

ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Realization of a new project for all middle schools of the Park “The Park for biodiversity”.
2. Implementation of the project for kindergarten about “Earth and the Geopark”.
3. Lessons at University of the Third Age about “Presentation of the ABGeopark and the EGN”, “Water and landscape of the ABGeopark” and “Valleys of ABG”.
4. Realization of a new project about the “Education to the landscape”.
5. Promotion of the educational programs about geology, geoconservation and environmental themes in all the schools of the Park for the school year 2015-16.
6. Project for secondary school (1st degree) “The Geology of the Park” about the Park’s geology and rocks’ classification.
7. Participation in the “Making landscape award”, organized by the Osservatorio del Paesaggio (Landscape Observatory) of the Autonomous Province of Trento to support the preservation and the management of the alpine landscape in accordance with the provisions of the European Landscape Convention and as provided by the 2008 Provincial Urban Plan del 2008.
8. 28 activities of communication and education with geotouristic goals together with an expert guide and an alpine guide, aimed at reading and comprehending the landscape under a geological and geomorphological point of view, where also wildlife, botanical, historical and cultural aspects are considered. Such activities are run in the framework of the promotion program “Winter emotions in the Park”, from December 22nd to March 25th in cooperation with the local tourism boards.
9. Temporary photographic Exhibition “Meet Your Landscape” in the Geopark’s House during the Christmas period.
10. Participation in fairs about sustainable tourism as “Ecofiera“ in Tione (TN), “Pomaria” in Cles (TN) and “Children’s Tour” in Modena, promoting the EGN and the Adamello Brenta Geopark.

Networking

11. Participation in the Meeting organized by the ECST Italian Network of Protected Areas inside Expo in Milan, in order to talk about the development of the Chart part II.
12. Visit of a delegation of the Chinese Dabie Mountain National Geopark, with the purpose of exchanging development and management experience of both parks, and seeking collaboration opportunities in the future.

13. Participation in the programme of the EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK 2015 16-22 September.
14. Attendance at the European Congress “Geological Heritage Inventories: Achievements, Challenges and Perspectives” 22-26 September in Toulouse.
15. Official Ceremony in Trento for the awarding of the ECST part II to 21 Park Quality accommodation structures.
16. Awarding of the UNESCO Global Geoparks label on 17 November 2015.
17. Awarding of the Legambiente Eco-tourism Oscar 2016 on 12th February 2016.
18. Publication of an article about ABGeopark on the EGN Magazine.
19. Several presence in local program television, talking also about Geopark and EGN.

Activity by Partners

20. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism office, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that will take place during the winter.
21. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism office, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that will take place during the summer.
22. Guided trips in the mountains of the Geopark by the local Alpine Guides, talking about geology, botany and history.

APUAN ALPS UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Green card for the period 2015-2019.
2. Apuan Geoday 2015: presentation of two new issues of *Acta Apuana*, scientific journal of the Geopark
3. 2016 Apuan Alps Geopark calendar dedicated to viticulture and wine production in mountain areas
4. Autumn count of mouflons: activity guided by Geopark Rangers for the monitoring of mouflons in the Apuan Alps
5. "Cibiamoci di Parco", edition 2015-2016 for recommended structures for the promotion of local food
6. Monitoring of post-breeding migration on the Apuan Alps with the observation of over than 2400 raptors
7. Celebration for the thirty years of the Park activity and the green card for the Apuan Alps Geopark with meeting and conference involving stakeholders and public authorities
8. Sixth forum for the application to the European Chart for the Sustainable Tourism
9. Land art experience managed by Park Guides with streaming direct on the Geopark website
10. "Apuan Autumn", fair in Bosa di Careggine with live painting experience, tasting typical food and theatre performance
11. VII International Zoological Congress of "Grigore Antipa" Museum (Romania): award for the wildlife monitoring activities of the Geopark on the census of the red deer
12. Park calls on public institutions, private businesses, associations as well as citizens to submit observations and additions to the projects proposed to implement the European Charter of Sustainable Tourism
13. Chestnut Festival in Fivizzano (Massa Carrara). Guided visits and tour with electric bicycles, meetings and tasting of typical products
14. Educational Offer 2015-2016 with sharp increase of resources for schools in favour of educational trails and contests on environmental issues
15. Photographic exhibition of the contest "Terracing on the Apuans" managed by the Geopark and hosted by the Festival of Mountain in Stazzema.
16. Conference, meetings and photograph exhibition about the presence of wolves in the Apuan Alps with experts and operators of Wolf Apennine Center

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17. Tv series Kilimangiaro on National TV RAI dedicated to Apuan Alps Global Geopark

Networking

18. Attendance at the 36th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, hosted by Rokua Geopark (Finland)
19. Attendance at the 14th EGN Conference hosted by Rokua Geopark (Finland)
20. Updating Apuan Alps geopark pages in www.apuanegeopark.it, www.apuaneturismo.it
21. Updating pages in Italian Geoparks website www.europeangeoparks.eu
22. 2016 Calendar dedicated to Italian Global Geoparks with the support of Italian Association of Geologists
23. Presentation of LIFE Nature and Biodiversity project application titled “LIFE-STIGE Solid Transport Impact on Groundwater Ecosystem”: sustainable quarrying and karst water habitats preservation. Apuan Alps Geopark coordinating beneficiary, National Council of researches and Earth Science Department of Florence University, associated beneficiaries
24. “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, Association des Jeunes de Zammour and Garfagnana Local Action Group

Activity by Partners

25. National Course of the Italian Alpine Club dedicated to operators of the protection mountain environment with meeting and conference under the patronage of the Geopark
26. “Walking with snowshoes in Careggine to discover the Geopark”, organized by Careggine Municipality and Apuan Alps Geopark
27. “Discovering the Geopark”, guided visits, and excursions for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives
28. Educational projects with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark

AROUCA GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Meeting of AGA General Assembly with the approbation of the activities and financial plan for the 2016, December 2015.
2. Arouca Geopark celebrates World Tourism day during the harvest Fair (Feira das Colheitas), September 2015.
3. Organization of several workshops like: «Production of domestic mushrooms»; «Propagating herbs»; «Bee, beekeeper and honey»; and also the route «The fall of the chestnut tree – discover Castanheira Village», inserted in Chestnut Festival, October 2015.
4. Organization of some activities related to the «Archeology as a contribution to the development» by Arouca Geopark, October 2015.
5. Students from Porto University visit some attractive places belonging to Arouca Geopark, October 2015.
6. Celebration of the week of science and technology with workshop: «Breeders stones under investigation», November 2015.
7. Arouca Geopark celebrated the World Day of science in the service of peace and development, in the Pavilion of Knowledge in Lisboa, November 2015.
8. The Arouca Geopark integrates the new UNESCO program «International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme», November 2015.
9. Organization of visits to places of interest for students of the eleventh year of professional course tourism (Agrupamento de escolas de Arouca), from October to November 2015.
10. Celebration of the week of Science and technology in Arouca Geopark, November 2015.
11. The Arouca Geopark integrates the board of the External Promotion Agency of Porto and North, December 2015.
12. Inauguration of the new infrastructures to visit the Ichnofossils of *Cruziana* from *Cabanas Longas*, one of the 41 geossítios, December 2015.
13. Participation in FITUR –Tourism International Fair – MADRID, January 2016.
14. Training course for teachers (3rd Edition) «Interpreter of Arouca Geopark», from January to March 2016.
15. Edition 2015/2016 organization of the school contest «Natural Disasters», from January to February 2016.

16. Collaboration on the project “Hundred thousand native trees” at Freita Mountain, from February to March 2016.
17. Arouca Geopark named by Publituris Portugal Trade Awards 2016, in the category “Best Park/Tourism Company”, February 2016.
18. Publishing articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, from September to March 2016.
19. Participation in BTL – Lisbon Tourism Fair, March 2016.
20. Participation in the presentation of the book inspired on ‘rocks delivering stones’, called “The mysterious white balls”, March 2016.
21. The Arouca Geopark – Welcome Center – Interactive Tourism Store was attended by 1.781 visitors and hosted more 7.000 people by 35 events, from September 2015 to March 2016.
22. The Rocks Delivering Stones House was attended by 10.271 visitors, from September 2015 to March 2016.
23. The Weather Radar from Arouca was attended by 2.267 visitors, from September 2015 to March 2016.
24. 1.843 students and 149 teachers visited the Arouca Geopark, under the Arouca Geopark Educational Programs, from all country September 2015 to March 2016.
25. 570 people from 14 groups of geotouristic visits were accompanied, by Arouca Geopark guides, from September 2015 to March 2016.
26. Disclosure of 160 news in the local, regional and national media and on multiple digital platforms, from September 2015 to March 2016.

Networking

27. Participation on the meeting of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks at UNESCO National Commission – Lisbon – March 2016

Activity by Partners

28. UNESCO approves the chair “Geoparks, sustainable regional development and healthy lifestyles” at UTAD - *Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro University*, September 2015.
29. Ethnographic set of Moldes celebrates seventy years with a tribute and launch of a new CD, December 2015
30. Reopening of Paiva Walkways - Passadiços do Paiva by the Municipality of Arouca, February 2016.

AZORES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Daily update of the Azores Geopark Facebook, with activities, photos and news: September, 2015 to March, 2016;
2. Publication of the geopark monthly electronic newsletter: September, 2015 to March, 2016;
3. Publication of a full page, every two weeks, entitled “(Geo)diversidades” in the most important regional newspaper “*Açoriano Oriental*”: September, 2015 to March, 2016;
4. Management of the Azores geological heritage, through monthly monitoring of the Azores Geopark terrestrial geosites: September, 2015 to March, 2016;
5. Participation, as invited teacher, on the “Nature Guides” graduation at the Azores University (Terceira Island): September, 2015;
6. Production and revision of contents to the new exhibition on marine hydrothermal fields and volcanic caves of the *Observatório Microbiano dos Açores-OMIC*: October, 2015;
7. Collaboration in the implementation of the new municipal walking trail “*Trilho da Barquinha*” of the Ribeira Grande Municipality (São Miguel island): October to December, 2015;
8. Launch of the Promotional Video of the Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, available now at the Azores Geopark YouTube channel and site: November, 2015.
9. Participation in several scientific meetings: i) “VIII International ProGEO Symposium”, in Reykavik (Iceland): September, 2015; ii) “13th European Geoparks Conference”, in Rokua Geopark (Finland): September, 2015; iii) “VIII Seminário Recursos Geológicos, Ambiente e Ordenamento do Território”, in the *UTAD-Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro* (Portugal): November, 2015;
10. Participation with a promotional stand of the Azores Geopark in the celebration of the “World Science Day on Peace and Development”, as part of the celebrations of the 70th Anniversary of UNESCO: November, 2015;
11. Participation in the commemoration of the “National Day of Scientific Culture”, in the session “Science for All”, organized by the OMIC Observatory, in Furnas (São Miguel Island), with a presentation about the Azorean Geological Heritage: November, 2015;
12. Participation in the Science Night, at the EXPOLAB-Science Center, with the activity “Come and Discover the Geodiversity of the Azores”: November, 2015;
13. Promotion of the on-line contest “The Christmas Card of the Azores Geopark”, involving 12 participants and 17 cards: December, 2015;
14. Participation in regional and national technical and scientific events, such as the *V Bienal de Turismo Subaquático* (Graciosa Island): December, 2015;
15. Development of several activities for the general public in cooperation with the Azores Geopark stakeholders for environmental education awareness, including

- guided thematic trails in the geosites and protected areas, and different activities with the environmental interpretations centres. In all the territory where realized 17 activities with a total of 790 participants, from September, 2015 to February, 2016;
16. Implementation of the Azores Geopark school program, with educational activities for all school levels and developed in all the islands, with 46 activities and 1,029 participants, from September, 2015 to February, 2016;
 17. Coordination in Azores of the Portuguese Olympics of Geology for the school year 2015/2016, and organization and implementation of its Regional Phase: March, 2016;
 18. Promotion of the 4th edition of the School Contest “The Water That Unites Us-Natural Disasters”, in partnership with the UNESCO National Commission and the Azorean Biosphere Reserves for the school year 2015/2016;
 19. Development of the activity "Quiz on Geological Heritage of the Azores" held monthly for each of the islands on the geopark Facebook: January to March, 2016;
 20. Participation in the activity "Geocaching and Science" with a school session (with 220 participants) about geocaching, as a fun tool to discover the geological heritage, the geosites and the geodiversity of the archipelago: February, 2016;
 21. Organization of the 2nd edition of the Training Course "Volcanoes, Geodiversity and Geotourism: A Trilogy of the Azores Geopark", in partnership with the Regional Association of Touristic Activities Companies (AREAT), for private companies of São Miguel Island: March, 2016;
 22. Development of several activities at the framework of the “*Semana dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minhas e Pontos de Interesse Mineiro e Geológico de Portugal*”: March, 2016;
 23. Celebration of several environmental days, with diverse activities, such as: i) Hiking European Day and European Mobility Week: September, 2015; ii) International Day of Mountain: December, 2015; iii) World Wetlands Day: February, 2016; iv) World Water Day: March, 2016;
 24. Participation in the Lisbon Tourism Fair-BTL, with the presentation of the new promotional video on the Azores UNESCO Global UNESCO: March 2016;
 25. Participation in the Portuguese Geoparks Forum meeting, in Lisbon: March, 2016

Networking

1. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference, in Oulu, Finland: September, 2015;
2. Participation in the 36th "EGN Coordination Committee" meeting, in Rokua Geopark, Finland: September, 2015;
3. Catalytic activities at the aim of the Thematic Working Group “Volcanic Geoparks” of the EGN: September, 2015 to March, 2016;

4. Production of an innovative product named “Exchanging Memories“, allowing sharing among global geoparks a box containing an Azorean volcanic rock (“a memory of our GEA“) and handcraft (“a memory of our People“): September, 2015;
5. Visits and networking with staff of the geoparks Terras de Cavaleiros (Portugal), Rokua Geopark (Finland) and Katla Geopark and Reykjanes Geopark (Iceland).

Activity by Partners

- The Azores Geopark has currently about 38 partners/stakeholders, including public and private institutions and private companies. For a detailed listing and characterization of the partners activities considered the Azores Geopark Newsletters.

BAKONY–BALATON GEOPARK, HUNGARY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Preparing and planning a new EU project on management of geological nature conservation objects (key sections, caves, sinkholes, geological nature conservation areas, nature trails with holistic approach, etc.) of the Geopark (about 500,000 €), September 2015–March 2016.
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2015–March 2016.
3. Guided geotours with hundreds of participants, carried out by the staff of the Geopark Group and the Department of Ecotourism and Environmental Education, September 2015–March 2016.
4. Organisation of and giving oral presentations and field trips at the Eastern Bakony geotour-guide training course, September–October 2015.
5. Full-day outdoor activity geological programme and quiz for pupils in Fonyód, October 2015.
6. Providing broad media publicity in respect to UNESCO Global Geoparks membership. Informing the local communities of the Geopark and the partner organisations, November 2015.
7. Stand of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark at the Geological Fair in the Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest), November 2015.
8. Guided geotours during the Garda Festival (Tihany Peninsula), one of the most popular autumn festivals of Hungary, November 2015.
9. Meeting with the representatives of Órség National Park Directorate about the possible extension of our Geopark (there is a volcanic area with a new visitor centre), November 2015.
10. Discussion and preparation with local government, school and civil partners on the topic of promoting the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2016', assigned to Alsóörs village, January–March 2016.
11. Organisation of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest (for 26 elementary school teams in 2016), seeking sponsorship, creating two tests and preparing the final, January–March 2016.
12. Launching a new underground route ("Advanced 2") in the Csodabogyós Cave (one of our geosite, open for caving in overall), renewal of the registration of a licence at the nature conservation authority, January 2016.
13. Signing cooperation agreements with trained geotour-guides, our new Geopark Partners in Eastern Bakony region, February 2016.
14. Updating the new edition of map and guide of the National Blue hiking route (published by Cartographia Ltd.), the most popular one in Hungary. The advertisement of the Geopark leading organisation with the new UNESCO Global Geopark logo is on its back cover, February 2016.
15. Promotional leaflet with logo and main features of interpretive sites of the Geopark (250,000 copies, in English and Hungarian), February 2016.

16. New promotional brochure of the Lavender House Visitor Centre, the Eastern Gate of the Geopark (30,000 copies, in English and Hungarian), February 2016.
17. Making new installations and panels on geology and volcanology for the Lavender House Visitor Centre, March 2016.
18. National promotion of two show caves and two adventure caves of the Geopark in the framework of a tourism campaign; discounts and programmes, March 2016.
19. Meeting with active geotour-guides of the Geopark, plans for the year, practices of promotion, etc. March 2016.

Networking

20. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Rokua Geopark, Finland, September 2015.
21. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference (Rokua Geopark, Finland). Oral presentation by Barnabás Korbély and Anna Knauer: "Wonderful Karst: a New Visitor Centre in Bakony–Balaton Geopark, Hungary", September 2015.
22. Contribution of two articles to EGN Magazine Issue 13 ("The European Geoparks Week 2015 – Take a walk on the geo-side..." and "How to be a geotourist in a geological wonderland? – Bakony–Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark, Hungary"), December 2015.
23. Meeting with the representatives of the Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO, the Ministry of Agriculture (nature conservation belongs to this ministry in Hungary), the Novohrad–Nógrád UNESCO Global Geopark, two national park directorates about establishing the Hungarian Geoparks Committee, January 2016.
24. Collecting and preparing for publishing the European Geoparks Week programme 2016 and the progress reports (September 2015–March 2016) from all the members of the EGN, February–March 2016.
25. Oral presentation on volcanic Geoparks in Europe (photos and information from the EGN members), Lavender House Visitor Centre, March 2016.
26. Participating in the work of the EGN Volcanic Geoparks Working Group, creating and updating the layout design of the future e-book, titled "Volcanic Geoparks in Europe", March 2016.
27. Inaugural session of the Hungarian Geoparks Committee at the Headquarters of Bakony–Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark, Csopak, 31st March 2016.

Activity by Partners

28. Thanks to a successful application by a local civil organisation (Friends of Bakonyalja Association) for financing a geotour-guiding course, the training was held in Eastern Bakony, in cooperation with the Geopark leading organisation, September–October 2015.
29. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by our Geopark), September 2015–March 2016.

BASQUE COAST GEOPARK, BASQUE COUNTRY (SPAIN)

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook /Geoparkea and @geoparkea on twitter.
2. Different scientific publications related to on going researches, Iron furnaces in the Geopark, the management of geoheritage in Pro Geo news, for instance.
3. Updating the web site www.geoparkea.com with new chapters about georoutes.
4. Number 7 six-month newsletter. 9.000 units posted to all Geopark homes with the most important news to raise the awareness of the citizen about the Geopark.
5. Organization of the 37th CC Meeting in the Basque Coast Geopark: on line sign up system, cultural programs, meals and field trip. Around 150 CC members are expected for the 16-19th March.
6. Hosted the 2nd meeting of the UNESCO Basque Country Network with more than twenty members among schools, libraries, MAB, world heritage sites and other associations to strengthen the links among them and develop the UNESCO values.
7. Training course for guides. A group of thirty people joined the course where they were taught different aspects of the Basque Coast Geopark not only geology but also nature and culture and general aspects of leading groups and communication skills.
8. To boost a research project in the Geopark estuaries carried out by the University of the Basque Country where 30 meters of sediments were analyzed to establish the rise of the sea level last 10.000 years
9. Visit to the abrasion platform leaded by a biologist and two photographers in order to know the biodiversity and understand how sensitive the place is and raise the awareness about it.
10. Management of VIP visits to the Geopark. In one side geoscientist , university students, Basque Center for climate change, astrobiology students from NASA. In other side, Vice Minister and Director of Tourism of the Basque Country and many fam trips with bloggers, TV programs, documentaries, etc.
11. Guided visits program of 2015 ended with an increase in visitors of 48% comparing the previous year. A total of 9.700 visitors joined the guided tours.
12. Drafting the Strategic Plan for the Basque Coast Geopark 2016-2020. New challenges for a new period under UNESCO.

Networking

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13. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, *Good practices on the management of the paleontological heritage in the basque coast global geopark*
14. Participation in the 36th Coordination Committee Meeting in Rokua Geopark, September 2015
15. Two oral communications at EGN Conference Rokua Geopark in September 2016, participated into two sessions as chairman and participation in coastal Geoparks working group as catalyst
16. A group of representatives of Tremp Geopark Project (Spain) who has presented their candidacy and will be evaluated this year came to the Basque Coast Geopark to exchange of experiences.
17. Participation in The 2nd Open Session of the Spanish Geoparks Committee in Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark.
18. Participation as a lecture in “Geological heritage, geoparks and geotourism” organized by Sobrarbe Geopark and Mendendez Pelayo University.
19. Participation in many conferences related to geological heritage all around Spain (Segovia, Burgos, Santander, Palencia, Ourense...)
20. Cooperation with Naturtejo Geopark sending Helminthoida ignofossil for research

Activity by Partners

21. Surfrider Foundation carried out OSPAR initiative, which means picking up, characterization and quantification of waste collected on the coast. This initiative was carried out in the beaches of Zumaia and Mutriku.
22. The Council of Deba set a new sport dock for guided boat trips. This allows Deba to link the guided visits program with the most successful visit: the boat trip.
23. Participation in drafting the Strategic Plan for Zumaia town.
24. Participation in the Gastronomica club of Debabarrena area, led by Debegesa local development Agency, member of Geogarapen Association.

BEIGUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Presentation of Liguria Protected Areas and Beigua Global Geopark at international EXPO' Milano 2015 on 14th September 2015
2. Attending in Valencia (September 23rd – 25th 2015) the second project meeting of the “EVANDE - Enhancing Volunteer Awareness and education against Natural Disasters through E-learning” project – with funds by EU ECHO Programme (partnership with the Natural History Museum of Crete - Greece, the Technical University of Chania Crete – Greece, the Earthquake Planning and Protection Organisation of Athens – Greece, the Consorcio de La Ribera – Spain, the Centre for Educational Initiatives of Sofia - Bulgaria, the Centro Studi e Formazione Villa Montesca of Città di Castello - Italy)
3. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and UNESCO Global Geopark recognition on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews after the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015 in Paris
4. Implementation of a new nature trail (with interpretative panels) in Piampaludo area in December 2015
5. Presentation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network and Beigua Geopark activities at Finalborgo (SV) on 14th December 2015 – regional meeting about the enhancement of the geological heritage
6. New information panels and road signs in the Geopark's territory after the UNESCO recognition in November-December 2015
7. Implementation of n. 5 new snowshoe trails in the Geopark's territory in January 2016: signs on the field and a pdf map guide downloadable from the web site
8. Publication of the new ViviBeigua tourism brochure in January 2016 with the cooperation of all the Geopark's Municipalities
9. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Autumn 2015 and Winter 2016
10. Two new issues of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in October 2015 (Autumn) and January 2016 (Winter). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, EGN and GGN, etc.
11. 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>)

12. Feasibility study to for setting up a new Info Center of the Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark in the historical center of Varazze

Networking

13. Attendance at the 36th EGN CC Meeting in Rokua Geopark (Finland) on September 1st – 2nd 2015

14. Attendance at the 13th European Geoparks Conference in Rokua Geopark (Finland) on September 3rd – 6th 2015

15. Participation (Maurizio Burlando) on 10th November 2015 at the Science Commission in the framework of the 38th UNESCO General Conference to represent the Italian National Committee of Geoparks and to support the Italian Delegation at UNESCO on the discussion of the new IGGP and the UNESCO Global Geoparks recognition

16. Submission of the Activity Progress Report September 2015 – March 2016 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 37th EGN CC Meeting in Basque Coast, Spain

17. Submission of the Annual Report 2015 in order to produce the total EGN Annual Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 37th EGN CC Meeting in Basque Coast, Spain

18. Networking through Twitter account @GGN2016 #GeoparkHour to promote GGN and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference 2016 in English Riviera

19. Collaboration with the Italian Geoparks to translate in the Italian language the new official UNESCO Global Geoparks brochure by the UNESCO Secretariat of IGGP

20. Attendance at the 7th Italian National Geoparks Committee in Rome on March 10th 2016.

Activity by Partners

21. Networking activities with all the Beigua Geopark's Municipalities about new tourism strategies and actions, also involving Liguria Region administration (Tourism Sector and Regional Agency for Tourism Promotion)

22. Field works and researches in the Beigua Geopark led by the Earth, Environment and Life Sciences Department of the University of Genoa (September – November 2015)

23. Field trips and sports activities offered by local organizations (CAI, FIE, UISP, etc) in Autumn 2015 and Winter 2016.

BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Event programme with 500 guided tours (Geopark Rangers, Geopark-on-site Guides, cooperation partners)
2. Publication of monthly electronic newsletters and one printed 24pp magazine ("Geo-Naturpark aktuell", issue 22).
3. Publication of several Geopark brochures (Geopark trails, Geotopes, Geopark on site)
4. Participation in different workshops of the Federal Tourism Agency of Hesse ("Hessen Agentur" about new topics and goals for the Odenwald-Bergstrasse region)
5. Contributions in hiking and biking magazines, brochures and maps
6. Preparation for publication of regional hiking maps in cooperation with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald
7. Public lectures about Earth heritage in the Geopark region
8. Opening of several Geopoints
9. Preparation for MTB trails in the south-eastern part of the Geopark together with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald and planning of MTB activity events (Überwald, Kuralpe)
10. Field trip and seminar for schools: "The geoscientific Seminar" at Karl Ernst Gymnasium in Amorbach
11. Geopark Ranger activities (esp. for schools) within the whole Geopark territory
12. Annual advanced educational training for Geopark Rangers and "Geopark-on-site" Guides: Field trip "Cultural landscape", "Environmental Education", "Everything about meadow orchards and old fruit species" etc.
13. Start of cooperation with nature conservation initiative "Streuobstwiesenretter": educational training for Geopark Rangers, old cherry species: tree planting action
14. Start of new training for Geopark-on-site Guides "Unterzent" as well as regular monthly meetings of the other individual groups
15. First general meeting of all trailmarkers with field trip and presentation as well as annual regional meetings of more than 150 trailmarkers
16. Celebration of Zittenfelder Quelle in Amorbach as "Geotop of the year 2015"
17. Autumn meeting of the National Geoparks of Germany in Western entrance Gate "Kühkopf" in Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald

Networking

18. Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine (J.W.)
19. Publication of contribution in EGN magazine No. 13
20. Publication of EGN Electronic Newsletters No 3 & 4 (J.W.)
21. Presenting the Global Geopark Network on International Tourism Fair in Berlin
22. Presenting the Geopark and the Network on regional and national tourism fares (Stuttgart and Mannheim)
23. Participation in Annual EGN Conference in Rokua (Finland) with 2 oral presentations
24. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, Spain
25. Regular meetings of the Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany (common activity of the 6 Global Geoparks in Germany)
26. International Symposium on Sustainable Development, University of Heidelberg with Session on Global Geoparks and fieldtrip
27. Partnership with Global Geopark Mt. Lushan (Intercultural peony project with arts exhibition from Global Geopark Mt. Lushan), preparation of next project step
28. Partnership with University of Heidelberg, geoscience department
29. Partnership with the International Forest Art Association: "BankArt project" Bird House Trail

Activity by Partners

30. 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
31. Field trips for schools into the old pit "Grube Marie" together with the working group "Historical Mining Association Odenwald"
32. Several preparation meetings with Castle Network Odenwald concerning new regional projects

BOHEMIAN PARADISE GEOPARK, CZECH REPUBLIC

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. We prepared excursions, programmes and trips for visitors from more than 40 countries of whole world. September 2015 – March 2016
2. Preparations of Visitors Centre, Dolánky by Turnov, expositions focusing on surrounding landscape of Bohemian Paradise. September – March 2016
3. Promotion of Geopark at volcanological conference Volcandpark in Lanzarote, November 2015
4. Oral presentations about our Geopark at numerous schools, universities, throughout Czech Republic and abroad, September - December 2015
5. Workshop “Bohemian Paradise Geopark”. February 2016
6. After long negotiations, we finally prepared partnership agreement with Bohemian Paradise Association, chief local tourist institution. October 2015
7. We started new partnership agreements with main environmental agencies working in the area of Geopark – Ekocentrum Oldřichov v Hájích and SEV Sedmihorky. December 2015 – January 2016
8. We also started partnership with several non-profit organizations, mainly with umbrella body of region. January 2016
9. Geopark started project of new Interpretation centre in Sedmihorky, true heart of Protected Landscape Area Bohemian Paradise. This project joins local municipalities, business representatives and environmental agencies. February 2016
10. Geopark staff started to work at study focused selling of geological ornamental material in area of geopark, its economic background and how many people are involved. This study will help to take proper measures in dealing with this problem. January 2016
11. Several promotional articles were published. September 2015 – March 2016
12. Geopark staff started new project which will determine course of geopark activities in next few years. Chief topic of this project is “Geological hazards” and main goal is to create new geo-tourist trail focused on this geological phenomenon. January 2016
13. Preparation of new geo-tourist map of Bohemian Paradise Geopark. January – March 2016.
14. Preparation of new internet presentation of Bohemian Paradise Geopark. January – March 2016

Networking

15. Participation on various projects of partner Geopark Novohrad/Nograd. September 2015.
16. Participation in 13th European Geoparks Conference in Rokua, Finland, September 2015
17. Work of Martina Pásková for UNESCO Group. September 2015 – March 2016
18. Preparation of article for EGN Magazine. March 2016
19. Elaboration of the reports on European Geoparks Week, the progress reports (September 2015 – March 2016). February 2015.
20. Elaboration of revalidation 2016 documentary. December 2015 – February 2016

Activity by Partners

21. Participation at Annual clean-up of Bohemian Paradise held by partner organization. October 2015
22. Participation at 60 years of Bohemian Paradise PLA Conference. September 2015
23. Cooperation with Local Action Groups – preparation of new geologic external exhibition Záhoví. October 2015
24. Several information and promotion leaflets were published by our partner organizations. September 2015 – March 2016

BURREN & CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Award of Green Card for our first revalidation at the EGN Meeting in Rokua, September 3rd.
2. Securing the post of Geopark Geologist as a full time employee with Clare County Council
3. Shortlisted for the National Geographic Legacy Awards; one of three international destinations selected for the Destination Leadership Category <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/worldlegacyawards/> Winner will be announced at ITB Berlin on 9th March
4. Launch of 'This is the Burren' by Karsten Krieger, a coffee table book profiling the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark
5. Continuation of the popular *Night Class in Geology* in partnership with the Burren Outdoor Education Centre
6. Development and delivery of *Heritage in the Landscape* training course for tour guides and Visitor Centre staff
7. Continuation of Web site updates and Social Media Strategy; showing an increase of 13% in the last 6 months on Face book and Twitter

Networking

1. Attendance at the EGN Geoparks Meeting and Conference in Rokua, Finland (Sept 3rd - 6th) Presentation of 2 papers at the conference: '*Who is responsible: Local partnership in action*' and '*Using seabird colonies at the Cliffs of Moher to engage local communities in conservation*'.
2. Hosting of the Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks Annual Seminar on the 20th November with guest speaker Prof. Patrick McKeever on the role of UNESCO and Global Geoparks
3. Contribution to EGN magazine Issue 12 '*A Community initiated groundwater tracing project*'
4. Hosting a study visit from the aspiring Geopark in Saimaa, Finland in November

Activity by Partners

5. Continuation of support from the Geological Survey of Ireland with the announcement of a 3 year grant programme 2016-2018
6. Continuation of the GeoparkLIFE EU funded programme which focuses on the development and strengthening of partnerships with local businesses, communities and national agencies.
7. Working with Failte Ireland and Clare County Council to deliver a training programme for tourism businesses in environmental and business good practice; for example: waste, water and energy management, business development, product development and marketing
8. Working with Leave No Trace Ireland and local guides to develop a Geopark based Code for visitors
9. Working with the National Disability Authority to develop Universal Access programmes at Visitor Centres and Geosites
10. Working with local tourism businesses to implement a Code of Practice in Sustainable Tourism
11. Working with local businesses to develop tourism products, such as the Burren Food Trail, the Activity Trail, the Burren Tolkien Festival and the Burren Rocks Festival
12. Working with local community groups to develop conservation initiatives on hedgerow management, bio-diversity in villages, heritage trails, and adopt a monument
13. Working with local university (NUI Galway) communities and schools on Integrated Catchment Management and Groundwater Awareness programmes
14. Working with Coach Tourism Industry and local tourism attractions on developing a sustainable plan for coach tourism management in the Geopark.

CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in the II Open Meeting of the Spanish Geopark Committee, held in Sierra Norte Geopark, September 2015.
2. Attendance at the Ordinary Session of the Spanish Geopark Committee, held in Sierra Norte Geopark, September 2015.
2. Participation in the EGN meeting in Rokua (Finland), September 2015.
3. Monitoring and environmental compliance control, support and collaboration in the organization of 13 sport events: I Cabo de Gata-Níjar Open Kayak Fishing (September 2015), III Mtb Half Marathon Carboneras Village (September 2015), IV Cabo de Gata-Níjar Middle Distance Triathlon (October 2015), II Mtb Challenge Volcánica (November 2015), V Las Negras Running Festival, (November-December 2015), III Paunica Team Trail Running Race Cortijo del Fraile (December 2015), I Ultramarathon Almeria Coast (December 2015), VIII Trail Running Cabo de Gata-Níjar (March 2016), etc.
4. Installation of new interpretive panels on *Posidonia oceanica* meadows, January 2016.
5. Advice to audiovisual producers interested in the shooting of movies, documentaries and commercials. Monitoring and environmental compliance control. Highlights the shooting of international tv series such as Penny Dreadful (Showtime; February 2016), Game of Thrones (HBO; October 2015) and Emerald City (NBC and Universal, November 2015), and the national tv series “Mar de Plástico” and “Vis a Vis” (October 2015).
6. Collaboration with Universities and Research Centres: The Geopark manages all the administrative permits to national, EU and outside EU universities and Research Centres for their field trips and research projects activities. The Geopark also provides assistance and guidance. September 2015-March 2016.
7. Collaboration and logistic support in the organization of cultural events: photograph exhibitions, the contemporary dance festival “Contemporary Coast” (September 2015) and the flamenco festival “Flamenco 340” (October 2015).
8. Guided visits addressed to schools under the Regional Programme “The Nature and You”, and to people with disabilities under the Regional Programme “Nature for everybody”. September 2015-March 2016.
9. Participation in local and regional media. September 2015-March 2016.
10. Celebration of commemorative days: World Wetlands Day, in the Site of Geological Interest and Wetland of International Importance of Las Salinas de Cabo de Gata (February 2016); and International Volunteer Day, in the Site of Geological Interest of the Coastal Dune System of Rambla Morales (December 2015).

Networking

11. Participation in social networks and online periodical publications such as the Geobio Bulletin and the Environmental Natural Areas Network Bulletin. September 2015-March 2016.

12. Participation in EGN Working Groups.

Activity by Partners

13. Collaboration with the Local Government of Níjar in the edition of an Active Tourism and Ecotourism Guide that includes 10 activities (diving, hiking, 4x4 routes, kayaking, mountainbiking, paragliding, horse riding, windsurfing, boat routes and geotorism) and up to 20 active tourism and ecotourism companies for enjoying the territory.

14. Collaboration with the Local Government of Níjar in the edition of an Accomodation Guide with useful information for tourists and a wide offer of campings, rural houses, tourist apartments and hotel establishments.

15. Collaboration with the Cabo de Gata Níjar Entrepreneurs Association (Asemparna) in the organization of the 2015 Conference on "Strategy for defining Cabo de Gata-Níjar as a hiking destination in 2020" (December 2015).

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

17. Geotours and workshops of our Geopark Partners (September 2015-March 2016).

CARNIC ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, October 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Regional days of sustainability on 9th of October 2015 in cooperation with Bündnis Alpenkonvention Kärnten
2. Film productions: TV-report about the GeoPark Carnic Alps as part of the TV-report "Österreich von oben"; broadcasted on 14th October 2015, Servus TV
3. Collector's day on 24th October 2015
4. Oral presentation: "Gestatten, Herkules aus dem Osttiroler Dorfertal"; given by Peter Schönlaub on 30th of March 2016
5. Preparatory operations in spring 2016 for the excavation of macrofossil-bearing rocks from the Lammer Creek

Networking

1. Austrian Geopark Forum Meeting on 23rd of November 2015
2. Numerous coordination activities to set up a Interreg V project and a project proposal "Cross border Geopark Carnic Alps"; submitted on 6th of June 2016
3. Numerous talks with communities and the federal country of Tyrol to expand the geopark Carnic Alps to Eastern Tyrol
4. Cooperation with research institutes:
 - a. University of Innsbruck: expected partner im Interregprojekt V Italy-Austria
 - b. Cooperation with the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt: lecture program and field trips to the Geopark Carnic Alps 2016
 - c. University of Geography Vienna: joint activities for a research study about the hummocky ground on the Egger Alm

Activity by Partners

1. Coordination meetings for 2016 for the corporate marketing project "Naturerleben Kärnten"; partners: tourist organisations (Naturarena Kärnten, Kärnten Werbung), Carinthian nature and national parks;
<http://www.kaernten.at/naturerleben/de/regionen-staedte-orte>
2. Coordination meetings for 2016 for the marketing cooperation with the most important players in tourism in the Gail Vally, called "Best of-Nassfeld/Pressegger See-Weißensee-Lesachtal"

CENTRAL CATALONIA GEOPARK, (CATALONIA) SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Create a working group to prepare and organize The XIX Spanish National Symposium on Teaching Geology at the Geopark from 11th to 16th July, 2016.
2. Publishing news on the EGN CC 32. meeting in Rokua in the media, on the website and Facebook, September 2015.
3. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media, on TV, radio, and the magazines “Cap Catalogne” for visitors to France. September –March 2016.
4. Brand promotion UNESCO through the visit of 25 technicians of Catalan Tourism Agency, the Deputation of Barcelona and Barcelona Tourist Informers. The aim of the visit is that technicians and reporters know the Geopark project to the international market. November 2015.
5. Development of a song about the history of our Geopark story. Children of music schools are working this song to interpret it in April 2016.
6. Meetings and presentation of a new educational program in cooperation with de Children Council of some municipalities (Callús, Santpedor, Artés, Sallent and Sant Joan de Vilatorrada). The program consists of adding value to the geological heritage and geology of the municipalities with the aim that children are able to explain and develop audio-visual material of what they have learned. (July-March 2016).
7. 30 teachers attended a working day about the geological risks of a territory. November.
8. New information panels in different languages, in Súria. March 2016.

Networking

9. Edition of a new promotional leaflet of the village “Mura and arounds”. June 2015.
10. Participated in a meeting to the constitution within the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO. June 2015.
11. Representatives of the Geopark visited Sardinia to participate in the festivities of August 31, invited by the Barcelona Provincial Council, and to assist the opening of the photographic exhibition "The Secret Life of disuse," which was exhibited some months ago in the village of Súria by Jordi Aligué.
12. The trip to Alghero was a returning visit made at that time by the representatives of Bages Geominerario Parco della Sardegna, where the images for the exhibition were taken. First steps to define a cross-border project

13. Day review of training materials on geology (21st September) and meeting at the company ICCL to collaborate on guided tours of its production plant visits (23rd September).
14. Organization of specific courses addressed to secondary professors for the 6th Geology Olympiads of Catalonia. November 2015.
15. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, March 2016.

Activity by Partners

16. Participation of the Working Group concerning the use of waste material from legally approved mining and quarrying. September-March 2016.
17. Promoting cycling routes through vineyards during the second edition of the race solidarity between vineyards charity. October.
18. Meeting with Cartographic and Geological Institute of Catalonia to participate in the XIX Symposium on teaching of geology and working together to create a new geological and touristic map about the Geopark. New agreement.
19. Meeting and specific work with CatEmocions company to elaborate a geological touristic guide of the Geopark. March-February 2016.
20. Meetings with the new political representatives of different Departments of the Catalan Government – Generalitat (tourism, environment, culture, agriculture, infrastructures, etc... September-March 2016.

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CHABLAIS GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Press conference and press releases circulated to promote the creation of the International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme by the UNESCO General Assembly. Newspaper articles and local radio news flashes.
2. A series of meetings were held with stakeholders and councillor's to present the updated Geopark strategy and the new "UNESCO" label.
3. Preparation of a Progress Report for the forthcoming Geopark revalidation in 2016.
4. Continued engagement in local schools: Working to develop visits to the Allinges Castles Geosite with the primary schools of the Thonon les Bains local education authority; workshops with the Champanges infant school; Workshops with the "general" high school students of the Lycée La Versoie discovering climate changes at different timescales.
5. Preparation of a multi-disciplinary senior school toolkit for the 15 schools in the Chablais.
6. Establishment of an agreement with Savoie-Haute Savoie Juniors, an association promoting holiday centres with the schools of the departments.
7. Creation and diffusion of: a Geopark tourist map in English; Geopark flyers in English and French.
8. Organisation of discovery tours for the staff of the tourist offices of the territory: geosite visit, meetings with guides, presentation of Geopark products etc.
9. Creation of a Geopark stand including a tent, display boards, presentation counter, a table for workshops and a large feather flag with the UNESCO Global Geopark logo.
10. Free public talk by a former GIEC vice president Martin Beniston concerning the changing climate in the Alps during the COP21 Climate Change Conference in Paris, December 2015.
11. Signature of a contract to formalise the obligations and engagements between the Geopark and the society of Geopark guides, "Tethys".
12. Training of new Geopark Guides. Participants: 17 heritage and mid mountain guides, the Geopark Education Manager, the outdoor education manager for the departmental educational authority.
13. The establishment of the first "Geopark Partners" under our new program: Interprofessional Abundance Cheese Syndicat (SIFA), Jardin des 5 sens, Hotel les Moineaux, Hotel l'Echo des Montagnes.

14. Two meetings of the scientific advisory board. Discussions concerning new projects in the territory.
15. Participation of the Geopark at a book trade exhibition held at Ripaille Castle, a geosite. October 2016.
16. A seminar to promote the creation of Geopark holidays offered to schools, organised in partnership with Savoie Haute Savoie Juniors. Participants: Directors of Chablais holiday centres and Geopark guides.
17. Part of the working group to update the Pré Curieux wetland centre in Evian working with Danone (Evian Natural Mineral Water), RAMSAR, the Shoreline Protection Agency and the town of Evian.

Networking

18. Participation in the EGN CC and conference in Rokua in September 2015: Sophie Justice, Geopark Coordinator, Jean-Francois Baud, Geopark Councillor.
19. Participation in a French meeting concerning the UNESCO World Heritage Site comprising prehistoric pile dwellings and bog settlements located in six countries. Establishment of the communication working group for these sites, of which Geopark Chablais is a member.
20. Exchanges with the Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Oldenwald to establish a cooperation for the exchange of best practice in promoting regional wines. Visit of the president of the scientific advisory board to Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Oldenwald during a visit by the Thonon town twinning association.
21. Contribution of an article for the EGN Magazine 13; and also for the EGN Newsletter 5, Jan-June 2016.
22. Preparation of a contribution for the book on the Fossils in the European Geoparks coordinated by the Hateg Dinosaurs Geopark.

Activity by Partners

23. Several day trips and residential stays exploring the Geopark with the Geopark guides.

CHELMOS VOURAIKOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation and communication of biodiversity monitoring research results on fauna in 13th ICZEGAR (International Congress on the Zoogeography of Greece and Adjacent Regions, organized by the university of Crete and the Natural History Museum of Crete (7 -11 October 2015).
2. Participation and communication of biodiversity monitoring research results on flora in the 17th Panhellenic Forestry Congress, in Kefalonia isl., organized by the Greek Forestry Society and the Management Body of Ainos National Park.(4-7 October 2015)
3. Participation and communication of biodiversity monitoring research results on flora in the 14th Scientific Congress of the Hellenic Botanical Society at the conference center of University of Patras. (8-11 October 2015).
4. Participation in the workshop title “European Chart of Sustainable Tourism: Steps towards the process of certification of protected areas”, within the framework of the project ENVIRONMETAL PARK (Greece-Italy 2007-2013), organized by the Regional Development Fund of the Region of Western Greece, in Patras. (9 December 2015).
5. Organization of a workshop titled “implementation of monitoring projects in the protected area of Chelmos-Vouraikos”, in Patras. (12 December 2015).
6. Participation in the experiential workshop on the site of Lake Tzivlos regarding: experiential approach to environmental education programmes in Protected Areas. The example to Tzivlos Lake. (12 December 2015).
7. Organization of a seminar regarding the National Network of Wild Life watchers ([www. Paratiro.gr](http://www.Paratiro.gr)), in collaboration with the Wildlife Protection Agency ANIMA, in Kalavryta (18 December 2015).
8. New infrastructure (kiosks, benches, bins) in several geosites (December 2015).
9. New infokiosks placed in the central square of Kalavryta and at The cave of the lakes, the Kalavryta Sci Center and Diakopto railway Station (February 2016).
10. New panels and additional signalization of the geosites and on new geotrails within the territory of the Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark (December 2015).
11. Placement of a new firefighting tank on mount Chelmos (December 2015).
12. New flyers and leaflets promoting the Geopark area (December 2015).

Networking

13. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Rokua Geopark (Finland), (September 2015).
14. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Unesco Global Geopark (Spain), (March 2015).
15. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13.

Activity by Partners

16. Participation and presentation of Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark in the workshop presenting the new IGGP program of UNESCO, organized by the Hellenic National Committee for UNESCO (9 March 2015) .

Cilento and Vallo di Diano Goprak, Italy **Progress Report, September 2015- March 2016**

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 Rokua Geopark, September 2015
2. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
3. Participation to the 7° Committee of Italian Geoparks in Rome march 2015
4. Revision of Italian Geoparks Book
5. Participation to the 13th European Geoparks Conference in Rokua Geopark (Finland) on September 3rd – 5th 2015 and submission of the article
6. Attendance at the 38th UNESCO General Conference, Paris, in November 2015, to support the GGN with the Italian permanent delegation and Ambassador

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 2015;
9. Attendance with Campania Region BIT Berlino 2015
10. Participation in national programs television as Geo RAI 3 “ –“Linea blu”, RAI 1 “ Linea Verde”, and TG1 were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme
11. Tour with the university students on the geosites
12. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and Campania Region have organized, in November, the Festival of Mediterranean Diet
13. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark supported by Italian Ministry of Environment has finished the procedure for recognition of the Charter for European Sustainable Tourism
14. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark attended to Milano Expo with Ministry of Environmental
15. the Geopark has obtained funding for € 26.000.000,00 and have realized the projects and have finished the works to: improve some natural sites; create virtual museums, to print and produce publications for the promotion of the territory;

16. The National Park-Geopark has 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 are studying important geothermal geosite to preserve and to promote for geotourism
18. We are sponsored the new research for geoarcheological site in Camerota were was found, in several caves, the remains of Neanderthal Man and Homo Sapiens. One of the most important cave is in the process of accommodation to allow access for tourists

Activity by Parteners

19. Participation for LIFE project with national and international partners
20. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity
21. Meeting with Korean Geoparks and Ministry of korea
22. Multiple Internationally Designated Areas
23. Attendance to International Workshop –Harmonizing the Integrated Management Systems of Areas with Multiple International Designations (Ramsar Sites, World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, Global Geoparks)
24. Contribution to Guidance for Multiple Internationally Designated Areas harmonizing the integrated management of overlapping Ramsar Sites, World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks – final report
25. Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geoaprka is a case study of the Panorama programme of IUCN (platform for sharing and promotion of “inspiring protected area solutions”). These solutions are examples of successful approaches, projects, methods, ...applied in or for protected areas. Through the Panorama, the solutions are shared for learning, inspiration and replication by PA practitioners elsewhere

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COPPER COAST GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in “Get Involved” competition – a national community sustainability event. Awarded 3rd prize in the Community Impact category. Involved 4 major articles in local newspaper – Munster Express + social media and other promotion.
2. Delivered presentations on the Geopark, local history and heritage to numerous active retirement groups, tourist groups, heritage groups and other community/voluntary organisations.
3. Delivered a series of geological and environmental education programmes to Primary and Secondary schools through Ireland’s “Heritage in Schools” Programme focussing on the ice age, volcanoes and earth science, March–August 2015.
4. “History of Village of Kill”, lecture delivered in Kill by Des Cowman.
5. Christmas Fair over two days in the Copper Coast Centre, giving space to local food and crafts producers and an opportunity for community interaction.
6. Musical and community events in the Copper Coast Centre, include night of Spanish guitar and promotion of a local food producer specialising in Mexican food.
7. Geological and Archaeological talks in the Centre.
8. Biodiversity project involving local schools and scouts with their community groups. Comparison of fallow and sown beds in the context of pollination and environmental consequences.
9. Participation in Comeraghs Wild Festival – music and culture. Celebration of the centenary of the residence of New Zealand artist, Edith Collier in Bonmahon, Treasure Hunt in Stradbally and “Words” literary event at Tankardstown. Hosted closing concert of traditional music and song.
10. Month-long exhibition of prints of the paintings of Edith Collier.
11. Comprehensive local media coverage of UNESCO status – press, social media, radio.
12. “The Ground Beneath Our Hearts” an event to give thanks for the bounty of the earth and honour mining communities. Communal creation of a temporary installation on the slip at Stage Cove, overseen by local artist, Sean Corcoran.

Networking

13. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Rokua Global Geopark, September 2015.
14. Irish Global Geoparks Committee Seminar, Ennistymon, Burren & Cliffs of Moher Global Geopark, November, 2015.

Activity by Partners

15. Waterford Council creating a Copper Coast Drive and associated signage.
16. Waterford Council creating a Greenway walking and cycling path along a former railway track just outside Geopark boundary.
17. Visit, in September, by our partners in Strohn Town Twinning group, which links the communities of Copper Coast Global Geopark and Vulkaneifel Global Geopark.
18. D.F.B.A. community group enhancing and extending "Anne Valley Walk"

EL HIERRO GEOPARK, CANARY ISLANDS - SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs, WORLD TRAVEL MARKET (London, Nov 2015, CMT Stuttgart, Germany Jan 2016, FITUR (Madrid, January 2016), VAKANTIBEURS (Utrecht, Holland, January 2016), NAVARTUR (Navarra, February 2016).
2. Second year of "educational geological Routes" for groups of local students, conducted by company personnel Insular Public Service El Meridiano SAU (Geopark partner). More than 300 participants from September 2015 to March 2016.
3. Organization Open Fotosub (19th Edition). The most important underwater photography contest in Europe. Oct. 2015.
4. Colaboration III Travesía a nado Mar de las Calmas, nadando sobre volcanes. (Open sea Swimming competition, swimming over volcanoes) Oct. 2015.
5. Colaboration "21º International Paragliding Meeting" Oct.2015
6. GeoHierro Joven activities, (GeoHierro youth) Cultural, gastronomic, sports, and more activities specially for young people in the island. In the frame of antidrugs programs, from sep 2015 to mar 2016.
7. Visit the Geopark "Parc Naturel Regional du Massif des Bauges, France" to El Hierro Geopark and Interpretation Centres. Presentation "El Hierro Geopark on the zero meridian". Oct.2015
8. Starting the first Open Online Fotosub El Hierro, images and videos Competition on line. January 2016. (celebration from January 2016).

Networking

9. 36th EGN Meeting - Rokua Geopark. Participation through the Geopark Lanzarote and Archipelago Chinijo. Sept. 2015.
10. Staff from the Geopark "Parc Naturel Regional du Massif des Bauges, France" visiting to El Hierro Geopark and Interpretation Centres (Oct. 2015)

Activity by Partners

11. Mountain Race Marathon El Meridiano, Organized by La Frontera Municipality. January 2016.
12. Presentation II Fototrek, a photograph contest and hiking in places Emblematic of the Geopark. Organized by La Frontera Municipality and the Insular Council of El Hierro. Feb. 2016. (celebration in april 2016)
13. V “Ruta de Tapas de Valverde” “. (Gastronomic Event) Organized by Valverde Municipality.
14. IV “Ruta de Tapas Sur de El Hierro” “. (Gastronomic Event) Organized by El Pinar Municipality.
15. Starting the first Open Online Fotosub El Hierro, images and videos Competition on line. January 2016. (celebration from January 2016).
16. Presentation Magma Bike Maraton 2016, MTB race in a natural setting of lava, laurel, pine forest and meadows of El Hierro. Organized by El Pinar Municipality. January 2016. (celebration in April, 16).

ENGLISH RIVIERA GLOBAL GEOPARK, UK

Progress Report, Sept 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Awarded a green card 2015 revalidation result at the GGN Conference in Japan
2. Main activities are focused on preparations towards hosting the 7th International Conference on Global Geoparks and associated meetings. GGN2016 website went live in Dec 15 and abstracts opened in February 16. Ongoing liaison with sponsors, venues, partners and training package under development for Geopark Ambassador volunteers. Development of pre conference English language course for delegates.
3. £50,000 bid to Arts Council England to develop a community led music/theatrical performance to open the conference was successful. Artistic Director and the creative team have been appointed and liaison with all members of the GGN taken place re content. Community call for young composers (age 14 to 35) issued in Feb 16 and community workshops to commence mid Feb 16. Further call for community performers (age 8 to 80) to be issued in April.
4. Further £10,000 bid to Arts Council England to support further creative community engagement in GGN2016. The project has three aspects (i) Geopark resident artist Bex Glover working with students at South Devon College to create hanging banners for the conference centre. (ii) Participatory local artists working in schools and youth settings to create an as yet undefined piece of work to be finished by delegates during the conference. (iii) Local Charity MASH working with artists and local groups to “upcycle” old furniture for the creation of a delegates “relax and network area” at the conference (the furniture will be returned to the charity post conference and be donated to homes in need).
5. PhD student engaged to evaluate the benefit of above mentioned creative projects against the conference theme of Health and Wellbeing through Creative and Active Engagement.
6. New education advisory team established including South Devon College, Plymouth University, Exeter University, Torquay Girls Grammar School representing secondary level schools and Curledge St Academy representing primary level education. The team hope to establish a wealth of education activity led by higher level students delivering Geopark activities for primary schools capitalising on opportunities in light of the conference.
7. Mayoral and all Councillor briefing led by Melanie Border and Nick Powe took place on 25 February 16
8. Awareness raising meeting with European Centre for Human Health based in Truro, Cornwall, October 2015
9. New seat for South Devon College established on the Geopark Management Group

Networking

10. Participation of Melanie Border in the 36th European Geoparks Network Advisory Committee meeting in Rokua, Finland.
11. Participation of Nick Powe and Melanie Border at the 36th meeting of the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee, in Rokua, Finland.
12. Participation of Melanie Border and GGN2016 Conference Director David Randall at the 13th European Geoparks Conference.
13. Participation of David Randall at the 4th APGN 2015 Symposium in San'in Kaigan, Japan.
14. Melanie Border continues to chair the UK Geopark Geoparks Forum and engaged in ongoing discussions with the UK National Commission for UNESCO in advance of the UNESCO General Conference in Nov 2015 thus supporting the decision to approve the new IGGP.
15. Organised remote teleconference meetings of the UK Global Geoparks Forum members in Nov 2015 to discuss approve appropriateness of two aspiring Geoparks applications for support from UKNC and onward submission.
16. Liaison with and support of two aspirant Geopark areas on behalf of the UKGGF.
17. Organisation and preparation for the two day annual meeting of the UKGGF to be hosted by Marble Arch Caves (2-3 March 16).
18. Meeting with Peter Chowne representing Jersey Heritage Trust who are considering potential Geopark application.

Activity by Partners

19. Impact and Engaged Research Network seminar day on the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark organised by Research and Knowledge Transfer Department at Exeter University.
20. English Riviera Tourism Company organised journalist visit for Swedish journalist group.
21. All Geopark partners are planning events for the Geopark Festival 2016.
22. Torbay Community Development Trust and Paignton Community Partnership continue to work together to ensure the sustainability of the Paignton Geopark through the potential addition of refreshment kiosk to the site.
23. Promotion of the English Riviera by the Association of GeoConservation in Hong Kong at their GeoHero Run event.
24. Kents Cavern Jawbone featured in Natural History Museum of London travelling exhibition titled "Britain's First Humans".
25. Exeter University research on coastal erosion rates initiated Jan 16.

FFOREST FAWR UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, WALES, UK

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Educational Activities

1. **Earth Science Teachers Association, Presentation:** *The Geoparks Concept Fforest Fawr Geopark - Wales' First European Geopark* September, 2016.
2. **Earth Science Teachers Association, Field Excursion:** The Geology of the Cribarth, a Geosite in the Fforest Fawr Geopark, September 2016.
3. **Co-supervision of MRes Student in Bioscience 2015:** Cardiff University School of Biosciences *The use of ancient DNA from sediment as a viable measure of historic biodiversity within the Brecon Beacons National Park.*
4. **Fforest Fawr Geopark Public Lecture, Brecon 26 November 2015:** Presentation by Tom Sharpe entitled '*Making the first Geological Map*', This- public lecture to mark 200 years since William Smith's historic publication and the 10th anniversary of Fforest Fawr Geopark's membership of the EGN/GGN.

Business Activities

5. **Fforest Fawr Geopark Ambassador Scheme:** This successful training programme for local businesses and tourism providers was delivered to two groups in October 2015 and February 2016 respectively. Participants are introduced in a series of presentations and discussions to the Geopark concept, to the requirements of the charters of the European and Global Geoparks Networks and the rigorous evaluation and revalidation procedures which ensure that the Geopark designation stands for quality. Presentations associated with field excursions provide insights into the Geopark's superb geology and landscapes, the links between its geological, industrial, tangible and intangible heritage and the need to conserve these for future generations.
6. **Brecon Beacons National Park Ambassador Scheme:** a Geopark module was delivered to two groups of tourism businesses during the period.

7. **Training for South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers' group:** twenty members of the trade body 'SWOAPG' received training on the geopark and its geology on 29 January 2016 from the Geopark Development officer at Craig-y-nos Country Park and three local geosites

8. **'National Park Knowledge':** presentations on the Geopark's geology and archaeology in training courses for Brecon and Llandovery based taxi drivers has proved an effective means for advertising and marketing the attributes of the Geopark.

Community Activities

9. **Local Ambassador Scheme:** two sessions were run during February 2016 in i) Abercraf and ii) Ystradowen from which emerged 25 Local Ambassadors for 'Cwm Tawe' and 'Cwm Twrch & Amman Valley' respectively.

Partnership Activities

10. **BBNPA Staff Workshop 4 October 2015:** Presentation by Camilla Ryan on *The*

use of ancient DNA from sediment as a measure of biodiversity succession in the Brecon Beacons National Park and discussion of future research.

11. **Fforest Fawr Geopark Workshop:** A successful meeting with partners and community representatives to design the Action Plan for the period 2016-2020.

Media Activities

12. UNESCO Global Geoparks designation: News coverage by ITV Wales on Fforest Fawr's designation as a UNESCO Global Geopark. Broadcast in Dec, 2015.

Research in the Geopark

13. **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.

14. **Structural Geology of the Cribarth Geosite:** A collaborative project involving the School of Earth & Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University and Fforest Fawr.

New Projects In the Geopark

15. **Explosive Times Project, The Glynneath Gunpowder Works:** Within the Geopark, the National Park Authority has secured Stage one project development funding from the National Lottery 'Your Heritage' Fund to progress the conservation and interpretation of South Wales' only gunpowder works, the location of which is inextricably linked to the geology of Waterfall Country – a key visitor destination in the Geopark. A stage 2 bid will be submitted in June 2016 for approval to access the funding set aside to deliver the project.

16. **Penwyllt Quarry:** Also within the Geopark, the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority commissioned a study of the abandoned Penwyllt Quarry site to assess how its history and operation could be best interpreted and promoted. The project has the potential to link to other surrounding geosites and is adjacent to Craig y Nos Country Park which is earmarked for development as the Geopark Hub. Funding is now being sought for implementation.

European Geoparks Networking

17. **EGN Magazine 13 and EGN Newsletter 5:** Articles in press.

18. **36th EGN Coordination Committee:** Participation in the meeting in Rokua, September 2015.

19. **13th European Geoparks Conference, Rokua 2015:** Participation in the conference involved editing contributions, a presentation and chairing a session.

20. **EGN Committees:** Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Advisory Committee.

21. **The EGN Magazine.** Tony is a member of the EGN Editorial Board and organizes and edits the articles submitted for inclusion in the EGN Magazine.

22. **EGN Newsletter.** Tony edits articles submitted for inclusion in the newsletter.

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GEA NORWEGICA GEOPARK, NORWAY

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Entrepreneur work for establishing a 90 meters timeline finished, panels will be placed on local rocks and mark important events in Earth's history. Funded by The Savings Bank Foundation DnB.
2. Regular events for schools on topics related to geodiversity and biodiversity, culture and history
3. Guided tours ordered by different groups
4. New information signs on localities. Continuous updating of panels.
5. Interviews in local and national TV, radio and newspaper.
6. Thematic evenings.
7. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.
8. Cultural evening with indoor mining for children in Porsgrunn with activities for children.
9. The Norwegian University of Life Science delivers annually a course for Masters in Strategic Landscape Planning, and Urban and Regional Planning. This year's project took place in the large geographic area of Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark. The field work was delivered in close cooperation with the Geopark,
10. National day of geology. Family event and field trip in the Geopark.
11. Developed 4-page brochures for read online or download from the web-site at different localities.

Networking

12. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and the EGN conference in Rokua Finland.
13. Manager: several Skype meetings with GGN ExB and meetings in UNESCO in Paris.

Activity by Partners

Partnership with hotels, special offers for geopark tourists.

GEOMON GEOPARK, WALES, UK

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organised and ran training course for 4 new geo-heritage guides for Newborough Forest and Llanddwyn Island
2. Work on clearance and new paths in Newborough Forest to make trail more accessible.
3. Produced articles on the Geopark in the national magazines and press.eg Earth heritage, Bangor and Anglesey Mail and Daily Post.Geopark denomination and logo, March 2013.
4. Regular Guided geotours, for the public and University groups as well as societies like the Coastal Path Friends. And our members.
5. Updating our website www.geomon.co.uk by our web master and other information sent out to our members.
6. Attended training sessions on Broadband update training, Lottery Grant training (WVCA), Business models for growth (IoACC), and Code of Practice training.
7. Laser working on the coast with Ocean Science Staff Bangor University in adit mines and caves in Cemaes Bay and to assess safety of coast after bad cliff falls at Red Wharf Bay. The laser work was shown on Facebook. Wrote a report on the damage to the coast and remedial measures needed by owners and County Council. This has now been taken on Board.
8. Did a report on the damage to the huse on the Bodorgan estate and remedial measures needed. Also sourced rock for repairs.
9. Did a survey of archaeological artefacts from a dig in Northern Anglesey identifying the rocks used and their source.
10. Joined two groups to offer to add value to their work. The tourism Food Group and the community development Group- the 14's project in the Bo Aberffraw Ward of Anglesey.
11. Attended all the Tourism meetings of the County Council and gave a presentation at one of them.
12. Held 3 Board meetings to ensure good running of the geopark. Unfortunately our Chairman died after a long illness and we have spent some time engaging a new Chairman and strengthening our Board.
13. We have tried to obtain new grants for several new projects but so far only been successful in getting a grant to train volunteers.

Contact Dr Margaret Wood college@btinternet.com

14. We have formed 3 new partnerships with the 'Food Group', The Marram Grass- an award winning restaurant and importantly with the University department of Biological Sciences with which we will be doing a joint scientific project together creating environmental apps for phones and taking sectional slices of marine sea floor, the coast and nearby land and assessing its present use and its potential. We will be doing the tourism possibilities on these apps. This will be a joint GeoMon and University project with the Head of School, Professor Colin Jago- a former geologist leading it
15. We have had a presence at several County shows and events throughout the year.

Networking

16. Two Representatives Attended CC meeting September 2015 in Finland.
17. Communicated with UKGGF on their activities and prospective geoparks and attending the next meeting in Northern Ireland (2 representatives) March 1st -3rd 2016
18. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week: geotours with Mentermon and allied institutions,
19. Networking with our MP and AM plus a Welsh Government representative John Humphries and representatives of grant bodies. from the Welsh Government

20. Activity by Partners

21. Partnered with RIBride boats for trips along the menai Strait and geo training additions to their itineraries. New partners, The Marram Grass doing a joint conservation, monitoring project with local schools and with the Red Squirrel Trust. We continue partnership with B-Active our geo=kayaking partner.
22. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by the Geopark),.Just started working on tours with Cadnant Hidden Gardens to train geoguides specifically for the venture.
23. On-going joint projects with our University partners with head of School Biological Sciences becoming our new Chairman and head of Research in the School of ocean Sciences joining our Board.
24. Continue to work with the Llanbadrig Community Council to provide geo materials and walks in Northern Anglesey and we hope to create a community link programme with them in the future.

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HATEG COUNTRY DINOSAURS GEOPARK, ROMANIA

Progress report September 2015 – March 2016

Achievements

1. Two prizes for Geopark`s projects. One for The Fragrance Garden (popular project involving volunteers, best green project financed by Partnership Foundation), and one for Hateg Country Cross (organised by geopark volunteers);
2. Proposal of three new projects: Geoaprk`s Ambassadors, Traditional Garden – Genes Bank, Volcanoes – Educational toolkit;
3. Preparation for new educational programs for local schools;
4. Preparation of the second Edition of Hateg Country Cross (geopark`s volunteers);
5. Preparation of the Second Edition of Dinosaurs Festival, July, 2015;
6. Development of new visiting facilities: Senses Trail, The House of Miniatures;

Networking

7. Participation in the 33th European Geoparks Network Conference, Rokua Geopark;
8. Cooperation with Belogradcik Aspiring Geoaprk Team;
9. Partnership agreement with Haute Provence Global Geopark

Management structure and financial status

- New budget and local sponsorships;

Strategic partnership

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

Marketing and promotional activities

- Branding the geopark as a tourism destination
- Publications to promote dinosaurs, geodiversity, new geotrails;
- Participation in ProGEO Conference, Iceland;
- New issues of InfoGeoparc, geopark`s newsletter.

Contacts:

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Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen / Germany

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

- (1) Opening of the exhibition “Zeitkapsel Bernstein – Lebewesen vergangener Welten“ (Time capsule amber – creatures of past worlds” at the State Museum and Geopark-Infocenter Braunschweig (October)
- (2) Presentation of new infopanel :Stapelburg (LM 8, Geopoint 4), Buchholzer Erdfall (LM 7, Geopoint 3) (October)
- (3) Publishing of the following english leaflet reprints: landmark 5 „Schloss Herzberg“, landmark 9 „Roßtrappe“, landmarke10 „Auerberg“, landmark 14 „Huysburg“, landmark 16 „Sachsenstein“ (October)
- (4) Publishing of the following leaflet reprints: landmark 4 „Brocken“, landmark 8 „Schloß Wernigerode“, landmark 10 „Auerberg“ (November)
- (5) Publishing of the Dutch leaflet landmarke 8 „Schloß Wernigerode“(November)
- (6) Presentation of the new infopanel Glasmuseum Steina (LM 16, Geopoint 6) (November)
- (7) Presentation of new infopanel: Rieder quarry (LM 15, Geopoint 13), Goldene Aue (LM 7, Geopoint 12) (December)
- (8) Foundation of a new Geopark-association for the Northern Part: Geopark-Trägerverein Braunschweiger Land – Ostfalen e.V.
- (9) Start of the new GIS (Geo-information-system) in co-operation with Helmstedt district
- (10) Geopark field trip for the 30th GIC (Geoscience Information Consortium) conference at the BGR (Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources) in Hanover
- (11) Miner’s Christmas inside the copper hill at show mining Roehrigschacht Wettelrode and many other geopark partner events.
- (12) UNESCO-Certification event at Brocken Mountain / Harz with the governor of Sachsen-Anhalt Reiner Haseloff

Networking

- (13) Participation in the 36th EGN-Meeting and Conference in Rokua/Finland (September)
- (14) Meeting of Geopark Advisory Committee in Schoeningen / palaeon (October)
- (15) Meeting of the German National Geopark Group at Geopark Bergstraße- Odenwald (November)
- (16) Several meetings with “Allianz für die region” about a common marketing strategy for the Braunschweiger land area.

- (17) Meeting of the German UNESCO Global Geopark Forum in Osnabrück (January)
- (18) Cooperation with Dr. Scheller Foundation to create the new geopoint "Jurassic Sea Schandelah" (September to March)

Activity by Partners

- (19) Geopark tours and events of several partners (Calendar of events 2015)
- (20) Several events at the German Geosite Day ("Tag des Geotops) (September)
- (21) Several guided tours along the "Karst hiking trail" (September to November)

THE HONDSRUG GEOPARK, THE NETHERLANDS

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. We have produced a film clip about the Hondsrug region - The Hondsrug as a recharging point for primeval energy. This clip will be used for promotion on Facebook and at events.
2. The Geopark promotion team is doing a good job. The team consists of volunteers who actively promote regional activities at fairs and other events.
3. On 11 February we organised the annual Small Business Fair. The theme of the fair was Visitor Satisfaction. During the event the Secretary of the World Heritage Commission gave an interesting talk about the experiences of World Heritage sites and the UNESCO status.
4. A long-distance walking path has been created which stretches for more than 60 kilometres through the Geopark. Walkers along this 'Hondsrug path' encounter many sites of geological and archaeological interest.
5. Together with a number of tourist organisations we have promoted the Hondsrug region at the annual national Vacation Fair and during the "Vakantie Salon" fair in Antwerp.
6. We have devoted a great deal of time and effort for promotional activities due to the UNESCO status for Geopark de Hondsrug. This included producing 5,000 biscuits stamped with the message "Geopark de Hondsrug, UNESCO Global Geopark" which were distributed throughout the region. Press articles were sent out and interviews given to newspapers, radio and regional television.
7. The acquisition of UNESCO status was celebrated with local businesses and local authorities at the partners' meeting.
8. The project Kunstkeien (Artistic Boulders) has been inaugurated. 25 artificial boulders have been sculpted by artists and these will be exhibited this Summer at various locations in the Hondsrug region.
9. A book has been produced about the flora and fauna in the Hondsrug region. This can be downloaded free of charge from our website.
10. At the beginning of 2016 a lecture series by the Hondsrug Academy was organised in Noordlaren, a village in the newest area of the Geopark.
11. On 4 November 2015 a group of 40 scientists from research institutes and universities in Poland, Russia, Lithuania and the Netherlands visited Geopark de Hondsrug.
12. Geopark de Hondsrug, the Dutch gas-drilling company NAM and IVN Drenthe (the local branch of a Dutch nature and environment group) have begun co-operating on the development of an educational product for primary schools.

13. On 17 September Drenthe Provincial Deputy Stelpstra and Tynaarlo Councillor Hofstra officially opened a new walking route around the village of Vries. Called *Vries Down to the Ground*, the route links places where the history of the landscape is still visible. The route description is available in Dutch and English.
14. Guides belonging to Geopark de Hondsrug and to our partners Drentsche Aa National Park, Drents Landscape Foundation and the State Forestry Commission have offered guided walks to the public throughout the year

Networking

15. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 10, March 2015.
16. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Rokua, September 2015.
17. We are constantly trying to recruit new partners. At this moment we can boast 160 partners, the majority of whom are entrepreneurs who embrace the ideas of the Geopark.

Activity by Partners

18. A start has been made with a network of Hondsrug 'Hiking cafe's'. Several hotels and restaurants are already participating in this initiative.
19. A cross-country race called the "Geopark de Hondsrug crossloop" is organised by sports clubs in the region. Each race attracts around 150 participants.
20. Several museums and entrepreneurs in the region have developed new Geopark safari's.

IDRIJA GEOPARK, SLOVENIA

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news in the newspapers (Primorske novice, Obzorja) on the website (www.geopark-idrija.si, www.visit-idrija.si, ...) and Facebook, September 2015 - March 2016.
2. Setting up 3 new interpretive and info board (also in English) about the Geopark sites in Idrija town, October 2015.
3. Publishing a new Geopark Idrija's trail guide Along the Rake trail – Following the trail of Idrija's natural scientists, November 2015.
4. Participation in tourism fairs with Turist information center Idrija (International lace festival, Lepoglava, Croatia – September 2015; Natour Alpe-Adria, Ljubljana – January 2016; Vakantie Salon Brussels – February 2016, ApiSlovenia, 39th Beekeeping Days in Celje – March 2016).
5. Hiking along Zavratac and visiting farm Vrh during European Heritage days, September 2015.
6. The leaflet with pedagogical programmes for the school year 2015/2016, distributed to all elementary schools in Slovenia, September 2015
7. The 1st meeting of National forum on Global Geoparks in Slovenia, January 2016.
8. The 1st correspondence meeting of National forum on Global Geoparks in Slovenia and new forum name: Slovenian National Forum – UNESCO Global Geoparks, March 2016.
9. Presentation of Slovenian geoparks and Slovenian National Forum – UNESCO Global Geoparks at the Ministry of economic development and technology, February 2016

Networking

10. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and 13th European Geoparks Conference in Ruoka Geopark, Finland, September 2015.
11. An oral presentation of the Geopark (title: UNESCO HERITAGE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN GEOPARK IDRIJA) at the 13th European Geoparks Conference in Ruoka Geopark (Finland), September 2015.

12. Visit in Bakony-Balaton Geopark (Hungary) and geopark partner meeting for submitting Danube GeoTour project, October 2015.
13. Visit from Papuk Geopark (Croatia) in Idrija, October 2015.
14. Contribution for 13th EGN magazine and 4th and 5th EGN Newsletters
15. Contribution to The book on the Fossils in the European Geoparks
16. Submitting Danube GeoTour project with partner geoparks Bakony-Balaton Geopark, Natur- und Geopark Steirische Eisenwurzten, Papuk Geopark, Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark and associated partners Rokua Geopark, Naturtejo Geopark, GGN/EGN Network, November 2015.
17. Erasmus+ project "Enhancement of School TEAching Methods by linking between schools, experts and geoparks in the combination with outdoor activities and ICT technologies" application with Magma geopark, Norway and Naturtejo Geopark, Portugal, March 2016.

Activity by Partners

18. Organising inter-school themed day of all School Network members within Geopark Idrija, September 2015.
19. The 5th meeting of the Geopark Idrija Expert Council, November 2015.
20. Geopark partners meeting, March 2016.

KATLA GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Following action plan relevant to Recommendations for revalidation 2017.
2. Numerous articles on Katla UNESCO Global Geopark in national newspapers.
3. Ongoing work on Communication plan, criteria and guidelines for the use of EGN and our Geopark logo and Contracts for partners. September – January.
4. Talks at the assembly of Municipality board of Skaftárhreppur and Rangárþing eystra about Katla Geopark and UNESCO. Talks on the benefit of the Geopark for local enterprises and contracts for use of logo, meetings with enterprise-clusters. Talks and meetings on education in Katla Geopark Oct-Feb.
5. Correspondence for scientific collaboration between the Icelandic Met Office, Geological survey of University of Iceland, bird survey of south Iceland, Fisheries and other highly relevant institutes for geo-education. Sept-Feb.
6. Collaboration of Uni, of Iceland, Skaft. Municipality, NOHINK-design Holland, Katla Geopark and V. Nat Park input for Management plan. Nov2015/Feb 2016.
7. Private meeting with Prime Minister of Iceland and Representatives of Katla Geopark. Introduction to UNESCO Global Geoparks, the extent of Public lands (þjóðlendur) within the Geopark and the need of funding for the employment required by UNESCO for the running of the Geopark. Reykjavík December 2015.
8. Establishment of cooperation for app-based educational trails within Katla Geopark with “Wapp” (walk-app). December 2015.
9. Geo Education. Initiation of GeoSchool project with grant from ministry of Education and meetings with headmasters and lead teachers of the three schools. Cooperation with UNESCO school project in Reykjavík. Submission of grant for making of GeoEducational material. September- February, ongoing.

Networking

10. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference hosted in Rokua Geopark – Finland 3-6 September 2015.
11. Participating in the 8th International ProGeo Symposium, Reykjavík – Iceland, and co-hosting the 8th two day trip around the south, Katla Geopark 8-12 Sept.
12. Collaboration and interactive public meetings for protection and awareness of intangible heritage in Katla Geopark. UNESCO, September-January 2015-2016.
13. Meetings with Ministry of Environment, Cultural Heritage Agency, Planning agency for better cooperation and signage.

14. Work with Prime Minister's Office and Municipalities in Iceland about the making of ownership plan for Common lands (i.Þjóðlendur) and future cooperation.
15. Correspondence with President's office for Publication of UNESCO press release on the visit of Iceland and France presidents to Katla Geopark Geosite Sólheimajökull global warming evidence.
16. Attending of the Prime Minister visit and Public meeting for assessment of damage and cause following largest glacial outburst in river Skaftá. October 2015
17. Planning of Exhibition hall on new GeoExhibition, GeoSaga, Kötlusetur, Vík and Lava centre Hvolsvöllur. Visibility and GeoEducation on Katla Geopark.
18. Ongoing work, laying out roles and future plans with Marketing office of South Iceland. Official Marketing body of Katla Geopark. November – February.
19. Grant application and receiving from NORA, in collaboration with Magma Geopark of Norway, for enhancement of virtual educational interpretation of geological heritage for visitor centre. October 2015.
20. Erasmus+ GeoEducation, Hosting of Teachers and Trainers seminar Katla Geopark 7-11 October 2015. Majors from Katla Geopark Visiting Arouca Geopark, Portugal. Nov. 2015. Participating in the NPP - Drifting Apart project, second meeting of seven countries, Reykjanes Geopark. December 2015.
21. Reinforcement of collaboration and visibility between Katla Geopark and Vatnajökull National Park. October-February.
22. **GeoSecurity.** Collaboration with Police of South Iceland for security measures and cooperation with Finish partners, NPA grant application. Ongoing. Police patrol in Reynisfjara due to high tide and frequent mishaps of tourists, one fatality. Ongoing work for better security measures due to tourists not taking heed of warning signs.
23. Collaboration with new Tourist Management Agent of Iceland.
24. Grants: Nora (Des) granted for making 3D filming, grant for GeoSchools and Protection. Application of grant for better signage of and in Katla and producing educational material, awaiting.

Activity by Partners

25. UNESCO Heritage site preparation on our doorstep, Friðland að Fjallabaki.
26. Publication of an illustrated colouring book on Folk Stories from around Vík.
27. Saga Geopark project. Admission of application to UNESCO Global Geoparks, December
28. Inauguration of publication of book "Brunasandur", December.
29. Heritage agency reconstructing Steinahellir & Rútshellir, with communal signage.

LANZAROTE AND CHINIJO ISLANDS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. "Geopark" brand promotion at the T1 Terminal, national and international arrivals, Lanzarote Airport with a large poster, September 2015-January 2016.
2. Collaboration at the 27th Mancha Blanca Insular Craft Fair, September 2015.
3. Concerts at the Art, Culture and Tourism Centres (CACT): Castle of San José, International Museum of Contemporary Art, September 2015; Cueva de los Verdes Auditorium, September-December 2015; Jameos del Agua Auditorium, September 2015-February 2016.
4. Meetings with Máguez's Nature Classroom, for the planning and implementation of various educational geology activities, with students from various primary and secondary schools of Lanzarote, November 2015.
5. Meetings with the Pancho Lasso Art School, in order to reach a collaboration agreement to make a book including pictures of the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, October 2015.
6. Meetings with the Department of Education of the Cabildo of Lanzarote, for geology activities with schools from Lanzarote and La Graciosa, October 2015.
7. Meetings with Rural Schools of Lanzarote, to start joint activities related to the Geopark, October 2015.
8. "Living on the edge Conference. Eleonora's Falcon Ecology in the Canary Islands" taught by the person responsible for research, Laura Gangoso from the Biological Station of Doñana, CSIC, with students from different Secondary Education Centres of Lanzarote, October 2015.
9. Open a Twitter account for the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, October 2015.
10. You Tube Channel of Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark is created, October 2015.
11. "Know my Island", by students from the Costa Teguisse Secondary School. Showing the attendees the most important aspects of the geology of Lanzarote and the Chinijo Islands, November 2015.
12. "Scientific Breakfast" with students from Yaiza Secondary School and Tinajo Secondary School. Conference given by Inés Galindo introducing the historical eruptions in Lanzarote, then an experiment was conducted, followed by an open discussion on whether volcanoes are our Friends or Enemies, in collaboration

with Máguez's Nature Classroom, November 2015.

13. Field trip to Casa de los Volcanes at the Art, Culture and Tourism Centres (CACT) Jameos del Agua and Cueva de los Verdes (CACT), November 2015.
14. "Know a Jameo", by students from the CEIP San Juan, Haría. Visit to the exhibition prepared by these students and students from the Zonzamas Secondary School, Higher Level Training Cycle Education and Environmental Control: model of a volcano with a Jameo, and a jameo on a large scale model that could pass through it. In collaboration with Máguez's Nature Classroom, November 2015.
15. Cinema Session, documentary film "Las Manos", history of the Art, Culture and Tourism Centres (CACT) through the direct testimony of workers, artisans and masters of the stone, wood, iron and gardening, November 2015.
16. Cinema Session, documentary film Eyjafjallajökull 2010 eruption, with students of the Zonzamas Secondary School, followed by an open discussion on the pros and cons after an eruption, November 2015.
17. Conference: Lecture series by Joan Martí, Thomas Casadevall, Antonio Brum and Llorenç Planagumà, November 2015.
18. Visit to the Mancha Blanca Visitor and Interpretation Centre with students of the Puerto del Carmen Secondary School followed by an open discussion. Visit the Timanfaya National Park. In collaboration with Máguez's Nature Classroom, November 2015.
19. Tutoring practise work with students from Zonzamas Secondary School, Higher Level Training Cycle Education and Environmental Control, November 2015.
20. Beginning of "Fridays with Geosites" on Facebook, November 2015
21. Bringing a box of rocks to different primary and secondary schools in Lanzarote, November 2015.
22. Biosphere Reserve triptych with information about The Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, November 2015.
23. Training course to join the whale watching and sea bird network in the Canary Islands in cooperation with the Biosphere Reserve of Lanzarote and the Zonzamas Secondary School, December 2015.
24. Hire a private company to create the new website of The Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, December 2015.
25. Hire a private company to make a promotional video of the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, December 2015.

26. Design, develop and purchase merchandising of the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark (brochures, bookmarks, postcards, stickers, pens), December 2015.
27. Geoconservation of the “Cueva de los 7 Lagos” cave, February 2016.

Networking

28. Attendance of the Geopark team to the 13th European Conference of Geoparks, in Rokua Geopark (Finland), September 2015.
29. Visit of the representative of the geopark applicant “Conca de Tremp-Montsec”, October 2015.
30. Attendance of the Geopark team to the meeting of the Spanish Committee for Geoparks and Conferences Open, in Seville (Spain), November 2015.
31. Photo delivery and documentation for an interactive exhibition on volcanism in our visitor centre called "Lavender House" in Tihany Peninsula, presentation in this visitor centre on 12th March when we will show volcanic landscape photos of volcanic UNESCO Global Geoparks and an e-book, called "Volcanic Geoparks", February 2016
32. Collaboration in the Spanish translation of the Terras de Cavaleiros UNESCO Global Geopark web content, February 2016.

Activities by Partners

33. Agreement with Geological Survey, IGME to investigate and promote the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark Geological Heritage.
34. Agreement with the Institute of Geosciences, IGEO (mixed Centre CSIC-UCM) to investigate certain areas and geological processes in Lanzarote, in connection with Mars, accompanied by the parallel development of educational and cultural initiatives.

LESVOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Co-organization with the UNESCO National Commission and the Hellenic Geopark Forum the Event for the presentation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme in Athens 9 March 2016.
2. Exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” - Presenting the unique findings of the excavations and conservation works of the fossil sites discovered along the new road Kalloni – Sigri at the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest – Organizing of special educational activities for school groups (Closing: 30 November 2015)
3. Organization of the exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” at Eugenides Foundation – Organizing of special educational activities and digital presentations (25 January 2015 – 29 May 2016)
4. Operation of the marine Nissiopei Petrified Forest Park, the new park of the Petrified Forest (September – November 2015). Establishment of the new geotouristic activity: Daily guided boat tours with a glass bottomed boat at the Marine Nissiopei Petrified Forest Park (September – November 2015)
5. Printing of the leaflet “Nissiopei Petrified Forest Park” in Greek and English (September 2015)
6. Printing of the field-guide book “Nissiopei Petrified Forest Park” in Greek and English (December 2015)
7. "Stage" program for university student from Turkey at Lesvos Geopark (September – November 2015)
8. “LESVOS GEOPARK - Actions of labelling, digital promotion and projection” – Implementation of a Geopark promotion and interpretation project (September – December 2015)
9. Creation of the new Lesvos Geopark website (September – December 2015)
10. Publication of the new geotouristic map of Lesvos Geopark in Greek and English (September 2015)
11. Printing of the leaflet «Lesvos Geopark» in Greek, English, Germany, Turkish and Dutch (December 2015)
12. Guided geo-tours and educational programs for Lesvos schools (September 2015 – March 2016)
13. Realization of special educational programs for university students in Lesvos Geopark (September – December 2015)
14. Numerous interviews, articles and TV specific program on the Geopark activities in the national, regional and local media – also in TV shows (September 2015 – March 2016)
15. Organization of the exhibition “The animals of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos” in the Information Centre of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest – Organizing of special educational activities for school groups (September 2015 – March 2016)

16. Celebration of European Heritage Days (25 – 27 September 2015)
17. Organisation of the musical festival "Musical competition SIGRI 2015" (26 September 2015)
18. Publication of the new geotouristic map of Lesvos Geopark in Greek and English (September 2015)
19. Printing of the leaflet "Nissiopi Petrified Forest Park" in Greek and English (September 2015)
20. Celebration of "The Earth Festival 2015" – Organization of special events in Lesvos Geopark (September 2015)
21. Celebration of the 16th Agrotourism Festival 2015 – Organization of tasting days of local products of the Lesvos Geopark (September 2015)
22. Celebration of International Day of Disaster Reduction (13 October 2015)
23. Advertising of the Lesvos Geopark at the annual book 2016-2017 about the alternative tourism «GREECE THE IDEAL DESTINATION FOR ALTERNATIVE TOURISM» and at the websites www.alternativegreece.gr και www.alternativegreece.com (October 2015)
24. Advertising of the Hellenic Geopark Forum at the annual book 2016-2017 about the alternative tourism «GREECE THE IDEAL DESTINATION FOR ALTERNATIVE TOURISM» and at the websites www.alternativegreece.gr και www.alternativegreece.com (October 2015)
25. Participation at a conference on Educational programmes organized by the Ellinogermaniki Agogi in Athens - Greece (7 November 2015)
26. Presentation of the exhibition "AEGEON · Birth of an Archipelago" at National Hellenic Museum in Chicago (23 November 2015 – 31 August 2016)
27. Printing of the booklets and leaflets "Nissiopi Petrified Forest Park" in Greek and English (December 2015)
28. Printing of the leaflet for newspapers "Nissiopi Petrified Forest Park – Educational activities" in Greek and English (December 2015)

Networking

29. Participation in the meetings and videoconference of the Hellenic Geopark Forum (September 2015 – March 2016)
30. Operation of the Secretariat of the Hellenic Geopark Forum (September 2015 – March 2016)
31. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in ROKUA - Finland (1 – 2 September 2015)
32. Participation at the 13th European Geoparks Conference in ROKUA - Finland (3 – 6 September 2015)
33. Participation in the International Symposium of Asia Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium (16 – 20 September 2015)
34. Participation at the 7th German-Brazilian Symposium for Sustainable Development at Heidelberg - Germany (5 - 8 October 2015)

35. Advertising of the European Geoparks Network at the annual book 2016-2017 about the alternative tourism «GREECE THE IDEAL DESTINATION FOR ALTERNATIVE TOURISM» and at the websites www.alternativegreece.gr και www.alternativegreece.com (October 2015)
36. Participation at the UNESCO General Conference Science Commission in Paris - France (9 – 10 November 2015)
37. Participation at the International Course on Geoparks Management “Efficient Geopark Building and Operation” in Beijing - China (13 – 19 January 2016)
38. Updating of the European Geoparks Network website (September 2015 – March 2016)
39. Preparation for the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in Basque Coast Geopark – Spain (16 - 19 March 2016)

Activity by Partners

40. Collaboration with Women Cooperatives for the promotion of the Geopark products in association with Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest (September 2015 – March 2016)
41. Collaboration with the Evergetoulas Environmental Centre and organizing educational programmes for school classes at Lesvos Geopark (September 2015 – March 2016)
42. Establishment of the new educational programme at marine Nissiopi Petrified Forest Park (16 Νοεμβρίου 2015)
43. Meeting with of the Lesvos Museum Network in Mytilene – Greece (17 November 2015)
44. Meeting with the tourism professionals of Lesvos Geopark about Lesvos Geopark promotion (2 December 2015)

LUBERON GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Launch of Educational activities 2016-2017. Four topics developed : Adaption to climatic changes, saving natural resources, local production, improving the quality of life
2. Day of fruits and flavours of the past. Sale of plants and ancient fruit, tastings, conferences and exhibitions.
3. Saturday in the Park : "Christmas in Provence". Funny workshops around Christmas gourmet traditions.
4. Scientific excavation on the mammal footprints slab of Viens : more than 30 artiodactyl footprint found
5. Luberon Park festival : shows, workshops, guided tours, educational activities, building an arch as romans... in the city of Pertuis.(3,000 participants).
6. New brochure about the Luberon National Geological Nature Reserve
7. New issue of the scientific journal of the Luberon Régional Nature Park
8. Olive tree cutting training in the Biodiversity House in Manosque
9. Meeting of professionals involved in the sustainable tourism approach
10. Operation with schools : Let's plant trees for the International Conference on Climate Change (COP21)

Networking

11. Participation at the EGN meeting and conference in Rokua Geopark
12. 2 presentations at the European Geoparks Conference (oral communication and a poster)
13. EGN magazine "Rebuilding a Neolithic funeral monument: the dolmen of Ubac in the municipality of Goult"

Activity by Partners

14. Approval by the state of a new Territorial Pole of Economic cooperation gathering several partners of the Geopark and coordinated by the Cooperative society Okhra on the topic materials and colours of Luberon
15. Opening of an ovens space in the village of Dauphin. This area propose to experience ovens to make lime, plaster, iron, bread, etc.

MADONIE GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Professional training day for all geologists in Sicily held in Cefalù on September 29th, dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the geological and environmental value areas of Sicily. The day was attended by more than 200 geologists who also followed the oral presentation titled “*The Madonie Global Geopark next to be integrated into the UNESCO International Geoscience Programme (IGCP): a territory of real environmental value in the context of the Geo-Med Charter of Sicily Island.*”
2. Signed on September 29th a memorandum of understanding between Sicily Regional Order of Geologists and Madonie Geopark, to impart knowledge and mitigation of geological risks to support a specific information campaign, education and awareness in municipalities and schools.
3. Signed, on November 12th at the Minà Palumbo Museum in Castelbuono, a memorandum of understanding with Federparchi to start the project for protection and reintroduction of the Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) in the Madonie Geopark.
4. In November, four new hotels and restaurants obtained the Madonie Geopark Quality Certification which now counts over 50 companies.
5. Launched in December the three-year hybrid pig-wild boar control plan, to contain damages caused by wildlife to rural and regional development.
6. Completed in December the new ski resort at Piano Battaglia geosite, expected after ten years. It will revitalize touristic activities and winter sports activities in the Madonie and Sicily.
7. On January 4th, the Regional Minister for Territory and Environment visited the Madonie Geopark headquarters in Petralia Sottana. He presented new point of views for development and revitalization of the protected area in accordance with the “vision” of the Sicilian Region which monitors and controls 5 regional parks, occupying an area of 185,824 hectares (7,2% of the regional territory) and 72 natural reserves with a total area of 85,181 hectares (3,3% of the regional territory).
8. Because of the completed conservative restoration of the stucco, frescoes and wooden parts of the Palazzo Pucci Martinez, old residence and Madonie Geopark headquarters, Madonie Park Authority opened all the restored halls to the public fruition.
9. Conference, held on January 31st at Villa Sgadari in Petralia Soprana, dedicated to the Mediterranean Diet with a presentation of the book “Spontaneous Vegetables of Sicily”.

10. Public presentation, at the Conference held at Villa Sgadari on January 31st, of the Biennale establishment of the historic Sicilian cart and connected exhibition that will remain open six months.
11. Started at Villa Sgadari, in collaboration with Coop Petraviva Madonie, the cultural route named “At a cart’s pace” aimed at opening a store to rediscover ancient traditions and handicraft connected with traditional food.
12. Presented on February 2nd the results of two projects: “Madonie in network” and “Madonie 2.0”. Both projects, realized under POR-FESR 2007-2013 and with the contribution of public and private institutions and the spin-off of the Camerino University. “Social Media Travelling” and the most innovative technologies were used to enhance environmental, cultural and artistic local heritage.
13. The www.cefalumadoniehimera.it website, in Italian, English, French and German, summed up the project “Madonie 2.0” and contains 45 trails accessible through the App “Cefalù Madonie Hимера” that can be downloaded for free from the App Store, Google Play and Windows Store.
14. The inappropriate staff changes and the negative impact on the functioning and viability of the Geopark, involving 5 key workers being moved from Madonie Geopark to Palermo town at the Regional Department for Territory and Environment, continues and on January 13th the court of justice confirmed that changes. Now, Madonie Geopark, is waiting the last ruling of the court to win the case on appeal.

Networking

15. Participation of one representative of the Madonie Geopark authorized by the Regional Ministry for Territory and Environment, in the 36th EGN CC Meeting (2 September) and in the 13th European Geoparks Conference (3-6 September), held at the Rokua European and Global Geopark in Finland.
16. Drawn up the article “*Madonie Astronomical Park in its advanced stage of completion. A key site for astronomy with links to Earth science*” for EGN Magazine Issue 13.

Activity by Partners

17. Presented on October 19th in Petralia Sottana, the Haliotis’ Association proposal titled “*Madonie, a network of geological villages*”. Siciliaparchi.it documented the initiative available in [youtube.com/watch?v=TC7cpA302to](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TC7cpA302to).
18. “ANAS Collesano” and “Madonie Outdoor” Associations, recognized by Madonie Geopark, guided from September to March many field trips. These Associations have distinguished themselves for their ecological and cultural activities.
19. Legambiente Conference about Green Job and sustainable tourism, held on February 24th in Petralia Sottana.

MAESTRAZGO CULTURAL PARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organization of II MAESTRAIL del GEOPARQUE, in Castellote, with 300 runners in our geological paths. (October)
2. Celebration of VII “Fiesta del Chopo Cabecero” in Aliaga Geologic Park, with 500 participants in the different activities around a typical tree species of our rivers (October)
3. Conferences dealing with Geoparks in Sevilla Norte Geopark (2st Spanish Geoparks Committee Workshop, November),
4. Workshop with young entrepreneurs in Ejulve (November).
5. Interviews concerning the Maestrazgo Geopark’s activities in the following stations: SER, COPE, Onda Cero, Aragón TV, Aragón Radio.
6. Edition of a Promotional Calendar from Maestrazgo Geopark (December)
7. News dealing with Geopark’s activities in Diario de Teruel, El Periódico de Aragón and Heraldo de Aragón, the most important newspapers in our region.
8. Drawings exhibition “¿Qué es para ti un Geoparque? In Estercuel (December).
9. Exposition about “Maestrazgo’s Geopark” in Rural Innovation Center in Alcorisa (January).

Networking

10. Participation in GGN Newsletter, 2015, issue 1.
11. Participation in the EGN AC meeting in Oulu (Rokua Geopark, Finland). September.
12. Participation in the 36th EGN CC meeting in Oulu (Rokua Geopark, Finland).. September.
13. Coordination of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee.
14. Participation in the Ordinary Meeting of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee in Cazalla, Geoparque Sierra Norte de Sevilla, November 2015.
15. Participation in the 1st Workshop of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee in Cazalla, Geoparque Sierra Norte de Sevilla, November 2015.

Activity by Partners

16. Agreement to organize the VIII Clcloturista "Geoparque del Maestrazgo". February.
17. Agreement of collaboration ADEMA/CAIRE-Geoparque Maestrazgo. February.
18. Celebration of the Feasts of Winter (dealing with the cultural use of fire) in the Maestrazgo Cultural Park. January.
19. Presentation of the book "Fiestas de Invierno" in Gargallo (Maestrazgo Geopark). January.

MAGMA GEOPARK, NORWAY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news on the EGN Conference in Rokua Geopark in the media, September 2015.
2. Developed the GEOfood video with partners.
3. Presentation of the GEOfood project and the geoVR project at the EGN Conference in Rokua 2015.
4. Definition of the GEOfood brand and logo.
5. Starting with monthly newsletters, one with projects and one with general news both in English and Norwegian
6. New office, Magma Geopark moved in a new location with space for the new Magma Geopark exhibition.
7. Launch of the Magma Geopark new web page.
8. Developing info leaflet on Gursli mine tourist project.
9. Study visit with group of high school geologist student from Australia in Magma Geopark.
10. Developing new leaflet for GEOfood restaurant.
11. Planning the GEOfood web page.
12. Scanning locations for the geoVR: the virtual exhibition.
13. Magma Geopark build a new wooden platform for outdoor performance in Jøssingfjord.
14. UNI Bank Foundation for securing two of MGP's visit mines that will be open to the public in 2016 with new information.
15. SR- bank foundation supports our geopark location Ørdsalen
16. Norwegian Oil Directorate, Jærmuseet and NGU-Norwegian Geological Survey supports geoVR advertising in the EGN Magazine.
17. Study visit from Check Republic, EEA Grant Funded. Exchange of good practice in the tourism field.
18. Development of new info leaflet about Magma Geopark inside the magazine GEO distributed to all the Norwegian geologist.

Networking

19. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, 2015.
20. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Paris, March 2016.
21. Supporting the Faroe Geopark project, study visit from Magma Geopark Staff.
22. Supporting and leading the Norwegian Network on Geoparks.
23. Cooperation agreement with the Geological Survey of Norway.
24. Membership agreement in the Norwegian Centre of expertise in tourism: Fjord Norway.
25. Partnership in the European Project Drifting Apart, networking within the member of the consortium.
26. Leader of the NORA project: geoVR with Ilulissat UNESCO WHL site in Greenland, Geopark project in Faroe Island, Katla Geopark in Iceland.
27. Running workshop for Idrija World Heritage site, Slovenia in Idrija smelting plant EEA grant project.

Activity by Partners

28. Jæren Museum supported Magma Geopark in developing contents for the geoVR exhibition. It will host the testing of the exhibition to the public.
29. Egersund Municipality involves Magma Geopark in the bike- sharing project that give possibility to rent bikes from the Egersund train station.

MARBLE ARCH CAVES GLOBAL GEOPARK, IRELAND / UK

Progress Report, September 2015 to March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The Geopark officially celebrated the UNESCO Global Geopark designation with an event at the Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre in November. This was attended by senior official from both Fermanagh & Omagh District Council and Cavan County Council and received a huge amount of media attention.
2. The Geopark has been in attendance at a number of tourism events both locally and nationally including those organised by Tourism Ireland, Failte Ireland and Tourism NI. These have included familiarisation visits, meet the buyer events, networking opportunities and workshops.
3. A number of new recreational trails have been developed in the past number of years through funding from a number of sources including INTERREG IVA. These have greatly enhanced the Geopark's appeal to both walkers and cyclists with sites such as Cavan Burren Park (walking), Cuilcagh Mountain (walking) and Castle Archdale (cycling) now receiving a much greater number of visitors.
4. Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark has recently completed both the geological storyline and the interpretation guidelines for the Drifting Apart project (see below). These will feed in to a new suite of interpretation material, as well as tourism and education toolkits for the Geopark.
5. Cavan Burren Park received a Top Choice review from the Lonely Planet and a great review from the Irish Times and continues to attract a lot of interest due to its archaeological significant form local and national media.
6. The first phase of the Heritage Lottery Funded Lough Erne Landscape Project is underway with a number of elements being delivered by the Geopark. This is being led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).
7. Marble Arch Caves has been voted as one of the top 16 things to do in Northern Ireland and the Geopark has been named as one of the best road trips around Ireland by the Telegraph.
8. The Geopark continues to maintain a strong presence on social media with an increasing number of likes on Facebook and followers on Twitter.
9. The Geopark has delivered another comprehensive events programme with successful annual events such as Walking Festivals, Cuilcagh Mountain Jeep Safaris, Guided Walks and Rock Detective workshops taking place as well as new additions.
10. A variety of educational programmes have been delivered with over 12,000 school pupils visiting the Geopark in the summer season, including Science Week workshops and site specific visits.

Networking

11. Attendance at the EGN CC meeting and conference in Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark, Finland. A presentation was also given on the development of infrastructure in difficult terrains.
12. Hosting of the UK UNESCO Global Geoparks Committee with representation from all five of the seven UNESCO Global Geoparks in the UK, as well as from the UK National Commission to UNESCO, the Geological Society of London, and the statutory environment agencies of England, Scotland and Wales.
13. Participation in the UK UNESCO Global Geoparks Committee remote meetings to assess new applications for Global Geopark status.
14. Participation in the Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks Committee meetings and attendance at the annual Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks seminar held in Burren & Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark.
15. Attendance at the second project meeting of the INTERREG VB NPP Drifting Apart Project with other Global Geopark and Aspiring Geopark partners from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Norway, Iceland, Canada and Russia.
16. Hosting of a delegation from the Saimaa district of southern Finland making a visit to investigate the potential for developing a Geopark in their area.

Activity by Partners

17. The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland at the recent North Atlantic Geoscience (NAG) meeting in Stockholm, Sweden presented the activities of the Geopark together with all of the other UNESCO Global Geoparks in the NAG area.
18. The activities of the Geopark and the rest of the Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks were promoted by the Geological Survey of Ireland at the Geoscience 2015 conference in Dublin.
19. The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland has produced a number of promotional videos including two that are dedicated to the Geopark including one of tourism and one on groundwater.

MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2015 - March 2016

GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

1. Awareness day for professionals on balance between forestry, pastoralism, hunting, and the quality of the rural landscape, 5th September 2015.
2. Geopark selected for a cultural program (Ministry for Culture) on Bauges gastronomy intangible heritage, 7th September 2015.
3. Organisation of the national days on pastoralism, 16-18th September 2015.
4. Public lecture "Rediscover the Massif des Bauges through Geopark", St Jean d'Arvey, 18th September 2015.
5. European Heritage Days in the Geopark's interpretative centres, 19-20th September 2015.
6. Launch of the "Albanais Savoyard" landscape study, land-use planning and landscape, 21st September 2015.
7. Public day to discover forest and forestry (Schools and all audiences), Aillon le Jeune, 25-26th September 2015.
8. Geopark stand at the Pastoral farming event, Marthod, 27th September 2015.
9. Public lecture on cave exploration, La Motte en Bauges, 3rd October 2015.
10. Showing of the "Desert Mounts" film, local landslide story, Le Châtelard, 6th October 2015.
11. Public conference on the "underground world", Rumilly gate town, 9th October 2015.
12. Creusates peatbog public event, 10th October 2015.
13. Organisation of the French Regional Nature Parks' federation seminar on energy, 12-14th October 2015
14. Geopark stand at the "Grand Bivouac" festival (international travelling festival), Albertville, 15-18th October 2015.
15. Approbation of the agriculture and forestry 2015-2020 regional program, 16th October 2015.
16. Organisation of the French Alps education managers meeting, Educ'Alps network, 4-6th November 2015.
17. "Plant the landscape", local plants selling and information, 7th November 2015.
18. Forum on hiking activities for local professionals and elected representatives, 7th November 2015.
19. "Improbable Bauges", public event with living performances and heritages, 8th November 2015.
20. France3 TV program on UNESCO Global Geoparks recognition, 26th November 2015.
21. Launch of the Geopark's interpretative centres positioning study, 27th November 2015.
22. Christmas market, Bauges local products promotion, Chambéry, 18-20th December 2015
23. Protection facilities for the Black Grouse in the ski-resorts and ski touring sites, January-February 2016.
24. Training for tourism stakeholders and heritage local guides on Lake Annecy's geoheritage, Lac d'Annecy interpretative centre, Sevrier, 2nd February 2016.
25. Organisation of a dialogue meeting on Fitoja Cave preservation following the discovery of a new entrance (spelunkers, elected representatives), 10th February 2016.
26. Eagles and falcons participative monitoring, 21st February 2016.
27. Film edition "Beekeepers and livestock farmers", 24th February 2016.
28. Geopark's stand at the International Agriculture Show, local products promotion and agro-ecology, Paris, 27th February - 6th March 2016.

29. Organisation of the Alparc seminar on outdoors activities and natural heritage preservation, Lescheraines, 3-4th March 2016.
30. Vernacular heritage restoration, 6 projects (pond, bread oven, church tower, oratory...).
31. Geopark's stand at the regional hiking show, Lyon, 18-20th March 2016.
32. Geopark's stand at the Savoy Agriculture Show (Tarine et Abondance Event, local cow breeds), local products and agro-ecology promotion, Chambéry, 18-20th March 2016.

NETWORKING

33. Participation to the 36th EGN CC meeting and 13th EGN conference, Rokua Geopark, Finland, 3-6th September 2015.
34. Participation to the French Regional Nature Parks' federation seminar on culture and education, Millevaches RNP, 7-9th September 2015.
35. Participation to the Geological Heritage Inventories European Congress, Toulouse Museum, France. Communication to the IUCN Workshop on Geoconservation: « Geopark and/or World heritage, which designation for what purpose? », 23-26th September 2015.
36. Communication at the CIPRA (Alps international agreement) conference, outdoors activities development and natural heritage preservation, Liechtenstein, 25-26th September 2016.
37. Contribution in 13th EGN magazine "A free caving trail, an underground and pedagogical adventure", 29th September 2015.
38. Welcoming of a Polish delegation on pastoralism issues, 30th September 2016.
39. Assessment field-trip for a Geopark application in Armenia, cooperation under the auspices of the Rhône-Alpes Region, 8-12th October 2016.
40. Communications at the French Regional Nature Parks' federation seminar on tourism, outdoors activities development and heritage preservation, Avesnois RNP, 3-5th November 2015.
41. Participation to the French Regional Nature Parks' federation seminar on territorial brand, Avesnois RNP, 5-8th November 2015.
42. Participation to the UNESCO General Conference, Paris, 9-10th November 2015.

ACTIVITIES BY PARTNERS

43. Participation to the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes geological tourism forum, Vulcania , Puy-de-Dôme, 16th October 2015.
44. Participation to the work of the outdoor activities Savoy county commission, November 2015.
45. Participation to the work of Aix-les-Bains on territorial tourism marketing, geopark's gate town, 20th November 2015.
46. Communications at the COP21, French Regional Nature Parks' federation, Paris, 7-11th December 2015.
47. Participation to the "Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps" steering committee, UNESCO World Heritage Site, Nances – Lake Aiguebelette- Savoy, 20th January 2016.
48. Communication at the "Karst's forum", Causses du Quercy Geopark applicant, 9-11th March.

MOLINA ALTO TAJO GEOPARK
PROGRESS REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2015 – MARCH 2016

Contribution towards the EGN work.

- Contribution to Mining working Group Book.
- Participation in “II Open Meeting of Spanish Geoparks Comité” on Sierra Norte Geopark.
- Participation of representatives in the EGN meetings in Rokua (Finland) and Basque Coast (Spain).

Geoconservation

- Approbation in Regional Government Courts for the Declaration the Fuentelsaz GSSP of Aalenian – Toarcian, as National Monument protected area.

Educación

- Museum of Molina Program for school visits.
- Adoption of the Geopark of Molina and the Alto Tajo to host the XXXII Conference of Paleontology 2016 by Spanish Society of Paleontology.
- Inter-Red Project with the University of Granada and the Spanish Geological Survey.

Activities to Geopark Promotion

- Presence in the Regional Museum of Paleontology of Castilla-La Mancha.
- Appointment Molina Alto Tajo Geopark as UNESCO Global Geopark.
- Dissemination of Appointment the Molina Alto Tajo Geopark as UNESCO Global Geopark.
- Edition of the "Molina and Alto Tajo Geopark Touristic Guide".
- Presentation at FITUR of the "Molina Alto Tajo Geopark Touristic Guide".
- Program of Museum of Molina itinerant exhibitions
- LIFE GEOisNATURA Project.
- Geopark promotional space in the provincial center of tourist interpretation in Torija Castle.
- Inauguration of the Paleontological Museum of Maranchón.
- Inauguration of Celtiberic Culture Museum in Aranda del Moncayo.
- Participation in the 3rd ecotourism seminar in Spain.
- Presence in media as websites, facebook and twitter.

Activities for sustainable development

- Collaboration program between Geopark Employment Workshop and Geopark stakeholders for enhancement of shooting of Game of Thrones TV series.

- Celebration of the Geopark Maranchon Handycraft Fair.
- Celebration of Molina Gift Fair.
- Celebration of VII truffle Fair.

Scientific Research

- Archaeological research campaign on the Casares Cave.

GEOPARK MONTS D'ARDECHE, FRANCE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Communication on *geology & mineral waters* at the 13th European Geoparks conference, Rokua, 3-6 Sept. 2015.
2. Interpretation panel installed at basaltic lava flows geosite in Jaujac
3. Continuation of equipping the 51 geosites with geototems and other interpretation devices
4. organization of a training session about the geological history of Monts d'Ardèche, targeting the tourism sector (tourist offices & related structures)
5. 2 videos filmed and edited on 1) the dinosaur's footprints research project and 2) the conciliation of different uses of natural resources (incl. geological features)
6. Writing of several articles for the SGA journal (see point 17)
7. Oral presentation at Colloque international SGF GEOINV 2015. Les inventaires du géopatrimoine, enjeux, bilans et perspectives. Toulouse, 22-25 septembre 2015. *Monts d'Ardèche Geopark, a mainstreaming approach to the conservation and enhancement of the geoheritage. Geopark des Monts d'Ardèche, une démarche intégrée pour la conservation et la mise en valeur du géopatrimoine.*
8. Signature of cooperation agreement with 1) Université de Dijon (Dinosaur's footprint research project) and 2) Université de Clermont Ferrand (geo-archaeology research project)

Networking

9. Participating in the 36th EGN Coordination Com. & EGN Conference, Rokua, Finland, Sept. 2015.
10. Partnership visit of an Ardèche Geopark delegation in Terras de cavalheros Geopark (Portugal). 20-23 May 2015. Development of a cooperation project including geotwinning, chestnut cultivation (under LEADER initiatives).
11. Participation in the national forum on geotourism in Vulcania, Puy de Dôme, on 16 October 2015.
12. Participation in the GEOLE meeting (Société géologique de France) and general assembly of the national Committee of French geoparks (Bauges Geopark)
13. Project leader for the design and edition of the brochure "Guide des géoparcs de France"

Activity by Partners

14. Oral presentation on *Geopark Monts d'Ardèche & education programs* by CLAPAS Association at Toulouse colloquium (see point 7).
15. Organization by Société géologique de l'Ardèche (SGA) of the scientific event celebrating the (much-awaited !) publication of the geological map of Privas
16. 5 more guided tours on geology organized by SGA
17. Edition of a special issue on Geoparks of Bulletin de la Société géologique de l'Ardèche (April 2015)

MUSKAU ARCH GEOPARK, GERMANY–POLAND

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Nomination of the transnational Muskau Arch Geopark for the state Saxony environmental award, participation on the certification event in Dresden, 26th September 2015
2. Implementation of a student internship
3. Collaboration within the “WirkCamp” of the german “Initiative for joint action” (www.synagieren.de) to increase the ecological and social responsibility for each one, creation of a 3D-Puzzle of a typical Muskau Arch landscape element (Gieser) for using by pupils and visitors of the GeoEvent-Centre
4. Participation on different markets and fairs in Poland and Germany, for ex. at the tourism fair in Wrocław (PL) to capture a wider public from polish touristic market, and at Reisemesse Dresden, November 2015, January 2016
5. establishment of an environmental education network with several institutions beyond the geopark borders to create regional, holistic offer in the nature with a wide variety of contents for schools and kindergardens, and to share experiences, partners are for example the Nature Research Society of Upper Lusatia, the Association of the Biosphere Reserve “Upper ponds and heath Landscape” and the contact office “Wolf Lausitz Region”, preparation of a common annual work plan
6. start joint planning to design an old-mining area southern of the town of Weißwasser/Upper Lusatia to tell the story of the mining history by attractive and artistic landscape elements for using by inhabitants and guests
7. start of the first part of the joint culture landscape-project “Muskau Landscape Convention” as a more far-reaching regional project in co-operation with the World Heritage Prince Pückler – Park of Bad Muskau: start of mapping the geological, natural, cultural and human-made heritages and witnesses with special historical, aesthetical and ecological importance
8. start of construction of a new attractive route for the old industrial “Forrest railway of Count Arnim” to connect the old glassmaker town Weißwasser/Upper Lusatia with the new created landscapes after coal mining for tourists and inhabitants, 29th October 2015
9. foundation of an advisory board for assisting the Geopark Association to prepare the organizational merger of the german and the polish supporters
10. german-polish celebration of finished measures and the joint success of the year 2015, end-of-the-year – conference

11. erection of clearance cairns with the kids-ranger-group “GeoRascals”, start of the maintenance and preserve project with children
12. completion of negotiations about a joint german-polish Interreg-application, which includes the main communities within the Geopark borders on the polish (Łęknica, Trzebiel, Tuplice) and the german (Weißwasser/U.L. and surrounding local authorities) side to implement a joint strategy for the further Geopark development, January 2016

Networking

13. Participation in the 36rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and the European Geoparks Conference in Rokua Geopark, Finland, 03rd – 05th September 2015
14. Joint presentation of the German National Geopark Network on the “GeoBerlin 2015”, the annual meeting of the German Geological Society (DGGV) with personnel support from 05th – 06th October 2015
15. Return visit and participation in the polish-wide conference “...” in the aspiring polish geopark “Kielce”, presentation of the Muskau Arch Geopark by lecture, 24th – 25th September 2015

Activity by Partners

1. Promoting the Geopark in the “Waldeisenbahn”-Festival of Weißwasser/O.L. (festival of an old industrial railway which is current used as an tourism railway) with more than 1.000 visitors, September 2015
2. Application of a joint project proposal between the Ralsko aspiring GMuskau Arch Geopark to implement a joint conference “nature value” for german, polish and Czech companies and businesses

UNESCO NATURTEJO GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in the International Tourism Fair of Lisbon together with the municipalities with the stand UNESCO Naturtejo Geopark
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings.
3. Scientific Residence in the Geopark for a Polish geomorphologist to study the development of granite landforms
4. New proposals and partners for the Geopark Educational Programmes 2015/16.
5. Beginning of the year of celebration of the 10 years of Naturtejo Global Geopark with the presence of members of the national government: the Ministry of Culture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Tourism, the Director-General of Energy and Geology, all the mayors of the municipalities, most of the local institutions and companies cooperating with the Geopark.
6. Geopark extended to the municipality of Penamacor
7. Geopark integrates the European Route of the Megalithic Culture
8. Boieco Trail: New hiking trail discovers the Ponsul Fault
9. Naturtejo Geopark was represented during the meeting EANA15 of the European Network Association of Astrobiology.
10. Fam Trip for the Director of the Tourism of Portugal in Spain
11. Development of the Semestral Agenda with activities of the whole territory
12. Development of new maps with the extended are of the Geopark
13. New offers in the Routes by the Geopark tourism packs, published in both Portuguese, Spanish and English
14. New leaflet about the geological heritage of Penamacor
15. Application to several EU funding programmes for geotourism development, valorization of geosites, Natura 200 sites and megalithic monuments
16. Revision of the Tourism Map of the Geopark with the extended area

Networking

17. Participation in the European Geoparks Conference and CC Meeting in Rokua Geopark, Finland.

18. Participation in the International Tourism Fair of Madrid FITUR together with Villuercas Global Geopark with the stand UNESCO Geoparks.
19. Participation in the International Tourism Fair of Berlin together with 10 European Geoparks and WHS Messel Pit with the stand UNESCO Geoparks.

Activity by Partners

20. Portugal O'Meeting competition organized by the Municipality of Penamacor brought more than 1500 athletes to some of the geopark geosites.
21. New geoproducts were developed by Súbito Geo-Wine and Acha Doce Geoliquors.
22. Idanha-a-Nova integrated the UNESCO Creative Cities Network in the category Music Cities.
23. The School of Tourism, Sport and Hospitality of the European University visited the Geopark Naturtejo, under its academic project Tourism Train Experiences, about Community and Innovative Tourism.
24. Application by Penamacor to the European Charter of Sustainable Tourism of the Europarcs Federation.
25. Grand Trail of the Zêzere River opened
26. National Launch of the Educational Services Guide from the Mines Route in Castelo Branco
27. 1st Orienteering competition in the Municipality of Proença-a-Nova
28. XI MTB marathon Trails of the Borderland
29. Meeting of the partners from the Center Region of the Mines Route in the Canteiro Museum of Alcains
30. 8th Climbing Meeting in Portas de Almourão Geomonument
31. Celebration of the 70 years of UNESCO with the Naturtejo Geopark, at the Knowledge Science Center of Lisbon
32. Festival of Wines and Liqueurs of S. Miguel d'Acha
33. The appreciation work of the Megalithic heritage in the Naturtejo Geopark territory was a highlight during the conference Megatalks, which took place in Redondo
34. Week of the Science and Culture celebrated in the School Pedro da Fonseca, in Proença-a-Nova
35. Geopark inspires Master's Degree Thesis in entrepreneurial innovation
36. "Out of Place" Music Festival with Nature activities

North Pennines AONB Global Geopark – Update for UKGGF

1. The most significant work from the Geopark perspective has been the development and submission to HLF of a major project bid. It would provide a new geoscientist post in the team and a new part-time education role. The work will include:
 - a series of new web and smartphone-based geology and landscape apps, trails and interpretation, bridging gaps in current provision.
 - the use of interactive screens and displays to tell the stories of the 500million year history of the North Pennines but also the back through time across the 4500 million year story of the Earth.
 - supporting and facilitating local communities to create short films about what their landscape means to them – we will provide a platform for showing these films online and in our Visitor Centre.
 - creating a rock park inspired by the one in Rokua
 - working closely with the providers of outdoor adventure activities to provide opportunities for young people in particular to experience activities such as canoeing, rock climbing and gorge scrambling.
 - a bi-annual two week festival of films on a rock theme
 - annual programmes of guided walks that interpret geology and landscape and also highlight other aspects of natural and cultural heritage
 - a series of guided electric bike rides on a geology and landscape theme throughout the North Pennines, democratising cycle tourism and making it accessible to more people.
 - bi-annual ‘Written in Stone’ courses to promote creative writing about the landscape. A parallel activity will work within the literacy curriculum in local schools and promote create writing about geology and landscape. We will publish this work online to give local writers a place where their voice can be heard.
 - a travelling exhibition that helps people to discover the amazing geological heritage hidden beneath their feet
 - an annual photography competition, with an exhibition at Bowlees Visitor Centre and local museums, with an online platform for the work.
 - events, to celebrate Geoparks Week each year at the end of May.
 - a bi-annual youth camp for members of the Global Geoparks Network.
 - a Geocamp for young people from schools in the north of England.
 - a School of Rocks’ programme which supports up to 80 schools to undertake field visits throughout the area. This will be supported by school travel grants.
 - creating courses for volunteers, pitched to build capacity to lead events and activities.
 - creating a programme of training for teachers to enable them to use the North Pennines as an outdoor classroom to much greater effect
 - creating a ‘Geobusiness’ programme which raises local tourism business awareness of the opportunities associated with the Geopark status.
 - creating three year-long education and interpretation traineeships.
 - Engaging with the Geopark network

2. We have received funding for our new two year project called OREsome, which is about surveying, conserving and interpreting former mineral mining sites from the allied perspectives of biodiversity, geodiversity and the historic environment.
3. We are still developing new geology themed interactive interpretation for our Visitor Centre in Teesdale which will be installed around Easter
4. We are planning a series of geology-themed events for 2016.
5. We are developing some weekend breaks with local accommodation businesses, at least one of which will have a geological theme.
6. We've been very involved in minewater pollution remediation work, supporting the Coal Authority and the Environment Agency
7. Helping the agencies at public events and working with contractors to provide underground information at Nenthead and Carrshield.
8. Facilitating volunteer support for the Tees-Wear river project to review erosion sites on river banks and help contractors to differentiate between mine dump material and natural exposures
9. We are developing an element of geological interpretation in our HLF Landscape Partnership Scheme project being submitted in May.

NORTH WEST HIGHLANDS GEOPARK, SCOTLAND, UK

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organised and delivered the inaugural Lochinver Climbing Festival, raising the profile of the region and Geopark. Included “Geology for Climbers” lecture supported by the University of Leeds and “Geology for Kids”. September 2015.
2. Organised and delivered a week long Geotour 2015
3. Organised and delivered a program of pre-Earth Science week workshops for all schools in the Geopark with support from the Quaternary Research Association, Geological Society of London and University of Glasgow. October 2015
4. Organised and delivered a series of Earth Science Café events in the Geopark, lectures in an informal setting on a range of topics, including guest speakers. With support from the Quaternary Research Association, Geological Society of London and University of Glasgow. October 2015
5. Published an events schedule for 2016. November 2015
6. Designed a new Earth Science exhibition for the Rock Stop Visitor Centre. Included input from local photographers, national geological societies, Universities and Rokua, Stonehammer, Hong Kong and Araripe Global Geoparks. March 2016

Networking

7. Participation in a Scottish Geoparks event with the Scottish Government. November 2015
8. Ran a workshop and gave a talk at the Scottish Natural Heritage and Scottish Geodiversity Forum meetings on Geoconservation and Geotourism. November 2015
9. Participation in a Scottish Geoparks event at Holy Rood (Scottish Parliament) in conjunction with the Portuguese UNESCO National Commission on the wider value of Geoparks. January 2016
10. Participation in a Scottish Geodiversity Forum meeting on a potential project to raise the profile of Scotland’s Geosites. February 2016
11. Participation at the UK Committee on UNESCO Global Geoparks at Marble Arch Global Geopark, N. Ireland. March 2016
12. Contact established between Geological Survey of Finland and Lapland University of Applied Sciences and Multidimensional Tourism Institute on a potential Northern Periphery and Arctic initiative funded project on “Tourism safety in geological sites” March 2016

Activity by Partners

13. Coigach Assynt Living Landscape Partnership progressing with Heritage Lottery Funding bid (stage 2 submission). November 2015
14. Drifting Apart Project stage 1 reporting completed. Moving into a season of digital recording of key geosites January 2016
15. Highland Council Ranger service published extensive events program for 2016 following a successful campaign (backed by the Geopark) to save the service from proposed council cuts. February 2016
16. Scourie Development Company are currently going ahead with land purchase for a purpose built Geo-center. March 2016

NOVOHRAD-NÓGRÁD GEOPARK, HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Finishing the project “Geo-Part - a systematic partnership aimed at integrated development of the Novohrad-Nógrád geopark” , financed from the Programme of the cross-border cooperation Hungary-Slovakia (December 2015)
2. Finishing the project “Programme of the partner network of the Novohrad-Nógrád geopark“ financed from the Visegrad Fund (December 2015)
3. Project LEADER Co-operation between regions – 2 projects, equipments for programmes, hiking trails indicate in GPS, information panels, bird watching houses etc.
4. Co-operation with the Lithosphere Fluid Research Lab (LRG), Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences, and Faculty of Science Research and Instrument Core Facility (ELTE FS-RICF), Eotvos University Budapest (ELTE) – common projects, research (industrial history)
5. 3 guided trips to the Geopark sites organised for the general public (September , November 2015, March 2016)
6. Participation at the Trade fairs ITF Slovakia-Tour 2016 in Bratislava (SK) and Utazas in Budapest (HU) (January – February 2016)
7. Organizational preparation of the 3rd Medves Photo Marathon held on 3-5 June 2016 in the Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark (meetings, programme, web page, sponsorship, etc...) (November 2015 – March 2016)

Networking

8. Co-operation with the Local Action Group Partnerstvo Juzneho Novohradu on the preparation the CLLD Strategy 2014 - 2020 (Community Led Local Development Strategy) (November 2015 – March 2016)
9. Co-operation with the local communities on the working out the local development strategies (linking the geopark and the community targets, goals and priorities) (August - December 2015)
10. Co-operation and strategic partnership with the Bükki National Park, on collective thinking, joint projects and developments (Cooperation Agreement) (2016. January)

Activity by Partners

11. Co-operation with the Kosice Region Tourism on the preparation of an international project “Promoting Authentic Regional Qualities of the Danube Region” (Project acronym Danube geoPARQ) - Expression of Interest, 1st call for proposals in the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme (November 2015)
12. Preparation of common projects with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic in the field of revitalisation the geo-sites (March 2016)

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UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK ODSHERRED, DENMARK

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news on the EGN CC 36. meeting in Rokua, Finland on the website and Facebook - September 2015
2. Further progress and meetings on project about Lammefjord and the local produce (vegetables) involving the local farmers and the National Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS). The project will run in 2016-2017. September 2015 – March 2016
3. Further progress on the project about the Sun Chariot and where it was found in 1902 in Trundholm Bog. The project involves local farmers and stakeholders. The project will run for at least 2-3 years. September 2015- March 2016
4. Continuing further development and working with one public school (pupils) in the Geokids project giving outdoor class lessons about the geology and landscape, cultural history, art and local produce in Geopark Odsherred and finally making their own Geokids mask. So far 1200 masks are displayed in the landscape as a huge landart exhibition. September 2015 – March 2016.
5. Preparing third edition of 1400 new copies of the coffee table book about Odsherred in collaboration with local companies and VisitOdsherred with local recipes and lots of beautiful photos from our Geopark. The book has already sold 2500 copies. September 2015-March 2016.
6. Organizing the final elements and preparing the initiation of the new “Ridge Path” across the end moraines in Geopark Odsherred. The Ridge Path will be inaugurated on March 20th. March 2016.
7. 2 meetings with the geopark board of directors of the Geopark Odsherred Foundation. December 2015 and March 2016.
8. Organizing a two day Geoguide Course for 40 volunteers and local inhabitants who wants do guided tours in Geopark Odsherred. The course is step one of two in a training program. March 2016.
9. Agreement of further partnership with a bordering nature park and an observatory on geological dissemination. October 2015.
10. Geopark secretary employs a fulltime project manager and a communication responsible. January 2016.
11. About 69 guided tours, presentations, training programs with more than 500 participants. September 2015 – March 2016.

Networking

12. Publishing an article on the Geokids , add and photos for the European Geoparks Magazine No. 13. Issued March 2016.
13. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Rokua, Finland. September 2015.
14. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week: geotours, oral presentations, inviting the Papuk Geopark (Croatia) to the Lavender House Visitor Centre, the eastern gate of our Geopark (Tihany), May–June 2013.
15. Further progress in the Nordic GEOfood project together with Magma, Rokua and Reykjanes Geoparks.
16. Participating at the 38th General Conference of UNESCO. November 2015 where the new statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) were approved.

Activity by Partners

17. Education and research agreement with the National Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland in connection with the project on Lammefjord. November 2015.
18. Meeting for all partners in Geopark Odsherred. February 2015.
19. Preparing the Geopark Festival (Geopark Week) from July 28th till 31st with participation and events from local partners and inhabitants

ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Two new jobs (female) were created with the opening of the visitor centre in Bischofshofen for informing guests as well as for guided tours through the special exhibition (started at September 2015).
2. Planning of the special exhibition “MENSCH:MACHT:MUSIK” (From the copper ore to the trumpet), 2016 in the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, September 2015 - March 2016.
3. Daniela Strick (student trainee) finished her Master thesis “Investigation of the hot springs at Liechtenstein gorge, geosite 121 Geopark “Ore of the Alps”, with a future excursion during the Geopark week 2016, September 2015 - March 2016.
4. Guided geotours on the ore-trail, lectures and workshops (also for children and schools) with all together more than 500 participants, September 2015 - March 2016.
5. Several articles in local, regional and national media about the Geopark, September 2015 - March 2016.
6. Marketing of local Geopark products at farmer markets and baking bread with the Geopark brand at the old mill at Lehen, September - October 2015
7. Closing event of the special exhibition “Sky disc of Nebra” (Himmelsscheibe von Nebra) at the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, 5.000 visitors - including about 48 school classes, October 2015.
8. Initial consultations were made, if the Geopark Ore of the Alps and with it all geosites, will be protected by national nature conservation law in future (November 2015)
9. Celebration of the feast of St. Barbara (5th of December) in the Geopark villages Mühlbach am Hochkönig and Hütttau, December 2015
10. Meeting of the tourism professionals from the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hütttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about promotional activities, December 2015.
11. Defining of different Geopark activities in the local LEADER programme 2016-2022, with new Leader Manager Mrs. Schwenhoa, January 2016
12. Total amount of visitors in 2015 of the three Geopark-museums (Hütttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 5.461
13. Total amount of visitors in 2015 of the three show mines (Hütttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 9.500

Networking

14. Informal, 16 days study excursion of Horst Ibetsberger throughout Iceland. Meeting with Leifur Bjornsson (Locatify - office for special Geopark navigation systems) in Reykjavik, August - September 2015
15. Cooperation with the academy of music "Mozarteum" in Salzburg concerning the special exhibition "MENSCH:MACHT:MUSIK" (From the copper ore to the trumpet), 2016 in the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, September 2015 - March 2016.
16. Initialisation of the book-project "Geoparks of Austria" by Horst Ibetsberger. The book with 160 pages, which presents the 4 Austrian Geoparks should be published 2016 (Natur- u. Kulturerlebnisführer der Universität Salzburg, Bd. 5), September 2015 - March 2016
17. Reviewing of the article "Geopark Ore of the Alps" for the book "Landscape and Landforms of Austria", Springer Verlag, September 2015 - March 2016.
18. Finalisation of the article written by Prof. Clemens Eibner: „The copper ore from Mitterberg - a hot spot in the European Bronze Age“ in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue.., September 2015.
19. Initialisation of a cooperation between the UNESCO Geopark Ore of the Alps, the advanced technical college Urstein / Salzburg, UNESCO Geopark Vulkaneiffel, UNESCO Geopark Azores and the University of Azores to create a curriculum for Geopark management (Erasmus program), November 2015 - March 2016.
20. Initialisation of cooperation with GeoComPass (Austrian Geographic Society), concerning lectures and excursions throughout the Geopark, organized by the University (Prof. Werner Gamerith), November 2015 - March 2016.
21. Participation of Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist), Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager) and Josef Gantschnigg (Financial Director of the Geopark) at the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Vienna, Austrian Academy of Sciences, November 2015.
22. Signing of the agreement (Memorandum) between the Geopark Ore of the Alps and the University of Salzburg (Prof. Jürgen Breuste, Department of Geography and Geology) to develop new specific environmental programs, with special regard to urban mining, February 2016

Activity by Partners

23. Geo-Talk together with our Geopark Partner Siegsdorf / Bavaria about an international Geo-excursion in 2016, January 2016.
24. Signing of the letter of intent, which includes the complete program of the further cooperation, next funding period 2016 - 2022 between the Geopark Partners Ore of the Alps, Porphyryland Sachsen and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen, December 2015 - February 2016

Papuk Geopark, Croatia

Progress report: September 2015 - March 2016

Papuk Geopark activities:

- 1.** In order to promote new info-centre at Jankovac we have been organized geological workshops with local schools (two classes per school). Workshops took place outdoors as well as in presentation/workshop room of the info-centre.
- 2.** At the three locations inside the Geopark we established public charging points for electric vehicles. The charge points are available for outside use.
- 3.** Three new publications have been released aimed for children: "Papuk 4kids" – guidebook through Papuk, colouring book "Papuk" and children's book "Butterfly and ant". We held several promotions of the new publications at the local schools and kindergartens
- 4.** At Park forest Jankovac, three times in a row, we organized Medieval fair. Numerous visitors were entertained by archers, weavers, dancers etc. Also local producers, using medieval stalls, offered different products.
- 5.** Parks of Croatia started up with new program "Volunteer in Parks of Croatia". On the new-established web site you can find different volunteering programs in all Croatian Parks. At the moment Papuk offers two programs. Also during the project Goran Pavić trained to be volunteer coordinator.
- 6.** In cooperation with Idrija Geopark and Karawanke Geopark we organized two days study trip to Slovenia/Austria geoparks. During visit we exchanged some ideas – how to improve cooperation, we worked together at preparation of mutual project "Valorisation of geo-heritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks"
- 7.** We have hosted meeting and field trip with friends from Hungarian Danube-Drava National Park. There was talk about common project "Two rivers and one hill – new eco tourist products along Drava, Danube and Papuk" which is finished and possibilities to apply for new mutual projects.
- 8.** Traditionally in winter time we have organized two outdoor activities: „Cener“ – 10 km uphill trail run and gathering of numerous hikers on the occasion of 10th trip to unknown Papuk celebrating International Mountain Day 2015.
- 9.** On the main entrances into the geopark we installed new UNESCO Global Geopark logo. There are six "welcome" walls and we put logos on each of them.

10. We started cooperation with Outward Bound Croatia, organization working with youngsters, encourage them to discover new areas through challenging experiences in unfamiliar settings. They held the first 7 days winter camp in the Papuk Geopark.

11. For the first time, on the occasion of celebrating 15th anniversary of Papuk Nature Park, we have published official photo-monograph of Papuk – “Beauty frozen in time” with around 300 photos

12. Guided tours through Geopark area have been organized regularly. The most visitors are school children. Also several presentations about Geopark have been held in local schools.

Papuk Geopark

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POLLINO GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organisation of seminars in collaboration with associations of geologists of Calabria and Basilicata: Pollino Global Geopark, a strategy for the sustainable development, October 2015;
2. Establishment of Scientific Commission of Pollino Global Geopark with the Professors of Universities of Calabria, of Basilicata and of Florence, March 2016
3. Interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, November 2015–February 2016,
4. Organisation of the continuing education course towards Official Guides on Pollino Global Geopark and EGN/GGN Network, January 2016;
5. Preparation of an environmental education programme on the geological heritage and sustainable development, aimed at local schools, March 2016;
6. Updating some hiking maps with the main geosites of the Geopark, March 2016;
7. Activation of a web page and a Facebook page dedicated to the Pollino Geopark, March 2016;

Networking

8. Participation at the 38th UNESCO General Conference in Paris to support the GGN with the Italian permanent delegation and Ambassador, November 2015;
9. Preparing and sending to UNESCO Natural Sciences Sector-International Geoscience and Geoparks programme - an info sheet summary of Pollino Global Geopark, December 2015;
10. Buying and Distribution of Calendars of Italian Geoparks, January 2016;
11. Organization 8th Workshop of Italian Geoparks that will be held in July 2016, starting from February 2016.

Activity by Partners

12. Guided tours and outdoors lessons by the University of Calabria and University of Basilicata on the geosites of Timpa delle Murge and Timpa di Pietrasasso, July - September 2015;

13. ArtePollino Award, organized by Association ArtePollino, which aims to promote a new cultural and territorial development through creativity of the students of the Italian academies, August 2015-February 2016;
14. Realization of a short movie concerning the activities of the Visitors' Center of Terranova di Pollino, March 2016.

PSILORITIS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Psiloritis geopark participated with its own stand on the Tour Nature 2015 hosted in Dusseldorf, Germany from 4-6 of September. Tour Nature is a special fair dedicated to alternative tourism.
2. On September 15-16 Psiloritis geopark welcomed a Japan tv group that produced a documentary on the Santorini Eruption and the geology of Aegean for the Japan National Tv. The group travelled and filmed several important geotopes of the geopark.
3. Geopark participated in the big fair for Cretan products hosted in Athens from 19-19 of October promoting local food and products.
4. Geopark developed a series of press releases to celebrate and announce the initiation of the new IGGP program and the recognition of Psiloritis by UNESCO.
5. Geopark participated in a meeting on Sustainable tourism development in Europe organized by Helmos – Vouraikos geopark on December 9, presenting its activities as geopark.
6. The Hellenic Forum (C. Fassoulas) participated in the press conference organized by the Region of Crete at Rethymno on the 15th of December 2015 to officially announce the approval of the new UNESCO program and the recognition of the two Cretan Geoparks.
7. The new Information center of the Geopark was realised and open to public on the mid December offering new displays, presentation and opportunities for the visitors of the Geopark.
8. By the end of December a Leader project between Psiloritis and Troodos geopark was ended presenting to the public the final outcomes. The project was focussed in developing Geoproducts.
9. A new study for developing new trails in Psiloritis geopark of about 40000€ started in January 2016 and was presented on late February.
10. A new project for replacing old geopark info panels started on the beginning of February and will result in the emplacement of 25 new geosite and trails panels. It is expected to be ready late March.
11. Psiloritis geopark is conducting the new 5 years Geopark Action Plan and the first public discussion took place in the new facilities of the geopark info center on 11 February 2016.
12. Psiloritis geopark participated in the event organised on February 26-27 2016, by the Sitia Geopark in collaboration with the Hellenic Geoparks Forum and in the annual Forum's meeting.

13. Psiloritis geopark participated on March 9, 2016 in the meeting organised in collaboration with Hellenic Commission for UNESCO in Athens, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Official Announcement and Celebration of the new IGGP program.

Networking

14. Published two articles for the Global geoparks interactive web map and the Results of Geoprocuts, project.

Activity by Partners

15. Various activities and educational program implementations have been developed all this period by the Anogia Environmental education center receiving hundreds of pupils and teachers.

REYKJANES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Reykjanes Geopark acceptance into the European and Global Geoparks Network in the autumn of 2015 was widely publicized in the local and national media.
2. Publication of new brochure, “What is Reykjanes Geopark”, for local tourist service providers, producers and educational institution (October 2015)
3. Local plan/development plan accepted for the Southwestern tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula and for the naturally carved pool Brimketill. The local plan for the Southwestern tip of Reykjanes peninsula includes a visitor center. The Geopark advertised for a partner interested in building the visitor center (March 2016).
4. First yearly Reykjanes Geopark / Visit Reykjanes winter conference was held in the Geopark. The theme this year was tourism and marketing of the area. Many of the guests were local tourist service providers (March 2016).
5. Work on an outdoor activity and hiking map that will be published in the spring 2016.
6. The Geopark was promoted at two tourism fairs in cooperation with Visit Reykjanes. Vestnorden Travel Mart in Faroe Islands (September 2015) and Mid-Atlantic in Reykjavík (February 2015). Reykjanes Geopark/Visit Reykjanes participated in four workshops in USA and Canada (Minneapolis, Denver, Portland, Toronto) in cooperation with Promote Iceland (November 2015).
7. Visit Reykjanes and Reykjanes Geopark are in cooperation marketing the Reykjanes peninsula as a perfect place for conferences and meetings. A website and a brochure was published in February 2016.
8. Reykjanes Geopark is working with “Wapp - Walking app” on publishing information about hiking trails in the Geopark and information about Reykjanes peninsula available in the app (November 2015).
9. Visit Reykjanes in cooperation with Reykjanes Geopark made a promotional video for Icelandair entertainment system. The winter edition of Icelandair magazine included an article about Reykjanes peninsula with a map of Reykjanes Geopark. Icelandair is the largest international airline operating in Iceland (October 2015 and February 2016).
10. The Geopark was awarded a grant to create an educational material for local elementary schools in Icelandic and English and another one to create a plan for building infrastructure at geosites (December 2015)
11. The Geopark has been working on a guidelines for local operators on how to use the Reykjanes Geopark logo and how to combine the logo with UNESCO Global Geoparks logo (February 2016).

12. Oral presentation and field trip during the The VIII International ProGEO Symposium in Iceland (September 2015).
13. Introducing UNESCO Global Geoparks and Reykjanes Geopark destination management plan for the directors of the new Iceland Tourism Task Force, The Icelandic Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, The Environment Agency of Iceland, The Icelandic Tourist Board and The Tourist Site Protection Fund.
14. Preparing new information panels for the year 2016.
15. Article in EGN Magazine 13.

Networking

16. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference (September 2015).
17. Three oral presentations at the 13th European Geoparks Conference (September 2015).
18. The Geopark hosted the second Drifting Apart project meeting with partners from Canada, Scotland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Northern Ireland, and Republic of Ireland (December 2015).
19. Skype meeting in the GEOfood project with Magma Geopark, Rokua Geopark and Odsherred Geopark. (January 2016).

Activity by Partners

20. Discussion with the municipalities concerning their Municipalities plans for the next 20 years.
21. All the partners widely published the acceptance into the European and Global Geoparks Network in the autumn of 2015.
22. Information about the Geopark are now included in the Blue Lagoon press kit handed to few thousand members of the press yearly.
23. Lecture about the geology around the town of Grindavík during Grindavík Cultural Week (March 2015).
24. Guests were offered a little sneak into the preparation for publishing Reykjanes Geopark outdoor activity and hiking map During Reykjanes Museum Weekend (March 2015).

ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Implementation of a new cultural interactive multimedia visitor centre in Aidone town called "Rocca di Cerere Factory";
2. Implementation of a new environmental educational and didactical centre in Calascibetta town;
3. Change of legal status of the Rocca di Cerere Geopark: from District to Consortium mixed no-profit composed by public shareholders (Municipalities of Enna, Aidone, Nissoria, Leonforte, Villarosa, Assoro, Calascibetta, Piazza Armerina) and private organizations which operate in the cultural tourism sector, for the enhancement of the local heritage of the geopark and of the environmental education oriented primarily to the student population;
4. New urban and rural paths assisted by apps and audio-guides downloaded;
5. New fast and slow mobility services to enhance the fruition of the territory (minivans, jeeps, bikes, donkies);
6. New net of infopoints on the territory (Aidone, Calascibetta, Enna, Assoro, Villarosa and Nissoria towns);
7. Redesign and new contents for the Rocca di Cerere website;

Networking

8. Participation in the 36th EGN CC meeting and 13th EGN Conference in Rokua Geopark (Finland);
9. Updating cartoguide of the mining civilizations in Geoparks for the EGN Mining Working Group as discussed with the partners during the last meetings (after the last meeting are 18 the Geoparks participant in this group: Arouca Geopark, Bauges Massif Geopark, Cabo de Gata Geopark; Central Catalunya Geopark, Copper Coast Geopark, Fforest Fawr Geopark, Geological Mining Park of Sardinia, Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen, Idrija Geopark; Luberon Geopark, Magma Geopark, Molino Alto Tajo, Muskau Arch Geopark, North Pennines AONB, Rocca di Cerere Geopark, Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, Sobrarbe Geopark, Tuscan Mining Geopark);
10. Updating and managing of the new official Italian Geoparks website (www.geoparchitaliani.it) in "responsive design" for different formats (PC, smartphone, tablet, iPad, etc.);
11. Updating on behalf of the Italian Forum of the new edition of the Italian Geoparks Book (new graphics and layout);

Activity by Partners

12. preparing of the new master plan for the new RDP from 2014 to 2020 for the next seven years).in collaboration with our partners and other local operators.

ROKUA GEOPARK, FINLAND

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Newspaper Kaleva published an article about Rokua Geopark and the new UNESCO designation in November. Kaleva is the main newspaper of Northern Finland.
2. Finnish Broadcasting Company, YLE, made a radio interview about Rokua Geopark and the new UNESCO designation in November 17th.
3. The nationwide Newspaper Maaseudun Tulevaisuus published a large article about Rokua and Rokua Geopark in February 2016. Maaseudun Tulevaisuus (straight translation "The Rural Future") covers news on agriculture and forestry as well as related businesses, and on rural enterprises and life in general in the countryside.
4. Rokua Geopark and its Finnish partners in tourism have started an ERDF financed project Attractive Oulu Region 2018. The project aims to develop and market the tourism products of the tourism areas in Oulu Region.
5. An application to develop the guiding infrastructures and practices of Rokua Geopark has been submitted to the European Rural Development Financing instrument. The application has received positive feedback and the decision will be given during the spring 2016
6. Rokua Geopark participated to the Matka 2016 travel fair in Helsinki in January. Matka 2016 is the biggest travel fair in Scandinavia.
7. Geologi Magazine published by the The Geological Society of Finland published a wide article by Mr. Jari Nenonen on the Geoparks network in October 2015.
8. The Finnish National Commission for UNESCO submitted a supporting letter to UNESCO concerning the transition of Rokua Geopark into a UNESCO Global Geopark.
9. A new mountain biking route is being planned into the Rokua area of Rokua Geopark. Depending on the contracts with the landowners the route is possible to open in the beginning of summer season 2016.
10. A new illuminated Rokua Geopark logo has been placed next to the Utajärvi Geological trail. The new logo can be seen clearly from the main road for the bypassing cars. The logo is almost two meters high and is situated in the top of a ten meter pole.

Networking

11. Organizing the 13th European Geoparks Conference in Rokua Geopark. 408 registered participants from 37 countries. 107 Oral presentations, 27 Poster

presentations. Conference theme: Responsible use of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

12. Organizing the 36th European Geoparks Network coordination committee meeting in Rokua Geopark
13. Rokua Geopark and Qinling Zhongnanshan Global Geopark of China signed a cooperation agreement in Rokua Geopark in September 2015. Rokua Geopark has now cooperation agreements with three UNESCO Global Geoparks, the other two are: Yandangshan UNESCO Global Geopark and Schwäbische Alb UNESCO Global Geopark.
14. A delegation from Rokua Geopark visited Stuttgart, Germany, and had a meeting on the details of the cooperation agreement with the Schwäbische Alb Geopark. December 2015.
15. Rokua Geopark has strengthened cooperation with the other tourism areas in Northern Ostrobothnia, a project Attractive Oulu Region 2018 gathers the areas together in developing and promoting the areas tourism products.
16. Rokua Geopark participates to the Geofood project led by the Magma Geopark. The goal of the project is to valorize the local food as an Geopark product. During the EGN Conference in Rokua Geopark the participants were served a menu designed in the Geofood project.

Activity by Partners

17. Two new companies joined Rokua Geopark, Suomen keskusvaraamo and Vuoton Joutsen are now Rokua Geopark companies. All together 44 companies operating in Rokua Geopark area have been accepted into the Group of companies that can promote their operations as Rokua Geopark partners.

GEOLOGICAL AND MINING SARDINIA GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. 3rd edition of the Earth Planet Week under the auspices of ISPRA, October 18-25 2015, with 27 geoevents programmed in the whole Sardinia territory.
2. Celebrations of Lovisatian's Year (2016): Commemoration in memory of the hundred years after the death of the scientist and geologist Domenico Lovisato and laying a wreath of flowers by the Cagliari University and the Municipality of Cagliari on Lovisato's tomb in the Monumental Cemetery of Cagliari. February, 2016
3. Collaboration agreement between the Geological and Mining Sardinia Geopark, the Special Agency of Porto Conte Park, the Arcipelago di La Maddalena National Park, the AMP Management Consortium Tavolara Punta Coda Cavallo, and the Asinara National Park, aimed at optimizing their structures in the respective fields of interest.

Networking

4. Participation in the 36th EGN Meeting in Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark (Finland), September 2015.
5. Participation in the 13th European geoparks Conference 2015, September 3rd-6th, Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark (Finland).
6. November 17 2015, 38th UNESCO General Conference in Paris (November 3-18) the Geo-mining Park of Sardinia belongs to the 120 Global Geoparks Network of UNESCO.
7. Participation in the 7° Comitato dei Geoparchi italiani, Roma, March 10, 2016
8. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Meeting Basque Coast Geopark – Spain, March, 16-19.

Activity by Partners

9. EXPO 2015 Milan, 2 October Workshop: The recovery and development of abandoned mine sites in Italy, an opportunity for the development of geological and cultural tourism: the need for a normative regulation. Collaboration with ISPRA and the Lombardy Region under the patronage of AIPAI
10. Expo 2015 Milan October 2 2015. Memorandum of Understanding for the creation of an Italian national network between ISPRA, Mining Parks and Museums
11. Expo Milan 2015 International week 5-11 October 2015. International School: "Nature and History, the Reclamation Issue in Sardinia and Cagliari". Partners:

Sardinia Mining Geopark (leader), Cagliari municipality, The International Association of Earthen Cities, Edilana, Euromed-mapping

12.. Workshop "Mining Landscapes II edition. Plans for the Geological and Mining Sulcis-Iglesiente Geopark", organized by Engineering and Architecture Department of Cagliari University, AUSI, Iglesias, December 1-5 2015

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SESIA VAL GRANDE GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September – 2015 March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. GUIDED TRIP- 10 January 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK From Bocchetto Sessera to Rifugio Piana del Ponte to discover an unknown corner of the Geopark.
2. GUIDED TRIP- 23 January 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK. From Bocchetto Sessera to Rifugio Monte Marca to discover an unknown corner of the Geopark.
3. GUIDED TRIP- 14 February 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK From Passo della Colma to Monte Briasco in order to discover an unknown corner of the Geopark.
4. GUIDED TRIP- 20 February 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK To walk on the snow and discover the beauty of the a white landscape.
5. GUIDED TRIP- 6 March 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK From Bocchetto Sessera to Rifugio Piana del Ponte to discover an unknown corner of the Geopark.
6. GUIDED TRIP- 13 March 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK From Carcofo to Alpe Giovanchera along the geological track to discover the Geopark in winter season.
7. GUIDED TRIP- 20 March 2016 – Winter in the UNESCO Global GEOPARK From Carcofo to Rifugio Boffalora along a new potential geological track to discover the Geopark in winter season.
8. GUIDED TRIP – 19 September -Under the program “PerpendicolArte-Land art, foto e video, laboratori, escursioni guidate” guided trip on the itinerary of old stone crafters.
9. GUIDED TRIP – 15 November - Under the program “PerpendicolArte-Land art, foto e video, laboratori, escursioni guidate” guided trip on the geological track of Vogogna.
10. GUIDED TRIP – 19 December - Under the program “PerpendicolArte-Land art, foto e video, laboratori, escursioni guidate” guided tour of Vogogna.
11. CONFERENCE - 5 February 2016 – “The opportunities offered by the new designation UNESCO Global Geopark” by Edoardo Dellarole.
12. CONFERENCE - 4 March 2016 – “The strange world of a botanist”. By Mario Soster and Alessandro Orsi.
13. CONFERENCE – 28 November 2015 “Identità, Spazi, Formazione e Sviluppo” in Baveno (municipality strongly interested to join the Geopark)
14. EDUCATION – October: 4 classroom laboratories (6 to 10 years old child)
15. EDUCATION – October: 4 classroom (6 to 10 years old child) Half a day field trip on rocks and natural landscape
16. EDUCATION – November: 1 classroom laboratories (6 to 10 years old child)
17. EDUCATION – November: 2 classroom trip(6 to 10 years old child) Full day field trip on Supervulcano rocks and natural landscape
18. EDUCATION –November: 2 classroom laboratories (15 -17 years old child)
19. EDUCATION – November: 2 classroom trip (11 to 13 years old child) Full day field trip on Supervulcano rocks
20. EDUCATION – December: 3 classroom laboratories (11 to 13 years old child)
21. EDUCATION – December : 3 classroom laboratory about mineral, geology and more (13 years old child) plus full day field trip on the Supervulcano rocks

22. EDUCATION – January: 1 classroom laboratories (11 to 13 years old child)
23. EDUCATION – January: 1 classroom laboratories (6 to 10 years old child)
24. EDUCATION – March: 2 classroom (11 to 13 years old child) Half a day field trip on Supervolcano rocks
25. EDUCATION – March: 2 classroom (15 to 17 years old child) Full day field trip on Supervolcano rocks
26. EDUCATION – March: 2 classroom laboratories (11 to 13 years old child)
27. EDUCATION 30 December “Sassolini in cerca di autore”. Child laboratory on pebble painting and story telling
28. EDUCATION – 5 January : “Dame e cavalieri al castello” child laboratory on expressions and emotions
29. CONFERENCE AND TASTING - 24 October Wines land and soils in the Sesia Val Grande Geopark. In collaboration with Italian week of Hearth and the International Year of Soils.
30. WHORKSHOP - “Tradizione viva” Monthly meeting from December to March with the handcrafters of the Geoparks.
31. WHORKSHOP “Montagna e dintorni” the alpine food - Vogogna 15-25 October
32. EXHIBITION - January - Ermanno Zamboni painter. February - Giuliana Zanotti painted porcelain. March Carla Dorz painter

Networking

33. Collaboration with the Italian Geoparks to update the second edition of the Italian geopark book and the 2016 calendar of Campania’s Geologist dedicated to UNESCO Global Geopark.
34. Participation at the CC meeting in Basque Coast and at the Italian National Commission in Rome.
35. Hosting a delegation of expert on Geodeversity from Portugal leaded by prof. Briglia.
36. Participation at the Italian Mining sites event at Milan EXPO October 2015
37. Cultural Exchange with Rokua Geopark under Erasmus+ project, first meeting of a three years project.
38. Collaboration with the aspiring Geopark of Beaujoles on wine and terroir project.

Activity by Partners

39. From October 2014 - University of Turin, Department of Earth Science: scientific collaboration on the following topics: geodiversity, geoheritage and their promotion.
40. University of Milan, Department of Earth Science “Ardito Desio”- Conclusion of the activities of study and development of two news geological track with the presentation of the itineraries and leaflets (Pogallo’s Line and Lake series).Inauguration in spring 2016.
41. Special program for EXPO of guided tour to the Candoglia Marble quarry 2 dates from May to October in collaboration with Veneranda Fabbrica del Duomo.
42. Special program for EXPO of “Sentieri del Gusto” Gastronomic itinerary inside the Geopark.

- 43.27 December Award ceremony of the Photo contest "Geology and natural beauty" promoted by Municipalities of Cursolo Orasso, Malesco and Val Grande National Park.
- 44.19 December Under the patronage of Geopark and Val Grande National Park Book presentation: "Gente di Vigizzo"
- 45.10 March: participation as guest at the "Arte del gusto", food event by biscottificio Rossi&partners from Ghemme to present the Geopark cookies.
- 46.12 March: the municipality of Borgosesia promote and raise awareness on crucial projects for the female development the UNESCO global Geopark is one of these.
47. March: "Fana, Aedes, Ecclesiae. Forme e luoghi del culto nell'arco alpino occidentale dalla preistoria al medioevo". Conference Proceedings (18 October 2014). Patronage for the book presentation.

GEOPARK SHETLAND, SCOTLAND

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Worked on plans for digital interpretation and education toolkit for 'Drifting Apart' project with Geoparks and other partners from Canada, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Scotland and Russia. Attended partner meeting in Iceland in December and presented on WP6. Coordinated Scottish Geoparks claim information.
2. Worked on plans for Heritage Festival in partnership with Shetland Heritage Association and Promote Shetland.
3. Worked with UK Geoparks and UK National Commission on UK wide Geopark publicity on securing UNESCO Global Geopark status.
4. Presented on UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sharing Good Practice Event hosted by Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Geodiversity Forum and contributed to Scottish Geoparks display.
5. Presented on UNESCO Global Geoparks at Shetland Tourism Association AGM.
6. Wrote and Article on UK Global Geoparks and UNESCO designation for Shetland Life magazine.
7. Worked on publicity for Shetland Nature Festival 2016 in partnership with European Geoparks Week.
8. Completed the Social Media Graduate Placement Scheme with North West Highlands Geopark and Aspiring Lochaber Geopark.
9. Worked with Local Landscape Area Working Group on methodology for designating Local Landscape Areas.
10. Worked with Shetland Environment Team on Geodiversity Indicator for Local Authority Single Outcome Agreement.

Networking

11. Attended the EGN CC meeting and conference in Rokua, Finland.
12. Delivered information for Geopark Shetland post conference field trip to English Riviera Global Geopark.
13. Chaired meeting of the Scottish Geoparks Partnership at the Scottish Government in Edinburgh.
14. Represented Scottish Geoparks at a meeting of the Scottish Geodiversity Charter Executive in Edinburgh and supplied information on UNESCO Global Geoparks and on Geopark Shetland geological Local Nature Conservation Sites to Scottish Geodiversity Charter update.
15. Supplied images to UNESCO for Global Geoparks brochure.

16. Supported resubmission of Lochaber application to EGN.
17. Liaised with teachers on proposal for International Geo Youth Camp put forward by North Pennines Global Geopark.
18. Liaised with potential partners on proposal for NPP project 'Cool Waters' exploring wreck sites around the Shetland coast and their potential to support tourism.

Activity by Partners

1. Completed final edit of geological guide to Geopark Shetland in partnership with a local geologist.
2. Did research for Shetland Tourism survey on behalf of Shetland Tourism Association.

SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news in various media on the revalidation of the Geopark.
2. Meeting of the Governing Board of *Sierra Norte de Sevilla* Geopark, September 25.
3. Assistance to the XVI International Conference on Geological and Mining Heritage; *Belmez / Peñarroya-Pueblonuevo (Córdoba)*, 1-4 October 2015. Communication: "Creating the Hall of Geology and Mining in the Cultural Center New Schools in *El Pedroso, Sierra Norte de Sevilla* Geopark (Spain)".
4. New interpretative exhibition of the Visitor Centre *Cortijo El Berrocal*.
5. Geological route, with the Network of Environmental Volunteers of the *Sierra Norte de Sevilla*, in the *Rivera de Benalija* river and the Public Forest *San Antonio*.
6. Fair of Geopark food products territory in Seville, within the autumn activities of Man & Biosphere Reserve *Dehesas de Sierra Morena*.
7. Proposal as new Natural Monument for the geosite "Lower Cambrian Jellyfish in *Constantina*".
8. Installation of new interpretive panels in several geosites within the Geopark.
9. Preparation of the route Geological Day 2016 in the province of Seville. The Geolodías consist of a field trip led by geologists, totally free and open to all audiences, which seek to bring society both geology and the profession of geologist.
10. Visit to the karstic cave *Sima de Constantina*, with the team that is conducting an archaeological research.
11. Visit to *Cerro del Hierro* geosite of the participants in the Environmental Education Master, Universities of *Malaga, Cadiz, Cordoba, Granada, Huelva, Almería, Jaén* and *Pablo de Olavide* of Seville.
12. Meeting of the Geopark Working Group, February 23.
13. Meeting of the Governing Board of *Sierra Norte de Sevilla* Geopark, March 10.
14. Journey through the Geopark of the Provincial Delegate of Environment and the managers of the Andalusia Agency of Environment and Water.
15. Scholars Contest for choosing the name of new mascot of the Viar fossil trunk.

Networking

16. Attendance at the 36th Meeting of the Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network, Rokua Geopark (Finland), 1 - 2 September.

17. Participation in the 13th Conference of the European Geoparks, Rokua Geopark (Finland), 3 to 6 September. Communication: "Ethnographic heritage recovery in *Sierra Norte de Sevilla* Geopark: limekilns restoring".

18. Meeting of the Spanish Geoparks Committee; Visitor Centre *Cortijo El Berrocal*.

19. II Open Day of the Spanish Geoparks Committee; *Constantina, Sierra Norte de Sevilla* Geopark.

20. Participation in EGN fossils working group.

Activity by Partners

21. Course: "Geotourism guide in natural and urban spaces".

22. Seminar about the implementation of the EU Natura 2000.

23. Awards ceremony of the Festival of Short Film of *San Nicolas del Puerto*.

SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The UNESCO Global Geopark Sierras Subbéticas has got an award on the occasion of the 28F, the Day of Andalusia.
2. Restoration activities continue removing waste material in the Lanchares Quarries.
3. Anchors from non-authorized climbing routes that can damage natural heritage continue to be removed in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark. (October-December, 2015).
4. Celebration a Board Meeting in the Geopark: The Delegate of the Local Government of Environment and the director of the Park meet with the representatives of different collectives and administrations linked to the Natural Park/ Geopark (mayors, landowners, entrepreneurs, etc.). At this meeting the Geopark progress and the main achievements are communicated and discussed. In this board meeting, the Geopark's objectives for 2016 were passed. (January, 27).
5. Exhibition: Birds of Iberian Peninsula. Handmade-painted pottery birds situated in their most representative habitat, in the Mycological Garden, made by two local artisans, "El Barro Animado", experts in Ornithology and Craftmanship. The exhibition was presented by the Provincial Delegate of Environment.
6. Scientific advice for the design of a permanent exhibition on the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (especially focused on fossils) in Cabra, very near the Subbética Green Way (the ancient railway), organised by the council of Cabra.
7. Installation of crash barriers in the road that leads to the geosites El Picacho and Los Lanchares Karren.
8. Meeting of the Delegate on Environment and Territorial Planning, Francisco de Paula Algar, with the local agents, to acknowledge their involvement in the Geopark and to congratulate them for the green card obtained after the last revalidation.
9. Publishing of Geopark's news in the media.

Networking

10. Participation in the 35th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Finland, and attendance to the European Geoparks Conference, where the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark got a green card, Sept 2015.

Activity by Partners

Contact: pn.subbeticas.cmaot@juntadeandalucia.es

11. Presentation of the book: "*The Abyss of Cabra*" (La Sima de Cabra), one of the most renowned geosite of Sierras Subbéticas, Edited by the Local Action Group.
12. Council of Cabra: Book for the urban Geotrail: Cabra Jurásica and design of a wallet with different items to use during the trail.

Sitia Geopark, Greece

Progress Report, 2015

The official operation begins in early September 2015 when Sitia's Geopark became the new member of the European Geoparks Network.

Significant achievements in 2015

- Accession to the European and Global Geoparks Network of UNESCO
- Meetings with local organizations in order to inform them about the Geopark's activities.
- Visits to schools to inform teachers about the educational programs of Sitia's Geopark
- Marking new geotrails and new Geotopes within the Geopark area.
- Cooperation with national and European partners to implement projects funded by the European Union
- Implementation of educational activities in information center and hospitality of Geopark

Contribution to the work of EGN

- Participation in the 13th Conference of European Geoparks

Administrative structure and financial situation

- Organizing Sitia's Geopark Management Committee.
- Organizing the new Budget of Sitia's Geopark, for 2016 and getting approval by the City's Council.

Strategic partnership

- Organizing new educational programs in cooperation with the Center for Environmental Education for biodiversity and geology of the Geopark.

Marketing and promotion

- Cooperation with tourist organizations for the promotion of Sitia's Geopark in international thematic tourism exhibitions.
- Cooperation with local businesses in order to promote and financially support Sitia's Geopark

Contacts:

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Scientific Collaborator - Geologist: Spyros Staridas (staridasgeography@gmail.com)

President of D.O.K.A.S.: Leonidas Terzis (terzis_l@yahoo.gr)

SOBRARBE GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. **Promotion of the craft food products** of the Geopark in regional fairs. September 2015
2. **Signposting of the Geopark:** 13 new information panels have been installed all over the territory of the Sobrarbe Geopark. September 2015
3. **Visit of students and professors** of a Farm Lyceum from Bretagne (France) in order to know the project of the Geopark's food products. 6th and 7th October 2015
4. **IX Meeting of World Heritage Sites Managers:** The Sobrarbe Geopark attended this meeting organized by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports of the Government of Spain on the 6th and 7th October 2015. The central theme of the meeting, was the influence of World Heritage Sites in social benefits and local development. The Sobrarbe Geopark presented a communication about its works for the public awareness on the value of World Heritage Sites and the Geopark for the development of the territory in the Sobrarbe.
5. **Training course for Partner Enterprises of the Sobrarbe Geopark:** This course took place the 1st, 6th and 8th October. During this course the attendants were informed of the new quality requirements that the Geopark is going to ask to its partner enterprises, especially concerning their commitment with sustainable tourism and the environmental conservation in the Geopark.
6. **Second Conference on Archaeology of the Sobrarbe Geopark:** it took place on the 17th and 18th October at the headquarters of the Geopark. The lectures were performed by researchers belonging to the network of groups of High Mountain Archaeology of the Pyrenees. They disseminated the last findings of these groups in the Geopark.
7. **Annual Seminar of the Geopark.** From the 23rd October to the 25th October was held the IX Seminar of the Sobrarbe Geopark under the title "The karst underground secrets of the Pyrenees", with 114 people registered and taking part in the conferences and field trips organized during the seminar.
8. **Consultative Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe:** The Sobrarbe Geopark, as member of the Cultural Route "Megalithic Routs" attended this Forum, organized by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of the Government of Spain on the 29th and 30th October 2015. . The central theme of the Forum was networking in culture and heritage.
9. **Guided excursions in the Geopark:** 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. October-November 2015.
10. **III Seminar of the Ecotourism Club of Spain:** The Geopark attended this seminar celebrated from the 2nd to the 4th of December 2015.

11. **Workshop on minerals and mining heritage**, taught by Josep Maria Mata Perelló, member of the Advisory Scientific Committee Sobrarbe Geopark. It took place the 7th and 8th November. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the participants into the identification of minerals and rocks in general and in Sobrarbe Geopark in particular.
12. **Workshop on medieval painting**: This workshop was organised by the Geopark from the 13rd to the 15th November 2015. It allowed 20 students to deepen the knowledge of medieval painting, an important part of the historical and artistic heritage in Sobrarbe and that has enabled to make small craft works of medieval painting. The course has been a great success, both in the number of attendants and the degree of satisfaction that participants have expressed in the evaluation surveys. For three days they have learned the basic theoretical concepts and they have been doing their own work, with surprising results. Facebook got to have more than 2.044 visits in a day related to the photographs of the paintings made by the attendants.
13. **Publication of the call for proposals of the research grants** of the Geopark. These grants are aimed to research works on the geology of the Geopark. Two projects have been awarded with a grant. December 2015
14. **Publication of a new edition of the Magazine “Discover Sobrarbe”** in French, for its distribution in the French towns near the border with Sobrarbe, to promote tourism in the Geopark. December 2015.
15. **Tv Programme in the regional TV of Aragón**: The 30th December 2015 was recorded a programme for the regional TV about the Sobrarbe Geopark.
16. **Organization of guided visits to the medieval monastery** of San Victorian, located in one of the best known geological sites of the Geopark. January-December 2016
17. **Lecture on snow science and avalanches, and how to behave in the mountains**: This lecture was organized by the Sobrarbe Geopark on the 23rd January, with the aim of learning to enjoy the mountains safely, and to inform, educate and raise awareness of geological hazards, in this case about avalanches; 140 people attended this activity.
18. **Participation in the tourism fair “FITUR”**, in the stand of the Spanish Ministry for the environment, with the association Turebe, to promote ecotourism in the Man and Biosphere Reserves and in the Geoparks. January 2016.
19. **Institutional visits**: The Geopark has received the visit of the General Director for Heritage of the Regional Government of Aragon, and of the Councillor for Sustainability and Rural Development of the same Regional Government during January 2016.
20. **Cooperation in the VII Geological Olympiad of Aragon**. 6th February 2016
21. **Project to access Lecina Superior cave**: This cave, recognised as World Heritage Site “Rock art of the Mediterranean Arc”, is located inside the Geopark. The field works started in December 2015: cleaning of paths, signposting, building new infrastructures to reach the caves, following the project developed by the Geopark, that will make possible to visit this caves for the general public.

22. **Organization of the First Seminar on Hebrew tourism in Sobrarbe Geopark:**
This seminar has taken place from the 4th to 6th March 2016. During the seminar the book "The Jewish communities in Sobrarbe" was presented, together with conferences and workshops on the Jewish culture and the Israeli tourism market.

Networking

23. **Participation in the 36th EGN Committee Meeting** in Rokua Geopark. September 2015
24. **Participation in the GGN Conference in Rokua Geopark.** Presentation on the activities of the Sobrarbe Geopark by the Scientific Coordinator of Sobrarbe Geopark, Anchel Belmonte. September 2015:
25. **Participation in the Magazine nº 13 of the EGN** by sending an article about the new Geological Itineraries of the Sobrarbe Geopark .October 2015.
26. **Participation in the EGN Newsletter nº 5 of the EGN.**
27. **Visit of representatives of the "Conca de Tremp" Geopark Project,**(1st and 2nd February) together with different stakeholders of this territory in order to know about the infrastructures, activities and working of Sobrarbe Geopark.
28. **Publication of news about the Sobrarbe Geopark activities** in the EGN, GGN and UNESCO websites.

Activity by Partners

29. **Cross-border cooperation:** The Sobrarbe Geopark has submitted 5 projects to the cooperation program INTERREG VA Spain-France-Andorra 2014-2020, all of them framed in Axis 3: To promote the protection, recovery, sustainable use of local resources PROGRAM OBJECTIVE: Valuing the natural and cultural heritage through joint approaches to sustainable development
30. **Participation** in the preparation and submission of two INTERREG-SUDOE Projects. October 2015
31. **Edition of the book of photographs** "The writing of time" (La Escritura del Tiempo). This book is the result of the work carried out under the Pyrenees-Monte Perdido, World Heritage Interreg IVA project, based on the exhibition of photographs and on the video on the geological history of this WHS. This book will be available to the public in the interpretation centre of the Sobrarbe Geopark.
32. **Presentation of Magazine "Cotiella" nº5.** This magazine on speleology in the Sobrarbe
33. **Creation of new leaflet** on the Jewish Heritage in Sobrarbe and Participation in the **Tourism Fair of Israel** from 5th to 7th February 2016 in Tel Aviv in partnership with the Association of tourism enterprises of Sobrarbe.
34. **Organization of workshops** regarding the management plan of the World Heritage Site "Pirineos Monte Perdido", located partially inside the Geopark, in cooperation with the regional Government of Aragon and the French authorities in charge of this WHS. March 2016.

35. **Project “Ecotourists Ambassadors”**. This projects consists on the creation of a community of tourists in Spain through a technological application that provides facilities to travel to tourism destinations of the Ecotourism Club of Spain, to which belongs the Sobrarbe Geopark.

STYRIAN EISENWURZEN NATURE- AND GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting and selling of Geopark Partner food products at our renovated office.
2. Brainstorming at the GeoVillage Gams. Conception of geotouristic projects which will have priority during the forthcoming years. Project development and conception with a main focus on the improvement of the geotouristic facilities. Touristic and scientific aspects will have priority for the next years.
3. Planning of Geopark activities during 2016, December 2015
4. Update and extension of our homepage www.eisenwurzen.com. December 2015-January 2016
5. Hiring of two additional employees, one for the office (reception and assistance of the management) and one Geoscientist (project management and scientific support), January 2016.
6. Winter adventure days attended by approximately 40 children (program for two days at the Geopark municipality Landl), February 2016
7. First steps towards an implementation of a corporate design including logos, information boards, homepage, merchandise and brochures. February 2016

Networking

8. Participation in the 13rd European Geoparks Conference in Finland, September 2015. Heinz Kollmann, Irmgard Auer
9. Application Project with Geopark Iridja, October 2015
10. Workshop: “Project development Nature and Geopark Culinary Delights Partner”, November 2015
11. Participation at the meeting of the Austrian Geopark Forum on 23 November 2015 in Vienna
12. Participation at the “Interpaedagogica”, an exhibition for schools, teachers and education in Linz, November 2015
13. Preparation of a manuscript for a Guidebook of all four Austrian Geoparks, to be published at spring 2016. December, January 2016
14. Preparation of a template for individual formation sheets of Austrian Geoparks, January 2016
15. Editing and publication of a sympathy brochure on the Geopark in German as well as a new brochure in English including all kinds of information on geological sites, the natural environment, culture, accommodations, Nature and Geopark

Partner and the geographic location as well as the access to the Nature and Geopark. February 2016

Partners

16. New Nature and Geopark Culinary Delights Partner: Grabenbauer (Bio-Products: natural and fruit yoghurts from pasteurized raw milk, curd and curd spreads, schnapps); Claudia Gsellmann (rose sugar, rose salt, rose pepper, rose vinegar, different flower teas, rosehip and rosehip liquor, rose jelly, rose soap); Karin Winkler (alpaca wool, alpaca soap, sheep and alpaca felt products); Goat farm Milwisch (goat cheese, curd cheese from goat milk, goat milk); Stauchner Hermann (free-range eggs); September-December 2015
17. New Nature and Geopark restaurants: Jausenstation Feldbauer, Gasthof Stiegenwirt, Kirchenwirt Gams and Gasthof Eschau; January-February 2016
18. Nature and Geopark schools in St. Gallen and Weißenbach: visits and presentations of the Nature and Geopark throughout the educational program, movie night with a documentary on the Styrian Eisenwurzten, project days at the "Wegscheider" pond, project day by the primary school Weißenbach at the Gallenstein castle including educational sites in biology and geology along the trails towards the castle. September-November 2015

SWABIAN ALB GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Celebration the “Day of the Geotop” in an outstanding remnant of the Swabian volcano (volcanic chimney) in Metzingen for the second time, September 2015.
2. Inauguration of the Discoverer World in Bad Urach with its geological modules as a new Geopark Infocenter, October 2015.
3. Presentation our Geopark in a Mineral- and Fossil Fair in Fellbach, October 2015.
4. Meeting of the Geopark Infocenters at the “Museum im Kräuterkasten” in Albstadt, October 2015.
5. Presentation our Geopark to the municipality council of Bad Urach, October 2015.
6. Meeting of the Geopark advisory board at the Biosphere reserve information center in Münsingen, November 2015.
7. Presentation our Geopark to the working group “Rural Areas” of the political party CDU in Blaubeuren, November 2015.
8. Meeting of the Geopark task force at the Biosphere reserve information center in Münsingen, November 2015.
9. Inauguration of the renewed geological unit in the Museum of Schelklingen, November 2015.
10. Meeting in Stuttgart with representatives of our Partner Geopark Rokua to initiate new activities within the partnership, November 2015.
11. Formation of a new Geopark steering group in the county Esslingen, November 2015.
12. Press conference in Stuttgart in the frame of the release of the new book about cultural landscapes on the Swabian Alb, December 2015.
13. Annual general meeting of all members of the registered association Geopark Swabian Alb at the Biosphere reserve information center in Münsingen. Authorization of the new Geopark Masterplan, December 2015.
14. Participation on a product training in preparation of the attendance at the tourism fair CMT, January 2016.
15. Presentation the Geopark and its project “Geo Adventure Center” in Zwiefalten to the working group “Rural Areas” of the political party SPD, January 2016.
16. Release of a new edition of the brochure “Adventure Geopark”, January 2016.

17. Presentation of the Geopark at the tourism fair CMT in Stuttgart, activity program with partners, January 2016.
18. Press Conference on the tourism fair CMT in Stuttgart concerning awarding Geopark Swabian Alb as UNESCO Global Geopark, January 2016.
19. Inauguration of the museum in Ehingen with its geological modules as a new Geopark Infocenter, January 2016.
20. Presentation the Geopark to geography students of the University of Tübingen, January 2016.
21. Attendance a workshop in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin concerning the implementation of a National Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks in Germany, January 2016.
22. Ceremony in the State Ministry in Stuttgart with handing out the certificate concerning UNESCO recognition of the Geopark, February 2016.

Networking

23. Participation in the 36th Coordination Committee Meeting in Rovaniemi Finland, September 2015.
24. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference in Oulu, Finland. Lecture about the benefits of partnerships with Building Material Associations, September 2015.
25. Meeting with representatives of world heritage sites on the Swabian Alb about joint marketing projects, October 2015
26. Meeting with the operators of the show caves of the Swabian Alb in Sontheim. Discussing joint marketing projects, October 2015.
27. Come together. Presentation our Geopark to the landscape guides of the Swabian Alb. Discussing joint projects in 2016, November 2015.
28. Participation in the meeting of the National Geoparks in Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald, November 2015.

Activity by Partners

29. Participation of Geopark's partners at the Germany wide "Day of the Geotop". with different activities like guided tours or activity days, September 2015.
30. Celebration the "Day of the Geotop" with two quarry companies in Ehingen and Sonnenbühl. The companies opened their quarries for the public to give insight in quarrying and earth history, September 2015.

TERRA.VITA GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The Quality Hiking Project, addressing the hiking trail network in the TERRA.vita area was supported by the results of an expertise by an external consultant: TERRA.vita has a high potential as a quality hiking region.
2. Further steps have been taken, to establish a transborder hiking trail connecting the two UNESCO Geoparks de Hondsrug (NL) and TERRA.vita. Additionally an EFRE application is asking for additional money to raise the quality of the trail.
3. New premium hiking trails have been opened in the Tecklenburger Land area, financially supported by TERRA.vita.
4. A new storytelling project has been launched for the silversea gallery, addressing young people through especially designed guided tours.
5. TERRA.vita addressed several member assemblies of different organisations and board meetings on new Geopark developments. A presentation was made additionally at the geological survey of Lower Saxony
6. Half day volunteer cooperation with Coca Cola to enhance a prominent geosite.
7. Presentation of TERRA.vita at a special fair (Regialog), addressing young professionals without a job. As a result now an anthropologist is working for us for an 8 month period, collecting data of megalithic relevance along a new hiking trail, to be published in a new tourguide booklet. The salary is covered 100% by external resources.
8. The PAN application has been accepted by the German Environmental Foundation. This project in cooperation with the University of Osnabrück and the Start Up MindQ will focus on the long term documentation and visualisation of changes in natural and cultural environments. The project will also be presented during the international Geoparks Conference in the UK next September.
9. Meeting of all County managers and the mayors of two major cities just in advance of the UNESCO decision to raise awareness for the new IGGP and asking for more financial support successfully.
10. The working group on regional products is consolidated and new members join the efforts. As a result, the University of Applied Sciences has prepared a EFRE application for a new project called Food Assembly
11. A new cooperation has been started with a small company “Vom Fass”, selling products only in bottles and reusable packaging.

Networking

12. Participation in the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting at Rokua Global Geopark in Finland in September 2015.
13. Publishing of an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13.
14. In advance of the UNESCO decision, we (just as all Global Geoparks in Germany did) addressed all our members of parliament to reach a unanimous support of the German government for the new IGGP Program.
15. Participation at a meeting of National Geoparks in Germany in November, just some days in advance of the UNESCO decision and providing information on the

progress made in the cooperation with the German UNESCO Commission und the responsible ministry of the exterior.

16. As the seat of the Forum of UNESCO Global Geoparks in Germany is located in TERRA.vita/Osnabrück, several activities have been started. We addressed the German Environmental Foundation asking if the Foundation is interested to join the new National Geopark Committee to be established by the Ministry of the Exterior in springtime of 2016. The same happened with the University of Osnabrück. Here we asked Mrs. Prof. Broll, responsible for soil sciences and a soil awareness project in Germany. Both institutions made it to the final list of the ministry. Also the speaker of the Forum, Hartmut Escher will be a member of the committee.
17. In January TERRA.vita invited the ministry of the exterior for a life experience of an operating Geopark. A delegation of three visited TERRA.vita, accompanied by all six UNESCO Geoparks in Germany.
18. TERRA.vita joined a workshop organized by the Ministry in Berlin together with all UNESCO Geoparks in Germany, the German UNESCO Commission and the speaker of the UNESCO Project School Program in Germany. Among other items, potential national criteria for Global Geoparks in Germany have been discussed.

Activity by Partners

19. A partner project is still on the way. First meetings were held with a new integrated school in Westercappeln/Lotte , interested to become a partner school of TERRA.vita.
20. We reached another agreement with the county of Steinfurt, to arrange an annual project planning meeting together with all affected communities. This format is now covering the whole Geopark area.
21. The German Environmental Foundation offered the space and a time slot to have an open discussion on UNESCO Geopark issues during the environmental week in June in the garden of Castle Bellevue in Berlin, the seat of the German president.

TERRAS DE CAVALEIROS GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Interviews on TV/Radio (12) and articles (28) about the Geopark in national and regional media as well as a monthly Geopark newsletter, September 2015 - March 2016
2. Three activities for action awareness about the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark in parish councils, September 2015 – March 2016
3. Organization of an excursion with the members of the Association of Retired Professors of Maia, September 2015
4. Celebration of the World Tourism Day with the organization of an excursion to the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, September 2015
5. Organization of an educational programme for the Valongo Secondary School (77 students), October 2015
6. Participation in the Entrepreneurship Congress, Lisbon, October 2015
7. Celebration of the 70th UNESCO anniversary with a mega school “Magusto” (popular festivity with chestnuts) with the participation of all schools of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, in a total of 523 students, November 2015
8. Participation in the INTUR – Valladolid Fair, with the participation of Caretos (a costume that is traditional of Carnival in the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark), November, 2015
9. Organization of the Week of Autochthone Forest, with the participation of students from the schools of Macedo de Cavaleiros, in a total of 642 students, November 2015
10. Participation and oral presentation in the Seminar about Geological Resources, Environment and Spatial planning, Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro University, November 2015
11. Participation in the celebrations of the World Science Day with activities in the “Knowledge Pavilion”, Lisbon, November 2015
12. Participation in the 4th Tourism International Congress, Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, December 2015
13. Initiation of the Management planning for eight geosites by the definition of the geosites area and buffer area, January-March 2016
14. Participation in the Tourism and Hunting Fair in Macedo de Cavaleiros and organization of a local products tasting (olive oil, honey, bread, regional sausages and cheese), January 2016

15. Organization of an excursion for a group of 44 people of the INATEL Foundation, February 2016
16. Organization of an educational programme for the Macedo de Cavaleiros Secondary School (87 students), February 2015
17. Participation in the Lisbon Tourism Fair at FIL, Lisbon, March 2016
18. Collaboration in the exposition of rocks organized by the “Tourism Interactive Store”, Vila Pouca de Aguiar, March 2016

Networking

19. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference and presentation of a paper, Finland, September 2015
20. Submission of an article for the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, September 2015
21. Collaboration with the Mt. Apoi Geopark (Japan), with rock samples of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark to expose at the Mt. Apoi Visitor Center, January 2016
22. Participation with a text for the 5th EGN newsletter, January 2016
23. Meeting of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, March 2016

Activity by Partners

24. Establishment of partnerships with local and regional tourism companies (“Naturthoughts”, “The Getaway Van” and “My best hotel”), September 2015 – March 2016
25. Organization of an excursion to the Mines of Murçós geosite, integrated in the programme “Life Science in summer” and “filming phase” for the documentary about this geosite, September 2015
26. Participation and development of the promotional poster for the UNESCO contest “GEA - TERRA MÃE”, organized by the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, November 2015
27. Application for the Blue Flag Programme promoted by the ABAE (European Blue Flag Association) with nine activities, January 2016
28. Development of three days activities, as a part of the Eco-Schools programme promoted by the ABAE, with students of the schools of Macedo de Cavaleiros, January – February 2016
29. Participation in the 7-day-event “Week of the Partners of the Mines and Points of Geological Interest Roadmap”, with three activities in the territory of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, March 2015

TROODOS GLOBAL GEOPARK, CYPRUS

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organized three meetings of the Troodos Geopark Coordinating Committee on 16 October 2015, 30 November 2015 and 1st March 2016, for the implementation of actions regarding the recommendations of the EGN and GGN networks.
2. Organizing a conference with title “Troodos Geopark: A monument of world geological heritage of Earth” which will be held on 8 April 2016 in a geopark community.
3. Participation of the Troodos Geopark with a kiosk at the Mediterranean Science Festival which was held in Limassol (Cyprus), 3-6 December 2015.
4. Touring of the member of the Cyprus Association of Geologists and Mining Engineers in the Troodos Geopark Visitor Center and at the geotrail “Teisia tis Madaris”, 12 December 2015.
5. Organized tours in the Troodos Geopark Visitors Center up to 1st March 2016 : Cyprus Tourism Organization Employees, American Academy, Journalists, Schools (from Cyprus and Abroad) and 21 various groups from Cyprus of about 30 people at a time.
6. Presentation of the Troodos Geopark at the Solea High school, October 2015.
7. Presentation of the Troodos Geopark in the frame of Troodos Open University in cooperation with the University of Cyprus at Rodon Hotel at Agros village, 10 October 2015.
8. Paper for the Paris Summit – CLIMATE CHANGE – December 2015 – Troodos Geopark.
9. Presentation of the Troodos Geopark at LE FIGARO MAGAZINE (FRANCE) January 2016.
10. Involvement of the Troodos Geopark with the Pancyprian Student Contest for Poster Design themed "Troodos Geopark ", which is organized by the National Commission for UNESCO, February 2016.
11. Lectures for Troodos Geopark to the Associated Schools Network of the National Commission for UNESCO , February – March 2016.
12. Introduction of a new department in the Management Body :Troodos Media. The Department has the Responsibility of promoting the Geopark in Radio Stations, TV programs, the issue of the Newsletter, to print the Geopark’s newspaper, to gather all the papers concerning the Elements of the Geopark (academic, culture, scientific, Geotourism, ecotourism etc).

13. Updating the Strategy – Local Engagement to conduct the Geopark’s Strategy – 12 workshops – thematic interests – Businesses, Community Councils, Students, Youth Clubs, Sport Clubs, Tourism Agents and others.
14. Apply for the Funding of the Strategy (LEADER axis) for 4.5 million – to be approved within April 2016.
15. Meetings with the Businesses of the Geopark to further promote the Geopark’s Agreement Pact.
16. Presentation of the Geopark at 5 TV programs (1 Russian channel), and 3 Radio Stations.
17. Presentation of the Geopark in Magazines and Newspapers 4 times (Cyprus Weekly, Phileleftheros).
18. Presentation in Electronic Media (Online Newspapers) and Radio Spots.
19. Preparation of 6 new funding schemes under INTERREG with 6 other Geoparks (to be submitted until 15th April 2016).

Networking

20. Participation in the 13th European Geoparks Conference in the City of Oulu and the Rokua Geopark, 3 – 6 September 2015.
21. Participation in the Sitia Global Geopark Conference, 26-27 February 2016 (Crete, Greece).
22. Participation in the event of the Hellenic National Commission of UNESCO of the Greek Ministry of Exterior for the new program of UNESCO, 9 March 2016.

Activity by Partners

23. Organized thematic Workshop of Vlassides Winery with the Support of the Geopark to promote the wines of the Area as well at the impact of Geology at product's character with 45 participants, December 2015.
24. Organized thematic Workshop : Cooking with a famous Chef using Troodos' local products - Fusion Cuisine, in Symposio Tavern at Pelendri Village, with the support of the Geopark to promote local gastronomy with 15 participants and local chefs, January 2016.

TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. September 2015 – March 2016 - 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".
2. September 2015 TREKKING ON SUMMER IN THE PARK Project "Discovering the Maremma. Visits to the Park" with 17 different tour routes to archaeological sites and geological sites in the Park. It 's been made a brochure with all the system of trails in the Park for geotourism and a program of guided tours has been organized lasted all summer. Multithematic guided tours, (archeology, geology, mining, environment) are allowed to make easily accessible the cultural and geological heritage and of the Park.
3. 1st – 3th of September 2015 Partecipation at 36th Meeting of Coordination Committee in Werningerode in Rokua Geopark in Finland;
4. 27th of October –.Organization of the workshop "Join Maremma Online" at the Congress Center of the Park. Interventions of famous Italian and European experts an tourism, blogs, innovation, start-ups, green economy. About 100 tour operators in the area attended the event
5. 2nd October Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the National Mining Parks and Museums Network (ISPRA leader);
6. 4th of December Campiglia Marittima. Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Tuscan Mining Geopark, Val di Cornia and Mining Park of Elba (three mining parks in Southern Tuscany) to design and implement cultural activities in coordination
7. 10th of December Siena Participation in the event: The Department of Physical Sciences, Earth and Environment, University of Siena meets the world of work "The geopark has shown students of geology what kind of work you can do in a protected area";
8. Dicember 2015 Expression of interest in the list of interest reports for the establishment managed og Region of Tuscany of the Operating Groups (GO) for European Partnership Innovation (PEI) with the following proposal: Governance Innovation;

9. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2015 – March 2016.
10. After three years of studies and research the Park in collaboration with the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Siena has published three volumes on the enhancement of the geological sites and mineralogical heritage: A.COSTANTINI (ed), *Geotopi di importanza regionale nelle Province di Siena e Grosseto*, Pisa 2015 (Geotopes of regional importance in the provinces of Siena and Grosseto); A. COSTANTINI (ed), *Geositi: eccellenze della natura nel Parco delle Colline Metallifere – Tuscan Mining Geopark*, Pisa 2015 (Geosites: excellence of nature in the Colline Metallifere Park - Tuscan Mining Geopark); A.COSTANTINI, G. PAGANI (a cura di), *Minerali: bellezze della natura nel Parco delle Colline Metallifere – Tuscan Mining Geopark*, Pisa 2015 (Minerals: beauties of nature in the Colline Metallifere Park - Tuscan Mining Geopark)
11. 24th of February Roma First meeting of the Committee of the National Parks Network and mining museums at the headquarters of the Ministry of Economic Development. We treated numerous subjects: the census of parks and museums, creating a single database of mining emergencies of Italy.
12. 27th of February Gavorrano Participation in the Regional Assembly of beekeepers - The meeting was hosted at the headquarters of the Geopark. Many problems have been addressed: beekeeping, environmental sustainability and the geopark has proposed a collaboration within the European Charter of Sustainable Tourism
13. 4TH of March Florence Regional Council of Tuscany Hall. Participation in the conference to present the feasibility of “TERRE ETRUSCHE TOWARDS A VAST AREA STRATEGIC PLAN” where a model of sustainable development were presented: Tuscan Archipelago - Coast - Cities within Tuscan Mining UNESCO Global Geopark
14. 10th of March Rome Meeting of the Italian National Committee of the UNESCO Global Geoparks
15. 16th- 20th of March EGN Coordination Committee in Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark

Networking

16. Publishing an article on minerals of Tuscan Mining Geoparks in the European Geoparks Magazine.

Activity by Partners

15. Renewal of the protocol of understanding and agreement with the Parco Geominerario Naturalistico Ambientale della Sardegna

VIKOS-AOOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Inauguration of the Geopark Information Centre in Papigo village with the presence of local and regional authorities.
2. Establishment and operation of a flexible operational model of the Geopark.
3. Creation of the biodiversity interpretive route in the Geopark with 12 panels.
4. The Councils of the 2 Municipalities of the Geopark and the Regional Authority of Epirus decided to contribute to the Geopark budget for the 2016.
5. Establishment of a flexible operational model of the Geopark. Redefinition of the members of the Geopark Management Committee and important decisions for its operation.
6. The Councils of the 2 Municipalities of the Geopark and the Regional Authority of Epirus decided to contribute to the Geopark budget for the 2016.
7. Establishment of a flexible operational model of the Geopark. Redefinition of the members of the Geopark Management Committee and important decisions for its operation.
8. Creation and publication of a leaflet with map regarding the geotopes in the Vikos Aaos Geopark in Greek and English.
9. Creation and installation of 8 panels regarding geological values and geotopes.
10. Discussion with other Geoparks in the Mediterranean area to apply for common projects.
11. Distribution of the leaflet regarding the 5 interpretive thematic routes of the Geopark in Greek and in English.
12. Distribution of the Vikos- Aaos Geopark eco-guide book in Greek and in English.
13. Distribution of the leaflet regarding the Geotopes of the Geopark in Greek and in English.
14. Release of a video to the local TV news regarding the Vikos- Aaos Geopark and the Unesco GG.
15. Press release regarding the Unesco Global Geoparks.
16. Coordination of new agriculturists of the Geopark to establish a project regarding the cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants in relation with other Geoparks.
17. Participation of the Greek Geopark workshop in Sitia, Crete, 26-27 February 2016.

Networking

18. Participation at the EGN 36th CC meeting and 13th EGN Conference at the Rokua GG (Finland) with 1 representative.
19. Participation in the EGN magazine, Issue 12: “Geotrails to the karstic geofoms of Astraka Plateau in Vikos- Aaos Geopark”.
20. Promotion of the EGN & GGN networks -as well as the Unesco Global Geoparks-through the 2 Information centers and the Eco-guide book.

Activity by Partners

21. Cooperation with the Regional Authority of Epirus and the Greek- German Assembly to establish a 300 km hiking network path in the Geopark and the wider area of Pindos mountains according to the standards of certified trails in Europe.
22. Cooperation with the Municipalities of Konitsa and Zagori for the operation of the Information Centres.
23. Presentation of the Vikos Aaos Geopark at the information centres of the Northern Pindos National Park (for tourists). Action run by the Management body of the Northern Pindos National Park.
24. Presentation of the Vikos Aaos Geopark at the Environmental Education Centre of Konitsa (for students). Action runby the Env. Ed. Centre of Konitsa

VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA GLOBAL GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Management of the Geopark's Social networks; Facebook (3154 fans, 27% increase since the last report) and Twitter (@VilluercasGPark, 3898 followers, 20% increase since the last report). Instagram, 113 followers.
2. Celebration of the first Geopark Council (Executive Board) after the 2015 Spanish local and regional elections. Introducing the new political representatives.
3. Geopark Territorial Council (Geopark Steering Committee) meetings in Cañamero, Sept and Oct; Logrosán, Dec; Feb.
4. Meeting of the Geopark Scientific and Educative Committee. Oct.
5. Geotourism Promotional Event “Geodisea 2015”. Festival activities. Tours, tastings, contests and other activities in four weekends. Press conference and diffusion activities. October to November.
6. Geocentros project 2015-2016. Geopark educational group meeting. October.
7. Speech “The Geopark as a development strategy” at the University of Castilla La Mancha (Ciudad Real). October.
8. Communication on Geopark in the Journal of the National Rural Network. November.
9. Sectorial meetings with cooperatives, agri-food and tourism companies and NGO to prepare the basis for a new Geopark Master Plan. November.
10. Ceremony to Commemorate the Geopark Green Card and the new UNESCO label. Participation of local authorities, educational and scientific community, associations, technicians and companies. Several Global Geoparks participate through video. December.
11. New set of interpretative and directional signs have been installed at the geosites, viewpoints and roads. Signposts installed in the national highway. January.
12. Tourism promotion at International Tourism Fair FITUR in Madrid. Stand of Extremadura Region.
13. SWOT analysis workshop on tourism, education and other sectors of sustainable development in Guadeloupe. Towards the new Geopark Master Plan. February.
14. Presentation on the Geopark at School of Business, Finance and Tourism, University of Extremadura. February.

15. Meeting of the Geopark Council in Castañar de Ibor to prepare the Action Plan 2016. Designation of new members of the Scientific Committee, Territorial Commission, and Geoparks' Networks. March.
16. Meeting of Working Group "Geocentros" to coordinate activities and prepare the next Geoconvivencia and the educative activities in the 7th European Geopark Week. March.
17. Presence in the International Birdwatching Tourism Fair FIO 2016 at Monfragüe National Park with the presence of companies in the Geopark and the Geopark Birding Club. March.

Networking

1. 36 EGN Coordination Committee and European Geoparks Conference in Rokua Geopark. First Green Card for Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. Sept. 2015.
2. Meeting of the Spanish Geoparks Committee Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark. Celebration of the II Open Days of the Spanish Geoparks Committee in Sierra Norte de Sevilla. November.
3. Mission in Nicaragua: Rio Coco Geopark project. November.
4. Reception of a delegation of the aspiring Geopark Ribeira Sacra. November.
5. Participation at EGN Stand in FITUR (Madrid) and ITB (Berlin) 2016. January and March.
6. Joint presentation of the European Geoparks Network and the Spanish Geoparks Committee with Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark in the pressroom at the Extremadura Stand in FITUR 2016.
7. Presentation of a cross border cooperation project between Naturtejo and Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geoparks: "Bridge over the Armorican Quartzite". FEDER-INTERREG.

Activity by Partners

1. University of Extremadura. Lecture of the PhD Thesis of Iván Cortijo (Geopark staff) about First Metazoan Fossils. September.
2. Participation of "Geovilluercas", Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark Tourism Companies Association, in the III Permanent Seminar on Spanish Ecotourism.

VULKANEIFEL GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, September 2015–March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Weekly press information of Geopark program in local bulletins and internet
2. Numerous press articles on Geopark activities in local press media
3. Guided excursions on local flora, fauna and geology
4. Maintenance of various geotopes and biotopes
5. Release of new geopark calendar for winter season 2015/2016. Compilation of almost 200 excursions, walks, activities
6. Television report (SWR television) about UNESCO Global Geopark Vulkaneifel
7. Continuation of the lecture series “Vulkaneifel Academy” with various designated speakers from natural and earth sciences
8. Continuation of environmental education (earth sciences), implementation of the environmental education concept, visit of a primary school at an apiculture
9. Ornithological monitoring regarding autumn migratory birds at Trautzberg Maar, a maar that was recovered from us in 2014
10. Beginning of restauration of a historic mineral water well in Brockscheid
11. Printing and release of an “activity report 2014”, informing about all measures and activities that have been carried out by Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel in 2014
12. Participation at the tourism fair “Vakanz” in Luxemburg (15.01. – 17.01.2016), presentation of the Vulkaneifel and the GGN

Networking

13. Participation of the two representatives in EGN AC/CC meeting in Rokua
14. Contribution to EGN Newsletter “Vulkaneifel Academy: environmental education at Vulkaneifel UNESCO Geopark“
15. Lobbying for the establishment of UNESCO Global Geoparks on national german level, addressing members of parliament, federal ministries and German UNESCO Commission
16. Meeting of working group of Nature Parks in Rhineland-Palatinate
17. Participation at Geopark Workshop in Sitia, Greece, 26.02.2016: “Engine of growth of the local economy and the alternative tourism. Examples from other Greek & Global Geoparks”

18. permanent consultations with regional tourist boards and tourist informations

19. Participation at ITB 2016, support of GGN booth together with partners

Activity by Partners

20. Collaboration commitment with Applied University of Salzburg, aiming a development of Geotourism

21. Collaboration with Museum of Natural History in Gerolstein, two public lectures of Vulkaneifel Academy taking place in the museum

22. Collaboration with hotels and museums of the region at the tourism fair "Vakanz 2016"