# EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK





# **Geopark Annual Reports**

2014



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# **ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK (ITALY)**



Inauguration of the new Geopark House in 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of the new Geopark House "Geopark" in Carisolo dedicated to geology
- Inauguration of the new Geopark House "Acqualife" in Spiazzo dedicated to water and life in water
- Inauguration of a new thematic footpath in Borzago Valley

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation to the EGN Meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark, march 2014
- Mission of revalidation to Leye Fengshan Global Geopark

## Management structure and financial status

Rewiev of the Management Plan

## Strategic partnership

- Collaboration on the organization of touristic activities with the local tourism bodies
- Collaboration on the drafting of the management plan of the future "Fluvial Park of Sarca River"
- Signing of a new hotel in the Quality Park protocol

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Launch of the new facebook page about the Adamello Brenta Geopark
- Participation to "Expo Dolomites Unesco" fair in Belluno, September 2014

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# **APUAN ALPS GEOPARK (ITALY)**



6<sup>th</sup> Italian Geoparks Workshop (Apuan Alps, 2-6 June 2014)

## Major achievements in 2014

- Organization of the 6<sup>th</sup> Italian Geoparks Workshop
- Inauguration of the new Museum of yesterday's and today's fauna in Geopark Farm of Bosa di Careggine
- Apuan Geoday 2014: workshop about earthquakes, lectures with the experts from the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (Equi Terme Visitor Centre)

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe (Spain) and Wernigerode (Germany)
- "Enjoy the geology!" in the Apuan Geopark Farm: article in European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 11, 2014

## Management structure and financial status

- The management structure is made up of several offices and services for a total of 23 people and the operating budget for 2014 totals € 1,472,939
- New financial status leads to an easier management of the dynamics of spending with costs and assets optimization

## Strategic partnership

 Signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Mining National Office of Tunis to expand the GGN in North Africa

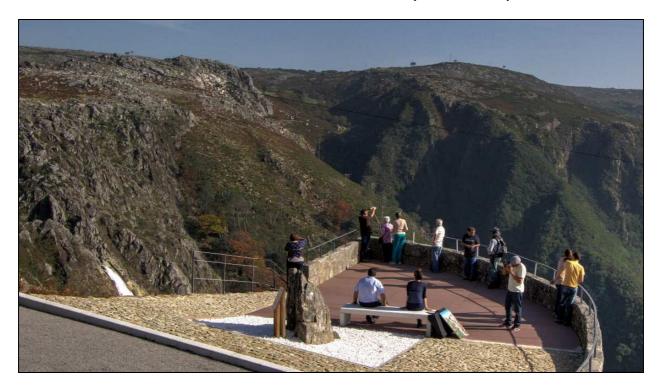
# Marketing and promotional activities

- A step forward to the "European Charter for Sustainable Tourism "In the Apuan Alps Geopark"
- Promotional activities by social network (Facebook, Twitter, You Tube) and official Geopark website

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# AROUCA GLOBAL GEOPARK (PORTUGAL)



Requalification of geosite «The Mizarela Waterfall»

# Major achievements in 2014

- Requalification of geosites «The Mizarela Walterfall» and «Corn bread Rocks of Junqueiro»;
- Inauguration of Merujal Biodiversity station;
- Participation on festivals «Feira das Colheitas» (harvest fair) and «Festival da Castanha» (chestnut festival);
- Launch of new Geological Map of Arouca Geopark

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Paris and in National Park of the Cilento and Vallo di Diano, Italy;
- Celebration the European Geopark Week;

# Management structure and financial status

- A new graduate employee, with long term contract, for the biology area;
- Recruitment of a technician, with term contract, to the Interactive Tourism Store;
- Integration of a trainee to the AGA team, from architecture area;
- General Assembly of AGA Arouca Geopark Association, where were approved the activities and financial plan for the 2015;

## Strategic partnership

 Leonardo Da Vinci program «Geoeducation in action» (Lesvos Geopark, Parco del Beigua, Arouca Geopark e North Pennines Geopark);

- Grundtvig program «Rural Heritage Promotor» (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Slovakia, Scotland and Poland);
- Training action «GEA Terra Mãe: (In)formação em Contexto» [GEA Mother Earth: (In) formation in Context];

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation on BTL Tourism Fair Lisbon 2014;
- Co-participation on INTUR Tourism Fair Valladolid (Spain) 2014, with Magic Mountains;
- Participation on «Feira do Património» (fair heritage), in Guimarães;
- Participation on «Douro Wine Fest», in Peso da Régua;

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# **AZORES GEOPARK (PORTUGAL)**



Workshop "Volcanic Geoparks: strategies for sustainable development"

# Major achievements in 2014

- Organization and development of the workshop "Volcanic Geoparks: strategies for sustainable development"
- Promotion and participation on the Colloquium "Geoparks: A Reality of Sustainable Development", in the Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region of the Azores
- Celebration of the European Geoparks Week, with 15 activities in several islands.

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Bielsa/Sobrarbe (Spain) and in Wernigerode/Harz (Germany)
- Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, in Saint John, Canada
- Catalyst (e.g. J.C. Nunes) of the Volcanic Geoparks WG of the EGN.

# Management structure and financial status

• Change in staff: Dr. Luís Botelho is the new President of the Board of the GEOAÇORES Association that manages the Azores Global Geopark.

## Strategic partnership

- The Azores Geopark increased the partnerships with local stakeholders, and has now about 30 partners, including institutional and public partners, and several private companies at the Geotourism framework, like restaurants (e.g. "Caldeiras e Vulcões"), cheese producers and touristic animation, including marine geosites observation
- Highlights to the partnership with ATA Azores Tourism Promotion Board" for a joint definition and implementation of the Azores Geotourism Strategy.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation on the BTL Bolsa de Turismo de Lisboa
- Production and release of the "Azores Geopark Passaport"
- Relaunch of the website, including a French version
- Cooperation with the Azores Tourism Promotion Board on the implementation of the Azores geotouristic promotion and definition of new products, namely an on-line interactive brochure to be launched in 2015
- Organization and implementation of 16 activities at the aim of the "Geology in Summer", a national wide initiative of the "Ciência Viva" program
- Promotion of several on-line contests, such as the "Summer in the Azores Geopark" and "A Christmas tale in the Geopark" contests
- Publication of the geopark monthly electronic newsletters
- Collaboration with the regional newspaper "Açoriano Oriental", by publishing a page every two weeks entitled "(Geo)diversidades".

## **Educational activities**

 Implementation of several activities, including the school contest "A Água Que Nos Une", celebration of "The Earth Day" and "The National Day of the Geological Heritage" and participation in the "Ceremony of Hoisting the Flag of Green Eco-Schools" on the Professional School of the "Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Ponta Delgada", a geopark's stakeholder.

#### Geoconservation

• Monitoring of the Azores Geopark geosites and realization, in all the islands, of related explanatory sessions for the Nature Guards from the Natural Parks.

## Inclusive activities

• Organization and development of a visit to the geosite "Serra do Cume" (Terceira Island), at the aim of the Earth Day and the National Day of the Geological Heritage, in cooperation with an inclusive association and with 10 participants.

#### Scientific activities

- Participation in the 14<sup>th</sup> International Multidisciplinary Scientific Geoconferences SGEM, in Albena (Bulgaria), June
- Participation in the National Geological Congress, in Porto (Portugal), July
- Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, in Saint John, Canada (September)
- Chapter on the book "Volcanic Tourist Destinations", by P. Erfurt-Cooper (Ed.) and published by Springer, Editors.

#### Networking

- Participation in the fair "Tasting Food Products of South European Geoparks" coordinated by the Bakony-Balaton Geopark (Hungary) with geoproducts from the Azores Geopark.
- Several contacts and networking at the aim of the Volcanic Geoparks W.G.

## **Contacts:**

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Scientific Coordinator: João Carlos Nunes <u>icn@uac.pt</u>

# **BAKONY-BALATON GEOPARK (HUNGARY)**



Course for geotour-guides in the Keszthely Hills (September 2014)

## Major achievements in 2014

- Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest with 26 elementary school teams.
- Very popular courses for geotour-guides in two regions of the geopark, thanks to successful applications by local civil organizations, our Geopark Partners

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN CC meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark (Spain) and in Harz
   Braunschweiger Land
   Ostfalen Geopark (Germany).
- Participation of a student group of our Geopark Partner school and of a colleague in the International Geoparkcamp "Arts Meet Geology" (Muskau Arch Geopark, D–PL)
- Calling and preparing for publishing the half-yearly progress reports, the programmes and reports on European Geoparks Week 2014 from the EGN members, creating a portrait gallery of EGN CC delegates.

## Management structure and financial status

 The income from the participants of geotuor-guide courses, their Geopark Partner logo usage license and several new geopark programmes leads to an increase in the budget

## Strategic partnership

 Signing cooperation agreements with a Steiner school and the new geotour-guides, as our Geopark Partners.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Stand of the geopark and numerous programmes for 9 days in the Valley of Arts Festival (Kapolcs), one of the most popular summer festivals of Hungary
- Presentation of a full-size replica of Magyarosaurus dacus dinosaur, created in Canada by Brian Cooley, shown in several places in Europe and carried to Haţeg Country Dinosaurs Geopark, its final location.

## **Contacts:**

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# **BASQUE COAST GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



Green Card in our first revalidation

# Major achievements in 2014

- Green card at the first revalidation. The mission took place in July carried out by Marble Arch (Ireland) and Itoigawa (Japan) Geopark representatives.
- Sharp increase of visitors participating in the Geopark official guided tours
- Carry out an audio-visual about the industrialization in Zumaia based on the cement industry
- European Geopark Week with many activities for different public (speeches, workshop for children, free guided visits for citizen...)
- New panoramic viewpoint towards the cliffs in Elorriaga. Wooden platform with an interpretation panel and leisure area.
- First steps to get a community of Geopark Friends. Working groups with companies, associations and other agents to agree the concept of the community and the specific relations among the members.
- 2014: consolidation of the scientific committee of the Geopark

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation of the two representatives in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe (Spain) and Harz Geopark (Germany)
- EGN magazine "Inventory of Geosites: A basic tool for managing the geological heritage in the Basque Coast Geopark"

## Management structure and financial status

- New working staff: an environmental agent and a community manager for management of Social Network
- the Environment Department of Basque Government contributes to increasing the Geopark budget though a three-year agreement

## Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

- Following the previous research lines Estuary of Urola river, the karst of the Geopark and starting a new one: vestiges of a mountain furnace.
- Presentation of the Geosites Inventory of Basque Country was held in the Geopark by the Minister of Environment.
- The Proposal for three Geopark Geosites has been promoted to become Global Geosites
- To carry out the geological map translated into three languages with a short explanation of the 54 Geosites.

## Strategic partnership

• CPIE Baiona (French Basque Country) First steps to define a cross-border project.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- New promotional brochure of the Geopark. 4 versions in different languages for handing out at tourism fairs and hotels
- Redesign and new contents for the website
- New tourist map of the geopark edited by Basque Government to hand out in all international touristic fairs attended
- Mundumira Fair, leaded to Basque Country internal market.
- Clothing for guides, using a unified image of the Geopark

## Sustainable economic development

- Agricultural GeoMarket. Sale of vegetables, fruit, cheese, wine and other organic products made in Geopark by farmers and other exhibitions like sheep shearing, roasted local meat and wine tasting.
- Continue selling the "batch" of the most select food products produced by the farmers and fishermen from the Geopark called GeoGourmet

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# **BEIGUA GEOPARK (ITALY)**



"Geoeducation in Action" project meeting in Beigua Geopark headquarters (5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> march 2014)

## Major achievements in 2014

- Organization of an exhibition (February 10th march 2nd 2014) and a workshop (February 12th 2014) on Charles Darwin geologist, the pioneers of Geology in Liguria and Beigua Geopark, on the occasion of the celebrations of the Darwin Day 2014 at the "G. Doria" Natural History Civic Museum in Genoa
- Carrying out of a new thematic trail in the area of Mt Beigua
- Celebration the European Geoparks Week 2014 with several activities about geodiversity, biodiversity, cultural and historical heritage.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN/GGN

- Hosting in Arenzano, Beigua Geopark (march 5th 7th 2014) the 2nd Meeting of the "GeoEducation in Action" project - EU Leonardo Da Vinci Programme (with the Vocational Training Center - Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest -GR, Arouca Geopark - PT, North Pennines AONB Partnership Geopark - GB)
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain (march 2014) and in Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen, Germany (September 2014)
- Attendance the National Forum of Italian Geoparks in Rome (February 2014) and the 5° Italian Geoparks Workshop in Apuan Alps Geopark (June 2014)
- Evaluation missions in Japan: San'in Kaigan Global Geopark and Aso Global Geopark (July/August 2014)

# Management structure and financial status

- Some changes in the administration sector of the Beigua Geopark staff
- Increase of the Beigua Geopark rangers staff
- No remarkable changes about the financial status

## Strategic partnership

- Signing of a cooperation agreement with all the Geoparks' Municipalities to develop common projects and strategies about environmental management system
- Signing cooperation agreements with the local tourism associations and entrepreneurs
- Working in a strong cooperation with the Italian Federation of Parks and Nature Reserves, and also with Nature Parks of the Regional Network of Protected Areas in Liguria

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Publication of the tourism brochure (autumn 2014 winter 2015) on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 with the cooperation of all the Geoparks' Municipalities
- Organization of educational activities about the geological heritage in the frame of the 12<sup>th</sup> Science Festival – Genoa 24<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014.
- Joining the annual initiative in the framework of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014 through local educational activities on November 23<sub>rd</sub> 2014
- Local meetings and workshops to raise public awareness about nature conservation, sustainable development and natural hazards, supported by Regional funds (autumn 2014).
- Promotional activities by social network (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, You Tube) and official Geopark website.

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# **BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK (GERMANY)**



Event - 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of membership in the GGN: Official Geopark ambassadors, State Secretary for the Environment (State of Hesse), business manager, vice president and president

# Major achievements in 2014

- Opening of 2 new Geopark Information Centres, 1 Geopark Environmental Education Centre, 2 Geopark trails, several geopoints and MTB trails
- Continuation of the geo-workshops with Geopark rangers at WHS Messel Pit
- Agriculture activity days with the Geopark rangers
- Implementation and training of new Geopark-on-site guide teams
- Celebration of the European Geopark Week (49 events)
- Presentation of the award "Geotope 2014"
- Continuation of the common "Hessian Naturepark Hiking Day"
- International peony arts exhibition with 3 partners (Global Geopark Mt. Lushan, City of Lorsch, WHS Lorsch Abbey)
- Participation in the "Hessen State Festival" with regional network partners
- Official Geopark ambassador: Prof. Dr. Bernhard Eitel, president of Heidelberg University

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine (J.W.)
- Publication of EGN Electronic Newsletters No 1 & 2 (J.W.)
- Participation in the EGN autumn meeting (Harz)
- Regular meetings of the National Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany (common activity of the 6 Global Geoparks in Germany)
- Information visit of Geopark delegation from Hungary (Comitat Vas)
- Celebration event : 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of membership in the GGN

# Management structure and financial status

- Continued solid financial status
- No change in management structure
- Change in staff: new Christiane Stolz, terminated Claudia Eckhardt

# Strategic partnership

- Partnership with Global Geopark Mt. Lushan (Intercultural peony project with arts exhibition from Global Geopark Mt. Lushan), delegation visit from Mt. Lushan
- Partnership with University of Heidelberg, education science department
- Partnership with the International Forest Art Association: "BankArt project" and 7. International Forest Art Trail

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation in several Tourism fairs (Mannheim, Stuttgart)
- Extension of Geopark honey network for partners and information centres
- Presentation of several new brochures (Geotopes, Geopark-on-site, hiking maps...)

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# **BOHEMIAN PARADISE GEOPARK (CZECH REPUBLIC)**



Geological educational programme for children from nursery schools within the "Day of the Geopark" were attended by more than 300 children

## Major achievements in 2014

- Geopark teem informed about EGN/GGN activities and realized different programmes for visitors from Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, China, Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Greece, Netherlands, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Peru, Russia, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Ukraine, USA, United Kingdom and Zimbabwe
- Infrastructure of Geopark has been improved by 9 new external geo exhibitions and new information promenade with presentation EGN/GGN, 48 new panels, 5 new bigboards about GGN and extending and updating information in the smartphone application on 42 new points.
- Recently recognised causes of sandstone gates, arches, towers etc. were discovered in the geopark and verified by experiments at work, which was published in the journal Nature by Charles University experts and the Czech Academy of Sciences. New geological mapping of sheet Nová Paka and Jičín areas in the scale 1:25 000 was done in the Geopark.
- Guided geotours, 4 Conference (Geopark for region, Crystals and their use in science and technology, Geoparks and Geotourism), workshops (Young Geologist, Decorative stones" for conservationists etc.), geo-camps, geoconservation actions and pedagogic programmes with altogether more than 3150 participants, carried out in the Geopark
- 58 Geopark sites were monitored and were visited by 1 198 460 visitors

Fourteen exhibitions were realized in Saint-Amand - France, Namur and Anvers Belgium, Lisbon and Porto - Portugal, Thessaloniki and Volos - Greece, Copenhagen –
Denmark (It's not a jewel), Zelezne hory (Iron Mountains) National Geopark - Chrudim
(Crystals), Jílové (Decorative stones) and Turnov (Stones of my heart, It's not a jewel,
Decorative stones and In the heart of Silk Road)

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN /GGN

- Participation on the EGN Meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark and in Geopark Harz Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalenand and on the 5. GGN conference in Stonehammer Geopark in Canada by geopark representatives
- Revalidation missions to Leye Fengshan Global Geopark, Leiqiong Geopark and Funjunshan Global Geopark in China
- Study visit of colleagues from Novohrad /Nógrad Geopark and Muskauer Arch Geopark
- Active participation in UNESCO Working Group for Geoparks by M. Paskova.
- Assistance with preparation a new geopark in Ethiopia, Nicaragua and Sweden.
- Promotion of the European and Global Geoparks Networks at the local level
- Lecture and excursion for 37th International Postgraduate UNESCO Course on Environmental Management was presented.
- Taglists and 410 smartphone information for Czech–Bavarian Geopark, 10 geo-guides and representative book for Czech–Bavarian Geopark

# Strategic partnership

- Discussion with Bohemian Paradise Association, which is an independent body, concerning to streamline the visible cooperation between both partners.
- Information at municipalities and it's councils on the European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Network took place at 28 sites inside Geopark.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Two 30 minutes long movies on the topic of activities were filmed in cooperation with the Czech TV and were presented on the Channel 2 on Czech Television, several broadcasting program and 2 books about geopark.
- New Geopark map for geotourists was created, leaflet published and study about Kozákov was presented under cooperation with Bohemian Paradise Association
- Promotion of Bohemian Paradise Geopark, national, European and Global geoparks at 4 international Tourism Fairs (Holiday World in Prague, GO in Brno, SlovakaiTour in Bratislava and InfoTour in Hradec Králové).
- Ceremonial opening of information promenade in the geopark village centre with presentation EGN/GGN
- Geotourist study about Kozákov volcanic hill, new Geopark map for geotourists and 5 leaflets was published under cooperation with the Bohemian Paradise Association
- Continuous promotion of Bohemian Paradise Geopark, national, European and Global geoparks in TTG (Travel Digest Magazine).

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## **BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK (IRELAND)**



Volunteers gather to participate in wall mending and litter picking at the new Meitheal end of tourism season conservation event in the Burren

# Major achievements in 2014

- Winners of 'Best Destination" and "Best Responsible Travel & Tourism Business" at the Green Hospitality's Responsible Travel & Tourism Awards 2014
- Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark listed in top 100 Geosites in the UK and Ireland.
- Inaugural Annual GeoparkLIFE awards recognizing good practice in sustainable tourism for Geopark Code of Practice and Burren Ecotourism Network members.
- Burren Tourism Story Event for local businesses and national tourism agencies.
- Participated in the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) in Hainan, China, which named the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark as one of 3 finalists for its 2014 Tourism for Tomorrow Destination Award.

# Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in EGN meeting at Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain
- Promotion of EGN week
- Contribution of article to EGN magazine 12

# Conservation (geo-conservation) strategy

- Training for Burren Ecotourism Network members on practical aspects of electricity, fuel and water conservation.
- Development of new conservation programme called 'Meitheal' (means working together in the Gaelic language) in collaboration with local farmers and other conservation agencies.
- GeoparkLIFE Awards night initiated to recognize and encourage conservation among local businesses
- Adult evening geology course raises awareness of geology and geoconservation.
- Guided field trips to Geosites highlight geological heritage and promote deeper appreciation of Earth Sciences in general.

## Strategic partnership

- Ongoing EU LIFE project strengthens strategic partnerships on sustainable tourism and conservation with multiple national agencies including Geological Survey of Ireland, Clare County Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Public Works, National Monuments Service, Heritage Council, Failte Ireland and University College Dublin.
- Continued support and development of the Burren Ecotourism Network resulted in ten new businesses, including all of the Visitor Centres, joining the network.
- Developing new education initiatives for schools with the Burren Outdoor Education Centre

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Launch of Heritage Walking Trails in six towns and villages in the Burren.
- Participated in Documentary 'Nature's Keepers'
- Promotion of 'Burren Rocks!' festival for EGN week
- TV interview and local and national newspaper articles
- Increase in Facebook and Twitter likes and followers and continued growth in website numbers and ranking.
- Participation in other festivals such as Burren in Bloom, National Heritage Week and the Slow Food Festival.
- Publication of article in Earth Science Ireland magazine
- Publication and distribution of Activity Trail guides, Food Trail guides, Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark Maps

## Sustainable economic development

- Heritage Trails and map guides offer added value for local tourism businesses
- Promotion of new product development for local businesses through our Activity Trail and Food Trail
- Promotion of Slow Food and Winterage Food Fayre festivals which supports local food.
- Training event for local businesses on business networking; 'Network to Get Work'
- Fam trips with travel writers and tourism trade representatives
- GeoparkLIFE Awards night initiated to recognize and encourage further sustainable development among local businesses

#### Contacts:

Manager: Carol Gleeson <u>cgleeson@burren.ie</u> Geologist: Eamon Doyle <u>edoyle@burren.ie</u>

# **CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



Los Escullos beach, International Coastal Cleanup, September 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Local employment project: maintenance and refurbishing works on geosites, info points, high pressure tourism beaches.
- Evaluator in Dong Van Global Geopark (Vietnam).
- Coastal Clean Up day, fostered by Ocean's Conservancy.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Photographic exhibition "Así era la vida" (The way we were) in the EGN Week
- Participating in the Global Geoparks Conference at Stonehammer Geopark, Canada & the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe and Harz
- Participating in the First Open days of the Spanish Geoparks, event celebrated in Villuerca Ibores Jara Geopark

# Management structure and financial status

Change in staff: new Director of the Geopark, Mr Emilio Roldán del Valle

# Strategic partnership

• Signing of a cooperation agreement with the Andalusian Geological Survey

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Natural Park Brand for products in FITUR
- "Ventana del visitante", official website
- New Andalusian App for Geodiversity with Cabo de Gata-Nijar Geopark hikes

## **Contacts:**

Manager: Emilio Roldán del Valle <u>emilio.roldan@juntadeandalucia.es</u>
Geologist: Pablo Rivas Palomo <u>pablo.rivas.ext@juntadeandalucia.es</u>

# **CARNIC ALPS GEOPARK (AUSTRIA)**



Aerial view from west over the Biegengebirge and Lake Wolayersee

# Major achievements of Geopark in 2014

• Field research on Pre-dinosaur footprints 2013-2014:

Two researchers, Sebastian Voigt and from the Urweltmuseum Geoskop in Germany und Lorenzo Marchetti from Padua, explored the Geopark Carnic Alps in 2013. A new site with reddish sand-, silt- and claystones of the Laas Formation yielded footprints of two more tetrapod ichnotaxa, Amphisauropus Haubold, 1970 and Dromopus Marsh, 1894. Potential producers of these traces are Seymouriamorpha, i.e. ca. 50 cm long reptile-like amphibians related to the Diadectomorpha, and early diapsids of similar size. The trace-bearing sediments are associated with invertebrate traces, root traces, mud cracks, ripple marks and microbially induced sedimentary structures characterizing floodplain fines within a thick series of alluvial fan deposits. The field work will continue in 2015.

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Article for the EGN Magazine 2015: Pre-dinosaur footprints as a new asset of the Geopark Carnic Alps
- Participation in the European Geopark Conference, Geopark Harz Braunschweiger Land – Ostfalen

## Management structure and financial status

No change in the management structure

# **Conservation (geoconservation) strategy**

• Protection measurements against rockfall at the site of the petrified trees of Laas

## Strategic partnership

- Cooperation with the regional touristic organisation (Karnische Tourismus Region)
- Cooperation with Italian partners with the target of cross border projects (Smart Borders 2020: http://www.region-hermagor.at/272593 DE)

#### Scientific activities

- Cooperation with the University of Innsbruck; Master thesis " "Der Amphiporenkalk im Devon der Karnischen Alpen"
- Cooperation with the Urweltmuseum "Geoskop", Thallichtenberg Germany: Field research on Pre-dinosaur footprints 2013-2014

# Marketing and promotional activities

 Cooperation with the regional (Karnische Tourismus Region) and federal touristic board (Kärnten Werbung); further information <a href="http://naturerleben.kaernten.at/en.aspx">http://naturerleben.kaernten.at/en.aspx</a>

# Sustainable economic development

 Strong cooperation with regional and italian partner with the target of common projects for the strategy "Smart Borders 2020": http://www.region-hermagor.at/272593\_DE

## Contacts:

Manager: Gerlinde Krawanja-Ortner <u>gerlinde.ortner@geopark.at</u>
Geologist: Hans Peter Schönlaub <u>hp.schoenlaub@aon.at</u>

# **CENTRAL CATALUNYA GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



Presentation the European Geopark week "Geology to the city"

## Major achievements in 2014

- Edition of a new promotional video on the Central Catalonia Geopark and its Gastronomy.
- Elaboration of a promotional content page to be included in a "Bages Ethnotourism Guide", as one of a series of guides of great impact.
- Design and conceptualisation of the Gastronomic Routes of the Geopark in collaboration with the new Gastronomic Association "Els Fogons del Bages". Moreover, the Geopark has edited and distributed a complete leaflet with all the information of the aforementioned Geopark Gastronomic Routes.
- Increase of participants in geopark activities, private and public actions.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation of the two representatives in the European Geoparks Network meetings in Sobrarbe (Spain) and Harz Geopark (Germany).
- Attendance and participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Spanish Geoparks Open Houses, Guadalupe, October 2014. The Central Catalonia Geopark gave speeches on Geotourism and the Geopark itself.
- EGN magazine "Gastronomic Routes of the Geopark". The initiatives involve preparing special local recipes for each of the four gastronomic seasons of the year.

## Management structure and financial status

 Preparing of new collaboration with the Natural Parks Agency of the Barcelona Province Council to promote the Geopark in our Net of natural parks from Catalonia. There are 18 natural parks.

## Strategic partnership

- Preparing a signing of a cooperation agreement with the partner in China.
- Attendance to the Geotourism Workshop held in Tremp, Spain.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Edition of a new promotional leaflet in different languages (4 versions).
- Fam trip addressed to the Geopark tourism companies focused on how to take advantage of the singular geology of the Geopark and the possible ways of innovation in their touristic products.
- Press trip focused on gastronomy and the Geopark of Central Catalonia.
- Promotion of Collaboration with the Tourism Agency of the Barcelona Province Council
  to promote the Geopark in the form of the edition of a new touristic map of the Geopark
  County.
- Promotion of the Geopark through the AENA (Spanish Airports Authority) website thanks to a collaboration agreement with all the Spanish Geoparks and AENA.
- Full collaboration with the Gastronomic Association "Els Fogons del Bages" to promote the Geopark through Facebook and Twitter contest.
- Collaboration with the Tourism Agency of the Catalonia Government to promote the Geopark. Broadcast of the third episode of the series "A perfect day with family through Catalonia" filmed in the territory.

#### Contacts:

Executive director: Cristina Rubio <u>cristina@geoparc.cat</u>
Geologist: Ferran Climent <u>ferran@geoparc.cat</u>

# **CHABLAIS GEOPARK (FRANCE)**



Encounters with the Geopark 2014, Geosite Champeillant 1st June 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Installation of 18 GeoRoute sites, our dispersed "visitor centre" takes shape
- Creation and launch of the Geopark website in March
- Creation and release of Smartphone apps for the GeoRoute
- Exhibition in partnership with Thonon les Bains "Le Léman dans tous ces états"
- Publication of the GeoRoute map showing the 23 sites, a tourist map for the Chablais territory

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Paris and in Germany
- Meetings and supplementary exchanges with the Swiss UNESCO delegation to present the Geopark Network and discussion of its path to an "initiative"
- Exchanges with the SM du Pays Vallée des Gaves, Pyrenees concerning their interest in becoming a Geopark
- Preparation of the Forum Français positioning to the UNESCO discussion

## Management structure and financial status

- No change in financing status
- Change in staff: New president of the SIAC and Geopark, Mr Moracchini;
- New delegate for the EGN, Mr Baud; New Director of the SIAC and the Geopark, Mr Izoard

# Strategic partnership

• Looking to establish new partnership, potential for Geopark Bergstrasse Odenwald which also has a town twinned with Evian in the Chablais. To be developed.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- "Encounters with the Geopark": 40 free public events from May to October 2014 at key geosites
- Release of a promotional Geopark Chablais video highlighting the GeoRoute
- Itinerant exhibition "Histoire glaciaire des 3 Chablais" (Musée du Chablais CH, Collèges du Douvaine FR, Montriond FR, University of Lausanne CH).
- Bespoke educational workshops
- Adult field trips which included a 6 day visit by the Reading Geological Society from the UK

## Contacts:

Geologist & Coordinator: Sophie Justice coordinationgeopark@siac-chablais.fr

Nominated representative: J. F. Baud <a href="mailto:if.baud@ville-douvaine.fr">if.baud@ville-douvaine.fr</a>

## **CHELMOS-VOURAIKOS GEOPARK (GREECE)**



Photo collage of the 34<sup>th</sup> annual crossing of Vouraikos gorge (EGN Week May 2014)

# Major achievements in 2014

- Environmental education campaign directed at 1500 students and 200 teachers, and delivered to all schools within the Geopark.
- Participation in the EuroBirdwatch14 festival.
- Production of a bilingual map and flyer with trails and Geosites of the Geopark.

# Contribution towards the work of the EGN

Participation in the 33<sup>rd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> CC meeting of the EGN.

## Management structure and financial status

 Financial support through the project "Natural Environment 2014" from the Green Fund, Ministry of Environment and Climatic Change.

# Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

• Completion of the project "Water Resources Assessment of Chelmos - Vouraikos National Park and promotion of the geological diversity of the region".

# Strategic partnership

New educational programs and workshops on Geodiversity.

# Marketing and promotional activities

Participation in the "7<sup>th</sup> exhibition of New and Alternative Forms of Tourism".

#### Contacts:

Coordinator: Eleni Koumoutsou fdxb@otenet.gr
Geologist: Nikos Topouzidis fdxb@otenet.gr

Biologist: Maria Kamilari mariakamilari@gmail.com

# **CILENTO AND VALLO DI DIANO GEOPARK (ITALY)**



Visit of Korean Delegation in 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of the new info centre in Agropoli and the new headquarter of Geopark (Palazzo Mainenti)
- National and international cooperation for the realization of projects financed by the European Community
- Celebration the European Geopark Week the program of environmental education oriented to the schools, connected to the themes of Geodiversity, Biodiversity, Landscape, sport and nature, and sustainable development

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Attendance all meeting, conference and workshop of EGN and Italian Geoparks
- Submission of the article for publication in European Geopark Magazine 11
- Submission of the articles during 6th International Geoparks Conference in Stonehammer Geopark (Canada) on September 16st 20th 2014

## Management structure and financial status

• The operative structure of the National Park - Geopark is divided into three areas: Technical of Preservation Nature, General Affair and Communication-Promotion, for a total of 37 employees coordinated by a Manager. More specifically, the area Technical and Preservation of Nature has in its staff one geologists, an environmental engineer, an architect, a biologist, an agronomist, three surveyors, an agrarian expert and three administrative employees. After 2010 was created a specific structure only for Geopark with Geopark manager and his staff.

 The National Park - Geopark receives funds directly from the Ministry of Environment and obtains, with some project, funding from European Commission and Campania Region.

# Strategic partnership

- We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity
- Meeting with Chines and Korean Geoparks

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Organization of some national and international workshop to promote the Geopark Participation in national TV programs were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the
- EGN-GGN and has published some articles on the news paper

#### **Contacts:**

General Director: Angelo de Vita <u>direttore@cilentoediano.it</u>
Geopark Manager Geologist: Aniello Aloia <u>a.aloia@cilentoediano.it</u>

# **COPPER COAST GEOPARK (IRELAND)**



Students of Stella Maris school working on their award winning Kite Ariel Photography project.

# Major achievements in 2014

- Launch of a series of films celebrating the geological and mining heritage of the Copper Coast, a virtual tour of Tankardstown Copper Mines and an artistic map. Ceremony performed by Leo Varadkar, Minister for Tourism.
- Education programmes continue to be a major feature of our work, delivering 40 geological, environmental and heritage focussed programmes, talks and tours.
- Winner of the National Kite Ariel Photography (KAP) Project with Stella Maris School who were awarded a KAP kit for best project, which was exhibited during the "Archaeology Above & Below" seminar in Ireland, April 2014, attended by archaeologists and geophysicists from around Europe.

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Attended EGN meetings in Sobrabre, Spain and Harz, Germany.
- Revalidation missions in Italy, Greece and Canada.
- Participation in the Irish Geoparks Forum in October and contributed to the development of operational guidelines for Irish Global Geoparks.
- Twinning delegation visited Vulcaneifel European Geopark in Strohn, Germany, celebrating ten years of successful twinning.

## Management structure and financial status

• Employed a Business Development Executive.

## Strategic partnership

- Geopark representative elected onto Planning & Corporate Strategic Policy Committee of Waterford Council.
- Geopark representative elected onto Waterford Council new Tourism Committee.
- Joined Waterford Chamber of Commerce to build local tourism alliances.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Events for European Geopark Week, National and Local Festivals including: The Comeraghs Wild Festival, National Heritage Week, Bealtaine Festival, Waterford International Film Festival.
- Featured on National Irish Television Channel: TV3 in a TV3 Documentary exploring Ireland called: 'Our Island', screened in October 2014.
- Joint marketing at World Travel Market with Marble Arch and Burren Geoparks

#### Contacts:

Chairperson: John Galloway johng5749@gmail.com Geologist: Tina Keating tinakea@eircom.net

# **EISENWURZEN (AUSTRIA)**



The dedication of the decree "Thematic Trail of the Year 2014" to the GeoTrail Gams of the Nature and Geopark Eisenwurzen by the Austrian Federal Minister Andrä Rupprechter

# Major Achievements in 2014

- International meeting on Geotopes
- Annual meeting of the Austrian Speleological Society

## **Distinction**

GeotrailGams: Austrian thematic trail of the Year, 2014

## Contribution towards the work of EGN

- H. Kollmann Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine
- H. Kollmann Coordinator of the Austrian GeoparksForum
- Participation in Eeropean Geoparks Network Meetings at Sobrarbe and the Geopark Harz.BraunschweigerLand.Ostfalen (Heinz Kollmann, Irmgard Auer)

# **Management Structure and Financial Status**

• Cooperation of Austrian Geoparksin the Geopark Forum under the auspices of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

# Office: personnel and status

 The staff was increased by one member. Elisabeth is in charge of the accounting and assists Irmgard in her work at the Nature- and GeoparkOffice  Temporary move of office location from St. Gallen to Weißenbach due to construction works

### **Educational Activities**

- Over 70 school groups and university parties have taken advantage of the offers of the Nature and Geopark in this year, mainly in spring and autumn.
- Seminar on natural herbs
- Nature-and GeoAdventure for children during school holidays in St. Gallen, Wildalpen, and Gams/Landl (11 days)
- Participation of the local primary and secondary schools at an outdoor event at the Day
  of Biodiversity in cooperation with local producers, the organisation for the protection of
  mountains and their nature (Berg-und Naturwacht) and the staff of the GeoVillage
  Gams.
- Specialized Workshops for local student groups and adults

# Marketing and promotional activities

 Participation in major public events "Steiermark Frühling" (Styrian Spring) in Vienna and "Aufsteirern" in Graz attended by thousands of visitors and "Grünzeug von der Wiese" (Herbs from meadows)

## **Major Publication**

 Geotope – Authentische Objekte geologischer Vorgänge. 18. Internationale Jahrestagung der Fachsektion GeoTop der DDG im Natur- und Geopark Steirische Eisenwurzen, Österreich - 102 pp.

#### **Contacts:**

Geologist: Heinz Kollmann <a href="mailto:heinz.kollmann@NHM-Wien.ac.at">heinz.kollmann@NHM-Wien.ac.at</a>

Local Development Expert: Irmgard Auer i.auer@eisenwurzen.com

# **ENGLISH RIVIERA GLOBAL GEOPARK (UNITED KINGDOM)**



Celebrating the announcement that the English Riviera had won the bid to host the 7<sup>th</sup>
International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks

## Major achievements in 2014

- English Riviera bid to host the 2016 conference was successful. Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP Secretary of State for Culture in the UK visited and gave his support for our conference bid. New position of Conference Director created.
- Three successful funding bids and fantastic visit of Comenius project students.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Melanie Border supported progress towards the development of UNESCO Global Geoparks.
- Participation in Sobrarbe and in Hartz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen meetings.

## **Management structure and financial status**

 Management Group strengthened by the addition of new member, Gordon Neighbour, who also sits on the Education Committee of the Geological Society and the Panel of Experts on Education for the European Federation of Geologists

# Strategic partnership

• New partnership formed with local company Sherpa Sherpa Ltd. who, for the first time ran a Geopark Multi Sport Race Series in 2014.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Geopark included in new, National Curriculum text book on Geographical enquiries published by Harper and Collins.
- Presented on The importance of Global Geoparks at a Member of Parliament briefing held in the House of Commons, Palace of Westminster, London.

#### Contacts:

Chairman: Nick Powe NickPowe@kents-cavern.co.uk

Geopark Coordinator: Melanie Border <u>m.border@englishrivierageopark.org.uk</u>

## **GEA NORVEGICA GEOPARK (NORWAY)**



National day of geology. Family event and field trip to Steinvika

# Major achievements in 2014

- Two new digital guided tours and several digital treasure hunts developed.
- Developed an outdoor education program, ice age and bronze age, for all schools.
   Financed by The National Commission for UNESCO
- New information signs on several localities.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- One delegate participated at the EGN-meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark in Spain. Two delegates participated at the EGN-meeting in Harz.
- Three delegates participated at the Global Geopark Conference in Stonehammer, Canada
- The manager of the Geopark participated in working group UNESCO and GGN bureau meetings.
- Norwegian UNESCO commission-meeting, talk about Geoparks and UNESCO negotiation
- Participated in Norwegian forum of Geoparks
- 24 delegates, politicians and people from the municipalities, from Vooremaa Geopark project in Estonia visited the Geopark for two days.
- Delegates from Bohuslän Geopark Project in Sweden visited the Geopark
- Delegates from Kinnekulle Geopark project in Sweden visited the Geopark for two days.
- Participated in three revalidations / evaluation in China, Hungary and Indonesia.
- Advisors for Trollfiell Aspiring Geopark, Norway.

- The manager participated at a seminar in Saimaa Geopark project Finland.
- Visiting Rokua Geopark in Finland exchanging experience about education programs.

## Management structure and financial status

- Gea Norvegica Geopark is an inter-municipality company. The Geopark is owned by eight municipalities and two county councils. Board of representatives have 12 members, and meets twice a year, all members are politicians. The Geopark board have seven members. The elected members have different backgrounds, from education, science, business etc. The board meets regularly.
- The Geopark is fully financed by the owners, according to a legal agreement.
- The Geopark have four full time positions, and 2 part-time positions

# **Conservation (geoconservation) strategy**

- Enhanced knowledge will make people more aware and enhance understanding and will to take care of geological heritage as part of our natural heritage. To raise awareness of the connections and the story geological attractions can tell.
- Places of special interest: notification procedures to different institutions; according to Norwegian law

# Strategic partnership

- Partnerships with local enterprises.
- Partnership with hotels, special offers for geopark tourists.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Regularly guided tours during the season (May-September). 30 guided tours between May and September with certified geopark guides on different themes
- New booklet in English about the Fen volcanic complex geopark locality has been written and designed by staff in the Geopark.
- New web site in Norwegian, English and German.
- The manager of the Geopark has been on Norwegian television, radio and in newspapers several times. Thematic programs and different interviews
- National day of geology. Family event and field trip in the Geopark.

#### Sustainable economic development

 Focus on sustainable nature tourism as a tool for different enterprises, connected to geological heritage.

#### Contacts:

Geologist: Kristin Rangnes <u>kristin.rangnes@geanor.no</u>
Geopark Officer: Ingeborg Klepp <u>ingeborg.klepp@geanor.no</u>

# FFOREST FAWR GEOPARK (WALES)



Professor Brian Williams presents the keynote talk at the Old Red Sandstone Symposium

# Major achievements in 2014

- The Old Red Sandstone Symposium, 3 October 5 October 2014 organized by the Geologists Association – South Wales Group and Fforest Fawr Geopark - was attended by over 100 delegates including contributors from Australia and Canada.
- Publication of a 1: 50, 000 scale map of the geology and landscape of Fforest Fawr Geopark by the British Geological Survey – a partner in the geopark.
- Publication by the Geologists Association South Wales Group of The Land of the Beacons Way: Scenery and geology across the Brecon Beacons National Park by Dilys Harlow of the Brecon Beacons Park Society – a partner in the geopark.
- Completion of the The Romans in Carmarthenshire project a partnership between National Trust Wales (lead body), Carmarthenshire County Council and Brecon Beacons National Park Authority with the production of a mobile phone App showing a reconstruction of the Y Pigwn Roman marching camps in the geopark.
- Completion of the The CALCH Project: A project involving the geopark partners Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Black Mountain Centre with the National Museum of Wales resulted in the development of new trails and interpretive signs in the geopark which were inaugurated by a Welsh Government Minister in August 2014.
- The discovery of the first record of Bronze Age rock art in the geopark by Alan Bowring, Geopark Development Officer in conjunction with the National Trust

## Sustainable economic development

 The geopark is working with the community centres and local businesses in Abercrave, Ystrad Owen, Penderyn and Brynaman to boost visitor numbers by increasing the offer of facilities.

#### **Tourism activities**

 A significant engagement with tourism, through the activities of the Tourism Team which includes the Geopark Development Officer. Key tourism stakeholders are engaged through the Sustainable Tourism Partnerships. Communication with tourism businesses involves a bi-annual newsletter, training programmes, locality based clusters and the Ambassador Scheme for local businesses.

## **Conservation (geoconservation) Strategy**

 Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS): The publication of the RIGS audit for southeast Wales resulted in the recent establishment of a voluntary sector RIGS Group in which the geopark is a key catalyst. The RIGS Group is in the process of initiating a conservation and interpretation strategy for major geological sites within the geopark.

# **Promotion and Visibility:**

- Publication of the biannual Fforest Fawr Geopark Newsletter.
- Continual development of Fforest Fawr Geopark website.
- The Fforest Fawr Geopark Festival represents the geopark's contribution to EGN Week.
- Publication of the new Ridge and River Trail leaflet for the Cribarth.
- New geopark's corners at Abercrave Post Office/cafe and Ystradowen Community Centre.
- New interpretive panels and a sales area in the BBNPA Mountain Centre
- New stone benches and interpretive panels at Garn Goch Iron Age Hill Fort
- Developing a new geoparks corner in the Penderyn Community Centre.
- Training for tourism businesses within and around the margins of the geopark
- Training for taxi drivers about the landscape of the geopark and National Park

## The Geopark and the Media:

- Weatherman Walking. A popular television series included a feature involving a walk in the Carreg Cennen Castle area was broadcast by BBC Wales during the summer.
- The BBC Open Country radio broadcast in April 2014 focused on the Waterfall Country.
- Discovering the hidden history of the limestone quarries and lime kilns of the Black Mountain broadcast on BBC Radio Wales in August 2014

# New Research Projects in the Geopark with Cardiff University a geopark partner

- Investigating the sediment DNA record and biodiversity patterns in the ancient lake and peat bog deposits from Traeth Mawr in the Fforest Fawr Geopark.
- Structural History of the Cribarth an anticline associated with the Swansea Valley Disturbance.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Representation on the EGN Advisory Committee
- Editing EGN Magazine 11
- Editing the second edition of the European Geoparks Book
- Evaluation of Erz der Alpen Geopark, Austria
- Chairing of a session at the 12th EGN Conference, Italy

#### **Contacts:**

Geologist: Julian Atkins <u>Julian.Atkins@beacons-npa.gov.u</u>k

Regional Development Expert: Tony Ramsay <u>Tonhel@btinternet.com</u>

## **GEOMON GEOPARK (ENGLAND)**

# Major achievements in 2014

- Conducted guided geotours with our nationally qualified guides and did 7 for charity with the enterprise agency, 8 for the geopark, 2 for the Bangor Science festival and 2 geological field weeks for societies.
- Our Chairman became seriously ill so his duties taken over by the Deputy Managing Director.
- Prepared and gave talks about the geopark and businesses with 4 businesses and the Anglesey Tourism Association.
- Completed and publishes 2 new educational leaflets on Anglesey soils (for schools and farmers) and the geology of Anglesey for the general public and geological students.
- Completed the 13 boards and trails, plus a rock trail and installation of tables and benches and held a launch in which 2000 people turned up.
- Writing a geology book on Anglesey to accompany the boards and new trails (13).
- Continuing research with prof. Brian Windley of Leicester and 2 professors from Tokyo with their teams.
- Worked with our artist in residence to hold an exhibition of his work and photographs in the Anglesey Art Gallery 'Oriel Ynys Mon'.
- Had articles in the EGN magazine, Cemaes Voice and Earth heritage.
- Partook in 3 national/international tourism fairs in London, Birmingham and Manchester.
- Exhibited in 2 County shows for 2 days each at Cheshire and Anglesey.
- Formed a partnership with A. Short to do GeoKayaking- that is very popular with schools and extending to the general public.
- Formed a partnership with RIBRIDE who take geo excusions by boat along the Menai Strait and working on doing this around Holyhead.
- Beginning partnership with Professor Bridget Emmett of CEH working on LUCI to identify tourism and local info to add to the prestigious land and hydrology app and info tool for identifying possibilities for development on Land and with hydrology.
- Worked with Plas Cadmnant to produce a board for their garden displays. Working with Halen Mon (Anglesey Sea Salt) to produce board for them.
- Working with AONB to set up a 'friends' group to help with events in the coastal AONB.
- Attended all County Council tourism meetings and Bangor Science festival.
- Wrote material for waterproof booklet for walkers in Snowdonia and Anglesey.
- Organised Geopark week with the Anglesey Outdoor activity festival.

#### Contacts:

Publications & Research Director: John Conway <u>john.conway@rau.ac.uk</u> Geologist & Managing Director: Margaret Wood <u>college@btinternet.com</u>

# HARZ . BRAUNSCHWEIGER LAND . OSTFALEN GEOPARK (GERMANY)



Field trip to the Brocken Mountain at the EGN-Meeting in Wernigerode

# Major achievements in 2014

- January: Presentation of the UNESCO world heritage "Upper Harz Water Supply" in Clausthal-Zellerfeld.
- January: Participation in the meeting of the German National Forum of European Geoparks in Osnabrück
- March: Opening of the special exhibition "Jurameer" in Braunschweig (SNH Museum of Braunschweig)
- March: Participation in the 33. EGN-CC-Meeting in Sobrarbe, Spain
- April: "World Heritage Earth Engagement for Diversity" a project day about Hettstedt's Mining history for pupils of the primary school in Hettstedt (UNESCOprojekt-School).
- April: Harzer Naturepark Award 2014 to the project "Drei Länder Ein Weg -Karstwanderweg
- May: Presentation of the new Geopoint at the clay pit Willershausen.
- September: Organization of the 34th European Global Geoparks Coordination Committee Meeting in Wernigerode and Koenigslutter.
- October: Palaeon in Schoeningen is presented as a new Geopark infocentre.

## Regular work

Geopark Management Board, Geopark Advisory committee and two Geopark offices

## **Contacts:**

Geologist & Manager: Henning Zellmer <u>h.zellmer@geopark-braunschweiger-land.de</u> Landscape & Nature Conservation Expert: Klaus George <u>rvh@harzregion.de</u>

# HATEG COUNTRY DINOSAURS GEOPARC (ROMANIA)



#### Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info center in Hateg;
- Four national and regional prizes for special achievements in partnership activities of geopark's team and volunteers (Volcanoes House and Water and Stone Trail);
- International exchanges of Geoaprk's volunteers
- Set up of EduGeopark Network. An educational network of schools, teachers, volunteers, kids clubs in order to support education, training, volunteering.
- Three new replicas of Hateg dinosaurs, four exhibitions and visiting points;

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Revalidation of the Geopark as an European/Global Geopark;
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe (ES) and in Vernigerode, (DE);
- EGN/GGN European promotion trip of *Magyarosaurus dacus*, a dinosaur replica made by the famous Canadian paleoartist Brian Collye, traveling from Belgium, Paris, Messel Pit (Bergstrasse-Odenwald Geopark), Bakony Balaton Geopark, Bucharest to Hateg Geopark;
- Common activities with Bakony Balaton Geopark (know how transfer)

#### Management structure and financial status

- New communication officer and new biologist;
- Secured budget and local sponsorships;

#### Strategic partnership

 National and regional partnership to develop the Hateg Country – Retezat ecotourism destination;

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Branding the geopark as a tourism destination
- New Identity Book (corporate identity approach)
- Publications to promote dinosaurs, geodiversity, new geotrails;
- More than 430 media reports (newspapers, TV, online media)

## **Contacts:**

Executive Director: Alexandru Andrasanu <u>mesajalex@yahoo.com</u>
Geologist: Dan Grigorescu <u>dangrig84@yahoo.com</u>

## **HAUTE PROVENCE GEOPARK (FRANCE)**

# Major achievements in 2014

- New structuration plan for the Geopark (creation of a new institutional public management Geopark structure, transfer of the Geopark team from a private to a public structure, involvement of new political management team, etc.)
- Celebration the European Geopark Week

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Revalidation of the Jeju Geopark (Korea). Validation mission for the Dali Geopark (China)
- Support mission to Dong Van Geopark (Vietnam-May 2014)
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Paris and in National Park of the Cilento and Vallo di Diano (Italy)
- Participation in the Stonehammer meeting (Canada)
- Participation in the Messel workshop (Germany, February 2014)
- Participation in the opening ceremony of the New Peking Man Museum (Fangshan Geopark China)
- Representation of GGN inside the MGOUN Geopark opening ceremony (Maruecco-December 2014)
- Reception of the Indonesian Ambassador in UNESCO and delegation
- Official constitution and declaration of GGN association

# Management structure and financial status

- New Geopark structure and activities plan.
- All the geopark activities transferred from a private statute to a public statute

## Strategic partnership

- Official partnership visit with Geopark political head in China for the creation of a formal partnership with Fangshan Geopark
- Opening discussion for a technical support partnership with Mgoun Geopark
- Support and partnership with Ngorongoro Aspiring Geopark (Tanzania)

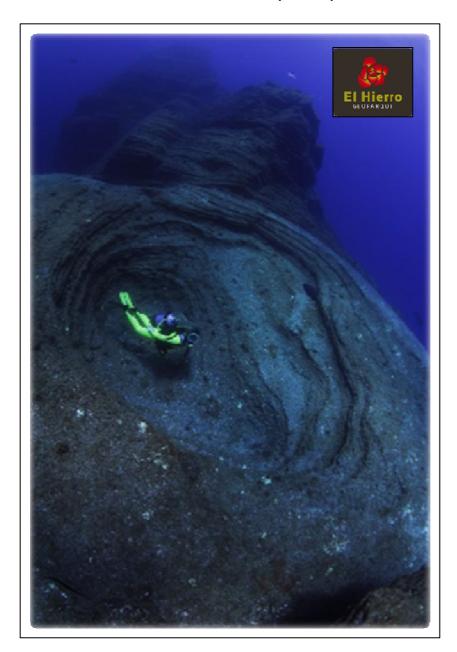
#### Marketing and promotional activities

- Base of conception of a new Geopark website (open in 2015)
- Conception of new Geopark leaflet and promotional material (Edition in 2015)
- Participation in different local fair to promote the Geopark

#### Contacts:

Director: Guy Martini <u>rghp.guymartini@hotmail.com</u> Political Leader: Patricia Granet <u>granet.maire@dignelesbains.fr</u>

# **HIERRO GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



## Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of the new Geological and El Hierro Geopark Visitor Center Dec.2014
- Inauguration of the first for visiting volcano tube in Guinea Ecomuseum
- Geolodía (popular geological field trip) in collaboration with Spanish Geological Service, IGME. May 2014

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- The 12th European Geoparks Conference at Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark
- Oral Presentation El Hierro Free WiFi Island
- 6th International Unesco Conference on Global Geoparks at Stone Hammer Geopark
- Oral Presentation Hydrowind power plant
- Article for publication in EGN MAGAZINE 12, 2015 Title: The island of 1,000 volcanoes. The first Geopark in the Canary Archipelago

- Spanish Geoparks I Congress at Villuercas Ibores Jara Geopark O. Presentation: El Hierro Geopark
- Workshop Volcanic GPK in islands Azores.
- Oral Presentation: El Hierro Geopark, Volcanoes, Sports Adventure oct-nov 2014

## Management structure and financial status

- Financing frame into the island government (Cabildo de El Hierro) budget
- Joint venture with Service Enterprise Meridiano, SAU, Gorona del Viento, hydro wind energy industry, with Atlantidea, tour hiking enterprise.

## Strategic partnership

- Discussions of a cooperation agreement with the partner Geopark Azores
- Discussions with association with IGN about collaboration in future, Las Palmas University

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Organization and management of Open Fotosub, International Submarine Foto Conquest, promoting the El Hierro Geopark submarine geosites, fauna and flora.
- Promoting action "El Hierro en Madrid". Promotional stand for general public in Mercado de SanAnton. Oral Presentation "Volcán de El Hierro" in The National Geographic Store in Madrid. Mar 2014
- Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs, WORLD TRAVEL MARKET (London, Nov 2014, CMT Stuttgart, Germany Jan 2015, FITUR (Madrid, January 2015), VAKANTIBEURS (Utrecht, Holland, January 2015), NAVARTUR (Pamplona, February 2015), ITB (Berlin Germany, March 2015), SEVATUR (San Sebastian, March 2015).
- Collaboration on adventure sports events in El Hierro, Magma Bike, "Travesía Mar de Las Calmas swimming over volcanoes" (open swimming competition), International meeting of Paraglide El Hierro, Gastronomy routes GeoTapa promoting local products

#### Contacts:

Manager Director:Verónica Monterovmontero@el-hierro.orgScientific Coordinator:Jose Medinajmedina@el-hierro.orgGeologist:Joan Pochjoan.poch@gmail.comTourist Coordinator:Olga Molesomoles@el-hierro.org

## **HONDSRUG GEOPARK (NETHERLANDS)**



Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info center for nature in Anloo in 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info centre for Nature in Anloo
- Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info centre for Water In Midlaren

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN and GGN

- Starting the process of forming a national forum in The Netherlands
- Participation in the GGN meeting in New Brunswick, Canada.
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe and the Harz.

#### Management structure and financial status

- At first we had some problems with the local council of Coevorden about the funding.
   We are very pleased to say that the local council of Coevorden have decided to continue the funding.
- 2014 was the last year of the project funding and the first year of structural funding of the Foundation Geopark the Hondsrug.

## Strategic partnership

 The scientific committee, which consists of various scientists, has composed a scientific database in which we can find all the researches which have taken place in the area. Linked to this is a scientific agenda. In this we can find all the research the various scientists are planning to execute in the coming years.

- We are constantly trying to recruit new partners. At this moment we can boast 140
  partners of which the majority consists of entrepreneurs that embrace the ideas of the
  Geopark.
- Due to extensive contact with us, the local council of Haren are very keen to take part in the Geopark concept.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- In cooperation with the leading tourist organisation in our area we have presented the Geopark for the period of 6 months at the 'Gartenschau' in the town of Papenburg in Germany.
- Geopark de Hondsrug has been brought to the attention of many viewers of the national television programme 'Hello Holland'.
- In cooperation with the Terra Vita Geopark and the Stenden University which is situated in the area, we have developed the Geopark Expedition. German and Dutch families have had the opportunity to be introduced to the two Geoparks in an adventurous way. The interaction between two countries and cultures has been a fascinating result of the expedition.
- Release of Dutch versions of the new booklets written about the topics of: Artists on the Hondsrug, Nature, Woodlands, Water and Traces of War. German and English versions of Peat, Prehistory and Ice age were also published.

#### **Contacts:**

Manager: CathrienPosthumus c.posthumus@geoparkdehondsrug.nl

Earth Scientist: Gretha Roelfs g.Roelfs@drenthe.nl

## **IDRIJA GEOPARK (SLOVENIA)**



The Idrija Geopark School network day in 2014

#### Major achievements in 2014

- Closure of the process of trademark and logo Idrija Geopark protection, May 2014.
- Inauguration of the geosite about the Idrija Fault at the old school building in Kanomlja, May 2014
- Celebration the European Geopark Week, 15th May- 4th June 2014
- Organising and coordinating the expert thematic fieldtrip programme in Geopark Idrija within the framework of the EUGEN 2014 (European Geoscience student network) international summer meeting, August 2014
- Organising the two-day international event »Geoparks and marketing« (workshop and fieldtrip), October 2014
- Organising inter-school themed day of all School Network members within Geopark Idrija, November 2014
- Establishment of National forum on Global Geoparks in Slovenia, December 2014
- Creating curriculum for 4. and 5. grade of primary school in the area of Rake routes

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the 33rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark - Spain, March 2014.
- Participation in the 6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer Geopark, Saint John, New Brunswick – Canada, September 2014

## Management structure and financial status

- Ex-acting director Sanja Marija Pellis became a new director of Idrija Heritage Centre, management body of Geopark Idrija
- New staff: Jaka Kenk became a new Geopark Adviser, responsible for organisation and legal matters
- Amending municipality budget leads to decrease in the budget (we are applying for EU funds to make up a deficit and get additional financial sources)

# Strategic partnership

- Exchange within the project HOMAI (within the framework of the UNESCO destination Idrija / Almaden), June 2014.
- Signing of Agreement Declaration with Municipality of Almaden, Spain, June 2014

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation and presentation of Geopark Idrija in workshop "Geopark in Karst" in aspiring Geopark Kras/Carso, Opčine/Opicina – ITALY, January 2014
- Publishing news in the media (siol.net, Spirit Slovenia), in the newspapers (Nedeljski dnevnik, Obzorja, Primorske novice) on the website and Facebook, March-September 2014.
- Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 11, March 2014.
- An oral presentation of the Geopark's programs to headmasters and teachers of primary schools (European cultural heritage days), April 2014.
- Participation in the Interbike, iCON workshop, Idrija, April 2014.
- An oral presentation of the Geoparks programs to headmasters and teachers of primary schools (European cultural heritage days), April 2014.
- Making new geopark product "Geruš" an old miners' drink with geopark partners Hiša zelišč (House of herbs) and Idrija mercury mine, May 2014
- Reprint Geopark Idrija Map presentation: "Experience the natural and cultural heritage" (Slovenian and English version), November 2014
- Geopark Idrija gift and sales program
- Reproduction of the Regional Park Upper Idrijca and Vojsko brochures
- Participation in tourism fairs with Turist information centre Idrija (Utrecht; Alpe-Adria: Tourism and Leisure Show, Ljubljana; Wien; FITUR Madrid; Vakantiesalon - Brussels Holiday Fair; Holiday World Prague; Expomego Gorizia; SIW 2014; Natour Goriška brda; WTM London)

#### Contacts:

Director: Sanja Marija Pellis <u>sanja-marija.pellis@visit-idrija.si</u>

Geologist: Bojan Režun <u>bojan.rezun@gmail.com</u> Geopark Officer: Jaka Kenk <u>jaka.kenk@visit-idrija.si</u>

## **KATLA GEOPARK (ICELAND)**



One of about 40 information panels installed on geosites in Katla Geopark in 2013-2014

## Major achievements in 2014

- Completion of the two year EU IPA project Katla Geopark: Regional development for the Eyjafjallajökull area involving upgrading the infrastructure and facilities for 24 geosites, a number of seminars and courses, educational and promotional material and a management plan.
- Graduation of 22 Katla Geopark Local Guides during the European Geopark Week

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe, Spain and Harz, Germany
- Participation in UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference in St. John, Canada.
- Presentation on Intangible cultural heritage at the Conference in St. John
- An article on Katla Geopark in EGN Magazine no. 11

## Management structure and financial status

A new management plan adopted

#### Strategic partnership

 Two year Erasmus+ project started on Geo education with partners in Poland, Portugal and Croatia.

#### Marketing and promotional activities

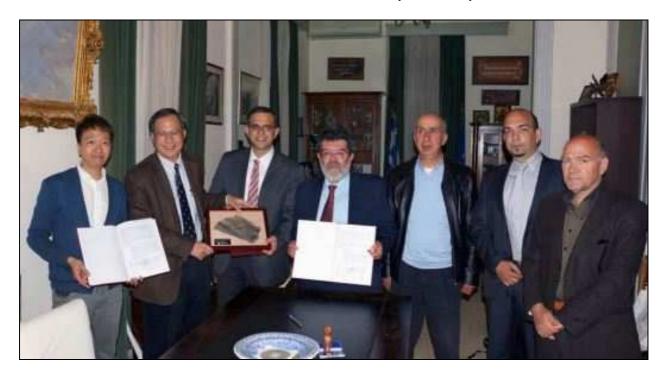
Participation in various national tourist fairs via the South Iceland Marketing Office

#### Contacts:

Director: Brynja Davíðsdóttir <u>brynja@katlageopark.is</u>

EGN CC Member: Sigurður Sigursveinsson sigurdur@hfsu.is

# **LESVOS GEOPARK (GREECE)**



Signing of Sistering Arrangement between the Hong Kong Geopark and the Lesvos Geopark

## Major achievements in 2014

- Integration of the Lesvos Petrified Forest at the Tentative List of the UNESCO World Heritage Monuments
- Creation of LESVOS MUSEUMS NETWORK
- Celebration the European Geopark Week
- Celebration the GREEN CULTURAL ROOTS 2014 Special geotours and geoeducational programmes at Lesvos Geopark
- Organization of the exhibition "AEGEON Birth of an Archipelago" at NOESIS Science Center and Technology Museum in Thessaloniki and at Evgenidou Foundation in Athens

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Printing of European Geoparks Magazine (Issue 11)
- Participation at the Coordinative Committee meeting in Spain
- Participation in the Italian Forum Geoparks meeting in Italy
- Participation in meetings of the Working Group on Geoparks in Paris
- Special meeting of the UNESCO Geopark Office at Lesvos Geopark
- Participation in the 34th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in Hartz Braunswaiger Land Ostfalen Geopark in Germany
- Participation in the workshop organized by Vikos-Aoos Geopark "Geoparks and Geotourism: Present & Future" in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark in Greece
- Evaluation of the Lanzarote Geopark in Spain
- Management structure and financial status
- Implementation of a new financing EU programme "LESVOS GEOPARK Actions of labelling, digital promotion and projection"

## Strategic partnership

- Collaboration with Arouca, Beigua and North Pennines AONB Geoparks for the EU project «Lifelong Learning Programme, Leonardo da Vinci, partnerships»
- Signing of Sistering Arrangement between the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China and the Lesvos Geopark
- Signing of MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING with the Northeastern Research Institute of the Petrified Wood and the Mineral Resources Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University of Thailand
- Collaboration with the Hong Kong Global Geopark Volcano Discovery Centre Presentation of the Lepetymnos columnar lavas of Lesvos Geopark at the Hong Kong Global Geopark Volcano Discovery Centre
- Collaboration with the San'in Kaigan Geopark, University of Hyogo and University of Tottori - Working on Geopark issues, realisation of comparative research between San'in Kaigan Geopark and Lesvos Geopark in the sectors of protection and conservation, education, collaboration, promotion, creation of infrastructures and geotourism

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Promotion of Lesvos Geopark in Turkey during the event organized by the Chamber of Lesvos – Working meeting with the delegation of the Chamber of Aivaly Turkey
- Promotion of Lesvos Geopark during the Greek-Turkey Forum organized by the Lesvos Chamber in Mytilene
- Promotion of Lesvos Geopark during the meeting «Lesvos Geopark UNESCO Sensitive Destination – Alternative Forms of Tourism and their Recognition» organized by the Lesvos Chamber, the Lesvos Hotel Union and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest
- Presentation of the Lesvos Geopark local products during the 15th Agritourism Festival
- Presentation of the educational activities that organized at Lesvos Geopark during the International Symposium "Geoparks and Education" in Tottori Japan organized by the San'in Kaigan Geopark and the University of Tottori

#### Contacts:

Director: Nickolas Zouros <u>nzour@aegean.gr</u>
Geologist: Ilias Valiakos <u>lesvospf@otenet.gr</u>

# **LUBERON GEOPARK (FRANCE)**



Climbing and discovery activity during the Geoparks week 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Formal launch of the smartphone and tablet application "Ochre by bike"
- Celebration the European Geopark Week (concert, movie, climbing...)
- Educational program concerning more than 4000 pupils
- Publication of a new Geotouristic map and equestrian guidebook

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation at the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain and Harz. Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen Geopark, Germany
- Leader cooperation project "Geotourism for sustainable development" with Arouca and Bauges Geoparks
- Evaluation of the M'Goun Geopark, Morocco

## **Management structure and financial status**

- Local election, change of elected people in the executive committee
- Evaluation and proposals for the new LEADER program

#### Strategic partnership

• Signing of a cooperation agreement with Luberon Geopark partners

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> forum on agricultural local production
- Training courses "Connaissance du Luberon"
- Organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on sustainable tourism in Luberon

#### Contacts:

Geopark Commission President: Gisèle Magne <u>magne93@hotmail.com</u> Geologist: Stéphane Legal <u>stephane.legal@parcduluberon.fr</u>

## **MADONIE GEOPARK (ITALY)**



From Earth to Universe: Madonie Astronomic Park under construction in 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Developed new projects for training courses under academic curricular apprenticeships and launched the new Serra Daino natural and geological path.
- Held 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Festival for children's literature, with laboratories for schools, exhibition, bookshop and Conference.
- The 4627 asteroid having a diameter of 11 km, discovered on September the 5<sup>th</sup> 1985 and orbiting between Jupiter and Mars, is now called "Pino Mogavero" to pay homage to the Madonie Geopark councillor and Isnello town mayor able to permit the Madonie Astronomic Park construction which works will be complete next spring.
- Celebration of the European Geopark Week, Earth Week, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Madonie Park established on November 9<sup>th</sup> 1989, European Clean-Up Week, 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference under annual "Let's colour our Future", Exhibition "A summer of art – A different route of Madonie Geopark", Environmental Education and Eco-Sport Day.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Oral presentation "EGN, GGN and Italian Forum of Geoparks: a guide to join EGN, revalidation procedure, networking" at Conference in Cabernardi old mining village of Sassoferrato municipality in Ancona region, middle Italy.
- Publishing two articles in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue No 11 / 2014
- Participation to the 33<sup>rd</sup> EGN CC meeting held on March in the Sobrarbe Geopark and the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN CC meeting held on September in the Hartz Geopark.

- Participation on June to the 6<sup>th</sup> Workshop of Italian Geoparks held in the Apuan Alps Geopark.
- Participation to the evaluation procedure of Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark in Portugal and revalidation of the Lushan Global Geopark in China.

# Management structure and financial status

- New health centre with an operating room services and new services offered at the doghouse, built by Madonie Park Authority, considered one of the most up-to-date and functional of Italy.
- Change in staff on December: five workers of key staff, involved with an inappropriate order of transfer to work in Palermo, would have a significant negative impact on the operations and viability of Madonie Geopark risking expulsion from EGN/GGN.

# Strategic partnership

- Signing in Mudanjiang, China, a Sister Park agreement between Madonie and Jingpohu Global Geoparks to further GGN's plans till 2019.
- Signing new cooperation agreements with a local association to promote fruition of the salt mine and linked museum.
- Organizing of a meeting in Rocca di Cerere Geopark, in the frame of the World Academy of Arts & Science projects under Mediterranean Initiative programme, to build interconnections between Universities and Geoparks.
- Partnership with local schools under Comenius Multilateral project "Geological heritage of outlying European Regions in a perspective of education for sustainable development".

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Guiding a school delegation in the Novohrad-Novograd Geopark, Hungary.
- Guide to a Chinese delegation coming from Mount Taishan Global Geopark and China University of Geosciences in Beijing.
- Visit of the Xingwen and Zigong Global Geoparks in China to share experiences on Geoparks management and activities.
- "Work opportunities and future views about Sicilian Geoparks", exposed at the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference organized by the Sicilian Order of Geologists.
- Conference based on the experience of the European project "Proforbiomed" to promote activities and the use of forestry biomass in Mediterranean environment.

## **Contacts:**

President: Angelo Pizzuto <u>angelopizzuto68@gmail.com</u>
Geologist: Pasquale Li Puma <u>entepa10@parcomadonie.191.it</u>

## **MAESTRAZGO CULTURAL PARK (SPAIN)**



New Maestrazgo Geopark fossils display in Dinópolis-Teruel (178.050 visitors in 2014)

## Major achievements in 2014

- Celebration of the Feasts of Winter in the Maestrazgo Cultural Park, around the fire. January 2014.
- Viewpoints Network: new geological panels in viewpoints of Aliaga, Cañizar del Olivar, and launching of 2 new trails. January 2014.
- VIIth edition of the biking meeting Marcha Cicloturista Geoparque del Maestrazgo (500 cyclers). May 2014. http://www.ccalcorisa.es/marcha-cicloturista/
- Viewpoints Network: new geological panels in viewpoints of Molinos, Aguaviva, Bordón and Alcorisa. June 2014
- Scientific papers on Geopark-Geoparks fossils published in Enseñanza de las Ciencias de la Tierra, Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, XXX Jornadas de Paleontología de la Sociedad Española de Paleontología, Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, Historical Biology.
- 3D scanning project of rock shelters with prehistoric paintings. February 2014.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Celebration of the European Geoparks (9 days) with activities in several villages of the Geopark. June 2014.
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Bielsa (Spain) and in Wernigerode (Germany).

- Participation in the I Workshop of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee in Guadalupe, Geoparque de Villuercas-Ibores-Jara, October 2014.
- Evaluation missions in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark, Italy (25-28 June) and Tumbler Ridge Aspiring Geopark, British Columbia, Canada (5-10 June).
- Coordination of the book: Wonders of ancient life. Fossils form European Geoparks.

## Management structure and financial status

Meeting of the Board of the Cultural Park. Crivillén, May 20, 2014.

# Strategic partnership

- Participation in a workshop organized by Comarca del Bajo Aragón. April 2014
- Signing of a cooperation agreement with the Alcorisa Cyclist Club to organise VII Marcha Cicloturista Geoparque del Maestrazgo. http://www.ccalcorisa.es/marcha-cicloturista/
- Discussions with the association of stone and earth industries about future collaborations.

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation in GGN Newsletter, 2014, issue 1.
- Interviews concerning the Maestrazgo Geopark's activities in the following radio stations: SER, COPE, Onda Cero, Aragón Radio.
- Third Edition of the drawing and painting competition: "What is a Geopark for you? (2014)" open to primary school children.
- Conferences dealing with Geoparks in Teruel (March), Basque Coast (May), Sobrarbe (June), Guadalupe (October), Ejulve (October), and Madrid (November).
- Aragonia 2014 Award to Maestrazgo Geopark. December 2014.

#### **Contacts:**

Manager: Ångel Hernández <u>info@geoparquemaestrazgo.com</u> Geologist: Luis Alcalá <u>alcala@fundaciondinopolis.org</u>

## **MAGMA GEOPARK (NORWAY)**



Georoutes App Logo

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.locatify.guide.geoparks https://itunes.apple.com/bb/app/global-georoutes/id905305741?mt=8

## Major achievements in 2014

- Positive EGN/GGN Evaluation mission in Magma Geopark
- Launch of the Global Geroutes App as a delivery from the GEO2NOR project
- Win a grant from KreaNord (Norden): GEOfood.- local food Geopark menus and products

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Spain and to the EGN-GGN Global Conference in Stonehammer- Canada
- Contribution to the EGN magazines.
- Participation at the ITB Geopark's stands, Berlin.

# Management structure and financial status

- New half- time employee: GEOfood responsible at local level and marketing expert.
- Several MGP guides involved in the guide tours during the summer
- Got a National grant: Added Value for developing MGP marketing strategy focus on tourist packages and new offer ("Visit mine" and local menus through the GEOfood project).

## Strategic partnership

- Cooperation agreement with Magma Geopark, Shetland Geopark and Locatify private Company for the GEORoutes App
- Cooperation with Odsherred Geopark, Rokua Geopark and Reykjanes Geopark project in GEOfood.
- Cooperation agreement with the Geological Survey of Norway creating a national Geopark and geoheritage network.

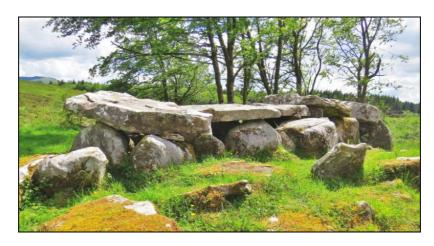
# Marketing and promotional activities

- Presentation of the GEORoutes App at the ITB in Berlin.
- Presentation of the GEORoutes App and Geofood project at the Stonehammer Geopark Conference.
- Posted several offers on the Regional destination companies' homepage.
- Magma Geopark Facebok page got 1000 members.

#### **Contacts:**

Executive Director: Pål Thjømøe <u>post@magmageoaprk.com</u> Project Manager: Sara Gentilini <u>sara@magmageopark.com</u>

# MARBLE ARCH CAVES GLOBAL GEOPARK (NORTHERN IRELAND (UK) & IRELAND)



The Giant's Leap wedge tomb in the Cavan Burren Park

# Major achievements in 2014

- Opening of Cavan Burren Park with an interpretive centre and network of paths. This was facilitated by €1,000,000 from the EU (INTERREG IVA).
- Installation of a new exhibition in the visitor centre at Marble Arch Caves using funding provided under the EU's INTERREG IVA programme.
- Work on a 2km long boardwalk across the environmentally sensitive Cuilcagh Mountain. (€250,000 funded under INTERREG IVA).

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Two geopark inspection missions were carried out: Odsherred Global Geopark in Denmark and Basque Coast in Spain.
- Participation in EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain and Harz Braunschweiger Land, Germany and the GGN Conference in Stonehammer Geopark, Canada.
- Hosting of the Irish Geoparks Forum annual seminar and participation in the UK Geoparks Forum annual meeting.

#### Management structure and financial status

No significant changes in 2014

#### Strategic partnership

• Discussions with the Organisation of Biological Field stations regarding opening of such a station in the Geopark

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Adoption of new Geopark brand guidelines for all publications.
- Production of new Geopark DVD and launch of updated Geopark website

#### Contacts:

Geopark Manager: Richard Watson <u>richard.watson@fermanagh.gov.uk</u>

Geologist: Kirstin Lemon <u>kirstin.lemon@detini.gov.uk</u>

# MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK (FRANCE)



Interpretative speleo-trail

## **Major achievements**

- Writing of the Geopark's strategy and actions plan for 2015-2020
- Opening of an interpretative speleo-trail on karst and caves
- Elaboration of a tourism observatory, choice of indicators, summer survey attendance, counters installation

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation to the 33<sup>rd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> EGN coordination committees
- Participation to the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, Stonehammer Geopark
- Conference on the Geopark project in Altaï Republic, Russia. International Mountain Festival, Chambéry, November. Welcoming of a delegation and young laureates of the environmental contest "Altaï-Massif des Bauges"

## Management structure and financial status

- Welcoming of the new Geopark elected representatives following French local election, new executive board and President, Philippe GAMEN
- Several applications for multi-years financial programs (Leader, agriculture, pastoralism, tourism development)
- Recruitment of a new geo-heritage manager

## **Conservation (geoconservation) strategy**

Implementation of an environmental master plan for vertical outdoors activities.
 Installation of information panels on the climbing sites (practice and environmental information), practices leaflet on heritage and environmental issues.



Information panels on climbing sites.

# Strategic partnership

• 1<sup>st</sup> "Bauges-Beaufortain" geological inventory

## Marketing and promotional activities

Geopark educational tour for B&B and hotels operators

#### Sustainable economic development

- Implementation of an agro-environmental program inside the Common Agricultural Policy 2015-2020
- Implementation of a national project on positive energy balance territory between the Geopark and his gate-towns, Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy

#### Contacts:

Agronomist & Deputy Manager: Jean-Luc Desbois <u>jl.desbois@parcdesbauges.com</u> Honour President: André GUERRAZ <u>andreguerraz@yahoo.fr</u>

# **MUSKAU ARCH GEOPARK (GERMANY, POLAND)**



Erection of two brown motorway signs on the motorway / Autobahn A15

#### Major achievements in 2014

- Extension of the geopark partnership with the big major county town Weißwasser/O.L. and celebrating the contract signing with the current partner
- Application for two additional projects for further development of the Geopark especially in the Saxon part of the Geopark and in cross-border environmental education
- Celebrating the Geopark days in Muskau arch and celebrating the European Geopark Week with different offers for guests and schools
- Carrying out the first International Geopark Camp
- Erection of two brown motorway signs on the motorway A15 and erection of six big entrance panels with a size 3.20m x 1.60m at the entrance gates
- Education of 11 new Geopark guides and celebrating the recognition

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

 Carrying out the first International Geopark Camp "Art meets geology" with the Hungarian Geopark Bakony-Balaton, the Bohemian Paradise Geopark and Polish partner of the own German-Polish Geopark and different craftsmen to connect craft, traditional using of Muskau Arch raw materials and youth art within eight days programme

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark (Spain) and in Harz.braunschweigerland.Ostfalen Geopark (Germany)
- Preparation a common education project with the Slovakian-Hungarian geopark Novohrád-Nograd Geopark and the Bohemian Paradise Geopark to create a frame for future geopark guides educations
- Carrying out an exchange of experiences and fieldtrip with the Slovakian-Hungarian Geopark Novohrád-Nograd concerning the common work in cross-border geoparks

## Management structure and financial status

- Extension the regional geopark network with recruiting of a new supporting partner Energy Region Lusatia – Spreewald (ELS) to widening the core financing
- Completion to the geopark staff: Krzysztof Czahajda (PL) start with his work in the office to complete the staff team of Geopark Muskau Arch

# Strategic partnership

• Initiating the collaboration and undersigning the co-operation with the confederation of enterprises in mineral building materials

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation on Reisemarkt Dresden (tourism fair), ITB Berlin (the world biggest international tourism fair) and on toursalon Poznan 2014, the biggest tourism fair in Poland
- First edition of an English version of the geo-touristic map "Geopark Muskau Arch"
- Publication of the first children brochure in polish and German (spring-summer edition 2014) and of the second children brochure edition (autumn-winter edition 2014/2015)
- Ceremonial opening of the new viewing tower as a part of the geotouristic path "Old mine Babina" in Łęknica, Poland, added to the path as new highlight in 2013/ 2014
- Geopark presentation of the "Day of Brandenburg 2014", the largest peoples fair in the federal state of Brandenburg

#### Sustainable economic development

• Close and presentation of the common tourism path concept "Three countries geopark route" with students of the Zittau-Görlitz University in preparation for the next big common German-Polish infrastructure project in Geopark Muskau Arch

#### Contacts:

Head of office, geologist: Nancy Sauer <a href="mailto:info@muskauer-faltenbogen.de">info@muskauer-faltenbogen.de</a>
Office team: <a href="mailto:info@muskauer-faltenbogen.de">info@muskauer-faltenbogen.de</a>

# **NATURTEJO GEOPARK (PORTUGAL)**



The new protected area of Gardunha mountain enabled to manage a new adventure tourism area in the Geopark, with 380km of marked trails

#### Major achievements in 2014

- Inventory of the geological heritage and implementing an action plan for the expansion of the Geopark to include Penamacor
- Newly Protected Landscape of Gardunha Mountain with 10 new hiking trails and 130km, 250km of bike trails and two new bike centers at the villages of Louriçal do Campo and Sarzedas
- Fast growing number of quality guesthouses in the Geopark
- Bikotel project to connect bike-friendly hotels by a network of MTB tracks
- Monsanto inselberg geomonument voted the best orienteering track in the world for 2014 250,000 visitors, 100,000 overnight stays

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Coordination of the Geopark booth at ITB and FITUR international tourism trade shows
- Revalidation missions conducted in North Pennines and Funiunshan Global Geoparks
- Translation to Portuguese of the EGN website and GGN leaflet

## Management structure and financial status

• First Naturtejo Geopark participative Working Plan

# Strategic partnership

- Active role with Tianzhushan Global Geopark of China, including international project for the interpretation of the geological
- Exchange of personnel and know-how transfer to Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark project

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation in International Tourism Fairs: FITUR Madrid, ITB Berlin, FIO Birdwatching (Spain) and Paris Expo Porte de Versailles
- Support in the organization of 40 festivals and events related with the promotion and selling of local products and divulgation of local culture that attracted more than 100,000 visitors
- Organization and participation in 20 technical and scientific seminars
- Publication of 30 scientific papers/technical reports
- 13 news in the TV, 198 news in the newspapers
- Direct selling of 28 tour packs for 733 tourists and 60 educational programs for 3306 students and teachers

#### **Contacts:**

President: Armindo Jacinto <u>armindo.palma@netvisao.pt</u>
Scientific Coordinator: Carlos Neto de Carvalho <u>carlos.praedichnia@gmail.com</u>

## NORTH PENNINES GEOPARK (UNITED KINGDOM)



Participants in Leonardo da Vinci GeoEducation in Action meeting at Harehope Quarry

## Major achievements in 2014

- First evidence found of prehistoric copper prospecting through archaeological investigation carried out by volunteers under supervision of professional archaeologists
- Major dry-stone traditional shelter on Pennine Way National Trail restored by Geopark walling trainees

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrabe (Spain) and in Harz-Braunschweigerland -Ostfalen (Germany)
- Participation in Leonardo da Vinci GeoEducation in Action meetings in Beigua Geopark (March 2014) and organization of similar meeting in North Pennines (November 2014)
- Revalidation of North Pennines Geopark

# Management structure and financial status

- Restructuring of Geopark work with greater support of Geopark Advisory Group and external earth scientists
- Funding received to support Geopark work but not staffing

## Strategic partnership

Meeting of UK Geopark Forum meeting in Geopark Shetland

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Two sites in North Pennines selected in 100 Great Geosites in UK by National Geological Society
- Completion of new geotrail featuring both High Force and Low Force waterfalls
- Production of national TV programme celebrating anniversary of major walking trail

#### Contacts:

Director: Chris Woodley-Stewart chris@northpenninesaonb.org.uk
Deputy Director: Peter Samsom peter@northpenninesaonb.org.uk

## NORTH WEST HIGHLANDS GEOPARK (UNITED KINGDOM)



August: Dr K M Yeung, Hong Kong Global Geopark, gives superb talk on promotion

## Major achievements in 2014

- Lease agreed for pilot geocentre at Glencoul with Assynt Community Council;
- New Business Plan completed on time with raw adventure tours/talks agreed;
- And fundraised ¼ annual budget from Oil and Gas UK and Renewables.

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN: attending

- 3 day UK Global Geopark Conference in Geopark Shetland with UNESCO officer;
- GGN Conference in Stonehammer Global Geopark, signing 6 nation joint project;
- EGN meeting in Sobrarbe; visit from aspiring Golden Geopark in Lapland.

#### **Management structure and financial status**

- Board re-elected en bloc by membership at 3rd AGM; another Community Director coopted to the board, making 6 communities; Government funding extended to Mar 2016 with review April 2015; agreed to seek charitable status;
- 3 more staff (2 FTE) commence interpretation, business and marketing duties.

## Strategic partnership

- Renewing Partnership agreement with local authority, Highland Council;
- Working with Scottish Government's plan for Scottish Geoparks Partnerships:
- Joining Coigach and Assynt Living Landscape Partnership with Wildlife Trust;

#### Marketing and promotional activities

- Scottish Geoparks Roadshow at Scottish Parliament with Minister and MSPs;
- Release of 1<sup>st</sup> Pebble Route leaflet; regular newsletters, membership rocketing;
- Re-launch of the new website: some bilingual and donation button.

#### **Contacts:**

Chairman of Board of Directors: George Farlow <a href="mailto:george.farlow.cllr@highland.gov.uk">george.farlow.cllr@highland.gov.uk</a>
Geologist: Peter Harrison: <a href="mailto:pete@nwhgeopark.com">pete@nwhgeopark.com</a>

# ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK (AUSTRIA)



1st International Symposium "European Copper Road" in Bischofshofen

# Major achievements in 2014

- Participation of Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager), Horst Ibetsberger (Geo-scientist), Markus Häupl (Physical Geography) and Kathrin Haas (student trainee) on 18<sup>th</sup> International Annual Conference of the section GeoTop of DGG in St. Gallen (Geopark Eisenwurzen), May 22-25, 2014 with a presentation of the lecture "Eine grenzüberschreitende Kooperation: Geopark Erz der Alpen / Bischofshofen und Eiszeitlandschaft Chiemgau / Siegsdorf", published in SDGG, 2014, 84, p 55-59.
- 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium "European Copper Road" in Bischofshofen. The topic of the meeting was to reconstruct the prehistoric trading routes of copper in Central Europe, October 9-10, 2014.
- Participation of Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager), Horst Ibetsberger (Geo-scientist), Markus Häupl (Physical Geography) and Kathrin Haas (student trainee) at the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Gams, EGN/GGN Geopark Pyrhn Eisenwurzen, November 6, 2014.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- The Geopark Ore of the Alps has become a member of the EGN and GGN, September 2014.
- Participation of Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager) and Horst Ibetsberger (Geoscientist) on 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in St. John, CA (Stonehammer Geopark), September 19-22, 2014.
- Publishing an article "Copper so close to heavens" in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue.., November 2014.

#### **Management structure and financial status:**

• The management structure of the Geopark is the same as reported in the evaluation document. The financial status of the association "Ore of the Alps", which is similar to

the General Assembly Board was proven at the annual general meeting on December 11, 2014 and had been endorsed.

#### **Geopark visitor centre:**

- Finalisation of the construction of the Geopark visitor centre in Bischofshofen ski jumping area, November 2014.
- Planning of the exhibition "The Sky disc of Nebra" in the new visitor centre in Bischofshofen, November 2014 up to the opening April 23, 2014.

## **Educational programs:**

- Meeting of the tourism professionals of the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hüttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about the future of environmental (educational) programs, Dec. 11, 2014.
- Public presentation of environmental programs and programs for schools by Mr. Silbergasser, the responsible person in the Geopark, December 11, 2014
- Partnership contract between the Geopark Ore of the Alps and the University of Salzburg (Department of Geography and Geology) to initiate and support research projects and dissertations, December 2014.
- Children programs at the waterfall trail during the whole of December.

# Marketing and promotional activities:

- Several articles on the Geopark in the local, regional and national media
- Geo-Talk together with our Geopark Partner Siegsdorf / Bavaria about the exchange of special exhibitions, visitor centre in Bischofshofen and Nature Science and Mammoth museum Siegsdorf, October 9-10, 2014

## Sustainable economic development:

- Baking Bread with the Geopark brand at the old mill at Lehen
- Marketing of local Geopark products at farmer markets
- Creation of new jobs with the finalization of the visitor centre
- Creation of new jobs through environmental programs.

## **Contacts:**

Manager: Herwig Pichler <a href="herwigpichler1@gmail.com">herwigpichler1@gmail.com</a>
Geologist: Horst Ibetsberger <a href="herwigpichler1@gmail.com">horst.ibetsberger@geoglobe.at</a>



## PAPUK GEOPARK (CROATIA)



Trail for disabled people

# Major achievements in 2014

- The Papuk Geopark has continued its actions in 2014 improving the geological heritage conservation activities, continued the activities of education and geotourism development.
- In cooperation with "Association of Beekeepers Voćin" we successfully finished project "Honey Papuk" co-financed by the Ministry of Tourism. Through project we arranged honey tasting room in Voćin where local producers of honey can show and sell their products. For educational purposes we also established "Honey trail" with six interpretative panels. Area of Voćin is sufficiently isolated from urban areas which contribute to the exceptional quality of honey.
- We built the first trail in Papuk Geopark for people with disabilities. The trail has established in one of the most attractive place in Geopark Jankovac valley. Our wish was to make this nature gem more accessible to people who could not enjoy it before. The trail is 350 m long and it starts with wheelchair ramp, passes by two lakes and ends at the spring of Jankovac stream. On each lake pontoon is placed. Through some next projects there will be info panels in Braille placed for blind and visually impaired people.
- Common project with Gymnasium Požega "Gymnasium Ecological Laboratory" started
  to implement. Overall objective of this project is to enhance the Croatian Qualifications
  Framework by creating and implementing an interdisciplinary curriculum for gymnasium
  and fully establishing of system for monitoring environmental conditions. The role of
  Papuk Geopark is to provide services of its staff in organizing and conducting
  workshops about environmental monitoring and GIS, and organize field work in Papuk
  Geopark.

### Contacts:

Geopark Officer: Goran Radonic <u>kontakt@pp-papuk.hr</u>
Geopark Officer: Goran Pavic <u>goran\_pavic@yahoo.com</u>

# **PSILORITIS NATURAL PARK (GREECE)**



Image from the "Geocreating" exhibition at Heraklio in October 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Initiation of reconstructions for the New Visitors Centre of Geopark at Anogia
- Implementation of "Geoproducts", a transnational project with Cyprus
- Geocreating: Local art and products promotion at Heraklion

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Revalidation of the Fangshan Global Geopark of China
- Participation in the 33 EGN meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain
- Coordination of Hellenic Geoparks Forum

#### Management structure and financial status

New projects for the reconstruction of Anogia Visitor's Centre, Geopark promotion

### Strategic partnership

- Cooperation with Mountaineering clubs of Greece, support for the 74<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Mountaineering Meeting in Psiloritis Geopark
- Establishment of collaboration with local Market Shops for the development of Psiloritis Geopark, shopping card

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation in the Exhibition "Crete: Meet and learn" in Athens, March
- "Geocreating" exhibition in Heraklion, October www.geocreating.weebly.com
- Exchange activities with Troodos aspiring Geopark of Cyprus and promotion of Geoproducts (April 2014)

#### Contacts:

Executive Director: Dimitrios Patakos <u>dimpatakos@gmail.com</u>
Geologist: <u>Dimitrios Patakos</u> <u>dimpatakos@gmail.com</u>
<u>fassoulas@nhmc.uoc.gr</u>

# **ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK (ITALY)**



National tourist Bloggers in visit at the Goddess of Morgantina (pseudo-acrolith: naked parts in marble and body in limestone) inside the Archeological Museum of Aidone, during the Rural Pride Project (October 2014)

#### Major achievements in 2014

- 2014 was a particular year with commitments and activities oriented mainly to resolve and respond at the recommendations of the EGN CC to consolidate the RdC Geopark inside the Networks. In this way, we have working to improve our structure, develop new projects for the expansion, enhancement and promotion of the Rocca di Cerere Geopark and, of course, also the National Forum of Italian Geoparks and the EGN/GGN.
- Through the LEADER funds are been financed several projects to realize new facilities and services. In particular one new environmental educational and didactical centre in Villarosa town and the "Rocca di Cerere Factory" such as a new cultural interactive multimedial visitor centre in Aidone town. All the new facilities and services will be completed and operatives before the end of 2015.
- Continued the monitoring of European initiatives promoted by EU useful to develop common projects with the members of the EGN. In this way and for example, are been elaborated and presented two projects: a) "Rocca di Cerere Geopark: ideal destination for alternative naturalistic tourism", that includes the collaboration of several Geoparks at National (5) and European level (3) with the support of the Chief of Earth Sciences Section of UNESCO; b) "GEA Geotourism: an holistic approach for sustainable

development of rural areas and creation of green jobs", project under the EU COSME Work Programme 2014 that includes different European organizations and also one European & Global Geopark. Other proposals are currently being prepared.

- Implementation in "responsive design" for different formats (iPad, smartphone, tablet, etc..), updating and managing of the new Italian Geoparks website (www.geoparchitaliani.it) as a common instrument to promote and communicate the Italian Geoparks, National Forum and European and Global Geoparks Networks.
- The Rocca di Cerere Geopark during this year, has also consolidated the environmental education activities to the students of the primary and secondary schools. Finally, has developed new paths inside the protected natural areas.

### Contacts:

Manager: Francesco Chiaramonte <u>chiaramonte@roccadicerere.eu</u>

PR Expert & Economist: Salvatore Troìa s.tro@libero.it

## **ROKUA GEOPARK (FINLAND)**



Revalidation mission to Rokua Geopark included visiting the sites of Lake Oulujärvi combined with a presentation of the new Geopark cooperation company Atteson Fishing.

# Major achievements in 2014

 Opening of three new Geopark sites. The new sites are: Lemmenpolku trail, Kiloniemi bedrock site and an exhibition at Utajärvi Market place

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Rokua Geopark was revalidated in summer 2014 for the next four years.
- Participation to the EGN CC meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark and in the GeoPark Harz. Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen.
- Participation to the GGN Conference in Stonehammer Geopark, Canada.

### **Management structure and financial status**

• New financial and cooperation agreement was signed in 2014 for the years 2015-2018 securing the financing and operating of the Geopark.

### Strategic partnership

- Signing of a pre-cooperation agreements with two chinese Geoparks: Yandangshan Global Geopark and Qinling Zhongnanshan Global Geopark.
- Several local companies joined Rokua Geopark in 2014 for cooperation in marketing, promotion and increasing knowledge.

### Marketing and promotional activities

 Organizing the fourth Rokua Geopark Challenge Adventure race. The race gathered about 200 participants and was broadcasted several times as an hour long TV program in the Finnish TV channel 6.

#### Contacts:

Executive Director: Vesa Krökki vesa.krokki@humanpolis.fi

Geologist: Jari Nenonen jari.nenonen@gtk.fi

# **SARDINIA MINING GEOPARK (ITALY)**



Visit to the Paleontological Museum in Schöningen, September 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Celebration of the European Geopark Week, June 7-15, 2014
- Conference on Mining and mining law, legal history and local history. Cagliari and Iglesias 19-20 December 2014
- Workshop: Green Economy: Development opportunities in the industrial architecture of the Park, Iglesias November 27, 2014
- Organisation of the International Symposium on Georg Bornemann and traveling exhibition in the geopark sites, May 6-15, June 7, 2014.

# Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the 33<sup>th</sup> EGN meeting in Spain and 34<sup>th</sup> and EGN meeting in Germany
- Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks Canada, September 19–22, 2014

### **Management structure and financial status**

- Structure is governed by a special commissary, 1 director, 11 employes on permanent contracts.
- The structure has annual budget by the Italian Government.

# Strategic partnership

- Framework programme Agreement on the cooperation and coordination system between Autonomous Government of Sardinia, Consortium of the Geological and Mining Park of Sardinia, ATI IFRAS S.p.A.
- Resolution no. 34/10 of September 2, 2014 of the Autonomous Government of Sardinia extending the jurisdiction of the Sardinia Geopark to the whole isle territory.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Week of Earth Planet: Italy to discover the Geosciences. 12-19 october 2014: twentyseven geoevents in the whole Sardinia territory
- Promotion and enhancement of the Geological and Mining Park of Sardinia through the realization of cultural and environmental events, guided tours throughout the territory. Conferences in schools.
- New promotional videos of the Geological and Mining Park of Sardinia in the Airport of Cagliari-Elmas
- Organisation of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Mining Day events in Sardinia "6<sup>a</sup> Giornata Nazionale delle Miniere" May 24-25, 2014.

#### **Contacts:**

Extraordinary Commissioner: Gian Luigi Pillola <u>commissario@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it</u>

Delegate: Francesco Muntoni <u>francescomuntoni@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it</u>

## **SESIA VAL GRANDE GEOPARK (ITALY)**



The new GeoPark logo designed in 2014

## Major achievements in 2014

- New logo and new coordinated visual guideline
- Geopark new website www.sesesiavalgrandegeopark.it
- Celebration the European Geopark Week

# Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation at the 6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in STONEHAMMER
- Participation in the EGN meetings in SOBRARBE (Spain) and in HARZ BRAUNSCHWEIGER LAND OSTFALEN (Germany)
- Participation to the Italian National Forum in ROME

### **Management structure and financial status**

 New governance model under evaluation to strength both financial and management potential

### Strategic partnership

- Cooperation agreement with the partner Rokua Geopark for innovative geo-educational program
- New partnership with local association and municipalities: potential for geopark expansion and visibility enhancement
- Strategic agreement with Torino and Pisa University for the development of new research activity in 2015.

### Marketing and promotional activities

- Planning of activity connected to Milan EXPO 2015
- Release of a new child book "Casa Belli" and the second edition of the book about the Sesia Supervolcano.
- Release of the book about Val Grande Petroglyphs
- New gadgets and brochures
- Slow Food international congress: the wine and the supervolcano.

#### Contacts:

Coordinator: Edoardo Dellarole <u>presidente@sesiavalgrandegeopark.it</u>
Director: Tullio Bagnati <u>direttore@sesiavalgrandegeopark.it</u>

# SHETLAND GEOPARK (SCOTLAND)



Members of the UK Global Geoparks Forum on Norwick Beach, Unst. © Austin Taylor

## Major achievements of Geopark in 2014

- Worked with lead partner Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust (Northern Ireland), Magma Geopark (Norway), Stonehammer Geopark (Canada), Marble Arch Caves Geopark (Northern Ireland/Ireland), Reykjanes Aspiring Geopark, Saga aspiring Geopark and Katla Geopark (Iceland), and Kenozero National Park (Russia) to secure Northern Periphery Programme funding for the 3 year Drifting Apart Project. The Geological Surveys of Northern Ireland, Ireland and Norway and the Scottish Geodiversity Forum are Associate partners. Shetland is a joint partner with North West Highlands Geopark and aspiring Lochaber Geopark.
- Completed work on the photographic guide to Shetland's rocks in partnership with local author.
- Worked with North West Highlands and Lochaber Geoparks to secure funding for a one year graduate placement student to develop the social media capabilities of the Scottish Geoparks and connect with international tourist operators.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

Hosted the 2014 meeting of the UK Global Geoparks Forum (UKGGF) in May, attended by the Deputy Director within the Scottish Government's Environment and Forestry Directorate, representing the Scottish Minister for Environment and Climate Change. He said 'I was very pleased to attend the UK Global Geoparks Forum meeting and I congratulate Geopark Shetland for organising such an informative and enjoyable event. It was good to hear about the work of member and aspiring UK

- Geoparks and to witness first-hand the important links that Geopark Shetland has with the local community.'
- Helped develop and launch the Northern Georoutes tourism app in collaboration with Magma, Katla and Stonehammer Geoparks.
- Published an article on the completed HINT Project (Heritage Interpretation using New Technologies) with North Pennines AONB, Chablais Geoparks and Geopark de Hondsrug, in the journal of Earth Science and Engineering.
- Delivered workshops on Scottish Geology in three Canadian primary schools during the Global Geoparks Conference in New Brunswick.

# Management structure and financial status

 Developed the Geopark Shetland Business Plan 2015-2018, which has been submitted to the Scottish Government along with a request for continued financial support

## Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

• Developed a 5 year geosite monitoring plan for Shetland and a Geodiversity Indicator for the multi-agency Shetland Environment Team.

## Strategic partnership

- Chaired meetings of the Scottish Geoparks Partnership, which includes North West Highlands Geopark, aspiring Lochaber Geopark, the Scottish Government, Visit Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Geodiversity Forum.
- Endorsed new campaign 'Earth Science Education Scotland' which aims to improve the status of Earth Science within the Scottish school curriculum.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Worked with North West Highlands Geopark and aspiring Lochaber Geopark to secure a prominent presence for Scottish Geoparks alongside the National Parks on the national tourism website Visit Scotland.
- Organised a Scottish Geoparks Open Day at Our Dynamic Earth science centre in Edinburgh with North West Highlands Geopark and aspiring Lochaber Geopark, attended by the Scottish Minister for Environment and Climate Change.

### Sustainable economic development

- Hosted a 'Group Business' workshop in partnership with government agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise and national tourism body Visit Scotland to help local businesses learn about the process of developing package deals.
- Endorsed new local marine tourism business AboveWater / UnderWater Shetland

### **Contacts:**

Geologist: Robina Barton robina@shetlandamenity.org
Regional Development Expert: Alan Blain robina@shetlandamenity.org
alan@shetlandamenity.org

# SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA GEOPARK (SPAIN)



Inauguration of the interpretative exhibition
Information Point of Cerro del Hierro Natural Monument

# Major achievements in 2014

- Provision of the interpretative exhibition of the Information Point of Cerro del Hierro Natural Monument.
- Preparatory works for the declaration of a new Natural Monument: Cambrian Jellyfish Traces (in the municipality of Constantina).
- Construction projects and survey for generating new geotouristic paths in Cerro del Hierro Natural Monument.
- Review of the "Management Plan of Natural Resources" of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark; to enhance the protection of geological resources.
- Preparatory works of the interpretative exhibition at Visitor Center Cortijo El Berrocal, with installation of the large fossil trunk.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Spanish Geoparks Forum meeting (Sobrarbe G.): renewal of management positions.
- Secretariat works of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee (SNGC).
- 33rd Meeting of the Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network (Sobrarbe Geopark); 34th Meeting of the Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network (Harz Braunschweiger Ostfalen Geopark).
- Spanish National Geoparks Committee meeting (Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark).
- First Open Days of the SNGC; Guadalupe (Villuercas-Jara Geopark), 23 24 October.

# Strategic partnership

- V Meeting of the Environmental Volunteer Network of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park.
- 2nd Meeting of Sierra Norte Geopark Mining Group; Inventory of Geopark mines.
- VI Meeting of Environmental Volunteer Groups of Andalusia Natural Spaces.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Sierra Norte Geopark handmade products exhibition (Seville, May 29).
- Sustainable Development work day (Constantina, June 4).
- Geological Food day (Almaden de la Plata, December 14).
- XV International Congress of Geological and Mining Heritage (Logrosán, Caceres, 25th to 28th September).

### **Contacts:**

Geopark Director: Antonino Sanz Matencio <u>antonino.sanz@juntadeandalucia.es</u>

Geologist: Alberto Gil Toja <u>agil3@tragsa.es</u>

# SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK (SPAIN)



Geolo-day 2014-Córdoba: Urban route (Cabra) and visit to El Acebuchal quarries

# Major achievements in 2014

- App application of the geo-trail "El Río Bailón/ The Bailon River", included in *Andalusian Geoitineraries*.
- Celebration the II Course of Sierras Subbéticas Geopark for teachers; Design of the urban route Cabra, Jurassic City on the occasion of the celebration of the Geoloday-14 of the Córdoba province; III celebration of the provincial phase of the Earth Science Olympiad.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark (Spain) and in Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark (Germany).
- Collaboration in the European project GeoFOOD.
- Participation in the revalidation mission of Fangshan Global Geopark of China.

# Management structure and financial status

No significant changes in management structure or financial status during 2014.

# Strategic partnership

- Collaboration with the Council of Cabra to develop an exhibition of fossils and rocks, and with the council of Carcabuey, to update and improve its Museum.
- Collaboration with quarries enterprises to continue the restoration of the Geosite Los Lanchares Karren.
- Collaboration with the IGME and the University of Granada for the book: *Underground Water in the Natural Park Sierras Subbéticas*. *Hydrogeology and Natural Areas*.

### Marketing and promotional activities

- Release of a new version of the leaflet-map "Geology for all".
- Update of the Website of the Geopark "Ventana del Visitante": http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/servtc5/ventana/mostrarFicha.do?idEspacio=7414

#### Contacts:

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Geologist: Alicia Serna aserna@tragsa.es

# **SOBRARBE GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



Ceremony of the Felix de Azara Awards

# Major achievements of geopark in 2014

- The Geopark received the Félix de Azara Award by the Province of Huesca. This Award recognised the role of the Geopark in education, dissemination and conservation of the environment and the geological heritage
- Success of the activities organised by the Geopark for young people.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Networking through the Spanish Geoparks National Forum
- Publication of articles using the different promotional tools of the EGN (magazine, newsletter, website)

## Management structure and financial status

Maintaining funding and activities despite the economic crisis

# Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

- Preservation of paleontological outcrop by modifying a road project
- Cooperation in paleontological and archaeological activities with important findings

# Strategic partnership

• "Pirineos Partnership of the Sobrarbe Geopark with the Spanish Organisation of National Parks and publication of the Geological Guide of the National Park of Ordesa y Monte Perdido in French.

• Cooperation Project cooperation project regarding the international World Heritage Site Monte Perdido" that is located inside the Geopark.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Promotion of the craft food products of the Geopark in the National Contest of "Tapas"
- Developing of new merchandising and promotional materials of the Geopark. (Film, leaflets, book.

# Sustainable economic development

 Training course for craft food producers (Partner Enterprises of the Geopark) and Gastronomic workshops: These workshops are aimed to promote the craft food and products commercialized under the label of Products of the Sobrarbe Geopark

### **Contacts:**

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Administrative Manager: Ana Ruiz <u>gerencia@sobrarbe.com</u>

# **SWABIAN ALB GEOPARK (GERMANY)**



Guided tour with headlamps in the bear cave during GeoPark Festival 2014

# Major achievements in 2014

- Inauguration of two new GeoPark Info centers in Ulm and Trossingen
- Fifth GeoPark Festival at show cave bear cave in Sonnenbühl
- Celebration the European Geopark Week
- Celebration the "Day of the Geotop" in an outstanding quarry in Münsingen for the first time
- Start of implementation a Geotop kataster of the Swabian Alb by mapping important geosites in several rural districts

### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe Geopark, Spain, and in Geopark Harz.Braunschweiger Land.Ostfalen, Germany
- Setting up the website of the national forum of the European and Global Geoparks in Germany

### Management structure and financial status

- Entry in the update of the Geopark master plan
- Change in staff: Dr. Dana Pietsch is employed as an project manager

#### Strategic partnership

 Negotiations with the association of stone and earth industries Baden-Württemberg about partnership in future

# Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation on tourism fair CMT Caravan Motor Tourism Stuttgart 2014
- Release of an new edition of the brochure "Discoverer map"

#### Contacts:

Geopark Manager: Siegfried Roth <u>roth@geopark-alb.de</u>
Project Manager: Dana Pietsch <u>pietsch@geopark-alb.de</u>

# TERRA.VITA GEOPARK (GERMANY)



The new silversea gallery attracting more people as expected

#### Major achievements in 2014

- 4 workshops have been organized to prepare a new masterplan for TERRA.vita
- A meeting of the national Geopark forum was organized
- Silversea gallery has been successfully opened, attracting about 2.500 visitors in half vear
- A new information flyer has been printed, serving as a short and general guide to mayor highlights
- The new TERRA.ticket is available for the first time in 2014. It is a special bus ticket, which allows to travel in the Geopark

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the common presentation of the EGN at ITB Berlin together with Naturtejo, Magma and other German GGN parks
- Meeting with German members of parliament representing all German GGN parks in Berlin. TERRA.vita as speaker of the German Geopark Forum demanded support by the German government to implement the new GGN Program of UNESCO. The feedback was very positive.

### **Management structure and financial status**

- Two new employees started their jobs at the TERRA.vita office (one project manager and one coordinator of all hiking activities).
- As part of the masterplan the organisational structures have been analysed and reviewed and stating, that in general the actual structures serve the needs of a modern and flexible park management.

# Strategic partnership

- A Partnership with the University of Münster has been established and leading to a master thesis on trace fossils in the silversea gallery
- TERRA.vita, as actual speaker of the German Geopark Forum is providing information about international developments to the German national Geopark network on a continuing basis.

# Marketing and promotional activities

• The first Dutch-German "Geopark Expedition" attracted 30 people, who discovered during a 4 day event the Global Geoparks De Hondsrug and TERRA.vita

### **Contacts:**

Executive Director: Hartmut Escher <u>escherh@lkos.de</u>
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## **TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK (ITALY)**



Bruxelles. December 2014. The award ceremony of European Charter. The staff of Tuscan Mining Geopark with Ignace Schops, President of Europarc Federation.

# Major achievements in 2014

- Project "Gateways of the Park" Regular, guided museum tours were organized at all the seven Park Gateways
- Gateway of the Park of Scarlino, Inauguration of the EX OFFICINE SOLMINE.
   Multipurpose space for exhibitions and cultural activities of the Park and of the municipality.
- Bruxelles European Parliament, Participation in the award ceremony of the 2014 of Tuscan Mining Park Geopark as Park of European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the FORUM of Italian Geoparks.
- Revalidation of the Tuscan Mining Geopark as a European/Global Geopark.
- Participation in the EGN meetings in *Sobrarbe Geopark* (Spain) and *Harz*. Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark (Germany).

#### Management structure and financial status

• A new staff member: Fabrizio Santini - responsible ECST

### Strategic partnership

- Participation in the constitution of the network MINERARIA Parks and mining museums in Tuscany (3 meeting).
- Support for the Festival of music and theatre in the Park.

# Marketing and promotional activities

 Release 2 new brochures in Italian and English languages: geosites of the park and georesources of the park

#### Contacts:

Executive Director: Alessandra Casini parcominerario@comune.gavorrano.gr.it

Geologist: Giancarlo Pagani giancarlo.pagani@unisi.it

# **VIKOS AOOS GEOPARK (GREECE)**



Production of the Geopark's book

# Major achievements in 2014

- During 2014 Epirus S.A. as managing body of the Vikos Aoos Geopark, implemented many actions with the aim to raise awareness of the local population regarding the establishment and the value of the Vikos-Aoos Geopark. More specifically, we implemented the following actions, many of which were mostly financed by European transnational programs. The produced printed material constitutes basic element for the documentation of the geological, natural, cultural and other values of the Vikos -Aoos Geopark area.
- Creation of two Information Centres for the Geopark. One is founded in Papigo and the other in the area by the Voidomatis River, two strategic places regarding the touristic development of the Geopark area.
- Creation of 5 interpretive cultural and natural thematic routes for the promotion of the Geopark's values (geology, prehistory, flora, architecture, landscape) accompanied by interpretive signs.
- Publication of a booklet regarding the thematic routes within the limits of the Vikos Aoos Geopark
- Publication of a guide- book for the Vikos Aoos Geopark
- A two-day seminar in Papigo village in Zagori on 16 & 17 October 2014, titled: "Geoparks and Geotourism: present and future"
- Conference in Papigo village in Zagori on October 15 2014, on "Creation of a Network for Thematic Tourism by developing Interpretive Routes"

### Contribution towards the work of the EGN & GGN

- Revalidation of the Vikos- Aoos GeoPark as a member of the European and Global GeoPark Network.
- Promotion of the EGN & GGN networks through the Information centres and the Ecoquide book.

 Participation to the EGN & GGN magazine with an article regarding the prehistory of the Geopark

# **Management structure and financial status**

- Efforts for the establishment of a more flexible operational and financial model.
- Appointment of a new staff member, specialist on cultural heritage, Georgia Kitsaki.

## Strategic partnership

- Signing of a cooperation agreement regarding the conservation and promotion of the main river crossing the Geopark, Aoos River, among all the stakeholders in Greece and Albania.
- Consultation to Albanian stakeholders for the establishment of a common cross border Geopark along the Aoos River.
- Cooperation with the local municipalities of Zagori and Konitsa for the creation of the information centres
- Cooperation through a specific project with the Region Authority of Epirus to create all the interpretive material of the Vikos Aoos Geopark.
- Cooperation through a specific project with the Region Authority of Gjirokastra in Albania and the municipality of Pogon in Albania

## Marketing and promotional activities

- Release of a leaflet regarding the 5 interpretive thematic routes of the Geopark in Greek and in English
- Promotion of the Geopark through a TV program dedicated to the Greek Geopark forum and the EGN & GGN
- Release of a video to the local TV news regarding the Vikos Aoos Geopark as a member of EGN and GGN.
- Construction of the website (Greek and English version)

#### **Contacts:**

Biologist: Haritakis Papaioannou <u>h.papaioannou@epirussa.gr</u>
Geologist: Panayotis Paschos <u>paschos@igmeprv.gr</u>

# **VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA GEOPARK (SPAIN)**



First Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks Committee in Guadalupe.

# Major achievements in 2014

- Edition of the textbook "Conocimiento del medio natural, social y cultural del Geoparque Villuercas-Ibores-Jara (Knowledge of the natural, social and cultural environment of Villuercas Ibores Jara Geopark)". A textbook for the last years of Primary Schools (Subject of Environment Awareness).
- Description of two new geosites. The Canchos Vadillo are a huge cliff over the river Gualija. They are orthoquartzites affected by the contact aureole of the Peraleda spheroidal weathering. The Rocky Wall of the Trout represents the Upper Ordovician orthoquartzites. Exceptional transverse fails can be observed. In its surroundings one of the most representative forests of Prunus lusitanica is preserved.
- Inauguration of the new geological and mining museum in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. It is opened in the premises of the mine Costanaza in Logrosan.
- Organization of the First Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks Committee in Guadalupe.

#### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in the 33th and 34th EGN Coordination Committees. Contributions to the EGN Magazine, EGN website and GGN Newsletter.
- Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark will be in charge of the Spanish Geoparks Committee vice-coordination and the communication strategies. Management of @ComEspGeoparks and www.geoparques.eu.

### Management structure and financial status

• Adoption of a new cooperation agreement for the geopark management.

# Strategic partnership

• Speech about "Geoparks as an opportunity for territorial development" and meeting with the Guatemalan Tourism Institute, INGUAT, in La Antigua, Guatemala.

# Marketing and promotional activities

- The Geopark in the most important tourist fairs and advisory webs: FITUR 2014, FIO 2014, spain.info, minube.com, trip advisor, booking, etc.
- Social Networks' evaluation: 1,651 followers on Twitter, @VilluercasGpark. 1,324 fans on Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/GeoparqueVilluercas.
- 36,407 pages visited on www.geoparquevilluercas.es.

### Contacts:

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Geologist: Javier López Caballero <u>Javier@aprodervi.com.es</u>

# **VULKANEIFEL GEOPARK (GERMANY)**



Recovered Trautzberg Maar

## Major achievements in 2014

- Awarding of first Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel Kindergarden at Strohn
- Continuation of environmental education (earth sciences) with kindergarten teachers and in Nature- and Geopark Schools and Kindergarden
- New Vulkaneifel Magazine
- Recovering of Trautzberg Maar
- Vulkaneifel was rewarded as "Qualitäts Naturpark" for 5 years

## Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation in EGN AC and CC in Sobrarbe and Harz Geopark
- Participation in EGN Magazine
- Participation in Azores Geopark workshop "Geoparks in volcanic regions"

### Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

- Maintenance of various Geotopes and Biotopes
- Recovering of mineral water springs (Dreisborn and Rothenbach)

### Strategic partnership

- Partner in LEADER project on transnational cooperation with Styrian Vulkanland Austria
- Collaboration commitment within the project Rocca di Cerere Geopark: ideal destination for alternative naturalistic tourism
- Partnership agreement with LAG Volcans d'Auvergne and other partners from volcanic LAG regions

### Marketing and promotional activities

- Participation at Vakanz Tourism Fair Luxembourg with regional producers
- Calendar of events for winter and summer season, 10.000 copies each
- New brochure on Maars of Vulkaneifel
- Presentation of and information on Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel and the Natureand Geopark Guides at the Maarsaddle, a touristic focal point, during vacation weekends
- Round table at Ministry of Economics on geotourism: presentation of EGN /GGN

#### **Contacts:**

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