

MaB UNESCO Monviso

YOUTH

CAMP

GIOVANI PER LO SVILUPPO SOSTENIBILE | JEUNES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

9-13 July 2018





MAB UNESCO MONVISO YOUTH CAMP

Youth for Sustainable Development

9-13 July 2018





"A fundamental change is needed in the way we think about the role of education in global development, because it has a catalytic impact on the well-being of individuals and the future of our planet. Now, more than ever, education has a responsibility to face 21st century challenges and aspirations, and foster the right types of values and skills that will lead to sustainable and inclusive growth, as well as a peaceful life together."

Irina Bokova, Director General of the UNESCO from 2009 - 2017



The following report has been created by Fondazione Santagata for the Economics of Culture. The document was completed in July 2018.

Edited by:

Erica Meneghin

Andrea Porta

With the contribution of:

Sophie Marconi

Maria Federica Valezano

Scientific supervision:

Paola Borrione, Alessio Re

The images used have been provided by the working team and by Adrien Nabonne, one of the camp's participants.

Fondazione Santagata for the Economics of Culture

Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 43, 10129, Turin

info@fondazionesantagata.it

www.fondazionesantagata.it/en/

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TRANSBOUNDARY BIOSPHERE RESERVE

1

22

PARTICIPANTS FROM 15 TO 18 YEARS OLD



15 ITALIANS AND 7 FRENCH

5

DAYS OF LEARNING IN NATURE



4

TENTS 1 CAMPING HAMMOCK
2.017 meters above sea level

4

STUDY VISITS IN THE TERRITORY



3

WORKSHOPS AND 10 ACTIVITIES

Introduction

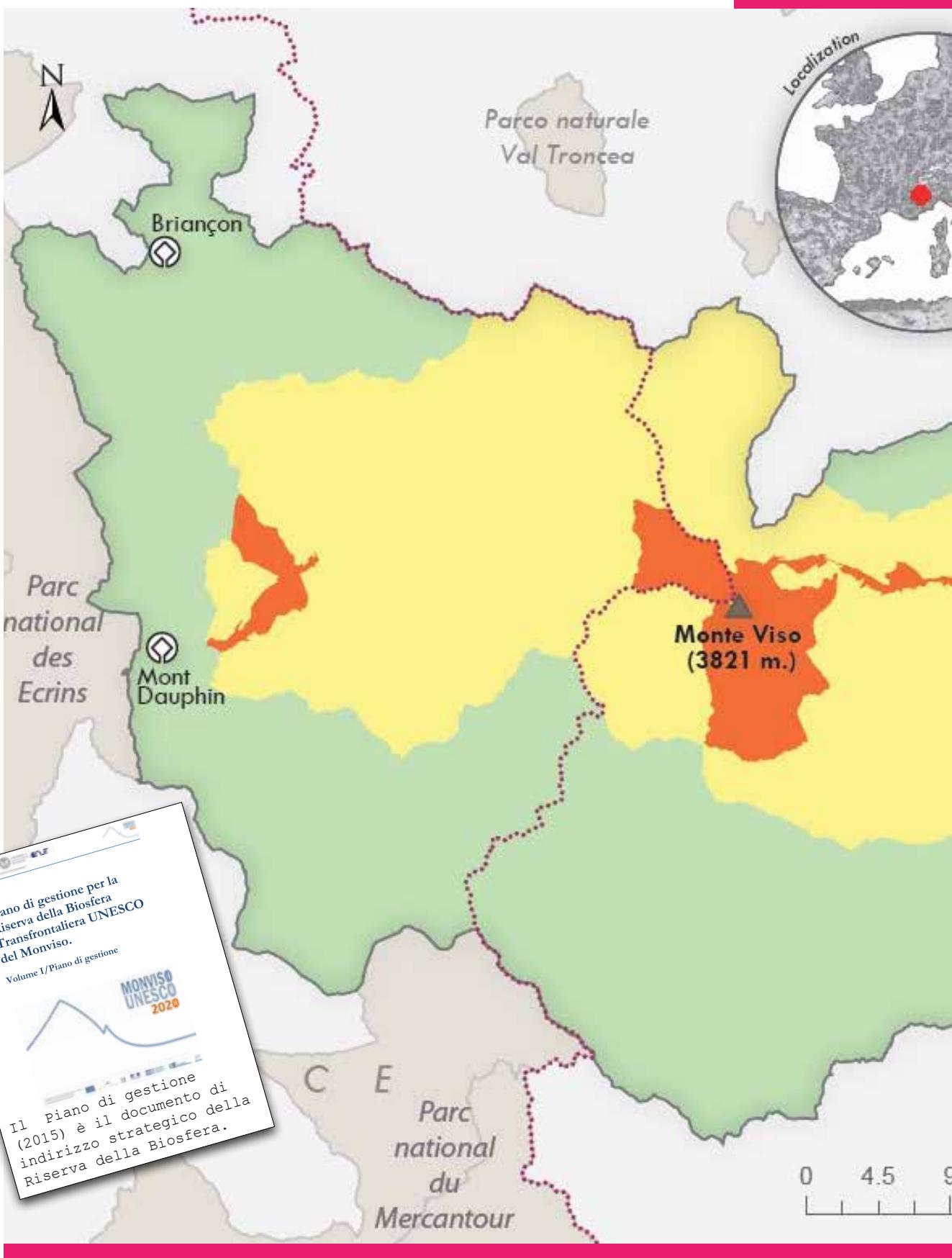
Young people are considered the future of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve and their voices must be heard on fundamental issues such as land management and the construction of a path to sustainable development. This consciousness has brought the Monviso Park, and its partners, to organise the **MaB UNESCO Monviso Youth Camp**, an opportunity for young people who want to be involved in experiences, to become the MaB Program's protagonists, and to through their own actions guarantee the sustainable development of their communities, according to the Lima Action Plan. The Camp took place, from the 9th to 13th July 2018 in the Varaita Valley.

Following the project's management cycle, from the problem conception through organization and up to the realization, the Camp was perceived as an occasion to:

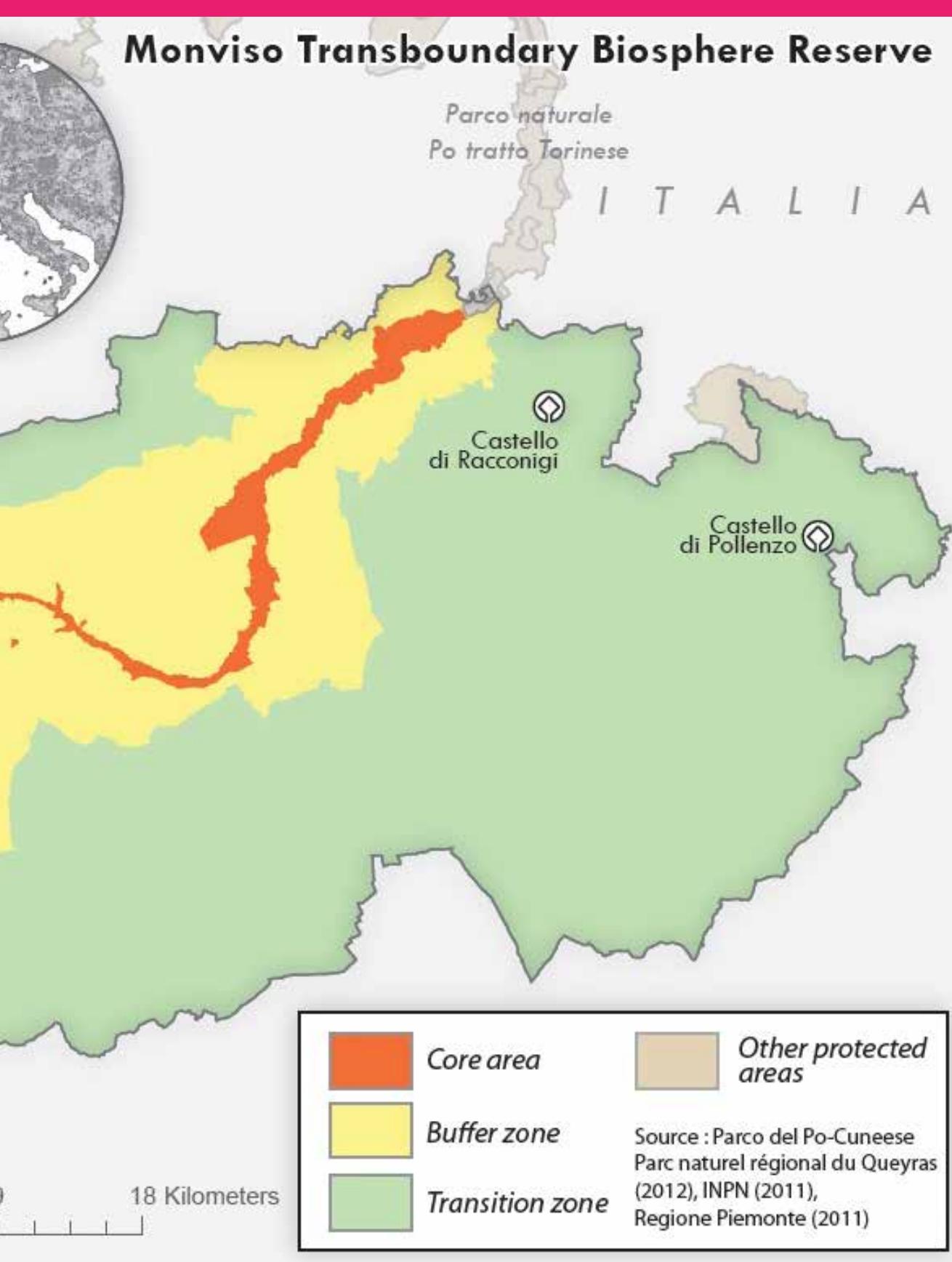
- Raise awareness among the participants on the issues of sustainable development and the UNESCO MaB program, with the aim of giving young people a chance to meet, debate and share.
- To strengthen the active participation of youth and their engagement in the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve management, contributing to their involvement as activists for change and the promotion of a more equitable and sustainable society.
- To live a unique group experience between Italian and French peers outdoors and in direct contact with nature.

The beneficiaries of this experience were mainly teenagers, aged between 15 and 18 years old, living and / or studying in the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, as well as the involvement of some local organisations such as farms, businesses and youth associations. This approach has made it possible to spread the Camp's themes to a large portion of local stakeholders, raising general awareness and consciousness on the territory.





Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve



Organisation and Partners

The **MaB UNESCO Monviso Youth Camp** is an initiative born from the collaboration between Monviso Park, Fondazione Santagata for the Economics of Culture (Turin, Italy), Consorzio Monviso Solidale and ApprossimAZIONI (Saluzzo, Italy), in collaboration with Fondazione Amleto Bertoni and Saluzzo Municipality, Association Culturelle Sociale et Sportive du Queyras and MJC du Briançonnais (France). The Camp has been included in the ALCOTRA #COM.VISO project.

The team includes:

Mariangela Alois (Monviso Park)
Paolo Caraccio (Consorzio Monviso Solidale - Coop. Soc. Proposta 80)
Alberto Isaia (Consorzio Monviso Solidale - Coop Caracol - Progetto ApprossimAZIONI)
Letizia Terrana (Consorzio Monviso Solidale - Coop Caracol - Progetto ApprossimAZIONI)
Erica Meneghin (Fondazione Santagata)
Andrea Porta (Fondazione Santagata)
Fabio Ferrero (Communication representative for ALCOTRA #COM.VISO)

The volunteers who supported the activities are:

Sophie Marconi
Maria Federica Valezano

The Camp had the opportunity to work with Social Community Theater and the european project "TERRACT- Théâtre Social et de Communauté pour le patrimoine naturel" in the organization of one activity.

The technical partners who supported the initiative are:

- Municipality of Melle;
- Municipality and Avis of Verzuolo;
- Sherpa Valle Varaita, Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale;
- Officina Antagonisti - Brew-pub-birreria, Melle;
- Valverbe, Melle;
- Mieleria Garnero, Sampeyre;
- Dal Bessè, Sampeyre.

The project was sponsored by the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cuneo and supported by the Italian National Commission for UNESCO.



Contents



Man and Biosphere program

The lessons allowed to present the main characteristics of the **Man and Biosphere program**. Created in the 70s by UNESCO, its primary objective is to improve the relationship between man and environment through the use of natural sciences, social sciences, economics studies and educational projects in order to improve the overall communities' life. The activities and workshops offered during the camp had as main goal to raise awareness through innovative approaches, especially concerning socially, economically and culturally appropriate methodologies that are suitable for the Reserve. This was possible thanks to the use of internal resources as inputs and increasing the individuals' capacities to manage the resources efficiently for the communities and the environmental well-being.

The camp was designed to alternate between lectures, activities and workshops on the MaB's topics in order to encourage a positive change through the youth's education. This kind of approach is often endorsed to new generations since they are considered holders of values and of the future societies' capabilities.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development is the basis of modern society and it is gradually establishing itself as a model of economic growth worldwide. The activities proposed by the **Mab UNESCO Monviso Youth Camp** were designed on the three pillars of Sustainable Development: **society**, **environment** and **economic development**. The UN Agenda 2030 main themes were promoted through the presentation of the **17 Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs).

The Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve

The Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve is promoted by **two regional parks**, the Monviso Park and the Queyras Park. This Italian-French territory has been designated as Biosphere Reserve on 28th of May 2013, obtaining in **2014** the Transboundary recognition. In 2015, the **Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve Management Plan** was proposed as a complementary document to the original application file as part of the ALCOTRA 2007-2013 program activities, having the goal to maximize the territory's and communities' benefits given by the UNESCO recognition, enhancing the opportunities for future project cooperation.

Activities

The participants were encouraged to analyse the territory in which they live, study and work, learning the characteristics of the **Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve** and encouraging their present and future involvement in both the difficulties and the opportunities that come with the Reserve.

The proposed activities were designed using the experience of the Consorzio Monviso Solidale and with the help of the Caracol and Proposta 80 cooperatives educators, as part of the city of Saluzzo ApprossimAZIONI project, which accompanied the single participants and the groups during the Camp with the aim of creating a positive learning and assimilating climate. The educators have experimented with dynamic activities, involving all the participants (both young and adults) by pushing them on a personal social level as well as on the general issues regarding sustainable development and the Biosphere Reserve.

The activities that were carried out can be summarized in four categories:

1. Knowledge, group formation and construction of a cooperation agreement.
2. Games and activities on the theme of sustainable development and the Biosphere Reserve.
3. Activities for personal growth.
4. Cognitive integration, general experience evaluation and future planning.

One of the Camp's main objectives was to favour, through non-formal methods of learning, relationships and confrontation between the participants, as well as with the educators, following the ApprossimAZIONI and #COM.VISO projects' main goals, with the purpose of establishing long-lasting collaborative relationships, with the idea of facilitating possible further studies, and operational developments at the end of the Camp. The role of the ApprossimAZIONI project educators in the organization of the activities contributed to a general increase of the Camp's pedagogical value. Getting the participants out of their comfort zone was a fundamental strategy for entering the ideal learning zone at both individual and group level, giving them the feeling of being part of a common learning experience. At the end of the Camp other activities were held, contributing to the cognitive integration resulting from the educational courses and the overall experience, along with self-evaluation and collective awareness on the future commitments that need to be taken for the Biosphere Reserve's development.



Workshops

The workshops proposed during the camp are inspired by the **MaB International Youth Forum** held in September 2017 in the Po Delta Biosphere Reserve, organised by the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, in which the Fondazione Santagata's young researchers participated as representatives of the Monviso Biosphere Reserve.

The researchers themselves supported each workshop, following the suggestions provided during the lectures given to the students; from the general theme of sustainable development up to the general characteristics of the territory, this was fundamental during the final manifesto's draft, as well as in the planning of future activities to be developed in Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.

Constituting the component characterizing the format proposed during the Camp, the workshops have been divided into three distinct moments:

1. Identification of the territory's strengths and weaknesses from the point of view of the participants.
2. Identification of the objectives to be achieved in order to enhance the strengths and to solve the weaknesses.
3. Description of the activities needed to achieve the objectives. These activities were divided by the participants among those that can be achieved personally and those for which they need the support of local authorities.

The role of organisers was to ensure the participation of each of the group's members in order to stimulate the creation of new ideas, to reformulate and to interpret the participants' interventions and finally to transmit the approaches chosen during the identification of the action strategy.

At the end of the Camp, some of the participants that were nominated by the others presented the final work, during an event of restitution and comparison with the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve main institutions.



The youth's objectives for the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve

1. Make at least 50% of the local population aware of the Biosphere Reserve and of the Sustainable Development theme.

2. Promote the population's commitment to keeping the natural and urban areas of the territory that is enclosed by the Biosphere Reserve clean.

3. Promote quality local products.

4. Encourage young people to stay in the Biosphere Reserve's territory and support their ideas.

Les actions

1.1. Organise activities in schools for the target group of people 10 to 18 years old*.
1.2. Organise events and training opportunities on Biosphere Reserve territory designed by young people for young people.

2.1. Organize groups of young volunteers for cleaning the territory, through the creation of a web platform with a system of "incentives".
2.2. Place information boards at strategic spots (beginning of the paths), with distributors of waste bags that will be returned to municipal waste management*.

3.1. Organise events (e.g. eat and walk) dedicated to the local products of the Biosphere Reserve, varying place and route each year.
3.2. Ask people in the area with very active social media profiles to advertise quality local products.
3.3. Plan the promotion of local products in large and small grocery stores in the Biosphere Reserve, recognizable by a proper label*.

4.1. Organise meetings between young people who live in the mountain valleys and those from lowland cities.
4.2. Strengthen and promote the youth's initiatives through the creation of a sort of incubator*.
4.3. To implement a training program and opportunities to meet the operators of the Biosphere Reserve primary sector in order to support the employment of Young people*.

* Actions for which support from local institutions is needed

Program



The participants worked in four groups and after sharing their work with one another they voted for the best objectives and the actions that were created.

The Camp provided accommodation in tents at the Bagnour lodge (Pontechianale) and it was filled with training activities, workshops, visits and games, during which the knowledge of the territory was encouraged as well as the discussion of possible future implementation of practices and promotion to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

MONDAY, 9 JULY 2018

Location: Spazio Giovani, Caserma Musso, Saluzzo

- Camp opening, with greetings from the authority and presentation of the camp's objectives.
- Introduction au thème "Le programme MaB UNESCO et la Réserve de Biosphère transfrontalière du Monviso".
- Activités de socialisation.

Location: Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale

- Evening social activities

territory of the cross-border of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, the participants had the opportunity to discover some environmental, historical, socio-cultural and economic characteristics of the territory. The program of the day included:

- Visits to local businesses managed by young people.
- Meetings with young directors.
- Lunch and dinner at the restaurant-brewery "Antagonisti" in the municipality of Melle.
- Activities with Social Community Theater.

TUESDAY, 10 JULY 2018

Location: Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale

The day was dedicated to the topic "**Climate change and the Sustainable development goals**" and to the workshop.

- Activity introducing the theme "The use of resources and possible strategies for cooperation".
- Lecture on the theme "Climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals".
- Workshop "Strengths and weaknesses of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve territory: the point of view of youth".

WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY 2018

Location: Multi-purpose hall, Municipality of Melle

The day was dedicated to local visits in the

THURSDAY 12 JULY 2018

Location: Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale

The day was dedicated to a lesson with the theme "**The objectives of young people for the sustainable development of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve**".

- "The objectives" workshop.
- "Actions" Workshop.
- Bonfire to close the camp.

FRIDAY 13 JULY 2018

Location: Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale

The last day included a final presentation of the work to the authorities of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, the Monviso Park and the Queyras Park, the main institutions of the territory, and the Municipality of Saluzzo. Four boys and girls nominated by the participants themselves presented the final manifesto.

Visits and excursions



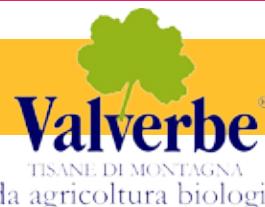
VALVERBE

Via Borgata Prato, 9, Melle (CN)

Production and sale of herbal teas

Company founded in 1995, it produces herbal teas that are sold both from supermarkets (Eselunga and Eataly) and from the company with the Valverbe brand. Today the company counts 15 staff members and is family-run.

<https://www.valverbe.it/>



LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION . DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMY . TRANSFERRING TRADITIONS AND ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE



Climate change, along with intensive farming practices endanger bees and other pollinators.

MIELERIA GARNERO

Via Cavour 30, Sampeyre (CN)

Production and sale of honey

The company is structured to cover the entire product chain: breeding of bees' families, honey extraction, processing, and labelling.



LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION . CLIMATE CHANGE . BIOSPHERE RESERVE . YOUTH AND TERRITORY



DAL BESSÈ

Borgata Graziani, 8, Becetto, Sampeyre (CN)

Production and sale of milk and cheese

A family-run business, characterized by high-level production process possible thanks to technological innovation.

<http://www.martinodalbesse.it>

LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION . TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION . YOUTH AND TERRITORY



Technology innovation is one of the company's main priorities throughout the production chain.



OFFICINA ANTAGONISTI

Via 3 Martiri, 96, Melle (CN)

Production and sale of beer, ice cream, and catering services

Company founded by two young guys from Melle, who after years of work in Turin decided to return to their hometown. Their activity is contributing to the rebirth of the village and the opening of new companies, such as a hostel.

<http://www.officinantagonisti.com/>

URBAN RENEWAL . LOCAL COMMUNITY . GIVING A VALUE TO TERRITORY AND PRODUCTS . YOUTH AND TERRITORY



SHERPA VALVARAITA

Rifugio Bagnour, Pontechianale (CN)

Restaurant and hiking refuge.

The shelter, recovered thanks to European funding, is managed by locals using the territory's resources in the best way.

<http://www.rifugiobagnour.it/>



Elisa and Livio, the managers of the shelter, transmitted the passion of living at 2000m altitude to the group.

GIVING A VALUE TO THE TERRITORY . SUSTAINABLE TOURISM . RENEWABLE ENERGY . ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT . BIOSPHERE RESERVE



Participants

15 Italian and 7 French adolescents made up the group of **22 selected participants**. The target age was set between 15 and 18 years, affirming the importance of educating young teenagers about the Reserve and the Sustainable Development in their territory. Despite the different interests, the participants shared the need to choose a path to take after finishing secondary school, whether to stay or leave their territory. The camp's experience, along with the issues addressed and the knowledge of the Monviso Biosphere Reserve, has been essential in order to give them further tools and to encourage them to return to their land once they have completed their studies.

Define Sustainable Development with a word.

What do you bring home after this experience?

Alberto, 17 years from Bagnolo, Cuneo

Sustainable Development = Commitment

From this experience, I bring home new knowledge on how to live with a low environmental impact.

Alessandra, 15 years from Angroyna, Turin

Sustainable Development = Helping People

From this experience, I bring home a greater knowledge of my territory that I will tell others about.

Davide, 15 years from Busca, Cuneo

Sustainable Development = Better Future

From this experience, I take home with me the ability to protect the environment.

Roberta, 18 years from Saluzzo, Cuneo

Sustainable Development = Respect

From this experience, I bring home with me new knowledge and a new understanding of the territory.

Arianna, 17 years from Manta, Cuneo

Sustainable Development = Duty

From this experience, I bring home new knowledge and a new awareness of the world I live in.

Gaspard, 17 years from the Queyras

Sustainable Development = System

From this experience, I take home new knowledge of the environment, of sustainability and the realization that language is not a challenging barrier.

Results

The **MaB UNESCO Monviso Youth Camp** can be considered as an educational format that during its first edition has had several positive results. The most important objectives achieved were: raising participants' awareness of the issues related to the Man and Biosphere program; the direct involvement of young people in possible strategies for sustainable development and to give them a new awareness of the weaknesses and the peculiarities of the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.

The realization of the format has shown how methods of local camping, the alternation of activities, workshops, and visits are a winning combination to better convey contents to the youth, to establish a dialogue with a specific age target group and lastly to encourage and support the action of young people in giving a value to and developing the territory.

Future developments

Starting from this first important experience some possible developments can be identified, considering two levels of action: the first one regarding the Monviso Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, the second one with a more general character, referring to the **Youth Camp** educational format.

At a territorial scale, the main elements identified for the project's future development are reported below:

- To support the youth community in achieving the identified goals.
- Make new Camp editions on a regular basis.
- Involve and Organise relations with young teenagers from other Biosphere Reserves.

Concerning the format, the following developments can be identified:

En ce qui concerne le format, les développements suivants peuvent être considérés:

- Definition of a format that can be replicated in other territories, not only in the Biosphere Reserves but also in parks, protected areas, etc.
- Implementation of educational **Youth Camp** on sustainable development for the better involvement of the territories' youth.

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Lima Action Plan for UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves (2016-2025), 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves on 17 March 2016, Lima, Peru, 2016

Tutte le informazioni inerenti la riserva della Biosfera del Monviso e i documenti di candidatura sono inoltre consultabili su:
www.monvisoUNESCO.eu e sui siti del Parco del Po cuneese e del Parc National du Queyras.

Tutte le informazioni inerenti il programma UNESCO Man and Biosphere sono consultabili al sito dell'UNESCO:
<http://www.UNESCO.org/new/en/santiago/natural-sciences/man-and-the-biospheremab-programme-biosphere-reserves/>

Tutte le informazioni sull'attuazione del programma MaB in Italia sono consultabili sul sito del Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare:
<http://www.minambiente.it/pagina/il-programma-uomo-e-biosfera-mab>



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Fonds européen de développement régional
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