

The International Day for Biosphere Reserves

November 4, 2022 • vajiramandravi.com



About The International Day for Biosphere Reserves:

Biosphere Reserves:

- Biosphere Reserve (BR) is an international designation by UNESCO for representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large area of terrestrial or coastal/marine ecosystems or a combination thereof.
- They are sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems, including conflict prevention and management of biodiversity.
- Biosphere reserves are nominated by national governments and remain under the sovereign jurisdiction of the states where they are located.

World Network of Biosphere Reserves:

- The World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) was formed in 1971, as a backbone for biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, and living in harmony with nature.
- The World Network of Biosphere Reserves of the MAB Programme consists of a dynamic and interactive network of sites of excellence.
- The World Network of Biosphere Reserves promotes North-South and South-South collaboration and represents a unique tool for international co-operation through sharing knowledge, exchanging experiences, building capacity and promoting best practices.
- There are now 738 properties in 134 countries, including 12 in India, four in Sri Lanka, and three in the Maldives.

South Asia:

- In South Asia, over 30 biosphere reserves have been established.
- The first one was the **Hurulu Biosphere Reserve**, in Sri Lanka, with 25,500 hectares of tropical dry evergreen forest.
- In India, the first biosphere reserve was designated by UNESCO in 2000, namely, the **blue mountains of the Nilgiris stretching over Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala**.

Source : [The Hindu](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/the-international-day-for-biosphere-reserves/>

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