

Global Geoparks Network

Name of Regional Network (i.e. EGN, APGN)

Evaluation Mission / Revalidation Model Report

Name of Geopark

Name of Country

Introduction

This should contain a summary of background information, e.g. geological summary, area of territory, management and some information on the history of the application. Throughout the report don't forget to add in appropriate photos while making sure the final file size is less than 5MB.

Evaluation Mission

Dates of mission and names of the evaluators.

Documents Provided and Presented

List of the documents submitted by the aspiring geopark (either to the GGN secretariat or on-the-spot) as well as a list of presentations given during the mission.

Itinerary

Day-by-day summary of the mission.

Visibility

The aspirational geopark should have a logo and a strategy for establishing signage both at gateways and sites within its territory.

Description & Conservation Strategy for the Geological Sites

An account of the state of the geological sites visited during the mission including detail on on-site interpretation, facilities for the public, planned infrastructure etc...

Description & Conservation Strategy for Other Natural & Cultural Sites and Museums

An account of the state the non-geological sites visited during the mission including detail on on-site interpretation, facilities for the public, planned infrastructure etc...

Infrastructure Development

An account of the area's general infrastructure and its influence on the development of sustainable tourism and economic development.

Geotourism

A summary account of the general state of geotourism in the aspiring geopark and how integrated it is with the local tourism sector and how any such activities are promoted and marketed.

Local Participation

A summary account of the general state of local participation, the relationship with the local communities and how any such activities are promoted and marketed.

Information and Public Education

A summary account of the level of interpretation and information available to visitors in the aspiring geopark and a summary account of the education activities (and facilities available) in the aspiring geopark.

Strategic Partnerships

An account of any partnerships with the media, tourism providers, local businesses, schools and universities which already contribute to the activities, products and development of the aspiring geopark.

Management and Sustainable Development

This section should summarise the model of management in the aspiring geopark including any links to local, regional and/or national government. It should contain a summary of the financial state of the territory and mention any advances made in implementing a sustainable economy for the territory.

Conformity to the Philosophy of the GGN and Procedures

This section should provide evidence of adherence to the GGN philosophy, awareness of the GGN's procedures and activities and show how the aspiring geopark intends to contribute to the work of the GGN.

Discussion

This important section summarises the general situation in the aspiring geopark and should present a holistic and realistic impression of the territory's status as a "de-facto" geopark.

Recommendations

Recommendations for geopark improvement and its activities

Proposal (Evaluation Missions)

This is the confidential section of the report and should give the evaluators thoughts and justifications on whether the territory is ready for membership of the GGN. As stated in the UNESCO GGN guidelines there are four options available:

- a. Accept without reservation
- b. Accept but with some clear recommendations (please list)
- c. Reject

- d. Defer with clear guidelines on what work still needs to be done (please list) along with a realistic timescale (normally no more than one year).

There is thus no room for "conditional approval". Evaluators should **be as strict as possible in their evaluations**. Further, evaluators are also requested to make comments on integrity and future management of the proposed geopark. These recommendations have been, in many cases, critical to strengthening the success of the application in the long run

Proposal (Revalidation Missions)

This is the confidential section of the report and should give the revalidators thoughts and justifications on whether the territory is ready for continuing membership of the GGN. As stated in the UNESCO GGN guidelines there are four options available:

- a. Accept for 4 years without reservation, i.e. Green Card.
- b. Accept for 4 years but with some clear recommendations (please list), Green Card.
- c. Only for revalidations: Accept for 2 years but with very clear and strong recommendations (please list and justify), Yellow Card. A report outlining these concerns and recommending a course of action to rectify the situation will be given to the geopark and a period of two years will be given for the geopark to improve the situation. At that time a further revalidation mission will be undertaken. This next revalidation mission will check that the previous identified issues have been rectified however this will be a full revalidation mission in order to check that no new issues have arisen
- d. Reject. This can only be done if the territory was already holding a Yellow Card but where the same problems remain largely un-resolved or where new and serious problems have developed. In this instance, the quality standards of the area, taken as a whole, have dropped below the standards expected of a Global Geopark. Red Card. It should be noted that a red card is given under any circumstances where, and for whatever reason, the territory has failed to invite a revalidation inspection.

Annex: List of people met with during the mission

A list of the key personnel met during the meeting should be included, along with photographs of possible (for this, all you need to do is ask your hosts!)