ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017– March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Output of the first number of 2017 of “Adamello Brenta Park” magazine, distributed to the resident population. In the magazine there are some geological articles and the promotion of the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows.

3. Active presence in social networks (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) #parcoadamellobrenta to promote the Geopark, the Geopark House, the educational activities and the thematic exhibitions.


5. Opening of the Geopark House in September for the summer season and during Christmas holidays. Organization and realization of guided visits for groups and school classes to explore the Geopark House.

6. Organization, promotion and realization of winter activities from the 4th of December 2017 to the 7th of April 2018 organized by Adamello Brenta Geopark in partnership with the Tourist Board of Madonna di Campiglio. Many of these activities aimed at reading and comprehending the landscape under a geological and geomorphological point of view. Such activities were conducted in the geosites together with the Alpine Guides.

7. Participation in “Ecofiera”, a fair about sustainable tourism, from 6th to 8th October 2017 in Tione (TN) and in Mantova with the new inflatable igloo “Palaorso”, that aims to promote the natural beauty, treasures and geology of our territory.

8. Organization, promotion and realization of autumn activities, like a 3-days fototreking in the Geopark in collaboration with the Trentino Marketing and the Network of Protected Areas of Trentino.

9. Organization, promotion and realization of activities in the frame of the European Mobility Week in September 2017.

10. Organization, like every year, of the EGN week in collaboration with all the provincial bodies involved in geo-interpretation.

11. Publication of an article in the four-monthly magazine “Campiglio”.

Networking

1. Participation in 14th European Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks – Azores Geopark from 7th to 9th September 2017, presenting two oral presentations.

2. Participation at the Workshop “Research, conservation and management of the capercaillie” in the Paneveggio Natural Park.

3. Signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding for the development of the “Val di Tovel” between the Autonomous Province of Trento, the Geopark and the Municipality of Ville d’Ananunia.

4. Signing of a protocol with the local tourism board for the organization in strong cooperation of the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, as agreements with all the bodies involved at a local and regional level in the promotion and enhancement of the territory, in the sustainable tourism and geological research, environmental education and prevention, and also with

Contact: vajolet.mase@pnab.it
Padova University, Geoscience Department, for the cooperation in the Conference.
5. Publication of a text in the back cover of the EGN Magazine, issue 15, promoting the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.
7. Publication of the flyer and logo of the Conference on the GGN, EGN and ALPARC websites.

Activity by Partners
1. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism boards and local Alpine Guides, of the winter educational activities with geotouristic topic.
2. Planning and organizing, in cooperation with the Tourism Board of Madonna di Campiglio, the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, that will be held in Adamello Brenta Geopark in September 2018.
APUAN ALPS GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. International Day for Disaster Reduction: “Words written by the rain”, event for raising the awareness of young generations in understanding of natural processes and hazards by a short lesson about the hydrogeological risk including videos, images and practical learning experience

2. Promotional leaflets on several paths, geosites and facilities with the new UNESCO logo

3. Contest “Tasting the Apuan Alps”, km zero menu with local food, hosted by Apuan Alps UGG recommended accommodations

4. Activity of wildlife monitoring in the Geopark

5. Autumn count of mouflons: activity guided by Geopark Rangers for the monitoring of mouflons in the Apuan Alps

6. “Apuan Autumn” at Bosa di Careggine with Andy Luotto, famous cook and testimonial of the “farm restaurant” opening in the (Geo)Park Farm

7. “Cibiamoci di Parco”, three special events hosted by the recommended Park accommodations for the promotion of local food

8. Educational Offer 2017-2018 with sharp increase of resources for schools in favour of educational trails and contests on environmental issues


10. Research project carried out in collaboration with Pisa University on deposits deriving from old marble quarry workings


12. “Education to territorial management as part of consolidation in the democratic Tunisian process”, project placed first in the Integrated Plan of International Activities of Cooperation, in collaboration with Office National des Mines of Tunis, Pisa National Council of Researches and Association des Jeunes de Zammour

13. Call for contributions for Italian Alpine Club for the ordinary and straordinary maintenance of trails and signage

14. Call for contributions for private and public Authority for supporting the historical and cultural heritage by resources for architectural restoration in the protected area

Contact: aamorfini@parcapuane.it; abartelletti@parcapuane.it
15. Presentation of the application for the “European charter for sustainable tourism in protected areas” membership

16. Lectures about the label UNESCO Global Geoparks during the training course on “Geological heritage and geotourism” organized by SIGEA (Italian Society of Environmental Geology) and National Council of Geologists

17. 2018 First forum of the “European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in protected areas”, with the participation of stakeholders, Park Guides and local entrepreneurs

**Networking**

18. Participation in the 40th Coordination Committee Meeting in Azores Geopark,

19. Participation in the 14th European Geoparks Conference (Azores, Portugal)

20. Contribution during the workshop about "Geohazards in Geoparks" (Azores, Portugal)

21. EGN magazine, issue 14, “Wildlife monitoring and the promotion of nature tourism”

22. Official visit by a Tunisian delegation (Aspiring Geoparc du Dahar) for knowing the Apuan Alps UGG experience.

23. Participation in the workshop organized by the Institute des Régions Arides de Médenine for presenting the road map for the creation of the Geoparc du Dahar (south east Tunisia)

**Activity by Partners**

24. Photo contest “Andrea Pierotti” on environmental topics, managed by Forte dei Marmi Municipality and Versilia Section of Italian Union for the fight against muscular dystrophy

25. Mountain festival in Stazzema village: meeting, workshop, guided visits, photo exhibition and promotion of local food

26. Educational projects with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark

27. “Discovering the Geopark”, guided visits, and excursions for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives
AROUCA GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Contribution to the organization of the most important venue in Arouca «The Harvest Fair», September 2017.

2. Organization of “the best homemade corn bread contest”, September 2017

3. Participation of the “Arouca Agricola” bring the flavours of the farmers market to the Harvest Fair, September 2017


5. Promotion the Geosites Route with the interpretative visits to the itineraries A, B and C, from September 2017 to March 2018.

6. Organization of several workshops inserted in Chestnut Festival, October 2017.

7. Geofood Ceremony: Delivery of the badges and signature of the partnership protocol with Slow Food Porto during the Chestnut Festival, October 2017.


9. Organization of several activities about Christmas in the Castanheira village, December 2017.


14. Organization of the several training courses for teachers, from January to March 2018.


Contact: antonio.duarte@aroucageopark.pt


21. Organization of the training course ‘Tour Guides of Arouca Geopark’, March 2018

22. The Arouca Geopark – Welcome Center – Interactive Tourism Store was attended by 1727 visitors and hosted more 6585 people by 42 events, from September 2017 to March 2018.

23. The Rocks Delivering Stones House was attended by 10246 visitors, from September 2017 to March 2018.

24. The Weather Radar from Arouca was attended by 1528 visitors, from September 2017 to March 2018.

25. 980 students and 78 teachers visited the Arouca Geopark, under the Arouca Geopark Educational Programs, from all country, September 2017 to March 2018.

26. 61540 people visited the Passadiços Walkways, from September 2017 to March 2018

27. 278 people from 12 groups of geotouristic visits were accompanied, by Arouca Geopark guides, from September 2017 to March 2018.


Networking


Activity by Partners

32. Promotion of several events promoted by “More Democracy Conference” from September 2017 to March 2018.

Contact: antonio.duarte@aroucageopark.pt

34. School carnival was inspired by the heritage and traditions of Arouca Geopark, February 2017.

35. Promotion of several activities promoted by Arouca Geopark’s partners, from September 2017 to March 2018.
AZORES GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Publication of the Geopark monthly electronic newsletters, September to March;
2. Collaboration with the “ Açoriano Oriental” newspaper, by publishing a page every two weeks entitled “(Geo)diversidades”, and with the radio station “RDP - Antena 1 Açores”, with the radio program “Geoparque Açores em 5 minutos/Azores Geopark in 5 minutes”, twice a week, September to March;
3. Daily update of the Azores Geopark’s facebook, with activities, photos and news;
4. Elaboration of posters for dissemination of commemorative dates, in social networks;
5. Monitoring of the Azores Geopark geosites in cooperation with the Nature Guards from the Natural Parks in all islands, September to March;
7. Participation in the International Conference “ Açores 2017: No Rumo do Turismo Sustentável”, December 7th and 8th;
8. Development of several activities for the general population, in partnership with the Azores Natural Parks and included in the program “Parque Aberto/Open Park”, with a wide diversity of environmental awareness activities, as guided thematic trails in geosites and protected areas and different sessions in the environmental interpretations centres. In all the territory 35 activities, with a total of 1339 participants, were carried from September 1st until February 28th;
9. Implementation of the Geopark School Program, integrated in the regional offer “ Scholl Park”, with several environmental education activities, for all different education levels. This activity involves schools and students from all islands, and also from the mainland and other countries, during all the scholar year. From September 1st until February 28th 128 activities, with 3163 students and teachers were undertaken;
10. Participation in the GGN Association booth at the ITB ( Internationale Tourismus - Börse Berlin), in close cooperation with the Azores Tourism Board, promoting the Azores UGG, March 7th to 11th;
11. Participation in the 5th edition of the “ Jornadas de Reflexão de Animação Turística”, under the theme Cultural Tourism in the Azores, March 15th to 17th;
12. Organization in the Azores Autonomous Region of the “ National Olympiads of Geology, 2017”, involving in the “regional round” a total of 31 students from 12 high schools, from 7 islands of the archipelago, March;
13. Development of 5 activities integrated in the “Week of the Portuguese Geological and Mines Sites Partners Route”, March 19th to 25th;

Contact: jcnunes@uac.pt
1. Contribution with an article to the EGN Magazine Issue Nr. 15, dedicated to the EGNAZORES2017 Conference.

**Networking**

1. Organization and participation in the 40th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in the Azores UGG, Ponta Delgada, S. Miguel Island, Azores, September 6th;
2. Organization of the 14th European Geoparks Conference from 7th to 9th September 2017, under the theme “GEOPARKS: PATHWAYS OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FOR DEVELOPMENT”; a total of 370 delegates attended the conference, coming from 26 European countries (85%) and also from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Iran, Japan, Mexico and USA; post-conference fieldtrips (PCFT) were organized from 10th to 13th, September, including sixteen delegates in the fieldtrip “…from majestic volcanoes to great people” on the Faial, S. Jorge and Pico islands, and twenty six delegates in the fieldtrip “…islands of fire and water” on the Flores and Corvo islands;
3. Several activities under the framework of the EGN Thematic Working Group “Volcanic Geoparks”, that the Azores Geopark Scientific Coordinator act as Catalyst and the GGN Working Group “Geoparks on Volcanic Areas” that the Azores Geopark Scientific Coordinator is vice-coordinator;
4. Preparation of twinning agreements between the Azores Geopark and other UNESCO Global Geoparks, namely the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UGG (Spain) and the Araripe UGG (Brazil).

**Activity by Partners**

1. The Azores Geopark has currently about 46 partners, including institutions and private companies. For a detailed listing and characterization of the partners activities consider checking the Azores Geopark Newsletters.
BAKONY–BALATON GEOPARK, HUNGARY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Working with the “Protection and Promotion of our Geological Heritage in Bakony–Balaton Geopark” EU project at 22 geosites: geological key sections, caves, sinkholes, geological nature conservation areas, nature trails with holistic approach, information booklet, etc. Budget appr. 500,000 €. September 2017–March 2018.

2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2017–March 2018.

3. Publication hundreds of posts in the popular Facebook page of our Geopark with high organic reach (almost 5,000 “Likes” recently), September 2017–March 2018.

4. Field survey of geological key sections and springs (GIS work, preparing their designation as protected sites by national law, etc.), September 2017–March 2018.


9. Participation, as the publisher’s reader, in preparing the first geological walking map in Hungary (covering an area within our Geopark), November 2017–January 2018.


11. “Meet Santa Claus” programme in the Lóczy Cave (Balatonfüred) for families, December 2017.

12. Launching a new menu in the website of our Geopark: “Sustainability” (on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the UN Summit in 2015), publishing numerous articles on this topic, September 2017–March 2018

13. Updating, as the publisher’s reader, the new edition of Balaton Uplands hiking map and guide book (published by Cartographia Ltd., the most popular one in Hungary). The advertisement of the Geopark management organisation with the UNESCO Global Geopark logo is printed in its back cover, February 2018.

14. Publishing new printed promotional leaflet of our Geopark with UGG logo, etc. (20,000 copies, in English and Hungarian), March 2018.

16. Indoor activity geological programme for families in Lavender House Visitor Centre (Tihany), the Eastern Gate of the Geopark, March 2018.

**Networking**

17. Participation in the Interreg Danube GeoTour project on sustainable geotourism networking and development. Coordinator: Idrija UGG, other partners include 8 Geoparks and 3 supporting partners, total budget: 1,665,509 €, BBUGG budget: 257,000 €. | 2nd partner meeting in Styrian Eisenwurzen UGG, September 2017 | 3rd partner meeting in Hateg UGG, February 2018 | Preparing the promotion of the project at ITB Berlin in 2019, meeting with partners: March 2018.

18. Participation and oral presentation at the 14th European Geoparks Conference in the Azores UGG, Portugal (“Extinct volcanoes, active geotourism in Bakony–Balaton Geopark, Hungary: visitor centres, interpretive sites, geological trails and guided geotours in volcanic areas”). At the same venue, participation in the 40th EGN CC meeting, September 2017.

19. Active role in the work of the Hungarian Geoparks Committee (October 2017).

20. Study tour of the Geopark staff, meeting the colleagues in the Hungarian part of Novohrad–Nógrád UGG, November 2017


22. Collecting and preparing for publishing the European Geoparks Week programme 2018 and the progress reports (September 2017–March 2018) from all the members of the EGN, February–March 2018.

**Activity by Partners**

23. Thanks to a successful application by one of our Geopark Partner NGOs (Friends of Bakonyalja Association) for financing a geotour-guiding course, the training course was held in Southern Bakony II. region, in cooperation with the Geopark management organisation, September–October 2017.


25. Preparing the route of a future volcanic nature trail, involving a local NGO (Fekete Hill Nature Conservation Association), meeting the Mayor of Monostorapáti, March 2018.

26. “Geo-Santa”: a two-day-long informal meeting and a field trip with our Geopark Partner geotour guides in Városlőd, December 2017.
BASQUE COAST GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities
1. Basque Coast Geopark held the 3rd Conference on Geodiversity of The Basque Country. Open conferences, workshops on geotourism and education and a field trip were organized with a high participation level of both public and private sector.

2. An exhibition of Sustainable Development Goals was organized by the Geopark in Deba, one of the member towns.

3. An Important economical agreement was signed between the Geopark and Basque Government, 280.000€ for the whole legislature for developing the Basque strategies on Geodiversity and Biodiversity.

4. Mountains International day was celebrated on the 3rd of December. Experts from the Basque University and the Geopark guided the field trip called “the origin of our mountains”

5. New Guided Visits Season 2018 was presented by the President and political representatives of the regional and local Government. More than 1.300 visits will be offered around the year. The press conference had high impact on the media.

6. 26 news published at the web site from September 2017 to March 2018.

7. Changing the web site to a new domain from .com to www.geoparkea.eus to claim our own domain for the Basque Country.

8. e-newsletter format to send news to a specific list of emails. 2 deliveries along the period leaded basically to citizen written in bilingual, Spanish and basque language, in order to rise the awareness of the Geopark actions.

9. Number 11 six-month newsletter. 9.000 units posted to all Geopark homes with the most important news to raise the awareness of local about the Geopark.

10. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook /Geoparkea and @geoparkea on twitter and Instagram.

11. Continuing the collaboration with Zerynthia association, we organize a tree plantation day with volunteers to protect the butterfly habitat and install information and awareness panels.

12. First steps for Geoschools project after writing the plan. Meeting with all the agents involved on the project to start designing didactic material about geopark geology for students.

Contact: Leire Barriuso geogarapen@geogarapen.com
13. Georoute network Plan. To complete the existing network has been designed new georoutes that will be carried out gradually in a couple of years depending on the financial resources.

**Networking**

14. As a member of the Basque Country UNESCO network, the Geopark leaded a conference about SDG and its application at local stages.

15. Contribution of an article for the EGN Magazine Issue 15 “Geotalks”

16. Contribution to the issue 3 GGN newsletter about Geodiversity Conference held in Basque Coast Geopark

17. Participation in Azores coordination committee and Conference with two oral communications “Five clear benefits that Science provides to the sustainable tourism in a UGG” and “Flysch & Go, on the way of geological heritage of the Basque Coast”

18. Active participation in the following Working Groups (WG): Coastal Geoparks, National Fora, Fossils and the recent funded SDG group.

19. Touristic promotion at FITUR fair. 6 Spanish and Portuguese Geoparks attended the EGN stand and presented a new promotional magazine that gathered the tourism offer of the Spanish Geoparks.

20. Participation in IV Brazilian Simposio of Geological Heritage. We gave an oral communication about our management model and gave advice to most of Geopark projects present.

21. Continuing with the Interreg atlantic arch project, steps forward to contract a video producer for setting images from the 13 partner’s territories.

**Activity by Partners**

22. International day of wetlands organized by a partner of the geopark. We support the initiative and shared the new at our social networks.

23. Support to Lastur Mountain Walking Race trying to raise the effect of the event at local economy, involving the private sector in the event with special offers. We provided the on line support and the tracked map for the participants.

24. Regional government boots Cultural Heritage Events and the Geopark joined the event offering different free experiences for local people.
BEIGUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Winning the Italian Green Road Award about the new bicycle project developed in the Beigua Geopark territory during the Bicycle International Fair in Verona (Italy) on September 18th 2017

2. Organization of educational activities for schools about geodiversity and biodiversity to celebrate the World Environmental Education Day on October 14th, 2017 (as proposed by the worldwide network WEEC)

3. Joining the Earth Planet Week in Italy during the period October 15th-22nd 2017 with guided visits and a special opening day at the Geopark’s Visitor Centre in Sassello

4. Celebrating the International Day for Disaster Reduction, on October 13th 2017 with an educational event involving local schools to remember the 40th anniversary of the dreadful flood which affected the Rossiglione Municipality on October 6th, 1977; the event has been organized in collaboration with all local authorities and local civil protection volunteers involving children of the primary school and teenagers of the high school of Rossiglione

5. Joining the initiative of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO promoted in Italy to celebrate the Agenda 2030 in the week November 20th-26th 2017; several activities for schools and local events has been organized to enhance the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda

6. Winning the 2018 Ecotourism Oscar for sustainable outdoor activities promoted in the Beigua Geopark’s territory; the national award has been presented by the Italian Federation of Parks and Nature Reserve and by the Legambiente Environmental Association in Firenze on November 30th, 2017

7. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews

8. Signing a formal agreement with the Liguria Genova Film Commission which is the regional body to provide the best locations and backdrops for the various films and videos productions to make the Beigua Geopark’s territory attractive to the entertainment industry – December 18th, 2017

9. Launching of a new project to promote the local tourism facilities suggested by the Geopark’s management authority (B&B, holiday farmhouses, rural hotels, mountain shelters) and to enhance the territory of the Beigua UGGp as a sustainable tourism destination, in Genoa on January 9th, 2018

10. Presentation of the Beigua UGG calendar of events in the framework of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage with the support of the Liguria Regional Administration, Local Communities and Associations - in Genoa on February 2nd, 2018

Contact: Maurizio Burlando - direttore@parcobeigua.it Marco Firpo - firpo@dipteris.unige.it
11. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Autumn 2017 and Winter 2018.

12. Two new issues of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in October 2017 (Autumn) and January 2018 (Winter). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, UGG, EGN and GGN.

13. Seven issues of the monthly electronic newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site). It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews).

14. Editing and printing of the new guide-map about the Geopark’s area with the touristic highlights (in Italian and English languages); presentation on February 17th 2018.

**Networking**

15. Attendance at the 14th European Geoparks Conference and the 40th EGN CC Meeting in Azores UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal) on September 6th-9th 2017.

16. Attendance at the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council (Maurizio Burlando) on September 16th-17th and at the APGN Symposium on September 19th-22nd 2017 in Zhijindong Cave UNESCO Global Geopark (China).

17. Submission of an article for the EGN magazine n.15 (to be published in 2018).

18. Submission of two articles for the EGN newsletter n. 10 (published in December 2017) and n. 11 (published in March 2018).

19. Submission of the Activity Progress Report September 2019 – March 2019 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 41st EGN CC Meeting in Karawanken/Karawanka UGG, Austria/Slovenia.


**Activity by Partners**

22. Field works and researches in the Beigua UGG leaded by the Earth, Environment and Life Sciences Department of the University of Genoa (September – December 2017).

23. Field trips and events offered in the geopark’s territory by local organizations and local authorities in Autumn 2017 and Winter 2018.
BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. New managing director from 01-01-2018: Dr. Stefanie Fey
2. Event programme with 500 guided tours (Geopark Rangers, Geopark-on-site Guides, cooperation partners)
3. Publication of 4 electronic newsletters and one printed 28pp magazine (“Geo-Naturpark aktuell”, issue 26)
4. Publication of several Geopark brochures according ecological rules (“Blauer Engel”)
5. Publication of meanwhile 12 regional hiking maps in the new series from Geo-Naturepark Bergstrasse-Odenwald in cooperation with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald
6. Contributions in hiking and biking magazines, touristic brochures and maps
7. Public lectures about Earth heritage and the Geopark within the Geopark region
8. Opening of several Geopoints
9. Seminars/Workshops for schools: e.g. MTB-course at Karl-Kübel school in Bensheim
10. Regional workshops/meetings of trailmarkers with field trips and presentations
11. Vocational training for Geopark Rangers, On Site Guides and cooperation partners on the SDGs 2030 in cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt and WHS Messel Pit
12. Participation in Annual Geographical Congress, Tübingen with Geopark booth, workshop and oral presentation
13. Geopark Ranger activities (esp. for schools) within the whole Geopark territory
14. Annual meeting of the Geopark Rangers
15. Annual advanced educational training for Geopark Rangers and “Geopark-on-site” Guides: Sustainability within the Geopark, in cooperation with “Streuobstwiesenretter”: conservation planting and environmental education on old fruit varieties, in cooperation with Alfred Wegener-Institute Potsdam & Burghardt Gymnasium Buchen: Marine relics in our region, in cooperation with WHS Kloster Lorsch: The Aurochs – “Back-Breeding and Natural Grazing”
16. Tree planting event with “Kühkopf Kids” and environmental education centre “Treasure Island” Kühkopf: “Geopark - Fruit Variety of the Year” – “Schweizer Wasserbirne” in cooperation with nature conservation initiative “Streuobstwiesenretter”
17. Geopark product in cooperation with a local distillery: liquor from the variety of the year
18. Celebration of “Grube Marie” show mine as “Geotope of the year 2017”
19. Opening of new exhibition parts in Geopark’s western entrance gate “Treasure Island Kühkopf” in Stockstadt

Contact: c.stolz@geo-naturpark.de; j.weber@geo-naturpark.de
20. Implementation of new web-platform on SDG 2030 with examples from the Geopark

**Networking**


22. Lecturer at 1st UNESCO Summer University on Geoparks, Sustainable Development and Healthy Lifestyle, University Tras Montes, Vila Real, Portugal (J.W.)

23. Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine (J.W.)

24. Publication of contribution in EGN magazine No. 15

25. Catalyst and Publication of EGN Electronic Newsletters 9, 10, 11 (J.W.)


27. Presenting the Global Geopark Network and UGG at regional and national tourism fairs (CMT Stuttgart etc.)

28. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Azores (Portugal) and Karavanken (Austria/Slovenia)

29. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting and the European Global Geoparks Conference in Azores (Portugal) in September 2017 with 1 oral presentation, as chair and with participation in the Geopark Fair

30. Publication of brochure on SDG 2030 in general and individually for the Geopark by the German UNESCO Commission

31. Workshops of UGG in Germany on renewable energy and education for sustainable development in cooperation with the German UNESCO Commission and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

32. Regular meetings of the Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany (common activity of the 6 Global Geoparks in Germany)

33. Cooperation with UNESCO WHS Abbey Lorsch/Open laboratory Lauresham (Germany): joint exhibition and projects on the “The Auerochs” in museum of WHS Kloster Lorsch including accompanying programme with oral presentations and field trips

34. International Conference on “Back-Breeding and Natural Grazing” with WHS Kloster Lorsch in the frame of the exhibition “The Auerochs”

35. Preparations for a joint project (Ruritage) in HORIZON 2020 with other Geoparks & institutions

36. Catalyst of WG on SDG 2030 (EGN) and member of similar GGN WG (J.W.)

37. Member of GGN Communication Committee (J.W.)

**Activity by Partners**

Contact: c.stolz@geo-naturpark.de; j.weber@geo-naturpark.de
38. Participation and planning of new projects within the regularly meetings of the 4 LEADER-working groups for the new funding period 2014-2020: LAG Darmstadt-Dieburg, LAG Odenwald, LAG Neckartal-Odenwald, LAG Main4Eck

39. Preparation of photo exhibition of the "Global Nomadic Arts Project" in cooperation with the International Forest Art Association, the WHS Messel Pit and the Environmental Education Centre Kühhof

40. Participation in the 10th anniversary of the certified hiking trail “Nibelungensteig” by thematic hiking tours with Geopark Rangers

Contact: c.stolz@geo-naturpark.de; j.weber@geo-naturpark.de
BOHEMIAN PARADISE GEOPARK, CZECH REPUBLIC

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Excursions and fieldtrips for visitors from the whole world (September 2017 – March 2018)

2. Oral presentations about our Geopark at numerous schools, universities, institutes and civil organisations (September 2017 – March 2018)

3. Exhibition promoting national geoparks of Czech Republic in various places of Czech Rep. (September 2017 – March 2018)


5. “Adolf Heyduk’s Prize for monument most friendly to disabled” – visitors nominate various categories of monuments friendly to disabled, this year first also geological one. Ceremonial announcement of winners takes place in April 2018 (September 2017 – March 2018)

6. “Take yellow pencil…” – 12th year of international children applied-art contest themed “UNESCO monuments in my country” (September 2017 – December 2017)


8. New promotional leaflet (December 2017)

9. Reedition of geo-tourist map of the geopark (October 2017)

10. Attendance at two international tourist fairs – Holiday World, Prague and Region Tour + GO, Brno (January, February 2018)


12. Preparation of new educational programme for preschool and basic school kids aimed on history of the Earth and local geology (February – March 2018)

13. Student works and internships (September 2017 – March 2018)

Networking

14. Study visit from Zhangjiajie UNESCO Global Geopark, China (September 2017)


16. Preparations of new partnership with Dali Mount Cangshan UNESCO Global Geopark, China (December 2017 – February 2018)

Contact: info@geopark-ceskyraj.cz
17. Participation in the successful Danube GeoTour INTERREG DTP project on sustainable geotourism networking and development. (September 2017 – January 2018)

18. Martina Paskova work for UNESCO (September 2017 – March 2018)


Activity by Partners


21. New information an promotional leaflets (September 2017- March 2018)

22. New detailed geological mapping 1:25000 of geopark area. (September 2017- March 2018)

23. Several updates “Regional guest Card” (September 2017 – March 2018)

24. Finished archaeological survey of one of top geopark geolocalities – Castle Kumburk (October 2017)

25. Exhibition focused on Castle Kumburk (November 2017 – February 2018)
BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Final conference and launch of Destination Management guides for GeoparkLIFE project. November 2017

3. Hosted Coordination meeting and Study visit for Atlantic Area project ‘Atlantic Geoparks’ November 2017

4. Presentations to School groups for Clare County Library Children’s Book Festival on the Geopark publication ‘Stone, Water and Ice –A geology trip through the Burren’ October - November 2017


6. The Geopark hosted official delegations from Japan looking at best practice in our Geopark. October 2017

7. Very active Facebook page now over 4,000 ‘Likes an increase of 100 since September 2017. Twitter followers over 3,000 March 2018.

8. A quarterly newsletter is produced online and circulated to 500 readers. December 2017

9. Lime mortar training for local volunteers and community groups provided through GeoparkLIFE project. November 2017

10. Information and maps for Geopark to be included in School Book for National Curriculum. November 2017

11. Erection of ‘Welcome to the Geopark’ signs on public roads entering the Geopark.


14. Presentation of ‘Ask Me About the Geopark’ information sessions to staff of the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience. September 2017

15. Partial structural restoration of Early Christian church at Carran through Geopark LIFEproject. August 2017


17. Printing of promotional Geopark map with information and features for distribution to all local businesses. November 2017

Contact: edoyle@clarecoco.ie
Networking

18. Participation in Atlantic Geoparks Interreg project EAPA_250/2016 with 10 Geopark partners and 2 aspiring Geoparks across Spain, Portugal, France, UK and Ireland to promote Geotourism along the Atlantic Area of Europe. Project Leader University of Tras os Montes and Alto Douro, Portugal


Activity by Partners

23. 300 native trees planted by Burren Ecotourism Network member Boghill Centre. Feb 2018

24. Best Tourism Experience award for Aillwee Cave, a Geopark Geosite. November 2017

25. Irish Cheese awards for St. Tola Irish Goat Cheese and Aillwee Cave Burren Gold cheese.

26. The Burren Food Fayre. A celebration of local food producers and restaurants October 2017

27. Promotional material with our Geopark logo being developed by Burren Ecotourism Network.
CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Appearance in two TV shows (Andalucia Natural and a special inside the daily weekend news) at prime time promoting the geopark, its geological importance and value and the winter activities of our brand new “Winter Geopark” programme.

2. Monitoring and environmental compliance control, support and collaboration in the organization of sport events: (more than 15 activities from September to March).

3. Celebration of the Participation Body Ordinary Meeting in December 2017.

4. Continuous activity of our Instagram account (more than 100 pictures post, 1100 followers, more than 10.500 likes)

5. Participation as in the ACT4LITTER project by MedPan, to monitoring and raise awareness about the Marine Litter problematic in the Mediterranean.

6. Participation in the Marine Litter Watch Month, monitoring marine litter at emblematic beaches.

7. Authorization, monitoring and environmental compliance control to audiovisual producers interested in the shooting of movies, documentaries and commercials.

8. Attendance to the Mid-term Conference MPAs facing pollution in the Mediterranean: thinking beyond boundaries as part of the partners of the ACT4LITTER project at Izola, Slovenia 28Nov/1st Dec 2017.

9. Launching of a brand new programme with the collaboration of the Geopark’s strategic partners, every weekend a new georoute from February to April, with geotourism enterprises of the Geopark.

10. Collab with the University of Almeria to include a Volcanic Garden at the University, with a representation of the diversity of the geopark’s volcanic heritage.

11. Organization attendance and participation with the other two andalusian geoparks and the Andalusian Regional Government of the I International Seminar on Geoparks in Sevilla, Nov. 2017

12. Attendance to the 14th EGN geoparks conference at Ponta Delgada, Azores 7th-9th September 2017 and the 40th geoparks meeting and the Spanish geoparks for a meeting.

13. Presentation at FITUR tourism fair in Madrid (January 2018) with the rest of the Spanish Geoparks at the Andalucia Stand.

14. Participation as partner at the CO-Adapta project, to raise awareness about the importance of the 5220 habitat of the ziziphus lotus.

15. Guided georoute included in the I Workshop of co-learning Science-management-society for the conservation of the azufaifar by the geologist of the geopark.

16. Welcoming, as every year, more than 30 universities that came annually to the geopark for fieldwork with their geology students.

Contact: lucia.tejero@juntadeandalucia.es
            gloria.garcia.hoyo.ext@juntadeandalucia.es
17. Newspaper appearance every week from February to April promoting “Winter Geopark” programme.

18. Attendance to the Spanish Geoparks Committee Meeting held in Madrid, February 2018.

19. Develop meetings of the LIFE AdaptaMed project, which involves Doñana Natural Space, Sierra Nevada Natural Space and Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park, Geopark and Biosphere Reserve.

**Networking**

20. Pictures sent to the Chablais geopark as part of an exchange between RAMSAR sites, to a permanent exhibition at the French Geopark.


22. Participating on the Volcanic Geoparks working group and the Sustainable Development goals group.

23. Poster presentation and the 14th Geoparks conference at Ponta Delgada, Azores. September 2017)


25. Periodical coordination meetings with the other 2 Andalusian geoparks.

**Activity by Partners**

26. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (September 2017-March 2018)

27. Support to the Clean Ocean Project Association in the volunteering activities carried out in the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Coastal Area.

28. Coordination, monitoring, evaluation, implementation and development of the
CAUSSES DU QUERCY GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


7. Attribution to 24 local craftsmen of the Geopark brand to promote building heritage restoration crafts. September 2017

8. Selection of applications from primary school classes for the Geopark pedagogical call for proposals “GéoParcours: the stone that has regained its memory”. School year 2017-2018; 14 school classes selected. October 2017.


10. Field trip for the “33rd International Meeting of Sedimentology” and “16th ASF (French Sedimentologists Association)” joint meeting. October 2017.

11. 2d volume of the Geopark’s “Cahiers scientifiques” (an articles collection written by the members of the Geopark scientific Council). December 2017.


15. Inventory of local springs on “St-Chels” plateau. October 2017–January 2018


Contact: akuhnel@parc-causses-du-quercy.org


22. First samplings in order to open a micro-quarry to provide restoration construction site with limestone roof tiles. December 2017.


25. Signature of partnership agreement to set up a landscape observatory app with the German university of Osnabruck. January 2018.


27. Lecture on “Quercy palaeontological bestiary” for general public in partnership with researchers from the University of Montpellier. February 2018.

28. Training course for our Geopark educational partners to carry out activities in geology fields for the secondary and high school levels. March 2018.

Networking

29. Participation in the 14th European Geoparks Conference on Azores Geopark, Portugal (1 oral and 2 poster presentations; 3 participants) and, at the same venue, participation of our two delegates in the 40th EGN CC meeting. September 2017.


31. Official signature of the partnership agreement between CNFU (French national commission for UNESCO) and CNGF (French Geoparks Forum) (a representative of our Geopark present). December 2017.

32. A representative of our Geopark, as an invited speaker, gave an oral presentation on our Geopark at the Annual Forum organized by the aspiring Beaujolais Geopark, France. March 2018.

Activity by Partners

1. Completion of the Geosites project list for the local “geotope protective decree” by the local government services (1 Geosite in the geopark). September 2017.

2. Funding application submitted to the French National research agency by the Evolutionary science institute of Montpellier (ISEM-CNRS) for a research project on “Decline of artiodactyls endemic to Europe” based on fossil recording from the Geopark. October 2017.


Geopark Activities


3. Attendance and participation at the FITUR. Fitur is the global meeting point for tourism professionals and the leading trade fair for inbound and outbound Ibero American markets, January 2018.


6. Celebration of the 9th Geology Olimpiads. Great success of participation with 86 students from 8 different colleges from inside and outside the Geopark, February 2018. Geological tour around the Geopark with the winners from the whole Catalonia, March 2018.


8. Finalization of the first year of the implementation of the “Geopark partners” program with 23 enterprises from different sectors. Realization of a sensibilization session for 2018 with 8 new stakeholders involved, September 2017–March 2018.

9. Daily publication at the Social Media (Twitter, Facebook and recently Instagram), September 2017–March 2018.

10. Assessment to different partners in the creation of Geopark Products (routes, interpretative infrastructure, Gin, etc.). Total stakeholders: 12, September 2017–March 2018.


Networking

12. Participation with 2 oral presentations at the 14th European Geoparks Conference, Azores UGG, Portugal. At the same venue, participation in the 40th EGN CC meeting, September 2017.


Contact: ferran@geoparc.cat

**Activity by Partners**

16. Creation of the first drink with the Geopark label. A gin inspired by the territory and made using local herbs made by “Mas de la Sala”.

Contact: ferran@geoparc.cat
CHABLAIS GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Member of the working group for the renewal of the “Pré Curieux” wetland centre, several meetings September to January

2. Geopark conference: Sabaudia traditional association “General Introduction to UGGp’s and the Chablais Geopark”, 15/9

3. Geopark conference for the European days of heritage “Geology, terroir and the local cheese and wines”, at the Maison du Val, 16/9

4. Meeting of the Chablais Geopark Scientific Committee: Election of a new president and addition of 4 members to the committee

5. A one day field trip for sixth form students to study climate change: in geological and human time.

6. A seven-day training course for future geopark guides in the field with geologists, hydrogeologists glaciologists etc. 18 participants from the territory.


8. Participation in the national science festival with our partner the research institute INRA. Geopark stand and workshops. 15/10

9. Geopark training conference for the Guides of the Pays de Savoie: to inform and explain about UGGp’s and the Chablais Geopark.

10. Training of 30 primary school teachers in order to run class workshops about how to read and communicate the landscape. Presentation of the Chablais Geopark. In partnership with the national education authority.

11. Formal presentation of 15 secondary school tool chests developed by the Geopark. The contents of the chests includes equipment for geological demonstrations and investigations, as well as a vast digital library of images and documents (history, literature, urban planning …). The chest meets the newly revised secondary school curriculum and promotes interdisciplinary activities based on the heritage and sustainable development of the Chablais.

12. Leading of a day’s fieldtrip to discover the geopark for 50 students from sixth form colleges in France, Greece and Poland 11/17

13. Participation in a working group concerned with the promotion of Neolithic lake stilt villages that have a UNESCO world heritage label. One of the listed sites is in the Chablais. 12/12.


15. Member of the Scientifique committee for the “Pays d’Art et Histoire” a national label promoting the Abondance Valley and that is to enlarge its area to include Evian.

16. Participation in the feasibility study for a new territorial discovery centre (report to be complete for 06/18).

Contact: contactaddress@yourgeopark.xx
17. Leading the development of a school project with a group of schools from the Thonon education district.

18. Participating with Ballaison junior school to create the digital discovery of the Pierre à Martin geosite.

19. Workshops with the secondary school teachers to train them how to use all the resources of the secondary school tool chests.

**Networking**

1. Hosting of a delegation from the Huanggang Dabieshan National Geopark, China. Presentation of our respective Geoparks and the discussion of a partnership agreement. 12/9

2. Meeting with the aspiring Beaujolais Geopark in the Chablais 24/10.

3. Organisation and hosting of a 3-day meeting in Chablais to prepare a new Erasmus+ application for submission in March 2018. With Rokua and Seisa Val Grande UNESCO Global Geoparks. 27-29/11

4. Networking with Geopark partners: a day-long meeting with Geopark partners (cultural sites, natural sites, educational farms), holiday/field centres and the Geopark guides. The object of the meeting was to reinforce contacts between parties and to promote the development of new products for residential school groups.

5. Annual meeting with Tethys, the association of Chablais Geopark guides to present the annual summary of Geopark activities and discuss the events for 2018. 9/11.


**Activity by Partners**

7. School outings led by accredited Chablais Geopark guides

8. Opening of a bio-gas plant on the plateau de Gavot (the catchment area for Evian mineral water)

9. Inauguration of the refurbished partner centre, the “Maison du Val” that is a site for discovering the typical cheese Abondance"

10. Creation of an augmented reality reconstruction of the 11th century Aulps Abbey. Participation of the Geopark by providing high resolution images of the rock textures (rough and sculpted) for parts of the building referred to in historical texts but that are no longer in situ.
CHELMOS - VOURAIKOS Geopark, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Educational excursion of 2nd and 3rd year students of the Department of Geology of the University of Patras at Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark, at November 2017


3. Postings with Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark activities on Facebook

Networking

1. Participation in the 40th European Geoparks Network Meeting, that took place in the Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal. September 2017

Activity by Partners

1. Participation in a meeting of the Hellenic National Committee for UNESCO with representatives of the five Greek Geoparks and representatives of the corresponding Regions and Municipalities, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Athens, with the purpose of informing the competent bodies about the progress of the UNESCO Global Geopark Program, identifying any problems and better coordinating actions with those involved.

2. Proposal for a Cooperation Plan entitled "REINFORCEMENT, DISTRIBUTION AND NETWORKING of UNESCO GEOPARKS" which we intend to include as a Project of Cooperation in our Local Program under Measure 19 "Support for Local Development through LEADER (Community Led Local Development, CLLD") of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) and Priority 4" Increasing employment and territorial cohesion" of the Greek Operational Programme for Fisheries and Sea (OPFS) 2014-2020.


Contact: fdxb@otenet.gr
Cilento and Vallo di Diano GEOPARK
Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

During last six months Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark staff started his work to improve the geological heritage conservation and promotion. The following are call out important activities:

**Networking**

1. Participation to the EGN CC meeting in Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, September 2017
2. Support to organization 8th International Conference on Geoparks in Adamello Brenta Geopark
3. Participation to the 14th European Geoparks Conference in Azores (Portugal) on September 2017 and submission of the article
4. Support for the aspiring Geoparks
5. Participation in working group of EGN
6. Organized International Day for Disaster Reduction, on 13th October 2017

**Geopark activities**

7. Annual program of environmental education in the schools of the park, with the purpose to introduce the young generations to environmental problems helping them to understand the values of the territory in which they live and the necessary actions for the correct maintenance and fruition. Such projects have been planned foreseeing moments of popularization in the classrooms integrated by excursions on the territory for the direct knowledge of the natural beauties and particularly of the geo-diversity present.
8. Attendance at the Archeologic Tourism Meeting in Paestum (ITALY) on November 2017;
9. We have produced new videos to promote the Geopark
10. Are realizing a new visibility (through a new panels) in all most important site and municipality of Geopark
11. Tour with the university students on the geosites
12. Participation some national and international workshop to promote the Geopark.
13. Participation in national programs television were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the EGN-GGN and has published some articles on the newspaper
14. We have created the brand of CVDA UGG. The aim of this brand is to promote and support
   - the productions / activities / services; the environmental, social and economic quality of the resources and production processes of the area;
   - Traditional heritage, typical productions and local handicrafts
   - The local actors in actions aimed at building a clear territorial identity
   - the marketing of products
   - the origin of the product / service
   - entrepreneurship and local employment
15. The Geopark is implementing the museum on geodiversity in the center in Vallo della Lucania (SA), and the museum of Geo-biodiversity in a new Centre of Castellabate (SA)

16. Organized, during the summer, cultural events in some municipalities, for geological historical and environmental valorisation of the territory. (for example Elea Velia geo-archeosite theatre)

17. We support the activities to recover an important geoarcheological site Elea velia

18. We started to realize a master plane to manage all UNESCO designations: an unique strategy of conservation

19. We started to create the book of UNESCO designation

20. Realized a several publication:
   - new comics “Primula Palinuro”
   - UNESCO Heritage in National Park of Cilento Vallo di Diano and Alburni Editor CVDA UGG(2017)
   - Comixs for pupils: primula la principessa nel regno del Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni editor CVDA UGG (2017)

Activity by Partners

21. We started with all stakeholder a permanent forum to sustainable tourism


23. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity and cultural heritage

Manager: Romano Gregorio direttore@cilentoediano.it
Geopark manager Aniello Aloia – a.aloia@cilentoediano.it
COPPER COAST GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Working with the “Atlantic Geoparks” EU Interreg project: signing the grant agreement, attending study meetings, developing work plans and procedures September 2017–March 2018.


4. Guided Geo and Eco tours which took place in association with Irish National Heritage Week. September 2017

5. Geology education workshops with participants from local primary schools took place both within Geopark and within local City as part of National Science Week in collaboration with Waterford Institute of technology. November 2018

6. A new part time administrative assistant was employed by the Geopark to work on administrative issues. November 2017

7. Geological text for a new interpretative board for a local walk (Ann Valley Walk) was developed in co-ordination with a local group and the Geological Survey of Ireland. January 2018


9. The Copper Coast Geopark Christmas fair took place in our visitor centre and featured local craft and food stalls for sale, this was very well attended. December 2017

10. Work took place in collaboration with local county council to develop geological interpretation installations for a local cycle route linking with the Waterford Greenway.

11. Developing a project to create a geopark themed cycle route within the Copper Coast Geopark. September 2017-March 2018.


14. A presentation of the Geopark was made to local authority representatives in order to come up with a combined strategy going forward towards revaluation in 2019. February 2018.

15. A Geopark craft skills taster workshop was held with local crafters. February 2018

16. Educational development project “Earthsense” continues” with visits and workshops for education groups between 5 and 12 years old. September 2017 to March 2018.

Contact: robbie@coppercoastgeopark.com
Networking

17. Attended meeting of Irish Geoparks forum and gave presentation to Geological Survey on Geopark projects during 2017, November 2017

18. Participation in the successful Atlantic Geoparks INTERREG Atlantic Area project on sustainable geotourism networking and development. Coordinator: Arouca Geopark, other partners include 13 Geoparks and 3 supporting partners, total budget: 1,665,509 €, CCUG budget: 135700 €. Kick-off meeting in Idrija UGG, March 2018

19. Participation and oral presentations at the 14th European Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, Azores Geopark, Portugal. At the same venue, participation in the 39th EGN CC meeting, September 2017.

Activity by Partners

20. Production of Irish Geoparks booklet by Marble Arch Geopark October 2017
EL HIERRO GEOPARK, CANARY ISLANDS - SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017-March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs, FITUR (Madrid, January 2018), VELOFOLLIES (Bélgica, January 2018) NANTES (Francia, January 2018), TOURNATUR, (Düsseldorf, German, September 2017), UNIBIKE (Madrid, September 2017).

2. Celebration of the Second Open Online Fotosub El Hierro, images and videos Competition on line. Organiced by the Cabildo Insular of El Hierro (First winner, September, October, November and December de 2017 y January and February febrero 2018).

3. Start-up of the El Hierro Smart Islands project "that revolves around three areas of action in sustainability material, Smart Government and Security and Emergencies. (March 2018)

4. Permaculture design course (January 2018)

5. World Tourism Day Campaign to promote tourism in El Hierro, educational talks: El Hierro Geopark, sustainability, gastronomy and promotion of natural and cultural heritage (September 2017)

6. XVII Craft Fair of El Hierro. Support to the industrial sector and ecotourism (December 2017)

7. Presentation and implementation of the project "Young Ambassadors of Geoparks (February 2018)

8. Start-up of the El Hierro Geopark Project in the "El Pinar" nature classroom for educational groups on the island

Networking


10. Co-development of the project "Young ambassadors of the Geopark", between the Geoparks of Molina de Aragón and Alto Tajo, and El Hierro.

11. Participation in the working group for the edition of the 2018 calendar of the Spanish Geoparks..

Activity by Partners


Contact: lancehaume@el-hierro.org
13. Four year of "educational geological Routes" for groups of local students and visitors, conducted by company personnel Insular Public Service El Meridiano (Geopark partner). More than 1,000 participants from September 2017 to March 2018.


15. Geo-tapas route in Frontera from December 2017.
ENGLISH RIVIERA GEOPARK, UK

Progress Report, September - March 2018

Geopark Activities

2. Construction of 2nd large ERUGG logo’d welcome sign at the main entrance to the Geopark underway. Once installed the sign will target those heading to Paignton and Brixham thus supporting the sign already in place on the main Torquay route.
3. Social media remains active with @RivieraGeopark having 4,045 followers on twitter and our facebook page has 997 Likes.
4. Ongoing liaison with the Paignton Community Partnership regarding the Paignton Geopark in particular related maintenance which is now being funded by the onsite refreshment kiosk.
5. A new ERUGG Associate Partnership level is being introduced to enable greater opportunity for collaboration with local organisations and businesses.
6. The Geopark Management Group have initiated discussions with the Torbay Development Agency and Torbay Council re future sustainability.
7. Coordination of the 2018 Geopark Festival, 26 May to 3 June is underway.

Networking

8. Melanie Border participation in GGN Executive Board.
9. Participation of Melanie Border and Nick Powe in the 40th European Geoparks Network AC and Coordination Committee meeting.
10. Melanie Border met with Rory Stuart, the Minister for International Development along with James Bridge (Chief Executive of UK National Commission for UNESCO) and Chris Woodley-Stewart (North Pennines AONB and UGG).
12. Melanie Border participation in the 2nd UNESCO Global Geoparks Council meeting held in Zhijindong, China.
14. As previous host of the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks the English Riviera is providing advice and support to Adamello Brenta who will host the conference in 2018.
15. Nick Powe and Melanie Border hosted a visit by Jon Carter, Chief Executive, Jersey Heritage and Peter Chowne, Jersey consultant who are considering working towards UGG status with other partners in the area.

Activity by partners

16. Brixham Heritage Museum has published a new book titled ‘Brixham; its history and its place in History.'
17. Ready for the coming season Kents Cavern café has undergone a refurbishment to create the Firestone Kitchen, now complete with stalactite lampshades and wallpaper, ice-age facts on the tables and a menu fit for a caveman.

18. Following significant storm damage, the Paignton Geoplay Park has had to be temporarily closed. Volunteers and partners are working to clean up the park and ensure all equipment is repaired and safe in order to pass the required play safety standards. Whilst the park is closed Stoneycombe, a local quarry, run by Aggregates South are donating and delivering additional limestone boulders to be used in order to improve safety and discourage access to and from certain areas.

19. Brixham Heritage Museum have launched a new Heritage Lottery funded project titled ‘Fishawkers’ which celebrates the role of women in the town’s success.

20. A new partnership has been formed with Donald Knaack aka The Junkman, who will now act as an Arts Education Ambassador for the Geopark. Donald, who chose to stay in this area due to the alignment of his thinking with the Geopark status, is a classically trained percussionist from America visiting on a long term ‘exceptionally talented’ UK visa. Donald runs workshops and performs creating musical instruments and compositions with only recycled materials. His performances integrate information on climate change and eco-friendly messages. He has performed worldwide, including solo concert at the United Nation’s COP 16 Conference on Climate Change in Cancun, Mexico. To celebrate Earth Day, Donald will represent the Geopark at the GRINAGOG music festival. Subject to funding, Donald also hopes to run a Global Junkjam with other UGG’s on World Environment Day, 5 June.

21. A partnership is developing with the Cleaner Coasts Initiative. The member organisations of the Torbay Cleaner Coast Initiative have all previously been involved in marine conservation and voluntary projects. They shared a common vision to work collectively to improve the marine and coastal environment within Torbay.

22. Kents Cavern hosted the the annual conference of the Association of British and Irish Showcaves which included a field trip to Berry Head National Nature Reserve in order to experience the wide variety of sites in the Geopark.

23. David Harbott of Smooth Space arts organisation has submitted a funding bid to Arts Council England to work with the Geopark on a project that will share inaccessible areas of the coast line with the community of the bay. If successful the project will also integrate work with the some of the other EGN members in the Coastal Working group.

24. The Geopark Management Group has agreed to support Kate Paxman whose PhD work explores the uncertain nature of our current economic climate and the ecological moment, especially focused on the crisis we are facing from climate change.

25. The Geopark Management Group has agreed to form a partnership with SeaKayak Torbay, a new company setting up this year who wish to operate as a Geopark tour provider.

26. The English Riviera Tourism BID company, the areas new destination marketing company, have featured the Geopark in the main English Riviera destination guide for 2018.
Geopark Activities


8. Talk to Monmouth U3A- University of the third age group on the geology and history of Geopark and National Park, 14th February 2018.


EGN Common Projects

14. Ongoing participation with several other Geoparks in the EU Atlantic Interreg Project, September 2017 to March 2018 including meetings with partners in the Azores CC Meeting and the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark, Ireland

Conservation and Geo-conservation


17. Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark participated in the RIGS - Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites- Annual General Meeting in Pontneddfechan on 11th November 2017. The operational area of the South East Wales RIGS Group, which engages in geoconservation, includes the whole of the Geopark.

**Education**
18. WJEC training for teachers re the Glacial Processes Module of Welsh curriculum KS3 stage. WJEC is an examination board, providing qualifications and exam assessment to schools and colleges in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and independent regions.

**Mentoring Aspiring Geoparks**
19. Meeting with delegates from Ruenzori Mountains National Park, 11th December 2017.

20. Visit by two representatives from the Jersey Aspiring Geopark, UK on 28th February 2018.

**Research**
21. Sediment DNA and pollen stratigraphy at Traeth Mawr Geosite: This research involves scientists from Cardiff University’s Schools of Biosciences, Earth and Ocean Sciences, and School of History, Archaeology and Religion, and Fforest Fawr Geopark.

22. Structural Geology of the Swansea Valley and Vale of Neath Disturbance : A collaborative project involving the School of Earth & Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University and Fforest Fawr.

23. Participation in meeting with University of South Wales aimed at strengthening research ties 13th-14th September 2017.

**Networking**
24. Participation, including an oral presentation at the 14th EGN Conference, Ponta Delgada Azores and the preceding 40th EGN CC and AC meetings.

25. Editing EGN Magazine 15 and contributing the article, *Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark’s geological, industrial and cultural heritage as resources for Geotourism.*

26. Editing articles in the EGN Newsletters 9, 10 and 11.

**Contact Details.** Julian Atkins <Julian.Atkins@breconbeacons.org>

Tony Ramsay <Tonymel@btinternet.com>
GEA NORVEGICA GEOPARK, NORWAY

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Further development of the exhibition in the Geopark Center, new objects and a timeline on the floor with illustrations.

2. Special Christmas event in the Geopark center for politicians and stakeholders.

3. Regular events for schools on topics related to geo diversity and bio diversity, culture and history.

4. Hosted a seminar on nature resources, for the public.

5. Guide meeting with planning for guides tours for the next season

6. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.

7. Open week in the Geopark center for schoolchildren in the autumn holydays.

8. Strategic meeting with main contacts in the municipalities.


10. Developed four new 4-page locality brochures in German. Printed or read online and download for local print from web site.

11. Developed a tourist brochure and a travel guide in German

12. Finished and published on YouTube five new Geopark films, three touristic and two educational films.

13. Agreement with tour operator on geo-trip in 2019

14. Participating in project meetings, about historic grindstone production.

15. Meetings in advisory committee for Jomfruland national park

Networking

16. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and the GGN conference in Azores Global Geopark, UK.

17. Manager is vice coordinator in EGN and member of GGN ExB. Several Skype meetings with GGN ExB and meetings with other Global Geoparks and Geopark project.

18. UGG Council meeting Zhijindong China and APGN

19. GGN ExB meeting in Beijing

Contact: post@geanor.no
20. Meeting in Norwegian Geopark committee


**Activity by Partners**

22. New tour concepts for next season developed by partners
GEOLOGICAL, MINING, HISTORICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARK OF SARDINIA, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


3. Fifth Meeting of Re.Mi. (National Italian Network of Parks and Mining Museums) Committee. Aosta, October, 5-6, 2017.

4. Event entitled: "La Miniera con Te". Guided tours to the mining village of Su Suergiu (Villasalto). Guided tours for students who relive the mining village, its history with particular attention to the antimony and its processing systems. October, 27-28, 2017.


6. Presentation of the documentary movie entitled "Le spose del Grand Hornu", at the Central Theater of Carbonia. The movie tells the story of the Sardinian miners who emigrated en masse to the Belgian coal mines in the 50s of the last century, attracted by the mirage of a better life, following the agreements signed by the Italian government with the Belgian government. The event is part of the celebrations for the 79th anniversary of the foundation of the City of Carbonia. December, 18, 2017.


10. Presentation of results of the project UNESCO EDU PROGRAM: Heritage and Landscape between Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, promoted by the Young Committee of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO in Sardinia. January, 2018


12. Course of educational tourism entitled "Good tourism for a good growth" the territory as a training tourism laboratory, in collaboration with the High School of Environmental Tourism (ASTA), Vivilitalia and AIGAE. February 5-10, 2018.

Contact: patriziamedas@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it  
robertorizzo@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it
13. Video interviews filmed and recorded for the project "Oral History preservation". In these interviews miners discuss their work experiences. From September 2017 to March, 2018.

**Networking**


**Activity by Partners**


18. Conference entitled: “Mining contexts between memories, work and heritage, a trans-local perspective”. In collaboration with the project "Lives' histories and work in the Mining Geopark of Sardinia", Department of Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences, University Museum System Museum of Mineralogy "Luigi Bombicci" Bologna, 25-26 October, 2017. In collaboration with the Department of Education Sciences, University of Roma Tre.


22. Event entitled: "Cammino 100 Torri". A path along an island. A tour of 1280 km on foot along the coasts of Sardinia that will pass through 88 municipalities and will reach over 100 ancient coastal towers. Event promoted by Cammino 100 Torri Association and the Geological Mining Historical and Environmental Park of Sardinia. February, 2018.

23. International Women's Day, Hall of the municipality of Guspini. The documentary movie entitled "Le spose del Grand Hornu". The movie tells the story of the Sardinian miners who emigrated en masse to the Belgian coal mines in the 50s of the last century, attracted by the mirage of a better life, following the agreements signed by the Italian government with the Belgian government. March, 8, 2018.

Contact: patriziamedas@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it
robertorizzo@parcogeominerario.sardegna.it
GEOMÔN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, WALES, UK

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Michael Roberts working on University research and connect it to GeoMon in funding September- March 1st
2. Attended Azores meeting with Iwan Huws our Business representative from Anglesey Council. September
3. Held 3 Board meetings re onward work following on from revalidation and meeting once received the green card.
4. “Field course arranged for American lady writer for 2 days..
5. Took on a work experience student for 2 weeks in September. 
6. Working with our artists providing rocks to be used as display in new Science building in Gaerwen and one creating entrance sculptures.
7. Meetings in Penrhyn Quarry re slate use and with Inigo Jones slate works re production..
8. Distribution drive with updated and reprinted book Footsteps and our other books in our geo-centre where visitor numbers more than doubled in the past year. 
9. 2 Lectures on geoparks to over 55’s and U3A Bangor plus 1 in Amlwch Port with the Amlwch Industrial Heritage Trust joint programme March 2018.
10. Preparation work for 4 geologists and four of our guides to run a 4 day course on the geology and other natural sciences in the Geopark for the entire 12th year of the French School (Lycee) in London with 85 students and 6 staff. Course on plate tectonics on the island for 4 days.
11. New promotional leaflet (for year 2018) with logo and main features of visitor centres and interpretive sites of the Geopark (250,000 copies, in English and Hungarian), February 2018.
12. Research Ph.D. student from Cardiff University started his research in Anglesey on tectonics at Newborough and Cemaes. GeoMon is co-supervising his work for the University.
13. Working with Bangor University on possible joint research on the coastal ares of Anglesey and with the AONB.
14. Continuing membership on the Joint Advisory Council of the AONB, member of the Landscape Partnership and they are to have a heritage lottery grant in which GeoMon is involved.
15. Involved in the early stages of the Atlantic INTERREG Group with other geoparks along the western fringes of Europe.

Networking

16. GeoMon Volunteers working with AONB volunteers in Newborough area .
17. Working with the BBC on Radio 4 as one of their local spokespersons on politics on the island, transport and the environment.
18. Participation in 4 TV programmes on the Menai Strait by one of our Board members. place of connections. 

Contact: contactaddress@yourgeopark.xx
19. Participating in the work of the EGN Volcanic Geoparks, mining and Coastal groups at EGN meetings.

20. Membership with the Anglesey Tourism Group and participating in their events and attending training sessions.


22. Attending meetings with Horizon in the Nuclear Power Station regarding the protection of geosites in their new power station to be built. 3 visits to the area in the last 5 months.

**Activity by Partners**

23. Bangor University joint working to get funding on projects in which we both participate along our coast culminating with laser work, apps and tourism information in all tourism outlets on the coast and involving local people and businesses to attract more visitors.

24. Working with Cadnabt Gardens and providing tours and joint events over the summer months and in Geopark week.

25. Co-working with NRW on any site problems and monitoring of our sites.

26. Combining work with the University and the North Wales Wildlife Trust to provide walks in theirs and our festivals.

27. Working with the Holy Island partnership to provide community, conservation and educational benefits to the small island in NW Anglesey. It is a 2 year programme with the National lottery.

28. Working with Llanbadrig Community Council to produce a town trail.

29. Working with Cardiff University to co-supervise the Ph.D. student in Anglesey.

30. On the advice of Wales’ 1st Minister we are to work more closely with the Anglesey AONB as both organisations are striving for the same goals.

31. We have been liaising with Snowdonia National Park as they did consider applying to be a Geopark or combine with us. However, in the present climate their money has been cut by the government and so this is in abeyance.

Dr M. Wood. GeoMon UNESCO Global Geopark, College, Llansadwrn, Menai Bridge, Anglesey, LL59 5SN. Email: college@btinternet.com phon 0044 (0)1248 810287

Contact: contactaddress@yourgeopark.xx
HATEG COUNTRY DINOSAURS GEOPARK, ROMANIA

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing more than two hundreds news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook;

2. 18 volunteers trained and 13 selected as Geopark Ambassadors for one year;

3. Guided visits program for students and secondary school teachers;

4. The EduGeopark Project „GeoExplorers in search of the Geopark treasures” was approved in the activity calendar of the Hunedoara Scholar Inspectorate. Geo-Explorers Clubs in nine secondary schools to learn about local geodiversity;

5. The Volunteers Big Autumn Reunion, an event where the geopark ambassadors and volunteers presented their activities. Organised in IC Bratianu High School;

6. Two national prizes won by the geopark in the National Gala of Protected Areas;


8. The Geopark signed an agreement for joint promotion of UNESCO designations in Hunedoara County with Retezat UNESCO MAB Reserve and the Dacian Fortresses UNESCO World Heritage Site. This will ensure a greater visibility for the respective organisations but also for the UNESCO labels on a national and international level;

9. Geopark presentation in four national or regional conferences and events

Networking

10. HCDG signed a twinning agreement with Tumbler Ridge GG (Canada);

11. Visit of Sarah Gamble from Tumbler Ridge GG, in September;

12. New Instagram GGN project in partnership with Tumbler Ridge and other GG;

13. EGN CC meeting, conference and Geo-Fair in Azores; two presentations;

14. Contribution to EGN magazine Issue 15;

15. Representatives of Hateg, Sesia Val Grande and Magma Global Geoparks presented the UNESCO Geopark Program in the International Academy on Sustainable Development – Management of UNESCO designated sites, Torino, Italy 8 –13 October 2017;

16. Application of an Admira Cultural project in partnership with Magma Geopark;

17. Cultural cooperation project between Hateg and Luberon Global Geoparks (Pierres et Couleur) a common art exhibition in Bucharest: Periplu Ancestral

18. The Second meeting of the National Geoparks Forum (14th of December);

Contact: mesajalex@yahoo.com
19. Sustain three new geoparks initiatives in Romania

20. Presentation of the Geopark at the event Day of the UNESCO Heritage, organised by Hunedoara County;

21. A joint training for Geopark Managers on the innovative and participative development of geoproducts and SCOM meeting was organised in Hateg for the Danube GeoTour Interreg Project;

**Activity by Partners**

22. Drag de Hateg Association carried out a project where the mascot Andi Andesite travelled to other Geoparks around the world and EcoTourism destinations in Romania;

23. Wild Roots Association created a new interpretation point, The House of Rocks, in partnership with HCDGG;

24. Interreg project IMPACT - the Geopark is a stakeholder and a good practices example. A conference was organised in Hateg;

25. Participation in European Virtual Seminar (on line - coordinated by the University of the Netherlands) with the GEO module having Hateg Geopark as a case study;

26. The new UNESCO Geopark Program and Hateg Global Geopark are presented in a new national educational book: *Let’s discover UNESCO Heritage*

27. Creative Traditions fair in Bucharest where two presentations about the Geopark were held and a stand with products to promote the Geopark;

28. Participation in the Ecotourism Fair in London

29. Participation in the National Tourism Fair, Bucharest, February 2018

30. HCDG participated in Nature and Traditions fair organised by ProPark Association in Brasov;

Contact: mesajalex@yahoo.com
HAUTE PROVENCE UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. First stage realisation of a consultant study for the future development of the Musee Promenade as UGHP showcase
2. Realisation of an exhibition on Natural hazards
4. Realisation of more than 15 video production on HPUGGp events and second step of drone landscape inventory in the Geopark municipalities.
5. Realisation of several training days for the HPUGGp partners.
6. Integration of new HPUGGp partners.
7. Participation in several National and regional events (Fete de la science, etc.)
8. Opening 3 new HPUGGp site dedicated to Natural Hazards
9. Renewing 20 Information panels in the HPUGGP territory
10. Developing new project for conservation of the ammonites slab (Geological reserve)
11. Developing new project for the Ichthyosaurus Museum insitu (Geological Reserve)
12. Study for the establishment of a new parking for ichthyosaurus acces inside the La Robine municipality to provide better sustainable development to local population
13. Launching project to reinstal lavender fields in Alpine HPUGGp municipality (Barles)
14. Opening of a new path to discover antique mines in Barles
15. Organisation of conference and meetings inside several HPUGGp municipalities
16. Participation in several National and Regional TV programs
17. Creation of a new exhibition on HPUGGp snake and ecosystem (opening in April 2018)
18. New policy of local product promotion inside the Musee Promenade shop

Networking

20. Assuming GGN Secretariat and bank management
21. Participation in a new EU program RURITAGE with UNESCO and several European geoparks
22. Participation in the 40th EGN Meeting in Azores and participation inside the French stand promoting Geoparks
23. Participation in the 5th APGN meeting, Zhijidong (China)

Contact: contactaddress@yourgeopark.xx
24. Participation in the 1st meeting of GeoLAG (South American Geopark network) and participation in the workshop for South American Geoparks.

Activity by Partners

25. Several events and fair organized by HPUGGp partners


27. New exhibition of contemporary art organized by the CAIRN

28. Local tour operator HPUGGp partner (Mandala voyage) has organized for 20 French participants 10 days trekking and discovery in Dong Van UNESCO Global Geopark (Vietnam) and has met Yan in this Geopark.
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK HARZ · BRAUNSCHWEIGER LAND · OSTFALEN, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Workshop “Science at the Geopark Area Braunschweiger Land” at Schoeningen and Helmstedt, September 17
2. Several guided tours at the German Geosite Day “Tag des Geotops”, September 17
3. Opening of the new Geopark Information Point Cremlingen, September 17
4. Presentation of 6 new info Panels at Geotrail Blankenburg, October 17
5. Opening of the new Info Panel “Mineralienschlucht”, October 17
6. Presentation of the new Info Panel in Wasserleben and of new Geopark-Steles in Heudeber and Langeln, November 17
7. Presentation of new Geopark-Steles in Elend and Osterode, November 17
8. Presentation of the new Info Panels Eisdorf and Tiefe Kuhle, November 17
9. Reprint (German) of the Landmark Leaflets No 1 / Hübichenstein near Bad Grund, No 3 / Rammelsberg and No 5 / Schloss Herzberg, November 17
10. Reprint (Englisch) of the Landmark Leaflets No 1 / Hübichenstein and No 16 / Sachsenstein November 17
11. Presentation of Info Panel “Charlottenstollen”, December 17
12. Presentation of Info Panel “Hagenteich”, December 17
13. Presentation of the Leaflet „Art Exhibitions in the UNESCO Global Geopark Area“, January 18
14. Presentation of Info Panel “Schalker Teich”, January 18
15. Presentation of Info Panel “Wernigerode Castle”, January 18

Networking

16. Participation in the Conference “Geo Bremen 2017”, September 17
17. Participation in the 40th EGN-Meeting and UNESCO-Geopark-Conference at Azores / Portugal, September 2017
18. Meeting of Geopark Advisory Committee in Hondelage, October 17

Contact: geopark.hblo@email.de or rvh@harzregion.de
19. Participation in Meeting of the German National Geopark Group at Geopark Terra.vita in Osnabrueck, November 17

20. Participation in Meeting of the German UNESCO Geopark Forum at Geopark Terra.vita in Osnabrueck, November 17

21. Participation in the DUK-workshop “Education for sustainable development” at Geopark Terra.vita in Osnabrueck, November 17

22. Participation in the DUK-workshop “Energy revolution / alternative energy” in Bonn, November 17

23. Meeting of the Geopark Executive Board in Quedlinburg, December 17

24. Official acceptance of new co-operative members to the Geopark-Association Braunschweiger Land – Ostfalen (Velpke municipality, Israel Jacobson Network), January 18

25. General Meeting of the Geopark Association TV BLO in Koenigslutter, January 18

26. Kick-off event for a new tourism concept for Elm-Lappwald-Boerde-Area, February 18

27. Participation in Meeting of the German UNESCO Geopark Forum at Fulda, February 17

28. Participation in ITB tourism fair Berlin with a press conference about UNESCO Geoparks, March 18

**Activity by Partners**

29. Presentation at Oberharzer Bergwerksmuseum „Ein Hölzchen gab Licht“, October 17

30. Sunday hiking tours on the Karst Hiking Trail, October 17 to January 18

31. Workshop “Sandstone-Geotrail Ummendorf”, Museum Ummendorf Castle, November 17

32. Start of the new Geoguide-Course managed by LEB Helmstedt, November 17

33. Presentation at Oberharzer Bergwerksmuseum „Erzbergbau“, February 18

34. Geopark tours and events of several partners, Calendar of Events 2017/18

Contact: geopark.hblo@email.de or rvh@harzregion.de
THE HONDSRUG UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, THE NETHERLANDS

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook and on Twitter.

2. Guides, belonging to Hondsrug Geopark and to our partners National Park Drentsche Aa, Drents Landscape Foundation and the State Forestry Commission have offered guided walks to the public throughout the year.

3. Several presentations for groups like Rotary, Vrouwen van Nu, councils etc.

4. The Geopark promotion team is doing a good job. The team consists of volunteers who have actively promote regional activities at fairs and other events.

5. To make entrepreneurs Ambassadors of the Geopark we are running a project for entrepreneurs to use the special qualities of the region. In principle, it concerns a three-year project. The project concentrates on the following components: Hostess, Guest Orientation and Hospitality; Making use of the region and ambassadorship; Cooperation and regional products. Especially the course for ambassadorship is very successful. We have 70 ambassadors already.

6. We developed the primal tour. A tool for visitors to make their own packages.

7. In February we have organised the annual Small Business Fair. The theme of the fair was “The Hondsrug a primal experience”. There were Keynote speakers about the marketing of the region and the impact of social media. We presented the primal tour. We had a small market with product from the region.

8. In February 2018 we started a new lecture series by the Hondsrug Academy. This time it was organized in Borger. The attendance was satisfying.

9. Together with the state forestry we are developing a new project in the Hunzebos. Developing exiting walking trails for adults and children with the use of augmented reality.

10. Organising of the Mystery of the Sleenerzand in the autumn. A very successful evening walk with candle lights. During the walk the people meet story tellers, prehistoric people and mysterious dancers.

11. Publication hundreds of post in the Facebook page of our Geopark with very high organic reach (more than 3,300 “Likes” recently), September 2017–March 2018.

12. Launching our new website of our Geopark:

Networking

13. Huneweg: Together with Terra Vita Geopark and Naturpark Moor, a transnational project is being developed around the Huneweg. The aim is to combine the Existing Hunenweg with our long distance Hondsrug path. To make it a “European Quality trail. Best off Europe”.

Contact: Cathrien Posthumus | c.posthumus@dehondsrug.nl

15. Together with the German Geopark Terra Vita and the Drenthe province we started an Interreg Netzwerk project about UNESCO and marketing. Together with the entrepreneurs and other organization we developed a program with several activities. This program will be converted into an Interreg application.

16. We hosted several groups from aspiring Geopark from the Netherlands.

**Activity by Partners**

17. The Geopark Cross Circuit for running clubs has been organized again.

18. The Geopark Hondsrug Classic, a mountain bike tour (amateurs and professionals) has been organized again.

19. The Hunebed Centre is making a new exposition in their museum

20. One of our partners developed a new product. Visit nature with Ekotours. An electric of the road car.
IDRIJA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SLOVENIA

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


3. Participation at tourism fairs, festivals, etc.: ITB Berlin, March 2018

4. Publishing in EGN Newsletter, Issue 10, preparing article for EGN Magazine no. 15, September 2017 – March 2018

5. Carrying out school programme for high school (Jurij Vega grammar school Idrija), October 2017

6. Carrying out (implementing) school programme for elementary schools, October 2017 and February 2018

7. Preparing and Turf Hung App game on a Idrija UGG trails – Along Rake trail, October 2017

8. Preparing conceptual plan, materials, texts within the expert group for the Visitors Centre of Idrija UGG (within the Danube GeoTour project), September 2017 – March 2018

9. Creating a geoproducts trade mark of Idrija UGG within working group (4 workshops), comprised of local providers, public institutions, experts (within Danube GeoTour project), October 2017 – March 2018

10. Researching legislation regarding conservation of natural heritage, preparing local recommendation for visitors, investors and inhabitants (withing Danube GeoTour project), January – March 2018

11. Preparing texts and photos for brochure about Natural parks in Slovenia, co-financed by Slovenian Tourism Board, November 2017 – March 2018

12. Preparing new promotional leaflet of Idrija UGG with logo and main features and interpretative sites in English and German, March 2018

13. Support preparing a project leaflet for Danube GeoTour project, March 2018

Networking

1. Carrying out a study tour to visitors centres in Austria (Nationalpark Welten Erleben and Haus der Berge) together with Karavanke/Karawanken UGG in the frame of IGGP programme, October 2017

2. Preparing programme for the EGN Week 2018, Januar – March 2018

3. Mentoring two compulsory study practices for two students of geology from University of Ljubljana, Faculty for natural sciences, geology dept., November – December 2017

4. Preparing and designing programmes for elementary schools, January – March 2018

Contact: mojca.gorjup-kavcic@geopark-idrija.si
5. Presentation of Idrija UGG for Jurij Vega grammar school pupils during Social science Day, October 2017

6. Presentation of Idrija UGG to the members of UNESCO associated Schools Project Network (98 representatives of 75 schools and kindergartens from all over Slovenia), October 2017

7. Presenting Danube GeoTour project and Idrija UGG at the 6th EUSDR Annual Forum in Budapest, October 2017

8. Leading and managing Danube GeoTour project, co-financed by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, September 2017 – March 2018

9. Participating at the geo-training in Karavanke-Karavanken UGG and steering the 1st Intermediate partner meeting in the frame of Danube GeoTour in Styrian Eisenwurzen UGG, September 2017

10. Participating at the geoproducts training and steering 2nd Intermediate partner meeting and First Year Control by the JS in the Danube GeoTour in Hateg UGG, February 2018

11. Leading and managing ESTEAM project, co-financed by the Erasmus + EU programme (reports, national control), September 2017 – March 2018

12. Participating and steering the 3rd partner meeting in Magma UGG, October 2017

13. Organising and steering 4th partner meeting in ESTEAM project in Idrija UGG, March 2018


15. Participation at the 41th EGN CC meeting in Karavanke/Karawanken UGG, March 2018

16. Participating at the GeoFair event within the EGN CC meeting in Karavanke/Karawanken UGG, March 2018

17. Organise post field trip after EGN CC meeting in Karavanke/Karawanken UGG, March 2018

Activity by Partners

18. Interpretation board “Wetlands in Gačnik” in co-operation of Local Community Vojsko and Idrija UGG

19. Public event about the flax production by Flax women, September 2017

20. Organising inter-school themed day of all School Network members within Geopark Idrija, September 2017

Contact: mojca.gorjup-kavic@geopark-idrija.si
Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV (Servus TV, A-Kanal, …), radio (Radio "Trst", “Radio Pomurski val”, “Radio prvi”, …), press); active presence in social networks: Facebook @geoparkkarawanken and @geoparKaravanke on Twitter.

2. Updating the web site http://www.geopark-karawanken.at with new chapters.

3. Articles about the Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark and Geofestival 2017 in regional journal ŠUMC, Delo, Slovenske Novice ("Slovene News"), N-vestnik, Večer Koroška, Kronen Zeitung ...


5. Participation at the several international fairs: NATOUR Alpe-Adria fair, Ljubljana, Slovenia (31.01.-03.02.2018); CMT - “die Urlaubs-Messe” in Stuttgart, Germany (13.-14.01.2018); International tourism fair - Ferien Messe Vienna 2018, 11.-14.01.2018 (Wien, Austria); Foto Messe: Photo + Adventure 2017 - Event for Photography, Travel and Outdoor in Wien, Austria (11.-12.11.2017); f.re.e—The Fair for Travel and Leisure in München, Germany (23.-24.02.2018); at The Munich Show – Mineralientage München (26.-28.10.2017) and participation at the exhibition „Alpine mines deposits"; article in the fair’s Theme Book 2017: "From mine to mine".


11. “Short image video” filming, in the frame of Danube GeoTour project, 06.-08.02.2018.


13. Implementation of several “Winter offers” in the Geopark Karavanke/Karawanken - “snow-shoe” hiking, …
Networking

14. Participation of the Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark representatives at Slovenia and Austria Geopark Forum meetings.


16. Participation of 6 delegates from the Geopark Karavanke/Karawanken, and two oral presentations at the 14th Conference of European Geoparks (7th-9th of September 2017, Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, Ponta Delgada).


21. Activity in the frame of 41st EGN CC Meeting organisation, which will take place in the Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark, between 19th and 24th of March 2018.

22. Participation at the ITB BERLIN - International Tourism Fair, together with the European Geoparks Network (07.-11.03.2018).


Activity by Partners


25. Ongoing INTERREG DANUBE GeoTour Project.

26. Preparing new application forms for founding programs (INTERREG, HORIZON 2020, …).

27. Activities (workshops, meetings …) in the frame of the establishment of the EGTC (European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation).


Contact: office@geopark-karawanken.at
KATLA GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news on the media (south Iceland press, August) and on line, about the Geopark Revalidation mission and visits to all the different formal partners of the Geopark. Active presence in social networks: Facebook and twitter (Sep-Mar)

2. GeoSaga (KUGG) exhibition inaugurated in Partner facilities Kötulsetur, Vík (Okt)

3. Hörður, new member of staff, full time geologist starts work (Nov)

4. Decision regarding tourism clusters, to further elaborate on private contracts and less on the suggested dissolvent of clusters, but cooperating with clusters. (Nov)


6. Receiving of the Green card after revalidation, interview on national radio (Jan)

7. Introduction of the Geopark and SWAT analysis with teachers (Nov) and pupils (Jan) of GEO school Hvolsskóli.

8. Action plan of Katla UNESCO Global Geopark 2018-2021 accepted by Municipalities, governmental agency partners on behalf of Ministry of Environment (Jan,feb)

9. New Tourist map for whole of the Geopark, first publication (Feb).

10. Updating the web site www.katlageopark.com / .is with new chapters on geosites and partners (Sep-March).

11. Number 4, six-monthly newsletter. Sent to all municipal webpages and webpage and fb of Katla geopark.

12. Preparation of first ever national Wader festival / International Migrants day (12 May) dedicated to the Whimbrel in cooperation with Fræðasetur HÍ (Tómas), Náttúrufræðistofnun and Fuglavernd. Flag made. Cooperation with Geo-schools.

Networking

13. Submitted an article for the 10th and 11th EGN newsletter (Nov, Feb)

14. Participation in the 14th CC EGN Meeting and Conference in Azores Geopark Sept.

15. Three oral communications at EGN Conference Azores Geopark in September 2017, participated into two sessions as chairman and participation in Volcanic Geoparks and Geohazards working group as well as new group: Geo-Education.

Contact: Brynja Davíðsdóttir brynja@katlageopark.is
16. Hosting and co-hosting seminars and field trip for Check Geopark project and Slovakia Iridia Geopark (Aug).

17. Participation as a lecture (SS) and partner in two courses for the management and enhancement of ruined moss coverage. Hosted by formal partner: Icelandic soil conservation agency in cooperation with formal partner: Environmental agency (Sept).

18. Closing of Drifting apart project, - printing of info panels etc. (-Dec) preparation for final conference and field trip, Raykjanes and Katla in Feb 2018.

19. RURITAGE Horizon 2020 ongoing application procedure for 2nd phase (Sept), application accepted (Des). Katla: role model for Resilience to natural hazards

20. Ongoing work on GeoVR and GeoMuseum projects, filming and finishing/printing of Earth’s storyline.


22. Advertisement stand of Iceland travel (Ferðamálastofa) on the two Icelandic geoparks, Azores EGN conference (Sept).

23. Chairing of first meeting with governmental agencies cooperation group for Governmental funding of the Geopark (Nov).

24. Action plan for Katla Geopark 2018-20121 made (sept-jan) and accepted by municipalities and governmental cooperation group (Jan-Feb).

25. Two papers written for Ministry of environment regarding legal protection of geosites Seljalandsfoss and Fjaðrárgljúfur (Nov).

26. Meeting with board and the Marketing body of south Iceland for better marketing and cooperation, also regarding partner enterprises and fees (Nov).

27. Meeting with tourism sector of Municipality Rangárþing eystra on communal direction (Dec).

28. Conference preparation meetings and cooperation with nations leading scientists, KUGG and Major of Mýrldal for 100 year inauguration of Katla eruption, for Okt 2018 (Dec)

29. Participation in national tourism fair Mannamót (Jan)

Activity by Partners


31. Vatnajökull national park new signage for geosites Langisjór, Lakagígar and Eldgjá, with Katla Geopark logos, co-financed.

32. Festival of Icelandic language, waterfalls in GeoSchool Vik, resulting in an article published in regional newspaper (Nov).

33. Preparation of text and layout of cultural information signs by Kötlusetur Vik in the name of Katla UNESCO Global Geopark.
KULA GEOPARK, TURKEY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Elementary school students from the surrounding area were taken to the geopark where they are given information about the landscape features of the geopark. (September / 2017 - March / 2018).

2. Many interview and articles about the geopark were published in the national and regional press (September 2017-March 2018).

3. News and articles related to the Geopark activities were shared from Facebook, Instagram and the Geopark website (jeoparkbelediyelerbirligi.com) (September 2017-March 2018).

4. Training seminars and educational field trips were held for university students from different universities (September 2017 - March 2018).

5. A new documentary was filmed for the introduction of Kula and the geopark (September / 2017-Feb / 2018).

6. A new Geopark website was prepared and articles, information and pictures were uploaded (jeoparkbelediyelerbirligi.com) (September / 2017).

7. Within the scope of a project (TUBITAK), two days of educational trips and seminars were organized for earth science teachers, who work in the region’s schools (September / 2017).

8. Within the boundaries of the geopark, a day walking tour was organized for a group of people from Izmir, Salihli and Turgutlu districts (October / 2017).

9. A new coordinator was appointed for the Geopark. (November / 2017).

10. Kula Geopark was introduced in the TV program "Green Nature" on CNN Türk channel. (October / 2018).

11. By training the local youth people volunteer tour guides were formed. Certificates were given to those who completed the training. (November-December / 2017).

12. With the participation of Geopark Municipalities Union, the Geopark was introduced in the "Travel Turkey İzmir 2017" fair held in İzmir, (December-2017).

13. Private schools were informed about the geopark through educational seminars and tours in the surrounding area (Dec / 2017).

14. Coats and boots were distributed as a gift to elementary school students within the boundaries of geopark (2017 / December).

Contact: tuncer.demir@jeoparkbelediyelerbirligi.com
15. The Geopark Municipalities Union attended 22nd Eastern Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Fair held in Istanbul (Jan / 2018).

16. The external appearances of the Geopark Coordinator Office and Visitor Center were changed. (Jan / 2018)
17. New booklets and brochures introducing the Kula Geopark were published. (January / 2018)

18. The geopark was introduced in some national magazines (Jan / 2018).

19. In order to help to increase local people income, a decision was taken to establish a cooperative for the sale of local products in Çakırca Village within the geopark area (Feb / 2018).

20. A preliminary work was intiated to build a co-operative center in Cakırca Village (Feb / 2018).

21. With the participation of academicians from the Akdeniz University a Tourism Development Strategy and Action Plan work was started.

22. Entrepreneurship training was given to the local people who wanted to establish a new business in the Geopark area. These people will be able to establish a state-sponsored business (February 2018).

23. The information and direction plates deformed inside the geopark area were defined and replaced with new ones (February-March / 2018).

**Networking**

24. A step has been taken to communicate with other geoparks by notifying the new official website of Kula Geopark (March / 2018).

**Activity by Partners**

25. With the contributions of the Kula Hiking and Excursion Association two hike activities were organized twice a month in the Kula Geopark area.

26. In each month, the members of the Association of the Municipalities of the Geopark (Manisa Metropolitan Municipality, Salihli Municipality, Kula Municipality) have met to make decisions about the geopark. (September / 2017-March / 2018).

27. Meeting and seminar programs were held with Celal Bayer University (October / 2018).
LANZAROTE & CHINIJO ISLANDS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Presence in social networks: Facebook (Geoparque Mundial UNESCO de Lanzarote y Archipiélago Chinijo), Twitter (GeoparkLanzarot) and Instagram (Geoparque Lanzarote), September 2017-March 2018.


4. Geoparque...ando, a guided geotours with a lot of participants, September 2017–March 2018.


6. Participation in “Sidmouth Science Festival” with promotional material of our Geopark (Sidmouth, UK), October 2017.

7. Implementation the “CACT Cognitive Challenge Geopark” a new Application for the visitors showing the Geoparks.


11. Presentation of the five Geo-Routes to discover the Geological Heritage of Lanzarote by car, November 2017.

12. Support the management of Pangaea course, designed to provide European astronauts a introductory and practical knowledge of the Earth and planetary geology. Organized by the European Space Agency (ESA). November 2017.


17. World Day of Environmental Education in Lanzarote Airport, January 2018.

Contact: geoparque@cabildodelanzarote.com
18. Oral presentations about Geopark at students from institutes and Degree of Tourism, October 2017-March 2018.

Networking

19. Participation with a poster and at the 14th European Geopark Conference, Ponta Delgada, Azores UGG, Portugal. A member of our Geopark staff was selected to chair one of the session of the Conference. Participation in the 40h EGN CC meeting, with two delegates, September 2018.


Activity by Partners


27. Participation in Sustainable Tourism Working Table, organized by the Tourism Board, January 2018.

28. Collaboration with different international scientist in Geoscience data collection by maintaining the instrumentation located in the Geosciences Laboratory of Lanzarote (IGEO/CIL).

Contact: geoparque@cabildodelanzarote.com
LAS LORAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1- Collaborate in the organization, with the Spanish Association for the Teaching of Earth Sciences (AEPECT), of the II Meeting of Geology of Castilla y León that this year will be in las Loras Geopark.
https://encuentrosgeologiacyl.wordpress.com/

2- Organization and participation in the International Day of Geocaching. Elaboration of the earth caches and guided the fieldtrip. October 2017

3- Presentation at the First Nature Tourism Forum in Arenas de San Pedro (Ávila). Title of the paper: Geoparque Mundial UNESCO Las Loras, a tool for sustainable development- October 2017

4- Meetings with the regional government and councils for prepare the collaboration agreements for 2017-2018 and the Road Sing Plan-September-October 2017

5- Organization of own and joint activities with the Aguilar City Council and travel agencies for the “Ages of Man”, event that will be from May to November 2018

6- Participation in the Geopark in work table on the occasion of the 8th Centenary of the Burgos Cathedral that will take place in 2021. (different meetings and presentations since December 2017)

7- Two presentations in the National Indoor Tourism Fair, one in the Provincial stand and other in the Regional government one. November 2017

8- Volunteering program: Scientific study in Las Loras Geopark: Inventory and characterization of vulnerable areas: peatlands and calcareous tuffs of Las Loras Geopark. Proposals for monitoring and custody – September-December-2017, field trips and presentation of the results, 9 calcareous tuffs and 10 peatlands.

9- Research about new geological sites in the Geopark.

10-Meeting of the Executive Committee for the approval of the operating regulation and for review 2017 action plan and approval the 2018 one. December 2017

11-Meetings with the working groups of mayors and associations and foundations, for review 2017 action plan and approval the 2018 one and collect new initiatives- January 2018.

12-Meetings in three different areas of the Geopark open to mayors of small towns and local population, in general to collect new local initiatives- November 2017

13-Collection of the prize of the year, delivered by a local cultural association of great regional projection- November 2017.

14-Study of the different conservation possibilities of an outcrop of Cycadaceae so far submerged in a swamp. Reception and guidance of the technicians of the Spanish Geological Survey for the preparation of the report and subsequent joint assessment. October 2017

15-Preparation of the comprehensive communication plan for the Geopark, graphic identity, web, signage, etc.

16-Preparation of the basic project for the interior of the Visitor Center of Villadiego

17-Field trips and preparation of information materials with the students of the Secondary School of Villadiego of the Erasmus plus Program, of exchange of students between European geoparks- October 2017-February 2018
18- Editing the new English leaflet and map of the Geopark and distributing them in the touristic information offices.
19- Lecture on Las Loras Geopark in Burgos University, February 2018.
20- Interviews and articles of the Geopark in local, regional and national media, also radio and TV- October 2017-February 2018
21- Maintenance and promotion of social networks and (FB: 2614 likes, and 2604 followers, 180 publications during these months, also Instagram) and web page.

**Networking**

22- Contribution of an article for the EGN Magazine- October 2017, EGN 10 and GGN 2017 newsletter
23- FITUR (January 2018): joint stand with other Spanish and Portuguese Geoparks in representation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network. Regarding to us, the stand was visited by the President of the Palencia Council, also this year the President of our Geopark, and its technicians, as well as by representatives of companies interested in the tourist promotion of the geoparks, publishing materials for them and tourists in general. Also attended the presentation of the magazine of the Spanish Geoparks in the stand of Andalusia where it was presented by the Minister of Environment, the President of the Global Geoparks Network and the President of the National Commission of Geoparks, a successful call and assistance.

24- Helping the Aspiring Rivera Sacra Geopark (Spain). Visiting them with a presentation (September) and welcoming a group of politicians and businessmen who came to visit our territory for 4 days. We organized routes, visits to Centers, meetings with our mayors and businessmen, etc.

25- A representative of the mayors Geopark working group accompanied the Erasmus plus students to the Lesbos Geopark for 5 days, in which she had the opportunity to know both the territory and its infrastructures and accompany the educational program Erasmus+Geoparks, of exchange of students between European geoparks (Haute Provence, Lesbos, Arouca and Las Loras).

26- Working together with Magma Geopark and other 7 ones to apply for a European Cooperation project entitled ADMIRA.

27- Prepare the documentation (ppt and summary) about the Erasmus plus project for the ITB

**Activity by Partners**

28- Finished of the building for the Reception Geopark Centre in Villadiego by the village and regional Council- October-December 2017
29- Finished of the clearing and settlement works on the routes of the Geopark by the Regional government forest work crew- July 2017
30- Work with the University of Salamanca to host a Mexican master's degree student from March to May 2018.
31- Finished the work of the creation of new routes and panelling (with the Geopark logo) in the Natural protected area of Covalagua.
32- Participation in the working group of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. Sharing of the results 2017 and work plan 2018 - November 2017
33- Meetings with different mayors to support sustainable development initiatives within the geopark

Contact: geoloras@gmail.com
LESVOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2017 - March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Celebration of International Day of Disaster Reduction (13 October 2017)
2. Realisation of the exhibition “AEGEON · BIRTH OF AN ARCHIPELAGO” at the National Hellenic Museum in Chicago – Visiting of the Prime Minister of Greece (15 October 2017)
3. Participation at the 16th Conference of Greek Tourism Confederation (16 October 2017)
4. Realisation of the exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” at Mytilene Information Centre of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest presenting the new findings of the excavations and conservation works of the fossil sites discovered along the new road Kalloni-Sigri – Organization of educational activities for school groups (September 2017 – March 2018)
5. Implementation of the geotouristic activity: Daily guided boat tours with a glass bottom boat at Marine Nissiopi Petrified Forest Parks (September – October 2017)
6. Guided geotours and educational programs for Lesvos schools (September 2017 – March 2018)
7. Realisation of the project “Conservation and promotion of the Petrified Forest Park” (September 2017 – March 2018)
8. Numerous radio-TV and newspapers interviews and articles on the Geopark’s activities in the national, regional and local media – also in TV shows (September 2017 – March 2018)
9. Updating of the Lesvos Geopark website (September 2017 – March 2018)
10. Updating of the European Geoparks Network website (September 2017 – March 2018)
11. Organization of the 1st Meeting of the School Thematic Network "UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece" in collaboration with the Environmental Education Center of Evergetoulas, Mytilene (13 December 2017)

Networking

12. Printing of the “UNESCO Global Geoparks” - Issue 1
14. Printing of the Folder "European Geoparks Network"
15. Participation at the Global educative project “I AM A GEOPARKER”
16. Implementation of the European project «RURITAGE – Rural regeneration through systemic heritage-led strategies»
18. Participation in the 40th European Geoparks Network Meeting, Azores (5 – 6


21. Project “GEOPARKS” - Received pupils from Portugal, France and Spain in collaboration with the Experiment School of Mytilene (2 – 8 October 2017)

22. Participation in the Conference «UNESCO Global Geoparks: Benefits and prospects of development – The role of Environmental Education» which organized by the Environmental Education Center of Salamiou, Cyprus (4 November 2017)

23. Participation in the 39th General Conference of UNESCO in Paris (6 - 7 November 2017)

24. Received the delegation of the Yuntaishan UNESCO Global Geopark China – Signing of cooperation agreement (23 - 24 November 2017)


26. Participation in the Seminar of Collaborating Geoparks for the exchange of experiences which held by the Zhangjiajie UNESCO Globla Geopark in China (28 November - 1 December 2017)

27. Signing of cooperation agreement Zhangjiajie UNESCO Global Geopark China (1 December 2017)

28. Participation in the 3rd International Intensive Course «Geoparks Management and Earth Heritage Interpretation» which organized by the China University of Geosciences in Beijing China (3 - 8 December 2017)


30. Visiting of the Ningde Unesco Global Geopark, China – Common collaboration programme (5 – 12 February 2017)


32. Implementation of collaboration program with Yanqing Unesco Global Geopark China about conservation of plant petrified fossils

33. Participation in the Coordination Committee Meetings of the EGN

34. Participation in the meetings and videoconference of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum (September 2017 – March 2018)


36. Updating of the European Geoparks Network website (September 2017 – March 2018)

**Activity by Partners**

37. Collaboration in common activities of the Lesvos’ Museums Network (September 2017 – March 2018)
38. Collaboration in common activities with ORGANIZATION OF TOURIST DEVELOPMENT OF LESVOS (September 2017 – March 2018)


40. Realizing of the educational program about Lesvos Geopark by the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and the Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (September 2017 – March 2018)

41. Promotion of Lesvos Geopark by the Region of North Aegean through the organization of targeted visits of journalist, high profile writers and blockers
LUBERON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Organization and participation to the heritage day and anniversary of the Luberon Geological Nature Reserve: exhibitions, workshops, conferences, guided tours, etc. on geology and cultural heritage at the Château de Buoux, September 2017

2. Participation to the Festival of Ochre “Objectif Grand Site” organized by the community of communes Pays d’Apt – Luberonl (guided tours, conferences…), September 2017

3. Guided tours included in the Parks Month organized by the Region and the Regional Nature Parks, September 2017

4. Participation the Biodiversity and creativity festival organized by local partners during the festival of science and in the frame of the Year of Colombia in France: movies proposed by Camera Lucida, conferences…, October 2017


7. Integration of an important fossil collection in the Geopark’s collection (ammonites)

8. English translation of “Chemin des Parcs” visit tours website ([http://www.cheminsdesparcs.fr](http://www.cheminsdesparcs.fr)) with many tours concerning geology, nature and cultural heritage

9. Photo competition: 4 seasons in landscapes and biodiversity all year long

10. Meeting of the Luberon Geopark Geopartners in the village of Murs: experiences exchanges, guided tours on geosites…, November 2017

Networking

11. Participation to the signature of the convention between the National Committee of French Geoparks and the French National Commission for UNESCO, December 2017

12. Participation to the EGN meeting and European Geoparks Conference in Açores UNESCO Global Geopark

Activity by Partners

13. Award of the Ochre Massif as an Europeand Destination of Excellence supported by the Community of Communes Pays d’Apt, November 2017

Contact: stephane.legal@parcduluberon.fr
MADONIE GEOPARK, ITALIA

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Work has been carried out on the maintenance and reconstruction of the descriptive tables as well as the construction of the fence along the path of the monumental trees of Pomieri specifically, 27 panels in forex 110 * 80 were replaced in huts sheds afferent the monumental trees, expressive plants of the landscape, map of the park and geological path, in English and Italian, the right financing granted by the Department of the Environment Territory which has planned for the year 2017 € 30,000.00. September October 2017;

2. Two new huts have been placed near the geosite of Sant'Otiero, just D.A. n. 87 of 23/03/16 of the constitution of the "Medio Succession - Triassica di Pizzo Sant'Otiero" geode and one on the Monumental Trees path. September October 2017

3. The Science Week was organized at the GAL HASSIN: workshops, guided visits to Italian research centres. Meetings with researchers. September 2017.

4. The Tourist Office of Castelbuono has been reactivated. September 2017


7. Presentation of the project on the enhancement work on the Pollina river in the Tiberio area of the municipality of San Mauro. POFERS 2014/2020 - Actions 6.6.1. October 2017

8. Presentation of the project on the Extraordinary maintenance works of Palazzo Rampolla in the municipality of Petralia Sottana. Final project approval. October 2017

9. Realization at Palazzo Pucci Martinez of the conference called Griffin Project in Madonie. Activities carried out and future prospects ". October 2017

10. Open Fun Park – Piano Battaglia. October 2017

11. International meeting of young people in the Environmental Education Centre of Gratteri to discuss on the theme of the enhancement and development of rural areas. November 2017

12. 41th olive festival in Pollina final in the Madonie Park. November 2017

13. Realization of feeding points for griffins and subsequent monitoring, and creation of a nature trail, as well as for environmental education and awareness campaigns for the population. November 2017

14. Autumn flavors at Isnello in the Madonie Park the most awaited event of the Madonite autumn. November 2017

15. Meeting on the Day of transparency and legality with the intervention of citizens and authorities. November 2017

17. Realization of the Enchanting Nativity at Petralia Soprana, a unique event. December 2017

18. Castelbuono country of the Parco Madonie adheres to the paper of the municipalities custodians of the Mediterranean maquis. December 2017

19. Relative cultural manifestation the triptych by Roger Van Der Weyden in Polizzi Generosa, common in the Madonie Park. December 2017

20. Permanent exhibition on the manna at the Minà Palumbo Museum. January 2018

21. The 10th edition of the "Vivi Natura Trail" sports event was held in Castelbuono. February 2018

22. The Park Authority has requested the Environment Territory Councillor to implement the following actions in the framework of the 2017/2018 Intervention Plan Parks and reserves of the Sicilian Region:
   - Replacement of road signs with the introduction of the EGN GGN and UNESCO logos;
   - Continuation of the maintenance of sheds; February 2018

23. 45^ edition of the Carnivall of the Madonie of Castellana Sicula. February 2018

24. Program meeting of the Union of Municipalities for the implementation of territorial development strategies. March 2018

25. Strengthening of the tourist office in Palermo. March 2018

26. Meeting at the Mina Palumbo museum on: Real Local Development "New cultural models for the development of the territory. March 2018

Networking

27. Participation of a representative of the Park Authority in the 41st Committee Meeting of the Karavanche / Karavanchen UNESCO Global Geoparks March 2018.

28. Publishing different article in the newsletter del Global Geoparks


Activity by Partners

30. Stipulated agreement with the Association “Openly” for the realization and promotion of environmental education. October 2017

31. Stipulated agreements with the state high school “G in De Cosmi” and the University of Palermo for the implementation of work-school and training courses. October 2017

32. Stipulated protocol of understanding of a tourist offer of the cultural heritage of the natural heritage of the RES Madonie. December 2017

33. Programmatic meeting for the organization of the EGN week with about 20 local authorities among public authorities, associations and private entrepreneurs March 2018.

Contact: laspada@parcodellemadonie.it
MAGMA GEOPARK, NORWAY


Geopark Activities

1. Development of Magma Geopark localities with several information panels and provided with new Magma Geopark UNESCO logo within the EU-Interreg North Periphery Programme - project Drifting APART.
2. Development of educational materials related with the plates tectonic and Drifting Apart storyline.
3. Progressing the development of educational APP for natural science teachers in the Erasmus Esteam project.
5. 360 shooting pictures development for geoVR contents implementation.
6. Magma Geopark strengthen the cooperation with the Region Stavanger Destination Company, Fjord Norway and Norwegian Centre of Expertise Tourism.
7. Magma Geopark confirmed internship of Polish students for the summer 2018.
8. geoVR exhibition - plate on the wall and on the storyline.
9. Cooperation with the Regional Tourist office, promotion within the UGGp logo.
10. Road panels – pointing on the information place with UGGp logo.
11. Info panels implemented with UGGp logo on the geosites.
13. MGP Office- UGGp logo decals on the windows.
14. 36 Hours guide course for 15 official Magma UNESCO Global Geopark guides.
15. Cooperation agreement with the Jøssingfjord Science museum exhibition.
16. Launch of the booking system within the Magma Geopark web page.
17. Opening of the Gursli mines educational path?
18. Implementation of the educational offer towards the Chinese market.
21. Tourist expert Chinese mother tongue become Magma Geopark employes.
22. Magma Geopark staff number increase.

Networking

1. News for the EGN Newsletter and article for the EGN promotional material.
4. Hosted the ESTEAM Erasmus + project meeting, October 2017.
6. Mentoring aspiring Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust several skype conferences and meeting in Northern Ireland in January.
8. RURITAGE H2020 project proposal approved, with other 5 UNESCO Global Geoparks, project will start in June 2018.

Contact: post@magmageopark.com
9. Magma Geopark is attending the final project Conference in the Icelandic UNESCO Global Geoparks, Feb. 2018
10. Magma Geopark is the co-funder and coordinator of the Trollvikken Private company for the valorization of the local geosite togheter with landowners and local stakeholders.
11. Application to Norwegian UNESCO Commission together with GEA norvegica UGG.

**Activity by Partners**

1. Bike and climbing renting: Eigersund municipality payed 6 city bikes to be rented out by Magma Geopark and Magma has 18 sets of climbing equipment. All are rented out through the Tourism information, but the money goes to Magma.
2. Region Stavanger and a Chinese consultant supports Magma Geopark in developing tourist offer for the Chinese market for tourist and school classes.
3. Local honey GEOfood producer is starting to sell honey in the tourist information office. The producer has contract with Magma.
4. Local hand wool craft producer is running workshop for tourist in cooperation with Magma Geopark and the products are for sale in the Tourist Information office. The produces has contract with Magma.
MARBLE ARCH CAVES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK IRELAND / UK

Progress Report, October 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

Visitor numbers continued to increase at the key sites in the Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark. The Marble Arch Caves visitor centre, Cuilcagh Mountain Park, Lough Navar Forest and Cavan Burren Park all recorded one of their busiest ever seasons with the Caves once again having their best year ever.

The Cuilcagh Boardwalk continued to be a major attraction. The numbers of people using the boardwalk have increased from 3,000 in 2015 before the boardwalk was open to 24,000 in 2016 and to 70,000 in 2017. The boardwalk attracts widespread coverage on social media and commercial companies are now running bus trips to the boardwalk from Dublin which is more than two hours away in each direction by road.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is in the process of applying for a significant amount of funding from the Rural Development Programme to upgrade car parking, roadways, walking trails and other visitor management facilities on Cuilcagh Mountain.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is investing €65,000 to upgrade broadband service at Marble Arch Caves. This work will also benefit rural households in the surrounding area by providing access to faster broadband services.

A new walking trail and interpretation have been provided at Gortmaconnell highlighting limestone karst features as well as a section of a dolerite dyke.

Work is currently underway to upgrade slope stabilisation measures at the weir regulating the water levels in Marble Arch Caves.

A new one kilometre pathway is being constructed in the Lough Navar Forest Park to link the Lough Achork Trail to the Cliffs o’ Braade. Forest Service workers have assisted Geopark staff by clearing some coniferous trees to open up views of the Cliffs.

A geological time trail of large boulders has been set up outside the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre as part of the Drifting Apart Project.

Geopark staff are carrying out habitat conservation work on ancient wildflower meadows at Tully Castle as part of the Tully Loughshore Trail.

Work is ongoing to implement improvements in the governance and management structures of MACUGG following a 10 year Management Review of the Geopark. This restructuring will create a larger cross-border management team for the Geopark leaving it in a strong position over the next 10 year period. Increased priority is being given to important matters such as community engagement, interaction with local business and marketing the Geopark.

Cavan County Council is preparing a funding scheme for the planned phase II development at the Cavan Burren Park and the nearby Shannon Pot.
The management partners of the Geopark are cooperating with Ulster Wildlife and with national environmental agencies to compile an upgraded joint cross-border management plan for the adjoining Cuilcagh Mountain Special Area of Conservation (Northern Ireland) and the Slieve Aneirin Special Area of Conservation (Republic of Ireland). This is likely to be a large scale project extending to 2022. Sharon Spratt, an Ecologist working for Ulster Wildlife is based at Marble Arch Caves alongside the Geopark Management Team.

As part of the Creative Ireland programme, Cavan County Council arts and heritage office and the Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark invited twelve artists to engage with and respond to the landscape, geology, and socio-political history of County Cavan and in particular the area of the Geopark. The resulting art works are currently on display in the Gallery at Cavan Library and include a geological poem dedicated to our colleague Kirstin Lemon.

The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland has prepared plans to increase scientific research opportunities and facilities in MACUGG in cooperation with the Geopark management authorities.

Work has continued to implement village plans in County Cavan that will help to increase the profile of the Geopark.

Irish and American universities have carried out archaeological surveys of various geopark sites in the Cavan Burren Park and in the Cuilcagh Mountain Park. Academic staff from the University of Michigan in the USA held a public open day and set up an exhibition of their findings at Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre.

The Geopark delivered another comprehensive events programme with more than 60 successful events such as Walking Festivals, Jeep Safaris, Guided Walks, Gourmet Tours and Rock Detective workshops.

Science Week activities were very successful with Geopark staff staging travelling scientific events for schools in Fermanagh, Cavan and Monaghan as well as at Marble Arch Caves.

Geopark staff worked alongside Dr, Kirstin Lemon and other colleagues from the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland to demonstrate Earth Science experiments to national politicians at the Northern Ireland Assembly on 12 March 2018.

The Geopark Events Guide for January - July 2018 is packed with interesting and enjoyable events.

MACUGG has participated in tourism shows, fairs and events both locally and nationally including those organised by Tourism Ireland, Failte Ireland and Tourism NI including familiarisation visits, meet the buyer events, networking opportunities and workshops.

The Geopark continued to attract good media coverage on national television channels, radio, newspapers and magazines.

MACUGG has maintained a strong presence on social media with significant followings on Facebook and Twitter.

Trip Advisor comments continued to be overwhelmingly favourable. Marble Arch Caves were once again awarded a Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence in 2017.
Richard Watson, the Manager of the Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark, retires from work on the 31 March 2018. Richard will continue to be involved with geoparks as a member of GGN and as an accredited UNESCO Global Geoparks assessor.

Networking

MACUGG continued to participate in the Drifting Apart Project alongside partners from existing Global Geoparks and aspiring ones in Ireland, UK, Norway, Iceland, Canada and Russia. This very successful project ends in April 2018 and has greatly increased the profile and standing of Global Geoparks in the Northern Periphery. It is clear that a good level of mutual support and cooperation will continue among the various partners in the future.

Good progress continued to be made with setting up an INTERREG Atlantic Area project that includes MACUGG and other Global Geoparks in Portugal and Spain.
MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK, FRANCE
Progress Report, September 2017 - March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Hiking master plan with all local municipalities, development of a management and promotional software “Geotrek”, Sept - March
2. Edition of a digital brochure on the built heritage of the Albanais Savoyard, Sept
3. Interreg Alpine Space programme, AlpFoodWay, “conservation and enhance of the alpine food heritage”, Workshop in Poschiavo 26th – 29th Sept; day tour to bread festival Aoste Valley 14th Oct; field investigation on local food, Sept - Mar
4. New 4 years (2018-2021) cooperation agreement on built heritage with the Region, Sept
5. Opening of the informative panels on agro-ecology practises in alpine pasture, Combe d’Aillon, 21th Sept
6. Forest and forestry awareness and demonstration days, Combe d’Aillon. More than 220 pupils, people looking for job, elected officials, 28th 29th Sept
7. Conciliation meetings on the Creusates peatbogs, balance between heritage preservation, educational activities and others local usages, 3rd and 26th Sept
8. Restauration site, clearing Creusates Peatbog, St François de Sales 4th – 26th October
9. Coordination committee of the territorial strategy on street lighting19th Oct; tour bus with observation 13th Dec; workshop with communities 15th Mar
10. Eductour for tourism stakeholders on geoheritage, Le Châtelard 9th Oct
11. Formulation of 3 new geosites layout projects and submission to financers (Chéran River Islands, Lacustrine Pole Lac Annecy Source, Vertical Pole La Sambuy), Oct
12. Day of the Night. Light pollution, night birds, bats. Le Châtelard, 14th Oct
13. Geopark’s excursion for the French Training Institute on Major Risks, 21st October
14. GAYA = Governance And Youth in the Alps, Interreg Alpine Space project, 1st local workshop on participatory democracy, 17th Nov; International meeting 5th – 7th Dec, Genova; Workshop in Idrija 19th – 20th Mar
15. Course on blazing, ecology and forestry, Faverges, 18th Nov
16. Purchase of a climatic station for long term survey in high mountain, Armenaz, November 2017
17. Support of pastural investment projects and organization of a conference on “pastoralism as common good”, edition of a booklet “Terres d’alpages” 24th Nov
18. Artaclim Interreg Alpine Space project, adaptation and resilience facing climate change, as pilot territory (tourism, agriculture and forestry), Launch 1st Dec in Turin and local workshop 24th Jan, Le Châtelard
19. Publication of 10 audio-visual postcards on intangible heritage, Dec
21. Laureate of a financial accompanying system for forest owners to promote sustainable forestry, 22nd Dec
22. Laureate, as pilot territory, for a LIDAR mapping and the implementation of a software for multiactivity management of forest, Jan
23. Management of the diversification project of the Aillon-Margeriaz ski resort, Jan to …
24. Elaboration of a new Geopark’s touristic map, Jan to April
25. Welcome of the risks management university of Grenoble, 15th Jan
26. Geological course, secondary school Pierre Grange, 30th Jan
27. Works on the cycling path “Tour des Bauges”, in collaboration with the 6 gate towns, January-March
28. Writing of 19 records on Geosites for the regional touristic database, February
29. Eagles and falcons participative monitoring, February
30. Information panels on main caves entrance in order to inform spelunkers on geoheritage values (Doria, Prerouge, Fitoja), February
31. Purchase of two electric cars for the Geopark team, February
32. Elaboration of a solar cadastral plan in order to promote photovoltaic development, March to …
33. Publication of the Geopark’s guide book on the Lake Annecy, March
34. “Young trappers”, day to discover mountain heritages, Margeriaz, 9th March

**Networking**

35. 14th European Conference, 41st EGN CC, Azores Geopark 6th – 9th Sep 2017
36. 50th anniversary of the French regional nature Parks, Paris-Bercy, 12th – 15th Oct
37. Executive board of the Geoheritage National Inventory, presentation of UNESCO Global Geoparks, 28th September
38. 1st International Mountain Festival in Ukraine Carpates, Lecture on Geoparks versus National Parks, 19th – 22nd October
39. Formulation of the cooperation agreement between the French national committee for Geoparks and the National commission for UNESCO, September-December
40. Publication of 6 animated movies on heritages and outdoors activities cohabitation in collaboration with the 9 regional nature Parks, March

**Activity by Partners**

41. Involvement in the formulation of several urban master plans (Grand Lac, Gresy sur Isère, Entrelacs, Rive Gauche Lac d’Annecy, Metropole Savoie) Sept – March
42. Lecture on geoheritage during the “Fascinating week-end”, Cruet, 22nd October
43. Formulation of a geocorner information point in the “Coteaux du Salin” ecomuseum, October
44. “Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps”, UNESCO WHS, steering committee, 12th December
45. Participation to the “Gourmet round”, Christmas local products promotion, Chambery Gate-town, 15th – 17th December
46. Participation to the diversification project of La Féclaz ski resort in collaboration with Grand Chambéry conurbation, December to …
47. Participation to the urban area Grand Annecy master plan for 2050, Link between Geopark and the Grand Annecy community, January March
48. Formulation of a geocorner point in the Lake Bourget interpretative center, February
49. Participation to the touristic project of the “Gorges du Sierroz”, heritages interpretation, in collaboration with Grand Lac conurbation, February to …
50. Participation to the International Agriculture Show, local products promotion and agro-ecology, 24-26th February

*Contact: Jean-Luc Desbois* jl.desbois@parcdesbauges.com
MOLINA ALTO TAJO GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Tourism and Handicraft Fair of Torremocha
2. Numerous interviews and articles on provincial, regional and national media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2017–March 2018.
3. Publication hundreds of post in the Facebook page of our Geopark with very high organic reach (more than 25,000 “Likes” recently), September 2017–March 2018.
5. Guided visit for 30 national environment specialist journalist.
6. Regional Orientation Championship stage on Molina Alto Tajo Geopark.
7. Collaboration on act for refugees support.
9. Official declaration of Fuentelsaz’s GSSP Stratotype as Natural Monument Protected Area by Regional Government Environment Ministry.
12. Advising presentation for VALOJA new UGGp application at Madrid
13. Recording of several regional TV promotional programs.
14. Program of collaboration with Educative institutions, comprising several activities for infant, secondary and adults school students.
15. Launch of mobile app “Eventos Geoparque”
16. Conference program about cultural heritage and it’s management in Guadalajara.
17. Archaeological research program at Molina’s Castle in collaboration with Reading University
19. VII Geopark Gift and Handicraft Fair.
20. Sculptural exhibition of the local artist Marta Corella about female exploitation.
21. I Museum of Molina Children Christmas Handicraft Workshop
22. Presentation of the book about the recording of TV series Game of Thrones at Molina Alto Tajo Geopark.
23. Oral presentation by Geopark manager Juan Manuel Monasterio in Madrid about Geoparks as figures for sustainable development.
24. Assistance to III Seminar for Rock Art Guiding, held in Morella.

geoparquemolina@gmail.com
25. Installing of aragonite signals on Geopark Geosites as reference topic for Geopark heritage.


28. Editing of the book about medieval local history: “Molina y su Tierra en la Edad Media”

29. Opening of Aragon`s Tower castle as visitor centre the Castle of Molina.

30. Presentation in FITUR fair in addition to rest of Spanish Geoparks.

**Networking**

31. Oral presentation by Molina AT Geopark Manager about Geoparks as dinamizing agents in Cuenca.

32. Assistance to I Seminar of Sustainable Tourism and Geoparks held in Seville.

33. Participation on Ecotourism Congress at Villuercas Geopark

34. Presentation of Molina Alto Tajo Geopark on the Forum for South American Development in Ecuador.

35. Launch of the exchange project Geopark Young Ambassadors in collaboration with El Hierro UGGp

36. Assistance to V Meeting of Spanish National Committee of Geoparks

37. Gathering and submitting of documentation for Geopark Revalidation


39. Participation, oral presentation at the 14th European Geoparks Conference in Azores UGGp. Participation in local food products fair


41. Preparing European Geoparks Week programme 2018 and the progress report (September 2017–March 2018)


**Activity by Partners**

43. Workshop for Calatayud (Aragon) Secondary School teachers in Fuentelsaz´s GSSP Stratotype

44. Advertising campaign for Geopark promotion in Madrid main advertising spaces in collaboration with Provincial Government.

45. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by our Geopark), September 2017–March 2018.
MONTS D’ARDECHE GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Steering committee meetings and Scientific council meetings were held at Geopark’s headquarters in Jaujac
2. 6 guided tours for the general public were organized around several geosites
3. The English version of the brochure « All you have to know about Monts d’Ardèche UNESCO Global Geopark » [Tout savoir sur le Geopark des Monts d’Ardèche] was published and distributed for free throughout the territory
4. The UNESCO label revalidation document was elaborated and submitted to authorities in due time
5. Five days of collaborative workshop were held, to design new pedagogical tools
6. The Geopark new action program 2018-2022 was drafted

Networking

7. The Geopark’s President L. Chenot took part in the signature of the partnership agreement between CNGF et UNESCO
8. The Geopark team welcomed a delegation of Haute-Provence UNESCO global Geopark, with a focus on the contemporary art project “Partage des eaux”
9. The Geopark team took part in the Sustainable tourism meeting [Rencontres du Tourisme durable] in Luberon Geopark in March 2018

Activity by Partners

10. University of Clermont Ferrand (E. Defive) released the scientific progress report « rivers, active volcanoes and men : Pleistocene and Holocene archives from the upper Loire river basins » [Cours d’eau, volcans actifs, hommes : archives pléistocènes et holocènes des bassins supérieurs de la Loire]
MUSKAUER FALTENBOGEN / ŁUK MUŻAKOWA GEOPARK, GERMANY / POLAND
Progress Report, March 2017 – September 2017

Geopark Activities

1. starting the second phase of the EGTC funding process (European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation) to establish a unified management structure as basis for a sustainable long-term and strong co-operation between the UNESCO Global Geopark Office, local authorities, communities and other stakeholders of the geopark

2. Finalisation of the German-Polish SPF project "Joint development strategy of the Muskauer Faltenbogen / Łuk Mużakowa UNESCO-Geopark until 2028". The result was a draft of "Geopark Masterplan 2.0". The public presentation took place on the 07th of March 2018 in Weißwasser/O.L.

3. Takeover of the trusteeship of a nationwide research project for “Co-operations between building culture and tourism in rural areas” and foundation of a working group under the umbrella of the Association Förderverein Geopark Muskauer Faltenbogen e. V. The project was started and financed in 2017 by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and shall integrate local and regional actors to strengthening the awareness for building culture of Modernism and the industrial heritage until 2020.


5. Start of the preparation phase 01 – 04/2018 to establish a new joint actors network “Regional producers and tourist providers in the german-polish UNESCO-Geopark” for the purpose of building a strengthen geopark basis and for promotion of local products under the umbrella brand of Muskauer Faltenbogen / Łuk Mużakowa UNESCO Global Geopark.

Networking

6. 01. February 2018: Workshop with 23 Chinese directors and managers from state environmental offices and enterprises producing energy and/or environmental engineering. Organizer from China was the China State Administration for Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA) from the Province Zhejiang.

7. Final Meeting of the project “Muskauer Faltenbogen / Łuk Mużakowa Culture Landscape” from February 15th-17th in Bad Muskau. It was a three-year cooperation project (2015-2018) from UNESCO world Heritage Prince Pückler Park Muskau und UGG Muskau Arch. This German-Polish project was financed by German Federal Foundation of Environment (DBU).

Contact: n.sauer@muskauer-faltenbogen.de
8. Participation in the 40th Coordination Committee Meeting – Azores UNESCO Global Geopark 05th – 06th September and the EGN Conference from 7th – 9th September 2017

9. Participation and active contribution in two meetings of the National Forum of German UNESCO Global Geoparks, 17th November 2017 and 22nd February 2018


11. Participation at the Tourism Fair in Wrocław, 23rd – 25th February 2018, in co-operation with the tourism association “Neißeland” and with regional partners, and within a joint booth of the UNESCO Global Geoparks at the largest global tourism fair, the International Tourism Fair (ITB) Berlin, 8th – 11th March 2018, with 19 UNESCO Geopark participants

12. Long-term chaperonage and support for the aspiring Geopark “Geoland Świętokrzyski” (Holy Cross Mountains), Kielce in Poland. This geopark finished its UGG application dossier in February 2018

Activity by Partners

1. Preparation of the modernisation of four theme bicycle routes “Abandoned Mines”, “Geology”, “Glas” and “End Moraine” through the Geopark and the viewing tower near the former mine Felix by the brandenburgish partners administrative district of Spree-Neiße and community Amt Döbern-Land
Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Organization of the new leaflet about Toulões the Peony Village of Portugal together with the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, the company Living Seeds and the village of Toulões
2. Organization of a workshop about Peony seeding and conservation together with the company Living Seeds and the village of Toulões, in Carnival
3. Organization of the Naturtejo Geopark stand in BTL Lisbon International Tourism Fair together with the municipalities of the Geopark and several partners including geocompanies. During this Fair 1000 trees were given for adoption to tourist professionals and general public so they come to the Geopark to plant them
4. Visit of the partner Geopark Funiushan to Naturtejo UGG with the support of the municipalities
5. Inventory of sites of geological importance in the Barrocal geosite for the municipality of Castelo Branco under a project to develop a park
6. Study of the geodiversity of the village of Toulões for future development of a nature trail
7. Annual training course for teachers of the Geopark
8. Imagens de Marca from National SIC TV came to the Geopark to make a program about Geoexperiences
9. Several educational programmes for schools from the geopark
10. Several tour groups were organized by Naturtejo
11. Organization of a practical workshop on Geosites management under the VII Congress of Young Geosciences Researchers
12. Publication of the Proceedings Book from the 4th Ichnological Congress in the Bolletino della Societá Paleontologica Italiana

Networking

13. Coordination of the Global Geoparks stand in FITUR Madrid, together with 6 Spanish Geoparks
14. Coordination of the Global Geoparks stand in ITB Berlin, together with 20 geoparks from Europe, Middle East and China, and Messel Pit. During the GGN Press Conference 100 trees were given for adoption for rising the awareness about the forest fires that destroy large areas in the territory
15. Participation in the ESTEAM Project Meetings of Norway and Slovenia
16. Participation as Expert Partner in the DANUBE Geotour Interreg Project in Hateg UGG
17. Participation in the I International Conference on Sustainable Tourism and Geoparks organized by the Government of Andaluzia, Spain
18. Participation in the Interreg Bridge over the Armorican Quartzite Project Meeting in Cáceres together with Villuercas UGG and the Government of Cáceres
19. Continuation of the fieldwork campaigns for the study of Cerro da Ladeira Fossil site in the Serra d’Aires e Candeeiros Natural Park together with the Geological Museum of Lisbon, the Institute for Nature Conservation and the Geological Survey
20. Sustainable Tourism Show in the Natural History Museum of Lisbon together with the Portuguese Geoparks

Contact: geral@naturtejo.com
Activity by Partners

22. Publication of the Easter Mysteries events calendar in March
23. Research project on the geohazard mapping of Monsanto geomonument together with the Technical University and the Sciences Faculty of Lisbon
24. Month of the autochthonous forest celebrated with several events and plantation of native trees in both Idanha-a-Nova and Penamacor counties
25. Idanha-a-Nova was certified under the European Network of Bio-regions
26. I-Danha Food Lab organized at Idanha-a-Nova
27. 5th Out of the Place Music Festival brought music and thematic visits to Idanha-a-Nova
28. Support to thematic festivals of local products such as the Wines and Liquors from S. Miguel d’Acha, Bread from Idanha-a-Velha and the Olive Oil in Proença-a-Velha
29. Rivers Project activities with the schools from the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova
30. Invited Participation in the Fórum of Sustainable Tourism in Côa region
Geopark Activities

1. Work continued on the second stage development of our Lottery bid, highlighted in the previous report. The original approval was subject to the completion of the development phase, with a second stage bid submitted in December. This was all finally approved in March for a grant of £375,000 (approx. €432,000) for a project worth approximately £650,000 (€722,000). This will include:
   - New ICT based interpretation
   - Further engagement with schools, especially on ‘geo-film’ making and new animations
   - A project engaging blind people with their geodiversity
   - New art installations inspired by local geology
   - The creation of a series of apprentice roles in the team
   - Geosite conservation and access work
   - Engagement with tourism businesses

2. We are active partners in an INTERREG Atlantic Isles project led by our colleagues in Arouca. A meeting was held before the autumn EGN conference and a second full meeting was attended, in the Burren has been held and further meeting will be held on 5th September. The North Pennines has been actively leading on the ICT elements of the programme, though the biggest problem continues be unravelling the complicated procurement issues.

3. One of our current projects with a geological theme – OREsome North Pennines – has had an extension to September 2018.

4. Our award winning Visitor Centre (Bowlees) is about to re-open again on March 17th. From then until mid June we will be holding an exhibition centred around an original William Smith geological map, and interpretation of the development of geological maps. A commemorative beer has been brewed and there will be art activities and other public events.

5. As part of our Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership Scheme (which provides conservation and community activities on a wide range of topics in part of the Geopark) we launched our new Community Observatory. The work includes simple but effective interpretation panels on ‘The Geology of the Solar System’ which is now complete. Further work has been undertaken on the consolidation and interpretation of features of mining heritage importance.

6. A long-delayed project - new interpretation touch-screen interpretation, with artefacts, fossils etc. with a digital ‘chip’ that are placed on a pad, revealing
interpretation under various themes – is still moving forward glacially slowly towards completion, but should be worth the wait!

7. Our £2.5million bid to the UK’s Heritage Lottery Fund for a landscape scale project in the North West corner of the Geopark was successful in securing a stage 1 pass and £170,000 of development funding over the next 18 months. Should the second stage bid be successful there will be significant work on understanding, celebrating and exploring geological heritage, amongst many other things in a £3.4m programme.

8. Quaternary deposits are an important feature of our Geopark and work continues on our long term peatland restoration programme. Work is underway on our €6.9m LIFE project on this theme, and £500,000 has also been secured from the UK Government.

9. We spent considerable time preparing our revalidation documents during January

Networking

10. Participation in the 40th EGN Meeting in the Azores.

11. Participation in an INTERREG project meeting in the Burren.

12. We used our contacts with the UK Government to arrange a meeting between UK Nat Comm and the Department for International Development (DfID) with the aims of raising their awareness of Geoparks in the UK and abroad. It was an opportunity to highlight the expertise available through UK and how it can support the agendas of DfID and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and encourage ministerial support for Geoparks. Chris Woodley-Stewart, Melanie Border and James Bridge from UNESCO UK Nat. Comm. attended the meeting, which needs following up in the next month.

13. The Geopark Director undertook a revalidation mission in Kula, Turkey, in July.

14. See also item 2 on the INTERREG project.

Activity by Partners

15. Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum – has had a good 2017 season with many new activities and partnerships in the pipeline. It reopens on 30th March and there will be new collaborative projects with the Geopark staff in the coming year.

16. The Nenthead Mines Preservation Society has been busy preparing its programme of mine tours for the coming summer. Our second EGN rep, Peter Jackson, Chairs this very active organisation.

Contact: chris@northpenninesaonb.org.uk / petesmine@gmail.com
NORTH WEST HIGHLANDS GEOPARK, UNITED KINGDOM

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Appointed project officer to deliver LEADER project funded in conjunction with Scottish & Southern Energy to develop a Geoheritage festival, business network and visitor signage. September 2017

2. Regular Newsletters & Social Media engagement on the Geopark activities for Members and Friends September 2017 – March 2018


5. Lecture on Norse peoples in the Geopark by Dr Collen Batey, University of Glasgow at the Rock Stop visitor centre. September 2017

6. Workshop with An Talla Solais, a community visual arts group to investigate how different rock types in the Geopark respond to kiln firing as glaze and ceramics. Including guided day out to collect samples with An Talla Solais staff and volunteers. September 2017

7. Soil Fertility Project fieldwork with Higher Geography pupils from Ullapool High School in conjunction with PhD student and Professor from University of Stirling as part of the Coigach Assynt Living Landscape Partnership. October 2017

8. Earth Science Week Program: (15 events, talks, guided walks, climbing festival: 209 participants). October 2017

9. Two new Geopods ordered (Landscape interpretation points). October 2017

10. Presentation and exhibition event in Ullapool Highschool by Geography pupils, University of Stirling and NWHG on the Soils Fertility Research Project for members of the public. November 2017

11. NWHG Lecture at the Engine Shed, Stirling in partnership with the University of Stirling. November 2017

12. Awarded £8000 from the Scottish Mountaineering Trust and £9000 from the National Lottery to install new virtual time machine into the Rock Stop visitor centre Earth Science exhibition. December 2017

13. Design of Sponsorship Pack for Geopark partners December 2017

14. Annual General Meeting including membership consultation January 2018

15. Appointment of creative tech company to develop digital time machine. January 2018

16. Lecture on traditional Highland Medicine at the Rock Stop. March 2018

17. Inter-agency workshop on NWHG with Scottish Government and UNESCO National Commission March 2018

Networking

1. Participation in INTEREG NPA Program “Drifting Apart” project including attendance at Conference in Rekjanes & Katla UNESCO Global Geoparks. September 2017 – March 2018

Contact: laura@nwhgeopark.com

3. Geopark Raffle Prize Draw – promoting cultural products and businesses. September 2017

4. Participation in the 40th EGN Coordination Committee and 14th EGN Conference in the Azores UNESCO Global Geopark including the Geofair. September 2017

5. Contribution to EGN magazine 14th edition – sustainable tourism article. September 2017


8. Meeting with local harbour cruise shore excursion company to involve Geopark businesses more closely. February 2018.

9. Participation in the Scottish Network for UN Sustainable Development Goals meeting. February 2018

10. Keynote presentation at the Glasgow University Earth Science Society North West Highlands Geopark event. Four speakers from different backgrounds talking on their research, community outreach and sustainable development linked to the Geopark. March 2018

Activity by Partners

11. Coigach Assynt Living Landscape Partnership path building works, excavation of Iron Age Broch and community project small grants scheme delivery. September 2017 – March 2018

12. Funding awarded to Kinlochbervie community for new playpark. November 2017

13. Masters dissertation on “The effects of UNESCO Geoparks in Europe” by student from University of Cergy-Pontoise (IDF) used NWHG as case study. October 2017


15. Formation of community company “Plastics@Bay” to tackle marine plastic pollution in the Geopark. January 2018

16. Funding applications by University Partners for International research projects involving community engagement. December 2017 – February 2018

17. Funding awarded to MacKay Country Trust for digitisation of historical archive. March 2018

Contact: laura@nwhgeopark.com
NOVOHRAD-NÓGRÁD GEOPARK, SLOVAK AND HUNGARIAN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities
1. Organising and retaining a scientific conference on the Szilváskő-caves of the Geopark. (September 2017)
2. Organising events for the PROGEO – National Geotóp Days (October 2017)
3. Field training for voluntary geopark ambassadors under the common cross-border project financed from ERASMUS Programme. (September 2017 – January 2018)
4. Restorations of some study trails in the close neighbourhood of the state border on the Slovak side and at Ipolytarnóc (September 2017 – February 2018).
5. Environmental education and research, expertise exchange (September 2017 – March 2018):
   a. Presentations during field trips to geosites on different occasions to university students and scientists. (September 2017 – March 2018).
   b. Ongoing weekend guided tours to the Geopark sites for the general public.
   c. Representation of the Geopark during the family weekend earth sciences program of the Natural History Museum in Budapest. (November 2017)
   d. Organising study tours to municipal representatives and foreign experts, expertise exchange.
   e. Ongoing cultural activities in the Geopark Headquarters.
   f. Social media presence and publishing printed materials and giving interviews in the media on geological assets of the Geopark.

Networking
6. Attending with presentations the EGN Congress in Portugal (September 2017).
8. Contributing with an article to the ebook of the EGN Fossils Working Group and taking part in the work of the EGN Volcanic Working Group.
9. Representing the Geopark during the meetings and consultations of the Hungarian Geopark Commission (September 2017 – February 2018).

Activity by Partners
11. Continuous communication with other partners (schools, expert organisations, civil societies, entrepreneurs, etc.)
12. Consultations with self-governments in the field of project preparation and realisation (like village renewal, local development and environmental issues) (September - November 2017)
13. Participation in the events, held by the Bükk National Park Directorate, the Hungarian Office for Mining and Geology, the Hungarian Geological Society and local NGOs, like the Nógrád Geopark Association (October 2017 – March 2018).
Geopark Activities

1. Major food festival called Grand Cru, with workshops, best potato and carrot competitions, special geopark menus at restaurants, and activities at the visitor’s field on the Lammefjord, October 2017.

2. Renewal of ALL the geopark partnership agreements as a part of the warm up to the revalidation later in the year, February 2018.


5. Permanent employment of new employee in the geopark secretariat. Now the secretariat has a geologist, a journalist and an event designer, which has shown to be a very strong constellation and unit, January 2018.


7. Initiation of four new information points, as pointed out in the recommendations in the initial evaluation mission in 2014. First one to finish in May, February-March 2018.

8. Posting of 11 new signs in the Lammefjord area as a result of the final stage of the Lammefjord project, supported by European Union funds, February and March, 2018.

9. Start-up of the upcoming Geopark Festival 2018. Development workshops, citizen meetings and newsletter services, and organizing committee are being held and established, March 2018.

10. New research conducted on the geological development of the three lakes in the northernmost part of the geopark.

11. New Carbon-14 dating of samples from the Lammefjord, showing unexpected results, both older and younger, calling for complex and difficult interpretations of the area, January 2018.


Networking

13. Participation in the Science Commission of the 39th General Conference in UNESCO. Participating in the geopark intervention, joined by e.g. Portugal, Greece and Czech Republic, November 2017.


15. Agreement made on geopark mentorship programme for a forthcoming junior geologist in Tumbler Ridge, with Geopark Odsherred providing the field expertise needed in the mentorship programme, March 2018.
16. Initiation of an educational scheme with Hondsrug, TERRA.vita and the Danish aspiring Geopark Vestjylland, focusing on Ice Age landscape formations. Further meetings are planned.

**Activity by Partners**

17. Launch of an array of new sea weed products; e.g. mustard, pesto and a beer by the Odsherred-based company and geopark partner Danish Sea Weed.

18. Initial stages of establishing Odsherred as wine district for cold climate wines. Two of the geopark partners are actively taking part in the enterprise.

19. Dragsholm Castle retained their Michelin star in 2018 for the second year in a row, as a result of a cuisine, primarily based on local produce from the geopark area.
ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, September 2017– March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Special offers for environmental programmes and programmes for schools, September 2017 - March 2018

3. Guided geotours on the ore-trail, waterfall trail, lectures and workshops (also for children and schools) with all together more than 550 participants, September 2017 - March 2018.

4. Marketing of local Geopark products at “Farmers market” in Bischofshofen, September 2017 - March 2018


6. Celebration of the feast of St. Barbara (5th of December) in the Geopark villages Mühlbach am Hochkönig, St. Veit and Hüttau, December 2017

7. Meeting of the tourism professionals from the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hüttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about promotional activities, December 2017.

8. Finalisation of the concept and cost schedule of the travelling exhibition “Copper, so close to heavens” - EU transnational LEADER project together with our national Geopark partners in Germany, Porphyryland Saxony and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thuringia, December 2017.

9. Planning and accomplishment of the “Erz-Trophy” (ore-trophy) in the Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark, one of the biggest ski mountaineering events in the Alps; February 2-4 2018

10. Finalisation of the article “The UNESCO Geopark Ore of the Alps (Pongau / Salzburg): Geosites and Geotourism” for the book “Landscapes and landforms of Austria” which will be published 2019

11. Total amount of visitors in 2017 of the three Geopark-museums (Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 4851 and of the three show mines (Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 9491

Networking

12. Participation of Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist), and Eva Wimmer (expert for agrotourism) at the 39th European Geoparks Meeting at Azores, Portugal, September 2017.

Contact: office@geopark-erzderalpen.at
13. Article for the GGN news feed 2017/2: Hochkönig Miner’s run in the Geopark Ore of the Alps / Austria.

14. Preparing the article written by Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist): “Music was my first love...” for the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 15.

15. Delegation’s visit, Slovenian Geoparks and Nature Parks, October 12 2017

16. University lecture held by Dr. Horst Ibetsberger concerning the “International Day for Disaster Reduction”, during the 50-year anniversary of the Geological Department in Salzburg; October 13 2017

17. Participation of Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist) and Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager) at the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Leoben, Styria November 9 2017.


19. Submission of the GINGER project: Partners: Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark, Styrian Eisenwurzen UNESCO Global Geopark, EURAC+ RL (Italy), IRSTEA (France), EZVD+ KP (Slovenia): INTEREG; The GINGER project tries to exploit the risk mitigation capacity of forest ecosystem services and to identify rock fall risk and risk mitigation capacities of ecosystems, the project will build on experiences and results provided by ongoing projects such as RockTheAlps and AlpES or other EU projects as EVANDE. The partner contract was signed by all partners 2017. December 2017

20. Finalisation of the article “UNESCO Geopark Ore of the Alps” for the English book “UNESCO Geoparks in Austria” which will be published in February 2018, Pfeil Verlag - Munich, January 2018

21. Planing of the International Summer School July 1-12 2019; PhD Students (20-30) and teaching staff (10) of all partners (Russia: Russian State Hydrometeorological University, St.-Petersburg; Gorno-Altaisk State University (GASU), Gorno-Altaisk; Siberian Federal University (SibFU), Krasnojarsk; NGO “Altai-Sayan Mountain Partnership” (ASMP); India/Nepal: Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi; Kumaun University (KU), Nanital; Central Himalayan Environment Association; Royal University of Bhutan (RUB); EU: Salzburg University, Research Group Urban and Landscape Ecology, Dep. Geographie and Geology, Austria; Estonian University of Life Sciences (EMU), Tartu, Estonia; University Bremen, Germany (lead partner); Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark; January-February 2018

Activity by Partners

22. German national Geopark „Inselsberg - 3 Gleichen“ in Thuringia and „Porphyryland Sachsen“ in Saxonia: Submission of the application dossiers to get the possibility to become a member of EGN, October 2017.
Papuk Geopark, Croatia

Progress report: September 2017 – March 2018

Papuk Geopark activities:

1. We were invited by Farmahem DOOEL - coordinator of Nature Conservation Programme in FYR Macedonia to visit area of municipality of Probishtip in order to establish first geopark in Macedonia. In a two day visit we had meetings with key players which will be included in this process and had opportunity to see main geological and natural values on the field. They got knowledge about Geopark concepts and we gave them some recommendations for possibility for establishing the Geopark “Lesnovo”.

2. There is a public web portal of the Information System of Nature Conservation (http://www.bioportal.hr). New thing in web GIS map is updated layer of Protected Areas where you can find international proclamations – UNESCO Global Geopark, UNESCO world heritage and UNESCO MAB

3. In cooperation with our partner organization - Polytechnic of Požega (Professional study of Viticulture-Oenology-Pomology) we organize field study for students who attend course Pedology and Quaternary Geology. We agreed that field study will take place every year in the Papuk Geopark with our assistance.

4. Papuk Geopark has been presented in television show “Good Morning Croatia” together with representative of aspiring geopark Vis Archipelago talking about protection of geological heritage using geopark concept. We also were guests in the Radio show “Sunčani sat” about tourism; tourist events and tourist destinations. This show is broadcasting on Croatian National Radio every Friday from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We represented our 10 years as UNESCO Global Geopark.

5. In the Nature Park Kopački rit Scientific Symposium with international participation took place. On that occasion we presented our activities in Danube GeoTour project (INTERREG Danube Transnational Programme) – roll-up, leaflets and power-point presentation.

6. With regard to INTERREG project Danube GeoTour we participated in two steering committee meeting in Eisenwurzen UGG and Hateg UGG. Beside of reports of project progress we had workshops considering establishing of Geoproducts with local character and screening of best practice in Geo-interpretation.

7. In our campsite Duboka we organized one-day camp for children with special needs from Požega primary schools. All kids were accompanied by special needs teaching assistant who helped us in conducting activities and exercises accustomed to all kids.
8. We started with implementation of project “Geo-story of UNESCO Geopark”. Kick-off conference took place in the Eco-point Jankovac and gathered all partners and many guests and journalists. Total project value is around 90.000.000 KN from which the awarded grant amounts up to 65.652.402 KN.

9. During Croatian Conservation Service Meeting in the Biokovo Nature Park we organized internal workshop for colleagues, from several National/Nature Parks, interested in theme of Geopark. They got acquainted with principle of conservation of geological heritage and benefits for local people derived from geopark

10. Last year very successful running weekend – Papuk Trekk&Trail and 10 km uphill race, again attracted even more people, around 700. This year we offered our partners – local producers to represent and sell their home made products what they accepted. So, this sport event turns into something bigger, kind of small fair with local products.

11. We hosted in a two day field trip 17 students from University of Szeged, Hungary. They were interested in geology of Papuk Geopark and we took them to several geosites which best represent geological settings of Papuk Mt.

12. In order to arrange parking area at the Park forest Jankovac we had an investment in building a gravel parking lot which should help many visitors who come by car to the Jankovac valley.
POLLINO GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Project of a new guide in double language (Ita/Eng) on the geosite of the Romito cave December 2017
2. Project of Restyling official website in double language (Ita/Eng) December 2017
3. Issuing of new tourist map in two languages with insertion of geosites and non-geological sites December 2017
4. Start of the project that involves monitoring of some springs in Pollino Geopark in order to achieve a geo-touristic route named “The route of waters” January 2018
5. Pollino Geopark scientific committee meeting (with Universities of Calabria, of Basilicata and Firenze) to plan the strategies for the years 2018-19 -budget €150,000 – January 2018
6. Oral presentation on our Geopark at the conference, “Cavities, karst phenomena and underground water resources Orvieto -October 2017-
7. Oral presentation on our Geopark at conference in the National Research Council (Cnr) Roma December 2017

Networking

8. Participation, at the 14th Conference of Unesco European Geoparks in Ponta Delgada - Azzorre (Portogallo). At the same venue, and creation off a roll up Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark for Italian stand (GEO)FAIR AZORES, September 2017,
10. Contribution Newsletter 10 2017 European Geopark “The route of the waters: a new research project involving Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy) and the University of Calabria.
11. Celebration of International Disaster Risk Reduction Day 2017 by European Geoparks with workshop: “Foreseeing, preventing and mitigating the risks in the territory of Pollino Geopark” October 2017

Activity by Partners

12. Oral presentation on our Geopark, at the Unesco Chair Matera Opening Conference that take place on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th of October 2017 in Matera,
13. Oral presentation on our Geopark, at the National award “Giuseppe De Lorenzo” LAGONEGRO(PZ) December 2017
14. Meeting, in the municipality of Terranova di Pollino with cultural associations: “Pollino a heritage for everyone” November 2017

Contact: luigi.bloise@parcopolino.gov.it; egidio.calabrese@parcopolino.gov.it
Geopark Activities

1. Geopark participated on October 5th at the Hellenic Geoparks Forum meeting in Athens to discuss its intervention in the creation of the Hellenic List of National Geosites.

2. Geopark organised at Heraklion on October 2018 a short course for the official tourist guided association to promote Psiloritis and Sitia geopark, as well as the New Integrated Spatial Investment.

3. Geopark participated in the celebration of the International day for DDR on the 13th October, organising a free event at the Natural History Museum of Crete.

4. Geopark participated on November 2017 at the Hellenic Geoparks Forum meeting that was organised with the UNESCO National Committee in Athens, and the participation of representatives from the ministries of Tourism and Environment and the regional authorities of Geoparks. Meeting was aiming to strengthen the operation of Greek Geoparks, to enforce their collaborations with national and local authorities and to discuss preparations for the organisation of the 1st Hellenic and Cypriot Geoparks Congress in Athens on May 2018.

5. Geopark Vice President Mr Fassoulas contributed in the preparation of the National Report on Status of Nature Conservation in Greece, providing data on the conservation of Geodiversity by the end of 2017.

6. On December 2017 the new Initiative of Geopark, the “The Customers personal card project” was presented by the Region of Crete as the only Best Practice in front of all EU regions at a meeting called “BrandTour” for sustainable tourism development that was held in the Netherlands.

7. Geopark hosted and guided for two days a delegation of Organic Farmers from Cyprus that were participating in a transnational project with the Sitia Geopark.

8. Geopark coordinated and submitted on February 2018 the Strategic study for the Integrated Spatial Investment of the Region of Crete titled “The UNESCO sites of Crete” aiming to common promote and create a new tourism product based on sustainable and alternative tourism.

9. The Vice President of Geopark Mr Fassoulas gave a talk for the fossils of Psilorititis during the annual Seminar of the Tourist guides association that took place on February at Heraklion.

10. Geopark is actively participating in the implementation of an Interreg MED for the Emblematic Mountains of Mediterranean and will participate at the second meeting that will take place on March.


Networking

12. Geopark Vice President Mr Fassoulas coordinated the preparation of the GGN Geohazards WG Action Plan for 2018-2020

Contact: fassoulas@nhmc.uoc.gr
13. Geopark Vice President Mr Fassoulas coordinated the EGN activities for the celebration of the International day for DDR on the 13th October

14. Geopark Vice President Mr Fassoulas coordinated the EGN Geohazards WG

15. Geopark offered its experience to other territories of Greece wishing to establish Geoparks. Furthermore, it is going to host in June this year, a delegation from the aspiring Geopark “Regional Landscape Kempen and Maasland” of Belgium.

**Activity by Partners**

16. Geopark will participate through its partner, the Natural History Museum of Crete in a new Horizon 2020 project titled “Ruritage” among with other Geoparks which is expected to start on June 2018.

17. Geopark’s Partner, Anogia Environmental Education Center, is going to implement an official program of the Ministry of Education, aiming at the Creation of a National Network of schools and school authorities on Geodiversity, Geoparks and Sustainable development. The network is supported by all Geoparks of Greece and aims to an international collaboration with other EU territories. Project duration is 2018-2020.

REYKJANES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Numerous international, national and local interviews, articles and press releases on the Geopark.

2. Publication of an outdoor birding map.

3. The Geopark has made contracts with local operators on using the Reykjanes Geopark logo.

4. The Geopark was awarded a grant for developing spokesperson (mascot) for the geopark.

5. Working with Iceland Tourism Task Force to prioritizing the development and building of infrastructure in the region, e.g. at geosites.

6. Working on a new parking lot and path for Gunnuhver geothermal area.

7. Working on a new path next to Reykjanes Lighthouse.

8. Working on a new plan for Garðskagi Lightouse.


10. Ongoing development of unmanned visitor centres and new information points in cooperation with all partners.


12. Visit Reykjanes and Reykjanes Geopark participated in tourism fairs; Vestnorden Travel Mart in Greenland and Mid-Atlantic in Reykjavík. Hosted a tourism workshop in Reykjavik in cooperation with other regional offices and participated in five countries travel workshop in London.

13. The yearly Reykjanes Geopark / Visit Reykjanes winter conference was held in the Geopark. The theme was responsible tourism and marketing of the area. Many of the guests were local tourist operators.

14. Reykjanes Geopark and Visit Reykjanes organised five open meetings in the Geopark. The aim was introduce the Geopark and to give people living in the geopark a chance to have influence on the policy.

15. Two rangers from The Environmental Agency of Iceland worked in the geopark for 15 weeks.

16. Reykjanes Geopark was nominated as one of Top100 Green Destinations of the year 2017.

Contact: Eggert Sólberg Jónsson eggert@heklan.is
17. Reykjanes Geopark is nominated to the Green Destination’s Earth Awards at ITB 2018.

18. Working on field guides for three geosites through the Drifting Apart project.

**Networking**


20. Meetings with members of the Parliament, the ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Minister of Industries and Innovation.

21. Participation in a Drifting Apart steering group meeting Nr 6 in Magma Geopark, Norway.

22. Reykjanes Geopark Hosted the conference, *Drifting Apart but Working Together*, with 70 participants from 11 countries.

23. Mentor meetings with Lochaber Geopark in Scotland through the Drifting Apart project.


**Activity by Partners**

25. Visit Reykjanes, GeoCamp Iceland and Reykjanes Geopark are working together with Google Education on developing educational material and 360-degree filming of geosites and hiking trails.

26. Sudurnes Science and Learning Centre was awarded a grant to develop citizen science in Reykjanes Geopark.

27. Heklan – Reykjanes Regional Development Agency has been nominated to the Icelandic for the Icelandic Advertising Awards for the most successful campaign of 2017. Reykjanes Geopark has been active partner in the campaign.

28. Two of the municipalities in Reykjanes Geopark will merge in the year 2018. Municipalities will therefore be four instead of five today.
ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Activity of Geopark during the European Week of Sport that promotes sport and physical activity across Europe. The Week is for everyone, regardless of age, background or fitness level. The Rocca di Cerere European Week of Sport implement practices of strategies for health-enhancing physical activities; September 2017

2. Excursions in several sites of the Geopark, (Pergusa Lake Natural Reserve, Rossomanno Wood Natural Reserve, Floristella Mining Park).


4. Rocca di Cerere Geopark attends at an interesting training about HEPA promotion in senior, work environment sector." in the frame of the EU project GO ACTIVE “Development and implementation practices of strategies for health-enhancing physical activities in local communities across Europe" in Raseiniai, Lithuania October 2017

5. Participation, oral and presentations, in the Regional Conference focused on Experential Tourism Palermo February 2018


7. Training courses and stages during the formation process for two groups of Escursionistic and Environmental guides of AIGAE (National Association of Naturalistic Guides of Italy);

Networking

8. In the frame of LEADER of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) for Sicily, LAG Rocca di Cerere Geopark has defined the new masterplan financed by regional authorities. October 2017


10. ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 2 Sustain your life through Social Entrepreneurship: Closing activity :November 2017;

11. Participation, oral and presentations, in the Conference: "THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE OF SICILY: GOOD PRACTICES AND GOVERNANCE" organized by Steering Committee of the UNESCO serial site "Palermo Arab-Norman and the Cathedrals of Cefalù" and UNESCO Sicily Foundation January 2018

12. Working with Development and implementation practices of strategies for HEALTH-ENHANCING PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES (HEPA) in local communities across Europe” nature trails with holistic approach. September 2017–March 2018

Contact: direttore@roccadicerere.eu
13. Working with ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 2 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP: SUSTAIN YOUR LIFE THROUGH SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP. September 2017– March 2018


17. Project proposal: ENI CBC MED Programme, First call for standard projects, Thematic Objectives - A.3 - Promotion of social inclusion and fight against poverty (Promote economic and social development), Priority A.3.1 - Provide young people, especially those belonging to the NEETS and women, with marketable skills, Title: “Social entrepreneurship for NEETs – EntreNEETship”, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Promimpresa srl - San Cataldo, Rocca di Cerere Geopark – Enna, National Observatory of Youth ONJ – Tunisia, Save Youth Future Society SYFS – Palestine, Cyprus University of Technology – Cyprus

18. Project proposal: “Promoting sustainable and experiential tourism for economic, social and cultural growth in rural and remote areas in Europe”, ERASMUS+ programme, Key Action 2 - Strategic partnerships in the field of Vocational Education and Training PRISM Italy,- Lesvos island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece, Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark, France, Csongrad County Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hungary, University of Acala, Spain, CARDET, Cyprus, Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark March 2018


20. Contribution of an article for the EGN News letter Issue 11, February 2018

21. As part of its educational activities, Rocca di Cerere Geopark has established a cooperation with the secondary school “Federico II” of Enna. The school offers a focus on tourism. The cooperation is established in the frame of the Erasmus + project "Agenda 2030: That's our Challenge". February 2018

Contact: direttore@roccadicerere.eu
22. As part of its educational activities, Rocca di Cerere Geopark has established a cooperation with the secondary school “Dante Alighieri” of Enna. The cooperation is established in the frame of the Job and school alternace national project. September 2017;

23. **Activity by Partners**

ROKUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, FINLAND

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Participation to the VisitFinland Organized MoiMoi workshop in Tokyo, Japan. MoiMoi is a workshop in which Finnish tourism suppliers meet the Japanese buyers. September 2017.

2. Implementing the Kyläpaika kartalle –project. The aim of the project is to inform and include the localities/communities within the Geopark more: 1. Of Geopark activities 2. To highlight the touristic possibilities inside the Geopark. The project continues until summer 2018.

3. Participation to the Attractive Oulu Region 2018 ERDF –project. The aim of the project is to attract more international visitors to Oulu region and to the Geopark. The tasks of the project involve marketing and sales activities as well as product development.


5. Rokua Geopark started up a new ERDF project in the first of January. The three year financed project is called: Time traveller in Rokua Geopark. The purpose of the project is to illustrate the big changes in the Geopark by using the latest Virtual and Augmented reality techniques. The Geopark exhibition in the Suppa guiding centre will be renewed during the project too.

6. The Geopark area received its first Chinese camp school groups in February 2018. Three groups had all together about 100 kids and their teachers. The Geopark has been working hard to get recognised as a reliable and interesting partner for the Chinese tour operators.

7. Local and regional newspapers have written several articles on the Geopark and its activities during the reporting period.

8. Rokua Geopark was awarded the Finnish Outdoors Destination of the year 2018 award in Helsinki at the GoExpo fairs. The award came after a national public voting in which almost 6000 persons gave their votes. The award was now given for the 14th time. This year the theme was the geological outdoors destinations in Finland. March 2018

Networking


11. Participation to the 14th European Geoparks Conference in Azores Geopark, Portugal. Rokua Geopark had a delegation of eight people attending the conference in September 2018.

Contact: vesa.krokki@rokuageopark.fi
12. People from Salpausselkä Geopark project visited the Rokua Geopark from 17th to 18th of October. The purpose was to learn from us and get ideas in how to build their possible Geopark.

13. Vesa Krökki and Kaisa Karhu from Rokua Geopark visited the Saimaa Geopark project in 7th of November. To give presentations in how to build up a network of Geopark companies. The event took place in Imatra.

14. Vesa Krökki visited the Salpausselkä Geopark project conference in 12th of December to give a presentation on the UNESCO Global Geoparks. The Conference was held in Lahti.

15. The people behind the Lauhanvuori Geopark project visited the Rokua Geopark during 6th and 7th of February.

**Activity by Partners**

16. The Geopark and the local businesses have been actively promoting the area together. The Geopark and companies participated together to the Matka 2018 fair in January 2018.
SESIA VAL GRANDE UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. EXHIBITION - June to October - Vogogna, Visconteo Castle: STONE ROUTES. See and touch the rocks of the Sesia Val Grande Unesco Geopark. Exhibition of the different lithologies of the geopark area.
2. EXHIBITION June to October – Cicogna visitor centre- Photo exhibition on the theme “Sesia Val Grande Geopark. Arte, cultura e natura del geoparco più alto d’Europa” of the Geopark photo contest.
3. GUIDED TRIP: 1 e 22 September 2017 - Guided tours in the Historical Candoglia Pink Marble Quarry, the marble of the Duomo of Milan
4. 2 September: Alagna Valsesia - Italian Alpine troops Celebration: Mountain walk and presentation of book and video devoted to the Alpines-
5. GUIDED TRIP 2 September: 5th tour of the Rima mountain pastures: A day to discover the mountain pastures, the ancient huts and the nature of the Alta Valsesia Natural Park
6. GUIDED TRIP AND TASTING - September 3 Passo dei Salati (2971 m above sea level, Alagna Valsesia) - Sapori d’Alta quota - Naturalistic guided tours with park rangers, market and tasting of food and wine excellence
7. WORKSHOP – 9 September – Living traditions – Handcrafters from geopark area
8. GUIDED TRIP AND TASTING 9 September -Rimella -The walser pastures of Rimella: discovering Walser pastures and its wines and cheeses
10. WORKSHOP 21 and 22 September: Dal Riso al Rosa: meeting of the Natural Parks of Upper Piedmont and Switzerland, organized in collaboration with protected areas of Ossola and Ticino
11. COMMUNICATION: Leaflet about Fum Biz botanical garden (Alagna)
12. COMMUNICATION: implementation of the website and social networks of the Valsesia protected areas
13. FESTIVAL: September 23-24, Rima 19th Potato Festival: market and tasting of traditional mountain and territory products, field activities and conference
14. EXHIBITION 29-30 September/1 October 2017– Witches and elves of the wood: fantasy shapes in the roots – Local artist
15. PROFESSIONAL FORMATION: September 2 classes (geology and geomorphology) and 2 fieldtrips in training courses for professional guides
16. GUIDED TRIP – 17 September 2017: The rock in the glass: guided trip in the vineyards and wine tasting
17. PROFESSIONAL FORMATION: 20 september 2017, in collaboration with University of Torino full day field trip and laboratory for high school teachers
18. EDUCATION - 27 September 2017: full day field trip and laboratories on Geology: high school from Moncalieri (TO)
20. CONFERENCE- 6 October 2017- GRANUM (Pink granite Museum in Baveno): “The Obelisks. From ancient Egypt to the Baveno granite”
21. WORKSHOP: - 8 October GRANUM (Pink granite Museum in Baveno): National day of families at the museum: The game of the “route of the marble”.
22. WORKSHOP – 14 October 2017– Living traditions – Handcrafters from geopark area
23. GUIDED TRIP – 15 October 2017- Geological digressions around the Sacred Mount
24. SPECIAL TOUR – 15 October 2017 – The Sesia Supervolcano: tour on Vocca geosites with students explaining the local geology (in collaboration with FAI – Italian Environment Found)
25. EDUCATION - October 2017: 3 full day field trip and laboratories on Geology: high school from Vercelli
26. EDUCATION – October 2017: 2 full day field trip and laboratories on Geology: high school from Torino
28. EDUCATION – 24 October 2017: Half a day field trip on Supervulcano (13 years old child from Borgomanero)
29. PROFESSIONAL FORMATION: 27-28 October 2017: one class (geology and geomorphology) and one fieldtrip in training course for professional guides
31. EDUCATION- 30 October 2017: speech at the Workshop on geoheritage interpretation organized by the earth Science department of the University of Turin
32. EXHIBITION – October 2017- January 2018 – Photo exhibition on the theme “The beauty of nature and geological landscape”
34. WORKSHOP – December 16 and 17 2018– Living traditions – Handcrafters from geopark area.
35. EDUCATION – February 2018: 3 classroom laboratories (13 years old child From Grignasco, serravalle and Boca)
36. EXHIBITION - 23-24-25 February 2018 – Botanic watercolors in the Geopark – local artists
37. CONFERENCE: “I rossi del Rosa: i vini del supervulcano” relationships between soils and wine in the supervolcano area

Networking

1. September 2017: Presentation of the Application Dossier for the recognition of part of the geopark territories as a Biosphere Reserve (MAB Unesco).
2. November 2017: meeting at Chablais Geopark to establish a twinning program and discuss the enlargement of the Erasmus+ project partnership.

Contact: presidente@sesiavalgrandegrateopark.it
3. January 2018: active support and collaboration for the International project proposal IGDP-Dive.
4. February 2018: Cultural Exchange with Rokua Geopark under Erasmus+ project “GEOHERITAGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE OPENING THE SECRETS OF HOME”: field activities and workshops in Finland.
5. February 2018: Official agreement with Chablais UNESCO GG to enlarge the Erasmus+ network
6. Participation on different collaborative European projects (Central Europe, 2 Erasmus+, Creative Europe) with other European UGGp’s

Activity by Partners
1. EDUCATION – since September: "La Via del Marmo", an educational proposal to learn about the history of the Milan Cathedral and the quarried stones of the Verbanese and Ossola territory. Organized for the local schools by the Ecomuseum of Granites “dei Laghi” with the Museum of the “Veneranda Fabbrica del Duomo” and the Geoparco’s support.
2. EDUCATION - 11 January 2018: full day trip for the Workshop on geoheritage interpretation organized by the earth Science department of the University of Turin. Theme of the day: “The role of Cultural Geology in the landscape of the UNESCO Geopark Sesia Val Grande”
3. From October 2014 - University of Turin, Department of Earth Science: scientific collaboration on the following topics: geodiversity, geoheritage and their promotion.
4. “Sentieri del Gusto” Gastronomic itinerary inside the Geopark – August to December 2017
GEOPARK SHETLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Continued working on new exhibits for Shetland Museum & Archives, due to be complete and installed in April 2018.
2. Work on a new Devonian Trail (including a trail leaflet and interpretative panels, both on-site and in local visitor centres) is now well underway and should be completed in April 2018.
3. Ran a ‘Beginners’ Geology’ course, led by a local geologist, as part of Scotland’s Geoheritage Festival.
5. Monitoring and maintenance of Shetland’s Core Path Network and access routes is ongoing.
6. Ongoing surveying and mapping of Shetland’s blanket bog for purposes of habitat conservation.
7. Represented by Scottish Geoparks Partnership at launch of ‘The 51 Best Places to see Scotland’s Geology’ in Edinburgh.
8. Involved with three new peatland-restoration projects around Shetland.
9. Held a very successful peatland-restoration volunteer event, transplanting sphagnum moss to re-wetted peatland.
10. Submitted applications for three new woodlands, which will hopefully result in a total of more than one hectare of new woodland planting in Shetland.
11. Continued work on the Drifting Apart project and, with support from project partners, have produced toolkits to help Geoparks through the process of community engagement.
12. Continued social media presence, promoting the work of the Shetland Amenity Trust and the Geopark.
13. Commenced organisation of 2018 Shetland Nature Festival, in partnership with European Geoparks Week, which will take place in July.
14. Ongoing feasibility study into restoration of Halligarth, the family home of Edmondstons/Saxbys (who featured prominently in the discovery and documentation of much of Shetland’s natural heritage), and develop interpretation relating to natural and cultural heritage.
15. Interviews and articles on the work of Shetland Amenity Trust in the national and regional media.

Networking

17. Attended Drifting Apart final conference in Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark, Iceland, where we presented on Work Package 6, for which Shetland UGG is lead partner.

Contact: rory.tallack@shetlandamenity.org
18. Contribution of an article on peatland restoration in Shetland for the EGN Magazine Issue 15.


20. Participation in the 40th EGN CC meeting in Azores UNESCO Global Geopark.

21. Working with two local heritage centres to add new geological interpretation, as part of the new Devonian Trail.

22. Regular communication with Scottish Geoparks Partnership.

23. Working with local community and National Trust for Scotland, amongst others, to restore Halligarth (see above).

**Activity by Partners**

24. Work has continued on a Shetland geology guide, written by a local geologist, and an agreement has been made to publish in financial year 2018/2019.
PARQUE NATURAL SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA UGG, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Guided route in Cerro del Hierro Natural Monument and Cascadas del Huésna Natural Monument, with the Geological-Mining Photography Group of the University of Huelva, November 11, 2017.


9. Interview on COPE broadcasting radio to the president of the World Council of Geoparks, and to the Director and the scientific coordinator of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park - UGG, February 15, 2018.

10. Update of the technical information of the geosites of the Geopark, and previous works for the incorporation of new geosites, February - March 2018.

11. Practical workshop on the Geopark for the teachers of the territory and province of Seville; February 24, 2018.

12. Geological route (El Chorro - Cuenca del Viar - El Calvario), with students from the University of Seville within the Ecocampus Program, Almadén de la Plata; March 16, 2018.

13. Talk about Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park - UGG and visit to the fossil trunk at Cortijo El Berrocal Visitor Centre, Almadén de la Plata; March 17, 2018.

Contact: geosierranorte.cmaot@juntadeandalucia.es
Networking


15. Attendance at 14th European Geoparks Conference, Azores Geopark, September 7 to 9, 2017. Presentation of the paper: "Recovering the Ethnological and Cultural Heritage".


Activity by Partners

19. Autumn Festival of *Dehesas de Sierra Morena* Biosphere Reserve in Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park - UGG, between September 21 and December 29, 2017. There have been 43 activities organized and carried out by 22 entities, tourism companies and civil associations.

20. Meeting for tourism entrepreneurs: an opportunity for tourism. Visit the geological sites of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park – UGG; December 18, 2017.

SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. **Press-blog-trip to Sierras Subbéticas**: in the frame of the I International Seminar on Sustainable Tourism and Geoparks, a fieldtrip for ecotourism bloggers and journalists was organised. They were guided to the most important geosites, experienced Geobiking in the Green Way, and enjoyed the menu “The flavours from the Tethys Sea”. This event resulted in important promotion through at least 5 publications on Sierras Subbéticas Geopark in tourism blogs and newspapers. (November, 2017).

3. **Mycological Priego**, the municipality of Priego de Córdoba, in collaboration with the Geopark, has developed a program of diverse activities (educational / gastronomic) dealing with Mycology, in order to promote La Tufa Mycological Garden as well as the Sierras Subbéticas truffles and mushrooms among residents. About 1500 people have participated. (November-December 2017).

4. **Celebration of two Board Meetings**: The Delegate of the Provincial Department of Environment and the director of the Park meet the representatives of different collectives and administrations linked to the Natural Park/Geopark (mayors, landowners, entrepreneurs, ecologists, etc.). At these meetings the Geopark objectives Plan for 2018 was approved, which included the conservation of the Park facilities, improvement of signposting, the assessment of new park trails, the celebration of the XXX Anniversary of the Natural Park Sierras Subbéticas, and the new application for the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. (December 2017, February 2018).

5. **“Get to know every corner of your home”**: Participation and Sensitization Program of Sierras Subbéticas: A Nature approach programme for local residents. 3 activities have been celebrated (Plants and fungi, network of networks; Water and atmosphere model the Subbética; Human’s imprint in the Subbética) (2017-2018).

6. **Inventory of the Geopark’s interpretive signposting** and revision of the panel’s content, in order to adapt it to UNESCO guidelines (logos update, translations to English).


8. **Entrepreneurs Training Program**: Course on the “Mycological Garden La Trufa” for the interpretation and use of the garden facilities, organised by the Geopark and the council of Priego de Córdoba (February, 2018).

Contact: pn.subbeticas.cmaot@juntadeandalucia.es
9. **Sierras Subbéticas Sustainable Development Plan** - participation in several working groups to elaborate the future plan (2017-2018).


11. **Promotional activities:** Several press releases for regional/provincial/local newspapers. Regional TV programme shooting (Natural Andalusia). Active presence in social networks: Facebook/GeoparqueSubbéticas; Twitter/@SubbeticasWeek. (2017-2018)

**Networking**


13. **Co-organization of the I International Seminar on Sustainable Tourism and Geoparks,** (Seville, Sierras Subbéticas), together with the Environment and Tourism Ministries. More than 100 people participated in this event. As a result of this seminar, the Andalusian Ministry of Tourism announced a new tourism product for its region: “Geotourism”. (November, 2017)

14. **Organisation of the Spanish Geoparks press conference in Fitur 2018 (Andalusia pavilion) and** participation in the magazine “Spanish Geoparks, a window to the geological history”. (FITUR, 2018)

15. **National Committee of Spanish Geoparks** - Attendance to the meeting in Madrid, February, 2018)

**Activity by Partners**

16. **Tourism Workshop in Zuheros:** A program of several lectures linked to the natural and cultural heritage of Zuheros. The Geopark participated with talks on Sierras Subbéticas biodiversity and geodiversity (October, 2017).

17. **New adhesion to the ecolabel “Marca Parque Natural de Andalucia”** of a Geopark enterprise, Lives Olives (ecological olive oil). (December, 2017)

18. **VII Provincial phase of the Earth Science Olympiad of Cordova,** organised by the Secondary School Nuevo Scala (Rute). The Geopark collaborates since 2012, when this event took place for the first time in the territory. (Feb., 2018)

19. **Support and promotion of the Cheese Fest in Zuheros,** organised by the Cheese farm “Quesería de la Subbética” and the Council of Zuheros (Sept, 2017)

20. **Support to the project:** (Green Ways and Nature 2000. Promotion of Natural Protected Areas and Geoparks trough the Spanish Network of Green Ways) (2017)

21. **The Subbética Sustainable Tourism Strategic Plan,** organised by the Subbética Community. Support and participation in several workshops. (2017)

Contact: pn.subbeticas.cmaot@juntadeandalucia.es
SITIA GEOPARK, GREECE – CRETE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Visits by representatives of the Sitia Geopark in schools for information relating to the geology and biodiversity geotrails of the Geopark January-February 2018
2. Continuous interviews and articles on the Sitia Geopark in the national and regional media and Social Media aimed at informing of citizens. September 2017–March 2018
3. The 1st Sitia Geopark Trail was held on Sunday, October 2017, in Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark. An action that we planned and organized with the region's local community.
4. The Geopark of Sitia participated in the action "No other plastics in our seas", organized by WWF Hellas, with the participation of volunteer groups and citizens of Sitia. September 17
5. Participation in the actions for the International Day for the Reduction of Natural Disasters organized by the European Geopark Network, in cooperation with the Volunteer Rescuers, the Sitia Fire Service and the Greek Red Cross Samaritans. They visited schools, informed the students of the municipality and provided them with useful information on the prevention and treatment of natural disasters. October 18
6. Educational activities and training program in collaboration with primary and secondary schools. September 2017–March 2018
7. 1st meeting of the partners involved in the project GEOTOURISM IN INSULAR GEOPARKS and implemented within the framework of the INTERREG V-A GREECE - CYPRUS 2014 - 2020 Cooperation Program, in which the three Greek Island Geoparks of Lesvos, Psiloritis and Sitia and the Geopark of Troodos of Cyprus. January 18

Networking

1. Participation in 14th European Geoparks Conference, at Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, from 7th – 9th, September 2017
2. Participation at GGN presentation at ITB in Berlin in March 2018
3. Contributing to the EGN newsletter no.10 with a short text and some photos regarding the 1st Sitia Geopark Trail
4. Contributing to the EGN newsletter no.11 with a short text and some photos regarding Palaeontology and Geotourism
5. Contribution to EGN magazine Issue 14/2017 “live the experience of the landscape … discover the SITIA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK"

activity by partners

1. "The Sitia Geopark as a lever of development”. Second Workshop with cultural and agricultural organizations about participatory planning and promotion of our cultural and productive identity, in cooperation with local actors.
2. Participation of the Geopark Sitia in the National Thematic Network of the Center for Environmental Education of Anogeia titled: Saving the memory of the earth through geo-diversity, Geoparks and man-made activities. February 18

3. Participation in the workshop of the Professional Guides of Crete & Santorini. In the framework of the annual training of the members of the Association of Professional Guides of Crete & Santorini, aiming at their briefing on the 2 UNESCO World Geoparks of Crete

4. Decision on the extension of the management committee of the Sitia Geopark with the participation of representatives of cultural associations, producers and tourism operators in order to represent the whole of the local community in the management of the Geopark
SOBRARBE–PIRINEOS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Educational activity: Between September 7th and 9th, the Geopark hosted the course "Glaciers, Snow and Permafrost of the mountains: the cryosphere as an indicator of changes in climate", organized by the Menéndez Pelayo International University. This was the first edition of this course, which has had an excellent reception in terms of the number of student students, with a total of 45 participants, completing all the places provided. September 2017

3. Participation in the II Spanish Congress of the Man and Biosphere Reserves. The Geopark supported the organization of the Congress, organized by the Ordesa-Viñamala Biosphere Reserve, and also participated in the training seminar on the creation of tourism products and sustainable tourism: in the section of exemplary experiences, the manager of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos UGG had a presentation on "Geological tourism. The Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark experience." September 2017

4. Geological Autumn in Sobrarbe: Once again the Sobrarbe Geopark has organised the “Geological Autumn in Sobrarbe”: this activity consisted of guided geological tours carried out every weekend during the autumn season. September-October 2017.

5. Organization of the XI Seminar of the Sobrarbe Pirineos Geopark. In 2017 the Seminar was devoted to “The Pirineos-Monte Perdido World Heritage Site”. There were 134 people attending the Seminar, and also with the participation of students of the secondary school of Sobrarbe during the guided visits. October 2017

6. The visit to the Geopark for students and teachers from the Santa Ana School in Zaragoza, with guided visits carried out by partner enterprises of the Geopark, trained by the Geopark through the geological heritage guides course. October 2017.

7. Participation in the organization of the Sobrarbe “Tapas” annual contest (organised by the Association of Enterprises of the Province), which has a specific award for those tapas made with products from the Sobrarbe Geopark. October 2017

8. Workshop on “Soils of the Geopark” : A new formative action was prepared in the form of a practical theoretical workshop, this time on soils, in a very basic way to approach the knowledge of Geopark soils. During the two workshops held in November (10th and 11th, 17th and 18th), the soil was presented in a practical and simple way, combining presentations with didactic experiments with soil samples and a field trip. This workshop combined nature and landscape with the geological heritage of Sobrarbe. November 2017

anchelbr@unizar.es
gerencia@sobrarbe.com
9. Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park Guides Course: The UGG of Sobrarbe-Pirineos has collaborated for the third consecutive year, together with the National Park of Ordesa and Monte Perdido, in the organization of this training course for guides of National Parks. The course consists of a theoretical part and a practical part, that is organized and carried out by the Geopark, with workshops and guided field trips with contents related to the enhancement of geological heritage, flora and fauna, intangible heritage and UNESCO World Heritage. November 2017

10. Field visit to the Mines of Parzan: A visit with members of the Scientific Commission of the Geoparks was carried out, to prepare a report on the conservation and use of this mines as a tourist and cultural resource of the Geopark. Afterwards, a TV programme for the Regional TV was recorded in this area, with the participation of the Scientific Commission members and the scientific coordinator of the Geopark November 2017- January 2018

11. Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark Research grants: Four applications were submitted for the 2017 call. The selected application was "Prospecting, geological location and evaluation of the fossil vertebrate sites of the Sobrarbe Formation. December 2017.

12. Celebration of the International Mountain Day declared by the United Nations Organization, with presentations and guided visits. December 2017


14. Calendar of the National Park of Ordesa and Monte Perdido: Also coinciding with the 100 anniversary of the Park, the Geopark has co-participated in the edition of a calendar of the National Park for 2018, with the pictures of the photo archive of the Geopark. December 2017

15. Participation on the presentation of the Spanish Observatory of Ecotourism, as a member of the Ecotourism Club of Spain, at FITUR, under the coordination of Turespaña. January 2018

16. Sending of the annual calendar of activities of the Geopark to the Geopark’s Friends (more than 1000 people), partner enterprises, media, etc. January 2018

17. Participation in the documental film “Lakes and ice in the Pyrenees”, in the framework of the actions commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park. February 2018

18. Organization of the first short story contest on “Los ibones del Pirineo” (The high mountain lakes of the Pyrenees). There are a lot of legends and intangible heritage about these lakes and the contest aims to strengthen these aspects. February 2018

19. Participation in the course on “Geology of the High Aragon: the life of the stones”, held in the capital of the province, Huesca. February 2018
20. European Cultural Itinerary Megalithic Routes: a new section in the website has been created to include all the megalithic heritage of the Geopark. January-March 2018

21. Participation of the Geopark’s scientific coordinator in the conferences organized in Zaragoza by the Aragonese Association of nature photographers, with a presentation about photography in the Geopark of Sobrarbe. March 2018

**Networking**

22. Participation of the representatives of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark in the 40th meeting of the CC of the European Geoparks. September 2017

23. Participation and presentation on the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark during the Conference of Geoparks taking place in Azones Global Geopark. September 2017


25. Visit of Luberon Geopark of Louberon: Representatives of the Parc Naturel Régional du Luberon, met with the Scientific Coordinator of the Geopark of Sobrarbe and discussed possible common projects around the protection of geological heritage, awareness and dissemination. October 2017

26. The Geopark has collaborated with the cultural activity "En clave de Aragón" which is the 1st Gastronomic and Music Festival for unpopulated towns. These performances were accompanied by tastings of local products. October 2017

27. Cooperation Group "Sobrarbe Agrodiverso y Sostenible", in which the Geopark participates as a partner with the Agricultural Cooperative of Sobrarbe, and several other partners. Throughout the autumn have taken place different formative actions concerning sustainable farming and agriculture practices. September-October 2017

28. Cooperation project “Mincha d’aqui”: The Geopark takes part in this project, that consist of a network created in the Pyrenees, for the dynamization of local and sustainable food initiatives in the Pyrenees of Aragón. November 2017-2018

29. Participation in the POCTEFA Cooperation project REPLIM, consisting in the creation of a Network of climate change observatories in vulnerable ecosystems of the Pyrenees, with the Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC). 2017-2019

30. Participation in the POCTEFA Cooperation project PIRAGUA, with the Spanish Geological Survey, the CSIC and several other partners, aimed to the evaluation and prospective of the hydrological resources of the Pyrenees in a context of climate change and adaptation measures with impact on the territory. 2018-2020

31. Participation in the Tourism Fair FITUR, together with the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara, Costa Vasca, Las Loras and Lanzarote Geoparks, under the coordination of the

anchelbr@unizar.es
gerencia@sobrarbe.com
Naturtejo Geopark. These Geoparks shared a boot at the fair, and promoted EGN through its participation in this event. January 2018

32. Participation in the presentation of a new brochure on the Spanish Global Geoparks at FITUR. The preparation of this brochure and its presentation at FITUR was coordinated by the Andalusian Geoparks. January 2018

33. Calendar for 2018 coordinated by IGME with the participation of all the Spanish Geoparks. January 2018

34. Publication of an article in EGN Newsletter 10

35. Publication of news about the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark activities in the EGN, GGN and UNESCO websites all over the year.

Activity by Partners

36. Activity with the Cultural Association of Linás de Broto. Presentation of Ánchel Belmonte about the geology of the area, the origin of the valley: deep seas, old glaciers and underground worlds. September 2017

37. Bird Center cooperation project: In partnership with one of the Partners of the Geopark, this project has been disseminated in the media and social networks, and three canvases have been made to be placed in the stands of the different thematic fairs that are attended. (From the 22nd to the 24th September attendance to the Fair of the Delta Birding Festival) September 2017.


39. III Conference on research of the Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park: The Geopark participated in these III Conferences with the presence of its scientific coordinator Ánchel Belmonte. The aim of these conferences is to present the research projects that are being carried out in the Park. December 2017

40. A collaboration agreement has been signed between the IGME and the Geopark Sobrarbe-Pirineos, for the edition of the geological map of the Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park, coinciding with its 100th anniversary. December 2017


42. Participation in the tourist fair of Monfragüe in cooperation with an Association of Bird-watching of the Geopark. February 2018

43. Collaboration in the organization of a Course on ecotourism for tourist enterprises of Sobrarbe, with the LEADER centre of Sobrarbe and a local Association. February 2018

44. Collaboration with the University of Saragossa in the XIX Geological Olympics of the region of Aragón. February 2018

anchelbr@unizar.es
gerencia@sobrarbe.com
STYRIAN EISENWURZEN NATURE- AND GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting and selling of Geopark Partner food products at our office.

2. Ongoing activities for the Interreg Project “Valorisation of geo-heritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks” (Danube GeoTour) together with our Lead Partner Geopark Idrija, Slovenia and 9 other partners (European Geoparks, Universities), since March 2016 – Organization of the 2nd Project partner meeting in Austria, Participation in the 3rd meeting in the Hateg Geopark in Romania, September 2017 – March 2018.

3. New training documents for guides in the main Geopark sight GeoVillage Gams including workshops, November 2017

4. Introducing a new Interreg Central Europe project with Geoparks from Italy, Slovenia, Germany, Slovakia and Croatia. Attendance of a workshop in Prague, Czech Republic, December 2017

5. Starting the creation of a new Geopark webpage, December 2017

6. Different tasks within the LEADER Project (National and European Union co-funded) “Orchard in the Nature and Geopark Styrian Eisenwurzen”. The project has a term from 2016 to the end of 2018. It will support local farmers as well as generate additional scientific data on rare local fruits. One task within the project have been charitable activities for example. Refugees were harvesting regional orchards. September 2017 – March 2018

7. Different projects towards biodiversity of the area. Public relations activities, lectures and knowledge transfer is a major work by our biodiversity expert Eva Maria Vorwagner. Furthermore, she also develops a new project in this direction. September 2017 – March 2018

8. Starting of a new project: Nature and Geopark resort: Implementation of an innovative booking system to develop the touristic organization and structure of all accommodations in the area. September 2017 – March 2018

Networking

9. Participation in the 40th European Geoparks CC Meeting and the 8th GGN Conference at the Azores, Portugal, Oliver Gulas and Heinz Kollmann, September 2017

10. Participation in the EGN Fossil and Tourism Group
11. Participation in a public presentation of all Styrian Nature Park in Graz: “Hirschbirne trifft Schafnase” (Presentation of different apple and pears), October 2018

12. Participation at the meeting of the Austrian Geopark Forum, Heinz Kollmann and Oliver Gulas, November 2017

13. Publication of the book “UNESCO Global Geopark in Austria” in English with the other 3 Austrian Geoparks, February 2018

14. Various contributions to EGN and GGN Newsletters and the EGN magazine, September 2017 – March 2018

Activity by Partners

15. Nature and Geopark schools in St. Gallen and Weißenbach: visits and presentations of the Nature and Geopark throughout the educational program, September-November 2017

16. Country ball of the partner network in the GeoVillage Gams, Networking and celebrating the successful year, November 2017

17. Winter adventure day for kids in the municipality Altenmarkt, February 2018

18. Ongoing activities within the LEADER Project called “Gesaeuse partner”: Connecting and improve the development of the partners of our Nature and Geopark and the Nationalpark Gesaeuse (mainly accommodations, regional producers and restaurants), September 2017 – March 2018
SWABIAN ALB GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


5. Celebration the “Day of Stones in Towns”. Petrological walk for the public with our Geopark geologist through the ancient city of the municipality Ehingen, October 2017.


7. Presentation the Geopark Swabian Alb and its geology to the Lions Club Munderkingen/Ehingen, January 2018.


9. Meeting with two members of parliament of the federal state Baden-Württemberg. Discussing the problems and solutions of the Geopark in the course the yellow card as the result of the last evaluation. Discussing opportunities in getting support from the federal state Baden-Württemberg, March 2018.

10. Education of landscape guides by Geopark staff about ammonites. Special guided tour to the karst spring “Blautopf”, March 2018

Networking


12. Meeting of the working group “Geopark alliance”, with representatives of the building material association of Baden-Württemberg. The body decided the prolongation of the existing partnership with the Geopark for further three years, September 2017.

13. Meeting with an overregional waterwork about future projects. The company gave their allowance to take up their permanent exhibition about groundwater in the Geopark Infocenter network, September 2017.


Contact: roth@geopark-alb.de
15. Celebration the “International Day of Soils” in Münsingen municipality together with the regional council Tübingen and the biosphere reserve Swabian Alb. Education of landscape guides about soil issues and excursion to several natural soil sites by showing soil profiles, October 2017.

16. Presentation the Geopark to representatives of municipalities of the franconian alb, an aspiring Geopark region, October 2017.


18. Presentation the Geopark to representatives of the Environmental Education Center in the municipality Reutlingen. The association decided to apply as a Geopark Infocenter, January 2018.


20. Completion the production of the new touring exhibition with the title “Geopark Swabian Alb – Fascination Earth history”. First inauguration in our Geopark Infocenter Nature center Schopflocher Alb with the local District administrator of the county Esslingen, March 2018.

21. Meeting of the working group “Geopark Alliance” in Münsingen. Discussion of further activities in 2018 with quarry companies in the frame of the partnership with the building material association Baden-Württemberg, March 2018.

**Activity by Partners**

22. Booth and presentation of the Geopark at a local “Day of open quarry”. The event was organized by a local quarry entrepreneur in the municipality Sonnenbühl who is a member of the working group “Geopark Alliance”. Special guided tours of the Geopark staff about geology and biology of outcrops, September 2016.

23. Round trip to geotope sites with representatives of the county Esslingen organized by local landscape guides. Discussing the designation of further geopoints and their incorporation in a future visitor guidance concept, October 2017.

24. Participation at a workshop about renewable energies in Geoparks, organized by the German UNESCO committee and the Technical university Berlin, October 2017.

TERRA.VITA GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2017 – March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Meeting with Geopark De Hondsrug (NL) in February and consultant MCon to prepare an INTERREG Va application, aiming at projects focusing on marketing, environmental education and sustainable development.
2. Launch of a new project in February on educating certified landscape guides together with rural adult education association (LEB)
3. New and unique atlas on the soils of TERRA.vita printed in cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück, the Haarmann Foundation and the county of Osnabrück.
4. Quality project to improve our hiking system starts after digital basis is finished with first trails around the regional garden show area in the south of the Geopark. Initial talks took place to develop another strategic important hiking trail on top of the Wiehengebirge.
5. New and permanent pavilion for TERRA.vita almost finished at the garden show area in Bad Iburg (to be opened at 18.4.2018), serving also as an entrance for a new and spectacular canopy trail. The pavilion will offer information about TERRA.vita. Local fossils and rocks are displayed under the wings of a huge Pterodactylis. A project to revitalize a small stream is also almost finished under the overall control of TERRA.vita.
6. Talks with the DIMB Association to find solutions for conflicts between mountain and downhill bikers, hikers and landowners. The aim is to separate the interests in the fields and find some legal areas for the growing mountain biking market.
7. The project hiking mining trail Kirchdornberg has been completed in cooperation with the city of Bielefeld, the university of Bielefeld, political parties and the local history association
8. New bilingual TERRA.tipps have been printed (Kirchdornberg....) and others been reprinted (......
9. New TERRA.vista points have been established in Bielefeld and Borgholzhausen ....
10. TERRA.vita new image brochure is printed and available also in English
11. New hiking panels have been installed, addressing also English speaking guests
12. QR codes have been added to panels making English translations available
13. Our two Natura 2000 managers are developing projects for environmental friendly wood harvesting (also integrating horses) or on battling neobiota among others.

Networking

14. Participation at CC autumn meeting and International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks at the Azores
15. Presentations about TERRA.vita UNESCO Geopark at the tourist board of the County of Steinfurt, the environmental board of the city of Bielefeld and the Kolping association in Wallenhorst
16. Presentation about the Geopark concept at the MAB National Committee meeting
17. TERRA.vita plays an active role in the Coal Conversion project, asking for a high ranking workshop. It took place in Ibbenbüren at 1st March.

Contact: info@geopark-terravita.de
18. TERRA.vita participated at the 1st rural land market in Bad Essen, displaying edible and poisonous mushrooms, relating the mushrooms to soil conditions. Lots of promotional material was handed out. The TERRA.vita stand was one of the most crowded ones.

19. Hartmut Escher gave a talk at the German MAB committee about UNESCO Geoparks.

20. Timo Kluttig participated at a workshop in Japan in March, invited by an aspiring Geopark.

21. TERRA.vita encouraged EGN to sign a cooperation with the European Land and Soils Alliance association (ELSA).

22. Organisation of two Forum meetings in Osnabrück in November and in Fulda in February.

23. Participation at a workshop in Hannover organized by Bertelsmann Foundation, focusing on the relevance of the SDG’s in local communities.

24. TERRA.vita worked out a strategic paper for an institutional financial support for Natureparks in the state of Lower Saxony. We were also successful embedding Nature- and Geoparks in the coalition agreement of the two leading parties CDU and SPD.

**Activity by Partners**

25. Signage of a co-operation agreement with the outdoor school Nackte Mühle in Osnabrück as an official partner in environmental education.

26. Continual support of the development of a new canopy pathway and information center for the state horticultural show taking place within the Geopark area in 2018 in the city of Bad Iburg. TERRA.vita will be responsible for an entrance pavilion. Funding provide by the county of Osnabrück.

27. The European Land and Soil Association starts a soil project called “Soil Box” to be offered to schools. TERRA.vita acquired two boxes for its own educational program.


29. Participation in the National Geopark Committee meeting in the UNESCO Geopark Muskau Arch.

30. Participation in a meeting on a role model project for UNESCO Geoparks in Germany on a strategy for a methodical didactic environmental educational concept. The meeting was asked for by TERRA.vita. It took place at the German Environmental Foundation (DBU) in Osnabrück under participation of the German UNESCO Commission, the DBU, the Northern German Nature Academy and the University of Osnabrück.

31. Participation in workshops organized by the German UNESCO Commission on topics as education for sustainable development and renewable energies in Geoparks.

32. Participation in the “Healthy Hour” project, encouraging youngsters to go outdoors, issuing a special hiking pass and generating credits.

33. Participation in the “Viotope” project by Coca Colas brand Vio. One ha grassland are planted with fruit trees. Hikers and bikers are invited to collect directly from the trees.

34. Partner in the research project IDOOL (Innovative Directmarketing) by the local University of Applied Sciences, to develop new ways to promote regional products.

Contact: info@geopark-terravita.de
TERRAS DE CAVALEIROS UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2017 - March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. Interviews on TV (12), Radio (4) and articles (21) about the Geopark in national and regional media as well as a monthly Geopark newsletter, September 2017 – March 2018.

2. Realization of activities and educational programs (653 participants), guided geotours (405 participants) and pedestrian trails (70 participants), organized by the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark Association, September 2017 – March 2018.


Networking


Contact: gestao@geoparkterrasdecavaleiros.com
13. Presentation of an article for the GGN newsletter 2018 ISSUE 1 - Terras de Cavaleiros UNESCO Global Geopark integrates the project «Next to the Earth” - March 2018.

**Activity by Partners**

1. Participation in the "Arciprestal Encounter with the theme" Whit/How Maria ", promoted by the Pastoral Unit Santo António de Macedo de Cavaleiros, at the Shrine of Senhora do Campo - September 2017


3. Dynamization of Geology activities, with no queue of Living Science in the summer in Network, in partnership with the Center of Living Science of Bragança - September 2017.

4. Exhibition of the "Wolf" at the Geopark Headquarters, in partnership with a Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon - October and December 2017.

5. Realization of the "Week of the Native Forest" with the students of the Territory Schools, in partnership with the Group of Schools and the Town Hall - November 2017.

6. Participation, in partnership with the National Museum of Natural History and Science, at the "Sustainable Tourism Exhibition", in Lisbon - December 2017.

Contact: gestao@geoparkterrasdecavaleiros.com
TROODOS UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, CYPRUS

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities
2. Preliminary activities for “The School of Forest” (project of Troodos Development Company) to promote digitalization of the Geopark’s services and interaction, March-September 2017.
3. Buff® Troodos Mountain Ultra 2017 ‘Run up to the centre of the earth’, in collaboration with One Step Further (Troodos Geopark was the institutional partner), October 2017.
8. Presentation of Troodos Geopark Visitor Centre in a tv show, January 2018.
9. Interview of the Geologist-Officer of Troodos Geopark Visitor Centre about Troodos Geopark to the Deutschlandfunk Kultur (German radio station), January 2018.
10. Organize a tour in Troodos Geopark for a Cypriot Company (MOURANCO ENSURANCE).
11. Tour of a group of students of the Second Regional High School of Lefkosia at the Geosites of the Troodos Geopark, February 2018-02-27.
13. Tour of the students of the Imperial College at the Visitor Center and the Geosites of the Troodos Geopark, March 2018-03-16.
15. Numerous interviews on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2017–March 2018.

Networking
17. Contributing to the EGN newsletter no.11 with a short text and some photos regarding the new EU program that has been approved and concerns the Greek-Cypriot Geoparks’ network.
19. Collecting photos from different amateur and professional photographers, September 2017 – March 2018
Activity by Partners

21. Hiking the amazing geotrail ‘Teisia tis Madaris’ in collaboration with Cyprus from Air team, 150 participants, September 2017.

22. Organizing the 1st National Honey Festival in collaboration with the National Association of Beekeepers - Beekeeping Centre of Cyprus, 27 – 29 October 2017.

23. Guided tour of a group of French speleologists at the Geopark’s visitor centre in collaboration with the Forestry Department, November 2017.

24. Partners first meeting within the framework of GEO-IN project in Crete (Psiloritis Geopark), January 2018.

25. Presentation ‘Troodos Geopark Animals’ in collaboration with the Forestry Department, January 2018.


TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

1. September 2017 – March 2018 - Project “Gateways of the Park” - Regular, guided museum tours were organized at all the seven Park Gateways: 1) Follonica Park Gateway (Iron and Cast Iron Museum) "the factory city"; 2) Scarlino Park Gateway (Portus Scabris Archeological Museum) "the mining freight village"; 3) Gavorrano Park Gateway (Mining Park) "the pyrite mountain"; 4) Massa Marittima Park Gateway (Museum of the Mine) "the city of metals"; 5) Monterotondo Marittimo Park Gateway (Route with facilities to the Biancane Hills) "a journey to the heart of the earth"; 6) Montieri Park Gateway (Boccheggiano Documentation Centre) "miners for 3000 years"; 7) Roccastrada Park Gateway (the Ribolla Mine's Documentation Centre) "land of castles and coal".


3. September 2017 – January 2018 - Roma at the Ministry of Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea. Participation in the National Working Group of National Park about Performance Indicators. TMG has been selected to represent Mining Parks in this working group.

4. 6th of October 2017 – Gateway to the Park of Gavorrano Subscription of the collaboration agreement between TMG and "Drago", (in italian “Drake” Organized Gastronomic Rural Agricultural District), the supply chain network that already counts 60 producers and transformers for the production of ancient grains. The supply chain, tries to implement a PIF (integrated supply chain project) in order to obtain resources for the development of sustainable agriculture.

5. 25th – 27th of October 2017 edition of the Charter Network Meeting that took place in Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga National Park, Italy, gathering 80 participants from 13 nationalities. The 3-day event included a plenary session and 5 practical workshops, where participants learned from their European peers, and draw the future developments of the Charter. The two TMG representatives participated in the workshops and illustrated the DestiMED project.

6. 7th – 11th of November 2017 Fall TEST DestiMED. Organization of the Fall TEST of the DestiMED project. The tourist package built with the Tour Operator and service providers was tested by the testers selected by the project management. The outdoor experience, the CO2 emission, the cultural, food and wine aspects and the quality of services were assessed. The testers rated the result of the TMG extremely well.

7. 22th of November 2017 Organization of the Conference “Geopark School Territory” concerning the Alternation School Work. Geopark School and Territory aims to aggregate / synchronize the protagonists of the tourism sector to find a real synergy of intent to give a new and innovative impetus to the economic tourism sector, fundamental for the Maremma. The project foresees, through the opportunities of work school alternation, to develop some themes such as: mapping of the tourism supply companies present within the area of the TMG.

8. 11th of December 2017 Riviera di Ulisse Park. The course is part of the DestiMED project and aims to facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices in terms of...
sustainability, involvement of local actors and development of tourism products. TMG took part in the training day bringing its own experience on the project.

9. 15th – 16th of December Milan Meeting REMI. Meeting of the National Network of Parks and Mining Museums coordinated by ISPRA (Higher Institute of Environmental Protection). TMG presented a document for the assembly aimed at illustrating the characteristics of National Mining Parks.

10. 13th of January 2018 – Gateways to the Park of Gavorrano - Organization of Eco driving course for economic operators belonging to the ECST offered by TMG. With the methods taught by the course it is possible to save 20% of fuel consumption (7 partecipants).

11. 7th – 8th of March 2018 Split - two full-days training event, dealing with: DestiMED ecotourism package design & quality management, DestiMED ecotourism package promotion & story-telling, Interpretation in ecotourism products, Assessing and monitoring the Ecological Footprint of a DestiMED ecotourism package During the 2 days the 3rd “MEET Network” General Assembly will take place too, as well as a special MEET Network where it will share more about the MEET strategy and ways to engage with the network. TMG makes a presentation on the topic of reducing the CO2 emissions of its tourist packages.

12. 18th-21th of March 2018 Participation in the Europarc Federation Seminar in Singen (Germany). Training for Members. TMG presents some examples of good practices on performing arts and the geopark.

13. 20th-25th of March 2018 - 41st Coordination Committee of European Geoparks Network at Karawanken Geopark.

Networking


15. Realization in collaboration with the Association of Wine and Taste of Monteregio di Massa Marittima (local DOC) of n. 3 episodes of a TV program in english entitled The Winery with references to the wine landscape of TMG and aspects of geological, cultural and tourist opportunities.

16. Realization in collaboration with the Museum of Earth Sciences of the University of Siena of a promotional video on educational activities related to mineral recognition workshops.

Activity by Partners

17. October 2018 - Subscription of an agreement with the Tuscany Region for the joint management and promotion of the Cornate Fosini Regional Nature Reserve within the TMG territory.


Manager: Alessandra Casini – direttore@parcocollinemetallifere.it
Geologist: Giancarlo Pagani – giancarlo.pagani@unisi.it
VIKOS-AOOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities


2. Elaboration and publication of a map regarding the Geopark values, especially the geology and the geosites (paper and application for smartphones). Co-publication of Epirus Development Agency SA & the Regional Authority of Epirus. (December 2017).


4. Photographing and video digitizing of the geopark’s geosites with the use of drone (Autumn 2017).

5. Participation to a one day meeting in Athens organized by the Hellenic Geopark forum and the Hellenic National committee for the UNESCO (November 2017).


7. Implementation of a proposal to the LEADER CLLD programme regarding the inauguration of an annual mountain running for the Geopark (January-March 2018).

8. Implementation of a study regarding a long distance hiking trail in the Pindos Mountains (Epirus Trail) including all the Geopark’s area. Several meetings with local stakeholders have been done. An application regarding the trail orientation has already been accomplished.


10. Promotion of the Geopark at the Region of Epirus booth at the following five tourist exhibitions: (a) Tour Natur 2017, Dusseldorf, Germany (1-3/9/2017), (b) 1st Mediterranean International Tourism Exhibition, Athens, Greece (19-22/10/2017), (c) Philoxenia, Thessaloniki, Greece (16-19/11/2017), (d) Grecka Panorama, Warsaw, Poland (1-3/12/2017), (e) 4th Greek Tourism Expo, Athens, Greece (8-10/12/2017).

11. Participation at the 3rd annual meeting of the European certificated hiking trails (under the auspices of the European Ramblers’ Association) and the 1st meeting of the Hellenic hiking trails in Peloponnese and implementation of a presentation regarding the Vikos Aoos Geopark’s special features and its potential regarding hiking activities, especially the long distance hiking Trail “Epirus Trail” (November 2017).

12. Participation at a 2-days seminar regarding tourism in mountainous areas entitled “Building bridges” with target group the local stakeholders of the Geopark, organized by the “Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit- European and Transatlantic Dialogue” in Vitsa village and implementation of a presentation regarding the Vikos Aoos Geopark’s special features in relation with the long distance hiking Trail “Epirus Trail” (October 2017).

Networking

Contact: HartakisPapaioannou (h.papaioannou@epirusa.gr), PanayotisPaschos (paschos@igmegr), Georgia Kitsaki (gkitsaki@epirusa.gr).
13. Participation at the 40th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and at the 14th European Geopark Conference in the Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal (September 2017).
14. Creation of a group of LAG Agencies of Greece and other countries in order to prepare a proposal for a trans-national project in the frame of LEADER CLLD programme regarding Geoparks’ networking and activities
15. Contribution to the EGN magazine 2017 with an article regarding a new hiking trail in the Geopark.
16. First steps for the start-up of an already approved proposal (Cross border cooperation projects Greece-Albania) regarding a new approach on visitors’ information in the Geopark (September 2017-March 2018) have been done.
17. Several meetings with the local stakeholders regarding the strengthening of the relationship and the effective implementation of the Geopark’s activities.

Activity by Partners
18. Public awareness raising and provision of information to the visitors of the Vikos-Aoos Geopark and Northern Pindos National Park in the Environmental Information Centres of the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National Park (2,550 visitors) (September to February).
19. Environmental education to schoolchildren on several issues in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark and in the Northern Pindos National Park carried out by the Management Agency of the Northern Pindos National Park (863 school-children and 63 school teachers) (September to February).
20. Environmental education in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark carried out by the Konitsa Environmental Education Centre (1099 school-children, 87 school teachers, 22 schools).
21. Re-print by the Northern Pindos National Park Management Authority the following leaflets, which promote -among other characteristics- the geology of the protected area of the National Park: (a) a brochure entitled "Routes and Pathways" in 5,000 copies in Greek and 10,000 copies in English language, (b) an informative manual entitled "North Pindos National Park" in 2,500 copies in Greek and 5,000 copies in English, (c) a leaflet entitled "Good Visitor Guide" printed in 2,500 copies in Greek and 5,000 copies in English (d) a leaflet entitled "Northern Pindos National Park" in 5,000 copies in Greek and 10,000 copies in English.
22. The Ministry of Culture and Education approved for the school year 2017-2018 a special programme of Environmental Education for students to be implemented by the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National Park, titled: “The geology of the Northern Pindos National Park”.

Contact: HaritakisPapaioannou (h.papaioannou@epirusa.gr), PanayotisPaschos (paschos@igme.gr), Georgia Kitsaki (gkitsaki@epirusa.gr).
VILLUERCAS IBORES JARA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

2. Organization of the II National Congress of Ecotourism in Guadalupe in cooperation of the Spanish Secretary of Tourism. 200 participants. 7-9th November.
3. III GEODISEA 2017: more than 40 different activities to promote geotourism in three weekends dedicated to Geoadventure, Geoflavours and Geoculture. With the cooperation of the Tourism General Directorate of Extremadura. November 10 to 26th.
4. Edition and publication of new promotional brochures; geosites, catalog of tourism services, educational publications.
7. Development of activities and their compilation for the 2nd issue of the Book of Educative Activities.
8. Educative workshops and lectures for the geopark educative centres. Also for other educative centres: Primary School of Cáceres and High Schools of Tiétar, Badajoz and RSG Wiringherlant (Wieringenwerf, The Netherlands).
9. 24 educational trips have been organized and granted for different educational centers of the province in collaboration with the Provincial Delegation of Education.
11. Meetings to coordinate educative activities. Agreements and steering of the Geocentros Project during the school year 2017-2018. With the presence of a representative of the Ecuadorian Imbabura geopark candidate on September 30th. Another meeting was celebrated on March 13rd.
13. Updating of the www.geoparquevilluercas.es website incorporating ten new companies as geopark collaborators.
15. Installation of masts and flags with the geopark logos and the UNESCO logo of Villuercas-Ibores-Jara in our 25 villages. February.
17. New products of merchandising including the geopark mascot (representing a typical goat of Villuercas), whose name has been proposed by schoolchildren as "Geopaca".

18. Realization of 3D images of the fossil record for educational and dissemination purposes.


20. Management of the Geopark’s Social networks; Facebook (5006 fans, 11% increase since the last report). Twitter (@VilluercasGPark, 5672 followers, 8% increase). Instagram (@villuercasgpark, 1479 followers, 26% increase).

**Networking**

23. Visit of a delegation of Shennongjia UGG, China. September 17th.

24. Welcome and technical assistance to the aspiring project of "Geoparque Imbabura", Ecuador. October 17th.


26. Coordination and design of the Magazine GEOPARQUES about the Spanish UGG in collaboration with the Spanish Geoparks Committee.


29. Geopark president, Mrs. Rosario Cordero, visited San Jose de Chiquitos, Bolivia, talking about the UGG Program. The zone has interest in becoming aspiring geopark. February.

30. Presentation of the study on trails and signaling of the Bridge over the Armorican Quartzite Cross-border project. February.


32. Responsible for the Social Networks of the Spanish Forum of Geoparks: On Facebook @GeoparquesUNESCO with 2,571 followers and twitter @ComEspGeoparks with 2,762 followers.

**Activity by Partners**

33. Animation of the "Geofood" project with agri-food companies and the collaboration of Geovilluercas.

34. Improvement of accesses in two geosites (Pedroso and Canchos del Vadillo gorge) in collaboration with the General Directorate of Rural Development.

35. Presentation of the project "Routes of Cheese" with the DG Tourism in Mérida. November 17th.


37. Meetings of the local stakeholders for proposing new lines of activities to be granted under the “Diputación Desarrolla” local funds.

Contact: jimbarrera@dip-caceres.es / javier@aprodervi.com.es
UNESCO GEOPARK VULKANEIFEL, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2017–March 2018

Geopark Activities

2. Press conference at the ITB 2018 in Berlin. March 2018
3. Organisation and presentation at the “tourism day” in Kröv. March 2018
4. Presentation at the Limburg tourist fair. February 2018
5. Presentation at the “Reisemarkt” tourist fair in Saarbrücken. February 2018
6. Presentation at the tourist fair in Kalkar. February 2018
7. Information evening about UNESCO Geoparks at the Lionsclub in Müllenborn. February 2018
9. Presentation at the tourist fair “Vakanz” in Luxembourg. January 2018
10. Start of the second round of Junior-Ranger trainings. Due to high demand two groups are trained. November 2017
11. Tourism day in Mainz. November 2017
12. Visit of Prof. Petzel from the University of Applied Science Bingen with a group of students. November 2017
13. Participation in the symposium “Renewable Heat” in Trier, November 2017
14. Maar presences of the Geopark Guides October and November 2017
17. Employment of climate change manager for the LIFE-IP ZENAPA project. October 2017
18. Visit of the minister of state Prof. Dr. Maria Böhmer. September 2017
19. Meeting of the tourism committee of the chamber of industry and commerce Trier in Meerfeld “The Vulkaneifel – A geopark of the first hour”

**Networking**

20. Meeting of the Forum of German Geoparks in Fulda. February 2018

21. Participation in operational workshop MUNTER project, Birkenfeld (January 2018)

22. Informational event “Funding opportunities in Tourism”. November 2017

23. Presentation and information provision on UNESCO Geoparks to a delegation from the province of Nordbrabant, Netherlands. October 2017

24. Informational visit of Prof. Schaal, municipal councillor of the City of Singen. October 2017

25. Geography symposium at GSG Secondary School in Daun. October 2017

26. Acquisition and capacity building of communities about ZENAPA district energy concepts. October 2017

27. Workshop of the Federal Foreign Office and the German UNESCO Commission on Education for sustainable development in Berlin. October 2017


30. Continuation of cooperation in environmental education between the day-care centre Strohn and the UNESCO Geopark. September 2017

31. Coordination with the German UNESCO Commission on a new informational brochure on the UNESCO Geopark Vulkaneifel

32. Meeting of the Forum of German UNESCO Geoparks in Osnabrück

**Activity by Partners**