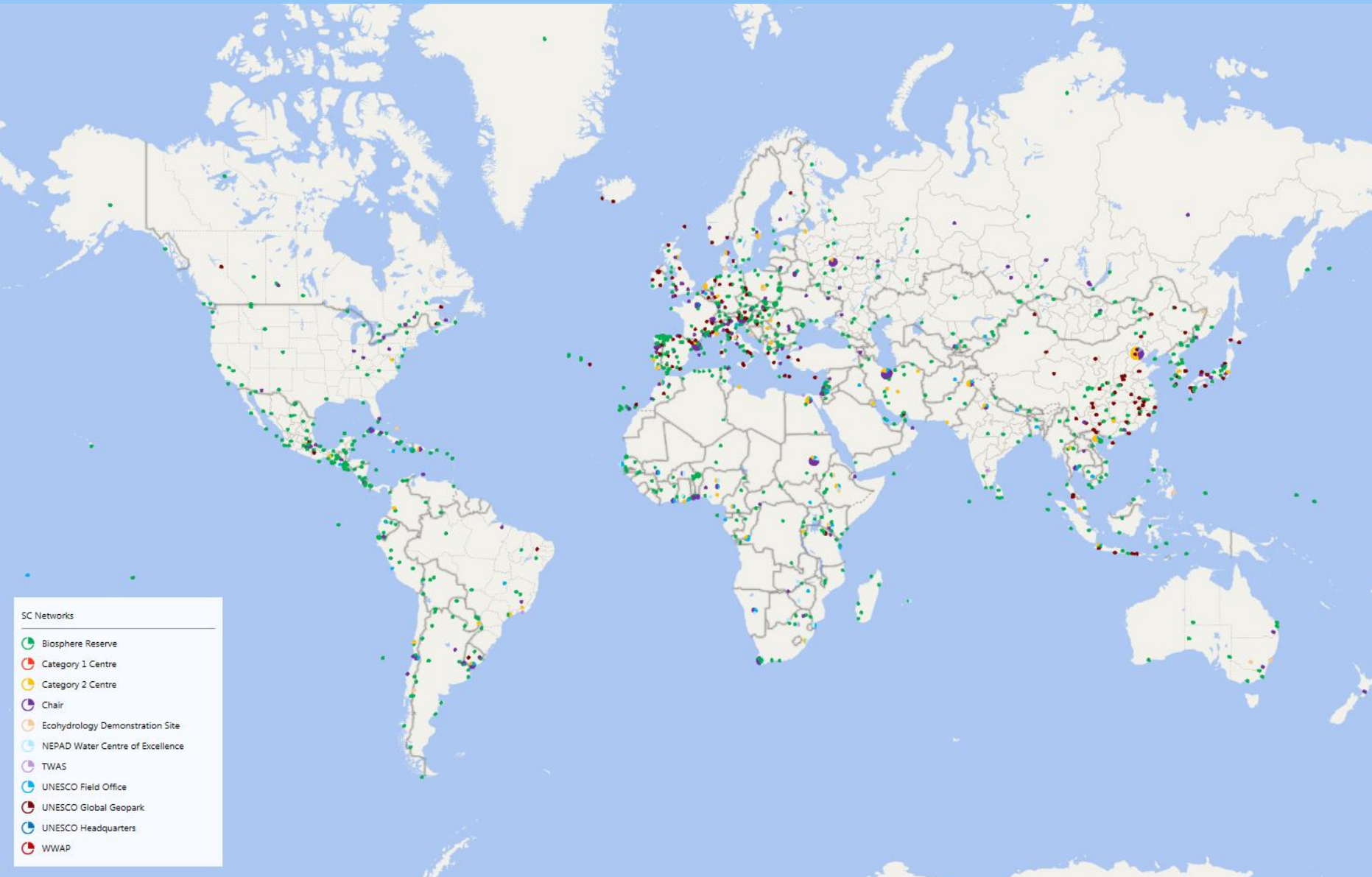
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Natural Sciences Global Network

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SC Networks

- Biosphere Reserve
- Category 1 Centre
- Category 2 Centre
- Chair
- Ecohydrology Demonstration Site
- NEPAD Water Centre of Excellence
- TWAS
- UNESCO Field Office
- UNESCO Global Geopark
- UNESCO Headquarters
- WWAP



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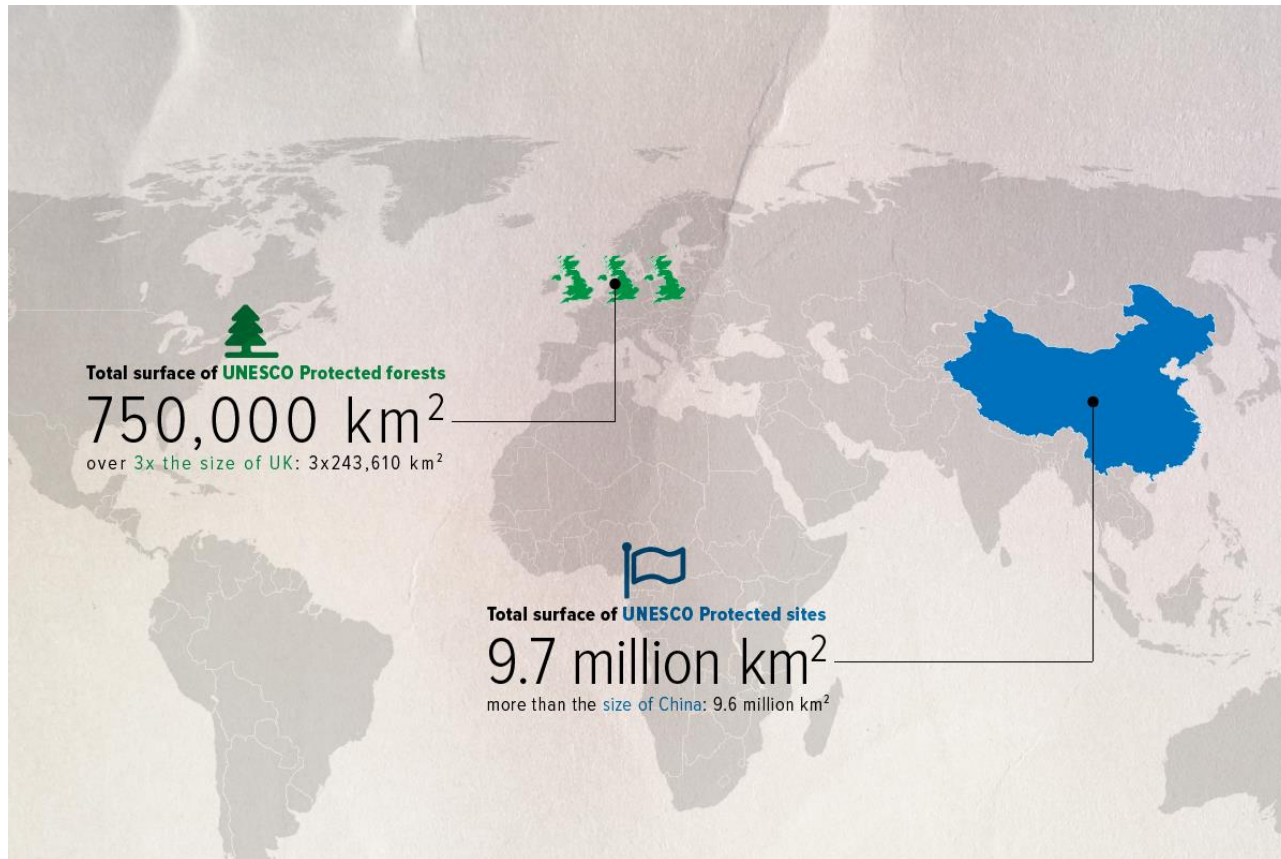
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UNESCO designated sites

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UNESCO designates sites to **encourage national governments** and local communities to **identify special sites** and work together to ensure their **conservation and sustainable use** for current and future generations.



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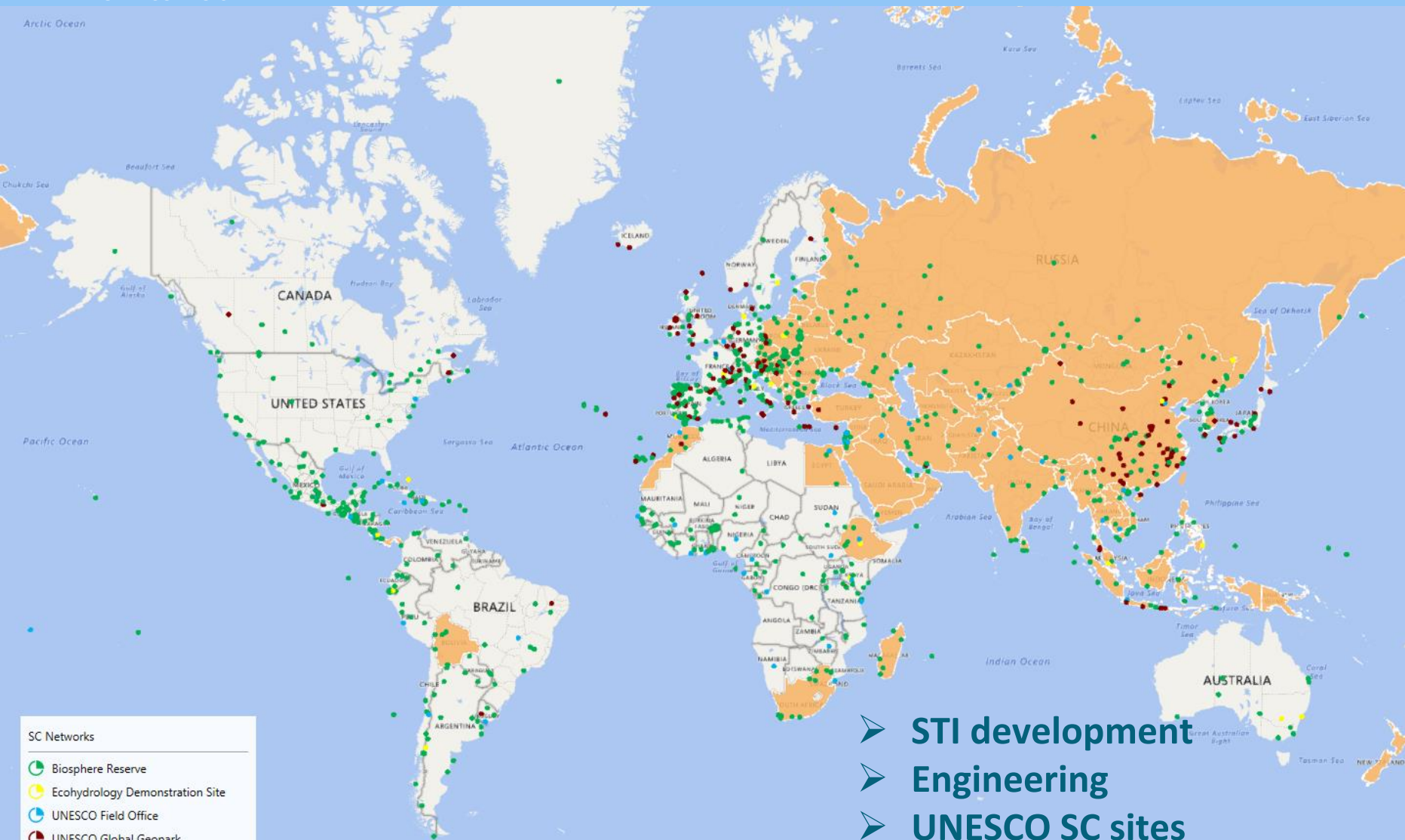
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UNESCO Natural Sciences Sites in OBOR Countries

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Source: <https://eng.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/index.htm> (22.06.2018)



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China's contribution to MAB and IGGP

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- **Partnership Agreement** between UNESCO and **CAS**, to be signed on 4 November 2018 in Beijing
- Important **cooperation activities**, in particular through **HIST**
 - Regional Post-Graduate training school (ERAIFT),
 - Project collaboration with UNESCO HQ and its FOs in Africa
 - Launch of the DBAR-Heritage, successfully organized by HIST
- Annual **contribution** to IGCP projects (2009-2017)
- First **female scientist** from China to the **IGCP Council** (Professor Weijian Zhou, since 2018)



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UNESCO Sites: SDGs in Action

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Mount Huangshan



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Mount Huangshan, known as 'the loveliest mountain of China'*

- UNESCO World Heritage site since 1990
- UNESCO Global Geopark since 2015
- UNESCO Biosphere Reserve since 2018



UNESCO
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*source: China.org.cn and whc.unesco.org



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Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

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- **Intergovernmental** scientific programme since 1971
- **Lima Action Plan (2016-2025)**
- Transform the relationship between **people** and their **environment**
- Develop and strengthen **models for sustainable development** in WNBR
- Support **evaluation** and high-quality **management, strategies** and **policies** for sustainable development and planning
- WNBR to leverage **SDGs**



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What are biosphere reserves?

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- **Internationally recognized** sites by UNESCO's MAB Programme
 - include terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems
- **Promote solutions** reconciling the conservation of biodiversity with its sustainable use
- Sites for **testing interdisciplinary approaches** to understand and manage changes and interactions between social and ecological systems
 - including conflict prevention and management of biodiversity



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Biosphere Reserves: Three zones, three functions

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Structure of a model biosphere reserve



- Core Area
- Buffer Zone
- Transition Area
- Human Settlement
- Research
- Education / Training
- Tourism / Recreation



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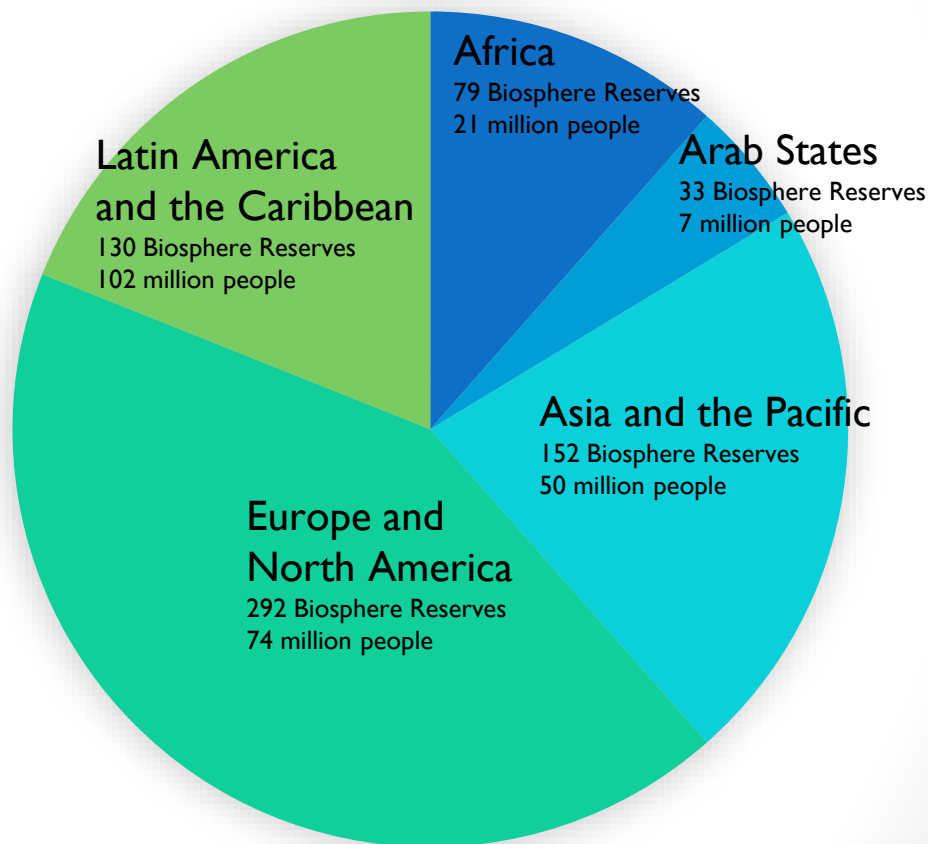


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The World Network of Biosphere Reserves

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- **686** Biosphere Reserves
- In **122** countries
- **20** transboundary (Africa: 3, Europe & NA: 12, LAC: 3)
- Including **2** transcontinental BRs
Intercontinental del Mediterraneo (Europe/Arab States) and Great Altay (Europe/Asia & Pacific)
- Ca. 7.5 million km²
- Home to over **250 million** people





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Chinese Biosphere Reserves

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34 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves

- First designations:
Changbaishan, Dingushan
and Wolong (1979)
- Latest designation:
Mount Huangshan (2018)





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UNESCO
Global
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International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP)

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Umbrella for IGCP and UNESCO Global Geoparks

- Reflects the **societal challenges** of Earth Science since 1972
- Promotes scientific **collaboration** to improve management of **Earth's resources**, thereby increasing **economic benefits**
- Promotes sites of international geological value for **local sustainable development**
- Creates a stronger scientific Earth science community and more scientifically aware global citizens through **capacity building**



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What are UNESCO Global Geoparks?

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- Sites and landscapes of **international geological significance**
- Protection, education and sustainable development (bottom-up approach)
- Link **geology** with the area's natural, cultural and intangible **heritage**
- Promote **awareness & learning**:
 - Geohazards
 - Climate change
 - Sustainable use of natural resources
 - Evolution of life
 - Empowerment of peoples



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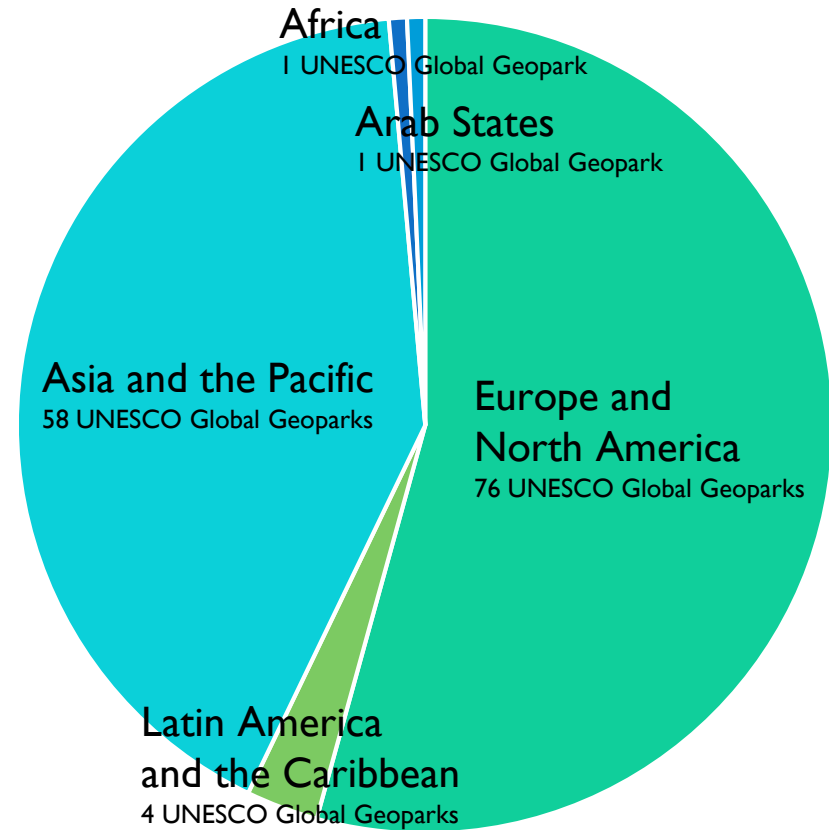


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UNESCO Global Geoparks in the world

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- **140** UNESCO Global Geoparks
- In **38** countries
- **4 transboundary** (Europe & NA: 4)
- Ca. 250,000 km²



■ Europe ■ Latin America and Caribbean ■ Asia Pacific ■ Africa ■ Arab



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Chinese UNESCO Global Geoparks

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37 UNESCO Global Geoparks

- 8 Chinese Geoparks co-founded the Global Geopark Network in 2004:
*Danxiashan, **Huangshan**, Lushan, Shilin, Songshan, Wudalianchi, Yuntaishan, Zhangjiajie*
- Guangwushan-Nuoshuihe & Huanggang Dabieshan received the UNESCO Global Geopark designation in 2018



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UNESCO's Networks in China

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谢谢!



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