

EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK



Geopark Progress Reports

March 2012- September 2012

Updated: 2012-09-16

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Provence – FRANCE, Sardenia Geominerario Park – ITALY and Tuskan Mining
Geopark - ITALY.

Adamello Brenta Nature Park, consistently with its wider and more complex conservation strategy of the natural, historical and cultural heritage, has continued its work to improve the geological heritage conservation and geotouristic and popularization activities.

Environmental Education Activities

1. Cooperation with the Municipality of Tassullo in the realization of the “Project of cultural enhancement of the North Brenta Dolomites – Pian della Nana”
2. Creation and realization of a new environmental education project: “DOLOMITI UNESCO” Activity for 12 – 13 years old local students;
3. Realization of a training course for school teachers about “Energy”, at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”;
4. Educational programmes about geology and geoconservation in Adamello Brenta Geopark for the schools of the Park’s territory;
5. Realization of the inter-religious and inter-cultural project through Europe with the mountain as connection, financed by the Autonomous Province of Trento, in July 2012;
6. “English summer camp” from 30th June to 6th July at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;
7. “German summer camp” from 20 August till 3 September at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;
8. Refresher course about Geology for the Italian Alpine Club’s members at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”;
9. Creation and realization of a new environmental education project “Knowing the Geopark’s rocks” for the preschool;
10. “English summer camp” from 30 June till 6 July at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;
11. “German summer camp” from 25 August till 8 September at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;
12. Youth camp (2 weeks) of young people from Milan with activities linked to geology, orienteering and mountaineering.

Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark

- 13.24 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 in the framework of the promotion program “A Park summer”, i.e. from June 16th to Sept. 22nd and in cooperation with the local tourism boards;
14. Weekly activities during summer for children addressed to the discovery of the geology of ABG;
- 15.3 New interpretive and educational activities for the valorisation of the Geopark and its valleys (Val di Fumo, Val di Breguzzo and Val Genova).
16. Mapping and cleaning up of a network of footpaths in Val Genova which will be dedicated to the subject of the First World War;
- 17.3 naturalistic evening about EGN, Adamello Brenta Geopark, Brenta Dolomites WHS and its geology all over the municipalities of the Park during the summer;
- 18.3 naturalistic evening about the glaciers of Adamello Brenta Geopark;

- 19.Planning and carrying out of the EGN week from the 23rd to the 29th of July, which is the period of maximum touristic flow in the region;
- 20.Participation to the “Agricultural fair” in Cles, to the “GustoPolis fair” in Gabicce, to the “Fair of Sustainability” in the Adamello Park, to the “Melissa fair” in Croviana, to the “Meeting of Rimini”, where the Geopark was presented;
- 21.Publication of several articles about ABGeopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers / magazines;
- 22.Organization of package holiday of one week at Nature House Villa Santi to the discovery of the riche geology of the Park;
- 23.Attendance at the “Days of Protected Areas” in Trento, in cooperation with the Protected Areas of Trentino and the Autonomous Province of Trento, from the 23rd to the 26th May 2012;
- 24.Realization of an educational for the employees of the local Tourist Offices, about the activity with geotouristic topic “Panorama over the Dolomites UNESCO” in May 2012;
- 25.Publication of the English version of the Guidebooks “Pian della Nana – Monte Peller; the geological story of this landscape” and “Discovering the Adamello Glaciers”.
- 26.Realization of 2 new geo-gadgets;.

Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development of the Geopark

- 27.Updating of the Park’s touristic flows and tourist facilities
- 28.Carrying on of a Forum with the local stakeholders for the revision of the Action Plan, in March 2012;
- 29.Carrying on of a Forum with the Park staff for the revision of the Action Plan, in March 2012;
- 30.Prosecution, in collaboration with SAT Glaciological Committee, of the scientific researches regarding surveys, measurements and mappings of the Park glaciers;
- 31.Stage of Denise Paternoter and Federica Zanrosso, students of “Mountain High school”, Roberto Fedrizzi student of Touristic High School, during the summer;
- 32.Stage of Alessia Pica, PhD thesis in geotourism at the Department of Earth Science at the University of Rome La Sapienza;
- 33.Visit of the EGN inspectors for the revalidation of the Adamello Brenta Geopark in June 2012;
- 34.Meeting with the rector of University of Rome La Sapienza to discuss about the future cooperation with the Park;.

Activities regarding the European Geoparks Network

- 35.Participation in the 29th EGN Meeting at Sierras Subbeticas Geopark (Spain) in March 2012;
- 36.Participation in the 4th Geoparks Workshop in Italy at Tuscan Mining Geopark in May 2012

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Geopark activities

1. Guided excursion, geoeducation for kids, laboratory to Apuan Alps geosites
2. “Environment and Nature”: images by Andrea Pierotti Photo Contest in collaboration with Versilia Section of Italian Union for the fight against muscular dystrophy
3. Presentation “*Ante et post Lunam: Archaeology of Apuan marbles*”, special issue of “*Acta apuana*”, scientific review of the Geopark
4. Presentation of the book “Paths along the Park”
5. Guided excursion to read and interpret the sky with street singers and tasting of typical products
6. Workshop on the final draft of “Geotourist map of the Apuan Alps Geopark “
7. Summer camps for kids (150 pupils in 8 weeks)
8. “Solstizio d’estate”: workshops, tasting local products, art exhibitions in Pruno di Stazzema
9. “Apuan Alps Geoday” in Equi Terme di Fivizzano: workshop, laboratory and geoeducation
10. Realization of promotional banners about geological heritage of the Geopark
11. Promotion of the geological heritage and the management of the Geopark by national radio broadcasting
12. XIV Culture week: guided visit to the archaeological site of Equi terme and Art exhibition
13. Didactic project with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark
14. “Easter underground”: activities and guided visit in Corchia Underground System and Paleontological and Karstic System of Equi Terme during Easter 2012
15. “Sapori”: promotion and tasting of Geopark local products in Fivizzano
16. “Sisters larks, brother wolf”: Francis of Assisi and the sung love for Nature, “Short readings from “Fonti Francescane”, songs and music from

“L’Infinitamente Piccolo” by Angelo Branduardi, recital in memory of the President Giuseppe Nardini

17. Cooking class with typical products at zero food miles in the Geopark
18. Updating of the webcam network showing landscape images from the Geopark and activation of a new webcam located in Bosa di Careggine
19. Meteorological data coming from Fociomboli geosite available on line on Geopark website
20. Training course to obtain the professional qualification of “Geopark guide”
21. “Camminando per il Geoparco”: photo contest about geological, botanical, archaeological features of the Geopark
22. “Alpi Apuane 2012”: National award about poetry and fair tales
23. Planning activities about LifePlus Project 2012

Networking

1. Attendance at the 29th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, hosted by Sierra Subbeticas in Lucena (Spain)
2. Attendance at Festambiente, national fair together with Tuscan Mining Geopark and Geological and Mining Park of Sardinia
3. Attendance at the 4th Italian Geopark Workshop, hosted by Tuscan Mining Geopark
4. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in www.apuanegeopark.it
5. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in www.apuaneturismo.it

Activity by Partners

1. Project in collaboration with National Council of Research of Italy about geotouristic map of the Geopark
2. The app “Piante palustri delle Alpi Apuane” for Android was developed. Recently it was just added on filedir.com awarded with “Five stars rewires choice”

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Territorial Research, Protection and Management

1. Technical support of the revitalization works of the “Casa das Pedras Parideiras” (House of Rocks that Give Birth) at the newest Interpretative Centre – March-September;
2. Certification of establishments, activities and products with the “Arouca Geopark” label – March;
3. Research works about the geological heritage and other heritage values of the Montemuro and Gralheira (ADRIMAG| LAG area) – March-September;

Exhibitions and Events

4. Organization of a monthly handicraft show “Art at the yard” – June to September;
5. Participation as exhibitor in the 10th Show of Science, Education and Innovation of Oporto University, at Oporto – March 22nd to 25th;
6. Participation as exhibitor in the 4th Meeting of Education and Environmental Tourism, under the theme “Environmental Biodiversity” – April 22nd;
7. Co-organization of the exhibition “Stories told, memories preserved: the tungsten”, during the presentation of the project “Wolfram Routes at Europe” – Memories of Man and Industrial Heritage” at ISCET - Oporto – May 24th;
8. Organization of the European Geoparks Week – May 25th – June 6th;
9. Organization of the National Symposium of Geotourism – June 8th;
10. Collaboration in the 4th edition of the Equestrian Festival of Arouca – 13th to 15th of June;
11. Collaboration in the organization of the event “Harvest Fair” – July – September;

Educational activities

12. The Educational Programs of Arouca Geopark realized 53 fieldtrips in which participated 2229 students and 195 teachers – March to September;
13. Realization of 14 Geopark workshops in the Senior Academy of Arouca, which involved 129 participants - March to September;
14. Realization of diverse educational & sensitization workshops in the Arouca Geopark territory, which involved more than 750 students - March to September;
15. Organization of the Seminar “How to improve the environmental quality of my community” following the school contest with the same name, organized in partnership with the Arouca Municipality, the Portuguese Commission for UNESCO and Naturtejo Geopark, which involved 20 student groups of Oporto Metropolitan Area – June 5th;
16. Co-organization of the handicraft course “New products creation”, with participation of 15 participants – June 18th to July 2nd;
17. Participation in the Summer University Program of Oporto University “Junior University” with the workshop “From the *Rocks that Give Birth* to the Giant Trilobites of Arouca: an history with 300 M.y”, which involved 200 students – 2nd to 27th July;

Scientific Activities

18. Communication in the V Tourism Conference entitled “Geotourism & Geoparks – territorial development approaches” at ISLA, Vila Nova de Gaia – April 24th
19. Communication “Geological Tourism vs Geotourism: Arouca Declaration”, during the 4th Meeting of Education and Environmental Tourism in Lisbon – April 20th;
20. Participation in the XIII Conference of Nature and Environmental Education, with a poster presentation about the project “Act and Multiply with Narcissus (*Narcissus cyclamineus*), Leiria – April 21st and 22nd;
21. Participation in the International Congress “Geosciences at CPLP” & Geoexpo, Coimbra – 14th to 16th of May;

22. Organization of the International Congress “Geosciences at CPLP” Post-Conference fieldtrip to Arouca Geopark entitled: “Arouca Geopark: Geology and Sustainable Tourism”, which involved 10 participants - 17th and 18th of May;
23. Development of Geology, Biology and Astronomy activities under the program Live Science in the Summer, which involved 120 participants – July 15th – September 15th;
24. Contribution for a Science Student Book of activities, with national disclosure, about the geologic phenomena of Arouca Geopark - March;

Touristic Activities

25. Participation in ITB [International Tourism Business], Berlin – 7th to 11th of March;
26. Participation in the Abreu World Travel Fair 2012, Lisbon – March 31st to April 1st;
27. Participation in BIT (Tourism & Innovation Fair), during INVTUR International Conference, from which was received a honorable mention, Aveiro – 16th to 19 of May;
28. 2118 tourists visited the Arouca Tourist Office/ AGA headquarters and was given support to the realization of 8 visits which involved 948 visitants – March to August;
29. Accompanying of 12 geotouristic visits, which involved 567 visitants - March to September;
30. Development of promotional actions in the interactive store of Porto & North of Portugal Tourism at the Oporto Airport – June, August and September

Promotion

31. The morning National TV Program “Praça da Alegria” was held in alive in the Arouca centre – March 28th;
32. Participation in the “Coffee Science” at the Portuguese Assembly – April 18th;
33. Public presentation of the 11th EGN Conference, Porto – June 12th;
34. Gazeta2011 prize was assigned to the report “Nazi tungsten”, transmitted by the Portuguese TV Channel SIC, based on the exploitation of tungsten in Arouca – July 2nd;

Projects / partnerships

35. Accompanying of recordings and realization of the TV documentaries “Geoparks: Territories of Science” (COMPETE project) – March to September;
36. Realization of the “Gastronomic Weekends” – 4th to 6th of May;
37. Opening of the photo contest “Arouca Geopark: Landscapes & Culture” – August 19th;
38. Study visit to Luberon Geopark (France) and Massifs des Bauges Geopark (France) under the LEADER project “Geotourism for Sustainable Development”;

EGN Participation

39. Organization and disclosure of the 11th EGN Conference – March – September;
40. Organization of the Advisory & Coordination Committee Meeting – September;

Management Structure

41. Monitoring of ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management System.

Conclusions

The management of Arouca Geopark has increased its actions of preservation and promotion of territorial resources, through local, national and international partnerships. At the moment, AGA has a multidisciplinary team, constituted by ten people, whose dedication is reflected positively in this activities report.

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Geopark activities

- Settin up the Geopark headquarters in Deba.
- Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Geopark. Presentation of the Geopark new manager. July 2012
- Specific agreement with de Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa (regional government) in order to make available a scientific director for the Geopark
- Specific agreement with de Basque Government (rural development department) in order to make available a rural development agent for the Geopark
- The summer program of guided visits around the geopark, have been extended to more than 25 different visits in both areas; flysch and karst with innovatives contributions.
- Setting up working groups for the Geopark rural development, participated by farmers, producers and rural development agencies. .
- Start of the study: The Geopark Interpretation Plan.
- European Geoparks Week
- Presentation of the book: Tourism, Culture and Sustainable Development by Mike Robinson (Unesco).
- Participation in the definition of the Ecotourism Estrategic Plan for the Basque Country.
- On site promotion of the Geopark at different tourism Fairs: Mundumira (Basque Country) Avrilexpo Biarritz (France).
- Summer Touristic promotion of the Geopark in many different media (press, radio, magazines...
- Various articles for the Euskal Herria magazine, El Correo weekly magazine...
- TV recordings: Kasrt en la aventura del saber (TVE) and Embajadores de Euskadi ETB (Basque TV)
- Several meetings with local authorities in order to define the control indicators of the evolution of the Geopark Estrategic Plan.

Networking

1. Spanish Geoparks Fora meeting in order to achieve the support of the Spanish authorities participating in UNESCO Science Committee Executive Council.
2. Geoempleo Project meeting celebrated in Deba (Baque Coast Geopark). Presentation of the Basque Coast Geopark to 13 spanish participants regions.

3. IUCN World Conservation Congress has included the documentary Fysch, whisper of the Rocks (Basque Coast Geopark) in the program.
4. Fysch, the whisper of the Rocks documentary in European Geoparks week program in Sobrarbe.
5. Article of the 7 spanish geoparks in Quercus nature magazine.
6. Basque Coast Geopark participation in Green Week 2012
7. STRAVAL project representats from south America came to visit the Geoparque.
8. Collaboration with the Geopark Project of El Hierro - Canary Islands (Aspiring Geopark).August 2012.
9. Teaching in the Geoparks Management Intensive Course (Lesvos September, 2012.)

Activity by Partnes

- Presentation of The Fysch Biotope, Themed Tours and a guide book by Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa (Regional Government)
- Research about “medieval iron industry in the Basque coast Geopark” by UPV-EHU university
- Guided Visit in the Geopark surroundings towns, “Dolmen route”, “Mountain foundry route” by Debegesa (local development agency)
- “Baserrikoa” web site. Awareness of primary sector and sale of agricultural products. Debemen (rural development Agency)
- Starting of the Special Plan for the Protection and conservation of the Urola River by Zumaia Town council.

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General

1. Participation in the regional hiking show, 22 to 23 March 2012.
2. 7th, 8th, and 9th public lectures in Cusy, Curienne, Mercury, “What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif”, April 2012.
3. Bauges Geopark decision to refuse all exploration and exploitation of Shale gas, Park’s executive board, 2nd May 2012.
4. Passing of the touristy positioning for the Bauges Massif, the “Bauges Massif” is turned into “Geopark des Bauges” and the main topic for touristy development is Geotourism, Park’s executive board, 2nd May
5. Animations for the Nature–Days, 12-13 May 2012.
6. Publication of a book on Chamois, emblematic specie in Bauges, May
7. Publication of a discovery booklet on the Wildlife Reserve, May 2012
8. Flowering meadows Bauges contest 2012, agriculture and biodiversity, 22-23 May 2012.
9. 1st Eductour Geopark for touring operators, 7th June 2012
10. Edition of the new “Massif des Bauges” map with geological interest points, June 2012.
11. Dye-tracing test on the Sambuy Mount, research on the karst system, June 2012
12. Elaboration of the Bauges Geopark communication plan, press release and promotional film on Newscastwire (<http://www.newscastwire.com/>), June 2012
13. Edition of the guide for summer activities in the Geopark’s thematic houses, more than 70 animations on heritages and arts, June 2012.
14. Edition of the “Tome des Bauges” book, Protected designation of origin of our most famous local cheese, 22 June 2012.
15. Internship on geosites database, improving geosites database on territory, June-July 2012
16. Opening of the birds exhibition in the fauna-flora house, July 2012.
17. Bauges Geopark Day Event, 1st Geopark festivity, 7th July 2012
18. Test of the “ReWild Game”, alternate reality game to discover the Geopark (<http://www.rewild.fr>), July-August 2012.
19. Event for the 10th anniversary of the “Tome des Bauges”, protected designation of origin of our most famous local cheese, 26th August 2012.
20. Opening of the peat bog “Creusates” geo-trail, 4th September 2012.
21. Opening of the astronomical observatory in St François de Sales, 4th September 2012.
22. Organisation of the “Energicîmes” show about energy and environment-friendly building, 8-9th September 2012.
23. Opening of the Geopark information panels in Le Revard (landscape interpretation and rack and pinion railway story), 15th September 2012.
24. European Heritage Days, organisation of several visits, 15-16th September 2012.

Education activities

25. Teacher training on Massif des Bauges and water, collaboration with education ministry, 4th April 2012.
26. Participation in the sustainable development week in Chambéry, activities for children, 5-6th April 2012.
27. Local guides training on birds life and English language, spring 2012.
28. Networking with the Alpin Network for Environmental Education
29. Organisation of “La Croisée des Bauges”, 300 children meeting in a mountain-pass, discovery of heritages, 24th May 2012.
30. Working on “Moutains-2040”, Region program, which mountain for the future of the actual youth?, spring 2012.
31. Starting work with high-schools of our gate-towns, “society and sustainable development” new school program, spring 2012.
32. Participation to “Vas-y Paulette”, biking for children and activities on heritages, 19th June 2012.
33. Schools Day, annual event with primary schools, 28th June 2012.

NETWORKING

34. Participation to the EGN committee meeting. Spain, 7th to 11th March.
35. Welcome of a delegation from Altaï Republic: discovery of the Bauges Geopark, meeting with the Savoie University, day-work on a Geopark project in Altaï, 15th to 19th March 2012.
36. Development of the Leader cooperation project on geotourism between Arouca, Luberon and Bauges Geoparks, March-April 2012.
37. Participation to the 5th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks, Japan, 12th to 15th March.
38. Welcome of the Beaujolais territory, introduction on the Geopark concept, 6th June 2012.
39. Meeting of the French Geoparks, discussion about the French Geoparks forum, 13th June 2012
40. 1st meeting on geotourism Leader cooperation in Bauges and Luberon Geoparks, Arouca, Luberon and Bauges Geoparks, 14th to 16th June
41. Participation to the EGN committee and conference, Portugal, 18th to 22nd September.

ACTIVITIES BY PARTNERS

42. Opening of the Chéran river fishing school, Chéran fishing association, March 2012.
43. Commissioning of the Geovision system (supervising the karst flood waters), University of Savoie, June 2012
44. Edition of a booklet on the “vineyard trail”, Coeur de Savoie district, June
45. Internship on geological mapping of the structural sketch of the Chéran Valley, University of Savoie, June-August 2012.
46. Greedy walk 2012, vineyard, food and geology, wine makers of Savoie Valley, 22nd July 2012.

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EGN – GGN activities

1. Attendance at the 29th EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (Spain) on March 7th – 9th 2012
2. Acting as Coordinator (Maurizio Burlando) of the National Forum of Italian Geoparks
3. Contacting the Italian Delegation for UNESCO in Paris about the UNESCO Geoparks item in discussion on September-October 2012
4. Collaboration with Tuscan Mining Geopark to organize the 4th Workshop of Italian Geoparks 16th – 17th May 2012
5. Attendance at the 4th Workshop of Italian Geoparks 16th – 17th May 2012 in Tuscan Mining Geopark
6. Taking the four years revalidation mission on 8th – 11th July 2012
7. Preparation of the 30th EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Arouca Geopark (Portugal) on September 17th – 18th 2012
8. Submission of the Activity Progress Report March-September 2012 to Basque Coast Geopark in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and discussed during the 30th EGN CC Meeting in Arouca Geopark (Portugal)

Geopark events and progress

9. Regular programs of walks and guided tours were realized in Spring and Summer 2012
10. Educational programs specially dedicated to geological risks and natural hazards working with the Regional Authority for Civil Defence and involving local schools
Not only geology; others educational programs for school were realized in Beigua Geopark during Spring 2012 about the following themes: sustainable development, ornithology, rural activities
11. Two new editions of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in April 2012 (Spring) and July 2012 (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.
12. Seven issues of the monthly electronic newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site) has been uploaded. It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (<http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews>)
13. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews
14. The English version of the geological guidebook (“Discovering Beigua Geopark”) has been published in June 2012
15. Concluding the geo-archeological inventory of rupestrian inscriptions in the Beigua Geopark area and starting a new project to carry on a dedicated “geo-archeological trail”
16. Going on with the project (given to the Beigua Geopark by the Liguria Regional Administration) of inventorying the Geosites of the whole Liguria Region territory

17. Monitoring visitors attendance along the trails network of Beigua Geopark
18. Launching the project about the “suggested lodging of Beigua Geopark”, a circuit of agritourism farms, bed & breakfasts, hotels and mountain huts which have agreed to collaborate with the Park Authority to promote sustainable tourism, which pays careful attention to local traditions and to environmental quality

19. European Geoparks Week 6th May – 10th June 2012 (the most successful events)

Geo Sport activities

Several activities have been carried out by **local sports associations** to enjoy some of the most interesting geological features of Geopark (canyoning, trekking, hiking, bouldering, mountain biking, orienteering)

Geo Educational Programs

As usual, on 24th May the final event about “**Geodiversity and Educational Programs**” has been given to coincide also with the “European Day of Parks” with the participation of all classes of the schools from Sassello and from other Municipalities which participated in educational activities proposed by the Educational Centre of Beigua Geopark; more than 200 participants (local politicians, teachers and students)

Geo Excursions

Several guided visits have been offered to discover the most interesting geological, geomorphological, floristic and wildlife sites in the Geopark. For example on 26th May “**Geodiversity in Beigua Geopark**” - guided excursion with the partnership of the Italian Alpine Club – Savona Group – along the geological trail Val Lerone (Arenzano). Initiative in collaboration with the Italian Association of Geology and Tourism (**G&T Day**)

Environmental fair

On 26th May Geopark staff organized a promotional open-air stand within the annual fair “**Parks for the Public**” in Genoa (Sestri Ponente). The fair has been organized with the support of the Regional Network of Protected Areas of Liguria; more than 3.500 thousand citizens visited the exhibition

Geo Culture

On 10th June the Beigua Geopark hosts the **Spring Concert in the Geopark** – third edition of the "Spring Concert in the Parks" organized with the collaboration of the Italian Alpine Club – Regione Liguria Group. A unique performance of classical music pieces in the beautiful mountain landscape of the Regional Forest Lerone, on the heights behind Arenzano (Prato Liseu locality).

Activities by others Organizations

20. Field works and researches in Beigua Geopark leaded by the Environment and Earth Sciences Department of the University of Genoa in May and June 2012
21. Field trips by local organizations (CAI, FIE, UISP, etc)

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1. April 2012

- Meetings with Geopark.on.site guides
- Preparation of the International Forest Art Conference
- Interview with Hessen Radio Station
- Opening of Geo-Site "Kotelettpfad"
- Preparation of Brochure "Thanks to the Springs"
- Childrens'University activity days with the Geopark Rangers
- Opening of MTB Trails Seeheim-Jugenheim, Alsbach, Zwingenberg
- Project Meeting „Regional Gardens“ (LEADER funded project)
- Participation in a workshop of the Nature Park Working Group for the State of Hessen, Presentation of the Geo-Naturparks activities within European Funding Programs and as Catalyst for Regional Development
- Participation in meetings of all Local Action Groups for regional development in the territory

2. May 2012

- Meeting of National Geoparks Expert Group
- Opening of Geo-Sites Heidelberg (cooperation with Kurpfalz Museum), Alsbach and Viernheim (cooperation with Federal Department of Geology)
- Meetings with Geopark-on-site guides
- Geopark-on-site trainings
- EGN week
- Opening of Geopark Photo exhibition
- Opening of Nordic Walking Trail "Steinachtal aktiv" with activity day
- Field trips in the frame of the 20th anniversary of the "Museumsstrasse Odenwald-Bergstrasse"
- Oral presentation "Earth history of the Geopark" at Messel Visitor Centre
- Opening of MTB Trails
- Bicycle weeks in cooperation with the German Biking Association and a regional newspaper (Bergstr  er Anzeiger)
- Presentation of Geopark concept for new Geopark Information Centre in Hirschhorn
- Participation in meetings of all Local Action Groups for regional development in the territory
- Presentation of the Geopark's outdoor education activities at a meeting of partners of the In & Out International Educational Project (at Messel Pit WHS Visitor Centre)
- Participation in the final event of a participatory planning process for rural development (process of the rural development authority)
- Consultancy for the Federal Authority for Nature Protection on participation of local communities in nature protection activities
- Presentation of mid-term Geopark strategic- and action planning on a meeting of all Local Action Groups of the Geopark territory in order to integrate Geopark development plans into future regional development programs as applications for LEADER funding
- Meeting with local farmers in order to set up a project for re-introduction of traditional livestock breeds in the Geopark territory
- Meeting for the planning of the Geopark Trail "Gersprenz" (interpretation of different aspects along one of the Geoparks main river courses)

3. June 2012

- Annual Geopark Day in cooperation with WHS Lorsch Abbey and cooperation partners
- Preparation for the Geopark Trail "Bensheim-Zell"
- Meetings with Geopark-on-site-guides

- Oral presentation University of Heidelberg “Future perspectives for Geoscientists in a Geopark”
- Meeting of Geopark Executive Board
- Opening of MTB Trails Mömlingen 2, Aschbach, Wald-Michelbach
- Bicycle weeks in cooperation with the German Biking Association and a regional newspaper (Bergsträßer Anzeiger)
- Certificate ceremony for Geopark-on-site guides Kirchzell and Ried
- Revalidation mission Beigua Geopark, Italy
- Preparation of a geo-morphology field course with the department of Geography, Frankfurt University
- Participation in the launch of the cycling trail along the “Bergstrasse” between Darmstadt and Heidelberg, a joint venture between the Geopark and four regional tourism agencies, with Geopark information panels

4. July 2012

- Certificate ceremony for Geopark-on-site guides Fischbachtal
- Training for Geopark-on-site guides
- Meetings with journalists
- Implementation and presentation of touristic infrastructure system on traffic signs
- Preparation for Geopark Photo exhibition Zwingenberg
- Meeting with local cooperation partners Heidelberg
- Opening of MTB Trail Lindenfels
- Publication of actual Geopark magazine
- Presentation of the Geo-Naturpark at a meeting of the GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation) with Nature Protection Agency- and University representatives from Vietnam

5. August 2012

- Presentation of hiking book “Neckarsteig”
- Press conference International Forest Art Trail
- International Forest Art Conference, Geopark as co-organizer, with 2 invited Global Geoparks (Mt. Lushan, PR China, Madonie, Italy)
- Common presentation of catalogue “The Poetic Forest Art Trail of Mt. Lushan”, English/Chinese as cooperation of the two Global Geoparks Bergstrasse-Odenwald and Mt. Lushan together with the International Forest Art Association
- Opening of International Forest Art Trail (18 artists from 8 countries)
- Meetings with and training for Geopark-on-site-guides
- Opening of MTB Trails Grasellenbach, Siedelsbrunn, Breuberg
- Evaluation Mission Balaton Geopark, Hungary
- Revalidation procedure of Global and European Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald
- Organization and preparation meetings for the presentation of the Award “Geotope 2012” (Event: 16th September 2012)
- Meetings for information brochure “learning landscape”, Heidelberg
- Conception of common marketing material with the cooperation partner “Pfungstadt Brewery”
- Working group meeting for the conception of the first audio-guide for the Geopark
- Preparation of the visitor guide training on landscape related aspects of the Roman Period in the Geopark territory (developed, coordinated and performed by the Geopark)

(Claudia Eckhardt, Jutta Weber)

1. Contribution towards the work of the Network

- Participation of two representatives at the EGN CC meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (Andalusia, Spain)
- The reevaluation GGN mission in the Longhushan Geopark (China) in May
- An article in EGN Magazine
- Participation in the EGN AC
- Arrangement of presentation of EGN on Green Week (EK Brussels May)
- Presentation of EGN to the delegation from Vietnamese Ministry of the Environment
- Negotiation on geoparks (GGN and UNESCO) with representatives of the Czech UNESCO National Commission (Prague August, 8th)

2. Science and surveying

- Participation on the first Congress on Management and Awareness in Protected Volcanic Landscapes (Volcandpark), held in Olot, Natural Park of La Garrotxa Volcanic Zone, Catalonia, Spain, from 21 to 25 of May 2012, was promoted by the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI) – Conference Spain (May, 21-25th)
- May 5th Participation on the first Geopark Conference- Rattvik, Sweden : EGN network
- May 31st - June 1st- International Conference “7 years Bohemian Paradise Geopark - expectations and reality”, Sedmihorky Spa
- Volcanologic research for National Geography at Trosky –Las Vegas University, Clermont Ferrand a Czech Geological Survey (April 28th – May 2nd)

3. Management structure, personnel status and facilities

In June, new geopark residence

4. Conservation (geoconservation)

Maintenance of geo trails and information system repairs

5. Marketing and promotional activities

Exhibitions:

- Foodprints in stones Turnov
- Say it by jewel – Antwerpen
- Comenismus – Turnov
- Bohemian Garnet- Poland
- Small Tourism Trade Fair in Lomnice na d Popelkou (stand 30 m2) April

Actions:

- EGN Week: 38 events and participation of 12 349 persons
- (Old Bohemian Craft Fair “Workshops and live exhibitions of glassblowers, ceramists, skimmers, basket-makers, carvers, blacksmiths, cutlers from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Germany and Spain) (17nd May – 7th June)

- 6nd Sempember – Mode show
- Jewellery symposium June (31st – July, 14th)
- Excursion of Nitra University
- Excursion N.O.R.T. (Estonia) – Hruboskalsko Rock City
- University of Iceland, Reykjavik – lecture on Bohemian Paradise Geopark - 22 participants, May 12th
- Visit from GAL, Valle del Crocchio Italy
- Certificaton of two National Geoparks – promoting the EGN activities (April, 24th)
- National Geoparks Council meeting – promoting the EGN activities (June)

6. Geotourism actions

47 geotourism actions for 463 peoples from 17 countries

7. Educational activities

Lectures, excursions:

Plate tectonics and rock cycle for pupils (March, 16th)

Planet Earth (University of Liberec) - 2 lessons (March, 16th)

Precious stones of the world and Turnov's stonework - 2 lessons (March, 18th)

Geotagging technology in Geopark“(June, 5th)

Use of Geotagging technology in Geopark“(June, 14th)

„Information Technology for Geoturism” (June, 16th)

Volcandpark, Olot Spain Scientific and educational value of permian, miocene and pliocene volcanic rocks in the Bohemian Paradise Geopark (May 21st – 25th)

Excursion Mapping of petroglyphs – 2 courses July and August

Lecture on EGN (Conference Rattvik, May 5th)

Lecture on EGN (Charles University, May 7th)

Lectures on EGN (Jihlava Polytechnics School, March 18th)

Lecture on EGN (Economics University of Prague, April 20th)

Students' works:

- 3 theses completed (1 bachelors, 2 thesis)
- Education for geopark (training)
- First examination for geoguides

8. Creation of promotional material

a. 5 articles in professional journals

b. 12 articles in newspapers

c. 2 press releases announcing geoparks

d. New web sites for Czech- Bawar. Geopark

e. 10 new leaflets

f. 10 geoguide books

g. Websites of national geoparks – promotion of Bohemian Paradise Geopark
a EGN included

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Burren and Cliffs of Moher- REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

1. The European Commission has approved an application from the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark for matched project funding totalling €1.1 million under the LIFE+ programme, the European Union's environment fund. The funding is for a comprehensive programme of actions aimed at protecting the rich heritage and landscape of the Burren while supporting local employment and economic activity. The programme is due to commence in October 2012.
2. Dr. Eamon Doyle was appointed to act as Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark Geologist from March 1st to December 31st 2012.
3. The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (DIAS) funded the installation of a Seismometer at the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre in February 2012 and Rangers at the Centre were instructed in its use. A number of earthquakes were recorded. Rangers conducted Seismotours in August for visitors to the centre.
4. Ms Carol Gleeson and Dr. Patrick O'Connor attended the EGN Business Meeting in Lucena, Andalucia from 7-10 March 2012 and presented the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Annual Report 2011 and Progress Report (September 2011 - March 2012).
5. A chapter on the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Global Geopark was prepared by Dr. Patrick O'Connor and Dr. Eamon Doylee and submitted in April 2012 to EGN as a contribution to a proposed new book on European Geoparks.
6. An Abstract and powerpoint presentation on Seismology in Geoparks was prepared by Mr. Tom Blake (DIAS) and Dr. Patrick O'Connor for presentation at the 11th European Geoparks Conference to be held in Arouca in September 2012.
7. Publication of an article (page 37) on the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Global Geopark in Issue 9 March 2012 of the European Geoparks Magazine by Dr. Ronan Hennessy and Dr. Patrick O'Connor.
8. The Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark collaborated with Magma Geopark Norway to apply to the EU CIP fund for a project to develop a high quality brand for Geoparks inside the European Geopark Network. The partners involved are from Geoparks in the UK, Ireland, Finland, Germany and Norway.

The Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark geologist has been working on a series of well attended activities aimed at growing partnerships with other organisations in the Geopark area and increasing the profile of the Geopark locally, nationally and internationally by maintaining a profile in the local and national media through interesting press releases for a wide audience. Collaboration with a view to further geological research in the area has been particularly strong with the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Geopark Activities

- 9 Co-presented 'Stone, Water & Ice – an introduction to the geology of the Burren'. A five night plus field day taught evening course at the Burren Outdoor Education Centre
- 10 Creation, design and awarding of 'Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark Appreciation Certificates for contribution to fieldwork and education in the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark area.
- 11 Collaboration with BurrenBeo, organised and presented fieldwork component for three primary schools.for their EcoBeo program..

- 12 Interview and fieldwork for 'Island Landscape' a TV documentary being made by RTE, the national TV company on the changing Irish Landscape since the last glaciations. Broadcast date scheduled for 2013.
- 13 European Geopark Networks Week 2012 events; Antique Rockshow; a Climb through Time; Evening Concert at Caherconnell Stone Fort; Ennistymon Public Library Display.
- 14 Inagh National School Field Trip to Mullaghmore
- 15 Presented a talk on the geology of the Burren at the National Park Information point, Corofin.
- 16 Organised four events for Heritage Week; an annual national event run by the Heritage Council of Ireland: A guided walk for families along the Flaggy Shore, New Quay, a guided geological walk up the Visean Limestones of Mullaghmore in collaboration with local guide Marie McGauran A guided boat trip along the Cliffs of Moher exploring the Namurian deltaic sedimentation and a geo-hydrology tour of the north Burren.
- 17 Participation in 'Burren in Bloom' festival, attended evening lecture and hosted guided geological walk along the Flaggy Shore, new Quay
- 18 Attended Burren Spring Conference at the Burren college of Art
- 19 Attended symposium at National University of Ireland, Galway in honour of Prof. Mike Williams
- 20 Initiated collaborative fieldwork with Prof. M. Williams on Holocene deposits along the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark coast, also hydrogeological research with Tiernan Henry and carbonate sedimentology and palaeontology research with Dr. John Murray all of National University of Ireland, Galway
- 21 Numerous articles in the local and national press as well as local radio interviews on Clare FM. We have released a number of media-friendly stories which attract non-geologists and help to promote the Geopark. The following is a list of the virtual and printed newspapers which covered articles on the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark:
 Irish central, Daily Mail, Irish Independent, Clare Herald, Clare Champion, Archaeology.ie, Journal.ie, Clare People, Insidelreland.ie and the Irish Examiner. For example;
<http://www.clareherald.com/news/154-entertainment/4037-burren-geopark-announces-geo-explorer-day-.html>
<http://www.irishcentral.com/story/roots/irish-community-connections/romantic-twist-to-heritage-week-event-167870215.html>
<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/burren-big-foot-mystery-solved-198685.html>
<http://www.thejournal.ie/burren-footprint-mystery-resolved-499471-Jun2012/>
<http://entertainment.ie/event/Dance/Caherconnell-Stone-Fort/Cuaird-Na-Hoiche/2633166.htm>

Contact:

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Environmental Education:

1. **Geo-Schools:** 788 kids visited the “House of the Volcanoes” in the program “Learning to Read the Stones” from March to June.
 2. **“Collaborator enterprises educational program”:** J-126, Malcaminos and Subparke (among others enterprises) conducted several educational visits to the Geopark and to the House of the Volcanoes.
 3. **“El Albardinal” Botanic Garden.** One of the most visited centre in Andalusia’s Botanical Garden Network.
 4. **Educational programs in Cabo de Gata:** “Nature for all”, “Andalusia in its Parks” and “Open days”.
 5. **Geopark and educators:** Geopark attended the *educator centre* in the Province for a field course.
 6. **Collaboration with universities:** The Geopark manages all the permits to national, EU and outside EU universities in their field trips and research projects, providing assistance and guidance.
- Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark:
7. **“XXV Anniversary of the Natural Park”:** a whole program through the year with activities related with the Reserve of the Biosphere and the Geopark.
 8. **Andalusia’s Natural Protected Areas Network and GEOBIO Newsletter.** Andalusia’s newsletters dedicated to geodiversity, biodiversity and Geoparks.
 9. **Filming:** The Geopark manages all the permits to conduct filming in the area, including spots, photography, movies and documentals.
 10. **Events:** painting, exhibitions at the Geopark’s facilities.
 11. **“IX Classic Music Festival”:** during July Rodalquilar was the stage for several concerts at the facilities of the Geopark.
 12. **“Season Film Festival”:** at Escullos castle
 13. **“Solidarity collective exhibition Entre Pitás”** at the exhibition hall of Rodalquilar
 14. **“Afro-latin music concert”:** at Escullos castle
 15. **“Flamenco festival”:** Escullos castle
 16. **“House music festival I LOVE MUSIC”:** : Escullos castle
 17. **“Contemporary scenic arts encounter”:** Escullos castle and Rodalquilar
 18. **“Seminary Earth and Mineral World”:** exhibition hall of Rodalquilar.
 19. **40 anniversary of the Spanish Reserve of the Biosphere exhibition** at the House of the Volcanoes.
 20. **Geoloday 2012** this year with a route by the Frailes volcanoes and 200 people attendance. Developed by the University of Almería in collaboration with the Geopark.
 21. **Promotion of the Collaborator enterprises, project “Meet us, meet them and enjoy”** Through the Reserve of the Biosphere and the Geopark, and in the frame of the XXV anniversary of the Natural Park, it was developed a project to promote the collaborator enterprises.
 22. **I workshop “Geopark and Enterprises”.** Hosted at the House of the Volcanoes. Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark:
 23. **Natural Park Management.** Management and environmental regulation of the territory.
 24. **“I workshop Enterprises and touristical accesibility. Inclusion and disibility in Biosphere Reserve.** Hosted at the House of the Volcanoes.

- 25. REDIAM:** Andalusia Environmental Information Network allows to reach environmental information regarding the Geopark.
- 26. Flora and Fauna management program.** Investigation, census and management of terrestrial and marine flora and fauna.
- 27. “El Albardinal” Botanic Conservation Programme:** On-going project that updates the threatened flora data base and collect seeds for the flora nursery.
- 28. “ECST”:** The European Charter of Sustainable Tourism and the Geopark works closely and strengthen its collaboration to offer the enterprises educational activities and its promotion.
- 29. “CAMP”:** The Coastal Areas Management Project offer a wide array of activities including educational activities, coastal management meetings, routes, etc.
- 30. “Ethnographic heritage workshop”:** The cultural heritage of the Reserve of the Biosphere with experts in several fields as craftsmanship, history or linguistics.
- 31. “Traditional fishing days”** along the local Fishing association.
- 32. LIFE Posidonia project** this Leader project develop an environmental educational program along with an special exhibition in the Geoparks facilities.
- 33. I workshop to dynamize the volunteering** At the facilities of the Geopark. Activities related with the European Geoparks Network:
- 34. “VI EGN week and II Reserve of the Biosphere days”:** In close collaboration with local enterprises, this year week offered 12 thematic routes, 20 sea activities, film festival, environmental educational program and much more.
- 35. Attendance to 29th EGN Coordination Committee in Sierras Subbéticas.**
- 36. “EGN week in Sierra Norte of Seville”:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark showed EGN role and the example of geotourism in Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark.
- 37. EGN logo for enterprises.** Cabo de Gata-Níjar in coordination with Andalusian Geoparks is developing a strategy to support local enterprises that ask for the use of the EGN logo.
- 38. “Spanish Geoparks Forum”:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar coordinates the Forum and contacted with the National Unesco Commission to obtain the international support to the GGN.
- 39. Geoemployment project:** along with the spanish geoparks and several partners, this project works toward a strategy to use geodiversity as a source of employment.
- 40. Andalusian Geoparks coordination.** Coordination work with Subbéticas Geopark and Sierra Norte Geopark.
- 41. EGN Corner:** reviewing of the EGN corner.
- 42. Iberian Bird Festival** International event, developed by a Geopark collaborator enterprise, with a presentation of the Geoparks initiative.

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Geopark Activities

1. National Pass to Canyon Vouraikos. May 2012
2. National Championship Rally Raid - Trail Ride 2012 organized by Off Road Team. May 2012
3. Participation in the meeting of the Development and Promotion of Tourism of the Municipality of Kalavryta and presentation of operational programs of the municipality Kalavryta. The issues of tourism and development were based on Commission proposals. June 2012
4. Participation in the Information Day organized by the Special Secretariat for Water on "Consultation on the Draft Water Management District Northern Peloponnese." July 2012

Networking

5. Participation in the 29th EGN CC Meeting European Geoparks Conference in Sierras Subbeticas European and Global Geopark. March 2012
6. Proposal to the Karstic Group to promote geoparks through Google earth, in which you can find Geotopes and creation a group within the Google community to present at the same way our important geotopes.

Activity by Partners

7. Cooperation and sending informative material to the Aso Geopark, member of GGN in the exhibition 'Request for your cooperation in our Geoparks exhibition 2012 in Japan'.
8. Participation in transnational workshop under the INTERREG IVC program involving public bodies and research institutions from 8 EU countries for «Adapting to Climate Change through Territorial Strategies» April 2012.
9. Create brochures with Wetland Kotychi-Strofylia and Parnitha National Park Management Bodies.

Conclusions

The Chelmos-Vouraikos Management Body works to achieve its actions of preservation and promotion of territorial resources, through local, national and international partnerships, highlighting the geotopes of the protected area.

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Geopark Activities

1. Our main work in the last months has been the finishing of building work on the Copper Coast Geopark Centre, in a former church. Also planning and arranging for the uses to which it will be put – as a geological and cultural interpretive centre, coffee shop and community centre.. At the moment it is open to provide some refreshments and information for visitors.
2. VEC Tourism awareness course in Kilmacthomas – “Geotourism and Geoparks”
3. Bealtaine – National festival celebrating creativity: 7 events run by Copper Coast Geopark –
inc guided walks, Survey of Kilfarassy Cove, Beach Mosaic for children, FenorBog exploration.
4. Tina Keating radio interview about EGN Weeks.
5. EGN Weeks – Natural Navigation session, Guided Walks, Treasure Hunt, Discovery Day, Radio event.
6. Publication of booklet, “Games we used to Play” about children’s games from times past.
7. Tina Keating school visits.
8. 3 new guides trained.
9. Heritage Week – Copper Coast and Bunmahon mining heritage – walks and talks.
10. Annual community Flower Show in nearly finished Centre.
11. Oral presentations to several local groups re Copper Coast, European and Global Geoparks.

Networking

12. Participation in Coordination Meeting in Sierras Subeticas Geopark and visit to Cabo di Gata.
13. Mike Sweeney and John Galloway revalidation missions to Lushan and Yutaishan Global Geoparks.

14. InterReg IVa project – “Metal Links” partners include Geomon Geopark.
- linking former metal mining communities
community forums, animation workshops, archaeology training
weekends, graveyard survey...

Activities by partners.

15. Creation of Nature Walk and feature area including Geology, by
Waterford County Council.
16. Planning for visit of Oxford Geological Association by UCC - Bettie
Higgs.

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1. Paignton Geoplay Park – Over 3000 local people attended a day long event to celebrate the official opening of the Geoplay Park. The Geopark Marquee was filled with fun activities put on for free by all of the Geopark partners, the Geo-Collective performed the Basic Rock Songs, there was local music and performers, whilst in the park itself drama students from Exeter University became performing geologists encouraging children of all ages to become geological explorers and complete the geo-challenge. Throughout the day activities lead towards a giant Geo-parade with magical giant geo creatures carried along Paignton Seafront with singing and chanting. The fun culminated with the English Riviera Geoparks Patron Prof Iain Stewart along side the winners of the children's fancy dress competition officially opening the park. This fantastic £500,000 Lottery funded community project now provides a free facility that is open all year for local families and visitors to enjoy. It has been a huge success with happy children playing from dawn till dusk and is already starting to kick-start further regeneration in the area. Since the opening the Community Partnership has already secured an additional £40,000 sustainability grant for the park which amongst other things will be used to spread the benefit of the park to the surrounding area.

2. UK Geoparks Forum – As Chair of the UK Geoparks Forum, Melanie Border has been working over the last months to secure a positive relationship with, and the support of, the UK UNESCO National Commission (UKNC) for Geoparks. A meeting of the UK Geoparks Forum was hosted by the National Commission in London back in May and was attended by James Bridge - UKNC Chief Executive, Dr Beth Taylor - UKNC Director of Natural Sciences and Ian White – UKNC Senior Communications and Research Officer. This was a great opportunity for the UK Geoparks to showcase their work and achievements as well as for forum partners such as Natural England, the British Geological Survey, and the Geological Society etc to show their support. As a result of this meeting, ongoing discussions and the submission of supporting evidence the UK National Commission have subsequently produced a policy brief titled 'Redefining the UNESCO-Geoparks relationship'. The brief is pragmatic in its approach and both supports and recommends that UNESCO's relationship with Geoparks should be formalised under an international initiative.

3. Geoquest goes to Unzen and more – Since the success of Geoquest in 2010 the Geopark has continued to work with dynamic and innovative artists, to engage and provoke interest in all ages inspiring them to think more widely and creatively about the world around them. Thanks to Arts Council England funding it was possible to share the Geoquest model with the community and staff of the Unzen Geopark and the delegates of Global Geopark Network at the 5th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks. Inspired by the landscapes of both Unzen and the English Riviera, the GeoCollective artists, including a guest Japanese musician Nomura Makoto, performed on local Unzen radio and ran workshops for local groups and children. New songs were written and were performed with the children at the conference. On returning to the UK these new songs were shared with the children of the English Riviera Geopark at the launch of the Geoplay Park.

4. Geopark Festival 2012 – With a total of 32 events this years Geopark Festival was a great success despite appalling weather! With over 3000 attending the opening of the Geoplay Park (for which the sun did shine) the Festival got off to a fantastic start and this year adding to the fun the festival fell within the Queen's jubilee celebrations so there was the lighting of beacons at Geopark sites along the coast and a patriotic party at the Geopark Gateway Visitor Centre on Berry Head. Amongst an array of events Torquay Museum created a fantastic exhibition of local marble and there was a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes in the museum stores. At Cockington Court the local artists and craftsmen presented a special exhibition of stunning pieces inspired by the Geopark, whilst at Kents Cavern there was special evening laid on with an interactive performance tour “Murder in the Caves” and three course dinner. The festival finished with a fantastic talk on wild swimming which was a geological journey through the waters of the bay, taking in coasts, caves, cliffs and coves

5. GREAT (Geopark Routes Enhancing Awareness of geoTourism) – The English Riviera has worked as part of a team lead by Magma Geopark to submit a £210,000 EU funding bid. The project partners are Magma, Rokua, Burren and Cliffs of Moher, Harz Braunschweiger Land, English Riviera, plus Hills Balfour, JLAG and London Met University. Through the development of combining existing and new offers, linked communications, PR and media strategies to further raise awareness of the Geopark concept the project aims through this predominantly coastal pilot cluster to bring the Geopark network closer to national and transnational tourism stakeholders. We expect to hear in November and if successful a contract will be signed in December for a project start in Jan/Feb 2013.

6. Connected Communities – Through close partnership working with Exeter University a bid will soon be submitted to the Arts and Humanities Research Council. If successful this will support a £125K community co-creation and co-design research development project in the Geopark.

7. Geopark E-School – The Geopark hosted the visit of delegates from Hong Kong in May when in addition to a great opportunity to share ideas and best practice it was possible to run two live e-school sessions with students from the English Riviera and Hong Kong. Both Nick Powe and Melanie Border will be attending a Geopark Roundtable Conference hosted by Hong Kong in October.

Further info: Melanie Border m.border@englishrivierageopark.org

Fforest Fawr Geopark Activities

1. Management Group. The Royal Commission On The Ancient And Historical Monuments of Wales' joined the Geopark's Management Group in June 2012. This Welsh Government sponsored organization has a national role in the management and conservation of Wales' archaeological and maritime heritage. The Commission's recently updated publication *The Western Brecon Beacons, the Archaeology of Mynydd Du and Fforest Fawr* provides an invaluable resource to understanding the development of the Geoparks territory from prehistoric to recent times.

2. Website. The translation of the entire Geopark website: (www.fforestfawrgeopark.org.uk) into Welsh has been accomplished for the first time. The Welsh language Geopark website is: (www.geoparcyfforestfawr.org.uk). More maps and diagrams have been added and some of the existing web pages have been rationalised prior to a major transfer of material from the host site of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority to a visitor-oriented Destination Website.

3. Delivery of Geopark training **3a. Ambassador Scheme:** The Geopark continues to contribute to the now well-established Brecon Beacons National Park Ambassador Scheme. The Geopark Development Officer (GDO) delivered modules focused on the Geopark to the programme of courses at the National Park Visitor Centre on the Geopark on 22nd March. In addition, planning for the start of a Geopark Ambassador Scheme to be launched in Autumn 2012 has commenced.

3b. Other training for businesses: The Geopark Development Officer gave a dozen local businesses training on the geology of the Sychryd and Mellte in the course of a gorge-walking trip on 12th June.

3c. Training for volunteers: The GDO also provided Geopark training to 8 Waterfall Country volunteers on 24th June.

4. Events **4a. Fforest Fawr Geopark Festival:** The 2012 festival ran from 26th May to the 10th June and attracted 289 participants across 21 events (2 further planned events were cancelled due to adverse weather).

4b. Calch event: The first event within this 3 year partnership project took place over a weekend at Herbert's Quarry on 21st & 22nd July and attracted around 110 members of the public.

4c. Talks: The GDO made a presentation to the newly established U3A group in Crickhowell on 22nd March and a talk to Llansadwrn & Llanwrda Countrywomen's Group on 14th May. A presentation and display was made to Cambrian Caving Council's annual conference at Penderyn on 26th May.

4d. Field excursions. Fforest Fawr Geopark hosted a field excursion on 11th June for the 'University of The Third Age' and on 29th July for 'The Open University', focusing on the exploitation of geological resources in the Cribarth area and the Geopark's role when south Wales was the major player in the Industrial Revolution

5. Other Activities within the Geopark

5a. LIDAR Survey. The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority have undertaken a LIDAR survey of a large area of the Geopark to inform Land Management work, develop a three dimensional terrain model of a large area of upland within the Geopark.

5b. Calch Project. A partnership project between the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and Dyfed Archaeological Trust. Since April, substantial work has been undertaken to record and analyse an extensive area of limekilns and quarries within the Geopark. Staff are also recording oral histories, local memories and other intangible heritage as the quarries/kilns were still in production in the 1950's.

5c. Romans in Carmarthenshire. A project between the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and the National Trust which is undertaking work to manage and interpret the Roman legacy across an area including the Carmarthenshire part of the Geopark.

5d. Waterfall Country. Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and Forestry Commission staff have undertaken access improvements to trails, including works to one large bridge, and also interpretation, including the new interpretive panel at Bwa Maen.

6. Revalidation: The Geopark hosted our two EGN revalidators over the period 11th – 13th July as part of the Geopark's second revalidation.

7. International partnership: Engaged with researcher Ms Yukiko Shibata of Muroto Geopark, Japan who is analysing and comparing how scientific knowledge is presented, how people receive this, and how people use this in two diverse Geoparks. (MSc Project supervised by Professor Susan Baker School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University)

European Geoparks Network Activities

1. EGN Committees: Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Advisory Committee. Tony and Julian Atkins are members of the EGN Coordination Committee

2. The EGN Magazine. Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Editorial Board and edits articles for the EGN Magazine.

3. European Geoparks book, Second Edition. Tony is currently editing articles from eighteen new members of the EGN for a new and up-to-date publication.

4. Tony is currently the catalyst for the Tectonic Thematic Group.

5. UK Geoparks Forum. Julian was elected Vice Chair of the Forum in May.

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Tony Ramsay <Tonhel@btinternet.com>

1. Current situation.

1. Staff: four full time positions, and two part-time positions (80%)
2. Our five Geopark committees are working continuously with different topics: Map/GIS, Education, Tourism/Local Enterprise Innovation and Attraction/Development. Each group meets regularly.
3. The Geopark board had three meetings during this period.
4. The board of representatives had one meeting (12 politicians representing the Geopark owners).

2. EGN-activities / International networking

1. Two delegates participated in the EGN-meeting in Sierras Subbeticas Nature Park – Andalucia, SPAIN
2. Two delegates participated in the global Geopark conference in Unzen Geopark Japan
3. Evaluation of Oki Island Geopark , Japan

3. Attraction development

1. One new Geopark locality on old iron work has been established, with new information signs.
2. Geopark exhibition in two public libraries
3. New Geopark map for web has been developed.
4. New booklet about the Fen volcanic complex geopark locality has been written and designed by staff in the Geopark.
5. New Geopark Book / booklet
6. Larvikite exhibition
7. CO₂ capture and storage: new locality with signs

4. A selection of Geopark events

1. EGN-week - one week with geological walks and talks, focus on the geopark idea
2. Project from the Ministry of Education and Research for children – Geologist meets artist
3. Regularly guided tours during the “tour-season”. 30 guided tours between May and September with certificated geopark guides on different themes.
4. Educational program for high schools continues
5. Thematic evenings, open to the public
6. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.
7. Regular events for schools on topics relating to geodiversity and biodiversity
8. One big opening of new geological localities.
9. The manager of the Geopark has been in the Norwegian television, radio and in newspapers several times. Thematic programs and different interviews.

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Geopark activities

- 1. IoACC.** Discussions and agreement with Tourism/Business Manager of Isle of Anglesey County Council (IoACC) re. a grant of £124,000 awarded to GeoMon to cover 3 years. Spending priorities agreed with greatest emphasis on events. Two people, Sara Evans and Stephen Bird, within the Economic Development Department of the IoACC, to work with GeoMon on the grant projects and expenditure. Priorities: events; signage; Interpretation and product promotion agreed.
- 2. Cemaes project.** GeoMon in partnership with the IoACC and Cemaes Community Council, held a meeting with all the statutory bodies and societies to establish a major trail and interpretation feature on Llanbadrig headland, the site where St Patrick was wrecked on his way to convert Ireland to Christianity. Planning was set in motion with the IoACC, National Trust and CCW to create a safe path and viewpoint over the well and cave as well as interpretation of the geology and heritage..
- 3. Education trail.** The other end of the Cemaes = Llanbadrig trail to the West will be an educational 'Rock Walk' depicting all the major rocks of Anglesey with interpretation on the dyke swarm. The entire trail is between 4 and 5 km long. It will start near Wylfa Nuclear Power Station (another of our partners) and finish at the unconformity just beyond Llanbadrig (Church of St Patrick) Church that houses an early Christian carved stone and a serpent carved stone. It was founded by St Patrick in 550 AD.
- 4. EGN Geopark Week.** This took place on the last week of May and first week of June together with other groups as part of the Anglesey Walking Festival. Overall.....people attended the events of which 6 were purely geology and others included geology together with other disciplines. The idea of working with other groups is to form partnerships and share responsibilities. It also allows a big programme of varied events that brings larger numbers of visitors to the island. Proceeds are generally given to a specific charity each year and it is funded by The Countryside Council For Wales, the national conservation agency. In all, there were 69 varied walks and 5 specific events for children. It was noticeable that fewer people participated this year and, probably this was caused by the economic downturn. Also, there are many groups, including GeoMon that offer guided walks throughout the year and this seems to affect local and mid-distance visitors who find it more convenient to spread their efforts and expenses over the year, rather than all in 2 weeks.
- 5. Metal Links project.** GeoMon is finding difficulty with this project financially as it has put considerable amounts of money in to run the project but refunds from Europe are too slow in paying it back. The genealogy section of the work is completed but still needs coordinating and put into a couple of chapters for the final book
- 6. Talks and visitor groups.** 4 talks have been given to groups by request and these have been well attended. There were around 70 people in one, The WI from Llanelian.
- 7. The Watch House and volunteers.** The centre has been well attended in school holidays but very few people visit out of this time. Visitors all comment that they like

the centre and volunteers, Angela, Claire, Maria, Tegid and Rhys have helped there regularly and explain the work we do with the Geopark and Metal Links to all visitors. As it is such a small centre we are becoming somewhat overcrowded so are investigating the possibility of some storage in the marine Terminal.

8. Teaching course. Margaret Wood gave a 10 week teaching course teaching adult beginners the geology of Anglesey. Including Metal Links and how it fits in the larger scheme of things.. The course consisted of a 1 hour talk followed by 1 hour of practical and alternate week were spent in the field. 10 people enrolled and appeared to enjoy the course

9. Young Geology Club The Club is to combine with the Young Archaeology Club and naturalists to form the Young Explorers so they have been attending special events only.

10. The International Scientific Workshop. This was deemed a great success by the participants both verbally at the venue and in emails on their return home. There were 41 participants. 21 people gave papers and there was much new material discussed. It is planned to print the papers, if they send them by mid October to Margaret Wood. It was a great team effort with 14 GeoMon volunteers helping and a credit to the GeoPark. Thanks must be recorded to the IoACC for providing some funds for the reception dinner at the start of the Workshop.

11. Volunteers. GeoMon is indebted to the large number of brilliant volunteers who keep GeoMon going in many ways. The 14 who helped at the Anglesey Show including most of the Board Members, who really got into the swing of things, engaging the public, gold panning and pebble painting. Others helped set up the marquee and the first day, in particular, when the sun shined was a great success. The 12 who helped to run the Workshop so smoothly and the 10 Metal Links volunteers who have attended meetings throughout the year and worked on recording genealogy in graveyards, the town and in the archives. Week and week out the volunteers who man the Watch House have been brilliant. Without all this help GeoMon could not function.

12. The Rock Clock. This is now installed in the alcove above the slope up from the Watch House and is a magnificent piece of art as well as having great educational potential . The clock, key and explanation are all now in place thanks to Terry beggs who managed the project and Aber Quarry in Moelfre. This only was possible through Gareth W inston Roberts getting Communities First money together with Medrwn Mon who came to our aid yet again. We are very grateful.

**Contact Dr Margaret Wood, College, Llansadwrn, Menai Bridge, Anglesey, Wales, UK LL59 5SN. Phone 0044 (0)1248 810287
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March 12

- (1) Participation in the EGN-Meeting at Sierra Subbetica and Capo da Gata
- (2) Foundation of the National Forum of European Geoparks in Germany
- (3) Presentation of the new info panel „Tal der Heiligen Reiser“ (LM 17)
- (4) Presentation of the new geopoint Willershausen, LM 1
- (5) Meeting of the Geopark advisory board

April 12

- (6) Meteorite Kolloquium and presentation of the new info panel in Erxleben
- (7) Presentation of the renovated nature- and rock trail “Knüppeldamm” near Wippra
- (8) Presentation of the new ice age info panel near Meerdorf/Peine
- (9) Meeting „AK Bergbaufolgen“ (mining impacts) in Clausthal-Zellerfeld
- (10) Geopark talk at the Symposium of the Geographical Society of Berlin and the Geoscientists Association of Berlin and Brandenburg

May 12

- (11) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 5, 12, 16
- (12) Presentation of the new info panel Auerberg, LM 10
- (13) Climbing event at the cone dump “Hohe Linde“, LM 12
- (14) Participation in the German Geosite Meeting “Geotop 2012” at Kirchheimbolanden / Pfalz
- (15) Several guided tours and events on the occasion of the European Geoparks Week 2012

June 12

- (16) Stonemason symposium at the old castle of Königslutter
- (17) Topping out ceremony of the reconstructed Western Gate at the imperial palace of Werla
- (18) Geopark field trip of students of the Institute of Geography FU Berlin
- (19) World heritage day at Rammelsberg, LM 3

- (20) Interpellation about the support of geoparks under public law at the state parliament of Lower Saxony
- (21) Research week of the Institute of Geology of the Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg at „Lange Wand“ mining near Ilfeld, LM 6

July 12

- (22) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 4, 15 and LM 10
- (23) Revalidation visit (Dr. Zellmer) at the Shilin Stone Forest Geopark, China
- (24) Fairies event at the Elm forest
- (25) 5th Montanist Colloquium Wettelrode, LM 12
- (26) Forest week at the Stone Garden Königslutter
- (27) Miners weekend at „Büchenberg“ mine (LM 8) and „Drei Kronen und Ehr“ mine (LM 13)

August 12

- (28) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 6, 9, 14
- (29) International Meeting of Students of Geology in Osterode Harz (LM 11) with field trips

Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen GbR

- Dr. Henning Zellmer h.zellmer@geopark-braunschweiger-land.de
- Dr. Klaus George rvh@harzregion.de

1. Geopark administration

- Organization of the new Information Center and Geopark exhibition in the newly purchased building in Hateg town (address : 9A ,Libertatii str.,Hateg, tel./fax;
- Elaboration and approval by the University of Bucharest – the Geopark’s administrator of the Geopark Budget for 2013
- Two meetings (July and August 2012)with the local authorities of the 12 Localities : Hateg town and 11 communes in order to plan the future developments in the Geopark
- Two training sessions (Aprilie and July 2012) for the Geopark rangers.

2. Partnerships

- Agreement established with the Geological Institute of Romania for a closer cooperation having as a main aim, the development of geoconservation as a new professional specialty ; the Hateg Geopark was agreed as the proper experimental field for this.
- Communication and cooperation with the two neighbour protected area to the Hateg Geopark ,Retezat Natural Park and Gradistea-Cioclovina Natural Park focus on the management of the shared Natura 2000 sites

3. Promotion of geopark concept and EGN / GGN structure in international events and educational programs:

- Geopark promotion in the frame of European Virtual Seminar, coordinated by Open University of Netherlands. One semester e-learning seminar in sustainable development with students and teaching staff from 11 European universities (Institutional coordinator Alexandru Andrasanu)
- Geopark promotion and educational activities developed in the frame of In and Out leonardo project. The project is developed by four universities from Denmark, Germany, Romania and Sweden and is focused on learning outside the classroom of four subjects: mathematics, language, earth science and phisical education. Special courses were developed and the final results will be presented during Arouca Conference (Subject expert for Earth science Alexandru Andrasanu)
- Promotion of geoconservation during the Erasmus Intensive Program held in Sinaia, for two weeks in April and involving 28 students and 14 teaching staf from seven European universities. The program is focused on sustainable development and geocvonservation is one of the key study (project coordinator Alexandru Andrasanu);
- Promotion of geoconservation and Hateg Geopark as a case study for a interdisciplinary Master degree course: Applied Geo-Biology for natural and cultural heritage conservation, developed by University of Bucharest (institutional coordinator – Alexandru Andrasanu);
- Mrs. Aleksandra Maran from Serbia submitted in June 2012 in the University of Bucharest, her PhD thesis on „Geoconservation in Boljevac and Mokra Gora (Republic of Serbia)” under the scientific guidance of Prof. Dan Grigorescu .

4. Educational events in the Geopark’s schools

- April 1st, 2012 – “The birds’ day” – Children in the Geopark’s schools were taken in field for watching and knowing the birds habits in order to better understand what they can do for the birds protection.
- March 15 –April 15 – “ Month of the forest “ . Children from the Hateg Geopark

were planting trees in the schools' gardens ,under the slogan“Trees for the next generations”.

5.Tourism

- Maintenance and repairs on the five existing geotrails
- Preparation of two new geotrails in Rachitova and of a bicycle trail connecting geosites
- Agreement with Tourist associations and organization acting in the Geopark ,for more synergy and cooperation

6.EGN logo for enterprises.

- Contacts with local enterprises for identifying their interest for the use of the EGN logo, according to the EGN principles and conditions .

7.Participation to the EGN and GGN activities- International networking

- Organization of the European Geoparks week 2012 (24 May-6 June 2012)in Hateg and Bucharest
- Participation in the EGN CC meetings : Alexandru Andrasanu –Andalusia, March 2012
- Revalidation visit in Global Geoparks :
 - Dan Grigorescu. Zigong Geopark (Republik of China) May 2012-09-02
 - Alexandru Andrasanu Songshan geopak (China), 29 July – 3 August, 2012;
- Dan Grigorescu visited Dinnopolis in Maestrazgo Geopark (Spain) for establishing closer cooperation in the organization of paleontologic geosites.

8. Projects (ongoing and in preparation)

- Participation to meetings and events organized in the GEF UNDP “Improving the financial sustainability of the Carpathian System of Protected Areas” .
- Preparation within a local consortium lead by the Hunedoara County Council of a new project for the establishment of the „Paleontologic Research and Conservation Centre” in Sacel,near the main dinosaur fossil sites in the Hate Geopark.
- Submission of the Europea University- Enterprise Network (EUENet) under the Erasmus-Thematic Network Projects including a working group for Geoconservation and Sustainable development of the regions. Few EGN members agreed to participate. Unfortunately the project was not selected for financing during the June 2012 project evaluation in Brussels.

9. Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark activities

- The website www.hateggeoparc.ro was revised and the English version is under preparation
- 12 articles dedicated to the Geopark developments were published in central and regional newspapers, as well as several TV and radio releases. Special attention was given by media to the measures for protecting the geologic and paleontologic heritage in the Geopark, following the theft of dinosaur eggs from Tustea-dinosaurs incubation site and their

Dan Grigorescu

Geopark activities

1. In late June Katla Geopark signed a contract for IPA (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for EU) the total amount of the grant is 560.000 and national funding is 187.000 Euros. This will cover the operation for the next two years including projects like study visits for stakeholders, improving a total of 30 Geosites, educational programs for locals and tourists and destination marketing.
2. This was Katla Geopark's first summer in operation after admission to EGN and GGN. Due to that fact branding and marketing played a big role. All the employees of the three visitor centers were provided with Katla Geopark uniform to wear at work.

A new website was made for guests of the area www.katlageopark.is, this is the official website of the park. In addition, a special informational website was made for stakeholders in the area which hosts practical information f.ex. results of surveys, risk assessment of Geosites etc.

A new brochure was made in English and Icelandic. It was distributed within the park and in tourist information centers in south west Iceland.

Promotional video was made in August and will be shown in the entertainment system of Icelandair, the biggest international airline that operates in Iceland. Katla Geopark will also promote the video on its own.

3. In collaboration with a local photography club Katla Geopark hosted a photo contest. It was a success and the park received many photos which can be used for promotional purposes. Part of the photos were printed for an outdoor exhibition.
4. This season 12 Geosites got new signs in collaboration with the municipalities within the park. This is a part of the IPA project mentioned above.
5. A survey was made in cooperation with stakeholders in the area. Questionnaires were made available in hotel rooms, hostels and guesthouses and in visitors' centers in the area. In addition, one employee had the role of asking tourists the same questions. The goal of the survey is to answer questions like: How much are tourists spending in the area, what is the pattern of the spending and how long do they stay within the park.

6. Fifteen Geosites were evaluated in terms of Risk assessment and management. Results will be used for guidance when building and strengthening the infrastructures on Geosites. This was a pilot project in Iceland in collaboration with Icelandic tourist board and Safe Travel Iceland.
7. Improving Fimmvörðuháls hiking trail which includes Magni and Móði, the craters that were formed in the eruption 2012. The hiking trail covering 22 km has been improved in terms of signs and trail marking. This is one of the most popular hikes in Iceland.
8. Presentation and a workshop in the course “Outdoors and Experiences” at the University College of Hólar. Students will deliver five different projects involving innovation and nature tourism.
9. Katla Geopark got a tour operator license in order to be able to book and sell services for stakeholders in the area in the visitor centers. This is a step to strengthen the tourism industry within the area as well as creating new opportunities of innovation for stakeholders.

Networking

10. Participation in the 29th EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.
11. Participating in a project with Icelandic Tourism Research Centre in defining the attractions and infrastructure in the area and add it to GIS program. The project is very useful for strategic planning within the Geopark.
12. An educational trip to Brussels with tourism managers from Iceland. It was a four day “People to People” course held by EU.
13. Hosting a meeting in June with representatives from Italy and Turkey in a Grundtvig project involving handicrafts and costumes. Taking part in a similar meeting in Poland in August/September.
14. Participating in a workshop in August preparing for a Geopark in Borgarfjörður, Iceland.

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1. Participation of the two representatives of the Madonie Geopark in the 29th EGN CC Meeting (6-10 March), held at the Sierras Subbéticas European and Global Geopark in Andalusia, Spain.
2. Following the *“Institution of the network of reserve areas in territories with the presence of evaporitic rocks”*, with a decree of the Regional Ministry for the Territory and the Environment published in Official Gazette no. 10 of the Sicilian Region of 9 March 2012, the geologist P. Li Puma, the designated representative of the Madonie Park body in the Operational Working Group for planning actions and initiatives of the network, participated in the meetings on 12 April, 12 June and 7 September 2012.
3. Regional Law no. 25 of the Sicilian Autonomous Government of 11 April 2012, on *“Norms for the recognition, cataloguing and protection of geosites in Sicily”*, in art. 3 on the *“European Geoparks Network”*, declares the following: *“1. For the purpose of the attainment of the objectives indicated in articles 1 and 2, the Region recognizes the European Geoparks Network (EGN) as its institutional interlocutor for the policies of the regional system of geosites.”*
4. From 14 to April 22 the 14th Week of Culture, *“Enchantments in the Park”* was celebrated, with synergy between the Madonie Geopark, the Regional Ministry for Tourism and all the communes in the reserve area. There were more than twenty events to satisfy those who love culture in all its expressions, from art to music, the environmental heritage and the archaeological and monumental one.
5. From 16 to 20 April the final event of the annual project *“Let’s colour our Future – Mini-Mayors and Mini-Presidents of the Parks of Italy”* was held, involving over 2000 pupils from all the comprehensive schools in the Madonie Park. With the representatives of other schools and parks in Italy, a delegation from the Madonie of over 100 pupils participated in the 12th National Conference held in the Circeo and Roman Shore Park.
6. Villa Sgadari, a late Baroque noble abode built in 1750, after careful conservative restoration was opened to the public on 12 May. The building, which belongs to the Park body and is in Petralia Soprana in the heart of the Madonie Geopark, is going to become a new centre for tourism and a big conference structure but also a place, with its big gardens, of projects for recovery of the typical local fruit plants on the way to extinction, which will be made available to the community.
7. Participation in the 4th Workshop of Italian Geoparks, on 16 and 17 May, at the Tuscan Mining Geopark.
8. From 24 to 25 May in Palermo there was the event *“Madonie cuisine”*, with display stands and a special lunch, with all the main products of good mountain cuisine, offered to students that usually frequent the most crowded university canteen in Palermo.
9. The *“World Environment Day”* was celebrated on 5 June at the English Garden in the city of Palermo, in collaboration with the Regional Ministry for the Territory and Environment, the Regional Agency for the Protection of the Environment, the Forestry Department of the Sicilian Region responsible for surveillance of the Madonie Geopark, Agenda 21 Sicilia and the Regional Forestry Commission.
10. The 2012 edition of the EGN Week, entitled *“In Geo-Cooperation”* with the motto *“Being together is a beginning, staying together progress... working together success”*, was held from 16 May to 10 June. It was a success, not only because of the big number of participants of all ages, estimated to be not less than 5000, but also because of the deep interest that the geological history of the Madonie aroused in the public. Emphasis was

given to development and promotion of energy efficiency and renewable sources, and to respect for the U.N. aims for the International Year of Sustainable Energy for Everybody and for the Madonie Green Community project. Three new Madonie cooperatives, also to celebrate the International Year of Cooperatives, contributed to the good result of different activities for older and younger people. There was a lively and interesting exchange of visits with the Rocca di Cerere Geopark.

11. Two Study Days were held on the "*Italian Geological Patrimony: from knowledge to valorisation*", organized with the support of the Madonie Geopark by the "*Italian Geological Society - Young People's Section*" and "*Landinside. Ideas and projects for the territory*", at Petralia Sottana on 16 and 17 June. There were almost 200 participants, scientific authorities, researchers, experts and professional people, to rediscover the richness of the Italian geosites and the different thematic areas linked to geo-tourism.
12. During the first week of July a television team filmed a large part of the Madonie Geopark to make a documentary to broadcast in autumn during the Geo&Geo programme, one of the best-known and most appreciated environmental programmes on national TV.
13. From 21 to 29 July there was held the 3rd Edition of the Landscape Film Festival. This is a unique event in its kind in the whole national panorama for the number of people participating, with an interlacement between literature and the cultural and landscape heritage of the Madonie Geopark.
14. Participation in the mission for revalidation of the Wudalianchi Global Geopark in China, from 22 to 30 July.
15. In July 20,000 copies were printed of the 6th Edition, 2012, of the "Map of paths and landscapes in the Madonie", on the scale 1:50,000, with changes and updates and an ample legend in Italian, French and German devoted to the natural environment and to the signs of history and enjoyment of the Madonie Geopark.
16. Oral presentation with the title "*Madonie Geopark. A fascinating source for art inspirations*" at the 4th International Congress on "*Forest Art and Urban Spaces – A Concept for the Future*" and participation in the inauguration of the International Forest Art Trail, at the Bergstrasse-Odenwald Geopark, Darmstadt, Germany, on 10 and 11 August.
17. In July and August, tens of thousands of tourists visited the hinterland of the park furthest from the coast and the charming mountain villages that have proved able to offer rich cultural and entertainment programmes, also for geo-touristic enjoyment, regarding different paths, and participation in the 22nd Salt Festival, held from 19 to 26 August, supported and patronized by the Madonie Geopark.
18. Conference with the title "*Culture & Nature, a perfect coupling... and a possible resource for the territory. Music, theatre, dance, literature and poetry, painting, sculpture, cinema, photo and sport as tourist attractions and as a resource of the territories*", held on 3 September at Petralia Sottana, within the event "*Madonie.Fest. A mountain fable.*"

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Geopark Activities

1. Constitution of the Spanish Forum of Geoparks. March 2012
2. Feature in TVE about Maestrazgo Geopark. March 2012
3. Recording of the TV news program “Aragón Noticias” in the visitor center. Castellote. April 2012
4. A group of forestry work in the Comarca “Andorra-Sierra de Arcos”, did works of cleaning, clearing and preparation of various trails Maestrazgo Geopark. April 2012
5. New edition of the Geolodía. May 5th, 2012 GEOLODIA organized by Dinopolis Teruel.
6. Celebration of the European Geoparks week for 9 days, with activities in several villages of Geopark.
7. Maestrazgo Cultural Park works with the Municipality of Castellote in the “TRAIL of Prehistoric Art”, between Las Planas de Castellote and “Abrigo de la Vacada” path adapted for persons with disabilities that extends along 7 kms. June 2012
8. Installation of road signs of Maestrazgo Geopark in the road network of the Cultural Park. June 2012
9. Meeting of the Spanish Forum of Geoparks in the Basque Coast Geopark. Deba. July 2012.
10. Cultural Park Maestrazgo makes the renovation of public office of the Patronato and Consejo Rector. Marco Andrés from Molinos, and José Antonio Domingo from Villarluengo were elected the presidents at the control organisms. July 2012
11. Presentation the Guide o the Prehistoric Art in Castellote, with Manuel Bea Martinez. Castellote. August 2012.

Networking

12. Participation with other local members, in the European Project from Dinópolis, PLACES -Platform of Local Authorities and Communicators Enggaged in Science. June 2012

13. Dinopolis organized a summer curse of the University “Paleontología y Desarrollo. Teruel: Territorio Paleontológico”. Teruel. July 2012

14. Participation in the Cultural Week of Cuevas de Almudén. August. 2012

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Organisation

Magma Geopark have two employees: Guro Aarre and Pål Thjømmøe. In addition there are three persons on contract that work by hours: Åse Hestnes, Sara Gentilini and Richard Wilson. Skirmante Stasenaite are on leave.

Educational activities

- March to September: Several pupils and teachers participate in Dalane Outdoor organisation and Magma Geopark Educational Programmes
- 28th May until 9th June arranged the EGN week and the week of outdoor activities, 120 participants.
- Partner in the project Treasure Hunt Guide involving in planning education programs for primary to upper secondary school. Projects involving close work with two schools in developing TurfHunt games.

Promotion

- Both the local newspapers write about Magma research project: Developing of rural tourism in Magma Geopark – hunting for food!
- Leader in local newspaper

Project/partnerships local and regional

- Magma Geopark participates in the steering group with the County of Rogaland in making a strategy in tourism for 2013-2020. The work are planned finish end 2012.
- The book “The honest guide” is almost finished and will be published during September. It will be printed in 3000 ex and contain more than 150 pictures from Magma Geopark.
- Involved with partner Dalane outdoor organisation in the project the nature way – about learning outdoors.
- Initiative together with Gea Norvegica and Geological Society of Norway about making a national Network of Geoparks with the Unesco commission of Norway is going on.
- Magma Geopark run and finish the project: Developing of rural tourism in Magma Geopark – hunting for food with a final report June 2012. Partners are University of Stavanger, Visit Dalane and The County governor.
- Magma Geopark wins a 3-year grant from Rogaland County for development of Magma Geopark in 2011 - 2013. The grant is partly used in the Nordic Geo Guide project, Jøssingfjord Centre, “The honest Guide”, World Heritage preliminary project, Homepage and signpost plan. Project runs 2011 – 2013.

Project/partnerships international

- Magma Geopark continue work with development of Nordic Geo Guide School together with University of Stavanger and partners from geopark projects in Iceland and Estonia. Final report part one was delivered end February with a new application to Nordplus for part 2. Magma got positive answer from Nordplus in June tjhat they support the project with

35000 euro. Part 2 will start September October and the 36 hours guide course will run spring 2013.

- Magma Geopark delivered 2nd February Comenius application GEO4OL (Geoparks for outdoor learning) together with 11 partners; Shetland Geopark, Idrija Geopark project, Marble Arch Caves geopark, Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and 6 schools from the geopark partners areas (Ireland, North Ireland, Shetland, Slovenia and Norway). The answer from EU commission come in June with a feedback saying the application had to be improved on some points before it could be approved. An improved application will be send February 2013.
- Magma Geopark continue to work with ICT Company Locatify with the project Treasure hunt games together with Katla geopark and Saaremaa Geopark project. The project aims to make apps for smart phones with educational electronic games in 10 different subjects for different age groups. The second meeting in the project was in Magma Geopark 1st and 2nd March and the last will be in Estonia 26-27th September.
- MGP send an application to NORA (Nordic Atlantic cooperation) fond to develop a booking system for 3 days tourist packages in the northern region. Partners are Katla Geopark, Stonehammer, Geopark, Shetland Geopark, tourist associations in Faroe and Greenland. Magma wins a grant on 300.000 DKK from NORA. An additional application to NCE has been send in August.
- A Leonardo application, SC4ST – Skills and Competences for Sustainable Tourism, was submitted 2nd February by Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences, Finland, that are the leader of the project. Other partners are Asociatia Mioritics, Romania. The project seeks to adapt the Prince 2 project management methodology to sustainable tourism and Magma Geopark shall work to disseminate the methodology to a) the member of the European Geopark Network and b) to the local high schools to bring up younger generation with knowledge of sustainable approaches in developing tourism in sensitive areas. The answer from the EU commission came in July saying it was very near a success but still some was missing. New application will be send February 2013.
- A EU IEE application about sustainable renewable energy has been submitted 5th May, together with partners in Germany, Spain, Netherland, Belgic and England. Answer is expected in November.
- A EU CIP application has been submitted 25th July with Magma as the lead partner. The project is a Geopark branding project called Geopark Routes Enhancing Awareness of geoTourism (GREAT). Partners are the Geoparks; English Riviera, Clare Council (Burren & Cliff of Moher), Harz, Rokua and the PR company Hills Balfour Ltd, UK. Answer is expected in November.

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1. Geopark Development

The INTERREG IVA Harnessing Natural Resources project continues to progress. In relation to the development of walking routes, 2 key walking routes at the Magho Viewpoint, Lough Navar Forest and Cladagh Glen have been upgraded with new signage and interpretation and works are progressing on the installation of 3 new walking routes in West Cavan. The procurement process for the appointment of contractors to extend the Marble Arch Caves Visitor's Centre, car park and install a waste wood heating system is nearing completion and contractors are anticipated on site in the late autumn. Developments are also progressing in relation to creating improvements to the cave tour, upgrading the website, creating a new Geopark DVD and developing new interpretative exhibitions in the Visitor's centre.

Funding had been obtained from the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme to upgrade a 1.5km section of pathway linking the main Enniskillen – Belleek road with the Magho Viewpoint in Lough Navar. This upgrade is now complete and the route will be formally opened to the public in early autumn.

A new heritage trail has been developed in Ballyconnell, a Geopark site, in conjunction with the local community group.

The INTERREG IVA Border Uplands project continues to progress and we are anticipating a letter of offer for this project in the coming weeks which will deliver a €1.5 million investment in the Geopark. This will enable a series of recreational, educational and infrastructural developments to take place within the Geopark over the next 2.5 years.

Cavan County Council are in the process of purchasing the Market House building in Blacklion with the assistance of Cavan-Monaghan LEADER funding. This building will be leased to the local community association whom will develop a Geopark hub, providing information and directing visitor's to the many Geopark sites in West Cavan and West Fermanagh.

Other infrastructural works continue to be implemented within the Geopark to include fencing, vegetation maintenance, construction and erection of recreational product infrastructure.

Success at the Marble Arch Caves continues in 2012 with nearly 50,000 visitors having visited the attraction at the end of August 2012. This is an increase in figures from this time last year and we are projected to slightly increase on visitor number from 2011. This is significant achievement given the current economic climate.

The Geopark underwent its four yearly revalidation inspection in July 2012 and we are currently awaiting the results of the inspection.

2. Education

Science Week continues to be a great success with the Earthworks Science Labs hosted at the Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre in March. Over 400 primary school pupils from counties Cavan and Fermanagh attended the workshops.

The Geopark continues to work with the Earth Science Education Unit at the University of Keele, with another post-primary Earth Science Education workshops being hosted at the Geopark.

A diverse array of educational programmes continue to be delivered at a number of locations within the Geopark. These continue to be well supported. A new suite of education programmes for primary and post-primary pupils will be developed during the autumn and winter months being supported by funding from the INTERREG IVA Harnessing Natural Resources project.

3. Environment

A conservation study of Whitefather's Cave, funded by the Heritage Council and Cavan County Council in conjunction with the Speleological Union of Ireland and National Parks and Wildlife Service has been commissioned. Works will be progressing over the coming months.

Discussions are continuing in relation to the development of the first Irish Biological Filed Research Station which potentially could be based within the Geopark and use a number of Geopark sites as study locations.

National designation of a number of sites/areas of archaeological/geological significance within the Burren Forest, Co.Cavan are imminent. In addition, the Burren forest has been used as a site for the AGM fieldtrip for the Archaeological Survey of Ireland. The Marlbank ASSI was designated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency on the 31st March 2012. This includes a number of sites within the Geopark area including the Marble Arch Caves and Visitor's Centre.

Geopark staff are working with an final year MSc in Heritage Science student to work on the development of new technologies within the Geopark.

4. Events

The Geopark events calendar for 2012 is progressing with all events being well supported. Particular highlights to date are the Cavan Walking Festival attracting 350 walkers to the Geopark area, the participation Geopark staff and a Geopark float in the local cross-border St.Patrick's Day parade and at the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann with visitor numbers in excess of 100,000 and the Geopark gourmet tours.

5. Notable Visits

Representatives from UKM Langkawi Geopark and the Taipei representative in Ireland, Mr Harry Tseng have visited the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark. The Geopark has also signed a sistering agreement with the Hong Kong Global Geopark. Indeed, representatives from the Hong Kong Global Geopark will be visiting the Hong Kong Global Geopark in October 2012 to exchange knowledge and ideas.

6. Media and Communications

The Geopark featured on BBC Radio Ulster's 'Your Place and Mine' programme on a number of occasions. The Geopark continues to be promoted at various seminars and conferences both locally and regionally. The Geopark has hosts familiarisation trips for staff from the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and the Geopark recently features on a national UTV programme entitled 'Lesser Spotted Ulster'.

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Current situation

0. On December 21st 2011 the German part of our geopark was re-evaluated as National German Geopark for 2011-2016.
1. On August 1st 2012 we reorganized our geopark office. There are three part time positions (altogether two full time ones), additionally a public station in the area of the World Heritage “Fürst-Pückler-Park Muskau” (within the geopark territory) with six-days presence a week from April to October.
2. In the frame work of cooperation with the World Heritage first time we opened the geopark season in a common event between UNESCO heritage and our geopark on April 14th 2012. In the future we will do so traditionally.
3. In 2027 in the region of Weißwasser (a town in our geopark) is planned to hold the German Federal Garden Show (Bundesgartenschau BUGA, an established event organised every four years). A first concept was created as project of the Brandenburgian Technical University Cottbus between April and August 2012. The geopark will participate in the BUGA and announced some German-Polish projects in a first step.

Geopark events and progress

March

- support in preparation and precipitation in the commemorative event “10 years National Geoparks in Germany” (in Berlin, 1st March 2012)
- opening of an open air touring exhibition of 20 information tables of geopark issues in Łęknica
- geopark presentation in the Shopping Center “Marktkauf” with press conference, local TV and school children’s events in Cottbus from 6th to 18th March 2012

April

- annual German-Polish school children’s project in the Geopark Center Jerischke from 18th to 20th April 2012
- meeting with 40 local politicians and representatives of administrations from Estonia, exchange of experiences with geoparks in Poland and Germany, potentials of geopark for regional development and tourism

May

- Days of Geopark (“Geoparktage”) in Weißwasser from 19th to 20th May 2012, guided tours, special event historical train journey with steam engine

- participation in the 16th Annual Meeting GeoTop in Kirchheim-Bolanden from 17th to 18th May 2012

June

- publishing of booklet "European Geopark Muskauer Faltenbogen/ Łuk Mużakowa (issues in German and Polish)
- participation in the internet photo contest of the Heinz-Sielmann-Foundation <http://www.sielmann-stiftung.de/naturwunder/index.php>

August

- common event with historical forest train company „Waldeisenbahn Muskau“: Big forest train Meeting – 100 years steam engine „Diana“

Geopark Muskau Arch (in German: Geopark Muskauer Faltenbogen, in Polish: Łuk Mużakowa [w:ug m:ushakova])

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Geopark Activities

March

1. Tourism of Centre and Naturtejo Geopark together in FIO 2012 Fair of Birdwatching Tourism (Extremadura, Spain).
2. The Sierras Subbeticas Geopark welcomed in the city of Lucena the 29th Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network. 45 Geoparks were represented among which Naturtejo Geopark.
3. Naturtejo made the main entrance in the German tourism market with a successful participation in ITB, the International Tourism Trade of Berlin. Coordinating the Tourism Group of the European Geoparks Network, Naturtejo organized the stand representing the product Geopark together with Dr. Marie-Luise Frey from Messel Pit UNESCO and four European Geoparks. The stand is awarded the 8th best Stand for non-profit organizations during the ITB Awards.
4. The most important newspaper from Spain El País recommends Naturtejo Geopark to Spanish.
5. Geopark and National Commission of Unesco launch the school contest “How to improve the environmental quality of my community”.

April

6. Naturtejo Geopark as an example of “Good Practices in Nature Tourism for Tourist Companies” that was organized by the national entity Tourism of Portugal in Castro Verde, in partnership with the LPN – League for the Protection of Nature.
7. It was under the theme of “Strategies of sustainability in the national and international markets” that the I Meeting to the Valorization of Local Products took place, an initiative organized by Simply B – Experiences, Events and Communication, in cooperation with the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the Naturtejo Geopark.
8. The Estoril Open 2012 is an internationally renowned event and the most important Portuguese tennis tournament. Thousands of people came to see some of the best players in the world, finding products, heritage and traditions from the Naturtejo Geopark.

May

9. Naturtejo Geopark promotion activities in the Volvo Ocean Race Lisbon 2012. The Naturtejo Geopark was involved in a promotional action in that which is considered the world's most important regatta.
10. The exhibition “When we went for ore” was prepared a special educational program dedicated to the public of different schools from the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova. More than 600 students were involved in this exhibition's pedagogic activities, including thematic workshops.
11. TTransgeopark was organized by the Casa do Forno company and the Naturtejo Geopark and it aims, in its small scale, to change the more pollutant and environmentally harmful characteristics of offroad routes to a different approach concerned about his ecological footprint.
12. Participation in the V International Geoparks Conference, Unzen Geopark, Japan.

13. The “I CPLP's International GeoSciences Congress – 240 years of Geosciences in the CPLP” Portuguese-Spoken Countries went on a field excursion through the Geopark.
14. Orvalho's Georoute: pedestrianism party in the Geopark for 340 people.
15. The Casa das Ciências Awards were delivered at Gulbenkian. Among the 12 awards attributed to the “best teachers in Portugal”, stands out Joana Rodrigues, who has been a collaborator of Naturtejo for almost five years, and was distinguished for her project “Sand – Geology in separate pieces” with first prize.

June

16. The Landscape Festival, celebrating the European Geoparks Week, is still in its consolidation stage. Having this year as main reference the Geomining Heritage of the Naturtejo Geopark, there were 15 different events involving more than 9000 participants.
17. After the I GEOschools Conference in the Naturtejo Geopark, the II Conference took place in Alcalá de Henares (Madrid) under the theme “Geology and Society: Geoscientific Literacy”, with the support of the Naturtejo Geopark and remaining project partners.
18. Film “Black Gold: the other face” premieres in the exhibition “Geomining Heritage of Oleiros” organized by Naturtejo Geopark and the Municipality of Oleiros.
19. In the scope of the “European SME Week” organized by the European Commission, the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco, in partnership with various entities, among which the Association of Enterprises from the Region of Castelo Branco – NERCAB, the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the Naturtejo Geopark, organized a workshop under the theme “Supporting Tools for the Internationalization of Companies”.
20. The 1st Naturtejo Guest House was inaugurated in S. Torcato, at the gates of the Moradal Mountain.
21. About 120 participants eager to learn advanced through hills and scarps to the interior of Earth, 60 years after the last human presence in the interior of the Fragas do Cavalo mines.
22. Casa do Forno's GoldFest remembers golden days on the Erges River.

July

23. Summer Course “Portuguese Language and Culture” for University Students from California in the Naturtejo Geopark.
24. Summer Camp for Japanese children from Fukushima in the Naturtejo Geopark.
25. Naturtejo Geopark invited for the III Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark Project and technical visit to Campos Gerais aspiring Geopark (Brazil).

August

26. The edition of August of National Geographic-Portugal includes a long article about Naturtejo Geopark and a map that is a landmark for geotourism in Portugal.
27. The travelling exhibition “When we went for ore” presented in a four stars hotel at Termas de Monfortinho

1. The **spring/summer edition of our magazine, North Pennines News**, has been produced and distributed to all households in the Geopark. It features articles on the whole range of the team's recent work (including recent geological publications, a new community archaeological project, dry stone walling apprenticeships, awards for our peatland restoration, our hay meadow work and the restoration of an ancient packhorse bridge). The magazine also includes our 2012 events programme.
2. **Geological walks, talks and events**. As part of the North Pennines AONB Partnership's 2012 events programme and also following requests from groups, we have already run around 12 events with a geological theme (including guided walks, dry stone walling workshops and illustrated talks). Several of these were programmed for Geoparks Week. More events are planned for later in the summer and autumn.
3. A geologically-themed '**Rocky Weekend**' was held in Allendale at the end of May 2012. This comprised guided walks on Saturday and Sunday and an evening meal and a talk by invited speaker. The idea behind the Rocky Weekends (two more are planned for later in the year in September and October) is to encourage people to stay in the area for a whole weekend and book local accommodation.
4. **New displays in Killhope Lead Mining Museum** were completed. These include eight new panels on the geology of the North Pennines and our Geopark status. Two additional panels have also just been completed in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the famous Rookhope Borehole, during which the Weardale Granite was proved.
5. A **new panel for Langdon Beck Hotel** is nearly complete. This interprets the view from the hotel of the crags of Cronkley Scar, which are made of the famous Whin Sill.
6. **Heritage Interpretation through New Technologies (HINT)**. Work on this transnational LEADER project with Geopark Shetland, Chablais Geopark (France) and the aspiring Geopark Hondsrug (Netherlands) continued, with a visit to Shetland to discuss progress. The North Pennines is working on Bluetooth and Wifi technology at Bowlees Visitor Centre. As part of the visit we also tested the new map-based app for smartphones, developed by Geopark Shetland.
7. Working with a professional photographer and local art gallery we have been involved in an **exhibition of photographs of North Pennine landscapes**. QR codes attached to the photographs allow the visitor to access geotrails and further information about the geology and landscape shown in the pictures. As part of the exhibition there is a photo competition and we have provided a rock and mineral display.

8. **Heritage Skills Training.** This is a training project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund which has allowed us to place young apprentices with professional dry stone wallers in the area. All training leads to a qualification in dry stone walling and apprentices also receive training in business skills. The project was born from a shortage of traditional wallers. So far we have trained 14 new wallers and we expect to take a further two through the programme in the next year.

9. Peter Samsom attended the EGN CC meeting in March 2012 and a meeting of the **UK Geoparks Forum** (hosted by the UK National Commission for UNESCO) in London in May. Elizabeth Pickett took part in a revalidation mission to the Beigua Geopark in Italy in July.

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Projects and geopark activities

1. „Palóc Box” – Constructive communities in the area of Salgótarján (TÁMOP 3.2.3-09/2-2010-0058 – HU)

The Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd. takes part in the project by a consortium partner. In the progress report's period we finished the work on educational materials for the territory of our geopark. These materials are about our cultural, natural, earth scientific, economical and society heritage. In this spring we started study circles for school students (use these topics), and one other, which is about geology in the field. We organized study circles for children in 6 themes using these materials.

2. Development of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark (Eurorégió – SK)

In the project we renew the information boards of some study trails in Slovakia, and we prepared a treatise for the cycling-tourism in our territory.

3. Hungary – Slovakia Cross-border Co-operation Programme 2007-2013 (fourth announcement, no. 1101 – HU/SK)

Our geopark's organizations (HU: Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd., SK: Z.p.o. Geopark Novohrad – Nógrád) prepared two applications. One of these about „Joint tourism development” – „Development tourism products and attractions, setting up destination management organizations and related infrastructure”, and the other in the „Development of network-, partnership-, program and project planning and project management capacities” – „Development of network-, partnership-, program and project planning, management capacity” tender. Our projects are successful, but haven't been supported yet. We think, in the second case we will expect the support in the future.

4. High priority projects in Hungary

The Hungarian Government was declared one of our submitted tender to "priority level" – informed the government's communication. For ecotourism development, the consortium of the Novohrad - Nógrád Geopark and Salgótarján City wins cca. 2.210.000 EUR support, with 100% intensity. The tender has two phases, the government's decision was the end of the first phase. In the next months we need to prepare our project in details, for the grant agreement. If this project start, this will be the most outstanding financial support in our history. This will be arranged by the geopark organization, and there will be four (!) other projects (Development of Hollókő village – World Cultural Heritage ; Development of Szentkút National Shrine ; Development of the Hungarian Main Hiking Route in North-Hungary ; Development of a bicycle trail along the Zagyva river) with additional cca. 20.000.000 EUR support for tourism development project in our territory!

5. Other geopark activities

We organized five different quiz and competition, one summer camp for school-age children, and five guided tours to geosites for the public. In the EGN Week

(19. May – 10. June) we organize eleven different events – from museum programs to hiking and mountain biking tours.

Networking

6. Participation in the 29th Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geopark Network, in the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas, Spain. March, 2012.
7. Participation in the tourist season opening profession event in Banská Stiavnica, in the slovakian Banskoštiavnický geopark (non-EGN geopark, SK). In the official meeting we founded our long-term cooperations, and the unified representation against the Ministries, Municipalities, etc. May, 2012.
8. Participation in the EGN Week of the Bakony – Balaton Geopark (non-EGN geopark, HU). This was the start of our close collaboration, what we want to continue in the future. May, 2012.
9. Start of the collaboration with the University of Kosice, and the other organizers of the GEOTUR Conference (October, 2012) in Salgótarján, Hungary. May, 2012.

Activity by Partners

10. The Salgótarján Local Tourist Development Management Organization started their first guided hiking tour, which hold by the geopark's scientist in a territory, which isn't opened for the public in other cases. May, 2012.
11. With the Salgótarján Local TDMO we took part in Hungary's most important tourism event, the Travel Exhibition in Budapest. Marc, 2012.
12. The Novohrad – Nógrád European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation (founded by Salgótarján /HU/ and Fil'akovo /SK/) started the work and the collaboration with the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark.

János Lóska and Erika Anderková – Executives of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd., and István Kéri – Office Manager ; info@nng geopark.eu

Papuk Geopark activities:

1. Celebrating Earths Day Papuk Geopark joined World Cleanup Action 2012 (Let's do it). In Velika Visitor centre there was presentation of the junk yard problems. After the presentation, students and employees from Park collected junk from meadows in Velika. Also Papuk's rangers marked with GPS devices sites used for illegal dumping.

2. In 2012 Papuk Geopark and Mountaineering club Pozega marked the 30th anniversary of organizing mountaineering event "Papucki jaglaci". Traditional hiking manifestation gathers hikers from all over Croatia in order to celebrate beginning of the spring. This year around 2 500 hikers and tourists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia participated in this manifestation.

3. On the occasion of International Museum Day, the Heritage Museum Slatina organized an exhibition "The Natural Wealth of Papuk". Through different exhibits (fossils, rock samples, posters, brochures etc.) Papuk Geopark presented rich geological, biological, cultural and historical heritage.

4. In cooperation with The Faculty of Mine, Geology and Petroleum Engineering of Zagreb University one Diploma thesis is finished – *Archaeometry of La Tene graphite – tempered ceramics from Slavonia*. We got interesting petrographical analysis of graphitic schists and sandstones from southern slopes of Papuk Mt.

5. Papuk Geopark participated in a traditional event „ Longest table in Croatia“, which happened in Velika. Numerous domestic exhibitors from all parts of Croatia, and guests from other country presented traditional dishes of their region. Papuk Geopark presented the interesting (delicious) Geopark cookies and cakes.

6. Continuing good cooperation with scientific institutions (Faculty of Science and Croatian Geological Survey) we managed to bring Prof. Dražen Balen, PhD. and Valentina Hajek-Tadesse, PhD. to local schools. Mrs. Hajek-Tadesse made workshops about microfossils that were found in and around Papuk Geopark. Professor Balen took a interesting presentation titled: Science versus Hollywood - Walking through the lava fields.

7. On initiative of INA Club volunteers (INA - leading oil company in Croatia) we made a cleanup of a few geological sites. At Rupnica geosite

educational panels have been refreshed, and one new info-panel have been set up. All materials required for this action were provided by INA Club volunteers.

8. During botanical survey eggs of Alcon blue (*Phengaris alcon alcon*) were recorded on plant marsh gentian (*Gentiana pneumonanthe*). Except Papuk, Alcon blue was recorded only in Plitvice Lakes National Park. According to this we designed interpretative panel which will be set up next to butterfly habitat.

9. A few articles about beauties of Papuk Geopark (Rupnica, Jankovac) have been published in summer issue (2012) of *EuroCity* magazine. Magazine is distributed to the passengers on *EuroCity* and *InterCity* trains and enables passengers travelling by railway to discover cultural and natural attractions of Croatia.

10. Guided tours through Geopark have been organizing regularly, mostly for school children. Also interesting for workshops increasing, we visited local schools and held different workshop (fossils, dinosaurs, volcanoes...)

EGN –activities

1. Submission a paper for the 11th European Geoparks Conference in Arouca Geopark (Portugall) on September 19st – 21th 2012
2. Participation to the EGN CC meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark, Spain 8-9 March 2012
3. Preparation of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark section in the Italian Geopark Forum Book and editor and graphic of the book
4. Submission text and photos for Green Week in Brusseles
5. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
6. Participation to the 4^o Workshop of Italian Geoparks in Tuscan Mining Geopark Massa Marittima 16-17 March 2012
7. Submission text of initiative of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark for Geoparks documents that M. Patzak prepares for the October Executive Board at UNESCO
8. Send the letter to Italian delegation in UNESCO to ask the support for Geoparks

Geopark events and progress

9. Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013 Subprogramme Leonardo da Vinci – PLM - CALL FOR PROPOSAL 2011 – EAC/49/10: “G.E.A.” PROJECT-GRADUATED WITHIN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY. This is a project of international mobility professionalizing which makes provision of 53 scholarships for the realization of placements in companies and institutions located in SPAIN (32 scholarship), UNITED KINGDOM (7 scholarship) and IRELAND (14 scholarship), each lasting 16 weeks.
10. Annual program of enviromental education in the schools of the park, with the purpose to introduce the young generations to environmental problems helping them to understand the values of the territory in which they live and the necessary actions for the correct maintenance and fruition. Such projects have been planned foreseeing moments of popularization in the classrooms integrated by excursions on the territory for the direct knowledge of the natural beauties and particularly of the geo-diversity present.
11. The general revision of the existing path network - work in progress
12. Printed a book Treasures of Italy and UNESCO: “ The National Park Of Cilento and Vallo di Diano with the “Certosa di Padule, Paestum and Velia”, in Italian and English
13. Partecipation in national programs televion as “Easy Driver RAI 2-“Geo&Geo” RAI 3-, were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the EGN-GGN
14. Tour with the universitary students on the geosites of capodifiume Springs, Castelcivita Caves and other geosites
15. The National Park-Geopark has organized, during the summer, cultural events in some municipalities, for historical and environmental valorisation of the territory.
16. Attendance at the conference of 32nd International Geographical Congress in Cologne 26-29 August with article " The geodiversity in the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy) as support in the enhancement of sustainable development- Topics: Session on Geoparks.

17. Attendance at the conference of “Quarto Simposio Internazionale sul Monitoraggio Costiero Mediterraneo Livorno 12-13-14-15 June with article “erosione e processi di instabilita’ della costa: il caso studio della spiaggia di Cala del Cefalo (geoparco del Cilento e del Vallo di Diano, Italia meridionale)”. This article has been awarded second place.

18. Attendance at the meeting “land, wine and messages” Agropoli (SA) 14 June with a relation “ the geomorphological and climatic labeling of Cilento’s territory

19. In June the experts from Estonia visited Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark order to understand the international project of the National Park

20. In July was inaugurated the Virtual Museum of the Geopark with the municipality of Caselle in Pittari

Activities by others Organizations

21. Two Grants for young Geomorphologist, in the International Workshop “Objective geomorphological representation models: breaking through a new geomorphological mapping frontier” organized by Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and University of Salerno.

22. Participation at LIFE project

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

24. Seven edition of Holiday Smile, organized by Montanari & Ripe Red association, Green Blue Cilento Committee and the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark, to host, boys and girls from all over Italy, aged from a few months to thirteen, with oncological in post hospitalization, with their families.

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1 – New guided tours booklet : "Luberon, rendez-vous nature"

This booklet includes 44 proposals of tourist service by 30 professionals through more than 1000 dates between 1st of April and 31st of October. The tours topics are geology, landscapes, nature, wine, cultural heritage by hiking, biking, riding or by air-balloon.

2 – Geoparks week

- Activities:
 - o International meeting on climbing (Escala'Buoux 2012)
 - o Guided tours
 - o Activities by Geoparks partners
- Exhibition "Geoballade" (june to august)
 - o This temporary exhibition, made of 17 panels, proposes to discover the Luberon Geology through water paintings illustrating landscapes, use of rocks, traditional buildings, fossils, tectonic... Now it is travelling in the Geopark area (3 places from September to November)

3 – Cooperation (june)

- Meeting of partners (Arouca, Bauges and Luberon) to work on the LEADER cooperation project "Geotourism for sustainable development"
- Meeting of the 4th French Geoparks to create the forum of French Geoparks

4 – Promotion of the day of the home cultural heritage (16-17 june)

This event proposes to discover heritage sites or traditional know-how through many activities: guided tours, exhibitions, tastings... Eighteen partners proposed activities on the Geopark area about the subject "Cooking, lands and know-how".

5 – Educational activities

- Education training on use of rocks including a geological fieldtrip and workshops on clay use
- Educational actions about geology, cultural heritage, ecology, history... concerning more than 250 classes from nursery school to high school)

6 – Welcoming the public

- Guided tours to 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

- Guided tours to the mammal footprints slab of Viens in August (90 visitors)

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In spite of the severe economic crisis in Greece and the reduction of tourist flow to the country and the island, the Lesvos Petrified Forest Geopark continues and improves its operation and activities and starts new projects and collaborations at local level, supporting the local economy and opening direct job opportunities for young people.

There are a few examples in the broader Greek public sector where the level of employment has increased due to new projects, during this year.

EGN – participation

- Participation in the 29th EGN - Coordination Meeting in the Subbeticas European and Global Geopark.
- Participation in ITB 2012 with Geoparks stand
- Participation in the 5th International Geoparks Conference in Unzen Japan
- Participation in Geoparks Seminar in Oulu Finland – June 2012
- Participation in Geoparks Consultation Meetings at UNESCO, March and June 2012
- Editing and improvement of the EGN Website.
- Publishing and distribution of EGN Magazine No 9
- Preparation of 30th EGN AC/CC meeting – Meeting Link
- Organization of the EGN Week 2012 – Lesvos Geopark Spring festival
- Contribution in the Evaluation - Revalidation missions in 5 other Geoparks (Shanquingshan, Wanghushan-Daimeishan, Azores, Rio Tintao, Central Catalonia).
- Evaluation mission on Lesvos Geopark Extension – September 2012
- Organisation of the Intensive Course on Geoparks 2012 with participation of 11 countries

Geoparks events and progress

1. Exhibitions and Events

- **Organisation of the Summer Geopark's Festival "EARTH FEAST 2012" (scientific and cultural events) with many events internally produced by the Geopark.**
- **Agrotourist Festival 2012 (more than 20 local companies and cooperatives participated).**
- New Summer Educational Activity: The secrets of the sand
- Temporary exhibition : Nautical heritage in the Aegean
- Participation in the 9th International Book Fair in Thessaloniki (May 2012) with own and EGN publications

2. Educational activities

- Educational Programmes for Spring 2012
- Cooperation in environmental education programs with the Environmental Education Center of Lesvos

- **Special programs for volunteers in Geopark (25 students from MESPOM, 7 students from Greek and Foreign Universities July and August, Scout groups from Mytilene, Athens, Patras)**

3. Creation of promotional material

- Publication of the New Petrified Forest Leaflet in TR
- Publication of the Museum Magazine 2012
- Promotional publication in the Greek magazine TRAVEL BOOK
- **Promotional Publication in Internet media**

5. Events - Presentations

- Presentation of the Educational Activity Report – June 2012
- Presentation of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest in the European Museum Academy for Micelleti award 2012

6. Research

- **New research project for Nisiopi Marine Petrified Forest Park in full operation**
- **New findings of petrified trees in Agia Paraskevi**
- **New Palaeolithic archaeological excavation site in Lisvori – Collaboration with University of Crete**
- Publication of Vasileiadou, K. & Zouros, N., 2012. Early Miocene micromammals from the Lesvos Petrified Forest (Greece): preliminary results. *Palaeobiodiversity and Palaeoenvironments* 92 (2): 249-264.

7. Projects

- Submission of a new proposal in INTERREG Greece-Cyprus

Nickolas Zouros

The period of March to August 2012 continued to be very difficult for Psiloritis Geopark because of national economic situation that have affected not only the income of the geopark, but also the staff status. LEADER initiative has already initiated and several projects related to geotourism have been accepted, without however, initialized yet.

1. Due to the economic crisis the staff of geopark has been reduced to about 50%. All temporary, on contract-based positions have been stopped, as well as seasonal staff has not hired for this summer, making impossible conservation and maintenance of existing infrastructure, but also the development of further activities.
2. EGN week was very poor this year due to the problems presented before. There have been only some public talks and guidance at the Anogia visitor centre to schools of the geopark. Also, the ceremony for awarding the prizes of the Geopark's second Pupils' Art Context was organised at the end of May in the Natural History Museum of Crete at Heraklion.
3. On April the geopark hosted a group of students from Loughborough University of England, continuing the existing collaboration. Students and teachers attended a presentation on sustainable development in the Geopark and then visited the geopark's Migias' walking trail experiencing a cheese making performance, a guidance at the Minoan Zominthos excavation and the karstic and natural sites of the Psiloritis mountains (snow including).
4. On Early June Geopark participated at the 3-day Workshop for teachers organised by Anogia Environmental Educational center dealing with open-air Educational Activities in protected areas. Dr C. Fassoulas presented Geoparks initiatives and discussed educational possibilities in Geoparks, and guided participants along the Migia's trail.
5. A very important activity also took place on 21 of June in the Geopark. A group of 28 European parliament members and their assistants, from all EU parliament parties that are participating in the Tourism and Transport Committee visited the Geopark during their official meeting that took place from 20-22 of June in Crete. They visited the Zominthos excavation and also the Agios Yakinthos recreation area. There, a presentation of EGN and Psilotitis geopark has been established with posters and other printed material. A short talk was delivered by Mr C. Fassoulas on European geoparks and their role in local sustainable development.

Dr C. Fassoulas

Network activities

1. Participation in the 29th EGN CC meeting in Sierras Subbéticas E&G Geopark, Spain - march 2012;
2. Processing and presentation of a proposal for the realization of an atlas of the mining civilizations in Geoparks, a itinerant exhibition and a cartoguide for the EGN Mining Working Group during the last meeting in Sierras Subbéticas (Geoparks participant at moment 14: Copper Coast Geopark, Rocca di Cerere Geopark, North Pennines AONB, Park Naturel Régional du Luberon, Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark, Fforest Fawr Geopark, Sardinia Mining Park, Geo Mon, Arouca Geopark, Chelmos Vouraikos Geopark, Magma Geopark, Tuscan Mining Geopark, Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, Bauges Massif Geopark);
3. Contribution to improvement the EGN website (new text and photo for new EGN website);
4. Contribution to the recognition of the European Geoparks Network with a specific article inserted in the Sicilian Regional Law for the politics linked to the regional system of geosites;
5. Participation to the 4th Workshop of Italian Geoparks Forum in Tuscan Mining E&G Geopark - May 2012;
6. Revalidation mission on Rocca di Cerere Geopark – June 2012;

Environmental Education Activities

7. Processing and implementation of the new environmental education programs in collaboration with the Laboratory of Environmental Education and Interpretation Centre of Villa Zagaria in Pergusa Lake Natural Reserve;
8. Reproposal of the project for secondary school “The Geology in sulphur lands” about the Park’s geology and mining culture;
9. Reproposal of the project for primary school “playing with rocks”;
10. Excursions in several sites of Geopark in aim of Geoparks week;

Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark

11. Daily activities for public in Pergusa Visitor Center and in Environmental Education and Interpretation Centre of Villa Zagaria;
12. Design and implementation of the national forum website of Italian Geoparks. Official presentation of this website during the 4th Workshop of Italian Geoparks Forum (www.geoparchitaliani.it, www.geoparchiitaliani.it);
13. Design and implementation of the new Rocca di Cerere Geopark website (www.roccadicerere.eu/geopark, at moment only in Italian language);

Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development of the Geopark

14. Activities of the Scientific Committee of the Geopark;
15. Participation to the Italian Geoparks Forum;
16. Participation to the Sicilian Regional Network of protected areas with Messinian Evaporites in Regional Department for Territory and Environment;
17. Organization of IX Geoparks Week (May-June);

18. Activities of sharing of best practices with the aspiring geopark of Valle del Crocchio: visit to the territory with Pasquale Li Puma, Madonie Geopark – 5-8 July.

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Management

1. A strategy for Rokua Geopark is being prepared. The strategy is made to last until the year 2022. The strategy focuses on the management, financing, infrastructure and activities of the Geopark.
2. Rokua Geopark communications strategy and communications plan have been prepared during spring and summer. The strategy and plan have been prepared under consultancy from a company specialised into communication activities.

Developing projects

3. The Rokua Geopark a new national and international operations model, ERDF –project is proceeding. The project is implemented during 2010-2013. The project produces new educational and information materials of the Geopark as well as it promotes the Geopark model in Finland.

4. A project focusing on enhancing the entrepreneurship in Rokua Geopark has started in the beginning of year 2012. The project lasts until year 2014; it is financed by the State of Finland and EU.

5. Rokua Geopark is applying for a grant from EU to a project: Geopark Routes Enhancing Awareness of geoTourism (GREAT). The project proposal includes several Geoparks, the lead partner is Magma Geopark from Norway.

Education activities

6. Rokua Geopark is cooperating with schools situated in Geopark area in issues concerning environmental education. Rokua Geopark serves some material for schools and arranges different kind of happenings in the area.

7. A Geopark course has started in the high schools of Utajärvi and Muhos, the course is partly arranged as a Comenius project between our high schools and schools from France, Italy and Germany. High schools and Geopark have already received some visiting students and teachers from these countries and offered Geopark knowledge and activities for them.

8. Ten new Geopark guides have graduated from a course arranged in the Oulujärvi Community College.

Dissemination activities

9. A new Rokua Geopark Outdoors Geological Guide has been published in May by the Geological Survey of Finland. The Guide presents the Geopark in great

detail with maps, pictures and text. The maps are based on elevation model obtained from laser scanning data.

10. The Panoramic map of Rokua Geopark was published on August, the map is available as a print and as a digital version in the internet. The internet version includes three 3D models of the areas of Oulujokilaakso, Rokua and Oulujärvi
11. A new Geopark brochure has been published on August. The brochure is available in Finnish and in English.
12. Rokua Geopark / Vesa Krökki was interviewed and presented for eight minutes in the most important morning show in Finland, the YLE aamu-tv gathers some 200 000 viewers.
13. Several articles of the Geopark and its activities have been published in magazines and newspapers during the reporting period.
14. Several presentations of the Geopark and its activities have been given in different occasions. The audiences range from school children to retired people.

Conferences

15. Ritva Okkonen and Vesa Krökki participated to the 5th Unesco Geoparks Conference in Japan representing the Rokua Geopark.
16. Rokua Geopark organized the first Finnish Geopark seminar in Rokua on June. The seminar gathered 50 participants from all over Finland. Nickolas Zouros participated to the seminar as invited speaker. The seminar was organized during two days, the first day was lectures and the second day was an excursion to the sites of Rokua Geopark.

Other events

17. The second Rokua Geopark Challenge adventure race was held in the Geopark on July. The race gathered some 200 participants in 70 teams to test their limits in the unique landscapes. The Adventure race is broadcasted eight times as one hour program on the television channels of Nelonen broadcasting company.
18. Rokua Geopark prepared collection of articles for national environmental journal. The magazine will be published in the beginning of September 2012. Articles explain the main idea of geoparks network and Rokua Geopark and present ideas and examples how to use the Rokua Geopark in environmental education.

Mr. Vesa Krökki
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1) Networking

Geopark Shetland continued to work closely with Chablais Geopark, aspiring Geopark de Hondsrug and North Pennines AONB on the Leader Cooperation project 'Heritage Interpretation using New Technologies (HINT)', for which Shetland is the lead partner. A project meeting was held in Shetland in June, where partners gave presentations on their work to an invited audience and were trained in the use of the content management system for the project website, which is now online (<http://www.hintproject.eu/>). The next partner meeting will take place in Arouca in September 2012 and a presentation on the HINT project will be given at the EGN conference.

Geopark Shetland is an active member of the Scottish Geodiversity Forum established in 2010 (<http://scottishgeodiversityforum.org/>). This organisation includes Northwest Highlands Geopark and Lochaber Geopark, the British Geological Survey, Scottish Natural Heritage, National Museums Scotland and a number of geological societies and individuals. The Forum launched a Scottish Geodiversity Charter in June to raise the profile of Scotland's geodiversity politically and encourage its protection, promotion and interpretation.

2) Geopark Shetland projects

Geopark Shetland and software developer Zolk^C have now developed an Android app based around Shetland's geosites. The app is currently being tested and a beta version will soon be launched through Google Play to allow for public trials and feedback. The app includes 40 individual geosites along with a further 25 sites that form part of three walking trails. It includes thematic information and 'find out more' sections to help users to understand individual sites in the wider context of Shetland's geology.

Once public trials are complete the app will be revised and re-launched on both Android and iPhone.

Funding was secured for a short term contract to allow further more detailed development of Shetland's geosites register. The bulk of this work is now complete with full site descriptions, a cross-referenced photo archive and boundaries for most sites. This information has been passed to Shetland Islands Council to inform their planning department.

Geopark Shetland is currently employing an IT specialist to create an EGN corner in the Shetland Museum and Archives using touchscreen technology. This project is part of a larger redevelopment within the museum. EGN and GGN members will be approached in due course for information to populate the touchscreen app.

3) Education activities

A short course 'Introducing Geopark Shetland' was run for the second time in spring 2012 as part of the Shetland Islands Council Adult Learning programme. It is to run again in autumn 2012 along with an additional short course 'Exploring Geopark Shetland'.

The schools event 'ShEEP DIP' 2012 took place in May in partnership with the Shetland Environmental Education Partnership. This successful event involved

the RSPB, Shetland Islands Council, Shetland Amenity Trust Woodlands team and the Shetland Ranger Service as well as the Geopark. It built on the events of previous years and allowed over 100 pupils in North Shetland and the North Isles to participate in a variety of outdoor activities based on Natural Heritage.

Geopark Shetland was approached by a student teacher on a placement in a Shetland school for support with an Earth Science module. The Geopark provided a classroom workshop, a field trip and course materials. The school is keen to work in partnership again in the future.

A two day residential field trip took place in Northmavine in April, which allowed pupils from the island of Unst to discover 'Shetland's volcano'.

4) Promotion

Approval has been obtained from Shetland Islands Council for the design of Geopark signage to be placed at Shetland's Gateway points (Sumburgh Airport and the Serco Ferry Terminal in Lerwick). The signage will go to production in the autumn.

A geology graduate has been working for the Geopark on a voluntary basis to explore ways of providing tourism and hospitality workers in Shetland with information about the geological sites and attractions in their local area so that they can better inform visitors about things to see and do.

5) Events

The Shetland Nature Festival 2012 in partnership with European Geoparks Week took place from 7th – 15th July 2012. Despite poor weather the event was well attended and all feedback was positive. Funding was secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund 'Awards for All' scheme to raise the profile of the Festival outside Shetland and feedback confirmed that some visitors came to Shetland specifically for the Festival. The Geopark will continue to build on this success in future years.

6) Product Development

Geopark Shetland has launched a range of 12 Geopark postcards and will shortly launch two Geopark magnet sets. The designer has submitted a number of other suggestions for Geopark souvenirs using images of Shetland's rocks and landscapes. A local craft worker is developing some textile work inspired by geological sites and landscape features around Shetland. Work is continuing on the geological guide to Geopark Shetland with a first draft of text almost complete. Work has also begun to compile a selection of photos for a visual guide to identifying Shetland's Rocks and Minerals.

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Geopark Activities

1. Revalidation of the European Chart for Sustainable Tourism.
2. Celebration of Geological Day 2012 in Sevilla (“*Geología12*”); in association with the Geological Society of Spain and other participants.
3. Preparation and implementation in various locations of the Geopark, of the exhibition "The Rocks of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark".
4. Performing of a photo exhibition on European Geoparks at the Information Point of *Cerro del Hierro*.
5. Celebration of the European Geoparks Week.
6. Course "Geotourism and Geoparks: Interpretation of the geological resources of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark", within the activities of the European Geoparks Week.
7. Preparation of various press releases, presentations, news and communications on: geodiversity, natural and cultural values and activities of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark.
8. Update of the list of Geopark geosites, and generation of data sheets on each geosite.
9. Design and gathering information for the recovery and enhancement of the "*Ruta Real del Azogue*" (ancient route for mercury transport) in Sierra Norte; in association with the Environmental Volunteers of the Geopark.
10. Developing new Geopark contents on the website of the Environment Department: geologic maps, geological routes, workshops, activities, etc. www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/sierranortedesevillageopark
11. Placing logos of EGN and GGN at Geopark signals.
12. Collection of historical dates about mining in the Geopark.

Work in the European Geoparks Network

13. Attendance at the Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network, held in March 2012 (Sierras Subbéticas Geopark, Andalusia).

14. Attendance at the Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network, held in September 2012 (Arouca Geopark, Portugal).

15. - Attendance at the 11th European Geoparks Conference, to be held in September 2012 (Arouca Geopark, Portugal); presentation of a paper.

16. Participation in the Thematic Working Group on Mining, within the European Geoparks Network.

Activities by partner agencies

17. Collaboration in the final project of degree: "Assessment of the geological suture complex and metamorphic core of *Almaden de la Plata*", *Pablo de Olavide* University of Seville.

17. Collaboration with the University *Pablo de Olavide* of Seville, for production a study on Geobotanical of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark.

Contact:

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Geopark Activities

- 1.- Design of an urban geological route (“The petrified beings of the city of Cabra”), in collaboration with the town council of Cabra.
- 2.- Continuous assessment to enterprises for the design of Geopark products.
- 3.- Organization and Celebration of the **Geoloday** 2012 in the province of Córdoba (6th May, 2012). This is a national day devoted to Geology. There is one Geoloday for each Spanish province. In Subbéticas, this is the third consecutive year that has been celebrated in S. Subbéticas Geopark.
- 4.- Organization and Celebration of the European Geoparks Week in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark, with more than 15 activities (5-19th May, 2012)
- 5.- Organization and Celebration of the XXIX Coordination Committee Meeting. (8 and 9th) March in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.
- 6.- Sierras Subbéticas is catalyst of the working group: EGN/GGN branding. The results of this working group were presented by Sierras Subbéticas during the XXIX C.C. Meeting.
- 7.- Participation in the meeting of Spanish Geoparks Forum, held in the Basque Coast Geopark (3th July, 2012).
- 8.- Elaboration of a complete dossier (in Spanish) on the EGN, the GGN and the SGF as an informative resource for the Spanish Geoparks Forum.
- 9.- Organization of a Forum for the enterprises of the Geopark, especially those adhered to the ECST and the Branding Natural Park of Andalusia, for the design of new Geopark products.
- 10.- Elaboration of an abstract for the XI EGN Conference in Arouca (Portugal), with the title “ Valorising Paleontological Heritage in the design of Geopark Products”
- 11.- Contribution to the revision of abstracts for the XI EGN Conference in Arouca (Portugal), as a member of the scientific committee.
- 12.- Celebration of a Board Meeting (Junta Rectora, July, 2012), The Delegate of the Local Government of Environment and the director of the Park meet with the representatives of different collectives and administrations linked to the Natural Park/ Geopark (mayors, landowners, entrepreneurs, etc.). At this meeting the Geopark progress and the main achievements are communicated and discussed.

13.- Educational programs in Sierras Subbéticas: “Nature for all”, “Andalusia in its Parks” and “Open days”.

▪

14.- Contribution to the European Geoparks fossil book of the fossil working group.

15.- Contribution with information of our Geopark or images for numerous Geoparks and institutions (e.g. Aso Geopark (Japan), Chao Geopark, Arouca (Portugal), EGN Web site, etc.)

▪

16- Together with the Geopark Cabo de Gata- Níjar, we visited Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark and Participation in its EGN Week with a talk and fieldtrip.

17.- Elaboration of an article of the III Earth Science Olympiad to the RENPA bulletin (Network of Natural Protected Spaces of Andalusia).

18.-Filmmation of a video in Sierras Subbéticas, in relation to the LEADER project Geoempleo.

19.-Elaboration of a geological report to avoid the removal of valuable limestone blocks of a quarry inside the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas.

20.- Design of ammonite for the bottom of a swimming pool and text for a hotel in Sierras Subbéticas that collaborates with the Geopark (Los Castillarejos Hotel, Luque).

21.-Participation in the III Workshop on Search of Employment in Geology, organised by the University of Granada (25th May 2012) with a talk on Sierras Subbéticas and the work of a Geologist in a Geopark.

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March 2012

- **Promotion of partner enterprises of the Geopark:** The Geopark started to develop a project called “The taste of Sobrarbe” consisting of a gastronomic route all over the Geopark. The participants are restaurants and craft food enterprises which have signed the partnership agreement with the Geopark. The restaurants had to offer a special menu elaborated with food products of the Geopark. The Geopark published a recipe book containing a recipe of each of these restaurants and information about all the craft food producers of the Geopark. This gastronomic route is going to be promoted twice a year, in springtime and in autumn, taking advantage of the season products of Sobrarbe in each case.
- **Cooperation Project:** In March took place the preparation of two films promoting geotourism and sustainable development based of geological heritage, through a cooperation project in which take part the LAGs of all the Spanish geoparks and also from some territories aspiring to become geoparks.

April 2012

- **Visit of the University of Murcia:** The Geopark was visited by several representatives of this university in order to know the geology of the Geopark and also the structure and way of working of a Geopark
- **Trans- border project:** The Geopark prepared a trans-border project with French partners, based on activities and actions concerning the geological heritage in the international World Heritage Site “Pirineos-Monte Perdido”. The project has been accepted and is going to be financed by the European programme POCTEFA.

May 2012

- **Geo- day in Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park:** The Geopark took part in the celebration on the annual “Geo-day” (a program developed all over Spain), in collaboration with the University of Zaragoza. This year it was dedicated to the National Park of Ordesa y Monte Perdido that is located inside the Geopark.
- **Visit of Secondary schools:** During this month the Geopark was visited by student groups of several Secondary schools of the region.
- **Program in the regional TV:** The regional TV broadcasted the weather forecast from the Interpretation Centre of Sobrarbe Geopark, dedicating a TV program to the infrastructures and activities of the Geopark
- **European Geoparks Week:** (May 27 to June 10). (Exhibitions, guided tours...)
- **Speleological magazine:** The Geopark and the Geological Association “Cotiella” (that is a partner of the Geopark) organized a public presentation of nº3 of the Speleological magazine of the Geopark.

June 2012

- **IV Photography Contest of the Sobrarbe Geopark:** This contest take place annually, each year it's dedicated to a different geological element of the Geopark.

- **Arte rupestre:** The Geopark has developed a project concerning the arte rupestre en el Geopark, that was designated as World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The project consists of educational materials aimed to different visitors (families, schools...), auto-guided tours, and promotional actions and activities.
- **Geological Sites Inventory:** Sobrarbe Geopark and the Spanish Geological Survey have ended the last update of the Geological Sites Inventory and the Management Plan of the Geopark.
- **Publications:** The official magazine of ingenieros de minas de aragon published a wide reportaje about Sobrarbe Geopark.

July 2012

- **National project Biodiversity:** Sobrarbe Geopark has developed a project for a national foundation dedicated to promote biodiversity (including geo diversity). If this project is selected, the Geopark will develop a lot of actions concerning its geological heritage during the next year.
- **Promotional activities:** The Geopark has edited a leaflet and an information guide concerning all the craft food enterprises of the Geopark (all of them are partners of the Geopark). This publications will be distributed through the Geopark offices and tourism information offices in the Geopark.
- **Guided tours for young people:** The Geopark has organized several tours and visits to geological sites, aimed to young people living or visiting the Geopark.

August 2012

- **40 Anniversary of the World Heritage Program of UNESCO:** The Geopark has planned several activities to celebrate this anniversary. The 16th September will take an international celebration with France, consisting of a geo-day in the Pirineos-Monte Perdido World heritage Site.
- **Geological photography:** The Geopark is planning a course on geological photography to take place during next autumn.

September 2012

- **Promotion of craft food products:** Participation of the Geopark in regional fairs to promote craft food products of the Partner Enterprises of the Geopark under the label "Products of the Sobrarbe Geopark".
- **Participation in international Workshop:** The scientific coordinator of the Geopark is going to present an investigation work concerning ice caves in the Geopark in an international Workshop taking place in the Italian Alps.

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International Day of Biodiversity. Three hundred school children of the schools located in the nature- and GeoPark area and their teachers have gathered at Gams to celebrate the International Day of Bio-diversity on May 22. Organized by Irmi Auer, the field guides and members of the Museum of Natural History, Vienna, and the adjoining Gesäuse National Park demonstrated the fossil diversities of the Marine Cretaceous rocks of the area and the diversity of animals living in the Gams river. This highly acclaimed event which was organized the second time provides a unique opportunity to make local children acquainted with the GeoPark.

New Visitor Centre. A new visitor centre was inaugurated at the entrance to the Wasserloch gorge. The gorge is one of the touristic hotspots of the area and accessible through a magnificent trail. The large karstic spring from which its water comes is not accessible. It is presented in a video show at the visitor center. A flyer presents the natural peculiarities of the gorge, including geology.

Student groups. During this spring, 30 school groups have attended project weeks in the nature and geopark. Another 32 groups have taken part in one-day programs in Geology and 6 groups have visited the spectacular Kraus cave. All groups were supervised by partners of the park. Student groups have become an important factor in tourism.

Festival of Geology and GeoPark Week. The Festival of Geology 2012 which partly overlaps with the GeoPark Week offers a wide selection of field trips ranging from visits to a scientific excavation of cave bear remains by a team of the University of Vienna and to the karstic springs which are a major source of the Vienna Water works. In talks the geology of volcanoes, the rock transport through rivers and the role of caves in the intangible heritage are presented.

New guidebook. A new revised edition of the guidebook of the geotrail was published. Besides individual descriptions of the stops of the trail it presents the European GeoPark Network. A translation into English is available as enclosure.

Exhibition. In its annual exhibition, the GeoCentre Gams presents attractive pebbles from the Enns and Gamsbach rivers. A geological map shows the source areas of both rivers. The exhibition informs also about the sediment load of rivers and the deposition along the river sides. Special eye-catchers are polished stone bowls made by a local craftsman in a “stone mill” of rotating blades from river pebbles and superbly polishes them afterwards. The exhibition was inaugurated on 24 May by a large audience.

Activities of partners. Seminars on wild herbs by the well-known expert Theresia Reiter have to be specially mentioned among the activities of the nature and GeoPark partner. It is the aim of these seminars to communicate the extraordinary diversity of herbs of the area. Additional projects on herbs were organized together with schools.

Local traditions and natural heritage. An promising pilot project for increasing the consciousness for the region was initiated in 2012 at the primary school of Altenmarkt. It is the overall aim to foster the aware-ness for local traditions and the preservation of the natural heritage.

Visit. A large delegation of the aspiring transnational Karawanken GeoPark has visited the Eisenwurzen on 23/24 April.

Media cooperation. The geotouristic offer of the village of Gams was presented in the Ennstal TV which is specialized on the touristic programs of the region. The Austrian TV presented the nature- and geopark in a short account with special emphasize on local partners.

Tourism. Folders highlighting the top destinations of the region were distributed among travel and transport organizations. The Eisenwurzen GeoPark has participated in a common booth of EGN at the ITB, Berlin.

Kollmann Heinz

Geopark activities and progress

1. March 1st: Participation in the reception of all German National Geoparks at the Permanent Representation of the State of Hessen in Berlin
2. March 2nd: Meeting of the GeoPark information centers at Katzenstein castle.
3. March 5th: Participation in a conference on tourism development for the Biosphere reserve Swabian Alb
4. March 7th-10th: Participation in the EGN meeting at Sierra Subbética/Spain
5. March 20th: Meeting with a group of schoolchildren from the European Geopark Bergstraße-Odenwald in Bad Urach
6. April 20th: Beginning of a seasonal, common project (from April to October) with the Swabian Alb Tourism Association. It's called "time travel" and includes a virtual tour for children to around 15 geological / historical and popular destinations for excursions. Seven of these destinations are GeoPark information centers
7. April 22nd: Third Geopark-Festival at Katzenstein castle. Nearly all GeoPark information centers and landscape guides presented themselves with various activities like barefoot-path, preparation of fossils and coral, ice age hunting and much more. About 1.500 visitors (in spite of bad weather).
8. April 25th: Participation in a regional workshop of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association on development of a tourism concept
9. April 25th - end of July: Presentation of the GeoPark and its information centers in the customer centre of the concern Alb-Gold in Trochtelfingen.
10. April 26th: Meeting of the GeoPark task force with representatives of the 10 rural districts and the Swabian Alb Tourism Association at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen
11. May 3rd: Participation in the meeting of the organization's management of the German National GeoParks in Braunschweig
12. May 5th -6th: Participation of two GeoPark's information centers (Open-Air Museum Neuhausen ob Eck and Fossil Museum "Werkforum" Dotternhausen) in the "market of possibilities" in Donaueschingen
13. May 17th - June 3rd: Celebration of the European Geoparks Week with about 100 different activities.

14. June 20th: Beginning of a project with extensive livestock farming at a former quarry in Gerhausen, in cooperation with the quarry operator HeidelbergCement and an environmental organization (NABU)
15. July 24th: Participation in the meeting of the working group “Zeitreisen” (time travel) under the umbrella organization of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association
16. July 24th: Annual meeting of the Geopark advisory board at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen
17. July 25th: Inauguration of a new cycling trail through the most beautiful valleys of the GeoPark Swabian Alb
18. July 27th: Press relations on the occasion of the beginning of summer holidays, tips on how to spend the free time
19. September 10th: Awarding of a prize to two GeoPark information centers (Open-Air Museum Neuhausen ob Eck and cave “Charlottenhöhle”) because of their especially family-friendly supply
20. September 12th: Participation in a regional workshop of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association on development of a tourism concept
21. September 16th: Germany wide “Day of the geotop”. Participation of GeoPark’s partners with different activities like guided tours or activity days
22. September 18th-21st: Participation in the 30th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting and the 11th European Geoparks Conference at Arouca/Portugal

Renate Schrembs, 30.08.2012
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1. Opening of new watchtower on top of Piesberg mountain

A platform, painted in TERRA.vita red has been opened on a mast of a cut windmill, offering the most spectacular view of the Geopark area, providing lots of information via panels and QR Codes.

2. Dutch Delegation

A delegation of 30 politicians from the aspiring Geopark De Hondsrug from the Netherlands visited TERRA.vita to check on structures, POI'S and experience concerning the EGN(GGN). In return Hartmut gave a speech in the Netherlands some weeks later.

3. TERRA.vita festivity

The county of Steinfurt organized an open air event to celebrate TERRA.vita's 50 birthday.

4. "SANDsationell"

A whole weekend of birthday celebration in a huge sandpit, organized by TERRA.vita, offering entertainment and information for families (2.000 visitors). We were able to count exact numbers, because it was the first time to use our new Eco Counter (infrared counting device)

5. Members assembly of EUROPARC Germany

TERRA.vita hosted the assembly for three days. Hartmut was elected as board member.

6. Presentation of ideas for a new shark center

Two groups of students from the University of Applied Sciences, Osnabrück presented ideas for a new shark information center, associated to an outdoor regional school center. A company got a first contract to work on application dossiers.

7. New TERRA.trail

A new TERRA.trail No. 18 was officially opened including a large wetland area and the Schafberg carbon horst, among other geological and cultural highlights.

8. First talks with our biggest Hotel

The manager of the 4 star Steigenberger Remarque Hotel invited TERRA.vita to discuss common projects.

9. "Pssst" Trails

Where are the most quiet hiking trails in the Geopark area located? A GIS based calculation tool has been developed by the University of Applied Sciences (OS) has been developed and was used for the first time. An existing trail in the Spa community of Bad Essen qualified and will serve to strengthen the USP of the spa.

10. TERRA.bike: New E-Bike Stations

In the City of Osnabrück 3 new E-Bike recharging stations have been opened to the public. 5 others are complete and are waiting for the official opening.

11. TERRA.natura

A set of 9 booklets is available at local bookstores now, comprising information about prestigious Natura 2000 areas, explaining why these sites are important, starting with the geological background and offering selected hiking trails to experience the landscapes

12. New customer survey

The University of Osnabrück (Prof. Härtling) is conducting a second questionnaire among our visitors. It will be finished at the end of September and will deliver dates, which can be compared to our first survey in 2007.

13. Membership Megalithic Routes

TERRA.vita signed up for membership of the new Megalithic Routes association. The partners are coming from Denmark, Sweden, Netherlands (De Hondsrug) and Germany

14. TERRA.info

In August 16 huge touch screen info terminals have been installed at our partners in the Geopark area, providing information about local and regional highlights.

15. TERRA.genesis

The new animated film about TERRA.vita`s geological history is available now as a complete 25 min. CD and can be viewed also at our homepage, here distinguishing between 8 geological periods. 200 DVD`s have been sold two weeks after publication.

16. Activities of German Geopark Forum

A short paper has been agreed on, serving as a comprehensive memo for a meeting with top ranking German politicians from 3 federal ministries (Economics, Environment and Exterior) and the German UNESCO Commission President at 11th September in Berlin. We hope to convince the ministry of Economics to play a major role, supporting our GGN goals at UNESCO.

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Geopark Activities

Approval (20/8/2012) of the Cross Border cooperation program Greece- Albania 2007- 2013 with the title “Net- routes” including –among others- small scale projects (75.00 Euros) for the Vikos- Aaos Geopark (exhibition in information centers, Mobile exhibitions, Interpretive Routes in the Geopark, Visitor’s guide book etc).

Submission of proposal (20/7/2012) to the Cross Border cooperation program Greece- Italy 2007- 2013 with title “PINCH”, regarding the promotion of the Vikos Aaos Geopark with new technologies (380.000 euro).

Participation (16/7/2012) to the conference held by the Northern Pindos national Park with title: “Alternative tourism activities and economical development” with a presentation regarding the need of the Implementation of an Action Plan regarding tourism in the Vikos- Aaos Geopark

Participation (10/8/2012) to the conference held by the Konitsa Municipality regarding the Development of the Konitsa area with a presentation regarding the Protected Areas of Konitsa Municipality with emphasis to the Vikos- Aaos Geopark.

Within the European framework program 2007-2013 regarding the Region of Epirus, several projects have been approved for implement by the Greek Institute of Geology and Minerals (IGME) –a co founder of the Vikos Aaos Geopark- including actions for the Vikos Aaos Geopark (e.g. Research for recording new geotopes in the Vikos Aaos Geopark, determination of new Geotrails, Creation and publication of informative and promotional material).

A national conference about the importance and role of Geoparks for the protection, promotion and economical effect in the development of rural areas is going to take place in the area of Vikos Aaos Geopark in autumn 2012 with the participation of the local stakeholders {Epirus SA, Municipalities of Zagori and Konitsa, Region of Epirus, Greek Institute of Geology and Minerals (IGME) etc} and representatives of the other Greek Geoparks. Also representatives from European and Global Geopark Network is going to be invited.

Networking

Cooperation with the municipalities of Zagori and Konitsa as well as the Region of Epirus and the management body of the Northern Pindos National Park in preparation and submission of proposals in EU projects.

Similarly cooperation with trans border partners (Municipality of Pogon- Albania, Region of Gyrokastra- Albania, Management body of Alta Murgia national Park- Italy, University of Bari- Italy etc) in preparation and submission of proposals in EU projects.

Activity by partners

Several activities have been taken place by the Northern Pindos National Park including the promotion of the Vikos Aaos Geopark in its Information and Educational Centers. Besides Geodiversity and Vikos Aaos Geopark values have been presented in the presentations, meetings and field trips concerning the local societies.

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GEOPARK'S ACTIVITIES.

1. Meeting of the Scientific and Educative Committee. 2012 scientific activities schedule. Enlargement of the geopark scientific papers database Cáceres, 20th March.
2. Coordination meetings with the Tourist Association Geovilluercas: Certification criteria and training for the Tourist Product Club "Geopark" (Tourspain methodology for international promotion as Ecoturism Companies). March, April 2012.
3. Meeting with the Centers of Teachers and Resources on the geopark territory about the 2012-2013 educative project schedule. Trujillo, 28 March.
4. Delivery of training certification on Tourism Quality for sixteen geopark companies, one museum and one Interpretation Centre. Guadalupe, April 2012.
5. Geopark promotion within the tourism promotion events of the County Council of Cáceres in Lisbon, Leon and Santiago de Compostela. April and May.
6. May 27 to June 3. EGNWEEK 2012: Main activities:
Official Opening Act of the 3th European Week in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. Guided paths for tourist, primary schools students, political decisors and geological students in different days on the week, including the Path Festival "Itinere, the pilgrimage to Guadalupe". Geopark gastronomy week. Voluntary action on the Botanical Garden "Pedro Blanco" in Berzocana. Guided paths to the geopark rock shelters. Training course: Introduction to the Geology "Geology for all". I Technical Seminar of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. Logrosán. Scholar exhibition of geopark photograph. Educative Project. Public communication on "Fossils and cave paintings in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara". Workshop: Oral and cultural traditions, the intangible heritage of the geopark. Workshop: VilluerCaching; a geopark full of treasures.
7. Conference on Geopark in the Summer School of the University of Extremadura "Water Culture Seminar". Badajoz, June 25.
8. The film 'Geopark Villuercas-Ibores-Jara' get a prize at the II International Film Competition of Nature Tourism in Extremadura, Cinextur. May.
9. Geopark famtrip of bloggers linked to the tourist site minube.com. Up to 60,000 people have been able to follow the travelers experience through Twitter. Organized by the Tourism Department of Extremadura. May 2012.
10. Attendance at the First National Congress of Tourist Companies in Biosphere Reserves and Protected Areas. Monfragüe National Park. June.
11. Slideshow Presentation of the International Appalachian Trail (USA) highlighting the IAT route in west central Spain, where *"Villuercas-Ibores-Jara is the best place in Europe to admire the Appalachians Mountains"*.

12. Completion of construction adequacy of Logrosán Costanaza Mine (Phosphorite Vein) and his laboratory. Installation of interpretation equipment. Opening to the public for guided tours. Logrosán, August.
13. Edition of a new brochure map of geological sites, trails and geological recommended routes. Publication and distribution of 30,000 copies. August.
14. Completion of construction adequacy of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Interpretation Centre of Archaeology. Installation of equipment performance. Berzocana, September.
15. Appearance in various travel magazines and broadcast.
16. Presentation on Geoparks and Sustainable Development. Presentation on the possibilities of sustainable development of Geoparks the Territorial Action Groups and the Dominican Republic. (ICC Network project). Honduras, June.
17. Publication of the number 41 of Villuercas Ibores Jara's Rural Newspaper with special reference to the geopark activities in 2012.
18. Meeting of the Executive Commission of the Geopark. Decision on the Scientific and Educative Committee and the managing structure. September, 2012.

Networking.

19. Attendance at the Spanish Forum meeting in the Basque Coast Geopark and Forum work related tasks: Article in the journal Quercus. Report to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and representation to UNESCO and other tasks for the dissemination of Spanish Forum of Geoparks. July.
20. Attendance at meetings of Geoempleo project in Cabo de Gata and Basque Coast Geoparks.
21. Drafting of some communications for EGN Book, EGN magazine and Arouca European Conference. May.
22. Design participation on the EGN slideshow presentation for the GREENWEEK 2012 with a contribution about the Water Ark of Guadalupe: A seven centuries old system of sustainable water management linked to a geological process.
23. Reception of the Aspiring Geopark El Hierro (Canary Island) delegation. Information and observation of the management structure, geosites, associated companies and geotourism.
24. Works for the EGN Intangible Heritage workgroup and the Tourism workgroup (use of the EGN and GGN logos on local companies or products).

1. Events/workshops/seminars

- **April 27, 2012**
Official opening of Vulkaneifel-paths, 14 hiking trails within the Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel leading to the geotopes and places of interest
- **May 1, 2012**
Vulkantag (Volcano day): Opening of new hiking trail around Gerolstein and opening of nature trail
- **May 18, 2012**
Open evening lecture on Eifel volcanism in the light of recent world wide volcanic activity by Prof. Dr. Schmincke (volcanologist)
- **May 19, 2012**
Field seminar with Prof. H. U. Schmincke: Volcanic edifices in Eifel.
Seminar on Interpretation and field studies.
- **July 8, 2012**
Day's hike on biodiversity, guided walk under the auspices of the federal environment ministry and federal agency of nature conservation
- **July 29, 2012**
Sattelfest ((Bicycle-) saddle festival) for the whole family along the Maare-Mosel-bicycle track. Bicycle excursion to the maar-wall deposits at Pulvermaar, Gillenfeld
- **August 12, 2012**
Official opening of "Bertrada-Route", a new hiking trail in the field of culture, geology and biodiversity
- **March - August 2012**
~ 200 excursions, guided hiking tours, guided museum tours etc. related to nature- and geothemes

2. Geopark marketing, promotional activities, public relations

- **Foundation of German Geopark Forum**
Political lobbying
- **March 7-11 2012**
Presentation of EGN/GGN Network at ITB (International Tourism Fair) Berlin
- **March 6-9, 2012**
AC Meeting in Sierras Subbéticas
- **April 2012**
Vulkaneifel was acknowledged as one of 30 "hotspot of biodiversity" regions in Germany by the federal ministry for the environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety and the federal agency for nature conservation
- **May 9, 2012**
Public opening for participatory process "Masterplan Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel"
- **June 14/15 2012**
Conference defining a vision for Masterplan Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel
- **June-August 2012**
3 working group meetings of different thematic fields for Masterplan Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel
- **August 30, 2012**

- Feedback conference Masterplan Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel
- **August 31- September 2, 2012**
Presentation of programs and guides at “TourNatur” (Germany’s only public trade fair focusing on hiking and nature)

3. Partners’ contributions

- **March 3, 2012**
World tour-guide day with special guided tours in Gerolstein
- **April 2012**
Publication on Maars of the west-, east- and Hocheifel by Maarmuseum Manderscheid
- **May 05, 2012**
Opening “Window into the Earth” at Mosenberg Crater, outdoor classroom
- **May - June, 2012**
International Museum Day at Museum of Natural History Gerolstein and Eifel-Vulkanmuseum Daun with special guided tours
- **June 8-10, 2012**
“Day of biodiversity” with guided tours and special kids’ programs at the NaturErlebnisZentrum Vulkaneifel
- Continuing work in the approved Euregio Maas-Rhine INTERREG IV A project: NEEGAN – Development of exclusive nature experience programs. Cooperation project with partners from Northern Rhine Westfalia and Belgium
- Continuing work in the qualification program for Nature and Geopark Guides with a group of 22 people (academics and advanced amateurs).
- Continuing work in the approved LEADER-project: “Development of sustainable geotourism in Vulkaneifel”
- Reading Book “On the road in the Eifel”, Springer Spektrum Series
- Bergheim TV (regional TV program) on Vulkaneifel
- Scientific article: Der Vulkankomplex Rockeskyller Kopf im nationalen Geopark Vulkanland Eifel – Brennpunkt vulkanologischer Forschung und geotouristischer Inwertsetzung. Bitschene, P et.al., 2012

4. Evaluation

- **June 1, 2012** Inspection of Natur- und Geopark Vulkaneifel by Regional Nature Conservation Agency
- **June 18.-21. 2012** EGN/GGN-revalidation of Roca di Cerre Geopark by Andreas Schüller and Nick Powe
- **August 31-September 03 2012** EGN/GGN-revalidation of Lesvos Petrified Forest by Andreas Schüller and Guy Martini

5. Press/Media

- Weekly publications of guided tours and activities in local bulletins of the municipalities
- Biannual paper version calendar of events
- Documentation of Geopark activities in local bulletins of the municipalities

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