Hellenic Geoparks Forum, Greece

Progress Report, March 2018 - September 2018

Chair (Name and email): Charalampos Fassoulas (fassoulas @nhmc.uoc.gr)

Members (please list all UGG’s followed by external partners involved in your Forum/Committee):

Lesvos UGG, Psiloritis UGG, Chelmos-Youraikos UGG, Vikos-Aoos UGG, Sitia UGG,

Greek National Committee for UNESCO, Geological Society of Greece, Institute for Mineralogical Exploration, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Active Applications in your country (name, year of application submission):

Grevena-Kozani Aspiring Geopark, 2018

Interested territories that you are advising:


Committee/ Forum Activities (bullet points your activities for the last 6 months):

- The Hellenic Geoparks Forum organised, in collaboration with the Greek and Cypriot National Commissions for UNESCO, on May 17-18 2018 at Athens the 1st International Congress of Greek and Cypriot UNESCO Global geoparks. It had great success, many participants from governmental and local authorities as well as areas interested to develop geoparks. The next meeting will be organised in Cyprus late Spring 2019.
- The Forum had contribution in the discussion of various Laws under preparation and present its comments in issues related to geoconservation and geotourism.
- In collaboration with the Geological Society of Greece contributed in an initiative of identification, documentation and evaluation of the most important Greek geosites and the development of a National Geosite list.
- Forum Coordinator presented the Hellenic Geoparks at an International Meeting on the Nature 2000 areas of Greece that took place at Chania, Crete on May 2018.
- The Hellenic Geoparks Forum presented in ITB the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus located on Islands as sustainable tourism destinations (Presenatation made by Ilias Valiakos).
- The Forum participates in the organization of an Exhibition on the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus which will be presented in Athens next October.
• Forum met several times through Skype to organise and coordinate various local activities
• Forum members promoted Greek Geoparks under various local meetings and press releases.
• The Forum is organizing the publication of a Leaflet on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus.