

Latin American and Caribbean UNESCO Sites Climate, Risk and Resilience Platform

Capacity-Building Webinars: Climate change and fire management in UNESCO Global Geoparks and Biosphere Reserves

Webinar 5: Where to next? Integrated fire management

Wednesday 29 September 2021

Time: 12h00-15h00 (Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina)

Summary: The final webinar will pull together lessons-learned from previous webinars to offer models for integrated fire management based on effective monitoring, knowledge co-production and territorial management.

- Key case study: Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal and Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve, Brazil
- Roundtable: UNESCO site experts and affiliated experts

Languages: English, Spanish and Portuguese interpretation will be provided throughout

Background

Within the framework of the Latin American and Caribbean UNESCO Sites Climate, Risk and Resilience Platform and with the kind support of [umgrauemeio](http://umgrauemeio.org), UNESCO is proud to organize a series of capacity-building webinars primarily for managers and stakeholders of UNESCO sites in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean that are responsible for fire management.

The Iberoamerican region has one of the highest incidences of wildfires in the world.¹ An analysis of changing patterns in wildfires in the Americas during recent decades by the Iberoamerican Network of Climate Change Offices (RIOCC) has found diverging patterns and reasons for these trends remain disputed.² Drivers of fire patterns across the Americas include agricultural patterns, deforestation, and climate change related factors.

Nevertheless, climate change is changing fire patterns across the LAC region, directly increasing wildfire risk in some areas, with longer wildfire seasons, that are dryer and more severe. Whereas indirect drivers

¹ Bilbao *et al.* (2020), pp. 441, 443

² *Ibid.*, pg. 444

may be at play in others, such as invasive pests killing trees, causing fuel build-up. The displacement of people due to the impacts of climate change can lead to forest clearing and anthropogenic fires.

At a regional level, monitoring of fires is inconsistent and fire management is only beginning to move beyond fire suppression and firefighting to incorporate integrated fire management plans that may be based on indigenous fire knowledge.

Drawing on science, good practices, lessons-learned and innovations from across Iberoamerica and the Caribbean, this webinar series will focus on case studies in UNESCO Global Geoparks and Biosphere Reserves with presentations and discussions from experts focussed on supporting site managers to better plan and implement integrated fire management in their sites. It will also feature innovative research and tools that can be applied in UNESCO sites or translated into policy-making and solutions across the region.

This series will bring together global, regional Biosphere Reserve and UNESCO Global Geopark stakeholder experts and others to consider these emerging issues from the perspective of their experiences. The overall aim is that participants will emerge with new knowledge and perspectives that can be applied in UNESCO designated sites and in wider contexts.

Objectives:

- UNESCO site stakeholders expand their knowledge of tools and the impacts of climate change and fires on the sites;
- UNESCO site stakeholders and affiliated experts exchange knowledge and tools to improve integrated fire management;
- UNESCO site stakeholders share good practice examples of fire management

Format:

- 5 webinars of three hours
- Case study based, with international and multistakeholder roundtable panel discussions

Target participants:

- UNESCO Global Geopark, Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site stakeholders;
- Managers and technical officials for climate change, fire management at international, national and local level;
- Stakeholders from other sites and protected areas;
- Technical staff and Officials of national forestry ministries, environmental ministries, climate change divisions.
- Other interested technical experts and professionals

Agenda:

Facilitator: Mario Gálvez Fernández, Focal Point in Chile, UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme, National Forestry Corporation (CONAF), Chile

Time	Title	Presenter	Format
Opening and Introduction			
12:00	Where to next? Integrated fire mangement	Lidia Arthur Brito, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau of the Sciences for Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, Uruguay	Formal
12:10	Integrated fire management: A global challenge for UNESCO	Johann Georg Goldammer, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)	Presentation
Estudios de caso: Resiliencia socioecológico frente a los incendios en Portugal y Brasil			
12:30	Resilience in the face of the 2017 megafires, Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Naturtejo, Portugal	Joana Rodrigues, Geologist, Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal	Presentation
12:50	Understanding the economic impacts of wildfires on biosphere reserves in Brazil: Building a common approach	Paul Dale, Programme Coordinator, Mata Atlântico Market, MABR, Universidad de Sao Paulo, Brazil Dr Silvia Miranda, Dept. of Economy, Universidad de Sao Paulo, Brazil	Presentation
Expert: Contributions of the United Nations Expert-Based Coalition on Climate Change and Resilience			
13:10	Contributions of WMO to wildfire management in the Americas and the Caribbean	Rodney Martínez Güingla, WMO Representative for North America, Central America, and the Caribbean	Presentation
13:30	Break		
Roundtable – Moderator: Bibiana Bilbao, Professor, Universidad de Simón Bolívar, Venezuela, LANDMARC Project, COBRA Collective			
13:50	Roundtable	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Julio Díaz Orias, Coordinator, fire management programme, Guanacaste Conservation Area, Costa Rica 2. Carlos Salinas, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OTCA) (TBC) 3. Daniel Segura, Project Coordinator, Amazonía Sin Fuego, Ecuador 4. Silvio Cabrera, Responsible for Natural Heritage, Coordinator, Macizo del Cajas Biosphere Reserve, Ecuador 5. Juan Gusano, Maya Kaqchikel, Technical expert in indigenous fire management, Indigenous Forum of Abya Yala 6. Bruno Matta, BR Carbon, Brazil 7. Jessica Casaza, Lead Consultant, FAO 	Panel discussion
14:40	Next steps	Bibiana Bilbao, Paul Dale and Serena Heckler, LAC regional Programme	Presentation

		Specialist for ecological and earth sciences, UNESCO	
14:55	Close		