



WORKING SESSION ON THE ZERO PLASTIC WORKING GROUP

IX Meeting of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

Hosted by the Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve in South Africa

Wednesday, 18 September 11:00-11:45

Session guided by Manu Monge (Urdaibai BR)

11:00-11:15 Ppt presentation Zero Plastic Working Group (ZPWG).

The session begins with the exhibition of the historical description of the development of the ZPWG, of the work carried out, of the agreements adopted and of the challenges for the future by David Carreras (Socio Environmental Observatory of Menorca).

11:15-11:30 Diagnosis.

A round of presentations is made by some of the BR attending about the actions carried out in each of them in relation to the reference topic. It is agreed that each of the BR attending send information about these actions to the ZPWG's e-mail. The commitment to make this is adopted.

11:30-11:4 Next steps.

An open round begins to indicate proposals to be taken into account in the future by the BR. The following:

- Dr Dai-Yeun Jeong, Jeju Secretariat, Republic of Korea, proposes to clarify from a conceptual approach the objective of the ZPWG. He undertakes to send a report on the matter to the Secretariat.
- Mr Antonio Gallardo, Fuerteventura BR, Spain, notes the need for information on plastic management methods. He undertakes to send information on the matter to the Secretariat. He proposes to share a methodology on data collection (method used in FV to be sent to the ZPWG) and the results of monitoring. As well as share successful experiences.
- Ms Anastasia Barsukova, the Commander Islands Nature and Biosphere Reserve, Russia, informs about the existence of a "waste museum" in its BR and encourages the ZPWG members to send news regarding the reference topic and invites them to send photographs, and use their web platform as an information repository.



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- Staff of the Gouritz Cluster BR, South Africa, comments on the Ecobricks initiative (<https://www.ecobricks.org>) and proposes that it could be developed within the group. Also, the Gouritz Cluster BR supports the ReThink bags initiative - an enterprise that makes reusable shopping bags through employment of local women (the bags for the WNICBR conference were made by them): <https://www.rethinkbags.co.za/>. Also, notes the importance of working with the plastic sources.
- Houshna Banu Naujeer Macchabee/Bel Ombre BR, Mauritius Island, comments on the use of bags made with plants and proposes that a project could be implemented in this regard within the group.
- Ms Sheila Charlesworth, Great Sandy Biosphere Reserve, Australia, proposes the initiation of a project to collect the best available practices implemented in the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves in relation to the reference topic and thus generate a handbook/white paper of good practices.
- Dr Miguel Clüsener-Godt, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences | Secretary, Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO, France describes a project developed in the BR of Principe regarding the use and refill of glass bottles.
- Dr Ricardo Haroun, Gran Canaria BR, Spain, describes an Interreg project developed in its BR ("CaponLitter") and proposes to investigate about funding sources.
- Mr Manu Monge, Urdaibai, will share information on the "plastic lab"

All the participants assume the compromise to send information about these proposals to the ZPWG's e-mail. The commitment to make this is adopted.

In Gourikwa Reserve, 15 Buffelshoek, Gouritsmond, 6696

Western Cape, South Africa, at September 18, 2019