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Acknowledgements:
We would like to thank the entities, companies, associations, town and city councils, political groups and members of the Social and Scientific Council who participated in the Plan’s work sessions for their cooperation and contributions to the Plan’s content and structure. And special thanks to the Institute of Menorcan Studies and the Socioenvironmental Observatory of Menorca.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE BIOSPHERE RESERVE AND ITS FUNCTIONS

The World Network of Biosphere Reserves was created to give concrete form to UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB). It is an intergovernmental scientific programme that seeks to establish a scientific basis for the improvement of relationships between people and their environments. The aim of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves is to play an active role in places with different approaches to sustainable development.

The territories that make up the Network of Biosphere Reserves are sites for testing pioneering projects and programmes, with a view to exporting good practices as regards the proper integration of human development and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

The Biosphere Reserves must be able to show not only the outcome of their sustainable management to inhabitants and visitors, but also the social transformations necessary for achieving sustainable development. Their functions revolve around integrating the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage (conservation function) and sustainable development (sustainable development function), adapting the project to the particular characteristics of each site and society.

Finally, the third function, described as logistical support, seeks to mobilising the necessary means to perform studies on the interaction of human activities and the environment, in efforts to carry out educational, training and awareness-raising activities, inform people of the progress being made and contribute to the flow of exchange and communication within the networks to which they belong.
The UNESCO’s MAB Strategy 2015-2025 is materialised in the *Lima Action Plan*, which guides the MAB Programme and the Network of Biosphere Reserves (2016-2025). In the coming years, the MAB Programme will strengthen efforts to conserve biodiversity; restore and improve ecosystem services; promote the sustainable use of natural resources; contribute to building sustainable, healthy and equitable societies, economies and human settlements in harmony with the biosphere; facilitate sustainable science, training and capacity building for sustainable development; and support the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

The main developments introduced by the Lima Action Plan (LAP) are:

- Promotion of the sustainable use of resources. Conservation of socioecological systems and restoration of degraded ecosystems, and preservation and promotion of species and varieties of economic and/or cultural value.
- Recognition of Biosphere Reserves as generators and protectors of ecosystem services.
- Transnational and cross-border cooperation between Biosphere Reserves.
- Improved communication and the creation of a global brand for all Reserves.
- Monitoring of the plan’s implementation in regional and thematic networks.
- Declaration of their contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).
- Greater involvement of the local communities in defining the various plans.

The same challenges will be faced in designing and implementing the Action Plan for the Menorcan Biosphere Reserve by 2025.

As regards the Spanish Network of Reserves, these plans are established in the Ordesa-Viñamala Action Plan 2017-2025.
1.2 CURRENT STATE OF THE MENORCA BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Basic information on the Menorca Biosphere Reserve (MBR)

- Biogeographic region: Western Mediterranean
- Autonomous Community: Balearic Islands
- Municipalities: Alaíor, Es Castell, Ciutadella, Ferreries, Maó, Es Migjorn Gran, Sant Lluís
- Governing body: Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency of the Island Council of Menorca
- UNESCO declaration date: 8 October 1993
- Reasons for the declaration: high landscape quality and level of compatibility between economic development, consumption of resources and conservation of heritage and landscapes.
- Extension: 29 October 2004
- Surface area: 71,186 ha
  - Core zone: 7%
  - Buffer zones: 38%
  - Transition zones: 55%

The result of a broad public consensus, Menorca has proposed a rezoning of the on-shore area and an extension of the marine area of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve, which is yet to be approved by UNESCO.
The reasons for the request to extend the Biosphere Reserve are:

- Recommendations from the International Coordinating Council of the MAB Programme, which indicates the need to review the zoning of the MBR and extend its marine area.
- Changes to the island’s land-use planning made following the designation of the MBR in 1993: the Island Territorial Plan (2003), the creation of new forms of protection, the definition of the Nature 2000 Network, the extension of the S’Albufera des Grau Natural Park and the declaration of the North Menorca Marine Reserve (1999).

The following criteria were used to define the internal zoning of the MBR:

- **Core zones**: S’Albufera des Grau Natural Park (existing) and the North Menorca Marine Reserve (except part of the Bay of Fornells and the Des Grau Cove, which are considered buffer zones).
- **Buffer zones**: most Nature 2000 Network sites, the newly designated Natural Areas of Territorial Interest, Integrated Projects and Protected Natural Areas and an area around the S’Albufera des Grau NP, between the core and transition zones.
- **Transition zones**: The Maó Port and the Sant Esteve Cove, the area between the Son Blanc dam and the mouth of the Ciutadella Port, the Fornells Port, two deeper areas outside the Nature 2000 Network and another shallower area in front of Cap d’en Font.
2 THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE MENORCA BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Despite maintaining the values for which it was designated a Biosphere Reserve at the time of creation, the meetings held in 2013 to mark the MBR’s 20th anniversary showed that the trend in economic development and conservation of the island’s natural values was unsustainable and that the environmental impacts had increased in proportion to growth. As a result:

The MBR requires a different approach to human development, one that is more sustainable and more compatible with the conservation of Menorca’s natural and cultural heritage.

The Biosphere Reserve is an opportunity to undertake actions that promote sustainable development, and the Action Plan aims to reinforce and drive this commitment.

This plan had to be drafted to meet the requirements of the MAB Programme, in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Seville Strategy and the statutory framework, the MAB Strategy 2015-2025, the Lima Action Plan 2016-2025 and the Ordesa-Viñamala Action Plan 2017-2025. The aim of the Action Plan is to:

- Develop a realistic Action Plan that may be implemented by 2025.
- Propose innovative actions based on the functions of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.
- Establish channels for coordination between stakeholders working to promote sustainability.
- Propose an adequate system of governance, taking into account the various stakeholders.
- Seek alliances to work as part of an international network.
- Lay the groundwork for monitoring the Plan.
2.1 ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES

The plan is structured around 5 main objectives, which are broken down into operational objectives. Each operational objective is further broken down into specific milestones to be achieved by 2025 and the actions necessary to reach them. To observe whether or not these objectives are being met, a series of indicators have been designed as part of the monitoring programme.

The Plan has been developed within the conceptual framework of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which address various issues in order to tackle challenges such as poverty and famine, education, inequality, economic prosperity, the protection of the planet, the fight against climate change, cities, energy, sustainable consumption and production and governance.

That said, the main and operational objectives of the Action Plan for the Menorca Biosphere Reserve are as follow:
ACTION PLAN FOR THE MENORCA BIOSPHERE RESERVE

SUMMARY DOCUMENT

MAIN OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1
To successfully conserve the Menorca Biosphere Reserve’s intrinsic natural and cultural values, promoting the sustainable use of the Reserve in a manner compatible with its conservation.

OBJECTIVE 2
To work towards a society and economy that are efficient and self-sufficient in terms of resources and energy, and highly resilient, with a smaller environmental footprint.

OBJECTIVE 3
To achieve sustainable economic and social development, promoting a circular, green, blue and social economy.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

• 1.1. To conserve, restore and promote the sustainable use of the terrestrial ecosystems and stem the decline in biodiversity through adequate resource management.

• 1.2. To ensure a well-conserved, productive sea through the responsible collective use and sustainable management of resources and by strengthening their capacity for resilience.

• 1.3. To ensure the conservation, improvement, restoration and good use of the architectural, archaeological, sociocultural and ethnological heritage through appropriate tools and by respecting and safeguarding the intangible.

• 1.4. To work to ensure the rational use of the territory and avoid geographical dispersion, encourage social cohesion, guarantee the right to decent housing, attend to the preservation and improvement of livelihoods traditionally practised in rural areas and consolidate a territorial model that is efficient in all aspects.

• 2.1. To improve the efficient use of water in all sectors, reducing its consumption, promoting its reuse and increasing its quality.

• 2.2. To significantly reduce the generation of waste and increase material recovery by preventing, reducing, reusing, preparing for reuse and recycling.

• 2.3. To significantly improve energy efficiency and increase the percentage of self-supplied electricity generated from renewable sources.

• 2.4. To reduce the greenhouse gas emissions causing global warming (mitigation) and pollutant gas emissions while reinforcing the capacity to adapt to climate risks and opportunities (adaptation).

• 2.5. To make public and private mobility greener by making it more efficient and lowering dependence on fossil fuels.

• 3.1. To achieve higher levels of economic sustainability and circularity through the efficient use of resources, diversification, cooperation, low-carbon production and distribution chains, technological updating, feedback and innovation.

• 3.2. To reinforce the primary production system and optimise the use of resources and productivity, promoting sustainable agriculture and fishing.

• 3.3. To develop sustainable, inclusive, resilient, secure and diversified food systems, making sure the whole society has access to healthy and affordable food.

• 3.4. To foster a more conscious model of tourism that is jointly responsible for maintaining the values of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.

• 3.5. To foster sustainability in the industrial sector, using resources more effectively and promoting the adoption of clean and environmentally rational industrial technologies and processes.

Connection with SDGs
Main Objectives

Objective 4
To become a prominent place of learning, innovation and experimentation in the field of sustainability and sustainable development, with the participation and involvement of the entire community.

Objective 5
To define and implement tools to control the impacts of economic development and not exceed the island’s environmental and social carrying capacity, taking into account adaptive management.

Objective 6
To achieve coordination and cooperation between social and economic stakeholders, both public and private, to advance the sustainable development of the MBR together by working as a network at both local and international level.

Operational Objectives

4.1. To ensure that all relevant stakeholders, particularly young people, acquire, in inclusive fashion, the knowledge, capacities and skills necessary to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles.

4.2. To promote scientific research and the creation of knowledge in order to improve the transfer to production systems and fabrics.

4.3. To foster innovation in sustainability and the efficient use of resources in the public and private sphere and demonstrate effectiveness.

4.4. To improve information on, awareness of and communication regarding the MBR and its activities.

5.1. To collect information to further knowledge of the interrelationship between the environment and human frequention and to monitor impact parameters to regularly assess the island’s carrying capacity (Menorca’s limit of acceptable change).

6.1. To heighten the commitment and capacity of and coordination between institutions to achieve the objectives of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.

6.2. To establish the channels for cooperation with public and private stakeholders necessary to jointly implement the Action Plan.

6.3. To cooperate with prominent networks and entities on an insular, state and international level, particularly the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves, and work to make contributions that enable global progress to be made in terms of sustainability.

Connection with SDGs
3 ACTION PROGRAMMES

To achieve the general and operational objectives laid out in the Action Plan for the Menorca Biosphere Reserve, the Plan specifies a series of milestones to achieve by 2025 through a number of actions. These actions are separated into lines of action that the Scientific and Social Council has defined for the Menorca Biosphere Reserve’s new operational phase, which will conclude in 2025.

For each line of action, the Plan defines a programme that includes the specific actions aimed at achieving the above-mentioned objectives. The main lines of action and their related programmes and objectives are as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LINES OF ACTION</th>
<th>RELATED ACTION PROGRAMMES</th>
<th>RELATED OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation of natural heritage, biodiversity and landscape</td>
<td>Programme for the conservation and sustainable use of natural heritage, biodiversity and landscape</td>
<td>1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More efficient resource management</td>
<td>Programme for the efficient use of resources</td>
<td>2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable economy promotion programme</td>
<td>3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental education for sustainability</td>
<td>Knowledge and education programme for sustainable development</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring of the impacts and limit of acceptable change</td>
<td>Limit of acceptable change monitoring programme</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following is a summary of the main actions that will be undertaken for each of the above-mentioned programmes. For further details, please see the complete MBR Action Plan.
### 3.1 PROGRAMME FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL HERITAGE, BIODIVERSITY AND LANDSCAPE

The conservation of the territory’s natural and cultural values is one of the three pillars of the Biosphere Reserve declaration, and conservation in this sense is incomprehensible without the intrinsic use of such values by people, who have moulded them throughout their history together. The challenge posed in this document is how to ensure their use is compatible with their conservation, and this must stand as the Plan’s guiding principle.

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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.1. To conserve, restore and promote the sustainable use of the terrestrial ecosystems and stem the decline in biodiversity through adequate resource management.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.1</td>
<td>Drafting, approval and implementation of a common strategy to conserve the biodiversity and natural habitats of Menorca, in agreement with and with the involvement of the relevant stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.2</td>
<td>To make information on biodiversity and the habits for ensuring its proper preservation available to skilled workers and managers from both the public and private sphere, and to work together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.4</td>
<td>Definition and implementation of criteria for cleaning the streams in coordination with the competent authority (GOIB).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.5</td>
<td>Creation of new water points (ponds, cisterns...) to improve the connectivity of the habitats that are ideal for amphibians and other flora and fauna associated with ponds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.9</td>
<td>Application of good practices in all activities organised in the Reserve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.11</td>
<td>Implementation of measures to control the impact of feral animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.13</td>
<td>Study of the metabolism of Menorca’s farming activities, how human activity affects other species and the interrelation with resources and landscape.</td>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.2. To ensure a well-conserved coastline and a productive sea through the responsible collective use and sustainable management of resources and by strengthening their capacity for resilience.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.1</td>
<td>Creation of the Illa de l’Aire Marine Reserve in coordination with the competent authority, implementation of a monitoring plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.2</td>
<td>Extension of the surveillance service in place in the sea around the marine reserves to the entire marine biosphere reserve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.4</td>
<td>Creation of a system to monitor the use of the coast, in efforts to establish measures for managing the marine area, the dune system and the beaches and ensure the area is properly protected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.6</td>
<td>Creation of a Management Plan for Fishing in the Menorca Marine Biosphere Reserve that controls and monitors fishing through measures such as defining zones and establishing a common action plan for public and private stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.8</td>
<td>Pilot project for the sustainable anchorage of marine phanerogams <em>(Posidonia and Cymodocea)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.9</td>
<td>Pilot project on sustainable fishing methods.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1.3. To ensure the conservation, improvement, restoration and good use of the architectural, archaeological, sociocultural and ethnological heritage through appropriate tools and by respecting and safeguarding the intangible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP.33.</th>
<th>Reformulation of the Talayotic Menorca candidature for World Heritage Site status.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.3.1</td>
<td>Inventory of the heritage and landscape elements that could help in the adaptation to climate change and prevention of risks (vernacular architecture, dry-stone walls, irrigation channels, etc.), and establishment of mechanisms to recover and manage such elements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.3.2</td>
<td>Work to complete the Inventory of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Menorca and the establishment of mechanisms to safeguard such heritage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>»A.1.3.6</td>
<td>Creation of an insular coordination tool to unify the criteria for managing objects of interest and ensure that the historical and cultural heritage is conserved in an inherently sustainable manner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.4. To work to ensure the rational use of the territory and avoid geographical dispersion, encourage social cohesion, guarantee the right to decent housing, attend to the preservation and improvement of livelihoods traditionally practised in rural areas and consolidate a territorial model that is efficient in all aspects.

| »A.1.4.2 | Drafting and dissemination of support guides for more sustainable town planning, both in rural and urban settings, and capacity building actions for skilled municipal workers. |
| »A.1.4.5 | Landscape integration actions in the periurban areas around Ciutadella and Maó, in coordination with the city councils. |

### 3.2 PROGRAMME FOR THE EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES

Efficiency and the reduction in the consumption of resources (water and energy) are essential parameters for ensuring the sustainable human and economic development of a society. Moreover, the biggest challenge at present is how to tackle climate change locally in order to prevent global change.

| »A.2.1.1 | Creation and consolidation of the Community of Water Users of Menorca. |
| »A.2.1.2 | Standardisation of criteria for calculating the water pricing system. |
| »A.2.1.8 | Constant audits of the distribution, supply, catchment and sanitation network and efficient monitoring of the proper use of water and the application of fertiliser. |
| »A.2.1.10 | Implementation of projects to reuse the waste water from each of the island’s public treatment plants based on its potential. |
### A.2.1.11
Construction, in all public buildings dependent on the Island Council of Menorca, city or town councils or the government, of cisterns for harvesting and reusing rain water in accordance with municipal demand and for all uses compatible with its quality.

### A.2.1.13
Construction of facilities for artificially refilling aquifers, where site location and the quality of the water to be re-injected permit.

### A.2.1.15
Implementation of a municipal and insular investment plan to fund and maintain the supply and sanitation facilities.

### A.2.1.17
Establishment of safeguard zones around collection wells and regulations on use.

### 2.2. To significantly reduce the generation of waste and increase the utilisation of resources by preventing, reducing, reusing, preparing for reuse and recycling.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP.21.</th>
<th>Approval, implementation and monitoring of the actions laid out in the Insular Waste Prevention and Management Plan of Menorca (PIPGRem)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.2.2.2</td>
<td>Creation of a harmonised regulatory and fiscal waste model for all municipalities in Menorca. PIPGReM-MTE301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.2.2.8</td>
<td>Implementation of the project “Packaging-Free Menorca”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.2.2.13</td>
<td>Creation of a plant for biogas produced from biodegradable waste fractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.2.2.14</td>
<td>Cooperation with economic sectors to analyse their flow of waste and take steps to improve sustainability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.3. To significantly improve energy efficiency and increase the percentage of self-supplied electricity generated from renewable sources.

| A.2.3.3  | Creation of an office for providing residents and companies information and guidance in matters of energy efficiency, renewable energies, electric mobility, environmental certification and regulations. |
| A.2.3.4  | Creation of an energy efficiency programme for industry and commercial businesses to make them more competitive by reducing their energy consumption, optimising the resources available and mitigating their environmental impact. |
| A.2.3.5  | Creation of an energy management plans programme for public services and certain facilities to propose actions for improving efficiency and reducing consumption. |
| A.2.3.8  | Repowering of the Milà wind farm from 3.2 to 6 MW.                                                                                    |
| A.2.3.9  | Installation of photovoltaic panels in the Milà I and II landfills (6.25 MWp).                                                       |
| A.2.3.10 | Creation of a project to install renewable energy facilities in public buildings and parking lots on both urban and rural land, where necessary. |
| A.2.3.13 | Introduction of energy efficiency criteria in all social housing.                                                                     |
| A.2.3.14 | Creation of a programme to make homes more energy efficient and provide continuous training, guidance and audits with regards to energy savings, intended mainly for people at risk of residential exclusion. |
2.4. To reduce the greenhouse gas emissions causing global warming (mitigation) and pollutant gas emissions while reinforcing the capacity to adapt to climate risks and opportunities (adaptation).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.4.1</strong></td>
<td>Drafting and implementation of plans to improve the air quality of Menorca’s municipalities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.4.4</strong></td>
<td>Designation as Starlight Tourist Destination and implementation of actions to improve efficiency and reduce light pollution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.4.5</strong></td>
<td>Drafting of Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) for all municipalities on the island, coordination at insular level and implementation of relevant actions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.5. To make public and private mobility greener by making it more efficient and lowering dependence on fossil fuels.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.1</strong></td>
<td>Implementation and extension of the project &quot;Menorca Smart Island: Energy and Mobility (MeSIEM 2020)&quot;, which seeks to deploy electric mobility throughout the island.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.4</strong></td>
<td>Creation of agreements with the logistics and transport sectors to promote electric vehicles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.8</strong></td>
<td>Drafting of Mobility Plans for the islands major poles (airport, Mateu Orfila Hospital and the Island Council), in accordance with the work centres, and promotion of strategies to encourage the use of public transport, car sharing and carpooling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.9</strong></td>
<td>Application of measures to reduce uncontrolled access to natural areas and organisation of parking lots in environmentally sensitive areas, in accordance with beach capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.10</strong></td>
<td>Actions to improve, extend and promote the use of the network of bike lanes and its connectivity on the island.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.12</strong></td>
<td>Regular and extensive mobility surveys for both tourists and residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.2.5.15</strong></td>
<td>Analysis and promotion of collaborative means of transport to reduce the island’s fleet of vehicles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3 SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY PROMOTION PROGRAMME

The aim of sustainable economy is to develop activities that are environmentally and socially responsible, as well as financially viable and profitable. In this regard, the change required to generate intelligent, sustainable and inclusive human growth must be based on improving economic results while reducing the consumption of resources and identifying and maximising the opportunities for new market niches to provide solutions to the environmental and social challenges facing us now and in the immediate future.

One of the main conceptual tools is the circular economy, the aim of which is to make use of products, materials and resources for as long as possible and, by doing so, reduce the consumption of resources and amount of waste generated, bringing the production processes of products, services, waste, materials, water and energy full circle (closing the life cycle).
As a result, the circular economy, in terms of sustainability, represents the efficient use of materials and energy in these processes. Here, waste becomes a resource and products are designed for reuse from the beginning, creating an economy that generates local jobs.

### 3.1. To achieve higher levels of economic sustainability and circularity through the efficient use of resources, diversification, cooperation, low-carbon production and distribution chains, technological updating, feedback and innovation.

| »A.3.1.1 | Analysis and implementation of the Circular Agriculture Project, which seeks to bring products, services, waste, water and energy on agricultural holdings full circle. |
| »A.3.1.2 | Analysis and implementation of the Eco-Industrial Parks Project, which aims to make industrial areas greener and promote the circular economy. |
| »A.3.1.3 | Analysis and implementation of a circular economy project in the construction industry. |
| »A.3.1.5 | Inclusion of sustainability in the various CentreBit Menorca programmes to promote Menorca as the ideal place to create and develop technological, innovative and sustainable companies. |

### 3.3. To develop sustainable, inclusive, resilient, secure and diversified food systems, making sure the whole society has access to healthy and affordable food.

| AP.32. | Promotion and continuity of the food policies strategy |
| »A.3.3.1 | Promotion of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve seal of quality in the agri-food, tourism and craft-product (including footwear) sectors. |
| »A.3.3.2 | To carry out a pilot project at a public kitchen (nursing home, care centre...) to introduce locally-sourced and responsible products. |
| »A.3.3.5 | Agricultural training and experience building, dissemination and guidance on making the sector more sustainable, particularly in terms of agroecology, at the Sa Granja Agricultural School. |
| »A.3.3.6 | Training programme for the fishing sector. EPA-LE4. A.17. |
| »A.3.3.8 | Implementation of actions to transfer knowledge and innovation in the field of agri-food processing. |
| »A.3.3.9 | Study on the island’s food production and flow potential. EPA-LE4. A.13. |

### 3.4. To foster a more conscious model of tourism that is jointly responsible for maintaining the values of the MBR.

| AP.24. | Implementation of the Tourism Development Plan (TDP) actions |
| »A.3.4.1 | Activation of the project “Tourist Centres for Sustainability”. |
| »A.3.4.3 | Promotion of a form of ecotourism that will help shift the paradigm towards a sustainable tourism model. |
| »A.3.4.5 | Creation of a joint Social Council for Tourism alongside entities from the private and public sectors to establish a work plan to make the tourism sector more sustainable. |
| »A.3.4.9 | Calculation and monitoring of a system of tourism indicators associated with the Tourism Development Plan. |
### 3.5. To foster sustainability in the industrial sector through more effective resources and by promoting the adoption of clean and environmentally rational industrial technologies and processes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.3.5.2</td>
<td>To organise a sustainable footwear fair.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.3.5.4</td>
<td>To study the creation of a vocational training programme for the footwear sector, highlighting the value of the MBR’s principles, traditional trades, innovation and added-value production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.3.5.5</td>
<td>Capacity and experience-building actions at the Training Centre “La Mar” to promote sustainability in the yachting sector.</td>
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<td>A.3.5.6</td>
<td>Modernisation of the port facilities to make them more sustainable and give added value and an economic boost to the yachting sector.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.3.5.9</td>
<td>Guide for the sustainable and environmentally-friendly production/construction of yachts, sailboats and inflatable boats.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.5.11</td>
<td>To study the reuse of waste as a resource in the costume jewellery sector – support from tips and eco-industrial parks in the form of high-quality by-products.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.5.12</td>
<td>Organisation of an exhibition of costume jewellery made from waste products.</td>
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</table>

### 3.4 Knowledge and Education Programme for Sustainable Development

One of the main pillars of the Biosphere Reserve is logistical support, i.e. investigation into the interaction of human activities and the environment and educational, capacity-building and awareness-raising activities, the aim of which is to inform the population of the progress being made in terms of sustainability and contribute to the flow of exchange and communication.

In this regard, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is the tool proposed by UNESCO to ensure that every human being acquires the knowledge, competences, attitudes and values necessary to forge a sustainable future. ESD looks for alternative models of human development and reflects on our behaviour in efforts to provoke, imagine and make changes in our approach to ecosystems.

The three contexts in which ESD may be implemented are formal education (in schools and as part of regulated training), non-formal education (unregulated education and training that runs parallel to the main systems) and informal education (education acquired through everyday activities, with no specific structure or certification), all of which are addressed in this plan.
### 4.1. To ensure that all relevant stakeholders, particularly young people, acquire, in inclusive fashion, the knowledge, capacities and skills necessary to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles.

| A.4.1.1 | Establishment of a system of indicators and an information collection system to produce measurable results of the effect/utility of the environmental education actions. |
| A.4.1.3 | Joint drafting of a work plan for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Menorca, with input from all educational sectors. |
| A.4.1.4 | Creation of a network of schools for a sustainable Menorca based on the Eco-Centres Programme. |
| A.4.1.5 | Coordination of the existing facilities (environmental, cultural, museums, etc.) as a network. |
| A.4.1.6 | Coordination of an educational activity agenda for the Menorca Biosphere Reserve, which should be shared with all educational stakeholders and include the activities each stakeholder teaches. |
| A.4.1.7 | Establishment of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve educational activities programme for children of all ages through the educational programme “Salut Jove”. |
| A.4.1.9 | Organisation of the annual programme “Experience the Menorca Biosphere”. |
| A.4.1.12 | Promotion of the role of educator cities in smaller municipalities with a programme of service-learning actions. |
| A.4.1.17 | Creation of a module on the Biosphere Reserve that may be included in regulated sectorial training and be offered as an independent course. |

### 4.2. To promote scientific research and the creation of knowledge in order to improve the transfer to production systems and fabrics.

| A.4.2.1 | Production of a Scientific Research Plan applied to the sustainability of the MBR. |
| A.4.2.4 | Improvement of the MBR Documentation Centre. |
| A.4.2.8 | Organisation of a biannual knowledge transfer seminar in which researchers from around the world may contribute success stories from outside Menorca and provide external knowledge and perspectives. |

### 4.4. To improve information on, awareness of and communication regarding the MBR and its activities.

| A.4.4.2 | Launch of the Reserve website, with two sub-sites for technical and informational purposes. |
| A.4.4.4 | Creation of a regular newsletter. |
| A.4.4.5 | Annual publication of a report on the MBR’s activities. |
| A.4.4.6 | Cooperation with the tourism sector to give a truthful and adequate portrayal of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve in all materials and promotions. |
3.5 LIMIT OF ACCEPTABLE CHANGE MONITORING PROGRAMME

The MBR Action Plan provides for the establishment of a specific programme to monitor the island’s carrying capacity and, more specifically, the limit of acceptable change (the maximum permissible change in conditions allowed in a particular environment, in accordance with the conservation targets in place for that area). In this regard, the programme will focus on 3 main areas:

- Knowledge of the environment.
- Knowledge of the human frequentation on Menorca.
- Knowledge of the environmental impact caused by the latter.

The ultimate aim of this programme is to establish a system of indicators that determines if the limit of acceptable change (or the environmental and social carrying capacity) is exceeded and define tools to control the impacts of economic development and ensure the island does not exceed its environmental and social carrying capacity. The managers of the MBR will use these indicators to make more accurate decisions on important issues such as:

- Management of the number of visitors and residents on the island;
- The adaptive management of the MBR to ensure sustainability limits are not exceeded.

3.6 RELATION BETWEEN THE ACTION PLAN AND OTHER PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

The success of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve and the sector-specific regulations implemented by the Balearic Islands and Spain have given rise to a series of plans and programmes that act as working mechanisms for the promotion of sustainability. Here we highlight those whose objectives and action programmes overlap most with the Plan, as their implementation largely depends on achieving the targets set out herein.

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1Europarc, 1997. “El estado actual en relación al turismo y uso público en los espacios naturales protegidos”. 
4 GOVERNANCE

If we take a global look at all diagnostic elements, one thing that crops up time and time again is the lack of coordination between the stakeholders, both public and private, involved in the different vectors. As a result, when implementing this plan, efforts must be made to increase the level of participation and coordination. Hence objective 6, which is To achieve coordination and cooperation between social and economic stakeholders, both public and private, to advance the sustainable development of the MBR together by working as a network at both local and international level. The operational objectives of the important goal of collaborative governance, which are broken down in the related sections, are as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 6.1</th>
<th>To heighten the commitment and capacity of and coordination between institutions to achieve the objectives of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 6.2</td>
<td>To establish the channels for cooperation with public and private stakeholders necessary to jointly implement the Action Plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective 6.3</td>
<td>To cooperate with prominent networks and entities on an insular, state and international level, particularly the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves, and work to make contributions that enable global progress to be made in terms of sustainability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1 ORGANISATIONAL MODEL

The following is a simplified outline of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve’s system of governance and how its governing body and technical team should be organised in order to achieve the objectives and successfully implement the Plan. In the technical section, special mention is made of the committees responsible for monitoring the Action Plan, which are explained in further detail below.

4.1.1 PARTICIPATORY INSTRUMENTS – ADVISORY BODIES

The instruments for participation in the Menorcan Biosphere Reserve are:

| Social Council | Governed by the statutes of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency (approved in the plenary session of the Island Council of Menorca in 2008), this council ensures that territorial stakeholders and entities, associations, socio-economic stakeholders, etc. from nearby municipalities with a special interest in the Reserve due to their activity participate and cooperate in its management. The function of this entity is to take initiative, make proposals, provide guidance and report. It is guaranteed to be involved in all proceedings that are of particular relevance to the environmental protection of Menorca. Efforts must be made to make it more representative. |
Governed by the statutes of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve Agency (approved in the plenary session of the Island Council of Menorca in 2008), this is the body that ensures scientific participation and guidance when formulating and developing the Agency’s activities.

The function of this entity is to schedule and supervise the Agency’s activities in matters of scientific research, training and dissemination, contribute to the reports on the Reserve, provide expert guidance, offer support in drafting environmental reports related to the Reserve and arrange meetings on the state of the Reserve every five years.

Efforts must be made to make it more representative.

This body ensures participation and direct communication between the Island Council of Menorca and the mayors on issues related to the Menorca Biosphere Reserve. It is made up of all Menorcan mayors and the head of the Island Council of Menorca.

The Board must be incorporated into the statutes of the Agency or a vehicle must be established through the Waste and Energy Consortium. Consideration must also be given to including skilled municipal workers, so that issues related to local government may be discussed over an extended period of time.

The role of the Socioenvironmental Observatory of Menorca (OBSAM), together with the Documentation Centre, is to pool knowledge and monitoring indicators for the purpose of achieving the objectives laid out in the Plan.

The Observatory is attached to the Institute of Menorcan Studies, a body that is part of the Insular Council and which therefore enables direct coordination with the Reserve Agency.

4.1.2 COORDINATION BETWEEN THE RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

In order to successfully carry out the actions, there must be interaction between the relevant stakeholders involved in each action and, in many cases, coordination in order to carry out the actions in joint fashion. We propose the creation of the following Plan coordination and monitoring committees, divided by topics of interest. Each committee will establish its own internal procedures, but it is recommended that the driver responsible schedule at least two annual meetings.
**SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY PROMOTION PROGRAMME**

- Action Plan Economic Sectors for Sustainability Monitoring Committee
  Promoted by: CIM, D.I. Employment, Economic Projection, Youth and Sports
- Social Tourism Council
  Promoted by: CIM, D.I. Tourism Planning

**PROGRAMME FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL HERITAGE, BIODIVERSITY AND LANDSCAPE**

- Action Plan Monitoring Committee for Sustainable Land
  Promoted by: GOIB, Regional Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Fishing
- Action Plan Monitoring Committee for Sustainable Sea
  Promoted by: GOIB, Regional Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Fishing
- Culture for Sustainability Committee
  Promoted by: CIM, D.I. Culture and Heritage

**PROGRAMME FOR THE EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES**

- Water for Sustainability Committee
  Promoted by: Menorca Consumer Council for Water (JCUAM)
- Waste Monitoring Committee
  Promoted by: Technical team of the MBR management agency
- Climate Control, Energy and Mobility Monitoring Committee
  Promoted by: Technical team of the MBR management agency

**KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMME FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

- Scientific Monitoring Committee
  Promoted by: Technical team of the MBR management agency, responsible for the Documentation Centre
- Network of schools for a sustainable Menorca
  Promoted by: Technical team of the MBR management agency
- Creation of a network of facilities
  Promoted by: Technical team of the MBR management agency
4.2 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

To achieve the goal of contributing to greater overall sustainability through cooperation with prominent networks and entities on an insular, state and international level and on a supra-Biosphere Reserve level, Menorca is part of national and international networks of Biosphere Reserves:

- **Spanish Network of Biosphere Reserves** Coordinated by the Autonomous Authority for National Parks, which supports common actions and ensures correct operation. The most notable shared projects include the system of indicators, the Biosphere Reserve tourism product and the seal of quality.

- **Mediterranean Network of Biosphere Reserves** Coordinated by the Abertis Foundation, the aim of this network is to act as a platform for the exchange and transfer of knowledge between the two banks of the Mediterranean. More specifically, it promotes the analysis of each region’s socio-ecological systems for the purpose of emphasising the distinct and unique role of each Biosphere Reserve, and in doing so highlight their specific role in the implementation of sustainable development models.

- **World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves**, which is singled out in the following section, as Menorca is the seat of the organisation’s secretariat office.

It must also be noted that, since 2013, the Menorcan Cooperation Fund has maintained a **twinning and exchange programme with the Ometepe Island Biosphere Reserve**, a lacustrine island in Nicaragua. This programme translates into support and technical exchange and contact with schools.

4.2.1 MENORCA, SECRETARIAT OFFICE OF THE WORLD NETWORK OF ISLAND AND COASTAL BIOSPHERE RESERVES

The first international congress of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (Menorca, 2012) approved the creation of two secretariat offices for the Network, one in Jeju (Republic of Korea) and the other in Menorca (Spain). Their mission is to coordinate and support the activities of the network, organise and manage research activities and train Biosphere Reserve managers. While the office in Jeju specialises in matters of climate change, the one in Menorca focuses on aspects of sustainable development. The two offices work in close collaboration and under the leadership of the UNESCO-MAB secretariat.

Mention must be made of the **2012 Work Plan for Menorca and Jeju as headquarters of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves in issues of sustainability and climate change**, which is what should give direction to their actions.
The Menorca Biosphere Reserve Action Plan is due to be implemented within a 7-year period (2018-2025), which is why it defines a monitoring programme that should enable the Plan to adapt to any socioeconomic, technical or political difficulties that may arise during this time.

The main objectives of the Monitoring and Assessment Programme are:

- To perform a regular global assessment of the Action Plan’s degree of implementation and determine the need to revise the Plan.
- To assess the effects of the actions laid out in the Action Plan with regards to meeting the objectives and reaching the milestones.

The following monitoring and assessment mechanisms have been proposed to meet these objectives. They are considered highly cost effective, since they use indicators which have already been designed and calculated:

- The Action Plan proposes the drafting of an annual report on the activity of the Menorca Biosphere Reserve, which will serve as an annual review on the extent to which the actions have been carried out according to schedule.
- The degree of implementation of the actions laid out in the Action Programme and Action Plan will be assessed based on the information available. As the Plan sets out numerous actions, a systematised procedure for calculating the degree of implementation of the various Action Programmes and the entire Action Plan should be established.
- Three years from approval of the Action Plan, a report to assess and revise the Plan’s objectives should be drafted.
  - The Action Plan lays out 6 general objectives, with 22 specific objectives, 201 actions and 38 plan and programme actions. Each objective is linked to a series of milestones that must be achieved in order to ensure compliance with the specific and general objective. The actions have been proposed as means of reaching these milestones.
  - The system of indicators for monitoring each specific objective enables an assessment to be made as to the effectiveness of the proposed actions with regards to meeting the objectives or, in contrast, whether the milestones need to be adjusted or the actions reformulated.
  - The Action Plan Assessment and Revision Reports, drafted three and six years from approval of the Plan, will include the results of the monitoring indicators and revise the milestones and actions for each specific objective based on the data collected from the indicators. As in the case of the annual reports, the degree of implementation of the Action Programme and Action Plan will be assessed based on the data collected from the established indicators.
  - In the case of the report drafted three years from approval, in order to adjust the milestones and ensure they are reached prior to the completion of the Plan, and in the case of the report drafted six years from approval, in order to observe the progress made and lay the groundwork for the next action plan.
Six years from approval of the Action Plan, a second report to assess and revise the Plan’s objectives should be drafted in order to put forward new objectives and milestones and lend the Plan a new time frame.

Lastly, one year prior to completion, the Plan should be updated and re-drafted in accordance with the results achieved and assessed in the previous years, and, if necessary, the objectives should be reconsidered.

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The mechanisms for monitoring and assessing this programme will prioritise, above all else, the real possibility of carrying out this monitoring and assessment task.

5.1 OBJECTIVE MONITORING INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

When defining the systems of indicators for monitoring each specific objective, consideration was paid to the existing systems of indicators, mainly the system of indicators from the Island Territorial Plan (calculated most recently in 2015) and the system of sustainability indicators for the Biosphere Reserve (calculated most recently in 2011).

The systems of indicators that have been taken into account, in order of priority, are indicated below. Priority was given to those systems that have been calculated most frequently and/or were designed most recently:

- System of tourism indicators of Menorca - TDP (2017)
- System of residential exclusion indicators of Menorca (2017)

Milestones or results to achieve by 2025 and the main monitoring indicators based on existing systems of indicators have been established for each specific objective.