

EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK



Geopark Progress Reports

September 2011- March 2012

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No report from:

Muskau Arch – GERMANY/POLAND; North West Highlands – SCOTLAND UK;
Réserve Géologique de Haute - Provence – FRANCE, and Vikos – Aios
Geopark - GREECE .

Environmental Education Activities

1. ABGeopark joined the “Unesco Week of Education to Sustainable Development 2011” under the auspices of the Italian National Commission of Unesco from 7th to 13th of November, dedicated to water;
 2. Realization of a new project “Geolaboratory”, where the children of primary school get to know the geology of Dolomites through fretwork and excursion;
 3. Project for secondary school (1st degree) “The Geology of the Park” about the Park’s geology and rocks’ classification (11 classes joining);
 4. Implementation of the project for kindergarten about “Earth and the Geopark”;
 5. Planning of a new project about “Geopark and Brenta Dolomites Unesco” for the secondary school;
 6. Lessons at University of the Third Age about “Presentation of the ABGeopark and the EGN”, “Water and landscape of the ABGeopark” and “Valleys of ABG” (7 Universities joining);
 7. Realization of a new project about the “Education to the landscape”;
 8. Second phase of an international environmental education project financed by the Autonomous Province of Trento “Twinning through the Alps”, with the organization and coordination of activities in Slovenia by the ABGeopark;
 9. Presentation of the Geopark to the school Institute of Crema (city in north Italy) and realization of activities of geo-orienteeing;
 10. Awarding of the prize for the school competition “Who are the Dolomites of?” organized by the Italian Association of Geography teachers: from 23rd to 25th of September a school class from Cagliari (Sardinia) was hosted in the headquarters of Mavignola and discovered the ABGeopark and its geology;
 11. Promotion of the educational programs about geology, geoconservation and environmental themes in all the schools of the Park for the school year 2011-12 (260 schools);
 12. Realization of a training course for the environmental educators of the two Nature Park in Trentino (Paneveggio-Pale di San Martino and Adamello Brenta) about the European Geoparks and the Dolomites WHS, with the collaboration of the Autonomous Province of Trento and the Science Museum;
 13. Training of the Park environmental educators from 5th to 11st September with the participation to the congress “Climatica...mente cambiando” (climate change) organized by the Trento Province;
 14. Carrying on of annual exchange between environmental educators of Adamello Brenta, Beigua Geopark, Adamello Lombardo Regional Park, Abruzzo National Park and Stelvio National Park this year in Adamello Lombardo Regional Park;
 15. Planning of an inter-religious and intercultural project through Europe with the mountains as connection, financed by the Trento Province;
- Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark**
16. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism office, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that will take place during the summer;

17. Realization of new maps of geo-cultural turistic trails in all the 12 municipalities of Rendena valley, the most touristic valley of the Geopark;
18. Realization of the calendar-book for 2012, where two months are dedicated to the EGN and Geoparks (1500 copies);
19. Realization of a new promotional video, with wonderful views from the helicopter of the Adamello and Brenta groups;
20. Participation to several national fairs about sustainable tourism as “Sana” in Bologna, “Ecofiera” in Tione, “Fà la cosa giusta” in Trento, “Expo school” in Padova and “Bit” in Milano;
21. Co-participation in the publishing of the book “History of the Alpine Guides of Rendena Valley”;
22. Realization of a new geogadget;
23. Publication of several articles about ABGeopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers / magazines;
24. Several presence in local program television, talking also about Geopark and EGN;

Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development of the Geopark

25. Joining to the “Dolomiti – Dolomiten – Dolomites – Dolomitis UNESCO” Foundation as Supporter;
26. Planning of the innovative “Landscape Plan”, part of the new “Park Plan”;
27. Final forum of the participatory path for the revalidation of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism and the new Socio-economic Plan with the involvement of more than 300 Stakeholders;
28. Convention with Roma University “La Sapienza” for stages and trainings;
29. Prize for the graduation and doctoral thesis related to the Adamello Brenta Nature Park and Geopark (69 thesis about geology, geomorphology, fauna, flora, environmental education, sustainable development and culture in the ABGeopark);
30. Attendance at the congress “Who are the Alps of?” in Agordo from 22nd to 24th September;
31. Nomination for the “Umweltpreis” Environment Award Euregio, competition about the environment and sustainability for Tirol, Alto Adige and Trentino. The aim is to sensitize and motivate to an active environmental protection and to promote innovation in the environmental sector.

Activities regarding the European Geoparks Network

32. Participation in the 28th EGN Meeting in Gea Norvegica Geopark (Norway) in September 2011;
33. Participation in the 10th Conference of European Geoparks with two presentations about the Quality Park project in the schools and for the agro-alimentary sector;
34. Participation in the fair “Expo Dolomiti Unesco” on behalf of the Italian Geoparks from 30th September to 2nd October;
35. Organization and participation in the autumn meeting of the Geopark committee inside the ABGeopark;
36. Participation to the 3rd Italian Geoparks Forum in January 2012 in Rome;
37. Participation to the application of the GeoBase project as associated partner financed by European Programme with the involvement of a local School Institute.

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Geopark activities

1. Meeting and guided visit of the Geopark with photographers and journalists from Russian National Geographic Magazine (October 2011)
2. “Travelling likes experiences” Fair in La Spezia (Italy), presentation of Apuan Alps Geopark (October 2011)
3. Presentation of Apuan Alps Geopark to a Norway delegation from Midt-Gudbrandsdal Næringsforening, regional companies and trade representatives (October 2011)
4. Press conference about the acknowledgment of Apuan Alps Geopark with regional and national press, tv and radio (October 2011)
5. Report on Apuan Alps Geopark in a series of conferences organized by the National Council of Research of Italy (October 2011)
6. Programme of educational activities for primary and secondary school (2011-2012 school year)
7. Updating and reprinting of brochure “Apuan Alps, a world to get to know” in Italian and English
8. Presentation of Apuan Alps Geopark to secondary school in Massa and collaboration for the article about the Geopark in the school magazine
9. Calendar 2012 with geological geosites of the Geopark
10. “Conservation and enhancing of apuan wetlands” project, with brochures, equipped paths and an application, freely downloadable from iTunes, that is a commented and illustrated guide to 130 plants of the Geopark’s wetlands developed jointly by the Apuan Alps Geopark and KeyToNature
11. Monitoring of mouflons’ population living in the Geopark
12. Management plan of ungulates living in the Geopark
13. Raptor migration monitoring campaign in the southern sector of Apuan Alps Geopark
14. Membership to National Park of Peace of Sant’Anna di Stazzema

Networking

1. Article about Apuan Alps Geopark in the “Italian Geoparks Book”
2. Article “The Apuan Alps opens a window on geodiversity”, EGN Magazine n. 9
3. Report “Enhancing geological heritage: the experience of the Nature Park of the Apuan Alps (Italy)”, First international conference on African and Arabian Geoparks, African Geoparks Network and African association of women in geosciences in collaboration with Unesco Cairo Office, El Jadida, (November, 2011)
4. Attendance at the 3rd Italian Geoparks Forum in Rome (February, 2012)
5. Attendance at Mediterre 2012, Fair about conservation and enhancing of Parks, green economy and environmental protection, Bari (February, 2012)
6. Contribution to Apuan Alps Geopark pages in Italian geoparks website

7. Contribution to Apuan Alps Geopark pages in ISPRA (Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research) website
8. Contribution to Apuan Alps Geopark ID card in www.unesco.org
9. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark web-site (www.apuanegeopark.it)
10. Contribution to Apuan Alps Geopark pages in www.europeangeoparks.org

Activity by Partners

1. Project in collaboration with National Council of Research of Italy: “Geological and structural studies on the provenance of the erratic blocks in the Vagli area (Apuan Alps Geopark)”
2. Updating of mountain paths with the collaboration of Italian Alpine Club for the publication of the Geopark’s geoturistic map

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Territorial Research, Protection and Management

1. Technical monitoring of the requalification works on the Environmental Interpretative Centre *Rocks that Give Birth*, located in Castanheira village;
2. Certification of establishments, businesses and touristic activities and products with the *Arouca Geopark* label – December 13.

Exhibitions and Events

3. Collaboration on the organization and promotion of *Feira das Colheitas (Harvest Fair)* – from 22 to 25 September;
4. Planning, organization and disclosure of the of the International Congress of Geotourism, held in Arouca, from 9 to 13 November;
5. Participation of the Executive Coordinator A. Duarte on the cycle of conferences about *New and old ways of living in the countryside*, through an oral communication at the *Retiro da Fraguinha*, S. Pedro do Sul – October, the venue was attended by 30 people;
6. Presence of the *Arouca Geopark* on the 2nd meeting of the *Guide of the Portuguese Geological and mines Sites* in Aljustrel – October 6;
7. Participation in the 2nd *Art'Ambiente Conference – Environmental Education Contribution for Sustainability* through the oral communication *Antecedence in the Arouca Geopark: The Exhibition Biodiversity in the Paleozoic* – November 4;
8. Co-organization on the *Education in Museums Symposium, Contributions of the Arouca Municipal Museum for the Educational Programmes of the Arouca Geopark* by the geologist Alexandra Paz – November 25, the venue was attended by 70 people;
9. Mascots of the *Arouca Geopark* entertained the 1st International Congress of Food and Wine at Exponor (Oporto city) - November 26, the venue was attended by 300 people;
10. Organization and promotion of the exhibition *Told Stories, Preserved Memories: The Tungsten* at the Municipal Museum of Arouca – from 11 February to 25 March;
11. Display of regional and conventual sweets during the press conference of the Gastronomic Weeks touristic regional event, the venue was attended by 100 people;

Educational activities

12. A total of 1648 students and 105 teachers from various districts of Portugal visited the *Arouca Geopark* territory, total of 33 guided visits – from September to February;
13. Organization and dissemination of the school contest *How to improve environmental quality in my community?* in partnership with the National Commission of UNESCO

Scientific activities

14. Presentation of 3 oral communications on the 10th European Conference on Geoparks, Norway – September;
15. Presentation of the Master Thesis in Earth Sciences *The Role of the Arouca Geopark in Science Education: An Investigation with Secondary Students under Geology* by Carlos Tomaz, Coimbra – September 23;
16. Release of 7 articles for the International Congress of Geotourism - AROUCA 2011 – from 9 to 13 November;
17. Promotion of the astronomy initiative *ABC of the Sky* at the Municipal Library of Arouca, the venue was attended by 10 people – 3 and 4 December;
18. For the 3rd consecutive year, AGA has applied for the 8th edition of the *Junior University Programme*, through the activity: *Discovering the Arouca Geopark at FCUP*– January;
19. Release of the 1st Circular related to the 11th European Geoparks Conference, to be held in Arouca – February;

Touristic Activities

20. Participation in the 15th edition of the INTUR – International Fair of the Inland Tourism in Valladolid, Spain – from 24 to 27 November;
21. Application for the tourism awards 2011 (Harvest Fair and the International Congress of Geotourism - AROUCA 2011 and the geotourism services);

22. Presence of the *Arouca Geopark* at BTL (International Tourism Exhibition) in Lisbon, with own stand, entertainment, promotion of the EGN Network and presentation of the 11th European Conference on Geoparks – from 29 February to 4 March;
23. Organization and planning of the *Arouca Geopark* participation at ITB (International Tourism Business) in Berlin – from 7 to 11 March;
24. Ceremony to certificate 17 employees of tourism sector, which attended the *Cycle training for employees of tourism and leisure sector* – December 9;
25. 2711 people visited the tourism office of Arouca –from September '11 to February '12;
26. Accompaniment of 23 geotouristic visits, attended by 568 people – Sep'11 to Feb'12;

Promotion

27. *Arouca Geopark – A destination not to miss* was the title of the news published by the *Jornal de Notícias* (a newspaper of national circulation) November;
28. *Arouca Geopark – A territory to discover* was the title of the report published by the *Jornal de Notícias* (a newspaper of national circulation) – December;
29. Monthly publication of the *Arouca Geopark* newsletter – from September to February;
30. Participation in an interview of *Porto Alive* programme of *Porto TV* channel – October;
31. *UNESCO's Geoparks "Clarify" Geotourism*, published on the National Geographic site
32. *Geotourism: Arouca receives an International Congress to reflect on this increasing industry* was the news spread by National Agency for Communication – Nov.
33. *International Congress of Geotourism in Arouca*, interviews in the *Bom Dia Portugal* and *Portugal em Directo* programme from the RTP1 (national TV channel) – November;
34. Participation of the Scientific Coordinator Artur Sá in the *Portugal em Directo* programme of the Antena1 (national radio channel) – November;
35. Participation of Jonathan Tourtellot in the *Última Hora* programme of the TSF (national radio channel) – November;
36. Participation in the *Porto Alive* programme of Porto Canal TV channel – December;
37. Disclosure of about 160 news in the local, regional and national media and on multiple digital platforms – from September to February;

Projects / partnerships

38. Implementation of 17 information sessions/training courses about the *Arouca Geopark* for students of the Senior Academy of Arouca realized by the technical team of AGA
39. Agreement between the Geopark of Luberon and the *Arouca Geopark* LEADER project: *Geotourism for sustainable development* – February;
40. Agreement between AGA, ADRIMAG, Arouca Council and the ISCET for the development and implementation of the project *Routes of Tungsten in Europe – Men's Memories and Industrial Heritage*;

EGN Participation

41. Participation at the 28th CC EGN and 10th European Conference on Geoparks in Norway – from 12 to 19 September;
42. Organization and dissemination of the 11th European Conference on Geoparks – from November to February;

Management Structure

43. Elaboration and approval of the Business Plan and Budget for 2012;
 44. Quality Certification of AGA - Arouca Geopark Association, according to the ISO 9001:2008, under The management of the Classified Area: *Arouca Geopark* – February;
 45. Certification of establishments, businesses and touristic activities and products with the *Arouca Geopark* Quality label – January;
 46. Admission of new members to the AGA (two restaurants);
 47. Recruitment of a tourism technician to the AGA team – January 3;
 48. Integration of two trainees to the AGA team, one from biology and the other one from tourism area;
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Geopark activities

1. Creation of the Strategic Plan for the geopark.
2. “*Experiencia pequeños pastores*” [“Small shepherds experience”], fortnightly activity (February 2012-October 2012), aimed at teaching children about rural life in the Geopark (Lastur-Deba).
3. Guided geological boat trip with researchers from the University of the Basque Country (UPV-EHU), Estibalitz Apellaniz and Juan Ignacio Baceta. November 2011.
4. Over 200 scheduled geotourism guided tours within the geopark in 2011.
5. A fossil workshop for blind people organised by Xabier Murelaga and the “Nautilus” Museum in Mutriku in collaboration with the UPV-EHU Science Week.
6. Collaboration in the Entrepreneurship in Rural Areas Conference. Talk: Geotourism, promoting new business opportunities and local development. Itsasmendikoi-Basque Government. Zumaia, December 2011.
7. Preparation of material on the geopark for UNESCO in PDF format (Geopark ID) and the following website (<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/geoparks/members/spain/basque-coast-geopark/>)
8. Noteworthy mention of the geopark in the UNESCO publication, “Tales Set in Stone. 40 Years of the International Geosciences Programme”. February 2012.
9. Article for the “EGN Magazine” N° 9.
10. Video to present the geopark for the TVPI (Local TV, Côte Basque and South Landes, France). September 2011.
11. News items on the geopark in the local press (Diario Vasco, Noticias de Gipuzkoa, Gara, etc.)
12. Article on the geopark for the “Bizkaia Maitea” magazine. February 2012.
13. Various articles for the Diario de Teruel (Maestrazgo Geopark Corner).
14. Article in the geotourism magazine, “GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites” (Romania). October 2011.
15. Application for the registration of the “*Ruta del Karst*” [“Karst Route”] and “*Geoparkea; Geoparque de la Costa Vasca*” [“Geoparkea; Basque Coast Geopark”] trademarks in the Spanish national trademark register.
16. On-site promotion of the geopark at the EXPONATUR Tourism Fair (Bizkaia, November 2011) and at the FITUR International Tourism Fair (Madrid, January 2012).
17. Preparation of the contents for the geopark’s website www.geoparkea.com providing information on educational activities, gastronomy, festivals and traditions linked to the geopark.
18. Meetings and presentations to introduce the geopark to the new government teams and local authority employees.

Networking

1. Setting up of the Spanish Geopark Forum. December 2011.
2. Participation in the *Geoempleo* [Geo-employment] project with other geoparks in Spain.
3. Oral presentations at the 10th European Geoparks Conference in Norway. September 2011.
 - a. Promoting social values: a strategic tool for geoparks (Beatriz Fernández)
 - b. Millstones and restoring heritage in the Basque Coast Geopark (Joan Poch).
 - c. New geopark, new website: objectives and challenges (Jon Paul Lordés).
4. Oral presentation, "Ten years of geotourism in the Basque Coast Geopark" at the Geotourism in Action International Congress. Arouca Geopark, Portugal. November 2011.
5. Presentation of the project and visit to the geopark by the European ERNEST (European Research Network on Sustainable Tourism) project working group. November 2011.
6. 7th Debabarrena Tourism Conference: The value of the CULTURAL HERITAGE and its function in the socio-economic development of a tourist destination. November 2012.

Activity by Partners

1. Promotional video of the Coastal Flysch Route on TV-EUSKADI, Basque Government. January 2012. <http://www.tveuskadi.net/32188/la-ruta-del-flysch>
2. Presentation of the trace fossil discovered in Zumaia by J.C. Gutiérrez at the Algorri Interpretation Centre. Zumaia. November 2011.
3. Article on the Zumaia coastal flysch in National Geographic Magazine. January 2012.
4. First prize in the "1st FECYT SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION COMPETITION" in the written press category to the press article on the Zumaia outcrop and K-T boundary: "The Basque beach where you can touch the meteorite that killed the dinosaurs". Diario El Mundo. Author: Pedro Cáceres. October 2011.
5. The Basque Government awarded the 'Lan Onari' prize to the Director General of the Regional Development Agency (Debegesa), Juan Ángel Balbás. October 2011.

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Geopark activities

1. Meetings of the geopark steering committee. October 2011
2. Updating of the web site with dedicated pages to geopark. October 2011
3. Publication of a special geopark issue of the « Echo des Bauges” journal (edited by the park). October 2011
4. 1st public lecture. Core of the Massif. Le Châtelard. « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” November 2011
5. Consulting for the geopark national communication. Bauges Massif : a geotourism destination. November 2011.
6. 2012 preliminary budget. November 2011
7. Starting of the study on the reintroduction of ibex. November 2011.
8. Participation of the first meeting of African and Arabic geoparks. El Jadida, Morocco 20th to 22th november.
9. Institutional inauguration of the geopark, the 26th of November with the GGN network (Guy Martini). November 2011.
10. Revision and expansion of the scientific committee. December 2011.
11. Collaboration with Altaï republic: introduction of the geopark concept. December 2011.
12. Starting of a study on the touristy positioning of the Bauges massif. December 2011.
13. Improvement of the geological thema in the interpretation centre « Fauna and Flora House ». December 2011.
14. 2nd public lecture Faverges the 9th of january. « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” January 2012.
15. Lecture to the Region, the main financial support. « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” January 2012.
16. 3rd public lecture Montmélian the 9th of February « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” February 2012.
17. 4th public lecture. Les Aillons the 24th of february. « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” February 2012.
18. Starting of an educational booklet on the Massif des Bauges geology for 2nd and 3rd year of secondary school. February 2012.
19. 5th public lecture Mercury the 5th of march. « What ‘s a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.” March 2012.

20. 6th public lecture Annecy the 22th of March. The karstic networks of the Massif des Bauges geopark. March 2012.
21. 7th public lecture Cusy the 27th of March. « What 's a geopark ? Geological heritage of the Bauges Massif.» March 2012.
22. Promotion of the Massif des Bauges geopark in many different medias: radio, local television, presse...
23. 2012 agreement for research activities with the Savoie University : Dye tracing tests, monitoring of karstic outlets, karstic network exploration, geology.

Networking

24. Writing of the identity card of the Massif des Bauges geopark for the GGN network.
25. Writing of the identity card of the Massif des Bauges geopark for the EGN network
26. Writing of an article for the EGN Magazine (title : Massif des Bauges Geopark: the northern French Alps is home to France's third Geopark)
27. Discussion on the Park and Geopark marks with the Luberon geopark.
28. Participation to the meeting of the 40th birthday of the IGCP program (a Unesco program)
29. Participation to the EGN committee meeting. Portugal. 7th to 11th March.

Activity by partners

30. Integration of the geopark concept in the cultural project of the core of the Massif. October 2011.
31. Support to the scientific mediation of Seythenex cave and waterfalls.
32. Agreement with the thermal spa of Challes-les-Eaux. January 2012.
33. Agreement with the departmental committees (Savoie and Haute Savoie) of speleology. March 2012.
34. Installation of monitoring of the Prerouge karstic outlet. Savoie University. March 2012.

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During the last six months Beigua Geopark worked to improve the geological heritage conservation and the promotional activities within the frame of the wider and more complex strategy of conservation of the natural and historical-cultural heritage that the protected areas has.

A sample of some of the most important initiatives and achievements is outlined briefly below:

EGN – GGN activities

1. Attendance at the 28th EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Gea Norvegica Geopark (Norway) on September 13th – 15th 2011
2. Attendance at the 10th European Geoparks Conference in Gea Norvegica Geopark (Norway) on September 16th – 18th 2011
3. Contacting the Italian Delegation for UNESCO in Paris about the UNESCO 36th General Conference (October - November 2011)
4. Acting as Coordinator (Maurizio Burlando) of the National Forum of Italian Geoparks
5. Organization of the 3rd National Forum of Italian Geoparks in Rome 2nd February 2012
6. Submission of the Activity Progress Report September 2011 – February 2012 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 29th EGN CC Meeting in in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (Spain)
7. Submission of the contribution in order to produce the 2011 EGN Annual Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 29th EGN CC Meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (Spain)
8. Preparation of the 29th EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (Spain) on March 7th – 9th 2012

Geopark events and progress

9. Attendance at the Session “Geoparks, geotourism and sustainable development” on 23rd Sept 2011 at FIST Geotalia 19th – 23rd September 2011 (oral presentation and poster)
10. Attendance of the 1st Dolomiti UNESCO EXPO in Longarone (BL) - 30th September – 2nd October 2011 (with the organization and participation of all the Italian Geoparks)
11. Monitoring visitors attendance along the trails network of Beigua Geopark
12. Working on the geo-archeological inventory of rupestrian inscriptions in the Beigua Geopark area
13. Working about the project (given to the Beigua Geopark by the Liguria Regional Administration) of inventorying the Geosites of the whole Liguria Region territory
14. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Autumn 2011 and Winter 2012

15. Organization of educational activities in the frame of the 9th Science Festival – Genoa 21st October - 2nd November 2011
16. Educational programs for schools about geology and geoconservation in Beigua Geopark. But not only about geology; others educational programs have been realized in Beigua Geopark during Autumn 2011 and Winter 2012
17. Two new issues of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in October 2011 (Autumn) and January 2012 (Winter). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, EGN and GGN, etc. (http://www.parcobeigua.it/gui_dettaglio.php?id_pubb=3881)
18. A new electronic monthly newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site) has been launched in November 2011. It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (<http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews>)
19. Attendance at the workshop “GeoMed: comparing geology, environment and culture in Mediterrean area” (with the attendance of the Greek, Spanish and Italian National Geoparks Fora), Bari 1st February 2012
20. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews
21. Publication of a new tourism guide about Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark (in Italian and in English), February 2012

Activities by others Organizations

22. Field works and researches in Beigua Geopark leded by the Environment and Earth Sciences Department of the University of Genoa in October – December 2011
23. Field trips and sports activities by local organizations (CAI, FIE, UISP, Canyoning Ass., etc)
24. Geotourism activities and guided visits leded by the “Geotourism Association”.

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1. October 2011

- Annual Conference of the German Naturepark Association
- Opening of new Mountain Bike trail Abtsteinach, Birkenau, Heppenheim
- Opening of Geopark infocenter with regional shop, Erbach
- Opening of visitor centre at Geopark entrance gate Buchen showcave

2. November 2011

- Presentation of new brochure “hiking maps”
- Opening of several Geopoints (stone circle, ...)
- Contributions to several publications like “Geomuseums in the State of Hesse”, and hiking books
- Participation with a presentation in a National Workshop on Quality Management in Regional Development (organized by LEADER LAGs)
- Workshop with the Federal Agency for Nature Protection about public participation in protection programs
- Presentation of the GGN approach and its regional application in the context of sustainable tourism on a workshop “dialogue in the region”

3. December 2011

- Opening of Geopark trail “Nibelungen” in cooperation with local school
- Regional network meeting of Geopark infocentres and entrance gates
- Training for Geopark-on-site-guides
- First meeting with representatives of the “children university” in Darmstadt in order to develop a partnership
- Workshop with geography students from Frankfurt University on professional opportunities for geographers
- Development of a new curriculum for a vocational tour guide training “the Roman period in the Geopark region” in partnership with the archaeological authority and the regional tourism agency

4. January 2012

- Presentation of new brochure “Infocentres, Entrance gates and Environmental education centres”
- Training and certificates for Geopark-on-site guides
- Network meeting of Geopark rangers
- Publication of actual Geopark magazine
- Workshop with the local authorities of Obernburg and Wörth for the development of the new Geopark entrance gate with LEADER funding

5. February 2012

- Training and fieldtrips for Geopark-on-site guides
- Preparation of the International Forest Art catalogue “The poetic forest of Mt. Lushan” in cooperation with the International Forest Art Association and the Global Geopark Mt. Lushan
- Multivision show “The wild forests of Europe” in cooperation with Greenpeace
- Workshop on landscape management through cooperation of local farmers with the Geopark

6. March 2012

- Conception of new project with a local beemaster “Retaste Nature of the Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald”
- Participation of the annual meeting of German parliament members in the Hessian Federal Government Representation in Berlin together with the Global/European and National Geoparks of Germany
- First partnership meeting with a regional initiative for the protection and development of traditional fruit tree species and fruit orchards, development of a plan for joint activities

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1. Contribution towards the work of the Network

- Participation of two representatives at the EGN CC meeting in Gea Norvegica
- Active participation in the EGN AC (presenting, charring, membership in Scientific Committee)
- The evaluation EGN mission in the candidate National geopark in Železné hory (Czech Republic)

2. Science and surveying

- Completion of the science research project of Bohemian Paradise Geopark – creation of geo-information system for regional development and protection of geological heritage SP/2e6/97/08, geological maps in 1: 25 000 scale, 5 sheets
- 2nd open Congress of Czech Geological Society and Slovak Geological Society 2011, Molíneč 21st – 29th September, Czech Geological Society (lecture on geoparks)
- International Conference „Challenges and threats of ecotourism and geotourism for biodiversity and geodiversity conservation“, Geopark Vysočina, Telč, October 5th – an active organization and participation (presenting, charring, membership in Scientific Committee)
- „Geology for the region“. Turnov, January 27th. 2012, 27 speakers and 104 participants (mayors, staff of regional governemant, Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Regional Development and Conservation Community). Topics: Geopark in the light of professional conservation: Bohemian Paradise Paradise of volcanoes, Geological heritage significance for the Bohemian Paradise Geopark, Paleozoic Petrified wood, Water and hydrogeological conditions, Possibilities of using geothermal energy in the region, Risk of landslides, Maps of exo-dynamic analysis, The uniqueness of mineral wealth in the Geopark, geo-information system and its use in practice, Documentation and care of monuments in the region, Skin of the Earth on which we step – Quaternary, Archaeology in the Bohemian Paradise Geopark, Caring for the landscape, Geopark for the development of the region, Geoturismus and its potential in the tourism market.

3. Management structure, personnel status and facilities

In August, new manager joined the geopark staff

4. Conservation (geoconservation)

Maintenance of geotrails and information repair system

5. Marketing and promotional activities

- Workshops, films and excursions, attended by more than 358 pupils and students from Latvia, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Belgium and France..
- 2 press conferences about the activity of geopark
- 7 television programs on Czech television 1 and and 8 broadcast on the radio about geopark
- Nová Paka - a new permanent exhibition in area of about 50 m² with 20 new pieces exhibition showcases. Exhibition to familiarize with the geology and exceptional locations of Bohemian Paradise Geopark and focused on volcanism, mineralogy and, paleontology.
- Geopark presented in GO and REGIONTOUR – the Central European tourism trade fair. Promotion of the EGN and BPG for the tourism fair in Brno during the European geoparks' week attended by more than 15 thousand visitors btwn 12th – 15th January 2012

- Planet Earth powerful and vulnerable, Dolánky (September 1st – November 11th)
 - Charles IV. and precious stones Nejdeč, Geopark Egeria (June 14th- 15th October)
 - Say it by jewel, Turnov (July 1th –September 30th)
 - Mr. Petr Modlitba – Pictures of paleontological reconstruction (June 14th. – September 1th)
 - Bruntál - Svět Českého granátu (November 24th.2011- January 15th 2012)
 - Permanent exhibition “ Sandstones”- opening ceremony on Semily square (April, 1st 2011)
 - Traces in stones – the exhibition about ichnofossils (February – April 2012)
 - Exhibitions: total attendance 18. 756 persons (September 2011 – February 2012)
 - 3 new books about geopark:
 1. Prostředník, J., Šída, P. and Drnovský, V.: Praveká těžba v Jizerských horách.(Prehistoric mining in Jizerské hory Mountains. The story of stone axes). 55.pp, ISBN 978-80-87416-06-8
 2. Řídkošil et al.: Geopark Český ráj. 120pp, ISBN 978-80-260-1230-6
 3. Řídkošil et al: Bohemian Paradise Geopark.120pp, ISBN 978-80-254-8124-0
 - Mode show (2nd June)
 - Jewellery symposium June (31st – July, 14th)
 - Children's Camps "Journey to the Beginning" with lectures on geology, palaeontology, and volcanism, regional geo-sites visits (August 2011).
 - An English course on Geotourism and Ecotourism at Jihlava University
 - National Geoparks Committee meeting – informing and promoting the EGN activities (3rd – 4th November)
 - Building new tourist information center in Nová Paka, equipped with software application traffic monitoring system and use of official tourist information centers in the framework of the Integrated Operational Programme of marketing tourism activities, in front of building was information kiosk widescreen LCD monitor with a touch screen located in the interior of the PC assembly.
 - 47 geotourism actions for 372 persons from 15 European countries
- 6. Educational activities**
- Zelenka, Josef et alii: Geoturismus. Textbook for Geo-guides. Bohemian Paradise Geopark, ISBN 978-80-254-8875-1.
 - Short course for geo-guides, education for geopark (training) and second geoguides candidates examination
 - 38 lectures for school children, students and public
 - 3 theses completed (1 bachelors, 2 thesis) on the geopark topics

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Environmental Education:

1. **Geo-Schools:** 680 kids visited the “House of the Volcanoes” in the program “Learning to Read the Stones” from September to March.
2. **“Travelling school”:** up to 500 kids from all Andalusia came to visit the Natural Park and Geopark.
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 attended to national, EU and outside EU universities in their field trips and research projects.

Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark:

7. **Andalusia’s Natural Protected Areas Network and GEOBIO Newsletter.** Andalusia’s newsletters dedicated to geodiversity, biodiversity and Geoparks.
8. **Reserve of the Biosphere Educational Program:** this program has been supervised by the Geopark and has reached more than 613 local inhabitants.
9. **Filming:** The Geopark manages all the permits to conduct filming in the area and also the Geopark staff was interviewed for the Andalusia’s public TV.
10. **Events:** numerous exhibitions.

Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark:

11. **Educational Program of Cabo de Gata-Níjar Biosphere Reserve.** The Geopark gives a great deal in the development of this project.
12. **REDIAM:** Andalusia Environmental Information Network allows to reach environmental information regarding the Geopark.
13. **Flora and Fauna management program.** Investigation, census and management of terrestrial and marine flora and fauna.
14. **“El Albardinal” Botanic Conservation Programme:** On-going project that updates the threatened flora data base and collect seeds for the flora nursery.
15. **ECST.** The ECST and the Geopark strengthen its collaboration and contact with the enterprises.
16. **CAMP.** The Coastal Areas Management Project develops its work and courses with the Geopark territorio as its main target.

17. **Developing of a Georute:** with the new geological interpretation panels an online route is being developed.

Activities related with the European Geoparks Network:

18. **Attendance to 28th EGN Coordination Committee and Conference in Gea Norvegica.**
19. **Geoparks management course in Subbeticas:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark showed EGN role and the example of Andalusian Geoparks.
20. **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.
21. **UNESCO Id card:** reviewing of the information in UNESCO id card website regarding Geoparks.
22. **Participation in “Earth project prevention and preparedness call 2011”:** this project guided by Petrified Forest of Lesbos Geopark was rejected and it is preparing the application for the next call.
23. **EGN magazine 9:** article related to the Geoemployment project
24. **Geoemployment project:** along with the spanish geoparks and several partners, this project works toward a strategy to use geodiversity as a source of employment.
25. **Andalusian Geoparks coordination.** Coordination work with Subbeticas Geopark and Sierra Norte Geopark.
26. **Spanish Geoparks Forum.** The forum was officially established in December 2011. Attendance of the Spanish forum to the meeting held in Bari
27. **EGN Corner:** reviewing of the EGN corner.
28. **Collaboration with the Economic Benefits from Geoparks working group.**
29. **Collaboration with Maestrazgo Geopark:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark is collaborating with Maestrazgo’s EGN corner of the “Diario de Teruel” newspaper.

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This report describes the relevant activities developed by Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark Association, from October 2011 to February 2012, towards the development and promotion of Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark and the European and Global Geopark Networks/UNESCO.

Territorial Research, Protection and Management

1. The website www.fdchelmos.gr launches.
2. Inventory of abandoned mines on their ability to benefit.
3. Meeting in Western Greece (Patras), on the consultation process of the Water Resources Management Plan in Northern Peloponnese aiming to protect and manage water, improve the quality of the aquatic environment, pollution of aquatic ecosystems and ensure sustainable use water and taking specific measures to ensure continuous monitoring of water quality parameters and quantitative water status.

Educational activities

4. Guided visit of Serbian delegation in the Geopark to update their protection and management of their areas.
5. International Seminar - Workshop on "Biodiversity programs eTwinning» implemented successfully at Kleitoria Environmental Educational Center, aimed at developing the European dimension of biodiversity.

Scientific Activities

6. Completed research and study of population and behavioral ecology of species *Ichthyosaura alpestris* and *Lissotriton vulgaris* in a seasonal swamp at Chelmos Mountain.
7. On 5-7 October the Chelmos Vouraikos Geopark became the focus of global interest, as the town of Kalavryta was held the 9th International Hydrogeological Conference, emphasizing on management of the aquatic environment.

Projects / partnerships

8. The second meeting of the Tourism Development and Promotion of the Municipality of Kalavryta took place and it is decided to strengthen efforts to increase traffic.
9. On February 25th the Chelmos Vouraikos national park is promoted by the show "water fairy tales" from the nationwide state TV channel ET3 and Mrs. Koumoutsou Eleni, Project Coordinator of the Management Body spoke about the promotion and management of the area.

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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Copper Coast Geopark– IRELAND

1. The final events of our Summer/Autumn programme were three guided walks, at Dunhill Castle, Stage Cove and Bunmahon Geological Garden
2. Irish Wild Life Group walked the Copper Coast led by Des Cowman.
3. Geographical Investigations by students from de la Salle School, Waterford (5) and C.B.S., Tipperary (2). Led by Tina Keating.
4. Waterford Institute of Technology – Architectural Masters Degree students. Led by T.K.
5. Visits by a group from Dublin, Led by Bruce MacD. And from The U.S. led by Jim Cullinane.
6. Visit by Canadian Ambassador to Dunhill, with CCG involvement.
7. Coffee Morning talk to local residents on Copper Coast Geopark, GGN and EGN by John Galloway at Dunhill Multi – Education Centre.
8. Copper Coast Geopark Manager attended courses on Health and Safety and Tourism Marketing.
9. C.C.G. showed a movie based on a book by local author Una Troy at the Coffee Morning at Dunhill Multi - Education Centre.
10. 'Culture Night' – 'Stories of the Sea', narrated by local resident Bill Murphy in Copper Coast Geopark Centre.
11. Halloween Children's Party and Pumpkin Carving Competition in the Copper Coast Geopark Centre, run by Paula McCarthy.
12. Annual Christmas Fair in the Copper Coast Geopark Centre over two days – fund-raising plus an opportunity for local connection.
13. Participation in two InterReg projects – IVA (Metal Links) including Partners include Geomon, and IVB (Atlanterra)
14. Copper Coast Calendar published. This year showing pictures of courses run at the centre, field trips and other activities run by CCG.
15. Irish Geoparks Forum took place on the Copper Coast in Dunhill EcoPark
16. Two part-time members of staff engaged under the InterReg IVA, 'Metal Links' project. Coordinator and Administrative Assistant.

17. Work commenced on upgrading our centre which is in a disused church. This has taken up much time and energy. The project is funded by Leader and the work should be completed by late April.

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1. Paignton Geoplay Park – This fantastic community lead project is now nearing completion and will be open ready for the Easter holidays with an official opening event planned for the first day of the Geopark Festival 2012. On site the park is already looking fantastic. Devonian sparkling seas have washed in and trilobites and goniatites are waiting to be ridden. The time travel tunnel through to the Carboniferous is in place and the Variscan Mountains have risen once again in the form of a huge mountain shaped climbing net. In the Permian area giant millipedes have been sculpted around a water feature where the children can recreate the flash flood events and burrow their way through the sandy desert, but are the older children going to be as fit as a caveman when they face the challenges of the quaternary area? In the central picnic area a geological story-telling chair creates a central feature from which stepping stones lead out to the different areas. Various local companies have donated large quantities of Devonian limestone and Permian conglomerate boulders for the landscaping whilst a local stone mason has donated a large piece of cut limestone showing the coral and stromatolite fossils. This project truly highlights the strength of support the Geopark has and what local communities can achieve given the right support. Ultimately this project will make a vast difference to the families of the Geopark and help regenerate this failing seaside town.

2. Kents Cavern Jawbone - A human jawbone, unearthed in Kents Cavern, is between 44,200 and 41,500 years old making it the oldest modern human fossil in north-western Europe and certainly in Britain according to research published in *Nature*, the internationally renowned science magazine. This latest study was carried out by Dr Thomas Higham of the University of Oxford and Professor Chris Stringer of the Natural History Museum in London.

3. Geoquest goes to Unzen – Thanks to UK Arts Council funding the English Riviera will be sharing the fun of Geoquest at the next Global Geoparks conference in Unzen. The Geoquest team will be arriving in Unzen prior to the start of the conference to run some workshops with local community groups to share the English Riviera experience and to develop some new musical pieces inspired by Unzen and the stories of the local people. This will be followed by ad-hoc interactions and performances at the conference itself. The significant achievements of Geoquest in the English Riviera were recognised by the Cultural Olympiad when it was granted use of the prestigious “Inspire” mark.

4. SW UNESCO partnership project - The English Riviera is continuing to work in partnership with other UNESCO designated sites in the south west of the UK, this includes 5 World Heritage Sites and one Biosphere Reserve. The aim of the group’s current project is to raise general awareness of the UNESCO sites offer in the SW of England and encourage sustainable tourism and travel.

5. National Centre scoping project – We have been working with local partners over the last year on an exciting project to create Britain’s first National Centre for the Stone Age at Kents Cavern in the heart of the Geopark. An

international firm of visitor and museum consultants has reported favourably on the viability of the project and we are now pulling together influential partners to secure funds and prepare a concept and design dossier to be presented as a major national level project.

6. Torquay museum - Geopark partner Torquay Museum has a new director in place who is already enthusiastic and fully engaged with the Geopark. The museum will be hosting an e-school session which will connect the English Riviera direct to a classroom in central Hong Kong in May.

7. 55th Palaeontological Association Meeting - As part of their 55th meeting the Palaeontological Association visited both Kents Cavern and Hopes Nose in the Geopark. During the meeting the Chairman of the Geoparks Scientific Panel held discussion with members of staff from the Natural History Museum and discussions regarding a new NHM/Geopark joint venture are underway.

8. Geopark leaflet 2012 -The English Riviera Tourism Company are once again supporting the Geopark with the design and print of a new leaflet for 2012. The leaflet will be widely distributed both locally and regionally.

9. Geopark Fest 2012 – Preparations for the Geopark Festival 2012 are well underway with over 30 fantastic events lined up. The festival launches with a fantastic full day of fun for the official opening of the Paignton Geoplay Park.

10. Hong Kong Global Geopark Launch – Geopark coordinator Melanie Border attended the launch of the Hong Kong Global Geopark in December 2011. Discussions held during the visit have strengthened the sister relationship and have led to e-school concept initiated within the Hong Kong Geopark linking the two Geoparks. Staff from the Hong Kong Geopark will be visiting the English Riviera once again in May 2012.

11. Champion of the Geopark retires - Anyone who visited the Geopark Gateway site at Berry Head will remember the site manager Nigel Smallbones. The Geopark wished him well in his retirement but will miss his extraordinary knowledge of Berry Head, and his ability to communicate that knowledge which is second to none. He has been a wonderful ambassador for the site and for the whole of the English Riviera Geopark. Hopefully he will return on an odd occasion as a volunteer!

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Fforest Fawr Geopark Activities

1. Website. The Geopark website (www.fforestfawrgeopark.org.uk) has been transferred to a new content management system (WordPress). This enables easier editing and the addition of more maps and images. Significant progress has also been made in translating the website into Welsh.

2. Training for businesses. The Geopark organized and delivered a Geopark orientation day for local businesses on 21 September 2011 at the Waterfalls Centre, Pontneddfechan. The Geopark Development Officer (GDO) presented the Geopark's geology and archaeology at training courses for local taxi-drivers on 19 October 2011 and 22 February 2012 in Abergavenny and Brecon respectively.

3. The Brecon Beacons National Park Ambassador Scheme. The GDO delivered a module focused on the Geopark during the course for local businesses on 21 September 2011 and to a meeting of all 86 National Park Ambassadors on 2 February 2012.

4. The Mumbles Probus Club 1 November 2011. A presentation was delivered to approximately 60 members titled: Fforest Fawr Geopark and the Geopark Concept. Probus Clubs are an almost world-wide movement which serve the interests of retired or semi-retired professional or business people.

5. John Muir Trust Southern Annual Meeting, Bristol 12 November 2011. The John Muir Trust is the UK's leading wild land charity. Julian Atkins and the GDO were invited to address the meeting with a view to establishing a future partnership between this organization, the National Park Authority and Fforest Fawr Geopark.

6. Bwa Maen Geosite Project. The design and content of the new interpretive panel for this spectacular geological site involved collaboration between the site owners Forestry Commission Wales, the Countryside Council for Wales responsible for the management of this Special Area of Conservation, the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and the South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group representing climbers, cavers and gorge-walkers.

7. Community Engagement. Fforest Fawr Geopark and the National Trust organized two events at Coelbren, a community on the southern fringe of the Geopark on 5 November 2011 and 4 March 2012. Both events focused on local history, particularly the Roman legacy and that of the Industrial Revolution, with two local tramroads being visited and interpreted. Seventy five members of this vibrant community attended the November meeting.

Educational activities

- 1. Fforest Fawr Geopark Research Seminar 12 October 2011.**
Supported by the British Geological Survey, Forestry Commission Wales and the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, the Seminar titled "*Fforest Fawr – Developing the Geopark's Research Potential*" included nine presentations. The programme of presentations including abstracts is available on www.fforestfawrgeopark.org.uk/geopark-research-seminar-2011-abs
- 2. Presentation of Scientific Knowledge in Geoparks.** In this project, supervised by Professor Susan Baker, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University Yukiko Shibata, an MSc student, will analyse and compare how scientific knowledge is presented, how people receive this, and how people use this in Fforest Fawr Geopark and Muroto Geopark, Japan.
- 3.** The GDO addressed the Annual national conference of Geography Teacher Educators in Swansea on 27 January 2012 and promoted each of the UK's Geoparks as outdoor classrooms for teaching of human and physical geography.

Partner Activities

Partnership Workshops. Workshops were held for members of the Geopark Management Group on the 16 November 2011 and for representatives of Geopark Businesses representatives on 25 January 2012 . The meetings were convened to initiate the development of the Geopark Action Plan for the period 2012-16.

European Geoparks Network Activities

- 1. EGN Committees:** Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Advisory Committee.
- 2. The EGN Magazine.** Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Editorial Board and edits articles for the EGN Magazine.
- 3.** Tony is currently the catalyst for the Tectonic Thematic Group.

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In September we worked 100% with preparing and hosting the EGN Conference.

In October the outdoor season closed in Gea Norvegica Geopark.

1. Current situation.

1. Staff: Four full time positions and one part time position.
2. Our five Geopark committees are working continuously with several topics: Map/GIS, Education, Tourism/Local Enterprise Innovation and Attraction/Development. Each group meets regularly.
3. The Geopark board held three meetings during this period, and the board of representatives held one meeting (twelve politicians representing the Geopark owners).

2. EGN-activities / International networking

1. Two delegates participated in the EGN-meeting in Norway.
2. Hosting the EGN-meeting and 10th EGN Conference in September.
3. Seven delegates from Sichuan-province and Dazhou Geopark in China visited the Geopark. Discussions and changing experiences

3. Geopark events and guided tours

1. Several visits on requests to the Geopark. Mainly Norwegian groups (schools, associations), but also some from abroad.
2. "Cultural evening" for children with different Geopark activities, moulded and painted fossils and growing crystals. All arrangements were free of charge and open to all.

4. Attraction development

1. New Geopark locality with international information panels in Steinvika was official opened during the 10th European Geopark Conference in September. Leaflet about the site in English and Norwegian
2. Simonsodden Geopark site in the famous Fen volcano area was opened this year Collaboration with the local community to develop a Geopark "Park" with information about the geology, history and industry in the town Brevik.
3. A new Geopark book, "Explore Gea Norvegica" in English

5. Education Education -

1. Educational programs for high schools (including a special program for schools "outside" the Geopark).
2. Regular events for schools focused on topics relating geo-diversity and biodiversity.

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1. Our centre, The Watch House in Amlwch Port opened in April and has been very successful with frequent visitors until October, 2011. At that time we decided to close the facility until Easter 2012 as few visitors go to this area in Winter, though this may change once the other port facilities are completed in May, 2012. We do open in the Winter by appointment to groups for guided walks or teaching purposes. During this 'closed period' we have catered for 3 school groups and several smaller University groups.
2. We have continued with our INTERREG project 'Metal Links' together with our lead Partner the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments Wales, and our other Welsh partner Pentir Pumlumon (Mid-Wales Orefield) and our two Irish partners, The Copper Coast Geopark in Waterford and Glendalough in the Wicklow Mountains. We held one all partner meeting in GeoMon and the second one in The Copper Coast. Their outdoor interpretation and signage was impressive. We have 10 volunteers working on this project in Anglesey and they have been doing Genealogical studies and research into miners families and their occupations, deaths, Court cases etc. We are also making interpretive material for the project and working on links between the 4 areas. We meet in early March in Pentir Pumlumon. John Conway gave a paper on our work at the last EGN and their will be an update/discon with our partners at the EGN meetings and conference and a new paper given.
3. In December we were granted Charitable status for the Geopark (in addition to our Co. Ltd b Guarantee that we already have).
4. We have produced a considerable amount of display material, Banners, boards, leaflets, cards etc. The time line in the centre is now completed by Sarah- our Univ. Ph.D. student and is well- liked and a good teaching tool.
5. Our 12 guides have, on average, run geo-walks about fortnightly during all months except Winter time. Maria has just completed an excellent itinerary for 2012 and there are now walks at least weekly in addition to the Geopark Week walks that we do for Charity. Two of our guides have also qualified to take Cruise Liner passengers on bus and walking trips.
6. The County Council has become more involved in our activities and they have provided a grant for 3 years to do various projects that they organise and do all the work except for ideas and geological interpretation. They are currently working on signage (in addition to our brown signs) and creating a 5 mile interpretive trail.
7. The Melange and heritage trail consists of a rock walk, interpretation en route and access to see St Patricks Cave and well. It will involve some of our other partners, Wylfa Power Station, CCW, AONB etc.
8. We have an artist in residence for a year who is a modern artist and print maker and he will be doing interpretive work on Anglesey and Lesvos.
9. We have publicity and marketing help from Michelle Humphries of Wylfa and we are very grateful. Sarah is still working with us but is very busy writing up her Ph.D. at the moment but continues to update our website for us.
10. We are currently arranging a research workshop on current research over the last 20 years on the tectonics of Anglesey. For the past 6 years we have been helping Professor Shigenori Maruyama of Tokyo and his team as well as professor Brian Windley of Leicester who have spent several weeks each year researching in Anglesey. They requested that Prof. Windley and I organise the workshop for all new papers or research to be discussed. The event will take place on 25th-26th July in Amlwch Port. They also asked me to write a paper on Anglesey melange and early life for the Journal of Geography, Japan. This goes to print next week.
11. We have produced numerous publications since the last report.
12. The Young Geology Club has had some very interesting events this year with thanks to Jackie Farrall the organiser and Mike from the Ocean Science Dept, University of Bangor. We are negotiating with the Director of Oriel Ynys Mon to combine our group with the Young Archaeologists to form a new group called Young explorers. This will widen the scope of the group to include other disciplines and heritage as well as the geology and archaeology

13. We are now in the process of creating a 'Rock clock' that depicts all the rocks of Anglesey in a 24 hour clock divided up into geological periods. We secured the grants for this and the Aber Quarry is in the middle of constructing this 2m diameter clock that will lie on the slope up from our centre.

Publications/trails

14. Conway, JS and Wood M 2011 "Geotrail from Wylfa visitor centre to Cemaes Bay". Cemaes Voice. Issue 7 p12-13.

15. Conway, JS and Wood M 2011 "Geotrail from Llanbadrig to Porth Wen". Cemaes Voice. Issue 8 p12-13

16. Conway, JS 2011. "Geotrail from Lleiniog to Beaumaris / Geolwybr o Leiniog i Fiwmares" Swm y Mor. Issue 10, p12-13

17. Conway, JS & Wood, M 2011. "Red Wharf Bay geotrail / Geolwybr Traeth Coch" Swm y Mor. Issue 11, p10-11

18. Wardlaw, S., Conway, J.S., & Wood, M. 2011. Geosites <http://livecafe.co.uk/#/geosites/4548995767>

19. Conway, JS 2011 GeoMon ID card, UNESCO Website <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/geoparks/members/united-kingdom/geo-mon-anglesey-geopark-wales/>

20. Conway JS & Wood M (2012) World's largest copper mine supports new Geopark project. European Geopark Magazine Issue 9 (accepted)

21. Conway, JS & Wood, M 2012. "Porth Amlwch geotrail / Geolwybr Porth Amlwch" Swm y Mor. Issue 12

22. Conway, JS and Mabvuto-Ngwira, Percy 2011 'The potential of Victoria Falls as a cross-border Geopark' p42 in Rangnes, K [ed] 10th European Geoparks Conference 'sustainability through knowledge communicating geoparks', Langesund, Norway (in print)

23. Conway, JS and Wood M 2011 'The legacy of mining - archaeological, environmental and social impact - at Parys Mountain, Anglesey' p41 in Rangnes, K [ed] 10th European Geoparks Conference 'sustainability through knowledge communicating geoparks', Langesund, Norway (in print)

24. Wood, M. (2012) The Historical Development of the term Melange and its relevance to the Precambrian Geology of Anglesey and Lley in Wales, UK. Journal of Geography. The 100s: Significant Exposures of the World (N0 7) 121 (1), 13pp (in print).

Media

25. John Conway has partaken in a TV program and Margaret Wood in 3 Radio programs about activities and geology in the geopark.

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1) Networking

Geopark Shetland has been working closely with aspiring 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 Chablais in September, where partners attended an intensive workshop on new technologies run by EDYTEM (University of Savoie) and agreed how to progress the cooperation. A presentation on the project was delivered to all those attending the workshop. An article has been submitted to the EGN magazine and a project website will be online in April 2012 (<http://www.hintproject.eu/>). The next partner meeting will take place in Shetland in June 2012.

Geopark Shetland has been an active member of the recently established Scottish Geodiversity Forum (<http://scottishgeodiversityforum.org/>) along with North West Highlands Geopark and Lochaber Geopark and helped in the development of the Scottish Geodiversity Charter which will be launched in 2012.

Magma Geopark has put forward an application to Comenius for a cooperation project based around Outdoor Learning. They are also working on an application to NORA for a project to promote multi-Geopark tour packages. Geopark Shetland has agreed to be a partner in both projects and has advised on the application content.

2) Geopark Shetland projects

Geopark Shetland has been working with software developer ZolkC to create an app for Android and Iphone based around Shetland's geosites. Google maps accessed via the phone will be populated with information about geosites throughout Shetland. An app structure and design/branding approach was agreed and initial content for the app was developed to allow for some product testing. Several problems with the approach were identified as a result of which an entirely new structure was proposed which will be more user-friendly and more straightforward to develop.

ZolkC identified a pattern in the approach and developed a template to guide the production of further content which is now underway. It has proved easier to quantify what content will be required for the app, and to work more efficiently, avoiding duplication, under the new structure.

A prototype app on Android will be launched in summer 2012 for user testing, with a view to launching a completed product on Iphone and Android in summer 2013

3) Education activities

A short course 'Introducing Geopark Shetland' was run in autumn 2011 as part of the Shetland Islands Council Adult Learning programme. The course was led by Keith Turner, Geography Teacher at Anderson High School and member of the Geopark Shetland Working Group. Due to its popularity the course is to run again in spring 2012. Mr Turner also led a seminar on 'Introducing Scotland's

Geoparks' at the annual October conference of the Scottish Association of Geography Teachers.

Plans for the schools event 'ShEEP DIP' 2012 are in development in partnership with the Shetland Environmental Education Partnership. The partnership is also working on the creation of a number of schools resource boxes to support environmental teaching in the classroom.

Geopark Shetland has agreed to take part in the Magma Geopark led 'Geoparks for Outdoor Learning (GEO4OL) project along with an Anderson High School cluster, subject to funding being secured from Comenius. Geopark Shetland will be responsible for populating a project database with outdoor learning activities.

4) Promotion

Geopark Shetland has developed social networking capabilities through the launch of a revised website (www.geoparkshetland.org.uk/) and the creation of a Facebook page and Twitter feed.

The Geopark was represented through a display at the Open Day of the Scotland branch of the British Geological Survey in September, manned by representatives of Lochaber Geopark.

A budget has been secured and locations identified for Geopark Shetland signage at Shetland's gateway points (Sumburgh Airport and the Northlink Ferry Terminal in Lerwick). A format has also been agreed.

Plans for a web-based EGN corner within the Shetland Museum and Archives are ongoing.

Geopark Shetland has agreed to take part in the Magma Geopark led 'Geoparks North Routes' project subject to funding being secured from Nora. Geopark Shetland will provide information to develop a website and booking system for multi-centre Geopark tours.

5) Events

Plans for the Shetland Nature Festival 2012 in partnership with European Geoparks Week are well underway. The event will take place from 7th – 15th July 2012 and will be larger and more widely publicised than previous Festivals. A three year Business Plan and Marketing Strategy is in preparation with a view to maximising Festival potential to attract visitors from outside Shetland, and helping the Festival to become financially self-sustaining. Popular wildlife film maker Simon King has agreed to act as Festival Patron.

6) Product Development

A designer has been commissioned to create a range of Geopark postcards and souvenirs in line with the existing Shetland Heritage and Culture Brand and a range of craft products is under consideration. A geological section in the Shetland Museum and Archives now stocks books, maps and trails relating to the Geopark and Scottish geology. Work is ongoing to develop a geological guide to Geopark Shetland and discussions are underway to develop a visual guide to identifying Shetland's Rocks and Minerals.

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Geopark activities and progress

1. September 7th: Presentation of the GeoPark by the Alb-Guides at the “Potato-Festival” in St. Johann
2. September 13rd: Inauguration of a new electric lightning with LED in the cave “Charlottenhöhle”
3. September 18th: Germany wide “Day of the geotop”. Participation of GeoPark-partners with different activities like guided tours or activity days
4. September 13th – 19th: Participation in the 28th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting and the 10th European Geoparks Conference in the Gea Norwegica Geopark
5. October 2nd and 3rd: Presentation of the GeoPark by the GeoPark Infocentre Dotternhausen at the “Biosphären-Markt” in Münsingen
6. October 7th: Meeting of the GeoPark Infocentres in the Vertical Cave of Laichingen
7. October 13th: Participation in the meeting of German National Geoparks in the Geopark Bayern-Böhmen
8. October 14th - 16th: Inauguration and open house presentation of the new GeoPark Infocentre “Schloss Brenz”
9. October 17th: GeoPark training of about 10 staff members of the GeoPark Infocentre in Blaubeuren
10. October 24th: Formation of a working group “Zeitreisen” (time travel) under the umbrella organization of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association. The working group is headed by the Swabian Alb Tourism Association and the GeoPark Swabian Alb. The first common project is a virtual tour for children to around 15 geological / historical and popular destinations for excursions, which starts in April 2012.
11. November 14th: 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
12. December 7th: Participation in a regional workshop for the development of a tourism conception for the Swabian Alb Tourism Association

13. December 13th: Annual general meeting of all members of the registered association GeoPark Swabian Alb at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen
14. January 13th: Oral presentation about the sensational research of the cave “Hessenhauhöhle” by the cave working group in Münsingen. The presentation is being organized by the GeoPark in cooperation with the Biosphere reserve Swabian Alb.
15. January 14th – 22rd: Presentation of the GeoPark at the tourism fair CMT in Stuttgart, activity program with partners
16. February and March: Preparation of the Week of the European Geoparks with probably more than 100 activities
17. March 1st: Participation in the reception of all German National Geoparks at the Permanent Representation of the State of Hessen in Berlin
18. March 2nd: Meeting of the GeoPark information centres at Katzenstein castle. Preparation of the third GeoPark-Festival in April.

Renate Schrembs, info@geopark-alb.de

1. Sunday hiking tours on the Southern Harz Karst Trail (September to February)
2. Several tours and events at the National „Day of the Geotop” (September)
3. Presentation of a new info panel „stromatolites“; Huy, LM 14 (September)
4. 17th International Cave bear Symposium in Elbingerode, LM 13 (September)
5. Conference of the “German Waterhistoric Society” in Clausthal-Zellerfeld, LM 2 (September)
6. Traditional iron melting event at the tourist mine Büchenberg, LM 8 (September)
7. Southern Harz Karst Trail elected as a National German quality hiking trail (September)
8. Presentation of the brochure “Network of Thuringian Geoparks” (September)
9. Reprint of the landmark flyers LM 4 and 8 (October)
10. Regular meeting of the Geopark Advisory Board (October)
11. Ascent of the “Zirkelschächter dump”, LM 17, (October)
12. Event at the German “Day of the building stones” (October)
13. Reprint of the landmark flyers LM 5, 12, 16 (November)
14. Presentation of the new info panel “Kornflaschen”, LM 19 (November)
15. Hiking tour with the biathlon athlete Arnd Peiffer to Otiliae shaft, Clausthal-Zellerfeld (November)
16. Opening of the stromatolite exhibition in Braunschweig and presentation of a stromatolite booklet (November)
17. Cultural Evening at the mining Museum “Shaft Knesebeck” (November)
18. Opening of the nature experience trail Nauen, LM 3
19. Presentation of the new “Dennert-plates”, Lm 2
20. Lecture “Natural Gypsum Caves” in Walkenried, LM 16
21. Presentation of the info panels “Moltkewarte / Rogenstein” and “Questenberg / Alabaster spheres” (December)
22. Opening of the “Archeological and Landscape Park Imperial Palace Werla”, Part I and presentation of the brochure “Die Werla” (December)
23. Presentation of the info panel “Münchehof / glacial boulder”, LM 1 (December)

24. Presentation of the new tourist map "ANHALTen" (December)
25. Reprint of the landmark flyers LM 1, 3, 13, 17 (December)
26. Presentation of the tree info panels in Annarode (December)
27. Lights festival at Samson mine, St. Andreasberg, LM 4 (December)
28. Presentation of the new panels „Welcome to the Nature- and Geopark“ in Blankenburg (December)
29. Miners Christmas at Röhrig shaft Wettelrode and tourist mine "Lange Wand" Ilfeld (December)
30. Presentation of the new English landmark flyer LM 6 "Poppenberg" (January)
31. Presentation of the new landmark flyer LM 19 "Bösenburg" (January)
32. Formation of the new Geopark Office Board Königslutter (January)
33. Presentation of the new info panel "Schlossberg Mansfeld" (February)
34. Opening of the new nature experience trail "Stangerode" (February)
35. Opening of the new Geopoint "Clay pit Willershäusen", place of discovery of famous Pliocene fauna and flora (February)

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1. Geopark administration

- Administratedaily activities for geopark management;
- Acquisition of a new building in Hateg to be organised as visiting point and office for the geopark administration;
- Writing new project proposal for educational activities;

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

- Organising the new academic year for the European Virtual Seminar Course (on-line course of 11 European Universities) on seven subjects and case studies, one of them being Geoconservation and geopark;
- Development of MSc Program in University of Bucharest: Applied Geo-Biology in conservation of natural and cultural heritage (including geoconservation and geoparks), new academic year;
- 3rd International Symposium on the Geology of the Black Sea Region, Bucharest, Romania;
- *La 1ère Conférence Internationale sur les GéoParcs Africains et Arabes*, El Jadida, Morocco;
- Developemnt of an International Leonardo Project *In&Out* dedicated to outdoor learning . Partners are from Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Romania;
- Media cover (Documentary film about Hateg Country on Romanian Television).

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Geopark Activities

1. The acceptance of Katla Geopark into the European and Global Geoparks Network in September 2011 was widely publicized in the Icelandic media.
2. A well attended Geopark conference was held at Hvolsvöllur on November 3rd attracting close to 100 hundred guests, many of them local tourist service providers. In promoting the conference we sent a copy of our Katla Geopark booklet to each of the registered businesses in the area and it is felt that the conference was successful in attracting the attention of local businesses in the Katla Geopark area.
3. A new project manager for Katla Geopark was hired at the end of the year after a competitive hiring process. The new project manager is Vilborg Arna Gissurardóttir who had previously worked on marketing and regional development issues in North Iceland. Vilborg started work for Katla Geopark in January 2012.
4. Work on the IPA contract with the European Union has continued and it is hoped that the contract will be signed in early second quarter of 2012. IPA grants are made available to applicant countries to the European Union. The contract will formally be between the EU and University Centre of South Iceland but focuses on infrastructure development in the Katla Geopark region. The contract will be for 24 months involving 747.000 Euros, 75% of which comes from the EU.
5. The University Centre and Katla Geopark are taking part in several international cooperation projects, both in Nordplus (involving Nordic and Baltic states) and Grundtvig.
6. In January 2012, Katla Geopark formed an Executive Council including the tourism officers in the area. The main purpose of the council is to coordinate projects in the three municipalities within the Geopark. The council meets every four weeks and a conference call every week.
7. In January 2012 the board of Katla Geopark along with the expert council held the first of two annual meetings for the geopark. At that meeting there were discussions about the next projects including decision making

for what kind of signs Katla Geopark will use to give information and guidelines on the geosites.

8. In February 2012 Katla Geopark participated in it's first tourism fair in Iceland (Mid-Atlantic). It was held in Reykjavik for tourism representatives from Europe and North America. After the seminar Katla Geopark participated in a workshop during the South Iceland post tour.
9. In February 2012 Katla Geopark started to work further on a brand for the geopark. Katla Geopark adopted the slogan: Dynamic destination. A new website will be launched in April and all the promotion material will have the same look and reflect: *Katla Geopark – Dynamic destination* and what the park has to offer.
10. In February 2012 Katla Geopark and the Development Centre of South Iceland started a project with local producers. In the coming weeks and months local products and local food will be marked with "product of Katla Geopark" logo and also local dishes on restaurant menus. One of the main goals of the project is to develop 5-6 new Katla Geopark products within the next two years.

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Madonie Geopark – ITALY

1. Support for the Summer School on “*Knowledge, conservation and management of Plant Biodiversity of Mediterranean Mountain systems*” for Italian and foreign students, held from 29 August to 6 September and organized by the University of Palermo, Department of Environmental Biology and Biodiversity, with seminars and excursions held by European and Italian scholars of international fame.
2. Participation of the two representatives of the Madonie Geopark in the 28th EGN CC Meeting (13-15 September) and in the 10th European Congress of Geoparks (16-18 September), together with the Chairman of the Madonie Geopark, held at the Gea-Norvegica European and Global Geopark in Norway.
3. A delegation of the Madonie Park Body, welcomed in Montreal (from 18 to 20 September) by the President of the Chamber Albert De Luca, recently honoured with the OMRI prize (Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite de la République Italienne), met Canadian CEO's of import-export firms to create partnerships, development models and wide-ranging tourist packages. Subsequently, in October, the President of an Italo-Canadian tour operator, with thirty travel agencies and journalists, visited the Madonie.
4. For promotion and economic valorization of the territory, on 30.09.11, the Madonie Geopark adopted the regulation of actions that contribute to energy saving and the use of energy sources with low environmental impact that facilitate private residences and primary productive activities excluding industrial activities.
5. A delegation of the Madonie Park Body, led by its Chairman, on 04.10.11 presented the Madonie Geopark and its territories during the Dolomiti EXPO at Longarone (Bl), in the Dolomite mountain chain.
6. On 04.10.11 there was the start of free guided school visits, organized by the Madonie Park Body, to let the new generations know the environmental heritage of the Madonie Park and in particular *Abies Nebrodensis*, the main endemic relict of the last glaciation in the Park.
7. Prof. Michael Succow, a member of the UNESCO committee and the holder of the Alternative Nobel Prize of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation and of the Michael Succow Foundation for protection of nature, whose motto is “*preserve and economize*”, on 14.10.11 was welcomed and accompanied, together with a delegation, in the Madonie Geopark, also to verify the feasibility of the activation of a Biosphere Reserve (MAB) stretching from the Etna Park, through the Nebrodi Park, to the Madonie Park.
8. Support for the initiative “*Salvalarte Gypsum. The forms of chalks*”, aiming at the safeguarding and valorization of the major natural and landscape heritage determined by outcropping of chalk rocks in Sicily, of great interest for the geologic aspects and the incredible variety of forms. Presentation of the popularizing brochure “*The forms of chalks. Chalky karstic areas in Sicily*” and participation in the seminar on 21 October 2011 “*Sicilian chalky karst areas: protection and valorisation*” at the Santa Ninfa Cave Nature Reserve.
9. From 27 to 30 October the “*Feast of Madonie Tastes in autumn*” devoted to the oenological and gastronomic productions of the territory, promoted by Petralia

Sottana Council and entrusted to the Association of Dealers. Among the various initiatives a fine architecture exhibition, "*Natural paths - the first elements*", was inaugurated, illustrating a study for the valorization and out of season enjoyment of the tourist area of Piano Battaglia in the heart of the Madonie Geopark.

10. The publishing series of the Madonie Park in October published three volumes: "*Geosite Atlas - In the area of the Madonie Park*" and "*Environmental Recovery of Degraded Areas - Proposals for intervention with natural engineering techniques on the Petralia Sottana-Piano Battaglia provincial road 54*" for the Nature series; "*The Architectural Treasures in the Madonie Park*" for the Culture series.
11. Support for the initiatives held from 10 to 13 November for wellbeing and correct eating, organized by the Mediterranean Diet Institute during the Week of Education to Sustainable Development promoted by UNESCO, divided into four days of workshops also devoted to tourism and enjoyment of territory, with particular attention to proposals for insertion of the Madonie territory in the thermal and wellbeing circuit. During the workshop of 12 September, on the themes of valorization and integrated and sustainable development of local resources, the environmental education activities carried out according to the principles laid down by the EGN were presented.
12. On 13.11.11 there ended the traditional annual nature course, promoted by the "*Camminaparco*" Environmental Education Centre in collaboration with the Madonie Park Body. The course, which thus reached its fifteenth edition, constitutes a theoretical and practical teaching course for students of all ages stimulating observation and study of plants, rocks and animals found during the excursions and the guided nature itineraries.
13. Support for the event "Feast of Sicilian monumental trees", organized by Legambiente Sicilia and held from 3 to 23 November, to celebrate the international year of forests 2011 and to constitute the "*Sicilian Gypsum Network*" for the purpose of preserving and promoting a large part of the Sicilian chalky areas, which are of major scientific value for the whole Mediterranean basin and tend towards the institution of a Geopark to be proposed to the EGN.
14. There was set going the website www.vettedelgusto.it devoted to the e-shop of oenological and gastronomic products typical of the Madonie Park.
15. Inauguration on 04.12.11 of the first path devoted to bird watching in the Madonie, preceded by a research project of the University of Palermo on the golden eagle and other birds of prey that populate the most impervious and peculiar rocky outcrops of the Madonie Geopark, a workshop for in-depth examination and two days of studies and discussion.
16. Stable employment was given to 51 category B temporary workers who on 12.12.11 signed their first private law contract for permanent employment. The Madonie Park Body thus has almost 100 permanent employees.
17. Participation in Rome, on 02.02.12, at the premises of the National Board of Geologists, in the 3rd meeting of the Forum of Italian Geoparks, to discuss and deliberate the points on the agenda.

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September

1. 14, 15 Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network. Larvik, Noruega, 14-1 2011.
2. 16, 17 Luis Alcalá, participated in the *10th European Geoparks Conference 2011*. Porsgrunn, Noruega.

October

3. 15. Trecking Comarca del Maestrazgo.
4. 25, 26, 27 National Partnership Project of Geoparks. Molinos, Villarlengu, Pitarque, Aliaga and Castellote

November

5. Congress of Geoturism-Arouca
6. 25, 26 and 27 Scientific Conference 50th Aniversary of the Discovery of The Molinos Crystal Caves.

December

7. 1 December . Emission of the TVE program “Un País para Comérselo” about the Cultural Park and its Geology.
8. 3 december Castellote, recording of the TV news program “Aragón Noticias” in the Natural Monunemt of Puente de la Fonseca
9. 9 december Report on the Public Journal on Geoparks Spanish.
- 10.12 december, Training Course of Maestrazgo Geopark, for tour guides.
- 11.16 december. Foundation of The Spanish National Geoparks Forum, in La Cañada de Verich (Teruel),

January

- 12.7 January Presentation the Guide o the Feasts of Winter in the Cultural Park, around the fire.
- 13.7,14, 21, 28 January, Training Course about the Cultural Heritage in the Geopark
- 14.21, Presentation the Guide in Estercuel
- 15.19 January Presence in the Stand of Government of Aragon during of Fair FITUR.

February

- 16.1,2, Luis Alcalá participated in the Congress of Geoparks in Bari,
- 17.24 february Interview in the COPE Radio program about the Maestrazgo Geopark

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1.Organisation

Magma Geopark have employed Guro Aarre 1st of November. She has a master in tourism and will work with administration and as project manager. Magma Geopark have also made a contract with archaeologist Sara Gentilini 1st January. She will work on hour basis with new project applications.

2.Educational activities

- September to March: 300 pupils and 30 teachers participate in Dalane Outdoor organisation and Magma Geopark Educational Programmes
- 21st and 22nd February Arranged winter activities days in the mountains. One day alpine skiing and one day cross country skiing. 80 participants.

3.Promotion

- Local newspapers writing about Magma win a research grant: Developing of rural tourism in Magma Geopark – hunting for food!
- A 20 minute TV program was developed by the regional television company visiting the locality Brufjell together with manager Magma Geopark.
- A television series about the North sea road had one part where they visited Eigerøy Lighthouse Magma Geopark location together with manager Magma Geopark.

4.Project/partnerships local and regional

- 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 and had a meeting on the subject with the Unesco commission of Norway.
- Magma Geopark wins a grant from Regional Research Grant Vestlandet of Developing of rural tourism in Magma Geopark – hunting for food! Partners are University of Stavanger, Visit Dalane and The County governor. Project runs 2011- 2012 with possibilities for extension two years. Kick off meeting in November and second meeting 27nd February.
- Magma Geopark wins a 3-year grant from Rogaland County for development of Magma Geopark in 2011. The grant are partly used in the Nordic Geo Guide project, Jøssingfjord Centre, World Heritage preliminary project, visit guide and signpost plan. Project runs 2011 – 2013.
- Involved in planning education programs for wind power, water and geology.
- Magma Geopark supported a World Heritage preliminary analysis in the area in order to select some possibilities for a proposal in the Norwegian Unesco Tentative List.

5. 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. Video conference meeting in December and final report part one will be ready at the end February. New application to Nordplus 1st March.
- Magma Geopark delivered 2nd February Comenius application GEO4OL (Geoparks for outdoor learning) together with 10 partners; Shetland Geopark, Idrija Geopark project, Marble Arch Caves geopark, Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and 5 schools from the geopark partners areas (Ireland, North Ireland, Shetland, Slovenia and Norway).
- 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 are in Magma Geopark 1st and 2nd March.
- MGP are developing an application to NORA 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.
- 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.

Pål Thjømøe

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1. Vast quantities of natural gas have been found in the shales deep beneath the karst landscape of our region of Ireland including parts of the geopark. An Australian-Canadian mining company has applied for licences to extract the gas using the controversial hydraulic fracturing method and there is considerable community opposition to the proposal because of concerns for the environment. Obviously we are watching developments closely.
2. Our geopark won first place in the prestigious 2012 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards in the Parks and Recreation Category for Cavan County Council in November.
3. Work is ongoing on the Irish cross-border Harnessing Natural Resources INTERREG IVA project that started in July 2011. The geopark has been allocated €750K for planned works over the next three years including new office space, new exhibitions and trails.
4. The second Irish cross-border INTERREG IVA project – the Border Uplands –started in January 2012 and runs through to 2015. The €1.6M project will provide additional visitor facilities, trails and walking routes in the geopark.
5. We are discussing various environmental education project ideas with prospective University partners in Ireland and in the United States, underlying the huge potential of the geopark.
6. The national organisers of Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann, the world's biggest traditional music festival, have decided that the festival will take place for the third consecutive year in Cavan town in August 2012. Over 300,000 people from all over the world attended the festival last year and the 2012 festival programme again includes a number of geopark events.
7. A number of contracts have been awarded in January 2012 to build new walking trails in the geopark.
8. Ulster Television, a national television channel, filmed a programme for the popular natural history and community based 'Lesser Spotted Ulster' series in the geopark in February.
9. The Geopark received good coverage in numerous local and national press articles as well as in specialist publications and in national tourism publicity.
10. Our community Geopark Tour Guide programme is proving to be very useful and a number of the guides have been active within the geopark, staging events and guided walks.

11. Kirstin Lemon, our Geopark Geologist, returned to work from maternity leave in January following the birth of her son Ben. We are delighted to see Kirstin back and she is already hard at work.
12. Richard Watson attended the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong Global Geopark in December 2011 along with other colleagues from EGN and GGN.
13. Patrick McKeever continues to be busy in his role as one of the EGN Coordinators, travelling to different countries and participating in key meetings at UNESCO Paris.
14. Professor Domenico Guida, a member of the Scientific Committee of the Cilento Global Geopark in Italy, visited our geopark in February.
15. Our Geopark events programme for 2012 is being finalised at present and will be publicised soon.
16. Our Science Week educational programme for Primary Schools in March 2012 was fully booked within a few days of being advertised in February and we had to provide extra sessions. Almost 350 school children will participate in Earth Science education modules.
17. The European Union's LIFE programme carried out a follow-up inspection of the Cuilcagh Mountain blanket bog Natura 2000 project in the geopark in February some 14 years after the LIFE funded project finished in 1998. The inspection assessed the ongoing management of the bog, which is one of the core sites in the geopark.
18. Conservation work in the geopark by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, intended to reintroduce the Golden Plover, a rare bird species in Ireland, to Cuilcagh Mountain has had some encouraging success as a breeding pair of roosting birds was observed in 2011 along with other birds flying over the mountain.
19. Cave explorers have found a major cave system underneath Cuilcagh Mountain, which is so long that it takes 18 hours just to reach the end of it.

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1. Geopark in the great Pinewood Fair - The XI edition of the Pinewood Fair in Oleiros was focused on the celebrations of the International Year of the Forests. More than 200 exhibitors, among them Naturtejo Geopark, were present in what is considered one of the most important culture and local economy events occurring every year in the Geopark territory, attracting almost 60000 people coming from all over the country.

2. From gold to the jewel maker: new product of Naturtejo Geopark - Naturtejo Geopark is developing a new geoproduct created by the goldsmith tradition of several generations. Naturtejo Geopark went further on, presenting all the technological and creative process, from the finding of nice gold nuggets in river and stream alluvium, to their melting and sculpting as a precious jewel, in a new tourism program thought to discover the rich natural, archaeological and cultural heritage of this territory. In the scope of the Living Science in Summer, the Living Science Center of Proença-a-Nova, in collaboration with Naturtejo, organized two daily events “From Gold of Portas de Almourão towards the Jewel”.

3. Revalidation green for the Geopark - The Geopark Naturtejo Meseta Meridional obtained a green card in the last meeting of the Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network in Larvik, Norway. The representatives of 42 geoparks existing then in Europe voted unanimously the permanence of the first Portuguese geopark.

4. Territorial marketing based on an Iberian traditional recipe - The “Pickled Partridge”, one of the 21 finalists of the 7 Wonders of Gastronomy of Portugal, representing the region of Inner Beira, but very famous in many parts of Spain, and sponsored by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, was presented in the School-Vessel Sagres, from the Portuguese Navy, which is considered the great embassy of Portugal in the world. Besides this delicious, but almost forgotten traditional recipe, were joined other delicacies prepared with products from Naturtejo Geopark and tasted by 40 invited guests, among officials and enterprisers, representatives of the tourism sector and Portuguese Navy.

5. International Symposium on Geosite Management prizes work in Naturtejo Geopark - The International Symposium on Geosites Management was held in Savoie – Mont-Blanc (France). Naturtejo Geopark was represented by the geologist Joana Rodrigues, whose work “Management of geosites in Naturtejo Geopark: geomorphological viewpoints” deserved a prize by the International Association of Geomorphology, being awarded with a scholarship to participate in the Intensive Course from 5 to 7th.

6. 28th Meeting and 10th European Geoparks Conference at Gea Norvegica.

7. VIII Iberian Congress of Geochemistry/XVII Geochemistry Week at Naturtejo Geopark - About 150 participants coming from Portugal, Spain,

Brazil and United States were in Castelo Branco, at the Agriculture School, for the Iberian Congress of Geochemistry. With the support of the municipality of Castelo Branco and the Naturtejo Geopark, this congress was composed by 110 scientific contributions distributed by current topics, such as Environmental Geochemistry and Medical Geology, with five key-note talks and homage to the Professor Ana Neiva, from the University of Coimbra.

8. Project to support Fukushima bonds Naturtejo Geopark with Japan - Idanha may receive Japanese farmers coming from the region of Fukushima, which was sadly affected in recent times by a devastating earthquake and tsunami that caused a nuclear disaster. The aim of the project is the production of biological food and promotion of nature tourism. Under study is the possibility of orphan Japanese students hosting to study in the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco.

9. Naturtejo Geopark in the Expo Dolomites World Heritage - Naturtejo Geopark was the European territory invited to represent the European Geoparks Network under the auspices of UNESCO in the Expo Dolomites – World Heritage held during the weekend in the Italian city of Longarone.

10. Sand: Geology as a Puzzle – New application available for teachers.

11. 40 years of Rock Art of Tejo celebrated by the community of archeologists - The House of Arts and Culture of Tejo hosted the celebration of the discovery of one of the most relevant artistic heritage of Naturtejo Geopark.

12. Naturtejo Geopark hosts the I GEOschools Conference for teachers - Naturtejo Geopark organized the I GEOschools Conference: new approaches in Geosciences teaching, at the School of Management of Idanha-a-Nova, which was integrated in the 3-year European Project joining geoscientists from different universities, museums, geoparks and training schools for teachers, from Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and Austria. The aim of this project is to define models with principles for literacy in Geosciences for all the European citizens, which may be applied in the school curricula of the Secondary schools from the participating countries.

13. More institutions from the Geopark get involved with the new educational programmes for 2011/12

14. Shopping website distributes products from de Geopark through the Iberian Peninsula - Naturtejo Geopark had joined to a Shopping website able of generating between 10 to 15 million euro per year.

15. Celebration the International Mountains Day in Oleiros: 5000 years of Landscape enjoyment – This year theme was “Among landscapes rich in antiquities and the richness of the deep Earth”.

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1. **Reading the Rocks** – Our 48 page popular geology book was published just before Christmas 2011. The book provides an easy to understand overview of the geology and landscape of the North Pennines AONB European Geopark. This flagship publication is proving to be very popular and copies have been selling well through local bookshops and direct sales.
2. **Cow Green** – Work on new interpretation at Cow Green Reservoir in Teesdale is nearing completion. The interpretation will be installed when the winter weather improves.
3. **Geotrails** – We continued to develop new geotrail leaflets. A new 6km walk was completed for Dufton and work was started on a geotrail leaflet for Allen Banks, a site owned by the National Trust.
4. **Displays at Killhope Lead Mining Museum** – Work on eight new geological panels at the Killhope Lead Mining Museum is close to completion and should be concluded by the end of March 2012.
5. **Packhorse Trail cycling and horseriding routes-** The trails around the Geopark which are based on the packhorse tracks that used to transport lead from the mines in the Geopark to surrounding cities, were completed and are now being sold through bookshops and visitor centres in and around the North Pennines.
6. The **Autumn/ Winter 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 work, including several on our geological activities.
7. In autumn 2011 we started discussions with one of our County Councils and a local landowner on the lease of the **Bowlees Visitor Centre in Teesdale**. The centre provides an important access point to Upper Teesdale which is one of the most important areas in the Geopark with easy access to some important geological features like the waterfalls at Low and High Force. It also provides an opportunity to interpret the important cultural and natural heritage of the area. We are developing a business plan for the centre to be managed by Geopark Staff and hope to be able to re-open this important facility in early summer 2012.
8. **Heritage Interpretation through New Technologies (HINT)-** Work on our transnational LEADER project with Geopark Shetland and aspiring Geoparks Chablais (France) and Hondsrug (Netherlands) started in earnest with the development of a common website. In the North Pennines Geopark we will test provision of Bluetooth and Wifi technology at the Bowlees Centre (see 7) to provide information and interpretation when the centre is closed. The project started with a course on

application of new technologies in Evian in Chablais in early September 2011.

- 9. Geoparks Week activity** – We started planning for our programme of geology events and activities for 2012. This year we aim to deliver three geology weekends in different locations across the Geopark to support the tourism industry, as well as several day events.
- 10. Talks and presentations** – We have given four presentations about the Geopark and our activities to a range of groups across the North of England.

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1., Projects

„Palóc Box” – Constructive communities in the area fo Salgótarján – running project (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 started to 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.

Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark, development of the Somoskő – Bagolyvár – Pogányvár hiking trail (Eurorégió – SK) – finished

In a local tender, we implement two informational brochure for the active tourism in three languages. In the project we renew the information boards of the study trail of Somoskő, which is one of the most important value by our geopark.

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

Our geopark's organizations (HU: Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd., SK: Z.p.o. Geopark Novohrad – Nógrád) prepare two applications with a very hard work. 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. More pleasant, that in the area, there are three other applications, which help the geopark if the treatment is succeeding. These are about the region's mining heritage, cross-border horse tourism, and development of a main tourist route (horse riding, hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing in winter) on the border between the Ipolytarnóc Fossils and the the Karancs mountain.

2., Novohrad - Nógrád European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability

The Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark's two chief supporter city is Fil'akovo (SK) and Salgótarján (HU) – in this case, these two cities council undertake the foundation, our geopark helped them in the preparation. We very pleased about the organization's founding is finished, and it's received in funding for its operation work from the Hungarian Ministry of Public Administration and Justice. It's very important for the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark, because this organization wants and able to help us through a large scale in the geopark's progress – it's declared in the funding documents.

3., Tourism

The period was rich in visual presentations. The Nógrád Regional Tourism Development Organization made a 40 minutes long film, where the spectators found the geopark as well, and we also take part about the Salgótarján Local TDM's film too. In the Hungarian National TV, there's a half-hour film specifically about the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark.

Joyful, that after Hungary, in Slovakia as well started to found the TDM organizations. Our geopark is founding member of the Slovakian region's organism.

János Lóska and Erika Anderková – Executives, and István Kéri – Office Manager of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd.

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- 1.** In the vicinity of Kutjevo new educational trail has been established. Trail is equipped with 13 interpretative panels. Trail goes from Kutjevo city to Vinkomir (famous vineyard area). Walking along trail tourist will have opportunity to get acquainted with geological characteristic, forest biodiversity and valuable cultural and historical heritage of the area.
- 2.** Ministry of Environment of Bosnia and Herzegovina organized international thematic conference – Management in Protected Area. The conference took place in Bihac. Goran Radonic on behalf of Papuk Geopark presented European Geopark Network and Papuk Geopark emphasising role of Management planning in protected areas.
- 3.** We successfully finished reconstruction of Count Jankovic burial chamber - situated in little cave (karstic area of Papuk Geopark). New replica of Count's sarcophagus was made and lighting and sound systems were arranged.
- 4.** One of the most important Central European Early Iron Age sites – Kaptol is situated in middle-south part of Papuk Geopark. Archaeological excavations have been taking place for ten years. And for the first time, on Papuk Geopark initiative, experts from Faculty of Science – Geology department have taken soil samples for analysis. They also plan to research more detailed sediment layers in vicinity of archaeological site.
- 5.** New info-point at the area of Orahovica is fully equipped (furniture, promotional materials) and starts to work. During winter season Info-point will be available for tourist only on weekend days.
- 6.** Goran Pavic participated in three-day training “Fundamentals of interpretation and education” which is part of the “Program of education for professionals in nature conservation” developed by State Institute for Nature Protection in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture.
Through lectures and case studies participants got a chance to get to know the role and importance of interpretation and education in protected areas, the basics of interpretation, technical elements of interpretation facilities, planning and evaluation of interpretation, the elements of the Visitor center, development of interpretive hikes, educational programs for children and others.
- 7.** One of the most important Central European Early Iron Age sites – Kaptol is situated in middle-south part of Papuk Geopark. Archaeological excavations have been taking place for ten years. And for the first time, on Papuk Geopark initiative, experts from Faculty of Science – Geology department have taken soil samples for analysis. They also plan to research more detailed sediment layers in vicinity of archaeological site.
- 8.** After many months of preparation, organization and training on the initiative of the Papuk Geopark, LAG Papuk-Krndija was established. LAG covers the area of town Kutjevo and five surrounding municipalities (Caglin, Kaptol, Velika,

Jaksic and Brestovac), founding meeting was attended by 40 participants (family farms, institutions, associations, entrepreneurs, representatives of local government).

9. Papuk Geopark participated in International economic, crafts and agriculture fair “Viroexpo 2012” which took place in Virovitica.

Also Papuk Geopark had own stand in Pakrac where local festival “Rural development through agriculture and tourism” took place.

10. Project conducted by Davor Vrsaljko, PhD from Croatian Natural History Museum which investigates Middle Miocene Palaeoflora (mostly macro taxa) in the south-east part of Geopark is finished.

11. Celebrating International Mountain Day 2011 the sixth trip to unknown Papuk “Vocin – Petrov vrh” was organized in cooperation with Croatian Mountaineering Association and Slavonian Mountaineering Association. This year's trip brought together over 150 climbers from 15 mountaineering clubs

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

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During last six months Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark staff continued his work to improve the geological heritage conservation and promotion. The following are call out important activities:

Geopark activities events and progress

1. Realization of the regular program of environmental education oriented to the schools, connected to the themes of Geodiversity, Biodiversity, Landscape, sport and nature, nutrition educazion and sustainable development.
2. The general revision of the existing path network - work in progress
3. Has been realized the website pages dedicated to the Geopark into the National park website
4. Publication of article about Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark on national newspapers / magazines “Glamour”, “Den” and “Denaro”
5. Partecipation in national programs televion as “Sereno variabile” RAI 2- “easy Driver” RAI 1 – “Linea blu” RAI 1, “Pianeta Mare” RETE 4, “Buongiorno Regione Campania” RAI 3 were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the EGN-GGN
6. Attendance at the Archeologic Tourism Meeting in Paestum (ITALY) on November were we have been speakers in two conference: 1) archeogeosites and geosites valorization and promotion for sustainable tourism; 2) Sustainable and cultural accessibility of archeological heritage in National Park
7. Attendance at the conference of Geoitalia in Torino September 2011: Geoparks, geoturism and saustinable development with article "The geological heritage of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark: a source of sustainable development"
8. Attendance at the Mediterre in Bari (ITALY) on February to promote the Cilento and Vallo of Diano Geopark
9. Attendance at the International Tourism conference in Milano (ITALY) on February to promote the Cilento and Vallo of Diano Geopark
10. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity
11. In dicember: 20 experts from Finland, Sweden, Greece, Great Britain and Italy, in the context of the project STInno (Susteinable Innovations in Industrial Waste Water Cluster) visited the system of CESCO in Laurino (Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark) order to understand the technology and the process of composting (TIRSAV plus project)
12. Tour with the universitary students on the geosites in Castellabate (SA)
13. Pubblication “UNESCO site National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano with the sites Paestum, Velia and Certosa di Padula”.
14. Print of 2000 Calendars for year 2012.

Networking EGN –activities

15. Attendance at the 3th Italian Geopark Forum - Coordination Meeting in Rome (Italy) on February 2st 2012
16. Participation to the EGN CC meeting and 10th European Geoparks Conference in Gea Norvegica Geopark Norway 16-21 September
17. Filling of Questionnaire of Economic benefits
18. Submission of the article for pubblication in European Geopark Magazine 9
19. Submission text and photos for UNESCO website
20. Preparation the editor and graphic of Italian Geopark Forum Book
21. Attendance at the meeting in Bari with the promoters of Alta Murgia Appula Lucana to becom Geopark
22. We are promoter of two projects with the partner of EGN : ENPI med (Support to the artistic creativity in all its expressions to encourage dialogue among communities) and UNESCO - European Geopark Network Sustainable Karst System Project.

Activities by partners

23. Partner, with University of Salerno, AIGEO (Italian association of geomorphology) and IAG (International association of geomorphology), for International Workshop on “*Objective geomorphological representation models: breaking through a new geomorphological mapping frontier*” October 2012
24. Coordinator, in partnership with the “Essenia association UETP” for G.E.A., of the project (Graduated within Environmental Activity)-Community program "Leonardo da Vinci", the award of 7 scholarships for internships lasting sixteen weeks, with companies and organizations in the United Kingdom, in the following fields: protection, enhancement and promotion of environmental heritage. This is only the first part of project.
25. Partner with Ministry of Enviromental, Ministry of Education and ANCI for national tree day (2011 International Year of Forest), in November
26. Interregional project of tourism with Basilicata Region: Sea and Mountain- pathway in the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano and in Basilicata Region

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1 - Meeting on Sustainable Tourism in Luberon

The Geopark hosted the meeting on Sustainable Tourism in Luberon, in order to reaffirm its voluntary commitment to sustainable tourism development that combines economic development, enhancement of cultural heritage and environmental protection.

More than 70 tourism stakeholders were present; labeled bed and breakfasts, touristic sites, museums, outdoor activities, tourist offices, guides, holiday villages. Several councilors, elected officials and technicians also participated to the debates.

Today, the park intends to structure the tourist offer in the territory around three themes: sustainable tourism, wine tourism, geotourism.

2 - “Connaissance du Luberon” (Knowledge of the Luberon) : thematic training days for tourism actors.

"Learning about our territory, to talk about it" : the Geopark offered tourism players to supplement their knowledge of the territory and actions through five days. The topics : cultural heritage, geology, agriculture, natural habitats and biodiversity.

3 - Festival of science

"Autour du galet" (All about pebbles) by Georges Bronner (Ste-Tulle, multimedia library). This exhibition deals with the life of pebbles from their geological origin to their use by people (tools, buildings...). It also shows how pebbles can be used for artistic production and how they inspire the shape of usual objects. A pebbles exhibition, realised by a local artist (Jacques Le Texier), was also presented for this event. 350 people visited this exhibition.

Guided tour in a swallowhole with a karst expert. Partnership with a spelology non-profitmaking organization and the scientific low-noise underground laboratory of Rustrel.

4 - Sismotour

This itinerant exhibition carried out by the "Palais de la Découverte" aimed at sensitizing the general public to seismic hazards. It was presented for 2 weeks at the international school of Manosque, enriched with a regional component coordinated by the Park. The model of an earthquake-resistant house in reference to the new seismic zoning in France and the new rules of construction was carried out. The Park oversaw the visit of classes (630 people received)

and organized a conference, opened to the public. In parallel, the Confederation of Crafts and Small Business Building organized a training session on earthquake-resistant construction rules.

5 - Protection

Barriers and a sign were installed on a protected geological site (Geological Nature Reserve of the Luberon) characterized by fossiliferous sands, rare examples of an inlet, at the Pliocene age in the Luberon. The objective is to limit site access to walkers and avoid erosion.

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EGN – participation

- Participation in the 28th EGN - Coordination Meeting and 10th EGN Conference in Gea Norvegica – European and Global Geopark.
- Editing and improvement of the EGN Website.
- Participation in UNESCO General Conference in Paris
- E-meeting of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum.
- Participation in the 3rd Italian Geoparks Forum.
- Promotion of EGN in EMITT 2012 - Istanbul
- Preparation of the 29th EGN - Coordination Meeting in Sierras Subbeticas European and Global Geopark
- Submission of the Lesvos geopark application in November 2011

Geoparks events and progress

1. Research, Protection and Management

- Conservation works in fossil sites
- Start of the big project financed by National and EU Fund for the Lesvos Petrified Forest Marine Park

2. Exhibitions and Events

- Temporary exhibition : The earthquake hazard in NA Aegean in Sigrí Museum Guided tours – Educational Programmes
- Temporary exhibition : Maritime heritage in the Aegean – Educational Programmes
- Temporary exhibition of the Petrified forest in Philoxenia Tourism Fair in Thessaloniki Greece October 2011 and in EMITT – Istanbul February 2012

3. Educational activities

- Presentation of the Educational Programs of the Lesvos Geopark for the academic year 2011/2012 to all schools in Lesvos and Thessaloniki
- New Thematic Educational Programmes 2011-12
- Cooperation in environmental education programs with the Environmental Education Center of Lesvos

4. Creation of promotional material

- Publication of the new 23rd, 24th issues of Sequoia Magazine

5. Events - Presentations

- Presentation of the Activity Report 2011 to the public

6. Projects

- RACCE – a new transnational project for students awareness on earthquake hazard

7. Common Projects with EGN partners

- **Leonardo**
- **Erasmus**
- **RACCE**

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The period of September 2011 till March 2012 continues to be also very difficult for Psiloritis Geopark because of the global and national economic problems that have affected the income of the geopark. LEADER initiative although is officially running, presents significant delays in money income and and thus implementation of the planned Geopark project.

1. The second pupils' art context "Discover Psiloritis Natural Park" has been announced and is still open. We plan awarding ceremony for Easter period.
2. Psiloritis Geopark participated in the National Tourist Guides meeting that was held in December 2011 in Crete, organising a field trip in Psiloritis Mountains and presenting EGN and geoparks initiative through a public talk.
3. Geopark participated in January together with AKOMM Psiloritis S.A. and two Municipalities in a project proposal addressed to the Regional Environment Fund related with European Trail E4 and other trails in Psiloritis Mountains. Proposal in collaboration with municipalities under the Regional Funding Projects.
4. We are in a continues collaboration with Regional Environmental Authorities to deliver the necessary initiatives to nominate Psiloritis Geopark according to new Biodiversity Law as a Regional Geopark.
5. Geopark has supported Anogia Environmental Educational Centre in the development of a Life Long Learning project dealing with traditional cheese making activities.
6. C. Fasoulas gave several talks in schools of Geopark territory on the Geological evolution and fossils of Psiloritis Geoaprk.

Dr C. Fassoulas

www.psiloritis-natural-park.gr

Network activities

1. Participation to the EGN CC meeting and EGN Conference in Gea Norvegica Geopark, Norway;
2. Recompiling of Questionnaire of Economic benefits.
3. Predisposition of themes and content for the new Rocca di Cerere Geopark ID card on UNESCO website.
4. Publication photo in UNESCO IGCP40 Book called "Tales Set in Stone - 40 years of the International Geoscience Programme";

Environmental Education Activities

5. Opening a new Laboratory of Environmental Education and Information in collaboration with the Province of Enna partner of the Rocca di Cerere Geopark;
6. Project for secondary school (1st degree) "The Geology in sulphur lands" about the Park's geology and mining culture developed inside the new laboratory;
7. Project for primary school "playing with rocks";

Activities of Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark

8. Daily activities for public in Pergusa Visitor Center;
9. Editing article for EGN magazine next issue about the official opening of the new Laboratory of Environmental Education and Information in Pergusa Lake natural reserve;
10. In "Expò Rurale" national fair in Firenze, presentation of the DVD demo: "European Geopark on the experience as a model of development for rural areas" presented by INEA-Italian Rural Network, cellule of the European Rural Network (15 September);
11. Participation to the International fair "TLE - Travelling Likes Experience" in La Spezia at the end of September in collaboration with the Commerce Chamber of Enna partner of the Rocca di Cerere Geopark;
12. Participation inside the Province of Enna stand, partner of Rocca di Cerere Geopark, in Milano BIT fair;
13. Design and implementation of the national forum website of Italian Geoparks (www.geoparchitaliani.it, www.geoparchiitaliani.it, www.europeangeoparks.eu);

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. Activities of sharing of best practices with the aspiring geopark of Valle del Crocchio, that includes the Sila National Park (Calabria region, Italy);
17. Preparation to the constitution of Sicilian Regional Network of protected areas with Messinian Evaporites with several meetings in Santa Ninfa cave Natural Reserve (TP), in Madonie Geopark and in Regional Department for Territory and Environment;

18. Preparation for the project “New researches about deep geology of Pergusa lake and paleo climate records in plio-plehistocenic lakes in the Rocca di Cerere area”;
19. Collaboration with dr. Jasmine Moreira from Zaragoza University about a research on environmental interpretation in several geoparks.

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Management

1. A management and financing contract covering years 2011-2014 was approved and signed by the founders of Rokua Geopark on December 2011. The new detailed contract replaces the contracts made before the application process. Rokua Geopark is operated by Humanpolis Ltd, the resources for its operating come from the founders, the three municipalities, the Metsähallitus and Rokua Foundation.
2. 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.

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. A project application for improving the tourism infrastructure of Rokua Geopark has been made and it is expected to be financed during 2012.

Research activities

6. A research on the financial impacts of tourism in the three municipalities of Rokua Geopark has been published. The research was made in cooperation with the University of Oulu and Rokua Geopark. The research was based on the information from year 2009, before Geopark, and it will be made again after some years to see the impact of Geopark activities into the economy of the area.
7. A visitor survey has been made from the Geopark areas of Oulujärvi recreational area and from the Rokua national park. The surveys were made by interviewing the visitors and asking their motives and impressions. An interesting fact is that 47% of visitors of Rokua national park said that one reason for their visit was Rokua Geopark – this result was made in less than one year of operating as an European and Global Geopark.

Education activities

8. 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.
9. Rokua Geopark has been the target area for two courses in the Oulu University of Applied Sciences / School of business management. The courses were: Marketing management and International marketing management. During the courses students have familiarized themselves with Rokua Geopark and its businesses and written reports proposing new strategies in marketing and networking activities.

Dissemination activities

10. Several newspaper articles of the Geopark and its activities have been published during the reporting period.
11. The preparing of Dissemination strategy has been started in the beginning of January 2012. As a result of the dissemination strategy the Geopark will renew its dissemination materials during 2012.
12. Several presentations of the Geopark and its activities have been given in different occasions. The audiences range from school children to retired people.
13. There are two new Geopark projects proceeding in Finland, Rokua Geopark has presented the network for both of these areas during autumn 2011. The projects are the Golden Geopark proposed from Lapland and a more recent project coming from the south-east of Finland (South-Karelia, cities of Lappeenranta and Imatra).

Business activities

14. Ten businesses have applied to use the Rokua Geopark logo and are marketing their products as Rokua Geopark products. The products include souvenirs, activity products, a Geopark menu and accommodation.

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1. After a planning phase, the construction of a new visitor centre at the Wasserloch Gorge, one of the most popular sites of the Geopark which is visited by thousands of visitors, began in the autumn. Besides the cash desk it will offer local products. A projection will show the exploration of the cave lake from which the water spreads into the gorge and which is not accessible to visitors. The project foresees also explanation panels and interactive devices along the trail.
2. A major task was the planning of activities for 2012. Due to the opening of the Family and Sports Hotel in the chateau of Kassegg, the number of bookings by student groups has increased by about 50% and is processed by Irmi Auer and her staff.
3. Heinz Kollmann has developed a program of talks, geological walks and geological raft tours for 2012, inclusive the European Geoparks Week. The program will cover a large variety of topics in geology: Talks on volcanism and on fairy tales stimulated by geological phenomena, field trips to the major spring of the Vienna Water Work and to a barrage of a power station to demonstrate the importance of geology in construction and the visit to an active scientific excavation for Cave Bears are the highlights of the new program.
4. Irmi Auer and Heinz Kollmann have also started preparing the program of the International Day of Biodiversity on 22 May. In this year, it is dedicated to marine biodiversity. We will visit fossil sites and demonstrate the fossil marine diversity of the geopark in several stations and compare molluscs of the Cretaceous and of present.

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Conservation, Research and Development

1. Design and positioning of various interpretive panels on the geology of the Geopark (as part of the Andalusia Strategy of Geodiversity): Spring-Summer 2011.
2. End-degree Project: "Geological evaluation of the suture complex and metamorphic core of Almaden de la Plata", University Pablo de Olavide of Seville, in progress.
3. II Annual Meeting of the Environmental Volunteer Network of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark, 11 and 12 February 2012.
4. Design of several geological routes in the Geopark.

Communication, Diffusion and Promotion

5. Presentation of the book "The groundwater in the Sierra Norte", within the Conference on Water and Environment in the Province of Seville, organized by the Provincial Council of Sevilla and the Geological Survey of Spain, October 18, 2011.
6. Delivery of diploma accreditation of the European Geoparks Network to the municipalities of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark, October 19, 2011.
7. Production of articles and press notes about Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark for the European Geoparks Network magazine, the RENPA Bulletin, and others.
8. Short article for the journal *Re Metallica* about the incorporation of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark in the European Geoparks Network.
9. Revision and edition of the Geological Map of the Geopark, available for download on the website:
www.juntadeandalucia.es/environment/sierranortedesevillageopark
10. Development of the Geopark new contents on the website of the Ministry of the Environment: routes, conferences, activities, etc.
11. Generation of 2012 Calendar with photos and texts of various geosites of the Geopark, and texts about the European Geoparks Network.
12. Incorporation of geological content in the Official Guide of Sierra Norte.

Environmental Education

13. Introduction of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark at the Symposium on Mediterranean Forests (IES Cazalla). November 30, 2011.

14. I Environmental Education Seminar of the Pachilofeos Mountain Group, January 21, 2012.

Work in the European Geoparks Network

15. Assistance at the 10th Congress of the European Geoparks Network and presentation of the Geopark; Gea Norwegica (Norway).

16. Article about the incorporation of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark in the European Geoparks Network; No. 9 of the European Geoparks Network magazine.

17. Report on the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark to UNESCO (ID card).

18. Geopark section on Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark for new edition of the European Geoparks Network book.

Activities by partner agencies

19. Geological Day organization (GEOLODÍA 2012), together with the Geological Society of Spain.

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Environmental Education:

1. **Educational programs in Sierras Subbéticas:** “Nature for all”, “Andalusia in its Parks” and “Open days”.
2. **Course:** “Planning and Management of Geoparks: Geotourism and Geoconservation”. Three days course promoted by the Andalusian Plan of Environmental Training. The Sierras Subbéticas staff guided the walks and gave talks about the Geopark and about the Andalusian Strategy for Management of Geodiversity
3. **“The Ideas Club”:** Educational Program for adolescents (Andalusian TV): Pupils from Aguilar y Eslava School explained the geopark and the traces of ancient Tethys Sea, under the supervision of the Geopark.
4. **III Spanish Earth Science Olympiad:** the regional phase of the International Earth Science Olympiad has taken place in our Geopark, at Nuevo Scala Secondary School, Rute. Thirty seven students from the provinces of Córdoba and Jaén have participated in the classificatory tests. The four finalists are pupils of this school, who will participate in the national phase, in Santander. The international phase will be held in Argentina.

Communication, Diffusion and Promotion of the Geopark

5. **Finalisation of the Geological Map of the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas** (English and Spanish version).
6. **Updating of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark website** and translation to English.
7. **Organization of the Geolo-day 2012 in the province of Córdoba.** 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 will be celebrated in Subbética Geopark, in collaboration with the University of Jaén
8. **Presentation to the Geopark’s townhalls with copies of the EGN certificates after being rewarded with the EGN Green Card.**
9. **Destiny Andalucía:** Andalusian TV programm on Tourism: One of the Geopark enterprises, Subbética Natural, explained its activities in a beautiful point of the Geopark, Tijeras Stream.

Activities of Conservation, Research and Development in the Geopark

10. **Foro with local enterprises:** Organisation of a foro with small enterprises and craftsmen of Subbética to encourage them to develop new products of the Geopark. After this meeting some enterprises are in the process of developing new products related to the Geopark.

11. **A project of the University of Granada on Paleontology, has included the Geopark among its research areas.**
12. **Geopark Assistance for the development of a geo-touristic route in the city of Cabra.**
13. **Celebration of a Board Meeting** (Junta Rectora), 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.

Activities related with the European Geoparks Network

14. **Organization of the XXVII EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in Sierras Subbéticas (7-8-9th March 2012)**
15. **Attendance to 28th EGN Coordination Committee and Conference in Gea Norvegica.** The Geopark was awarded with the EGN Green Card after the revalidation process. Participation with two oral communications: "The design of Geo-routes in Subbéticas" and "The Truffle, the first mycological garden in Europe".
16. **Sierras Subbéticas is catalizing the Working Group EGN/GGN Branding.**
17. **UNESCO Id card:** updating of the information in UNESCO id card website regarding Geoparks.
18. **EGN magazine 9:** article related to the design of geo-routes in Subbética Geopark.
19. **Geoemployment project:** along with the spanish geoparks and several partners, this project works toward a strategy to use geodiversity as a source of employment. Attendance to a meeting of Geoemployment in Maestrazgo Geopark.
20. **Andalusian Geoparks coordination.** Coordination work with the Geoparks Cabo de Gata-Níjar and Sierra Norte.
21. **Spanish Geoparks Forum.** The forum was officially established in December 2011. Attendance of the Spanish forum to the meeting held in Bari
22. **Collaboration with the Economic Benefits from Geoparks working group.**

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September 2011

- **Organisation of the International Congress on Geological and Mining Heritage:** The Congress took place in the Geopark from the 29th September to the 2nd October 2011, with the attendance of geologists from several European and South American countries.

October 2011

- **Scientific Itinerary for Secondary schools:** The Geopark take part in this project through the provision of educational material and the organisation of guided geological itineraries. The project is sponsored by the Spanish Ministry of Education to offer to all the secondary schools in Spain, an itinerary through the Geopark. 159 students and 12 teachers from all over Spain participated in this project, whose aim is the spreading and awareness of geological natural and cultural heritage. The Geopark has signed an agreement with the regional Government in order to organise these activities each year.

- **V Seminar of Sobrarbe Geopark:** The Seminar was devoted to “Tectonics: The construction of the Pyrenees”. From 21 to 23 October took place the fifth seminar of the Geopark. It was attended by 116 people (most of them Secondary school teachers and University students, people who had a professional interest in participating in the seminar). As in the previous year's edition, the Seminar was approved for the training of teachers in secondary education.

November 2011

- **Workshop “Geomorphology: Landscape forms and their representation on a map”:** This workshop took place from 12th to 19th November. It was aimed to tourism guides and tourism enterprises that have signed the cooperation agreement with the geopark, in order to make it possible for them to develop some educational activities with their clients.

December 2011

- **Sponsorship of the Geopark to Basketball Teams:** The Geopark sponsored the sportswear for two basketball teams in the region.

- **Visits to the website of the Geopark:** During 2011, 81.613 people have visited this website.

- **Visits to the Geopark interpretation Centre:** During 2011 9.918 people have visited this centre

-Spanish Forum of Geoparks: This Forum was officially created on December the 16th in the Maestrazgo Geopark, with the attendance of all the Spanish Geoparks and authorities of all the Spanish regions where these Geoparks are located.

- **Renewal of panels:** The Geopark has signed an agreement with the University of Leon in order to renew and actualize the contents of the panels located in the geological sites and geological routes of the Geopark.

- **Geological routes in GPS:** The Geopark is developing a project in order to have all the Geological routes in GPS to download them from the website of the Geopark

- **Publication of articles in magazines:** The Geopark has published articles on the subject of the Geopark and the EGN and GGN in several specialised magazines.

January 2012

- **Meeting of the Spanish National Commission for the Teaching of Geology:** Sobrarbe Geopark is a member of this Commission created to develop the contents on Geology in the Secondary schools in Spain.

February 1012

- **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".

- **III Olympic Games in Geology:** They were celebrated the 12th February, in cooperation with the University of Saragossa. They were aimed to secondary students from several regions of Spain.

- **Visit of secondary schools:** This is the 5th year the Geopark has the visit of a group of Norwegian secondary school students and teachers. Also several Spanish secondary schools have visited the Geopark.

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1. National Geoparks Meeting

TERRA.ita took part in the meeting hosted by the National and cross border Geopark Bavarian Forest and Bohemia (CZ) (potential EGN candidate). We gave a presentation about the functioning of the EGN and GGN.

2. Meeting with Federal Ministry of the Environment, Berlin

Organised by Georg Schirmbeck, a Member of Parliament from the TERRA.vita region, a meeting was held at the ministry to talk about a potential responsibility for Geoparks in Germany. The meeting was hosted by the secretary (Staatsekretärin) of the Ministry Mrs. Heinen-Esser, Mr. Waldhausen (responsible for MAB in Germany). Result: The ministry will no play a role in favor of geoparks, because they fear a UNESCO USP for Biosphere Reserves might be in danger. It was agreed on a second and joint meeting with members of three ministries (Environment, Economics and Foreign Affairs) to continue discussions. The aim is to win the Ministry of Economics (responsible for tourism a.o.) as promoter of Geoparks in Germany

3. Reopening of Doberg Museum

This museum is presenting the best fossils from the middle part of TERRA.vita (complete skeleton of a manatee etc.) has been completely remodeled. The supporting association of the museum, is a new member of TERRA.vita.

In February a delegation of a team planning a new shark center in northern TERRA.vita visited the new museum and was guided by the museum director: He talked about his best practice experience and attractive ways to present fossils.

4. Meeting with German UNESCO Commission

National EGN Geoparks and Lutz Möller of the German UNESCO Commission met in Osnabrück, to talk about strategic perspectives. We agreed that the only focus on the geological heritage (already addressed by IGCP and geologists), environmental education (already addressed by MAB) and geotourism (already addressed by several others) might not be enough to convince German delegations at UNESCO that Geoparks are a worthwhile project for UNESCO. We also agreed that Geoparks should readjust or widen its approach to UNESCO and address exactly to UNESCO's goals. This might mean that we have to open and broaden our views: Included could be for example the core issue of climate change, the heritage of cultural landscapers and how they are formed by geological processes, the shortage of natural resources on earth, disaster prevention (volcanic, tsunami etc.). This could be also an issue to be discussed at CC meetings.

5. Conference of German Naturepark managers in Osnabrück

The meeting was hosted by the German Environmental Foundation. Timo led a short excursion presenting on of our new E-Bike recharging stations, the Piesberg Mining area and the new vista point on top of the Piesberg (TERRA.vita view). This point is the most prominent of 13 vista points in

TERRA.vita, where visitors can listen by their mobile phones to explanations about the geological and cultural heritage of the nearby visible surroundings.

6. Mediaplan for TERRA.vita's 50th anniversary year 2012

A mediaplan for 2012 has been compiled and discussed with PR professionals to reach a year round recognition, including TV, radio and printed press. All partners and members have been asked to contribute to a special anniversary celebration program.

7. Exhibition of National German Geoparks in Berlin

The federal State of Hesse invited all German National Geoparks for a joint presentation, addressing politicians, stakeholders and representatives from each Geopark. Beforehand all Geoparks agreed on a common and uniform presentation (roll ups). A professional slideshow about all geoparks was shown, and Klaus Liedtke (ex chief editor of National Geographic Germany) held the keynote talk.

8. New TERRA.vita president

Since October 2011 we have a new President. County Commissioner Dr. Michael Lübbersmann took over from Manfred Hugo. This is crucial for TERRA.vita because Mr. Lübbersmann is now also heading the Tourism Organisation of the Osnabrücker Land. We are expecting synergies and an even stronger position of the Geopark in the regional tourism sector.

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Geopark Activities

1.2011-2012 - Regular programs of guided walks and tours were realized in Autumn 2011 and Winter 2012 in the museums and in the footpaths of the Park.

2.Participation in the 28th Coordination Committee and Advisory Committee Meeting of the European Geopark Network - Tuesday 13th - Friday 16th September at norvegica Geopark Gea - (Larvik) Norway. Alessandra Casini and Francesco Tapinassi member and alternate member of the Coordination Committee of EGN;

3.Award ceremony for the Park as 2nd place in the Competition "EDEN European Destinations of Excellence" Rome Department of Tourism 23 September 2011

4.Presentation of Club UNESCO of the Maremma - Grosseto with sponsorship of the Tuscan Mining Geopark in the gateway of the Park of Gavorrano - October 21, 2011 with speeches by Luca Agresti President of the Park Maria Luisa Stringa President of the Italian Federation of UNESCO clubs of Florence

5.Membership and organization of the Water Week 7 to 13 November 2011: "A come Acqua" (W as Water) ". This is the title of the sixth edition of the Week of Education for Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Italian National Commission of UNESCO. The Tuscan Mining Geopark has joined and coordinated the activities of the Gateways of the Park, with the UNESCO program WEEK OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT "A come Acqua": Tales of the Water in the Park. 9 events (excursions, guided tours, workshops, conferences)about water, its importance in the past and its precious for the future.

6.January 2012 - Submission of an article about Tuscan Mining Geopark for publication in EGN Magazine No. 9.

7.2nd of February 2012 - Participation of the Forum of Italian Geoparks in Rome by Alessandra Casini and Riccardo Cinelli.

8.Conclusion of the Project "know the Park" (September 2011 - February 2012). The project is dedicated to the schools of the Province of Grosseto. The park has offered transport, service and free guided tour in 16 locations of geological, mining and natural, with the possibility of a play of theatre in the mine telling stories about miners and geological discoveries. 1,500 students have participated.

9.Project corporate image in the Park. The project concerning the definition of the logo and corporate image of the Park (panels, brochures, books) is concluded. From now on all communications products of the Park will have a defined image.

Networking

10.Submission of abstracts and one paper for the 10th European Geoparks Conferences in Gea Norvegica Geopark in Langesund on 16th - 20th of September 2011. A. Casini, R. Cinelli F. Tapinassi Green Tourism and Web 2.0.The network of sustainable tourism in Tuscan (GEOTOURISM).

11.Submission of one poster for the 10th European Geoparks Conferences in Geopark Gea norvegica in Langesund on 16th - 20th of September 2011. A. Casini, R. Cinelli Geothermal Area of Tuscan Mining Geopark. A "sustainable" geosite (GEOCONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT).

12.Participation in the VIII Italian Forum of Earth Sciences Geoitalia 19 to 23 September 2011 Turin . September 22, 2011 - A. Casini, L.Agresti, A theater in the park. The Theatre of the Rocks project in Parco Nazionale delle Colline Metallifere Gossetane, September 23, 2011 - A.Casini, R. Cinelli, Geothermal area in the Parco Nazionale delle Colline Metallifere Gossetane.. A "sustainable" geosite.

13.Participation in the conference "The mines and the Sea - between water and land routes. What future for the Parco Geominerario della Sardinia" organized by the Municipality of Lula. Speech by Alessandra Casini - Lula October 31, 2011.

14.Participation in the Workshop organized by SIGEA and the Forum of Italian Geoparks in collaboration with the Region of Puglia in the 7th edition of Mediterre, Bari January 31, 2012.

15.Tuscan Mining Geopark project: Application prototype of geological map of Tuscan Mining Geopark – "Geological Continuum Project" by Region of Tuscany and University of Siena (Geotechnology Center). The project (multi-scale) is the set of actions to take and implement in the geological database of the continuum, all updates related to specific projects is funded by the Geological Survey, which the maintenance of Regional Geological Map, by local authorities and universities

16.February 2012. Start of Project with Department of Earth Sciences, University of Siena (Prof. Armando Costantini) to create a new complete database of geological sites in the park and creation of new geological map of the paths of the park

Activity Partners

17.Participation in the project, the Visible City (Partnership with the Province of Grosseto, Municipality of Massa Marittima, CEDAV - Grosseto Culture Foundation, and the cultural associations of the territory) Exhibitions of photography, art exhibitions and concerts, urban posters and lectures. Massa Marittima October 16 to October 29 2011. In particular, "A future in appearance" with the participation of Alessandra Casini and October 22, 2011 Conference "From the Etruscans to the National Technological Park and Archaeological Hills Metalliferous Grosseto: organizational, ethical and cheap". Speech by Luca Agresti President of the Park.

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GEOPARK'S ACTIVITIES

1. Publication of the number 40 of Villuercas Ibores Jara's Rural Newspaper with special reference to the incorporation of the Geopark in the EGN and in the GGN.
2. Commission of the Touristic Revitalization Plan of Cáceres County Council for different matters related with the Geopark project. Cáceres November, 2011 - February, 2012.
3. Media interviews on the occasion of the recognition as member of the EGN and other activities of the Geopark. November, 2011 - February, 2012.
4. On October 3 it is released the project "Eat up Our Geopark" organized by the Businessmen's Association "Geovilluercas" tourist product based on the thematic restoration of the Geopark.
5. Raising awareness activities: Bicycle touring through the Geopark organized by the Association of the Royal Way of Guadalupe and hiking route "Alfonso Onceno" with Circaetus and the mountain club "El Garigolo" of the municipality Peraleda de San Román. October, 2011.
6. Conferences on the Geopark. Regional forum on Equality of Opportunities. V Master in Rural Development of the University of Extremadura in Cáceres. Forum 21 of Citizens engagement between Villuercas Ibores Jara and the area of "Campo Arañuelo" to inform about the possibilities of the Geopark to businessmen and public institutions' representatives in charge of the area. November, 2011.
7. Raising awareness activities: Activity "Planting Trees on Cañamero" with the association "Tree Lovers" organized by Turextremadura. A hundred of bloggers specialized in natural trips planted trees in Cañamero and visited the Geopark. Circaetus organizes the trekking route "Voyage of the Villuercas". Walk to the Crag of the Villuercas; the Geopark from the Crag. Organized by several associations of the area with the participation of 50 hikers. November, 2011.
8. Regional forum of Education and Culture: Meeting with 12 directors of educational centres in Guadalupe to speak about the project "Geocentres". Second meeting in Cañamero with representatives of the educational centers of the area to explain the Geopark's educational project Geocentres in the education centre: "Fausto Maldonado". November, 2011
9. Conferences on the Geopark: the Businessmen's Association Geovilluercas organizes an informative session about the Geopark addressed to farmers, ranchers and hunters in Guadalupe. Presentation about the Geopark in the Cultural Week of Alía, with the assistance of 40 people. November, 2011.

10. Set up of multimedia points of tourist information in 18 municipalities of the area. November, 2011.
11. Set up and development of a Quality Plan called MACT in the companies associated with the Geopark. November, 2011.
12. Commemorative act for the recognition of the new Geopark Villuercas Ibores Jara with the assistance of representatives of the Geopark's protocol signatory entities. More than one hundred copies of the Geopark's EGN certificate were distributed among the participants. Guadalupe, December 1st.
13. " First Day of educational dissemination on the Geopark" of the high school "Las Villuercas" of the municipality of Guadalupe. It included presentations on the Geopark for 65 pupils from 12 to 15 years. December 22.
14. Set up of the Tourist Product Geopark Villuercas Ibores Jara Club. December, 2011.
15. Hiring of the interpretation equipments for five new museums and info-centres for visitors of the Geopark.
16. Meeting of the Executive Commission of the Geopark. Decision on the new juridical and technical structure. January, 2012.

Networking

17. From September 16 to September 22: Participation in the Annual conference of Geoparks's European Network in Langesund (Geonorveiga Geopark), Norway. Assistance to the conferences with the presentation of the communication "Geo-schools: a commitment to education in the territory of the Geopark Villuercas Ibores Jara's project" and to the assembly where the Geopark's project "Villuercas Ibores Jara" received the certificate as a official member of the European Geoparks Network and the Global Network.
18. From October 24 to October 26 Working visit to the Cultural Park of Maestrazgo (Maestrazgo Geopark) with the partners of the project "Deposits of employment in Geoparks".
19. On the 16th and 17th of December: participation in the constitution of the Geoparks's Spanish Forum in the Geopark of Maestrazgo.

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1. Events/workshops/seminars

- **30. September 2011**
Open evening lecture with volcanologist Prof. H.U. Schmincke: "Eifel volcanism in the light of recent world wide volcanic activity".
- **30. September 2011**
Field seminar with Prof. H. U. Schmincke: Volcanic edificies in Eifel. Seminar on Interpretation and field studies.
- **September – Dezember 2011**
40 excursions, guided hiking tours, guided museum tours for autumn season.
- **11. November 2011**
location spotting with **regional guides** for program development
- **16. November 2011**
Workshop: Integration of Vulkaneifel Geopark into the regional **tourism strategy**

2. Geopark marketing, promotional activities and public relations

- **September 2011**
Compilation and print of **program** (DIN A5) for excursions, guides walks, guided museum tours for autumn season 2011
- **September 2011**
Start of weekly presentation of geopark programs in the **official information media** of the municipalities.
- **November 2011**
Call for tender for relaunch of **geoparks website**
- **8. February 2012**
Date of submission for bids on "Masterplan Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel"

3. Participation in meetings and projects

- **13. - 17. September 2011**
Participation in the **AC/CC meeting and 10th European Geopark Conference in GeaNorvegica Geopark, Norway**

- **September 2011**
The geopark was awarded one as one of the **winners of the contest “wir-sind-heimat” (our home-country)** by the Volks- und Raiffeisenbank (an agricultural cooperative bank) for developing a network on regional sustainable development.
- **Oktober 2011**
Winner in the contest “Clever in rural areas” in the frame of the regional LEADER activities with a submitted project focussing on the qualification of Nature and Geopark guides. Extended qualification program to reveal additional income for people in rural areas
- **12. February 2012**
Start of 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”**
- Work in process for the **“Vulkaneifel paths”**. Installation and waymarking of 360 kilometers of pathways leading to the geotops and places of interest in 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

5. Presse/Media

- weekly press information of **geopark programs**
- weekly press information with **personalized presentation** of geopark guides and programs
- 5. February
TV-broadcast (20:15, 45 min) of the SWR production “The Eifel in winter times” which was produced with the support of the geopark .

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Geopark Activities

1. The mining GeoPark, in addition to continue and promote abroad the knowledge of the historical mining heritage, once again want encourage new and valuable opportunities to meet and study and the creation of profitable international collaborations. Monday, 3 October, at the Miner's Museum of Buggerru was opened an exhibition of the student projects..
2. The mining GeoPark contributed to the creation and publication of several works. Among these deserve mention the work in comics The Mines of Sulcis. A comic story, and the book "Landscapes and Mines of Sardinia from above", promoted with the help of IGEA SpA and Carbosulcis.
3. About the activities of the current year 2012 we highlight for the scientific and international importance, the international project LANDWORKS SARDINIA 2011 RETROSPECTIVE, realized with the cooperation of the municipalities of Guspini and Arbus, under the scientific direction and coordination of the Faculty of Architecture of Alghero, Master in Mediterranean Landscape Urbanism, MMLU @ AA, led by Professor Stefan Tischer. On January 10, 2012 was held in Bangkok an event of photographic retrospective and the presentation of the documentary LANDWORKS SARDINIA 2011. The documentary, produced by an international team of researchers and university students, was realized in the most picturesque mining areas of Sardinia.
4. In February 2012 was signed an agreement to formalize a partnership between the Mining GeoPark of Sardinia and the Mining Museum of Iglesias. The Museum, of particular importance in science and education, is housed in the second oldest of the four Mining Institutes present in Italy.

Networking

5. ID Cards for implementation of the UNESCO web site for the Mining and Geological Park of Sardinia.
6. Collaboration in the book of Italian Geoparks February 2012

Activity by Partners

7. Participation of 4 forums Geoparks Italian Rome Feb. 2, 2012

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Geopark Status

1. In September 2011 the Burren and Cliffs of Moher was inscribed as a member of the European and Global Geopark Network. The award was presented to our delegation from Clare County Council and the Geological Survey of Ireland at the 10th EGN conference hosted by the Gea Norvegica Geopark in Norway. There was significant media coverage of the event in local newspapers and radio.

Geopark Activities

2. Dr. Eamon Doyle was appointed Geopark Geologist in February 2012. Many thanks to previous Geopark geologists, Dr. Maria McNamara and Dr. Ronan Hennessy, for their excellent and invaluable contributions to the Geopark project.
3. A dedicated education and activities programme is being developed in conjunction with all 11 of the visitor and educational centres in the Geopark.
4. The educational, training and interpretative materials developed during the Interreg IVB Northern Periphery Programme NEED Project continue to be distributed to visitors and the partnerships developed between the visitor centres and nature-based businesses through this programme continue to be strengthened.
5. An evening training course in Geology has been advertised for nature-based businesses and guides in co-operation with the Burren Outdoor Education Centre.
6. Successfully ran the first **Burren Geo-Explorer Day** (Oct 15th) in association with Burren Outdoor Education Centre. Geo-kayaking, caving, and hill walking events were featured.
7. Funding has been secured for the development of Geopark cultural/heritage trails around the towns and villages of the Geopark, highlighting the more 'intangible heritage' of the Geopark. These trails are being developed in collaboration with local development groups.
8. A seismometer was installed by the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS) at the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre in February 2012 as part of the Irish Seismology in Schools initiative which will contribute to students understanding of solid earth processes which give rise to earthquakes.
9. The Deputy Prime Minister of China visited the Geopark in February 2012 and remarked that there ought to be closer collaboration between the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark and Chinese Geoparks in the future.
10. A Geopark Management Group was created and met in early March (reporting to the Geopark Steering Committee) and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Geopark under the Geopark Manager.

Promotion

11. A new logo is being designed for the Geopark.
12. Ongoing updating and development of the Geopark website and integration with the NEED www.GeoNEED.org website is underway.

13. Material such as maps, guide books, video clips, presentations, posters, etc is being reviewed and developed for the promotion of the Geopark with the EGN and GGN logos.
14. Ongoing organisation of public walks and talks on the Geopark and related topics with local, regional and specialists groups.
15. Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark hosted the 2011 Irish Geological Association Field Excursion in the Burren (Oct 1st – 2nd)

Partnerships & Support

16. Active involvement in the EGN sub-committee formed to develop guidelines on the use of GGN and EGN logos by local businesses and partners within Geoparks
17. Discussions are ongoing with local partner, the Burren Ecotourism Network, on packaging and promoting activity and accommodation tourism packages and other tourism services in the Geopark, and the associated use of logos.
18. Presentation on the Geopark at the Geopark Ireland Forum hosted in the Copper Coast Geopark, October 13th -14th.
19. Attendance at the 29th EGN Co-ordination committee meeting in Subbeticas Geopark, Spain, March 7th to 10th.
20. Geological Survey of Ireland continued to provide financial and technical support to the Geopark.

Publications

21. Article on Burren Geopark submitted to **Earth Science Ireland** magazine for Autumn publication
22. Research paper submitted to **Geological Society of America** (Co-authored with NEED partners) on Geopark and NEED education resources.
23. Participation in **UK-Ireland Limestone Pavement Conservation Group** conference in the Burren
24. Presented Geopark at launch of new **Irish Geological Association western branch** in Galway
25. Science Spin Magazine article published about Burren Geopark
26. Submitted information and photos to Global Earth Observation Section Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences UNESCO for Global Geoparks website

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For further information on the Geopark please visit www.burren.ie