

# EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK

## Geopark Progress Reports

*September 2008*



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## **Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark**

Much work and activity has taken place in the Geopark during the 6 month period from April 2008. Of particular note is the establishment of the Geopark Way. In addition many community based projects, exhibitions and events were started or completed. The demand from the public for information continues to grow. The following paragraphs summarise progress.

1. The 110 mile route of the Geopark Way has now been identified and researched and the writing of the guidebook is well advanced. Volunteers and local community groups have assisted in the research work. The publication will give directions, explain geology and landscape, introduce associated heritage and promote local businesses and attractions. The trail will be launched in October this year as the first UK long distance walking trail with a geology and landscape theme
2. Guided tours of Huntley Quarry Reserve in Gloucestershire were delivered on 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of June and on June 18<sup>th</sup> a guided walk on the May Hill Inlier for members of the National Trust took place. In addition on June the 30<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of July, conservation work and research took place at the Reserve.
3. Lectures and talks about the Geopark and its geological reserves, were given on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of June and 29<sup>th</sup> July to groups including the Brockworth Mothers' Club, Bath Geological Society, Oxenham Parish residents, Castlemorton Conservative Association and Malvern University of the Third Age
4. Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum hosted the exhibition, Signs of Summer, from 7 June to 12 July in its larger exhibition space. The exhibition was drawn from the city's art collection and included historical and contemporary landscapes, including some local scenes. The exhibition also included a rotating display of local butterflies drawn from the museum's important historical collection. Handouts available in the exhibition discussed themes of biodiversity and climate change
5. An event celebrating the international festival of Museums at Night on 16<sup>th</sup> May was well attended. The torchlight tours of the basement, including the opportunity to see items from the natural history collection such as geology and taxidermy, was well attended
6. The programme of workshops over the summer at Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum had a theme 'A Walk on the Wildside' and is inspired by the museums collection of insects
7. On 10<sup>th</sup> June, Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall visited The Commandery in Worcester, to view the refurbished museum and view displays of work. Their visit was internationally reported because it included an opportunity for Prince Charles to replay a debt to the Clothiers Company of Worcester
8. A new Acquisition & Disposal Policy for Worcester City Museums has been compiled and submitted to Worcester City Council elected members for approval on the 16<sup>th</sup> July. It sets the collection much higher in context with the landscape of the Geopark
9. A three year, HLF funded project called Community Earth Heritage Champions has begun which involves communities with the conservation

- of sites in their local area. 10 sites have been identified in the Geopark. The objective of the project is to find a local individual or group in each community to “Champion” the site and promote it for educational and recreational purposes, with the help of a steering group for each site. The “Champions” will be trained in geoconservation techniques, including site clearance and specimen collecting, as well as procedures for running events for the people of their community
10. A geodiversity audit of the central area of the Geopark has now been completed. This field and desk based study will now lead to the production of Geodiversity Action Plans for the Geopark. The follow on project is now being developed to publish the findings of the audit and to present the Action Plan. Plans for auditing the remainder of the geology of the Geopark are being prepared
  11. A project working with archaeologists in the investigation of the origins and construction of a Norman castle located alongside the River Severn in Worcestershire has been completed. The particular involvement of the geopark team has been in the type and origin of building stones. A number of public events have taken place and the local community is fully involved
  12. Walking guides have been produced for Bridgnorth and Alveley in Shropshire, Stourport in Worcestershire and Ledbury in Herefordshire. The four guides which are being distributed freely through community and health outlets, encourage people to take more exercise, whilst promoting interest in the value of our geological variety. All four locations are also on the Geopark Way
  13. The Geopark Artist in Residence, worked alongside the geologists and Geopark staff to create work that explored the historical, geological and physical landscape of the Geopark. An exhibition was held at Worcester Museum and Art Gallery in September 2007 and a publication was also produced. The exhibition moved to Gloucester Museum where it attracted many visitors. It is planned to run soon at Fforest Fawr Geopark
  14. A survey of the major building stones used within the Geopark is underway. This project, funded by English Heritage, will identify sources of important stone, with a view to safeguarding them in order to repair historic monuments and buildings in the future
  15. The Earth Heritage Trust has produced the country's first template for a RIGS condition monitoring form. Initiated on behalf of the Malvern Hills AONB, and supported by Natural England, UKRIGS and the Geology Trusts, the form will, for the first time, allow detailed monitoring of Local Sites
  16. Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum ran two exhibitions from the collections: Art & Antiquity, 15 March – 21 June and Four Centuries of Printmaking 28 June running through to November. Art & Antiquity included fascinating archaeological finds from across Worcestershire and historical artworks of the area, including H. H. Lines’ atmospheric depiction of British Camp. Four Centuries of Printmaking includes some important historical local maps, including the seventeenth century John Speed map of Worcestershire

## **ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK**

### **Activity Report, April 2008 – September 2008**

*Following the official recognition as EGN Geopark (8<sup>th</sup> april 2008, prot. n° 2678/VII/23), Adamello Brenta Nature Park, consistently with its wider and more complex strategy of conservation of the natural, historical and cultural heritage, started his work to improve the geological heritage conservation activities.*

#### **Activities of Environmental Education**

1. Project for primary school “The Rocks and Minerals of the Park” aimed to give knowledge about minerals, rocks and their origin through experiments, specimens observation and comparison, games and excursions near the school (5 classes adherents);
2. Project for secondary school (1<sup>st</sup> degree) “The Geology of the Park” aimed to give knowledge about the Earth Sciences and geological time and at learning to recognize and classify the rocks present in the Geopark through excursions in the field, also in order to show them the geodiversity of their territory (14 classes adherents);
3. Experimental project for primary school “The Ancient Glassworks” to learn about raw materials that constitute glass and traditional processing through the visit to ancient glassworks (Geosite), (2 classes adherents);
4. Project for high school “Water and Rocks”: two full days in the Park Guestquarter of S. Antonio di Mavignola (2 classes adherents);
5. Promotion of the outlined activities of environmental education in all the schools of the Park for school year 2008-09 (260 schools);
6. Planning of a refresher course for school teachers about climate change.

#### **Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark**

7. Activities of communication and education with geotouristic goals together with an expert 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 twice a week in the framework of the promotion program “A Park summer”, i.e. from June 11<sup>th</sup> to Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:
  - “At the Discovery of the Old Glacier”, at the head of Val Genova, in the heart of Adamello Group, astonishing excursion to decode the signs left around by the glacier;
  - “The Springs of Vallesinella”, one day excursion to learn about the mysteries of the springs of Vallesinella;
  - “Trails in the Quartz Quarries”, excursion starting from Doss del Sabbion, with a wonderful view of the whole Adamello Brenta Geopark, through Val d’Algone, to re-discover the old quarries of quartz and the old glassworks;
  - “The Geology at the Glare Path”, excursion along the astonishing moon landscape of the Glare, to learn the “geological history” of Val di Tovel;

- Guided tour of Center Adamello “J. Payer”, small high altitude museum dedicated to Val Genova glaciers, with the experts of Trentino Glaciological Committee of Società Alpinisti Tridentini;
8. Activity for 6 to 10 years old kids: “From the Mother Earth... the creative Geolaboratory”, to observe and learn about the properties of the Earth and the erosive phenomenon, using the sand of a stream to form a creative product.
  9. Management of the 5 Park Houses (Tovel, Daone, Spormaggiore, Stenico, San Lorenzo) and of the several “InfoParks” (Park information points) which are located at the entrance of the main valleys of the Park, including the new InfoPark of Villa Rendena opened last August: each of them has a small section dedicated to the geology of the Park.
  10. Experimental proposal for Summer 2008 of weekly “Geotouristic packets” in the framework of the project “A Park to Live”.
  11. Publication of the guidebook “Val d’Algone The valley of glass and mountain huts”, which describes the naturalistic and historical aspects of the valley and deals also with some geological issues such as: “The Brenta Dolomites”, “The abandoned Quarts Quarry” and “The ancient Glassworks”.
  12. Updating of the Park web site, with a section dedicated to Adamello Brenta Geopark.
  13. Set of 5 display panels (in Italian and in English) along the nature trail “The Springs of Vallesinella”.
  14. On-line publication of the Geotouristic Guidebook “Suggestions of Water and Stone”, which describes springs, Karstification and geological aspects of Vallesinella, Geosite of Adamello Brenta Geopark.
  15. Merchandising of the first geo-product: a T-shirt showing ABGeopark peculiarities: a watercolour drawing of Brenta Dolomites on the front and Adamello-Presanella Mountain Group on the back.
  16. Inauguration of Dolomiti Brenta Bike: a double mountain bike tour which loops Brenta Dolomites, for experts and families, allowing to cover most of the territory and thus appreciate the nature treasures, with particular reference to the geological and geomorfological ones.
  17. Publication of several articles about AB Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers / magazines.

#### **Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark**

18. Start of the elaboration of the Geopark Action Plan, containing the strategic objectives and the future actions for the valorisation, promotion and safeguard of ABGeopark, in collaboration with prof. A. Carton of Padova University, Trento Museum of Natural Sciences and Trento

Province Geological Service.

19. Prosecution of the scientific researches regarding surveys, measurements and mappings of the Park glaciers in collaboration with SAT Glaciological Committee.
20. Adhesion and participation as observer to the project PermaNET (Lead partner GeoLAB, Bolzano - South Tyrol Province, Office for Geology and Building Materials Testing), Interreg project which aims at the study, survey and monitoring of alpine permafrost with relation to climate change.
21. Insertion of the projects linked to the Geopark in the wider strategy of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism.

**Activities related with the European Geoparks Network**

22. Attendance to the 3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO International Conference on Geoparks in the Terra Vita Geopark (Osnabrueck - Germany) in June 2008.
23. Participation to the INTERREG Med project (lead partner Lesvos Petrified Forest Geopark).
24. Contribution for the editing of the Geoparks Coffee Table Book: Adamello Brenta staff organized and sent to the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest documents and photos regarding the section of competence for the Geoparks Book.
25. Contribution for the updating of the web page dedicated to ABGeopark in the web site of the European Network of Geoparks.

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## **BEIGUA GEOPARK**

### **Activity Report, April – August 2008**

After having organized the 21<sup>st</sup> EGN - Coordination Meeting in Beigua Geopark 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008 Beigua Geopark staff continued his work to improve the geological heritage conservation activities within the frame of the wider and more complex strategy of conservation of the natural and historical-cultural heritage that the protected areas has. A sample of some of the most important initiatives is outlined briefly below :

#### **EGN – GGN activities**

1. Joining the INTERREG Central Europe project (lead partner Eisenwurtzen Geopark) in April 2008
2. Participation in the Geoparks Fair in Terra-Vita Geopark, Osnabrück (Germany) in June 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008
3. Attendance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks in Terra-Vita Geopark, Osnabrück (Germany) in June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2008
4. Preparation of the three-year revalidation procedure took on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2008
5. Preparation of the 22<sup>nd</sup> EGN - Coordination Meeting in Bohemian Paradise Geopark (Czech Republic) on Sept 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2008

#### **Geopark events and progress**

6. Regular programs of walks and guided tours were realized in Spring and Summer 2008
7. Educational programs about geology and geoconservation in Beigua Geopark.  
Not only geology; others educational programs for school were realized in Beigua Geopark during Spring 2008 about the following themes: wetlands, ornithology, rural activities
8. Two new editions of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in April 2008 (Spring) and July 2008 (Summer). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, the European Geoparks Network, etc.
9. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews.
10. Preparation and printing in May 2008 of a new touristic publication: the “Nature trails guide” in Parco del Beigua - Beigua Geopark
11. Temporary exhibition “*Fossil coral reefs in Ponte Prina Site*” in the Natural History Civic Museum of Genoa (from March 28<sup>th</sup> until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008); the exhibition was organized in cooperation with the Environment and Earth Sciences Department of the University of Genoa. 8.682 people (1.812 of them were students) visited the exhibition in Genoa. The same exhibition has been presented in the School Institute of the Municipality of Carcare (Savona) from February 18<sup>th</sup> until March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008)



12. Temporary photographic exhibition “Landscapes, Geodiversity, Biodiversity in Beigua Park – Beigua Geopark” by the naturalistic photographer Roberto Malacrida. The exhibition has been presented in the Town of Savona (from April 30<sup>th</sup> until May 9<sup>th</sup> 2008) and in the Municipality of Spotorno (July 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 2008)
13. Opening of the renewed Palazzo Gervino Visitor Centre at Sassello mainly dedicated to the Oligocene Epoch in Beigua Geopark (on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008)
14. Preparation and printing of a new leaflet in English in June 2008
15. Temporary sculpture exhibition “Water as the origin of life” by the artist Giulia Alberti  
The exhibition has been presented in Sassello (August 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2008)

### **European Geoparks Week 17<sup>th</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

16. guided visits to discover the most interesting geological, geomorphological, floristic and wildlife sites in the Geopark
  - Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May 10am – 12am : guided visit at Beuca Botanical Garden (Cogoleto)
  - Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May 9am – 4pm: guided walk discovering the geomorphological features of Beigua Geopark at Prariondo
  - Sun 25<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am – 4pm: Bird-watching activity at the Ornithological Center - Vaccà area, Arenzano
  - Sat 31<sup>st</sup> May 9am – 4pm: Guided walk to the geoarchaeological sites at Alpicella (Varazze);
  - Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June 10am – 4pm: Guided walk at “Prariondo-Tobiera Laione Nature Trail”
  - Sun 8<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 4pm: Guided walk in “Gargassa Valley Geological Trail”
17. sports activities
  - Sat 17<sup>th</sup> – Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May: 10am – 4pm: canyoning activities in Beigua Geopark streams, organized with the collaboration of the Italian Canyoning Association (A.I.C. – Associazione Italiana Canyoning)
  - Sat 31<sup>st</sup> May – Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Jun – Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun: sports activities in the Municipalities of Arenzano, Cogoleto, Varazze (trekking, orienteering, nordic walking mountain-bike, volley, basketball, etc) organized with the collaboration of the Italian Union Sport for All People (U.I. S.P. - Unione Italiana Sport per Tutti)
18. educational programs  
final events with all the classes joining the 2007-/2008 educational programs proposed by the Beigua Geopark staff
19. visitor centres and info-points activities (Geoparks video-presentations)  
Promotional activities about Geoparks, EGN and GGN in the Visitors Centres and the Information Points of the Beigua Geopark; video-presentation “Discovering the European Geoparks Network and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network” at the Geopark Corner in Beigua Park headquarters in Arenzano on 19<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm – 4pm
20. environmental fair  
Sat 24<sup>th</sup> May 9am – 19pm: promotional open-air stand of Beigua Park – Beigua Geopark within the annual event “Parks for the Public” in Genoa

(Sestri Ponente), organized with the collaboration of the Regional Network of Protected Areas of Liguria

**Activities by others Organizations**

21. Field works and researches in Beigua Geopark leaded by the Environment and Earth Sciences Department of the University of Genoa in June 2008
22. Geotourism activities and guided visits leaded by the “Geotourism Association”

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## **European and Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald Activity Report April – September 2008**

April – September 2008

Participation in the elaboration of the Regional Development Programme (2007-2013) for the eastern LEADER+ area of the Geopark territory as member of the Regional Steering Group; participation in the implementation of the regional development concepts in the three already approved LEADER+ areas in the Geopark territory as member of the Regional Steering Groups; Participation in the working group for the development of the visitor information center, UNESCO world heritage Messel pit; consultation of regional authorities for the development of a Geopark close to the town of Limburg, Germany

April 2008

cooperation visit to partner Global Geopark Mt. Lushan, preparation of Geopark picture book; PR China; opening of Geopark trail “Weinheim-Schriesheim”; opening of Geopoint “Irrbachquelle”; participation and Geopark presentation Annual Conference Geotope 2008; Odenwald-Quelle adventure day; consultation visit to the Global Geopark Qeshm Island (Iran) for the elaboration of a Geotourism Action Plan;

May 2008

opening of Geopark trail “Ober-Kainsbach”; May, 25<sup>th</sup>: EGN week with 41 single events, 2000 leaflets and posters; presentation of granit-sandstone sculpture; new publication of “Geo-Naturpark aktuell”; new publication of Geo-Naturpark Adventure Guide; Odenwald-Quelle adventure day ; Geopark in Action Days in the High Odenwald area (events weekend with large opening event; participation of the local population and of local schools, opening of two 2 “Geo-Sites, publication of an event-flyer); opening of 2 GeoSites Michelstadt

June 2008

ongoing EGN week until June, 7<sup>th</sup> ; ongoing Geopark-in - action days; opening of historical mine “Marie in der Kohlbach”; TV contribution Geopark trail “Schriesheim-Weinheim”; opening of the 11<sup>th</sup> Arts trail “Wine, Rocks and Arts” in Heppenheim with 6 artists in cooperation with the “Sparkasse Starkenburg”; opening of Geopark trail “Amorbacher Sandsteinweg”; revalidation mission National Geoparks; revalidation mission Global and European Geoparks (Chris Woodley-Stewart and Ibrahim Koomo); opening Geopark trail “Ried”; 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Geoparks Conference Osnabrueck with 2 presentations; visit from delegation of Araripe Global Geopark, Brazil; preparation of “Forest Art 2008”; implementation of web-cam at the adventure trail “wine and rocks”; Odenwald-Quelle adventure day; opening of Geopark Forest Trail “Breitenstein”, opening of Geopark Trail Bachgau; submission of funding application together with European Geopark Bohemian Paradise (German Environmental Foundation)

July 2008

cooperation with University of Heidelberg “Geo-communication”; preparation of new edition “hiking and enjoyment”, mentoring of diploma thesis; preparation of the “Geotope 2008”; preparation of 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of “Lust auf

Odenwald”; Odenwald-Quelle adventure day; development of first Geopark project in a new LEADER+-Area: network of regional gardens as locations of geo-and biodiversity; approval of application of eastern Geopark territory (Bavaria Free State) as LEADER+-area, first working group for project development; draft for new Geopark Ranger Training

#### August 2008

information visit (Geopark development) - “Naturpark Saale-Unstrut”; 2<sup>nd</sup> International Forest Art Conference “Cycles and Systems” -120 participants, 16 speakers and 17 artists from 13 countries: with presentations of the Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald and Geopark Reserve Geologique de Haute Provence (Sylvie Giraud) the European Space Agency (amongst others); opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Forest Art Symposium, Trail and Exhibition (until 28<sup>th</sup> Sep) with 17 artists from 9 countries; preparation of Geopark picture book; conception for further cooperation with Chinese partner Geoparks in cooperation with the Hessian Ministry of Economy; opening of a new exhibition in the Geopark Information Centre Reichelsheim; preparation session for participation of Geopark in a public board discussion in a large regional conference (European Metropolitan Area Rhein Neckar); assessment mission to the Marble Arch European Geopark (with Sylvie Giraud);

#### September 2008

lecture “geo-education and didactics in the Geopark” at the teacher education fair and congress “arena frei”; Geo-Naturpark day at the Felsenmeer; Odenwald-Quelle adventure day; Germanwide day of the Geotope with presentation of the “Geotope 2008”; International Intensive course on Geoparks, Lesvos Aegean University: 3 lectures with examples of the Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald (guide training, management, communication); examination and expertise of diploma thesis in cooperation with the University of Osnabrück (environmental education tools for school classes in the Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald); international hiking day; delegation visit from the Geopark “Muskauer Faltenbogen”; EGN meeting Global and European Geopark Bohemian Paradise; contract with University of Frankfurt, Department of Physical Geography on a seminar (master studies) on cultural landscape management (focus on the context with Geoparks)

Claudia Eckhardt  
Dr. Jutta Weber

# **Bohemian Paradise- European Geopark**

## Overview of the most important activities March - August 08

### **1. Contribution towards the work of the Network**

- Participation in EGN Coordination meeting in Beigua by two Geopark representatives.
- Bohemian Paradise Geopark has become a sought-after destination for introduction of thoughts on the network of European Geoparks, for representatives from Czech Republic on their applications for membership of the European Network.
  - Participation actively on the 3rd International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks in Osnabück, 5 representatives, Global Geoparks Fair exhibition, four delegates participated in the Youth camp and four lectures were spoken chairing session, participation of 4 delegates in the camp of youth.
- Participation in the International year of Earth – exhibition
- In the field of international cooperation the BPG signed the twinning agreement with Songshang Geopark and Ministry of Environment (Czech Geological Service) continues in the project helping to develop the first geopark in Central America - Nicaragua – in the region of Rio Coco (the idea of geopark was presented in the all important relevant institutions and the action plan and the work local project team were initiated). The BPG arranged several consultation and terrain excursions for candidates on European Geopark in Poland, Slovakia and Hungary
- The BPG hosted one of the periodical meetings of the Czech National Geopark Network in Town of Nová Paka.

### **2. Science and surveying**

- Research in palaeontology, mineralogy and volcanology has continued.
- The preparation of geoinformation system of the BPG was launched with cooperation of The Czech Geological Service (an organisation of Czech Ministry of the Environment). Forty specialists from various geology disciplines are preparing four map lists. This scientific project will run under the economical and expert supervision of Ministry for the period of 2008 – 2011

### **3. Management structure**

- Bohemian Paradise Geopark Public Benefit Association Bohemian Paradise Geopark Public Benefit Association changed 3 members

### **4. Conservation (geoconservation)**

- Reconstruction of instructive path between Bitouchov and Podspalov
- Ceaning of Bohemian Paradise in may, 49 participants worked for 300 hours.

### **5. Marketing and promotional activities**

- The exhibition “Geopark Bohemian Paradise – a chance for the region”, which introduces the idea and operation of European Geoparks with supporting films and lectures, took place in 2 places in the Geopark.
- Within the week of geoparks there were 15 events taken place. The first one was a traditional event The Old Czech markets – except of BPG there

was presented also the Network of European Geoparks and related actual material.

• **6. Participation in common activities**

- the 22<sup>nd</sup> international jewellery symposium
- There were four exhibitions in the frame of The Year of the Earth “The Planet Earth virtuous and vulnerable” in town of Mariánské lázně.

**7. Geotourism actions**

- Within the week of geoparks 5 geological excursion
- During the 22<sup>nd</sup> international symposium the participants of chosen localities meeting took place.

**8. Educational activities**

- 2 students' final work was finished ( bachelor and a graduation theses)
- 119 hours of lectures for schools
- Among other examples, the event “Vlastik” – historical competition and searching for new information about landscape of the geopark. - 75 pupils of basic school and their teachers took part. There were prepared programmes on geology around locality of Tatobity and lectures with demonstration of producing and finding precious stones.

**8. Creation of promotional material**

- Two new postcards of the Bohemian Paradise Geopark
- Advertising of the Bohemian Paradise European Geopark in mass media
- New leaflets, maps and books about Bohemian Paradise Geopark

**Tomas Ridkosil and Martina Paskova**

## **CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK REPORT:** **March 2008 - October 2008**

### **1) Activities of Environmental Education**

- Geoenvironmental Program: "Learning to Read the Stones".
- Travelling Classrooms and Travelling Schools Program.
- Environmental interpretation itineraries desing course.
- Guided visit through the old gold mining dump and facilities.
- Several programs as: "Nature and you", "Nature for everyone", "Andalusia in its Parks", "Open days" and the Program for visting the protected areas of Andalusia". The activities enclosed inside this programs range from open door activities, guided walks, 4x4 routes.

### **2) Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark**

#### **- European Geopark Week at Cabo de Gata-Níjar**

Organized together with RENPySA and the Environment Department of Andalusia Government. The activities consisted on the following events:

- The first EGN picture exhibition.
- "Sands and Rocks of the Geopark exhibition",
- "Geology and Art", a panting exhibition made with geological samples. Also, this exhibition counts with an Andalusia's Geopark display and the picture exhibition "GEOFOTOLOGICA"
- Environmental education activities intended for the Geopark children.
- Socio dinamical workshp for the Geoaprks neighbours: Laugh Therapy.
- Cycling route through the Geopark volcanic calderas.
- Dramatic play in the Escullos Castle.
- Second edition of the Interpretation course for geological tourism. Addressed to environmental professionals and guides. Several conferences, a workshop and a geological route formed this course.

#### **-Attendance to the International Geoparks Fair in Osnabrück.**

In a enormous effort from Andalusia's Geoparks and Andalusia's Environmental Ministry to promote the EGN and Geoparks we were in the fair that opened the Third International conference with, literally, *thousands* of material includind DVD, CD, brochures, Field Guides, maps etc

#### **-Travelling exhibition "The Memory of the Cape"**

#### **- International Year Planet Earth**

Celebration in Rodalquilar of the 5 of june (environmental global day), EGN week and the exhibitions of the Sands of the Geopark and the Rocks of the Geopark.

#### **- Publications:**

- Reissue of field guide several leaflets, maps and guides about the geopark, books, monographic article about the Geopark, etc
- MA MedioAmbiente” Environmental publication.

**- Audiovisual of 2007 Geopark week.**

Celebrating the XX anniversary of the Natural Park.

**-Spots, movies and documentaries filming at the Geopark.**

As for example “Mercedes AMG Spot”, “Fiat punto Spot”, “Audi”, “Elle magazine”, “The Rolling Roadshow Tour” and many others.

### **3) Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark**

- **European Chart of Sustainable Tourism.**
- **Workshop: “Professionals and non-professionals as producers and users of taxonomic knowledge-synergies, conflicts, and the role of taxonomic societies”.** Organized by the project *Towards the European Distributed Institute of Taxonimie*
- **Marine and Coastal Management Course.** Held at the exhibition hall of the Geopark.
- **Inauguration of “El Cornical”new visitor center.** This center is related to the botanic features of the Geopark.
- **Collaborating with Universities.**  
As every year, Cabo de Gata Geopark is visited by students all over the world.

### **4) Activities related with the European Geoparks Network**

- Attendance to the Third International Conference on Geoparks in Osnabrück.
- Collaboration with Naturtejo in the communication “Expressing geology by art: from Leonardo to Geopark Naturtejo merchandising” with Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark experiences with local artist.
- IYPE activities in Cabo de Gata-Níjar, some of them started in the Geopark week, as the EGN exhibition and the sands of the Geopark.
- Andalusia’s Geoparks Visit Program: the geopark staff meets the neighbor geopark getting involve in their activities



## **Copper Coast Geopark, Ireland**

### **Progress Report: April 2008– August 2008**

#### Actions from Copper Coast Geopark Management Team:

1. Visit to school and Fieldtrip with CBS Tramore Transition Years, (May 08)
2. Fieldtrip with CBS New Ross Transition Years, (May 08)
3. Fieldtrip with Abbeyside Primary School, (May 08)
4. European Geoparks Week, with Geology Course and Fieldtrips (May-Jun. 08, see EGN week report)
5. Completion of purchase of our new Geopark Centre (the deconsecrated Monksland Church, Bunmahon), (May 08),
6. Knockmahon Primary School visits the geological garden, (Jun.08)
7. Visit to school and fieldtrip with Kilrossanty Primary School, (June 08)
8. Guides Training, (Jun. 08)
9. Fieldtrip with Ballyduff Upper Primary School, (Jun. 08)
10. Completion of the first phase of conservation works on the new Geopark Centre, ex-Monksland Church (Jun. 08)
11. Members of CCG management team attended Failte Ireland “e-mail business” launch opened by Minister of Art / Culture & Tourism presentation of CCG info pack to all official attendance. (July 08)
12. Flower Show, 1<sup>st</sup> event hosted in the Geopark Centre (Aug. 08)
13. Regular Copper Coast Geopark news published in three County Waterford Newspapers

#### Actions from other bodies beneficial to Copper Coast Geopark

1. Green Mines project visits the Copper Coast, (Apr. 08)
2. Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Science, organised by CALMAST, (May 08)
3. Dungarvan Camera Club outing to Copper Coast Geopark 30 photographers each received information packs. (May 08)

4. Seafield National School received their Green Flag, Copper Coast Geopark Manager was invited and attended the Green Flag ceremony.(May 08)
5. National TV coverage on RTE 1 “Eco-eye programme”, Sophie Prétéseille interviewed about the geology of the area, why it is a Geopark and Fenor Bog was explored (repeat June.08)
6. Mallow Field Club visits the Copper Coast, (Jun. 08)
7. Knockmahon National School received their Green Flag, Copper Coast Geopark Manager was invited and attended the Green Flag ceremony.(Jun.08)
8. Copper Coast Geopark at the 3rd International Conference on Geoparks, (Jun. 08).
9. Heritage Week with geology walks led by local guides trained by the Geopark (Aug. 08)

Actions to promote the EGN:

1. EGN corner with library available to the public for consultation.
2. Notice board with maps of all EGN members.
3. Pull ups permanently on display.
4. EGN leaflets in different languages on display and available.
5. CCG website with links and information on all EGN members' websites.
6. Information stand and items for sale at community markets.

## **Eisenwurz European Geopark, Austria**

### **April to September 2008**

#### **Geoparks Week**

1. The Geoparks Week was very successful. An excursion to the planned Snail Safari and the visitor centre of Hieflau found a large auditorium in the community. In a public opinion poll the inhabitants of the community have ranked this project on the second place of 10, following closely a social project.
2. As a special event for kids, Katharina has organized the first GeoSpook Night. Phantastic stories about caves and mysterious apparitions and a spooky night-walk provided an unusual approach to geological phenomena.
3. Assisted by 15 craftspeople, 140 students of the Nature Park School Weißenbach/Enns experienced traditional handcrafts on the historic Gallenstein fortress and applied them by creating own pieces of art. The event was highlighted by the presentation of the creative products by the students themselves
4. Professor Dirk von Husen, the foremost specialist in Pleistocene geology in Austria, could be persuaded for a talk on the Great Ice Age in St. Gallen. On the day following the talk he guided a field trip to the extraordinary deposits of the Great Ice in the Geopark area. Both events were assisted by a large number of participants.

#### **Other Events**

5. In the Water adventure Park of Sankt Gallen, a 10x10 m geological model showing the water cycle was inaugurated at a Nature Park fête by a large auditorium with much political prominence. Beginning with a realistic thunderstorm, visitors can follow the path of water from springs over streams and rivers to the sea. They can walk on the surface, add sand to show the sediment transport and operate barrages to prevent inundations after heavy rainfalls. The model was immediately taken over by the children and is since this time a great success.
6. 125 years ago, the Kraus cave of Gams was illuminated with electric light. It was the first electric light in a touristic cave worldwide. This event was celebrated on 15 August in Gams. Günter Stummer, who is the speleologist in the scientific team of the Geopark has further organized a meeting of the representatives of Austrian touristic caves.
7. Like in the years before, the Geopark was represented by a special show at the fair "Vienna meets Styria" in the centre of Vienna which was is traditionally attended by hundred thousands of Viennese and other visitors.

### **EGN activities**

8. Together with Nickolas Zouros, Heinz has evaluated the application of the Adamello-Brenta Nature Park in the Autonomous Province of Trentino in North Italy. Together with Richard Watson, Heinz has paid a revalidation visit to the Hateg County Dinosaur Park in Rumania.
9. The Geopark was visited by various groups which wanted to profit from its know-how and get information about EGN and GGN. A group of the Environmental Education Centre of Styliida, Greece, has paid a one week visit to study the Geopark and was guided by Heinz and special guides. The Geopark was further visited by 2 groups from Poland. The EGN network was presented by Reinhard. We could further welcome specialized groups from Slovenia, Hungaria and from the National Park Bavarian Forest.
10. The Geopark was represented with a stall at the International Geoparks Conference in Osnabrück.

### **Educational activities**

11. Katharina and Heinz have produced a new illustrated guidebook for raftguides and have led a training course for GeoRafting.
12. A series of 5 new educational sheets has been produced for the GeoTrail and the GeoCentre of Gams.

### **Touristic activities**

13. Although the Geopark touristic packages are very successful, Katharina organized a workshop with the Nature Park – Partners to optimize the offer for various target groups.

### **International and national cooperation**

14. Reinhard, Katharina and Heinz attended the EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in Beigua.
15. Together with Austrian partners we initiated the Interreg IVC project “Econnect – Improving Ecological Connectivity in the Alps”. In the huge Eisenwurzen area, it bundles the demands and goals of 6 protected areas.
16. Due to some minor details, the project GEOREG for which we applied together with colleagues of other EGN members as lead-partner (Central Europe) has not been approved. Preparations for a second application for a call in next spring have started.

### **Marketing of local Products**

17. The region has been approved as origin of game products (smoked meat, sausages and patés).
18. A folder has been produced for marketing the local products

## Activity Report from the English Riviera Geopark

- 1. Major investment in the Geopark** The English Riviera Geopark has successfully driven forward a major funding application totaling £4 million under the UK government Seachange funding programme. Through the development of a strong partnership with key organisations and a great deal of hard work by 2010 two key sites within the Geopark, namely Cockington Court and Berry Head will be completely transformed. This once in a lifetime opportunity will modernise visitor facilities, improve the way we care for the heritage of these sites, and strengthen the position of these sites within the heart of the local community providing a far stronger Geopark offer. Both sites will become a Gateway to the Geopark and will have both physical and cultural links to the wider Geopark e.g. a cycle route and art trail will link the Seafront area to Cockington with the development of a further link to Occombe Demonstration Farm. At each location the Geopark will be highlighted through arts, crafts, local foods, and events as well as the geology. Currently the Cockington project plans include studio space for visiting artists forming a Global Geopark culture and art exchange program. Whilst at Berry Head the project includes work on the Napoleonic defenses and forts, a new education and visitor centre, conservation of grazing areas and promotion of the Geopark. Funding has been granted through a new UK Government grant programme known as Sea Change, which is focused on helping seaside resorts use their culture and heritage to improve their economy. Major funding partners include English Heritage, Regional Development Agency and Torbay Council in addition to the Seachange funding which is distributed by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. The success of this Seachange funding bid, by its very nature, has acted as a catalyst to raise the profile of the Geopark both locally and nationally and based on this the local partnership have agreed to continue to work on more projects to drive the Geopark forward.
- 2. Education and community development** The English Riviera Geopark has received a huge boost following a £48,000 award from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a two-year education project to raise the awareness of Torbay's remarkable geological heritage in schools and within the local community. The scope of the project is to deliver a variety of educational activities and events for all ages and abilities within Torbay through the two-year period. This will include developing national curriculum based educational material, developing a network of volunteers, facilitating Geopark events and helping schools in the region learn more about the fascinating geological heritage of Torbay. A new web-site will be developed under the project to showcase the key geo-sites with public access and make available downloadable geo-educational material. The project has created a new post and Emily Beale, the new Geopark Education Officer will work alongside the existing Biodiversity education team and Mel Border, the Geopark Coordinator. The rapid growth of the Geoparks operations over the last year has resulted in the relocation of the Geopark Head Office to the Seashore Centre, Goodrington, Paignton where both Emily and Mel are now based. Please note the new contact

details: English Riviera Geopark Head Office, The Seashore Centre, Tanners Rd, Goodrington, Paignton, TQ4 6LP. Tel: +44 (0)1803 528841

- 3. GB6GEO Radio Day** Reaching out across the globe this event was undeniably the highlight of the English Riviera Geopark week when over 900 people attended the Flint and Fire day at Kents Cavern show caves on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2008. Outside the entrance to the caverns, visitors joined the amateur radio team broadcasting greetings from the English Riviera Geopark using the special event call sign GB6GEO. The Geopark radio station stayed on air through the night, making contact with colleagues in other Global Geoparks and with amateur radio enthusiasts as far away as Tasmania, Siberia and Brazil. The Geopark Radio Day will be back “on air” at the beginning of European Geoparks Week 2009 on 23/24<sup>th</sup> May 2009 when many more Geo-sites around the world will be joining in this global communication event. For information on participating contact [nickpowe@kents-cavern.co.uk](mailto:nickpowe@kents-cavern.co.uk)
- 4. Kents Cavern Dig** The first English Riviera Geopark Organisation is helping to facilitate the first archaeological dig for decades in Britain’s oldest recognisable home. The team is preparing for the dig to be carried out in March 2009 and will be showcased during Geopark Week 2009. Britain’s leading Stone Age archaeologists will start a hunt for 40,000-year-old Neanderthal flint hand axes at Kents Cavern show caves in the Geopark. A team from Sheffield University want to open a small exploratory trench at the entrance to the caves. They are specifically looking for leaf point stone hand axes, which are more commonly associated with humans but they hope to link them to Neanderthals. As a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Kents Cavern has the highest level of protection in the nation and consent has been obtained from the national Culture Minister’s office. The dig at Kents Cavern will be linked closely to the Geopark and will give both national and international publicity to the Geopark. Being the first dig in decades and given that the nation will be celebrating Darwin’s life in 2009, the interest in the Kents Cavern dig is sure to attract much interest. The caverns will remain open to allow visitors to see what is going on. The caves are known for their geological formations and are the oldest Stone Age home in Britain. The caves were also used by cave bears and hyenas, and include the remains of mammoth, sabre toothed cats and woolly rhinos. The oldest human bone in Britain was found in the cavern, a fragment of jawbone dated at 37,000 to 40,000 years old. Research by an international team based in London is trying to discover if the piece is from a Neanderthal or a modern human. Kents Cavern is the only Ice Age site in the UK where it may be possible to determine when Neanderthals became extinct and humans arose. The project is a joint venture between archaeologists Dr Paul Pettitt, from Sheffield and Dr Mark White, of Durham University. Analysis of any material found will be undertaken by the Natural History Museum in London.
- 5. South West England UNESCO Partnership** The English Riviera Geopark has been actively involved with the formation of the South West England UNESCO Partnership. Following initial development work carried

by the English Riviera team to build a strong relationship with the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site representatives from the four UNESCO sites in South West England met around the table to explore opportunities for joint working and future networking. The result is a work plan for joint cooperation 2008-2012 to cover joint marketing, sharing best practice, research and education, joint funding potential and of course to best utilise opportunities presented by the Cultural Olympiad.

- 6. Regional Geodiversity Partnership** Seen as a new and dynamic partner our Geopark is to be commissioned by Natural England to take forward a Regional Geodiversity Partnership which will bring together a wide range of organisations and individuals involved in geodiversity. Funding for the coordination of the partnership follows from the European Landscape Convention at which the UK Government signed a treaty committing to manage, conserve and protect landscape.
- 7. Limestone Grassland Project** Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust has secured a £130,000 grant from the SITA Trust to ensure that the unique Limestone vegetation in the Geopark safeguarded for the future. The Squill-Spurge fescue grasslands are found nowhere else on the planet and 35 nationally threatened, rare and scarce species are found growing on just only 22 ha of coastal slopes. These grasslands can be considered one of the UK's rarest and most threatened vegetation types. The Trust will utilise this funding to launch the "Loving our Limestone" project, a three year programme of scrub and tree clearance at the most vulnerable sites. A team of rangers will be trained in working on steep slopes and will tackle some of the more inaccessible sites.

English Riviera Geopark contact details:

Nick Powe - [NickPowe@kents-cavern.co.uk](mailto:NickPowe@kents-cavern.co.uk)

Mel Border – [geopark@countryside-trust.org.uk](mailto:geopark@countryside-trust.org.uk)

## **Fforest Fawr Geopark: Progress Report**

Progress within the Geopark since the last EGN business meeting, April 2008 is presented below.

### **Fforest Fawr Geopark Activities**

**1. Website.** This has been continuously updating over this period.

**2. Fforest Fawr Geopark and the Media.** The Geopark contributed to a popular BBC television series, 'Weatherman Walking', which was broadcast on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July by BBC Wales. The programme involving a walk in the Geopark's Waterfalls Country was designed to introduce the geology, landscape and industrial history of this area.

**3. Waterfalls Centre (Pontneddfechan Geopark & Information Centre).**

A major new display has been installed in this centre at the southern gateway to Fforest Fawr Geopark. This tells stories of local and wider significance within the Geopark and presents the Geopark in its international context.

**4. Exhibitions: - National Park Visitor Centre & Craig-y-nos Country Park**

New displays have been installed at both of these popular locations to interpret the local landscapes and the stories behind them.

**5. Working with Tourist Providers: Establishing new links.** Training in geotourism for tourist providers involved the following training sessions:

- 23 April 'Commons, Cymoedd & Caves'
- 23 May Abercraf meeting
- 3 June trekking guide training

**6. Presentations and Fieldtrips.** Fforest Fawr Geopark uses presentations and fieldtrips to raise the profile of the Geopark in South Wales. Presentations and field trips delivered since April 2008 include:

- 16 May talk to Schwabian Alb delegation at Crickhowell
- 19 May Talk to HF walking holiday group
- 12 July Stall at Ammanford as part of National Archaeology Week
- 09 June University of the Third Age: the Waterfall Country of the Geopark
- 14 July Talk to HF walking holiday group
- 3 August Cefn Llechid walk

**7. Educational Activities.** The Geopark is actively involved in education at all levels. It is a member of the Earth Science Educational Forum in Wales and is used as a training area for fieldwork by the School of Earth Ocean and Planetary Sciences, Cardiff University. Educational activities since April 2008 include:

- June 2008b Successful submission of an MSc project Investigating the chemistry and biology of alkaline drainage in the Black Mountain area.



- July 2008 NERC funds a PhD project which includes the investigation of the biology of highly alkaline springs (pH 12 -14) in the Black mountain area.

## **8. Partnership Projects.**

**Penderyn Distillery:** Fforest Fawr Geopark contributed a panel to the exhibition at Penderyn Welsh Whisky distillery's visitor centre which was opened in June 2008. The panel illustrates the source and doubly filtered nature of the water extracted by the company's well.

**Brecon Carreg- Natural Welsh Mineral Water:** a company within the Fforest Fawr Geopark is promoting holidays in European Geoparks in a project entitled ***Win a Walk on the Wild Side***. The promotion commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008 and the Introduction to this project can be viewed on their website [www.breconwater-wildside.co.uk/other\\_prizes/](http://www.breconwater-wildside.co.uk/other_prizes/) - 6k

### **European Geoparks Network Activities**

**1. European Geoparks Week:** Fforest Fawr Geopark's contribution to this activity involved sixteen days of events from Sat 24 May to Sun 8 June 2008 which were advertised as '***European Geoparks Fortnight – a rock festival with a difference***'. Events included walks designed to cater for all levels of fitness and ability. A Geoparks Day provided family orientated adventurous activities, geology related activities, and an introduction to stone carving and making willow sculptures. The Beacons Bus 'B13 Brecon - Geopark Circular' tours provided four day tours during Geoparks Fortnight with specially trained guides to point out places of geological, cultural and natural history interest.

**2. First Global Geoparks Fair in Osnabrück 21 – 22 June.** Fforest Fawr Geopark was represented at this successful event.

**3. Third International Conference on Geoparks, Osnabrück 22 -26 June.** Two Representatives from Fforest Fawr Geopark attended the conference and in addition to chairing the session ***Theme: 7 Tourism and Geoparks*** presented papers on the following:

*Tourism Development in Fforest Fawr Geopark, Brecon Beacons, Wales, UK.*  
Authors Christopher Gledhill & Richard Tyler.

*Geoparks Tell Stories from the Past with Messages for the Future.* Author Tony Ramsay.

**4. The EGN Magazine & Coffee Table Book.** Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Editorial Board. He edited and co-ordinated the submission of articles to the EGN Magazine Issue 5, 2008 and is currently involved in editing the 'EGN Coffee Table Book'.

**Contact Details.** John Cook <John.Cook@breconbeacons.org>  
Tony Ramsay <Tonhel@btinternet.com>

# **GEA NORVEGICA GEOPARK**

Progress report, April 2008 – September 2008

This period has been a very active one for the Gea Norvegica Geopark. We must emphasize the launching of the geopark entrance gates along major highways, redressing of the information at several of our geopark attractions and several high-profile public arrangements with prominent guests.

## **1. Current situation.**

- Staff: Presently we have four full time positions, (one came back from maternity leave in August) and two part time positions.
- Our five geopark committees are working continuously with several topics, (Map/GIS committee, Education committee, Tourism committee, Local Enterprises innovation committee, Attraction development committee). Each group meets regularly.
- The geopark board has had three meetings.
- The board of representatives has had one meeting (12 politicians representing the geopark owners).

## **2. EGN-activities / International networking**

- Two delegates participated in the EGN-meeting in Beigua, Italy.
- S. Dahlgren, Gea Norvegica, and P. McKeever, EGN, conducted an EGN-mission to Øland to help starting the process of making the first European geopark in Sweden.
- Three delegates participated with a Gea Norvegica stand on the Geopark Fair in Terra Vita.
- Two delegates participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Geopark Conference in Osnabruck (Terra Vita).
- One delegate participated in a Norwegian – Romanian joint meeting for the investigation of cooperation between the Gea Norvegica Geopark and the Hateg Dinosaurs geopark. This was on the initiative from the governments of the two countries.
- Gea Norvegica Geopark has participated in a working group for the making of an Interreg 4b application from participants within NEW.

## **3. A selection of Geopark events**

- Regular events for schools on topics relating geodiversity and biodiversity.
- The launching of several new information spots, geopark entrance gates along major highways and public events formed essential parts of the EGN-week in the Gea Norvegica Geopark. Several prominent guests were present during the events, and we have experienced very good feedback from local people, ministers, various national, regional and local politicians, different geological institutions and from media (TV, radio, newspapers).
- We have arranged many events at different geopark attractions for the general public, schools and various organizations.
- Three events relating geology, soil, agriculture and local food production
- Several EGN-week arrangements.

- The Gea Norvegica Geopark, and the EGN and GGN, has been very visible throughout the period due to numerous presentations in newspapers, radio and TV programmes (local, regional and national).

#### **4. IGC and IYPE**

- The Gea Norvegica Geopark is a member of the national YIPE committee, and we have attended several meetings, and made several contributions to the IYPE within the geopark.
- The 33<sup>rd</sup> International Geological Congress in Oslo: The Gea Norvegica Geopark arranged a 3 days preconference excursion in the Geopark from August the 3<sup>rd</sup> to August the 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. Attraction development**

- Geopark information (containing information on GGN, EGN as well as Gea Norvegica Geopark) has been set up at 5 major entrance gates along the major highways and at 12 important information areas within the geopark.
- One out-door exhibition has been produced at Mølen.
- Several new geopark pamphlets and brochures have been produced.
- Our new website has been launched.
- New public information panel arrays have been put up at 7 major geopark attractions (Mølen, Kjærra, Ibsens Venstøp, Glaseren, Rognstranda, Jomfruland, Steinmann)
- Three maps (tourist map, quaternary geology and bedrock geology) are under production, nearing completion.
- A new geology exhibition is under construction at Jomfruland.

# Geological, Mining Park of Sardinia - Progress Report 2008

## Activity Report March 2008 – September 2008

### 1 EGN – GGN activities

- **April:** Presentation of the 2008 EGN week programme.
- **May:** Promotional open-air stand of the Geological, Mining Park of Sardinia in Alghero.  
“Activities for the presentation of the European Geoparks Corner, the European Geoparks Network and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network”.
- “EGN Corner” with library available to the public for consultation.

### 2 Management, conservation, research

- May:** Agreement between the Municipality of Arbus and the Park in order to create a management committee aiming at protecting, developing and managing Montevecchio and Ingurtosu museum sites.
- May:** Agreement between the Park and the Municipality of Santadi to establish the Association “Grotte di Su Benatzu”, aiming at promoting and supporting the preservation and improvement both of the “Grotta di Su Benatzu” and the other archeological sites in the communal territory of Santadi.
- May:** Financial support for experimentation and research regarding renewable energies. Planning the construction of a solar energy refrigeration system for summer air conditioning at low environmental impact, to be installed in the Park areas.

### 3 Geotourism actions

- June:** Presentation of a doctoral Thesis, in collaboration with the Municipality of Muravera and the Park Associations. The Thesis emphasizes the possibility of restoring the “via dell’argento” in order to exploit it for touristic purposes. The way runs through wild landscapes of rare beauty, dotted with abandoned mining structures, desolately, immersed lush vegetation.
- June:** “L’ossidiana del Monte Arci nel Mediterraneo”, the 5<sup>th</sup> International Congress held in Pau at the “Ossidiana Museum”. The three days of the Congress were characterized by meetings and debates on the possibilities of economic development connected to the important resource present in the territory of Oristano.

### 4 Educational activities

- July:** Within the project “Memoria e Identità” primary and high schools students were involved in a network partnership project aimed at reconstructing the tragic events occurred in 1904 in Buggerru when three miners were killed by the police during a demonstration.
- July/August:** A vocational training for University students from different countries was held by Sassari University in collaboration with Moscow Lomonosov University and the Italian-Russian Institute of Environmental

Education, with the aim of defining an hypothesis of sustainable environmental management of the Park.

**-August:** Presentation of the volume “Storia dell’Industria mineraria nel Guspinese-Villacidrese tra il XVIII e il XX secolo” held in the Park buildings by the “Centro Studi SEA”.

## **5 Communication, marketing and promotional activities developed by the Geopark**

**-May:** Presentation of the Tourist guide “In Sardegna tra mare e miniere” by the Geopark in collaboration with the “Centro Sperimentazione e Autosviluppo” Association. One month on foot or by bicycle in the Sulcis-Iglesiente, to discover the beauties of the first Geological Mining Park recognized by the UNESCO.

**-May:** Workshop and meeting held in Alghero for the “Promotion of the Sardinian Parks and the Marine Protected Areas”.

**-May:** Cultural exchange between the Park and the Municipality of Peking aimed at informing and promoting the Sardinian mining history and oriented at developing common planning in the environmental field.

**-June:** Presentation of the bilingual Italian-English Guide “Guida ai siti visitabili del Parco Geominerario Storico Ambientale della Sardegna”.

## **6 Geopark Exhibitions and Events**

**-May/September:** “The Sonorous Stones” by the famous Sardinian sculptor Pinuccio Sciola. The use of stone and its sonorous potentialities: a way to tell the natural sounds of our island.

**-June:** Presentation of the book “Sardegna di fuori” by Giacomo Mameli at the Monteponi mine. The choice of the place is evocative of the mining themes in the book, some passages of which have been read with the accompaniment of the launeddas, a very old instrument played by the great launeddasplayer Luigi Lai.

## **7 Participation in common activities**

**-May/August:** Participation in the 12<sup>th</sup> regional edition of “Open Monuments”. The initiative aims at opening the most important Park mining sites to visitors eager to discover the mining cultural and historical heritage of our Mining Park.

**-June:** Participation in the initiative “Porto Pino Pulita- L’ambiente è vita”, realised by Sant’Anna Arresi Council on Porto Pino beach.

**-June:** Participation in the initiative “Operazione Spiagge Pulite” realised by Buggerru Council.

The last two initiatives are part of the interventions for the protection, development and promotion of a widespread environmental attention.

## **Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen**

### ***Progress Report March 2008 to September 2008***

#### **Current situation**

The highlight of this period was the international meeting “Geotop 2008 – Landschaften lesen lernen” (learning to read landscapes) in Königslutter with 120 participants from five countries.

There were openings of three new trails (Unicorn Cave, Oderwald and Heeseberg), one new geopoint in the city centre of Braunschweig (Nußberg) and of the new Cave Experience Centre in Bad Grund.

A very important step to a corporate Geopark-design and an improvement in marketing was the open workshop “Geopark products and new marketing concepts” in Beienrode.

We also took part in an Interreg IVb-application with our Austrian lead partner Geopark Steirische Eisenwurzten that was unfortunately rejected for the first call.

Additionally many fieldtrips and events took place in co-operation with the several network partners inside our Geopark as usual.

#### **Geoparks events and progress**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 04/03/08        | Foundation of the organization for the promotion of the “Archaeological Park Imperial Palace of Werla”  |
| 14/03/08        | Opening of the new exhibition about fossil plants in the Geopark Information Centre Königslutter  |
| 21/04/08        | Opening of the new adventure-trails around the Unicorn Cave near Scharzfeld/Harz (An „Experience Nature“ project of the Lower Saxony ministry for environment |
| 30/04/08        | Revalidation visit of the German National Geopark Network.  |
| 30/04– 04/05/08 | International meeting “Geotop 2008 – Landschaften lesen lernen” (learning to read landscapes) in Königslutter   |
| 04/08           | Presentation of the leaflet reprint of the Geopark landmark 17 “Mansfeld Castle”  |
| 04/08           | Presentation of the leaflet reprint of the Geopark landmark 5 “Herzberg Castle”   |
| 09/05/08        | Opening of the new Heeseberg-trail “From salt meadows to dry grassland” with three new information brochures for different target groups                      |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 14/05/08       | Opening of the new geotrail „Southern Oderwald”  |
| 23/05/08       | Presentation of the archaeological Geopark projects on the Lower Saxony “Day of the preservation of historic monuments” in Helmstedt |
| 05/08          | Presentation of the English leaflet version of the Geopark landmark 4 „Brocken“  |
| 24/05–06/06/08 | European Geopark-Week with several events and fieldtrips   |
| 30/05–01/06/08 | Weekend of the Imperial Palace of Werla in Werlaburgdorf   |
| 06/06/08       | Open Workshop „Geopark products und marketing“ in Beienrode  |
| 21/06–22/06/08 | International Geopark-Fair in Osnabrück  |
| 06/08          | Presentation of the leaflet reprint of the Geopark landmark 10 “Auerberg volcano – Upper Selke Valley”                               |
| 06/08          | Presentation of the leaflet reprint of the Geopark landmark 12 “Cone shaped slag heap Hohe Linde”                                    |
| 09/07/08       | Opening of the new Geopoint “Nußberg” in Braunschweig  |
| 07/08          | Opening of the new Cave Experience Centre in Bad Grund   |
| 07/08          | Presentation of the leaflet reprint of the Geopark landmark 11 “Old Castle Osterode”   |
| 07/08          | Presentation of a new Geopark panel for landmark 15 “Ballenstedt Castle – Lower Selke valley”  |

Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen GbR

- Dr. Henning Zellmer [h.zellmer@Geopark-braunschweiger-land.de](mailto:h.zellmer@Geopark-braunschweiger-land.de)
- Dr. Klaus George [rvh@harzregion.de](mailto:rvh@harzregion.de)

## **Hateg Country Dinosaurs Geopark Progress Report: 2008**

### Actions from Hateg Country Dinosaurs Geopark Management Team

1. Running of the Hateg Geopark information point in Hateg
2. Employment of two custodians for the paleontological sites (January 2008):
3. Participation in the PUZZLE project (one year national project dedicated to the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue - EYID) with the component "Mental maps" ( January 2008);
4. Exhibition and public presentation of the project "*Du Terroire a la Terre*". The project is part of our agenda for celebration of IYPE and EYID (March 2008, Ministry of Culture and Cults).
5. Different activities related to Geoparks Week  
Common exhibition in Hateg, Digne and Châtaigneraie Limousine  
  
Workshops and exhibitions in National Geological Museum (25 May – 5 June)  
Exhibition of pictures from different geoprks – Hateg, end of May
6. New project aiming to support the production of the Management Plan, geotrails,
7. Rebranding the geopark and production of leaflets, brochures, website

### Actions from other bodies beneficial to Hateg Geopark

1. Training courses for farmers in the Geopark area delivered by the University of Agriculture from Timisoara (February-March 2008):
2. Paper presentation in national conferences of local teachers, partners of the geopark team (February and March 2008);
3. News papers and radio issues dedicated to Hateg Geopark.

### Actions to promote the EGN:

1. Attendance to the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Geoparks in Terra Vita Geopark
2. Participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Geoparks Fair (Osnabruck)
3. Participation in "Meet your Geopark" Project

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# **LESVOS PETRIFIED FOREST - EUROPEAN GEOPARK**

## ***April-September 2008***

### **EGN – participation**

- Participation in the 21<sup>th</sup> EGN - Coordination Meeting in the European Geopark Beigua.
- Coordination and participation in the LEADER+ common project
- Editing and improvement of the EGN Website.
- Preparation and printing of the EGN Geoparks Book.
- Preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Intensive Course on Geoparks
- Organization of the EGN Week 2008 – Lesvos Geopark Spring festival
- Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Geoparks Conference in Terra Vita and International fair
- Receiving Delegations from Arouca Geopark Portugal and Slovakia-Hungary Geopark
- Contribution in the Evaluation - Revalidation missions in 3 other Geoparks (Rocca di Cerere I, Forest Fawr UK, GeoMon UK ).
- Preparation of the 22<sup>th</sup> EGN - Coordination Meeting in the European Geopark Bohemian Paradise
- Presentation of EGN in 33 IGC Oslo
- Coordination in EGN-IYPE Relationship

### **Geoparks events and progress**

#### **1. Research, Protection and Management**

- New findings from micropaleontological research
- Broad conservation works in all important fossil sites
- New fossil site protection constructions
- **New fossil and geosite data base**

#### **2. Exhibitions and Events**

- **Organisation of the Summer Geopark's Festival "EARTH FEAST 2008" (over 25 scientific and cultural events) and the 9<sup>th</sup> Agrotourist Festival (more than 35 local companies and cooperatives participated).**
- **Celebration of the International Year of Planet Earth 2008 – Lectures and Documentary film presentation every Friday during July and August**
- **New thematic exhibits in the Permanent Museum exhibitions**
- Temporary exhibition "Plants in local tradition" in Sigrí Museum June-October 2008 Guided tours – Educational Programmes
- Temporary exhibition : The earthquakes in NA Aegean in Sigrí Museum June-October 2008 Guided tours – Educational Programmes

### **3. Educational activities**

- Educational Presentations in schools of the new Educational CD-Rom
- Educational Programmes for Spring 2008
- Cooperation in environmental education programs with the Environmental Education Center of Lesvos
- **Special programs for volunteers in Geopark (7 young students from USA - June, 5 students from Sweden - April, 6 students from Greek Universities July and August, 6 conservators from UK, USA, Poland and Brazil)**

### **4. Creation of promotional material**

- New museum website [www.lesvosmuseum.gr](http://www.lesvosmuseum.gr) in GR,EN,DE
- Creation of the new Educational CD on the LPF
- Creation of a DVD on Lesvos PF and Museum
- Publication of a new leaflets for the Lesvos P.F. geopark (FR, I and CH )
- Publication of the new Magazine for the 9<sup>th</sup> Agrotourism Festival
- Publication of the new Magazine – Geotourist guide of West Lesvos
- Publication of the new Educational book on Dinosaurs
- Publication of the new guide of the Lesvos petrified forest Plaka and Sigri park in GR and EN
- Preparation of the New Museum Book in GR and EN

### **5. Events - Presentations**

- Presentation of the Educational Activity Report – June 2008

### **6. Projects**

- Realisation of a project for the creation of the Petrified forest data – base, educational material and the new Museum web-site
- Realisation of project for the creation of new multimedia presentations
- Research Project coordinated by the Museum for earthquake geology – seismology and protection of the North Aegean islands
- INTERREG III B MEDOCC for tourist development

### **7. Common Projects with EGN partners**

**LEADER + “Geoparks: Environmental education and Alternative tourism destination”**

**INTERREG IV B – MED** Submission of application

*Nickolas Zouros*

## **LOCHABER GEOPARK ASSOCIATION – August 2008 UPDATE**

This report gives brief details of Lochaber Geopark's progress since March 2008. Based on the project Work Plan the following activities have been undertaken:-

- **Networking:** - Work with the European Geopark Network to ensure that Lochaber continues to fulfil the requirements to retain this status.
  1. Attended the EGN Co-ordination Meeting in Begua April 2008
  2. Attended Global Geo-fair in Osnabruck June 2008
  3. Attended and presented papers at the Global Geopark conference in June 2008
  4. Set up a Project Providers Forum for similar Lochaber based organisations to coordinate joint activities.
  
- **Training:** - Run training schemes to increase awareness of Lochaber's geology and geomorphology.
  1. Ran a series of regular day time geological courses for the University if the Third Age.
  2. Provided training for the Great Glen Rangers, Highland Council Rangers, Outward Bound staff and Radical Travel Company.
  
- **Promotion:** -Raise the profile of the Lochaber Geopark.
  1. Updated and modified Lochaber Geopark Website
  2. Ran a series of monthly articles in Lochaber Life Magazine about local earth heritage.
  3. Became official members of the International Year of Planet Earth.
  4. Issued press releases on the presentation of Global Geopark status.
  
- **Events:** - Work with Members and other organisations to produce a programme of events with an earth science theme.
  1. Ran the EGN Geopark Week series of events.
  2. Organised the Mapping Mountain Exhibition for NTS at Glencoe.
  3. Worked with the Quaternary Research Association on the setting up of a meeting in Glen Roy in September.

- Interpretation: - Identify and develop earth science interpretation in Lochaber.
  1. Contributed geological content to other organisations interpretation boards.
  2. Worked with local Software Developer on mobile phone interpretation system. Employed short term project staff and UHI Centre for Interpretive Studies on this project.
  3. Continued the process of setting up an interpretive exhibition at the Ardnamurchan Lighthouse Visitor Centre.
  
- Education: - Work with education professionals to develop educational initiatives, training opportunities and research activities.
  1. A 360° panoramic poster taken from the top of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain has been produced and is being sent to local schools together with a geological explanation of the caldera and processes which made the mountain. The poster is also for sale at various local outlets.
  2. Undertook several visits to schools to give talks about Earth Heritage.
  
- Management: - Ensure effective administration in order to deliver all tasks efficiently.
  1. Completed a full year of financial, budget and organisational operations to the satisfaction of our individual sponsors.
  2. Obtained additional funding to run the pilot project for the Minfota mobile phone interpretive system.
  3. Organised and prepared reports for the AGM, Steering Group meeting and directors meetings throughout the year

## **LUBERON GEOPARK, Progress Report, April 2007 – September 2008**

**1** – Introduction of the Geoparks network to the new elected representatives of the Parc naturel régional du Luberon.

### **2 – Exhibition**

Creation of an exhibition about the Luberon geological heritage: 6 pannels dealing with the Luberon landscapes, the fossils, geological heritage, the Luberon Nature Reserve, the French Nature Reserves network and the Geoparks network.

### **3 – Landscaping of the Viens footprints slab**

Building of a dry-rocks wall, cleaning of the slab with children of the Viens village and planting of an interpretation board.

### **4 – Books and articles**

- Edition of the new “topoguide” Le Parc naturel régional du Luberon... pied. This book describes 27 trails to discover the Luberon heritage (landscapes, perched villages, geology, fauna, flora...). It is one of the best sellers in France concerning hike trails.
- Edition of a book about the Buoux castel : many informations and pictures on geology, environment, history and architecture
- Article about the Luberon Geopark in the “Geosciences” journal

### **5 – Geoparks week**

- Three geological guided tours about the peculiar landscapes of Forcalquier (les Mourres), the Regalon canyon and about the geological resources of the Manosque anticline (coal, gypsum, sulfur...).
- Conference : “le tour de France d’un géologue : étape en Luberon”. François Michel, author of the eponyme book talked about the France rocks and landscapes from granites to limestone, clays to sandstones. About 50 persons came to the “trip” in Forcalquier.
- Exhibition : “La France sauvage : photos des réserves naturelles de France” at the Maison du Parc in Apt. A photos exhibition showing a wide diversity of ecosystems across the French Nature Reserves.

### **6 – Welcoming the public**

- Guided visits of the exhibition “D’Apt à Aptien le découpage du temps” at the Salignan mill in Apt in april, july and august. This exhibition deals with time in geology, the aptian stratotype and the scientist Alcide-d’Orbigny.
- 13 spring free guided tours organized by the staff of the park in order to make the public discovering natural and cultural heritage of the Park.
- Fitting-out of the visitors room at the “Maison du Parc” in Apt : furniture, windows, creation of a bookshop, etc.

## **7 – New leaflets on agriculture and tourism**

- Edition of a leaflet about “les bistrots de pays du Luberon”. The "Bistrots de Pays" are ambassadors of their territory, multi-services offices, crossroads of ideas, places of cultural life. This original concept was born a dozen years ago and structure around four sectors with: a tourist information service, valuation of the local products, propositions of cultural and festive activities and, finally, intensification of convenience services.
- A second leaflet was edited to promote the local product of the Luberon Nature Park.

## **8 – Partnership with the Réserve Géologique de Haute-Provence**

The earth’s children festival in Digne: workshop on mineral pigments  
 Contribution to the earth festival in Digne

## **9 – Geopark network**

Contribution to :

- 21<sup>st</sup> EGN meeting in Beigua
- 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Geoparks in Terra.vita geopark
- 1<sup>st</sup> Geoparks fair

## **MADONIE EUROPEAN GEOPARK**

### **Progress Report, April 2008 - August 2008**

1. Meeting on 09.04.08 and excursion in the Madonie Geopark on 10.04.08, in support of the Educational Tour conceived by the “Bellina on Tour” Tour Operator with Touristik Office in Fuchsweg 16 73230 Kirchheim in Germany;
2. Active participation, from 17 to 20 April 2008, in the national Training Course for teachers “*At School in the Mountains – Systemic reading of the mountain territory: methodological proposal for teaching the environment*”, managed by the Central Committee for the Protection of the Mountain Environment (CCTAM) in collaboration with the Sicilian Regional CAI (Italian Alpine Club) Group - Petralia Sottana;
3. Participation in the planning and realization of the days of the annual Salvalarte Madonie initiative 2008, from 24 April to 11 May 2008. Of particular importance for the Madonie Geopark was the day of 26.04.08 devoted to a guided visit to the Vecchiuzzo Cave inhabited in the Neolithic, and to the inauguration of the Antonio Collisani Civic Archaeological Museum in Petralia Sottana connected in the project “*From the Earth to Man*” at the Madonie Geopark Museum inaugurated in 2004 on the occasion of the 5th European Geoparks Conference; the day of 30.04.08 for the presentation of the book “Home Cooking in the Madonie” in collaboration with Slow Food; the day of 02.05.08 for the presentation of the book “*W like Water, W like Wood, C like Cack. The Alphabet of the Environment*”, born of the project “(At) School in the Park”; the day of 03.05.08 for the presentation of the public competition for the management of the restructured Margi Houses at Castellana Sicula and the inauguration of the “Water Museum”, with the patronage of Planet Earth, at the restructured Paraturi Mill at Scillato; the day of 04.05.08 for a visit to the Terravecchia archaeological site and the presentation of the project for its use and enjoyment; the day of 08.05.08 for the presentation of the tale “*Treasure hunt. The mystery of Abies nebrodensis*” and the awarding of the prize for the contest “*A Mascot for the Park*”; the days of 09-10.05.08 for the workshop at Petralia Sottana “*The geological heritage as a resource for territorial development policies*”, which involved the participation of over 200 geologists coming from all the provinces of Sicily;

4. Diffusion of and support for the “*Youth Camp: Meet your Geopark*” at all higher schools in the Madonie Park, with the assignment of €500 to all participants and prizes for the best three, who unfortunately, due to various hitches, were not able to participate in the “Youth Camp” in Osnabrück;
5. Participation of the Madonie Geopark and the other Italian Geoparks in the Public Administration Forum organised by the national APAT on 13-14.05.08 in Rome;
6. Conclusion of the event “*Let’s colour our Future – Mini-Mayors of the Parks of Italy*”, from 18 to 24.05.08, which involved all the pupils of the comprehensive schools in the Madonie Park, whose delegations participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> National Conference “Nature.. a wonder to be experienced” held in the Sila National Park in the Calabria region;
7. European Geopark Week, from 28 May to 23 June, during which 11 events were run in which over 3000 people participated. There was remarkable participation in the “Conference on Mediterranean Ecotourism” of 5 and 6 June, which promoted and favoured international initiatives and local firms with experiences and interest in the development and marketing of sustainable tourism;
8. Sport and nature event “Madonies Eco-Marathon 2008 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Siciliatrail”, organized by A.S.D. Polisportiva Europa Junior and held on 08.06.08 at Polizzi Generosa, with participation in competitive races (42.195 kilometres for the marathon) and not competitive (12 kilometres ) *with a positive gradient* of 2050 metres, lowest height 870 metres and maximum height 1912 metres;
9. Participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> International Fair of Geoparks and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO International Congress of Geoparks, Osnabruck-Germany, 21-27 June 2008, of the delegation constituted by the representative of the Coordination Committee of EGN Pasquale Li Puma, by the President of the Regional Order of Geologists of Sicily Gian Vito Graziano and by the Haliotis association;
10. Visit by Pasquale Li Puma to the Bohemian Paradise Geopark, from 17 to 19 July, for re-evaluation;
11. Conference for presentation of the Plan for Protection of Waters in Sicily and in the Madonie Park, held at Petralia Sottana on 18.07.08, organized by the Regional Water Observatory and aided by the Park Body, to improve the quality of surface and underground aquifers;



12. Inauguration on 19.07.08 of the first “Adventure Park” in Sicily in the Madonie Park, with 5 game and sport itineraries involving different degrees of difficulty. It also has a picnic area and a base point for environmental education initiatives. The structure is the fruit of collaboration between the Regional Demesnal Forestry Board, the Madonie GAL, the dedicated portal [www.parcoavventuramadonie.it](http://www.parcoavventuramadonie.it) and various private firms;
13. Conclusion, in July, with measure 4.13 of POR Sicilia 2000-06, of the activities for the creation of a collective quality hallmark and the implementation of environmental management systems (ISO 14001 and traceability) affecting the main food and agriculture production lines in the Park and the territories of the communes in the Madonie GAL;
14. 18<sup>th</sup> Rock-salt Festival, on 30 and 31.08.08 at “Petralia Soprana salt town”, serving to promote geo-touristic use and enjoyment of the abandoned rock-salt mine and the consumption of local and traditional foods. Over 4,000 people took part in the festival.
15. Each commune in the Madonie Park, in the months of July and August, organised cultural, sports, folklore and musical events and various entertainments, to draw and increase tourism and specifically geo-tourism.

Pasquale Li Puma - [uob5@parcodellemadonie.it](mailto:uob5@parcodellemadonie.it)

## **Marble Arch Caves European Geopark**

*Progress Report: September 2008*

### **Geopark activities**

- Fermanagh District Council's application to EGN/UNESCO to expand the Marble Arch Caves European Geopark on an international basis from Fermanagh in the United Kingdom into Cavan in the Republic of Ireland was discussed at the April 2008 meeting of EGN/UNESCO.
- Development works, events programmes and information seminars relating to the international expansion of the geopark continued throughout 2008.
- The €4M INTERREG IIIB project in co-operation with three other European Geoparks in North West Europe is completed and has been a model exercise in co-operation between geoparks in three different European countries.
- A number of European Geoparks within North West Europe including MACEG continue to develop a collective INTERREG IVB project application.
- Visitor numbers to Marble Arch Caves in 2007 were 53,280, which is our highest yearly figure since 1996 and an increase of 3% on 2006, which was itself a record year. The 2007 figure is 17.5% more than 2004 when we became a Global Geopark and 30% more than 2001 when we became a European Geopark. 2008 figures are likely to exceed those for 2007 despite a very rainy summer.
- Patrick McKeever and Richard Watson attended the EGN meeting held in Beigua in April 2008.
- A large contingent including various musicians and tourism officials from Fermanagh and Cavan attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference in Osnabruck in June 2008.
- Richard Watson , along with Heinz Kollmann, carried out a revalidation assessment of the Hateg County Dinosaur Geopark in Romania in July 2008.
- Patrick McKeever has attended a large number of overseas meetings, conferences and events on behalf of EGN in 2008 and continues to be a roving ambassador for EGN. Among other people, he has recently met the Deputy Director of the US National Parks Service and the Minister of Tourism for New Zealand.
- Patrick and Nickolas Zouros have been in almost daily contact dealing with the ever-increasing workload generated by the success story of European Geoparks.

- A varied programme of geopark events has been carried out throughout the year including European Geoparks Week, IYPE and European Heritage Open Days.
- A number of talks and presentations about the geopark and its linkages within EGN have been given by members of the geopark management team to various organisations and at various events in Ireland and the UK.
- The geopark has continued to attract a lot of media attention in the press, magazines, television and radio.
- A large number of attractive and informative panels designed by Kirstin Lemon were erected in the geopark during 2008. Some of the panels replaced old ones and some were at new sites.
- Richard became a grandfather for the first time following the birth of Isobelle.
- Claudia Eckhardt and Sylvie Giraud carried out an assessment of the proposed cross-border expansion area of the geopark in August 2008.
- A professional archaeological survey carried out in the geopark in September 2008 has made exciting new archaeological discoveries of international significance.
- A new Geopark Ranger position was created in September 2008.

## **Progress Report**

### **April - September 2008**

### **Mecklenburg Ice Age Landscape European Geopark**

### **Germany**

1. In the frame of the **EGN-Week** a number of guided walks, field trips and public talks were offered especially concentrating on school classes. Starting with a walk along the Ice Age Trail near Feldberg on May, 29<sup>th</sup> the EGN-Week was closed on June, 5<sup>th</sup> with the “Environment Day” at the Social and Youth Centre “Hinterste Mühle” in Neubrandenburg. More than 300 pupils visited the event and made use of different activities presented also by the Geopark, who is one of the co-organizers for years. All in all about 530 guests took part in the range of the EGN-Week.
2. **New information Material** was published in May 2008 with the financial support of local authorities and geopark stakeholders. The series of Geopark-leaflets was continued with: Mallin Brook Valley, Neustrelitz Variety of Lakes, Helpt Mountains.
3. The Geopark and the European Geoparks Network were main issues within a talk at the **Marketing Group** of the Ministry of Economy and Tourism Mecklenburg-Vorpommern on July, 6<sup>th</sup>. This group sets the main topics for the central marketing campaigns of the country and coordinates the connected activities. For bicycle tourism is a steadily growing market in the country it was agreed to concentrate on the Ice Age Route to be included in the next campaigns. First action was a local research in August carried out by two specialists to assess the potential of the Geopark’s tourist guidance system. Results shall be discussed in October.
4. In July a group of senior romanian artists (painters) spent a couple of days having a **pleinair** in Helpt, a small village next to the highest point of the Geopark and the federal state (*Helpter Berge*/Helpt Mountains). They followed an invitation of the Geopark Network realized by a privat stakeholder. At the end of their stay a number of landscape paintings were presented in the local community center having a little vernissage. The paintings will be shown in other places of the Geopark during the next months.
5. On July, 23<sup>rd</sup> the Geoscientific Association Neubrandenburg opened a new **exhibition** in cooperation with the Neubrandenburg Regional Library. To mark the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association it shows the different fields of geological interest among the members including the Geopark. The association is the responsible body of the Geopark.
6. On July, 28<sup>th</sup> another **information point** has been opened to the public in Neustrelitz. Supported and managed by the municipality, it contains

information on the town, the Müritz-National Park and the Geopark. In preparation for the opening the Geopark Network established a working group to develop new tools and products for the common presentation of the geopark throughout the region.

7. More than 170,000 people visited the **Müritzeum** in the first year of its operation. It is the most modern and biggest visitor centre within the Geopark. On September, 9<sup>th</sup> another special exhibition on Minerals and their importance as raw materials was opened with the Geopark as co-organizer. Further cooperation has been agreed.

8. Intensive efforts have been made in order to ensure financial support for the **Geopark Management** by authorities, municipalities, enterprises and private sponsors. Because of the lack in public money talks were focussing on private sponsors with some encouraging beginning. It could aim at the setup of a Geopark Foundation to cover basic costs of the Geopark office and staff.

9. The project of a new central **Geopark Visitor Center** is in good progress. Cooperation has been agreed between the Geopark and the town of Burg Stargard, that will be running the project. Main purpose is the reconstruction of the former main building of Stargard Castle (*Burg Stargard*) to install the central Visitor Center of the Geopark within. It shall also include the seat of the coordinating Geopark Office. Project draft has been submitted in the beginning of September 2008, project costs are estimated at 1,8 – 2 million Euro at the moment. Main money comes from INTERREG funds and is bound to german-polish cooperation projects. The decision on the project funding is expected in spring 2009.

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# **NORTH PENNINES AONB GEOPARK**

## **Activity Report, April - September 2007**

*Work continues to further establish the North Pennines AONB as a European Geopark. Some of the recent activities include:*

1. 'Northern Rocks – the North Pennines Festival of Geology and Landscape 2008' (European Geoparks Week). A 16 page promotional brochure was produced to promote the 35 events that were held. Feedback was once again very positive. Our other programme of events for the area includes a further 8 geological walks / activities, the last of which took place on 30th August.
2. Work has continued on site based interpretation. A new geological trail leaflet and a theme publication on the Whin Sill are close to going to print. Work funded and supported by the team continues at Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum and at Nenthead Mines Heritage Centre (where we are funding and advising on new touch screen interpretation and new geological trail).
3. Seven further new geological trails are in production.
4. Elizabeth is continuing to work on a 60 page book on the geology of the North Pennines.
5. We have produced a consultation draft of a new management plan for the area, which commits us to developing new work to retain our Geopark status (amongst many more things across all the themes of Protected Area management).
6. Four children and two teachers from a local school took part in the Geoparks Fair and Earth Camp. The film made by the children will shortly be on our website [www.northpennines.org.uk](http://www.northpennines.org.uk)
7. A new interpretation project was undertaken in the community of Allenheads (once a world-renowned centre of lead mining), working with a local filmmaker. A local school has learned about, and made an animated film about, the 1849 lead miners' strike in the village. This excellent short film will also be available on our website soon.
8. Again in Allenheads we have let a contract to turn the old Blacksmith's Shop into a small interpretation centre, with geological interpretation by Elizabeth sitting alongside interpretation of the social history of this lead mining village.
9. Work has continued on our major peatland conservation project (Peatscapes) in the Geopark. The quaternary geology of the Geopark is of international importance and our two Peatscapes staff have been mainly

engaged establishing new physical conservation for the winter and supporting our research projects.

10. Other project work includes the completion of our drystone walling traineeships project and our ground breaking hay meadow conservation project, both helping to conserve important aspects of the Geopark landscape. New publications include further walks leaflets and training events. Our £3.1million conservation and interpretation project, Living North Pennines, is now underway, with six new staff having joined the team. This is not geologically focussed, though some of the work arising out of the 'community interpretation' strand involves Elizabeth in supporting geological interpretation by local people; two of the four historic buildings which will be conserved are part of the area's lead mining past.

### **Activity for the network**

11. We produced the compendium of Geoparks reports for the Bohemian Paradise meeting.
12. Chris and Elizabeth have been working on a Vlb NW Europe bid with other partner Geoparks.
13. Two revalidations were undertaken on behalf of the Network (Bergstrasse Odenwald and Bohemian Paradise). Chris and Elizabeth attended the Global Geoparks Conference where they gave talks, chaired sessions and helped with minutes of the Global Geoparks meeting.

### **Activity by Partners**

14. The proposals for the redevelopment of Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum, are taking shape rapidly and a funding bid is being made soon for this multi-million pound project

Chris Woodley-Stewart, Dr Elizabeth Pickett, August 2008  
[chris@northpenninesaonb.org.uk](mailto:chris@northpenninesaonb.org.uk) / [elizabeth@northpenninesaonb.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth@northpenninesaonb.org.uk)

## **North West Highlands Geopark Progress report – September 2008**

### Management & activities

1. Contract let for two full time posts Geopark Officer and Assistant Geopark Officer from April 2008 to March 2009.
2. Creation of Draft NW Highlands Geopark Development & Action Plan 2009-2012 completed. Currently the draft is put forward for public consultation with the 5 community areas.

### 2008 Season

3. Through the summer months, we participated in all “Highland Gatherings” in the Geopark with pebble painting for children and geological interpretation for adults.
4. We are participating again in the Scottish Geology Festival in September. Eight guided walks throughout the Geopark and two story-telling performances at Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve. Talks on the recent scientific discoveries in the Geopark are planned, namely the evidence of a meteorite strike and discovery of new entrance to bone caves uncovering bear bones. The bone caves are now the longest cave system in Scotland.

### Interpretation – infrastructure

5. Consultation completed for a renovation of the Durness Visitor Centre with input from the local community, BGS and University of Birmingham/Lapworth Museum
6. New Geopark website based on an interactive map format completed.
7. Set of new 4 leaflets about attractions and activities in the Geopark have been created and distributed throughout the Geopark and gateways.
8. The core Geopark brochure has been updated and versions have been produced in German, French, Italian, Spanish and Gaelic.
9. Refreshment of the display at Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh was completed in May.
10. There is a seasonal guide interpreting the Moine Thrust at Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve. This post is funded by our partners SNH

### EGN / UNESCO common activities

12. We participated in the EGN Week with several walks, talks and coastal jaunts.
13. Common EGN leaflet for local/ regional use in English, German, French and Italian has been printed and distributed.



14. With collaboration from Lochaber Geopark, NW Highlands Geopark distributed the EGN magazine to Members of Parliament (MPs) in Scotland and Members of the Scottish Parliament, MSPs, community councillors in our Geoparks, Universities and Geological Societies.
15. Participation in the first Global Geoparks Fair in Osnabrück.
16. Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Geoparks conference, June 2008.
17. Participation in “Meet Our Geopark” project with 4 pupils attending from the NW Highlands. Publicity in Bratch and Northern Times regarding this project and the conference.

Fiona Mackenzie and Maarten Krabbendam  
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## **Papuk Geopark, Croatia**

### **Progress report: April 2008 – September 2008**

Papuk Geopark activities:

- 1.** Papuk Geopark contributed one oral and poster presentation on 3<sup>rd</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks, Osnabruck
- 2.** Considering aspiring Geoparks in vicinity representatives of the Papuk Geopark discussed the mechanism of applying for EGN membership with Mrs. Ljerka Marijanac from a prospective Geopark Rab Island, Croatia and Mrs. Martina Stupar from aspiring Idrija Geopark, Slovenia
- 3.** Goran Radonic from Papuk Geopark was elected as member of IYPE National Committee.
- 4.** ProGEO-Croatia and the ProGEO European Association for the Conservation of the Geological Heritage organize „5th International Symposium on Conservation of the Geological Heritage“ which will be held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2008, Rab Island, Croatia. Goran Radonic from Papuk Geopark was elected in honorary committee.
- 5.** The European Geoparks Week 2008 which took place from May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup> was very fruitful for Papuk Geopark. EGN Week gave a number of activities and events such as guided walks, presentation and workshops in local schools, photography competition.
- 6.** On the occasion of 60 years since Rupnica was granted a protected status as the first Geological Monument of Nature in Croatia poster “60 years of Rupnica” was printed. Poster was presented general public during few events.
- 7.** Visit of French Catholic Scouts who volunteered and gave us a big help in construction of new educational trail nearby Orahovica city. Except geological features the trail also encompasses biological and cultural highlights.
- 8.** Many guided walks through Geopark area have been organized especially for school children
- 9.** “National Strategy and Action Plan for Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity in Croatia” is strategic document for protection of nature in Croatia. It was revised in 2008 and for the first time in history of modern nature protection in Croatia this document foresees protection of geodiversity as one of its strategic goals. Geodiversity was recognized as a milestone for biodiversity and landscape protection and it should be protected through inventory of valuable geo-sites and development of management plans for these sites, improving the legislative and cross-sector cooperation, identification and proclamation of new geoparks and development of geoeducation and geotourism. It is obvious that promotion of geological

heritage protection through recent proclamation of Papuk Geopark encourage those changes.

**10.** Papuk Geopark participated in local touristic festival (Kutjevo city) with stall and many visitors could be acquainted with Geopark and European Geopark Network through informative leaflets.

**11.** Papuk Geopark website was launched in June and is under permanent development. Website was created by four students and their mentor from Technical High School - Pozega as part of project "Meet your Geopark". Also as result of this project DVD "Secrets of Papuk" was filmed by students from Pozega Gymnasium.

**12.** Two research projects are in progress in partnership with Faculty of Science – Geology Department. Main subjects of projects are geosites in north-western part of Geopark near Vocin.

## **Sobrarbe Geopark Progress Report (April-September 2008)**

1. April 2008. Preparation of a report on the possible installation of a rubble landfill in an area of high geological value within the Geopark.
2. April 2008. Promotion of Geopark through a directory of businesses and services of Sobrarbe Geopark
3. April 2008. Ethnographic documentary film festival in Sobrarbe Geopark
4. May 2008. Preparation of a report on a new road within the Geopark, and their affections to geological heritage
5. May 2008. Creation of an exhibition on folk dances of Sobrarbe Geopark
6. May 2008. Attendance at the presentation of Geological Route Aspe - Aragon, in the Aragonese Pyrenees, in preparation for the future geological path between Sobrarbe Geopark and Aure Valley (France)
7. May-June 2008: Celebration of the European Geoparks Week.
8. June 2008. It took place the visit of a delegation of Songsham Geopark (China) to Sobrarbe Geopark. During the visit both Geoparks signed a co-operation agreement.
9. June 2008. There was a field visit of geologists from Ushuaia (Patagonia, Argentina) to learn about Sobrarbe Geopark and its management and activities, in order to promote the creation of a Geopark in Patagonia (Argentina)
10. June 2008. Participation in the first Global Geoparks Fair in Osnabruek, and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Geoparks. Presentation on geotourism and mountain biking in Sobrarbe Geopark.
11. June 2008. Photographic contest on the cultural heritage of the upper valley of Cinca river, within the Geopark
12. June-July 2008. Inauguration of the Interpretation Center of the Geopark, the Office to support research and the Geo-cinema of Sobrarbe Geopark, with the presence of the Co-ordinator of the European Geoparks Network Nickolaos Zouros
13. July-September 2008. During these months it takes place Renovarte. This is a set of simultaneous exhibitions and installations of contemporary art located in historic buildings or sites of special interest in terms of heritage (castles, churches, mills, towers. ...) all over the Geopark
14. July 2008. Summer Activities of Sobrarbe Geopark
  - ✓ Activities at the Interpretation Centre
  - ✓ Geological guided tours

- ✓ Presentation of a geo-scientific association established recently at the Geopark

15. July 2008. Review of all the geological mountain biking routes in the Geopark, for repair and improvement.

16. August 2008. Presentation of the report on the archaeological exploration campaign in Sobrarbe Geopark during 2007. This activity is aided by the Geopark.

17. August 2008: Presentation and promotion of Sobrarbe Geopark and the Geoparks Network at the International Exposition in Zaragoza

18. September 2008. Participation in the First National Congress of Rural Development, with presentation of a poster on sustainable development and environmental education in Sobrarbe Geopark

19. July to September: Improvement of signalling and visibility of the Geopark

20. July to September. Preparation activities with the schools within the Geopark for the next school year

21. July to September. Preparation of the Second Seminar of Sobrarbe Geopark, dedicated to the teaching of geology, and that will take place from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October.

22. July-September: Preparation of training courses on flora and fauna of the Geopark, to be held in November 2008.

23. August 2008. Preparation of a course on good practices in Local Government, for all Local Authorities within the Geopark.

#### Collaboration with other Geoparks

1. May 2008: Participation in a project with several Geoparks of the European Network, for the call for proposals of programme Interreg IV B MED

2. June 2008: Participation in the European Geoparks Week of Naturtejo Geopark (Portugal)

3. June 2008: Signing of a cooperation agreement with Songsham Geopark (China)

4. September 2008: Signing of a cooperation agreement between Sobrarbe Geopark and Lesbos Petrified Forest Geopark

# SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK ACTIVITIES REPORT: March 2008 - October 2008

## 1. Activities of Environmental Education

- Environmental Education Programs, aimed at a very diverse public, where sensitization and respect towards the environment, and sportive tourism are enhanced. They are planned to be the meeting point of visitors and the local population.
- Visits to the Bats Cave and the Ecomuseum, where the origin of Karst, the processes that form the caves and the dwellers that inhabit the interior of the earth are explained.
- Program of environmental awareness: where scholars enjoy and learn “walking through time”, along the Jurassic and Cretaceous series, and observing the wealth and diversity of ammonites.

## 2. Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark

- Exhibition: “Geopaintings of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark” (2nd Edition, dedicated to Mountains”).
  - Field trips with the painters of the “School of Countryside of Priego”. In which they’re explained the meaning of a Geopark the geological origin and structure of the mountains that they see. In this way, they make their work with a higher “geological consciousness” of the countryside. The result of these activities will be fixed on the edition of the book: “Geopaintings of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark”.
  - Participation in the Andalusian Celebration of Tourism and Rural Development, in Sevilla.
- In relation to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park:
- Inauguration of an “Ammonite Sculpture” made of brass (Tithopeltoceras, 2, 5 meters). It is situated in the heart of the Park, at the entrance of the Santa Rita Visitors Centre, by the way of the major road that runs throughout the Park. It has very soon become the symbol of the Geopark.
  - XIV Nocturnal Hike in Priego de Córdoba, with more than 200 participants.

### - MATERIAL EDITION:

- Presentation of the book: “Karst in Andalusia”, in regards to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Andalusian Congress of Speleology, which includes some of the karstic structures present in the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.
- Issue of “the Topoguide of the Sierras Subbéticas Caves”, of great speleological interest. This edition gives light to subterranean natural heritage of the Geopark. The 14 most important caves and abysses are described, and topography and internal formations are detailed. The purpose of this guide is to enhance the practice of activities related to a sustainable and environmental respectful tourism.

- Edition of the English version of a leaflet of the Geopark, where the main processes that formed the Subbetic are detailed, and the most interesting geological sites are described.

- Transmission of a 30-minute documentary of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark on the national television channel TVE2, in the program "The Adventure of Knowledge". This is the national channel that most stands for Culture and Nature.

- In relation to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark:

- Edition of a hundred little sculptures of ammonites made of bronze, which were given to the closest collaborators. The success of these souvenirs has been such that it is intended to apply for the production of a higher number of exemplars.

- Production of a new audiovisual of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park, in which the most valuable geologic elements are included for the first time. The main geological structures can be observed through aerial images taken from a helicopter flight.

### **3. Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark.**

- II Andalusian Congress of Speleology (Priego de Córdoba), and Inauguration of the Andalusian Museum of Speleology. The Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park took part in the Scientific Committee, and numerous conferences on recent advances in Speleology were exposed.

- Collaboration with the Universities of Córdoba, Granada and Jaén, that provide a continuous scientific assessment. These institutions participate dynamically in the Geopark activities.

- Investigation in the Geopark: Two Phd thesis, on Stratigraphy and Paleontology which include several areas of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark, are currently being made.

- European Chart of Sustainable Tourism: Dossier preparation for the adhesion to the Chart: the main developing subject is the Geotourism in the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.

### **4. Activities related to the European Geoparks Network**

- European Geoparks Week: The celebration of the European Geoparks Week received a large attendance of a very diverse public. Several didactic and creative activities related to Geology, Art and to the valuable heritage of the Geopark took place. Among these activities we point out talks, exhibitions, visits to museums, geological trails, and funny scholar activities.

- Attendance to the Third International Conference on Geoparks in Osnabrück.

- Andalusia's Geoparks Visit Program: the geopark staff meets the neighbour Geopark, getting involve in their activities.

## **European Geopark Swabian Alb Progress report from April to September 2008**

March - Mai 2008: Exhibition about the Ice-Age water resource in the region of the Swabian Alb, Changing exhibition in three Geopark-Information-centers. In Cooperation with the drinking water company "Eiszeit-Quell".

March – September: A wide range of speeches, lectures and activities in the Geopark-information-centers.

April: Preparing an INTERREG-application under the leadership of the Geopark Eisenwurzten.

April 12: 25 Jahre Mössinger Bergrutsch (25 Years landslide at Mössingen). Ceremonial Act in the Townhall with 700 visitors. Lectures about the landslide and the Geoparks.

April 15: Lecture about Geopark Swabian Alb at the Geotourism Seminar of the DTZ (German Central for Tourism) in Berlin.

April 18: Foundation of the Geopark Swabian Alb Association. Members: 10 districts (Landkreise) and the tourist union Swabian Alb

April 25: Ceremonial act for the opening of the geopark-information-center in the "Urweltmuseum Aalen" (primeval world Museum).

Mai 16: Kick-Off-Meeting for a new education group of the Alb-Guides in Heidenheim.

27.05.08 Broadcast: "Daheim und Unterwegs" in the north German television, a 15 minutes broadcast about the Geopark Swabian Alb.

Mai 30: Ceremonial act for the opening of the Geopark-information-center in the "Freilichtmuseum" Neuhausen ob Eck.

Mai 30 – June 8: Celebration of the Week of the European Geoparks with more than 70 activities.

June: relocation of the Geopark office to Münsingen.

June 21-26: Participation in the first global geopark fair and the second global geopark conference in Osnabrück.

July 12: Opening of the „cave adventure world in Giengen / Hürben

July 17 and 18: Revalidation visit by the expert group of the National Geoparks.

Preparation work for new geological trails, particularly the modernization of the geological trail about the meteor impact in Steinheim am Albuch



Preparation of an exhibition about Karsts on the Swabian Alb.

Participation in the working group “Marketing guidelines” for the Swabian Alb  
(Organisator: Tourist Union Swabian Alb)

## **TERRA.vita**

### **Progressreport April 2008 - September 2008**

#### **A. Activities concerning the EGN and GGN**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Global Geoparks Fair**

The fair took place on the marketplace in front of the historic town hall in Osnabrück from 21. and 22. 6.2008. Only one EGN-park was missing and some Chinese due to the May earthquake in the Sichuan province. Including 5 National German Geoparks, we were very happy to present 57 parks to the public altogether. All participating Geoparks agreed, that the common presentation of the Global Geoparks was enjoyable and inspiring. The TERRA.vita team would like to thank all participants who added through their individual contributions to the success of this event.

##### **3rd International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks 2008 in Osnabrück**

The conference took place from 22.-26.June 2008. It attracted some 350 participants from 37 countries worldwide. It was the most global conference Osnabrück has ever seen, which means it was a big success for TERRA.vita. More important it was another step forward for the Global Geopark Network to reach out to the wider public and showing the tremendous interest in the Geopark idea worldwide.

##### **Youthcamp Meet Your Geopark**

The student exchange project was attended by 10 EGN Parks from Portugal, Romania, Croatia, Czech Republic, UK and Germany and was held from 20.6.- 29.6.2008 during the IGeoC. We have learned that the students enjoyed this experience a lot. Regarding the comments of participants in the conference, the contributions of the young people as it was shown at the conference`s last day were crucial for the success of the conference. We all were surprised to see how professional and with passionate the presentations were made. We will try to start a Geopark youth exchange project based on the positive experience made

##### **IYPE Activities**

Starting in April and lasting until the mid of June about 50 oral presentations, lectures, exhibitions, excursions, workshops etc. all serving the issues of the planet earth etc. were offered by many different actors and were compiled and promoted by TERRA.vita in a leaflet.

17 Dinosaurs have attracted young people and families alike. The presentation began at the end of May lasted until 21.6.2008. A leaflet, including a complete route and a competition has been spread all over the geopark. A Pterodactylus welcomed all incoming passengers at the Münster Osnabrück Airport inviting them to visit our Geopark. All dinos were presented individually in our local newspaper.

A series of reports about the six German Global Geoparks are published by the Newspapers Neue Osnabrücker Zeitung and the Neue Westfälische in their weekend travel supplement, printed in 1 Mio. copies. It started with TERRA.vita at June 14<sup>th</sup> and continued at July 26<sup>th</sup> with the report about the Vulkaneifel.

## **B. Activities by TERRA.vita**

### **Economic effects of the Nature- and Gepark TERRA.vita**

The project results were presented in a press conference at July 1<sup>st</sup>. An annual turnover of net 9.1 million € has been generated. This leads to a job equivalent of 750 persons.

### **“Three Hills” project**

Initiated by the German Environmental Foundation TERRA.vita was selected among several other partners to apply for a common marketing project to promote three hills (Piesberg, home of a big quarry and the museum of industrial culture; Westerberg home of the centre for environmental communication and the botanic garden located in a quarry and the Schölerberg known best for the zoo, TERRA.vision, TERRA.park and the museum presenting the underworlds) in the city of Osnabrück. For two years we will be able to hire a part time staff for the coordination.

### **New branch in Northrhine-Westfalia (NRW)**

As experienced during the INTERREG IV B application it was a problem for TERRA.vita to apply for money from the North West Europe Region. After signing a contract with the Tecklenburg touristboard in June we will open our new branch in the state of NRW (located in NWE) to solve this problem and getting closer to our customers.

## **C. Positive effects by others for TERRA.vita**

### **State funding**

TERRA.vita was granted 104.000 € in April. The funding by the state of Lower Saxony (30 %) and the EU (50%) will be invested for a communication project, to introduce visitors to Lower Saxonies largest calcite sinter terrasses.

### **NDR Radio**

TERRA.trail 1 was presented in a live report on the bike to the listeners of NDR 1 at July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The project calcite sinter terrasses was presented on NDR 1 at July 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Belgian Radio**

We had a live radio interview in August by the German speaking Belgian Radio about geoparks and our geological heritage.

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# VULKANEIFEL EUROPEAN GEOPARK

## March - August 2008

### 1. Events/workshops/seminars

- **Geoparks Week „terramaargica“ 2008:**  
Large program with 50 actions from 25. Mai to 08 June (evening gala, excursions, walks, lectures, seminars, day of open quarry, market, music events, mineral water exhibition and cocktail bar introducing Vulkaneifel-mineral water cocktails). More than 6.000 visitors and participants attended this diverse presentation hooked onto the geology of Vulkaneifel. Print and distribution of 15.000 program brochures and 600 posters. The Geoparks Week „Terramaargica 2008“ was accompanied by an extraordinary reporting in print and radio media.
- Four-day Workshops and seminars on **strategic network building and marketing strategies** with Vulkaneifel partners (tourism offices, visitor guides, accomodation providers).
- Seminar for geopark hosts on mineral water and workshop on the development of special **Vulkaneifel mineral water cocktails**. These mineral water cocktails were introduced and presented during the Geoparks Week „Terramaargica 2008“  
Geopark hosts are obliged to present mineral water cocktails on their beverage list to promote this special natural product of Vulkaneifel

### 2. Geopark marketing, promotional activities and public relations

- Radio Interview **Eldorado, Luxemburg**, 21. Mai 2008
- Contribution to the „Landesgartenschau“ (garden fair of the federal state of Rhenania Palatinate) at the town of Bingen from Mai-Oktober 2008. In cooperation with the SWR–broadcast Vulkaneifel presents typical volcanic rocks in the „**Garden of Regions**“
- Radio-hearer event with **SWR 1 broadcasting** (18. Juli 2008) organisation of a **Jeep-Tour** to highlights of Vulkaneifel with online reportage during the day.
- One day promotion walk (13. August 2008) along the new interregional „**Eifelsteig**“ hiking trail with online reportage by **SWR 1 broadcasting**..
- Presentation of Vulkaneifel European Geopark in the popular TV-Series „**Ratgeber Reise**“ (Travel Advice) of ARD (1. German national TV program) 10. August 2008.
- On geoparks webpage presentation of two new **tourbooks** (travel itineraries) along the German Volcano Route in Vulkaneifel. Downloadable pdf-files.

- On geoparks webpage presentation of 20 **audio reportages** (including childrens versions) explaining highlights of Vulkaneifel. Downloadable MP3-files.

### 3. Participation in meetings

- **21<sup>th</sup> EGN Meeting** in Beigua Geopark April 2008
- **3<sup>rd</sup> International Global Geoparks Conference**, Osnabrück 22. – 26. June 2008
- **Participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Geoparks Fair**, Osnabrück 21. – 22. June 2008
- Meeting in Hexigten and signing of **Twinning Agreement** with Hexigten Global Geopark, Inner Mongolia, China, 31. August 2008

### 4. Partners' contributions

- Opening ceremony of new **trail „Vulkanerlebnispfad Strohn – Volcano experience trail Strohn“**, featuring the Wartgesberg-volcanism around the village of Strohn, 29. Mai 2008.
- **Lake festival** at refilled Eichholz-maar lake and introduction of new hiking trail „Steffeln – Duppach“ connecting the Eichholz maar with the volcano garden at Steffeln, 08. June 2008
- 6. July 2008 opening of new bicycle trail „**Kosmos-Radweg**“. Along this route steles with inscriptions were erected explaining the creation of space and the distances between the planets.
- 02. August 2008 opening of new hiking trail „**Mineral water route**“ starting at the cold-water-geysir in the village of Wallenborn. This trail is dedicated to the mineral water springs and the local culture and history of the surrounding villages.

Andreas Schüller