

## Snapshot of the MAB Reserve



- **332,000** hectares
- **4** parks
- **19** protected areas
- **48** Natura 2000 sites

## The MAN component

- **1,082,196** inhabitants
- **211** Municipalities
- **4** Provinces, **1** Metropolitan City
- **3** more locations recognised by UNESCO (Sacri Monti of Piedmont & Lombardy and prehistoric pile dwellings around the Alps included on the World Heritage List; Sesia Val Grande area included on the list of Global Geoparks)

## The BIOSPHERE component

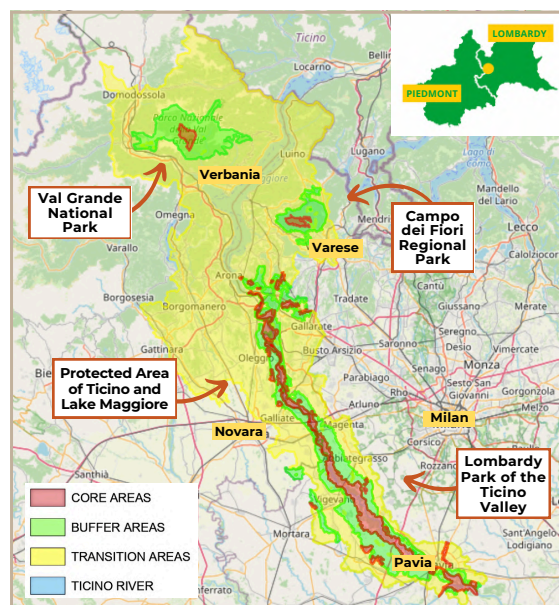
- 5** main types of landscape:
- Mountain regions of Val Grande and Campo dei Fiori
  - Lakeland area of the Lake Maggiore
  - Alpine foothills
  - River Ticino valley
  - Agricultural plain

## Our area

### A valuable wildlife corridor from the Alps to the Apennines

Situated between **Lombardy** and **Piedmont**, two of the most densely populated and productive regions of Europe, the Ticino Val Grande Verbano Biosphere Reserve encapsulates a tapestry of natural/semi-natural ecosystems and quality agroecosystems that make it an essential wildlife corridor between the Alps and the Apennines, and an extremely important location for the conservation of immense biodiversity.

It is coordinated and managed by 4 park authorities - the **Valle del Ticino** park authority, the authority managing the protected areas of **Ticino** and **Lake Maggiore**, the **Val Grande national park** authority and the **Campo dei Fiori regional park** authority. New governance bodies that will involve representatives from all relevant district organisations are being established.



## Contact and INFO

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# TICINO VAL GRANDE VERBANO Biosphere Reserve

Our sustainable  
development laboratory

With the contribution of



Edited by





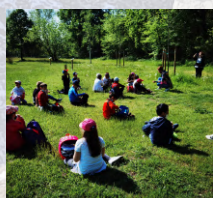
## Biodiversity



## Good practices



## Environmental education



Environmental education is essential for new generations - raising awareness among young people constitutes a small step towards creating a more mindful collective consciousness, leading to ethical behaviours that respect the environment.

## The 2030 Agenda goals



## Our goals

The biosphere reserve was created to improve socio-economic wellbeing and environmental quality in our area. It does this by:

- **safeguarding** and **promoting** naturalistic, architectural, archaeological, wine-growing and culinary features;
- **developing** environmentally-sustainable **farming and production operations**;
- **protecting** and **publicising** valuable aspects of the area, including arts, crafts and trades.

### CONSERVATION



### DEVELOPMENT



### EDUCATION



## Reserve activities

The Reserve implements wide-ranging, concerted actions to:

- **increase the awareness** of future generations and educate them about our ecosystem;
- **network** with authorities, companies and stakeholders to enable new resources for the area and/or share projects; promote sustainable development and actions concerning the UN 2030 Agenda;
- apply **good practices** that are effective and reproducible; implement **collaboration** projects and share experiences with similar organisations and/or the **international network of MAB reserves**

### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



### ECO-COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES



### SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



## Good practices

- **conservation** (reintroduce animal and plant species, rebuild and develop habitats)
- **agriculture** (marshes, water meadows, grassland, forest improvements)
- **agro-food and animal husbandry** (fields and breeding practices that consider the environment and animal wellbeing; brand products for environmental certification)
- **land planning and management** (soil consumption limits, environmentally-sustainable construction methods, defragmentation measures to safeguard the ecological system)
- **environmental education** (involvement of educational establishments, training and engagement with organisations, stakeholders and operators)
- **economic measures that reduce environmental impact** (slow tourism, promotion of accommodation facilities, sustainable tourism, bike hostels)
- **climate change mitigation and adaptation** (restoration of damaged environments, safeguarding bodies of water, deconstruction operations)



## The UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB)

The **UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB)** programme is a scientific intergovernmental initiative set up in 1971 to lay the scientific foundations for improving the relationship between **people and the environment**.

It combines natural and social sciences, economics and education to **safeguard natural and anthropic ecosystems**, promoting the **sustainable development** of areas in economic, social and environmental terms.

## Designation



The first designation under the UNESCO MAB programme was in **2002** with the name **Valle del Ticino Biosphere Reserve**, then another, more extensive application in 2018 led to **Ticino Val Grande Verbano** receiving MAB recognition.

## MAB related opportunities

- being part of a geographically and culturally consistent area not bound by administrative borders;
- visibility for small players and networking opportunities at international level
- access to dedicated funding calls, with a support desk service offered by the Park Authorities
- promoting its own outstanding projects under UNESCO.

Visit our **website** and the Reserve's **social channels**. You will find events, projects, the latest information, good practices, items of interest and tips for exploring and getting to know our MAB area!

<http://mabticinovalgrandeverbano.it>