

## ***Capture the Future: Global Youth Storytelling Initiative for People and Culture***

### **Call for Submissions**

## **Terms and Conditions**

### **1. Organization**

Capture the Future: Global Youth Storytelling Initiative for People and Culture (hereinafter “the Initiative”) is launched by the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme (hereinafter “the Organizer”). vivo Mobile Communication Co., Ltd. (hereinafter “vivo”) is the official partner of the Initiative and will participate in the selection and communication process but will not process any other personal data of participants. Organizer This call for submissions of the Initiative is conducted by the Organizer exclusively online under the terms and conditions defined below. Participation is free of charge, the Organizer is not responsible for any expenses that the participants may be incurred in the creation and submission of the photograph and video.

### **2. Eligibility**

2.1. Open to individuals aged 18 to 35 (as of the submission deadline) from all over the world, with a connection to the UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserve(s), e.g., resident, student, young professionals, regular volunteer, etc.

2.2. Employees of UNESCO, vivo, their affiliates, and immediate family members are not eligible.

2.3. Proof of age and identity may be required.

2.4 Participation is strictly personal, no more than one submission per participant. The entrant cannot enter the contest on behalf of another person.

2.5 Participation constitutes full acceptance of these terms and conditions. Non-compliance with the rules will result in disqualification of the entrant.

### **3. Submission Period**

Starts on 5, March 2026 at 00:00 (UTC+1) and ends on 31 May 2026 at 23:59 (UTC+2).

### **4. Validity of submissions**

4.1. Entries must be submitted via the official online portal: [Form to participate in the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere \(MAB\) Programme X vivo: Capture the future](#). Given the large file sizes of photographs and videos, submissions must be sent via a file transfer link (e.g., WeTransfer or an equivalent secure file-sharing platform). Email attachments will not be accepted.

4.2. Each submission must consist of:

4.2.1. One (1) to three (3) original photographs **or** one (1) video up to three (3) minutes, captured on a mobile device (smartphone, tablet etc.).

4.2.2. Submissions must consist of photographs or videos captured within, or specifically related to, one or more UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserves (<https://www.unesco.org/en/mab/list>). Each submitted photo and video should prominently feature both people and nature, highlighting the relationship between communities and their surrounding ecosystems, especially the following themes:

- Ecological changes and evolutions within the community they live in
- Biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and ecosystem restoration
- Local traditions, traditional knowledge, and culture practices, including those of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) related to coexistence with nature
- Climate adaptation and mitigation actions
- Sustainable livelihoods and circular economy in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, artisanal industries, resource extraction, and infrastructure
- Inclusive practices that specifically support young women and youth with disabilities
- Education and communication for sustainable development
- Science and green technology innovations applied for local sustainability

4.2.3. Written narrative: A descriptive text (maximum 1000 words in English, French, or Spanish) accompanying each visual work or series of visual work, explaining its context including the name of the pertinent Biosphere Reserve(s), connection to the above themes, and the story behind the creation.

4.2.4. Metadata: Submission form must include creator's full name, age, country, contact email, location where work was captured, and device model used.

4.2.5. Technical Specifications:

- For photographs: JPG or JPEG format, at least 1,500 pixels wide for horizontal images and 1,500 pixels tall for vertical images, ≤5MB each. Only minor modifications to the photographs will be accepted (e.g. dodging and burning, aperture, cropping, color balance) and must be clearly indicated in the description.
- For video: ≤3 minutes, MP4/MOV, ≤200MB. All content must be captured on a mobile device (smartphone, tablet, etc). Minor editing (color correction, cropping) is permitted provided it does not distort reality.

4.3. The Organizer reserves the right to disregard any visual work that does not meet the criteria.

## **5. Intellectual Property Rights**

5.1. Each participant certifies that he or she is the sole copyright-holder of all submitted visual work and they are original to him/her. The participant retains full copyright and all other intellectual property rights to their submitted work.

5.2. The participant has full power to authorize the use of the visual works. By submitting an entry, the participant irrevocably grants to the Organizer, a perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, distribute, publish, edit, publicly display, and communicate the submitted works for any purpose related to the promotion, reporting, publication, and exhibition of the Initiative. This includes use in all media formats now known or hereafter devised. The Organizer is under no obligation to provide additional compensation for such use.

5.3. The Organizer will provide clear credit to the participant (Name, Country) in all such uses.

5.4. Any commercial use or use beyond the scope of this Initiative by a third party will require separate, direct negotiation with and consent from the participant.

## **6. Warranties and permissions**

### **6.1. Originality**

6.1.1. The Work must be an original creation solely by the participant, captured and processed entirely on a mobile device (smartphone, tablet, etc.). The brand and model of the device are unrestricted.

6.1.2. AI-generated or AI-manipulated content is strictly prohibited. The work must be a photographic/video record of a real scene.

6.1.3. Works that are screen captures, scans, or photographs of other photographs/prints are not accepted.

### **6.3. Legal warranties and permissions**

6.3.1. The participant warrants that they are the sole owner of the work and that it does not infringe upon any third-party rights, including copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity, or any other personal or proprietary rights.

6.3.2. For any recognizable individual depicted, the participant must have obtained explicit permission for the use of their likeness as governed by these Terms. The Organizer may request proof of such consent.

6.3.3. The participant is solely responsible for any claims or liabilities arising from a breach of these warranties and shall indemnify the Organizer against all related costs and damages as a result of or in any manner in connection with the entry, any other of the acts or omissions or any information provided.

6.4. Works containing any of the following will be disqualified:

- Any watermark, logo, border, or signature.
- Content that is unlawful, threatening, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, promotes violence or discrimination, or is otherwise contrary to public order or social morals.
- Content that violates religious or cultural taboos.

6.4. Responsibility of the organizer

The participant recognizes UNESCO as a specialized agency of the United Nations enjoys the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and immunities of the Specialized Agencies.

The participant agrees that if an amicable settlement of any dispute relating to the contest cannot be reached, it shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) Arbitration Rules.

The Organizer reserves the right to modify, extend, shorten, suspend or cancel the call for submission without notice and without liability incurred thereby (fortuitous event or “force majeure” and any other events that are considered as making it impossible for the execution of the Initiative as initially planned). No compensation will be awarded to the participants.

The Organizer will not be responsible for any Internet malfunction preventing access to the competition.

## **7. Selection process and criteria**

A jury composed of representatives from the Organizer, vivo, and independent experts will evaluate entries based on:

- Compliance with all entry requirements.
- Narrative strength and relevance.
- Visual creativity and quality.
- Potential for impact, ability to inspire, educate, or drive awareness on sustainability issues.

The Organizer’ decisions are final and binding.

## **8. Awards**

8.1. Selected finalists will be notified via email and announced on the Organizer’ official platforms before the end of June 2026.

8.2. Awards for the finalists will be announced on official platforms.

8.3. No cash alternative is offered for any award. No award may be subject for a refund or for exchange. The Organizer shall not be held responsible for theft, loss or damages of awards after it has been provided to the finalist.

## **9. Data Privacy**

9.1. The information provided by the participants may be used for data processing, excluding commercial or political use. Personal data collected is used solely for the administration of this Initiative and in accordance with the privacy policies of UNESCO MAB and vivo.

9.2. By participating, individuals consent to the processing of their personal data for this purpose.