

# EUROPEAN GEOPARKS NETWORK



## Geopark Progress Reports

*March 2013 - September 2013*

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Burren and Cliffs of Moher - REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
Karavanke / Karavanken - SLOVENIA and AUSTRIA
Muskau Arch - GERMANY- POLAND
North West Highlands – SCOTLAND UK
Réserve Géologique de Haute - Provence – FRANCE
Vikos-Aoos - GREECE

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

### **Environmental Education Activities**

1. Realization of a training course for school teachers about “Vital energy”, at the Park’s Environmental Educational Centre “Villa Santi”;
2. Realization of a training course for the Park’s seasonal employees (30 persons) about the Adamello Brenta Geopark;
3. Educational programmes about geology and geoconservation in Adamello Brenta Geopark for the schools of the Park’s territory;
4. Educational project about “Water in all its forms” for the children of kindergarten;
5. Environmental education activities for children of the “Young section” of the Alpine Club about geology at the Agostini mountain hut in July;
6. Realization of the inter-religious and inter-cultural project through Europe with the mountain as connection, financed by the Autonomous Province of Trento, in July 2013;
7. “English summer camp” from 20<sup>th</sup> June to 5<sup>th</sup> July at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;
8. “German summer camp” from 18<sup>th</sup> August till 1<sup>st</sup> September at the Park’s Educational Centre “Villa Santi”, developing also Geopark’s theme;

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

9. 26 activities of communication and education with geotouristic goals together with an expert guide, aimed at reading and comprehending the landscape under a geological and geomorphological point of view, where also wildlife, botanical, historical and cultural aspects are considered. Such activities are run in the framework of the promotion program “A Park summer”, i.e. from June 15<sup>th</sup> to Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and in cooperation with the local tourism boards;
10. Weekly activities during summer for children addressed to the discovery of the geology of the Geopark;
11. New interpretive and educational activities for the valorisation of the Geopark and its Geosites: “The Dolomitic waterfalls and gorge”, “Open pit marble quarries”, “The flower footpath on the traces of the First World War” (Vallesinella, Val di Breguzzo and Adamello).
12. 18 naturalistic evening about “EGN, Adamello Brenta Geopark and Brenta Dolomites WHS”, “To the discovery of Adamello Brenta”, “Sustainable energy in nature”, “Glaciers of the Adamello-Brenta”, “The blue gold: water as a precious resource in nature and culture”, hold all over the municipalities of the Park during the summer;
13. Planning and carrying out of the EGN week from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, which is the period of maximum touristic flow in the region;
14. Participation to the “Agricultural fair” in Cles, to the “GustoPolis fair” in Gabicce, to the “Melissa fair” in Croviana, to the “Start project” in Caderzone

- where the Geopark was presented;
15. Publication of several articles about the Geopark on local newspapers/magazines;
  16. Organization of one week package holiday in July at the Nature House “Villa Santi” dedicated to the discovery of the rich geology of the Park;
  17. Attendance at the “Days of Protected Areas” in Trento (24<sup>th</sup> May), in cooperation with the Protected Areas of Trentino and the Autonomous Province of Trento;
  18. Realization of an “educational” for the employees of the local Tourist Offices about the activity with geotouristic topic “Walking at the sunset in the Brenta Dolomites” in June;
  19. Realization of new geo-gadgets.

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

20. Participation to the 8th IAG International Conference on Geomorphology in Paris from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August through a poster and a presentation hold by Alessia Pica from the University La Sapienza Roma about “The enhancement of a geotourist trail in the Adamello Brenta Nature Geopark”;
21. Updating of the Park’s touristic flows and tourist facilities;
22. Prosecution, in collaboration with SAT Glaciological Committee, of the scientific researches regarding surveys, measurements and mappings of the Park glaciers;
23. Survey through questionnaires during the summer about the sustainable tourism in the Dolomites carried out by the “Dolomiti Unesco Foundation” in collaboration with Eurac (European Academy of Bolzano) and the provincial authorities of Belluno, Bolzano, Pordenone, Trento and Udine;
24. Stage of Daniele Dellagiacomma student of Economy University of Trento, Elena Ravanelli and Matteo Tomasina student of Touristic and economy High School, during the summer.

#### **Activities regarding the European Geoparks Network**

25. Participation in the 31<sup>st</sup> EGN Meeting at Unesco headquarters in Paris in March 2013;
26. Revalidation mission to Sobrarbe Geopark in July 2013.

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**Geopark activities**

1. Oral communication titled *Interventi materiali ed immateriali nell'Apuan Alps Geopark* during the 5<sup>th</sup> National Conference “Geology and tourism”, Bologna, June, 6-7
2. Oral communication titled *La carta escursionistica e geoturistica delle Alpi Apuane* during the 5<sup>th</sup> National Conference “Geology and tourism”, Bologna, June, 6-7
3. Guided excursion, geoeducation for kids, laboratory to Apuan Alps geosites
4. Guided excursion along “Chestnut path” and “marble path” (Forno di Massa)
5. “My history”: play and musical event about the topic of our memory (Forno di Massa)
6. “My passion: tasting the Apuan Alps”, cooking class with typical products in a Geopark certified structure
7. Awarding of “Km zero menu” prizes; competition for the promotion of typical products and tasting
8. Exhibition of the Contest “The Geopark in the exercise book”, collection of poems, stories, interviews, recipes and drawings in memory of Giuseppe Nardini, Past President of the Geopark (Bosa di Careggine. Lucca)
9. Summer camps for kids (150 pupils in 8 weeks)
10. “Solstizio d'estate”: workshops, tasting local products, art exhibitions in Pruno di Stazzema
11. Start up of the ApuanGeoLab, interactive museum with exhibition halls where mechanical exhibits guide visitors along an ideal journey to discover the continuous transformations of Earth in geologic time (Equi Terme Visitor Center, Massa Carrara)
12. Realization of promotional banners about geological heritage of the Geopark
13. Bike tour to get to know the Geopark, Bosa di Careggine (Lucca)

14. Didactic project with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark
15. “Sapori”: promotion and tasting of Geopark local products in Fivizzano
16. “Alpi Apuane 2013”: National award about poetry and fair tales
17. Planning activities about LifePlus Project 2013
18. Attendance at “Festival La Versiliana” (6 July – 31 August) with a permanent exhibition dedicated to the promotion of the Geopark
19. Submission of two papers and two posters for the 12<sup>nd</sup> Geoparks Conference (Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark)

### **Networking**

1. Attendance at the 30<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, hosted by UNESCO in Paris (France)
2. Attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> Italian Geopark Workshop, hosted by Mining Park of Sardinia
3. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in [www.apuanegeopark.it](http://www.apuanegeopark.it)
4. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in [www.apuaneturismo.it](http://www.apuaneturismo.it)

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Signature of a specific agreement with the University of Pisa and Siena in order to realize the “Geomorphological and neotectonic Map of the Geopark”
2. “Discovering the Geopark”, guided visit, summer camp and excursion for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives
3. Project in collaboration with National Council of Research of Italy about geotouristic map of the Geopark
4. Project in collaboration with ToscoEmilian Appennin Park about the presence of wolf

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**Territorial Research, Protection and Management**

1. Research works on the geological and other heritage values of the Montemuro and Gralheira (ADRMAG | LAG area) - march to august;
2. Approval of the «Active Management of the Arouca Geopark» application, which will provide the improvement of 10 geosites - June;

**Exhibitions and Events**

3. Participation at the Lisbon Tourism Fair, at FIL, Lisbon – from 27 February to 3 march;
4. Participation with oral presentations at the conferences «Geopark/ Natural Park Sicó, future or utopia?» - 17 April and "Sado and Mira's Paths» in Lousal – 23 July
5. Organization of the exhibition «Paleoart: fossils that come alive» - 15 May to 14 July
6. Co-organization and promotion of «Arouca: A Historical Recreation» - 12 to 14 July;
7. Organization of the exhibition «Enchanted Mountain» at S. Pedro Hotel - July;
8. Collaboration on the «Month of July with activities for seniors» - July;
9. Arouca Geopark hosts a stage of the 75<sup>th</sup> Tour of Portugal Bike – 11 August;

**Educational activities**

10. Participation with a promotional stand at the national fair for education «Qualifies» at Exponor - 26 to 29 April;
11. Presentation of the project annual school contests as innovative projects in the international seminar «Innovative Projects in Education - Dynamics of Participation, Involvement and Educational Innovation», in Porto - 27 and 28 May;
12. Collaboration at the «Geosapo Hour», promoted by the School Pole of Burgo, which created games related to the Arouca Geopark's geosites - until May;
13. Organization of the seminar «Water that unites us», on the World Environment Day, at the Secondary School of Arouca - 5 May;
14. Launch and presentation of the book «The Enigma of Black Stone» - 8 June;
15. Collaboration on the training course for teachers «The contribution of Geoparks for teaching experimental science» - 5 July;
16. 3.379 visits of students, under the Educational Programs - March to August;
17. Support on the construction of a herbarium, along with students Alvarenga - May;
18. Support to the students of Escariz Group of Schools to build a spiral of herbs and interpreted visit to Espiunca village - April;

**Scientific Activities**

19. Organization and development of eight actions in Arouca Geopark inserted in the national initiative «Living Science in the Summer" - July and August;

**Touristic Activities**

20. Participation and oral presentation at the presentation of the «Touristic Tours on World Heritage», in Vila Nova de Foz Côa - 13 March;
21. Organization of the visit of the Secretary of State for Tourism - 18 and 19 April;
22. Organization of the visit of Latin America ambassadors - 17 May;
23. Launch of the AroucaGeobox - voucher Arouca Geopark - 7June;
24. Presentation of the guide «Mines and Geology of Northern Portugal» in Vila Pouca de Aguiar, which contains the Arouca Geopark - 20 June;
25. Participation at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Travel Fair Mundo Abreu at FIL, Lisbon – 6 and 7 April;
26. 1.775 tourists visited the Arouca Geopark tourism office - March to August;
27. About 4.000 tourists visited the Arouca Geopark (guided visits) - March to August;
28. 12.000 people visited the Casa das Pedras Parideiras, Interpretative Centre - March to August;
29. Participation in the seminar «Nature Tourism Strategic Product in Porto and Northern Portugal: Relevance, Challenges and Opportunities» - 28 May;
30. Support on activities of others entities such as: 4<sup>th</sup> Arouca Racing Event held at Arouca Geopark (3 August), 57th Meeting of Firemen (5 May) and visit of the Rotary of the Senior University of Matosinhos (2 March);

**Promotion**

31. Promotion of cultural, touristic and sport activities - March to August;
32. Support on the reportage about the Arouca Geopark by the Local Vision TV - March;
33. Issue of Geosphere 7 documentaries on the national channel RTP 2 - 3 to 6 June;



34. Support and collaboration on the 3D map supplement and the reportage entitled «The trail of the Earth» about the Arouca Geopark on the National Geographic - April;
35. The site [www.vejaportugal.pt](http://www.vejaportugal.pt) published the article «Stones that give birth are a legendary phenomenon and a touristic attraction» - 27 June;
36. The Jornal de Notícias – National newspaper, published the article «Enlarge Geopark to attract more people» - 5 August;
37. About 75 reports in the local, regional, national and international press;

#### **Projects / partnerships**

38. Organization and promotion of the photo contest «Arouca Geopark: landscapes and culture», in partnership with the Arouca Photo Movement - Oct 2012 to June 2013;
39. Organization and promotion of actions to raise awareness about the use of wool, along with the Semente de Futuro - Social Cooperative - 14 April;
40. Organization and promotion of Gastronomic Weekends, along with the Porto and Northern Portugal, Tourism Entity - 3 to 5 April;
41. Organization of training course «Planning and implementing promotional activities», in collaboration with ADRIMAG and CEARTE - 13 June;
42. Integration of the event «June - Month of the Partners of the Guide of Mines and Sites of Mining Geological Interest in Portugal» - June;
43. Celebration the «Night on Earth» with Museum of the University of Coimbra- 22 June;
44. Participation in the meeting of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, held at the Terras de Cavaleiros aspiring Geopark - 26 and 27 July;
45. Support on course training «Program of Environmental Volunteer, at Freita Mountain, in collaboration with the «Burned Land Movement» - 13 July;
46. Launch of the Arouca Geopark Game, in partnership with National Geographic Portugal - April and May;
47. Support in «Spring Photo Walk», sponsored by Arouca Photo Movement – 4 May;

#### **EGN Participation**

48. Organization of the workshop «Innovation and Development - Case Studies: European Geoparks», with the participation of Maestrazgo and Sobrarbe - 15 March;
49. Organization of a business mission, where four members of AGA visited the Sobrarbe Geopark – 17 to 21 March;
50. Participation in 31st European Geoparks Meeting in Paris - March;
51. Organization of the European Geoparks Week – 24 May to 9 June;
52. Participation in the workshop «Let's speak in Portuguese» sponsored by Portuguese Forum of Geoparks and Brazil Mission at UNESCO in Paris – 26 June;
53. Participation in the working group «Initiative UNESCO Global Geoparks» - 26 June;
54. Organization of the visit of the evaluators of EGN to Arouca Geopark - 7 to 9 July;

#### **Management Structure**

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

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### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing news on the EGN CC 31. meeting in Paris in the media, on the website and Facebook, March 2013.
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, March–August 2013.
3. Closure of the process of trademark protection regarding the Bakony–Balaton Geopark denomination and logo, March 2013.
4. Guided geotours, geo-camps and geopedagogic programmes with altogether more than 800 participants, carried out by the new member of the Geopark Group, March–August 2013.
5. Extending and updating the information related to the Geopark in the smartphone application, developed by our management body. Promoting the application during a media event (Budapest), April 2013.
6. Celebrating and active promoting of the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2013', assigned to the Palaeokarst Nature Conservation Area of Úrkút: geotours, photo- and mineral exhibition, quiz, April–August 2013.
7. Organising the prevention of an emergency situation (extreme high water level) in the most popular geotouristic interpretive site of the Geopark, the Tapolca Lake Cave, April 2013.
8. Organising the final of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest (for 17 elementary school groups, selected out of 67 groups), April 2013.
9. Closing an EU project that financed the management of geological nature conservation objects of the Geopark (427,000 €), April 2013.
10. On the occasion of Earth Day, the Head of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Group received a Ministerial Award from the Minister of the Ministry for Rural Development for his outstanding work in the field of geological nature conservation and for launching the Bakony–Balaton Geopark programme successfully, April 2013
11. An oral presentation of the Geopark at the Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary (Budapest), May 2013.
12. Signing the cooperation agreements with the trained geotour-guides, our Geopark Partners, promoting the event (among other topics) by a press conference, consultation with the Geopark Partners. June 2013.
13. Promoting the Geopark in the Castle Festival of Várpalota town. Providing free entrance and guided tours to the Várpalota Sand Pit Nature Conservation Area in cooperation with the local government, June 2013.
14. Providing a varied geological educational programme in the Várpalota Sand Pit Nature Conservation Area for local student groups, with the help of a local civil organisation. More than 350 participants, June 2013.
15. Oral presentation and field trip guiding during the itinerary congress of the Hungarian Geological Society, organised in our Geopark, June 2013.
16. Surveying a recently recognised geosite (travertine dams), planning a future nature trail in the vicinity of Felsőörs settlement, July 2013.

17. Geological educational programme for children in Felsőörs, a geotour, a presentation within the programmes of the “Day of the Village”, July 2013.
18. Preparing a new interpretive board (also in English) about the Geopark in the renewed Boroszlán nature trail in the Bakony Mountains, July 2013.
19. Programmes for 9 days in the Valley of Arts Festival (Kapolcs), one of the most popular summer festivals of Hungary: presentations, geotours, exhibition, children’s programmes, inviting a paleontologist and a volcanologist, July–August 2013.
20. Inviting an internationally renowned volcanologist to give a presentation and to consult with the Geopark’s geotour-guides, August 2013.

### **Networking**

21. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 10, March 2013.
22. Participation in the 31st European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Paris, March 2013.
23. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week: geotours, oral presentations, inviting the Papuk Geopark (Croatia) to the Lavender House Visitor Centre, the eastern gate of our Geopark (Tihany), May–June 2013.
24. A three days-long visit to and organised by the Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark, as a reward for the winners of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest, June 2013.

### **Activity by Partners**

25. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by the Geopark), March–August 2013.
26. Discussion with the Economic Committee of Várpalota town concerning the geotourism development of the Várpalota Sand Pit Nature Conservation Area, May 2013.
27. Celebrating our Geopark during the most important community event ('Day of the Village') in the Palaeokarst Nature Conservation Area of Úrkút, the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2013', June 2013.
28. Discussion with the tourism professionals (TDM organisation, etc.) of Veszprém town about the possibilities of utilising the geotourism potential of the county seat (e.g. interpretive boards), August 2013.

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## Geopark activities

- Geopark newsletter number 2. Sent by post to all homes of Geopark with latest news of The Geopark. The aim is to raise the awareness of the population.
- Summer tourism promotion of the Geopark in many different media (press, radio, magazines...)
- The summer program of Geopark guided visits was presented in the Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa (Regional Government) press room by the representatives of the geopark and institutional representation of the government. This fact shows the commitment of the institutions with the Geopark.
- Extended agreement with de Basque Government (rural development department) in order to make available a rural development agent for the Geopark for one more year.
- European Geoparks Week 2013
- Geopark tourist promotion at Avrilexpo Fair in Biarritz (France). Strengthening international tourism promotion.
- Definition, writing and recording in English and French the script of the boat guided visit. It is offered to the foreigners through audioguides.
- Gastronomy event related to Gustum Project, leaded by rural development agencies, was carried out in the Geopark among restaurants and farmers in order to increase the awareness of the use of local products.
- Geolodía, the day of geology. In all Spanish regions at the same time, this year was held in our geopark with a wide participation of general public.
- Promotional and educational video on the karstic valleys supporting the development of the inland valleys of the Geopark.
- Carrying out a new touristic product “Geopark by car” other way to know other spots in the geopark.
- Continue with the work to stablish the indicators in order to measure the effect of the geopark in different aspects (social, economic, environment, culture)
- National Conference on Geological Heritage, Segovia (june 2013). An active roll during de conference: Paper and workshop moderator. Aproval of the application submitted to organize the next conference in 2015 in the Basque Coast Geopark.
- The documentary “The whispers of the rocks” after a long way around the world and more than one award in cinema festivals. Now available in DVD in the tourism offices promoted by the Geopark.

## Networking

1. Continue with Geoempleo Project with 13 Spanish participants regions, it will finish at the end of 2013.
2. Continue the collaboration with the Geopark Project of El Hierro - Canary Islands (Aspiring Geopark) based on the model of the Basque Coast.
3. Continue the collaboration with the Geopark Project of Menorca - Balear Islands (Aspiring Geopark) based on the model of the Basque Coast.
4. Teaching in the Geoparks Management Intensive Course (Lesvos September, 2012.)
5. "Green Employability" european project came to our Geopark to know the experience and the networking process.
6. Representatives of a Brazilian aspiring Geopark came to our Geopark to know our experience.
7. "Management of the geological heritage and Geoparks" conference in Zaragoza University by the scientific director of the Geopark
8. Basque Coast two representatives in European Geoparks Network CC meeting in Paris.
9. Basque Coast Geopark is part of the organization of the AEPECT Conference Bilbao 2014. One of the field trips offered in the conference will be the visit to the geopark.

## Activity by Partners

- Continue UPV-EHU Basque University Thesis about the Karst in the Geopark
- 5 new tourism experiences available in the region carried out by Debegesa (local development agency and member of the Director's Board of the Geopark) related to Basque rural sports and gastronomy.
- The Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa, member of de Director's Board, has promoted the formation of a beach dune in order to solve the sand movements in the beach.

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### **GEOPARK ACTIVITIES**

1. Pedestrian rally for children in Montmélian, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> Eductour Geopark for touring operators, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
3. Starting of the Past-Present-Futur study for a geo-road linking the 2 natural lakes, Geoparks International Development, first field visit on 29-30<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
4. Energy Advice Program for the local communities, guidance for saving and using renewal energies, 2-3 years long program started on April 2013.
5. Achievement of the online geological field book for secondary school, <http://www.parcdesbauges.com/documentation-en-ligne/download-document/1041-livret-geologie.html/>, May 2013.
6. Realization of four aromatic and medicinal plants gardens, May 2013
7. Edition of the Flavours' Paths leaflet, May 2013.
8. Study of the alpine pasture insects, May-July 2013
9. Flowering meadows Bauges' contest 2013, agriculture and biodiversity, 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013
10. Opening of the "Rewild game", alternate reality to discover the territory trough outdoor activities, <http://rewild.fr/>, June 2013.
11. Edition of the guide for summertime activities in the thematic houses, more than 75 animations on heritages and arts, June 2013.
12. Opening of the live video system to observe Chamois in the Fauna Flora House, June 2013.
13. Edition of the new Bauges Geopark guidebook, June 2013.
14. Edition of the geosites' Paths leaflet, June 2013.
15. Opening of the Water heritage trail, Les Allues, June 2013.
16. Setting-up of the new scientist council, expanded to new disciplines, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
17. Edition of the 2<sup>nd</sup> tale interactive guidebook, "Cyclamon and the map of the underground world", June 2013.
18. Shooting of the promotional film on the free flight master plan, June 2013.
19. Starting of the common communication study for the four Geopark's ski-resorts, June 2013.
20. Achievement of the "Bauges biking tour" touristic product, leaflet and website, <http://www.lesbaugesavelo.com/>, June 2013.
21. Shooting of the "Des Racines et des Ailes", French national TV program about heritage, June 2013.
22. Publication of the Vegetal Path leaflet linking 29 points of interest, June 2013
23. National working groups on Nature Park brands, 25<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
24. Summertime exhibitions in the cultural heritage house: "The life in the fold", Ursula Meyer's paintings ; "Métaformismes", Jean-Michel Kaartuz-Etienne's sculptures ; "Photographic moments", Léon Aymonier, former local photographer, 28<sup>th</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
25. Opening of the renew Lescheraines' leisure area, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
26. Opening of the Chéran's Islands Geotrail, discover the oldest Bauges' inhabitant, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013
27. Edition of two new guidebooks to discover museums, "Old sawmill, Bellecombe en Bauges" and "Viuz-Faverge archaeological museum, Faverge", July 2013.
28. Welcoming of the « Etape du Tour », amateur cyclists race of the Tour de France, local products promotion, echo-charter enforcing, green patrol, (<http://www.letapedutour.com/ET1/us/eco-charter.html>), 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
29. Schools Day, annual event with primary schools, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013

30. Opening of the Garins' landslide geotrail, July 2013.
31. Welcoming of the Tour de France 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> stages, territorial promotion with land art installations, 19-20<sup>th</sup> July 2013.
32. Pastoral hike day. Jarsy, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2013.
33. Bats' Night, 23<sup>th</sup> August 2013.
34. Local guides training on geology and geoheritage, 4 and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
35. Agreement of the Geopark's educational program by the ministry of education, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013
36. Professionals of tourism meeting, partnership with the Geopark, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
37. 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Bauges National Wildlife Reserve, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2013.

### **NETWORKING**

1. Study trip in Rila, Bulgaria, visit report on Rila Geopark project, André GUERRAZ, March-April 2013.
2. Leader program cooperation on geotourism, final general meeting in Bauges, Geoparks Arouca, Luberon and Bauges. Professionals of tourism, partnership with Geoparks, expectations and partners' network promotion, 10-12<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
3. Leader program cooperation on wine-tourism between Pilat Nature Park and Bauges Geopark, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
4. Welcoming of Mr Perret from Quebec, Charlevoix Geopark project, June 2013
5. Welcoming of a delegation from Leye-Fengshan Geopark, China 30<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013.
6. Participation to the EGN committee meeting and conference. Italy, 3-6<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

### **ACTIVITIES BY PARTNERS**

1. Participation to the Sustainable Development Week in Chambéry, activities for children, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013
2. Participation to the Sustainable Development Week in Annecy, Energies 5-6<sup>th</sup> April 2013
3. Literary meetings, Geopark cultural heritage House, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
4. Opening of a tree trail, discover the Cheran's gold, Lescheraines, June 2013
5. Participation to the "Vas-y-Palette", biking for children and activities on heritages, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013.
6. Welcoming of the national canyoning annual meeting, 21-23<sup>rd</sup> June 2013.
7. "Nature and Music in Bauges" festival, 10<sup>th</sup> July to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013
8. Lumberjacks' event, Aillon le Jeune, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2013
9. Welcoming of the International UNESCO World Heritage Prehistoric Pile Dwellings Meeting, Lake Annecy, 27<sup>th</sup> September

Contact: Jean-Luc Desbois [jl.desbois@parcdesbauges.com](mailto:jl.desbois@parcdesbauges.com)

*During last six months Beigua Geopark staff continued his work to improve the geological heritage conservation and promotion activities within the frame of the wider and more complex strategy of conservation of the natural and historical-cultural heritage that the protected areas has.*

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

### **EGN – GGN activities**

1. Attendance at the 31<sup>st</sup> EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Paris - UNESCO (France) on March 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013
2. Acting as Coordinator (Maurizio Burlando) of the National Forum of Italian Geoparks
3. Contacting the Italian Delegation for UNESCO in Paris about the UNESCO Geoparks item in discussion on June 2013
4. Attendance at the 5<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Italian Association for Geology & Tourism on 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in Bologna (poster presentation)
5. Attendance at the 5<sup>th</sup> Workshop of Italian Geoparks 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013 in Sardinia Geomining Park
6. Evaluation mission (by Maurizio Burlando) in El Hierro aspiring Geopark, Spain, July 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> 2013
7. Revalidation mission (by Marco Firpo) in Chelmos - Vouriakos Geopark, Greece, July 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 2013
8. Collaboration with the Italian Geoparks to update the official web site of Italian Geoparks ([www.geoparchitaliani.it](http://www.geoparchitaliani.it)) and the official Facebook profile of Italian Geoparks (Geoparchi Italiani)
9. Preparation of the 32<sup>nd</sup> EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy) on September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013
10. Submission of three abstracts for the 12<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy) on September 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2013
11. Submission of the Activity Progress Report March-August 2013 to Basque Coast Geopark in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and discussed during the 32<sup>nd</sup> EGN CC Meeting in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy)

### **Geopark events and progress**

12. Regular programs of walks and guided tours were realized in Spring and Summer 2013
13. Educational programs specially dedicated to geological risks and natural hazards working with the Regional Authority for Civil Defence and involving local schools. Not only geology; others educational programs for school were realized in Beigua Geopark during Spring 2013 about the following themes: sustainable development, ornithology, rural activities
14. Two new editions of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in April 2013 (Spring) and July 2013 (Summer). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, the European Geoparks Network, etc.
15. Six issues of the monthly electronic newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site) has been uploaded. It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (<http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews>)



16. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews
17. Opening of a new “geo-archeological trail” with the publication of two new materials: the catalogue-book about the geo-archeological inventory of rupestrian inscriptions in the Beigua Geopark area and the educational booklet about the “geo-archeological trail”
18. Publication of new promotional and interpretative materials about the geotourism activities along the coast area of the Beigua Geopark “Geotourism by land and sea - Discovering Lungomare Europa in Varazze”: 1. guide-book (Italian language), 2. guide-map (italian and english languages) – August 2013
19. Monitoring visitors attendance along the trails network of Beigua Geopark

## **20. European Geoparks Week 12<sup>th</sup> May – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2013 (the most successful events)**

### Geo Sport activities

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

### Geo Educational Programs

As usual, on 24<sup>th</sup> May the final event about “Geodiversity and Educational Programs” has been given to coincide also with the “European Day of Parks” with the participation of all classes of the schools from Sassello and from other Municipalities which participated in educational activities proposed by the Educational Centre of Beigua Geopark. This event included the opening of a new educational structure of the Beigua Geopark in the Deiva Forest area.

### Geo Excursions

Several guided visits have been offered to discover the most interesting geological, geomorphological, floristic and wildlife sites in the Geopark, with the partnership of the Italian Alpine Club, the Italian Association of Geology and Tourism (G&T Day), the Italian Association UISP and other local associations.

### Environmental fair

On 25<sup>th</sup> May the Geopark staff organized a promotional open-air stand within the annual fair “Parks for the Public” in Genoa (Sestri Ponente). The fair has been organized with the support of the Regional Network of Protected Areas of Liguria

### Geo Culture

On 24<sup>th</sup> May Geopark presented the new book "PEAKS AND PATHS OF BEIGUA GEOPARK" (by Andrea Parodi, geologist, famous mountaineer and writer) which describes in detail 84 trails and hiking in Beigua massifs. The day after a photographs exhibition about Beigua Geopark, again by Parodi, has been launched.

On 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> May Arenzano - GREEN FEST 2013; festival about environmental sustainability initiatives, promoted and organized by the volunteers associations of Arenzano with photographic exhibitions, workshops, games, music, local products.

## **Activities by others Organizations**

21. Field works and researches in Beigua Geopark leaded by the Environment and Earth Sciences Department of the University of Genoa in May and June 2013.
22. Field trips and sports outdoor activities by local organizations (CAI, FIE, UISP, etc)

*Maurizio Burlando - direttore @parcobeigua.it*

*Marco Firpo - firpo @dipteris.unige.it*

**1. April 2013**

- Geopark on site training Felsenmeer
- Preparation Adventuretrail wine and culture
- Visit of delegates of Hong Kong, Alxa- and Hexigten Global Geoparks,
- Presentation of new panels wine and rocks trail
- Geopark on site meetings: program development
- Certificate celebration of the training “Roman Remains in our Region” in cooperation with HessenArchäologie and OdenwaldTourismus
- Celebration of the “Forest Art village” in cooperation with International Forest Art Association (BankArt project)
- Meeting of the Hessian Nature Parks, presentation of common PR conception
- Meeting of the regional network of infocentres, entrance gates and environmental pedagogic stations
- Unveiling ceremony of the geopoint Nieder-Ramstadt (economic history, geology, ecology, protection)
- Opening of Geopark trail Höpfingen
- Cycling event on Geopark trails
- Publication of new brochures (Geopark geology, Geopark trails)
- Activity day for Geopark on site groups at the Felsenmeer
- Environmental education tour from the German Nature Park Association
- Publication of electronic Geopark newsletter

**2. May 2013**

- Meeting of all Geopark Entrance Gates and Info-Centres
- Launch of a questionnaire based survey of Geopark Entrance Gates and Info-Centres
- European Geoparks Week: 61 events allover the territory
- Preparation of Geopark photo exhibition Abtsteinach
- Workshop and meeting National Geoparks
- Start of first Geopark on Site tour guide training for cycling tours
- Conference “Geotope 2013” with workshop, meetings, and presentation
- Geopark on site meetings with program development
- Opening of MTB trails Brombachtal and Modautal
- Second round of the training ““Roman Remains in our Region”
- Guided MTB tour in cooperation with local newspaper
- Opening of Geopark adventure trail Wine and Culture, Heidelberg
- Hessian Nature Park hiking day
- Day of the open door International Forest Art Centre Darmstadt
- Geopark Ranger adventure day with local farmers
- Presentation of Geopark honey from the Felsenmeer
- Publication of electronic Geopark newsletter
- Communication training for local guides at the Felsenmeer

### **3. June 2013**

- Geo-Naturepark and WHS day
- First regional MTB activity day
- Opening of Geopark photo exhibition Abtsteinach
- Geo-workshop with Geopark Rangers at WHS Messel Pit: With Rangers to the rain forest
- Opening of museum and family park Hirschhorn
- Activity day along the river Neckar: lively Neckar
- Presentation of Naturepark discovery vests for outdoor activities of the Geopark Rangers and cooperation partners
- Examination of Geopark on site guides at the Felsenmeer
- Publication of electronic Geopark newsletter
- Meeting of Executive Geopark Board
- Meeting of all Geopark on site groups with field trip

### **4. July 2013**

- Meetings with Geopark on site-guides
- Planning of new Geopark on site-trainings
- Publication of Geopark magazine
- Preparation meeting for new sandstone information centre, Amorbach
- Preparation meeting Geopoints for local communities
- Preparation meetings for project "Solardraisine"
- Presentation of Geopark, WHS Messel and Lorsch on Hessen TV
- Preparation meeting and fieldtrip for the celebration of the Geotope 2013
- Meeting with local museum Pfungstadt
- Geoworkshop with Geopark Rangers at WHS Messel Pit: With Rangers to the fossils

### **5. August 2013**

- Publication of electronic Geopark newsletter
- Launch of a questionnaire based survey of geopark local authorities
- Meetings with Geopark on site-guides
- Preparation meeting for the celebration of the Geotope 2013
- Certificate celebration for the Geopark on site guides Felsenmeer
- Opening of the "Solardraisine" Überwald
- Preparation of Geopark photo exhibition Bad König
- Geoworkshop with Geopark Rangers at WHS Messel Pit: With Rangers to the volcano
- Ranger activities for local communities during school summer holidays
- Discover Earth history – Geopark school program with the Burghardt Gymnasium
- Meeting of the MTB local ambassadors
- Visit of a 50 person delegation from three German nature parks (presentation of information infrastructure)

Contact: Claudia Eckhardt, Jutta Weber

Environmental Education:

1. **Geo-Schools:** 330 kids visited the “House of the Volcanoes” in the program “Learning to Read the Stones” from March to June.
2. **“Collaborator enterprises educational program”:** J-126, Malcaminos and Subparke (among others enterprises) conducted several educational visits to the Geopark and to the House of the Volcanoes.
3. **“El Albardinal” Botanic Garden.** One of the most visited centre in Andalusia’s Botanical Garden Network.
4. **Educational programs in Cabo de Gata:** “Nature for all”, “Andalusia in its Parks” and “Open days”.
5. **Geopark and educators:** Geopark attended the *educator centre* in the Province for a field course.
6. **Collaboration with universities:** The Geopark manages all the permits to national, EU and outside EU universities in their field trips and research projects, providing assistance and guidance. In figures, the Geopark attended directly to 133 university students.

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. **Filming:** The Geopark manages all the permits to conduct filming in the area, including spots, photography, movies and documentals.
9. **Cultural events:** painting, photography and diverse exhibitions at the Geopark’s facilities.
10. **“X Classic Music Festival”:** during July Rodalquilar was the stage for several concerts with the collaboration of the Geopark.
11. **“Season Film Festival”:** at Escullos castle
12. **Geoloday 2013** The Geopark was 2013 coordinator of the Geological day in Almeria, with a great success in participation and social and media repercussion. This year the Geological day went to the northern part of the Geopark, to Carboneras area, with spectacular examples of fossils reefs and coastal dynamics.

Activities of Conservation, Investigation and Development in the Geopark:

13. **New management at the House of the Volcanoes.** The Geopark signed an agreement with Almeria’s Federation of people with disabilities to manage and dinamize the geotouristical centre “House of the Volcanoes”
14. **Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park, Geopark and Reserve of the Biosphere Management.** Management and environmental regulation of the territory.
15. **REDIAM:** Andalusia Environmental Information Network allows to reach environmental information regarding the Geopark.

16. **Flora and Fauna management program.** Investigation, census and management of terrestrial and marine flora and fauna.
17. **“El Albardinal” Botanic Conservation Programme:** On-going project that updates the threatened flora data base and collect seeds for the flora nursery.
18. **“ECST revalidation”:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark renewed The European Charter of Sustainable Tourism for a period of four years.
19. **LIFE Posidonia project** this Leader project develop an environmental educational program along with an special exhibition in the Geoparks facilities.

Activities related with the European Geoparks Network:

20. **“VII EGN week and III Reserve of the Biosphere days”:** In close collaboration with local enterprises, this year the EGN week offered more than 25 different activities (sea, routes, 4x4, diving, snorkel, kayak, bioroute and georoute, etc.), , environmental educational program, guided visits to the botanical garden and geotouristical centre, a thematic workshop about the Geopark as an opportunity and a workshop about quality night skies, among others activities.
21. **Attendance to 31th EGN Coordination Committee in Paris.**
22. **“Cabo de Gata-Níjar revalidation”:** After received a green card in 2009, Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark went to its four year period revalidation process.
23. **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.
24. **“Spanish Geoparks Forum”:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar coordinates the Spanish Forum of Geopark.
25. **Revalidation mission at Madonie Geopark:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark was one of the evaluators in 2013 Madonie’s revalidation mission.
26. **Revalidation mission at North West Highland Geopark:** Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark was one of the evaluators in 2013 North West Highland’s revalidation mission.
27. **Andalusian Geoparks coordination.** Coordination work with Subbeticas Geopark and Sierra Norte de Seville Geopark.
28. **EGN Corner:** reviewing of the EGN corner.

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## **Geopark Activities**

EGN-Week 2012, June 2012

### Public lectures

- “Geology and time”; March 2012
- “Meteors – a cosmic danger?”; April 2012
- “Petroleum – the black gold”; June 2012
- “Climate change”; June 2012

### Film productions

- TV Report about the “GeoPark Carnic Alps” , duration: 3-4 minutes; June 2012
- Imagefilm “GeoPark Carnic Alps” , duration: 5 minutes; August 2012; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7momtWIgVBQ&feature=youtu.be>
- TV-Report about the Gailtal Alps and its geology, duration: 45 minutes; September 2012; <http://www.br.de/fernsehen/bayerisches-fernsehen/programmkalender/sendung607316.html>
- Servus TV Film in the series “Urgewalten” (“Ur-Forces”) about “The wild Gail River”, June 15, 2012

### Projects

Excavation of the petrified tress of Laas, September 2012

## **Networking**

### Universities

- Master thesis “Geotrails in the GeoPark Carnic Alps – didactic reconception and implementation ”, Marlene Tillian 2012; function of the geopark Carnic Alps: assistance
- Bachelor thesis “The Lower Permian petrified tree trunks in the Drauzug near Laas (Carinthia), Johanna Kothe, September 2012; function of the geopark Carnic Alps: assistance

### Schools

“LIVINGSTONES” – a cross-border school project between Austria and Italy. In the frame of the Interreg IV-Project LIVINGSTONE four school classes from the Province of Carinthia, Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Veneto participated in the project. It included mutual visits, excursions and a list of performing duties for each school which finally resulted in a joint publication of two brochures. The final event took place in Italy in April 2012.

Function of geopark Carnic Alps: lead partner

### Touristic organisations

- “Nature Experience” – a LEADER project (2010-2013) which promotes the experience of nature and strengthens the cooperation between tourism and nature protection areas. Partners are all national parks, nature protection areas and geoparks of Carinthia as well as their regional touristic organisations and the touristic head organization of Carinthia (Kärnten Werbung Marketing & Innovationsmanagement GesmbH).

Function of geopark Carnic Alps: project partner; development of touristic packages and one day programmes

- Press Conference to promote the new Geotrails; held together with the regional touristic agency “Naturarena Kärnten”; June 2012
- Cooperation with tourist board of Lesachtal to install the Millnatzen Gorge iron-rope trail and geological panels along the tour.

### Homepage [www.Geopark-Karnische-Alpen.at](http://www.Geopark-Karnische-Alpen.at)

- Additional category under item “Geologie” with listing and locating of more than 100 fossil localities from the Ordovician to the end-Permian on Google Earth including references, short descriptions and photos.
- English translation of the German text. Implementation and revision of old version will be available during the next months.

### **Geopark activities**

1. Presentation of the Geoparc in the International Tourism Meeting in Barcelona. 22 April 2013.
2. Guided field trip by the Scientific Director for a high school from Sabadell, out of the Geopark, that was interested in visiting us. 9 April 2013.
3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee. 25 April 2013.
4. GEO Magazine with a special article of our Geopark inside. May 2013.
5. III International Congress on Geology and Environmental Mining in the land use and development (Cardona). Co-organization and participation. 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2013.
6. Organization of the *Geolodia 13* (Geologic day '13) in the province of Barcelona. Event held at time in whole provinces of Spain coordinated by the Geological Society of Spain. 12 May 2013.
7. Appointment as *Magister Honoris Causa* by the EPSEM (UPC) of the President of the Scientific Committee of the Geopark, Dr. Josep Maria Mata-Perelló. 17 May 2013.
8. Participation in the Expo Bages Fair (Bages). 24 May 2013.
9. Promotional article about the Geopark and *Rebost del Bages* (local producers association) written by the manager of the Geoparc. May 2013.
11. Scientific advice and support to companies, partners of the Geopark, for creating special geoactivities for the EG Week, among others.
12. Press trips and tour operator guided tours, focusing on the touristic Geopark offer:
  - Nordic journalists. Organized by the Diputació de Barcelona. May 2013.
  - German journalists. 18 May 2013.
  - French journalists. 5 June 2013.
  - Russian touristic operator. 25 June 2013.
  - Proposal of a trekking + wine + culture route for the UK Tour Operator RAMBLER'S. Visit included during the summer (yet to come at the time of the report). 16 July 2013.
13. Full collaboration with the commemoration of the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1714. Not only a project to commemorate the event but also a bridge to promote territory development. [www.bages1714.cat](http://www.bages1714.cat). Since 3 July 2013.
14. Elaboration of a promotional content page to include in a Bages Enotourism Guide, as one of a series of guides of great impact.
15. Col-laboration with the Tourism Agency of the Catalonia Government to promote the Geopark. Broadcast of the third episode of the serie "A perfect day with family through Catalonia", filmed in the territory.
16. Edition of a new promotional leaflet in different languages.



17. Promotion and support of university student's works in Geopark issues, specially geoconservation. UAB and UPC mainly.

18. Conferences and activities in the rest of the visitor's centres (El Toll Caves, Salnitre Caves, Museum of Geology Valentí Masachs, etc.)

### **Networking**

19. Celebration of the EG Week 2013. 23 May to 9 June 2013.

20. Cooperation with the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark and Arouca Geopark by sending them pictures of our Geopark for an exhibition and a promotional video spot, respectively, for the EG Week. April and May 2013.

21. Participation in the mining, intangible heritage and fossil working groups of the EGN.

### **Activity by partners**

22. Agreement with a local photographers association, "FotoArt Manresa", to provide pictures to the Geopark and in exchange Geopark will guide geological field trips for understanding the landscape and geology. April 2013.

23. The County Council assisted to the first assembly in Brussels of the European Innovation Partnership on Water, after being created in December. 18 June 2013.

24. Collaboration with CACIS, to promote the International Call for artists to stay in their residence and conduct a research project during 2014.

25. "El Parc de la Sèquia", a new partner, prepared a new field trip with geological contents. May 2013.

26. MBici incorporates geological content to its guided tours. May 2013.

### **Contact:**

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## Geopark Activities

1. Educational workshop : Water in All its Forms. Environment Day. *3rd to 4th April 2013.*
2. Exhibition "Glacial Heritage of the Chablais". *1st to 14th April – Collège du Gavot (St Paul en Chablais).*
3. Exhibition " Glacial Heritage of the Chablais" and public talks by Sylvain Coutterand (The Glacial History of the Chablais) and by Jean-Marcel Dorioz (Lake Léman). *15th to 23rd April – Salle du stade (Perrignier).*
4. Exhibition "Glacial Heritage of the Chablais". *1st May to 30th September – Musée du Chablais (Suisse).*
5. Development of a workshop "Glacial Heritage" and its accompanying booklet for teachers. *May 2013.*
6. Presentation of 23 Geosites of the Chablais : The installation of the first 8 sites out of a total of 23: Lake Montriond, the Trechauffé viewpoint, the Reyvroz viewpoint, Lake Vallon, Ecoles Lake, Chilly Marsh, Maravant Marsh, the Champeillant viewpoint. *May to August 2013.*
7. Public talk on segetal flora and sand flora by botanist Denis Jordan. *27th April - Musée de Préhistoire et de Géologie (Sciez).*
8. European Geoparks Week. Host to the conference of "Géole : Mediation in Geoscience", Geological Society of France. *24th to 26th May – Evian.*
  - a. 1 day of presentations and 1.5 days of field excursions.
  - b. 1 public talk: "Time in Geology" by Pr. Patrick De Wever – Muséum d'Histoire Naturel de Paris. *24th May - Palais des Festivités, Evian.*
9. Public talk: "Geopark Chablais, Geological Heritage" by Anne Guyomard. *25th July 2013 - Réserve des Aiguilles Rouges, Les Houches.*
10. Hosting a journalist from "Nature en France". Presentation of Geoparks and the Geopark Chablais. *25th July.*
11. 10th Edition of the Itinéraires Alpestres
  - a. Photographic exhibition: "10 Years of the Itinéraires Alpestres". *1st July to 15th August – Thonon Library.*
  - b. "When the Alpage is Thirsty". *8th August – Valleys d'Aulps and Brevon.*
  - c. "A Grain of Salt for the Alpage". *9th August – Abondance Valley.*
  - d. "When the Ground has Flavour". *10th August – Pays d'Evian.*
  - e. "Carthusian Monks in Small Steps". *11th August – Collines du Léman.*
  - f. "Have Fun Along the Way". *12th August – Thonon-les-Bains.*

## Networking

12. Participation in the European Geoparks meeting at UNESCO, Paris.
13. Making contact and developing a dialogue with the Swiss delegation to UNESCO ahead of the 2013 November vote for the integration of Geoparks as a UNESCO Initiative. Telephone calls, emails ...

14. Presentation of Geoparks and the work of the Geopark Chablais : “123 Chablais” to the delegation of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and the Development Co-operation Directorate in the context of their visit to investigate French Swiss cooperation. Countries represented : Ivory Coast, Niger, Benin, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso. 28/6/13 - Thonon
15. HINT Cooperation project (<http://www.hintproject.eu>) : Shetland Geopark, North Pennines AONB Geopark, Geopark Chablais, Hondsrug Aspiring Geopark: Completion of Progress Report n°8, Finalisation and publication of the Best Practice Guide for Using New Technologies (English and French)

### Activities by Partners

16. Archaeological and Geological Exhibition on Chablais Wines : “Earth to Vine”.  
*13th May to 30th September - Musée de Préhistoire et Géologie (Sciez).*
17. Pass’Portes du Soleil. Animated walks were offered by Geopark accredited mountain guides for the 10th Edition of the French-Swiss mountain bike event.
18. Association Thétys :
  - a. The Circuit of Thonon Water. Tuesdays, July and August.
  - b. “Bath of Carthusian Monks”. Lake Vallon. Wednesdays, July and August.
  - c. The Circuit of Evian Water. Thursdays, July and August.
  - d. “Off the Beaten Track”, Yvoire. Wednesdays, July and August.
  - e. “Geo-Calepinade” : The Landscape Between Geology and Art, 9<sup>th</sup> August.
  - f. “The Gold in the Alpages”, Morzine. 17<sup>th</sup> July.
  - g. “The Plateau of Raille, From Ocean to Alpage, ...”. Abondance. 17<sup>th</sup> July.
  - h. “The Ski Slopes of Morzine-Les Gets by Geology”. 18<sup>th</sup> July.
  - i. “Journey to the Centre of the Earth à la Verne”. 17<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July.
  - j. Walking Festival: The Trechauffé viewpoint. 21<sup>st</sup> July.
  - k. “In Search of Erosion”, Lake Montriond. 27<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August.
  - l. “Pertuis, Belair, a Story of Ice, of Sea ...” Abondance. 6<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August.
19. Lac’croche : 3 festivals mixing music and geology
  - a. Balades Acoustiques. Geological walks, concerts. *20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July - St-Paul*
  - b. Lind’Art “To Engrave the Mountain”. Public talk “Evolution of Biodiversity Over the Course of Time” by Patrick De Wever. Geological workshops, classical music concerts. *24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July - Montriond and Morzine.*
  - c. Musique au Léman. Public talk «GEOPARK, Art and Music» by Fabien Hoglea, Classical concerts. *24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July - Thonon-les-Bains.*

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### Geopark Activities

1. 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Crossing of Vouraikos gorge. May 12, 2013
2. 6th Panhellenic Tourist Exhibition Activetrip 2013 in Patras. Documentary film "Odondotos rack railway". Discussion on the topic: "Gorges, the last wild areas". The President of the Chelmos-Vouraikos Management Body presented the ecological importance of the National Park. April 14, 2013
3. Event for the World Environment Day "A feast for the environment" in the city of Patras, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.
4. Workshop on "The importance of recycling in the Municipality of Kalavrita" organized by the Environmental Education Centre of Kleitoria-Akrata and the Municipality of Kalavrita, May 22, 2013.
5. Three-day seminar on "Chelmos, the mountain where we find Gods and Myths", organized by the Environmental Education Centre of Kleitoria-Akrata for educators of Primary and Secondary Education Schools, June 14-16, 2013.

### Networking

6. Participation in the 31st EGN CC Meeting in the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris.
7. Revalidation of the Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark for membership of the European Geoparks Network, July 29-31, 2013.

### Activity by Partners

8. "Training course on scientific monitoring species and habitat types: Uniform approach to data collection methodology in the context of European Directives 92/43/EEC and 79/409/EEC", Ministry of Environment and Climatic Change, April 13-21, 2013.
9. Kalavryta - Ski center hiking path (financed through the private company "AVRA mineral water" in collaboration with the NGO ARCTUROS).

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

### **Networking**

1. Participation to the EGN CC meeting in Paris UNESCO, March 2013
2. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
3. Participation to the 5° Workshop of Italian Geoparks in Geological Mining Park of Sardinia June 2013
4. Send the letter to Italian delegation in UNESCO to ask the support for Geoparks
5. The Geopark is organizing the 12<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference and 32<sup>th</sup> CC EGN meeting

### **Geopark activities**

6. Annual program of environmental education in the schools of the park, with the purpose to introduce the young generations to environmental problems helping them to understand the values of the territory in which they live and the necessary actions for the correct maintenance and fruition. Such projects have been planned foreseeing moments of popularization in the classrooms integrated by excursions on the territory for the direct knowledge of the natural beauties and particularly of the geo-diversity present.
7. Realizing and Printed a book: "Water and Earth: resources and natural hazards, in Italian and English;
8. Realizing and Printed Field trip book as geological guide on Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark;
9. Realizing and Printed some panels that explain the Egn on geological evolution of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark
10. Realizing with ISPRA (National Geological Survey) and Printed a geological map of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark
11. Participation in national programs television as Italia uno "Wild Nature", "Easy Driver RAI 2 " –"Linea blu", where we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the EGN-GGN
12. Tour with the university students on the geosites
13. The National Park-Geopark has organized, during the summer, cultural events in some municipalities, for historical and environmental valorisation of the territory.
14. Attendance at the conference on geotourism organized by G&T (Italian association geologi and tourism) in June 2013, during this conference we presented the geoparks
15. The Geopark has organized with the Italian Alpine Club the "trekking rail"

16. Restyling of web site where you can find a section of promotion of local products and all touristic activities.
17. the Geopark has obtained funding for € 26.000.000,00 and have realized the projects to: improve some natural sites; create virtual museums, to print and produce publications for the promotion of the territory; create webgis and applications for iphone to promote geological and cultural heritage.
18. the Geopark has obtained funding for € 200.000,00 to realize Geopark's Lybrary.
19. Road show of magic Sea. A tour along the cost to promote and Valorize the marine protected areas, in association with the Rainbw (Winnks Club) and Federparchi.

#### **Activity by Parteners**

20. in August 2013 signed the Agreement for the establishment of friendly "sister" relationship between National Park of Cilento, Vallo di Diano and Alburni (European / Global Geopark and World Biosphere Reserve) in Italy and Wudalianchi Global Geopark and World Biosphere Reserve in China frontier"
21. Partecipation for LIFE project with national and international partners
22. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity

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*Angelo de Vita – direttore@cilentoediano.it*

1. Participation in Paris meeting of European Geoparks Network
2. Revalidation mission to Madonie Geopark and Evaluation mission to Alto Tajo aspiring Geopark
3. Geological Heritage Exhibition in our new Copper Coast Geopark Centre, April, May.
4. Mining Heritage Exhibition, Copper Coast Centre, June to September.
5. Partnership meeting for Metal Links InterReg project in Anglesey, Wales at “The Copper Kingdom” heritage centre.
6. Launch of “Copper Coast Miners” film series
7. National exposure on “Nationwide” TV programme (R.T.E.) about making of “Copper Coast Miners” film and the Geopark.
8. Local radio interviews – Tina Keating, John Galloway, Paula McCarthy, re. events, activities and GGN.
9. Heritage Day – Presentations on shipping, genealogy, migration etc.
10. Involvement in “The Power Gathering” and other events related to local heritage and genealogy.
11. Geophysical survey of Monksland churchyard.
12. Launch of book “Faugheen Cemetery 1723 – 2012”.
13. Community fairs in the Copper Coast Geopark Centre – April and August.
14. Seashore and Earth History workshops for French students from Kilkenny, April and May.
15. Presentation to and field-trip for Irish Association of Economic Geologists Conference. (May)

16. Presentations to visiting schools on the Seismometer in the Geopark Centre.
17. Presentation to VEC Tourism course on Geotourism and Geoparks.
18. Geographical Investigations for secondary students (May)
19. Launched our new Website [www.coppercoastgeopark.com](http://www.coppercoastgeopark.com)

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**Geopark Activities:**

1. Following local political changes and a review, the Geopark Management Group has been restructured. The elected mayor of the local administrative authority, Mayor Gordon Oliver now has a seat and has attended all meetings to date and it has led to the welcome return of Cllr Dave Butt who will now Chair the group and to the addition of Cllr Ray Hill. In addition representatives from the Torbay Development Agency and Geopark partner site Torre Abbey now have a seat. Nick Powe and Melanie Border remain as the English Riviera Global Geopark EGN Coordination Committee.
2. The Torbay Development Agency has been working in partnership with the Geopark regarding the preparation of business case to bid to host the 2016 GGN conference. The document will be presented to full council in September.
3. The Geopark submitted a funding bid to Arts Council England which was successful. Thanks to this £9,000 Arts Council Grant for the Arts, Situations — a dynamic and inspiring Bristol based arts organisation — have been awarded the contract to work with us to develop a world class artistic vision for the Geopark and the annual festival for the future. Situations have had previous involvement with the Geopark when they brought “Nowhereisland”, a floating island sourced in Norway, into the Geopark as part of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad. The report from this work will advise a way forward, to enable us to make more of, and better promote our Global Geopark Status. It will also lead to further funding bids. Meanwhile this years Festival was a success as ever with a multitude of events across the Geopark from Rock Songs and Stone Stories in the Geopark to Bat Walks at Berry Head.
4. Geopark partner site Torre Abbey has reopened to the public after a £11million regeneration project with the help of Heritage Lottery Funding. New interpretation, with the latest display techniques, have brought to life the historic building which has been not only been preserved but enhanced. The Geopark has worked closely with, and supported the site during the development and design phase and both Melanie Border and Nick Powe feature in the Abbey’s audio-visual display talking about the Geopark and Kents Cavern.
5. Early discussion has taken place with the Natural History Museum London regarding a Citizen Science project in the Geopark
6. A short film has been produced which records the activity of the English Riviera’s creative Geo-Collective when the English Riviera’s Geoquest model was shared with the community and staff of the Unzen Geopark and the delegates of Global Geopark Network at the 5<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks.

7. An article has been Submitted to Earth Heritage magazine article regarding the UK Global Geopark Forum and UK National Commission for UNESCO visit to the Geopark
8. Liaison with Exeter University continues regarding the inclusion of Geopark in new Health and Wellbeing Network and the development of a funding bid to support a research project with the theme 'Exercising in healing environments' as a route to health and wellbeing.
9. The Geopark has worked in collaboration with Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust on the development of the Geopark Coast Wise Scheme, a licensing programme to ensure providers of outdoor coastal activities, mainly kayaking and coastering abide by an agreed code of conduct.

**Networking:**

10. Participation in the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee, Paris, France
11. Geopark Coordinator Melanie Border was voted onto the EGN Advisory Committee and represented the UK Global Geoparks Forum at the UNESCO Workshop on Geoparks, Paris, France
12. Nick Powe completed revalidation mission of Geopark Harz, Braunschweiger Land, Ostfalen, Germany, with Yuanyuan Zheng, Chinese Geoparks Coordinator
13. Melanie Border completed the evaluation mission of the Molina Alto Tajo Geopark Project, Spain with John Galloway
14. Melanie Border completed the revalidation mission of Hexigten Geopark, China and Yandangshan Geopark, China, with Marie-Luise Frey
15. Organised hosted tours of the English Riviera Global Geopark have been facilitated for: (I) delegates from Hong Kong Global Geopark, Hexigten Global Geopark and China University of Geosciences Beijing. Wudalianchi Global Geopark (II) Black Country Aspiring Geopark, UK
16. Ongoing contact with Yuntaishan Global Geopark regarding a visit during Sept 2013
17. The English Riviera will soon be working with Madonie, Novohrad-Norgrad, Gea Norvegica, Bergstrasse Odenwald Geoparks on an exciting Comenius Project

Further info: Melanie Border [m.border@englishrivierageopark.org](mailto:m.border@englishrivierageopark.org)

### **Geopark Activities**

1. **Fforest Fawr Geopark General Guide (New Edition):** An improved edition was available from mid-March 2013.
2. Installation of a new information panel dealing with the cultural heritage of Abercrave a gateway community to Fforest Fawr Geopark.
3. Presentation to the Powys Family History Society on Fforest Fawr Geopark: The Limestone Legacy.
4. Fforest Fawr Geopark hosted field excursion on 16 June for the Oxford Geology Group, for The Open University, Severnside Group on 30 June, and the 'University of The Third Age' on 1 July. The Geopark also contributed to the Linnean Societies Field Excursion to North Wales on 22 -23 June.

### **Networking**

5. Participation in the Wales Colloquium of the United Kingdom National Commission for UNESCO, Aberystwyth University, 6 June 2013.

### **Partnership Activities**

6. **British Geological Survey:** The British Geological Survey is currently producing a geological map of the Geopark.
7. **The Romans in Carmarthenshire Project:** A project involving the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, National Trust Wales and Carmarthenshire County Council. This project will introduce visitors to the history of the Roman conquest of the Silures Tribe and is linked with the only Roman Gold Mine in the UK.
8. **The CALCH Project:** A project involving the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the National Museum of Wales. This exciting project will enable visitors to the Geopark to discover how limestone quarrying and the lime industry contributed to the Agrarian Revolution and the Industrial Revolution.

The Geopark was involved with the **Calch Event**: The second event within this 3 year partnership project which took place over a weekend at Herbert's Quarry, a significant geosite on 20 - 21 July.

9. **Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust and Penderyn Historical Society:** An excursion on 16 July to archaeological sites on Mynydd y Glog coupled with an exhibition.

10. **Cardiff University M.E Sci Project:** Contribution to the supervision of a project concerning the water supply to Penderyn Whisky Distillery, an important business in Fforest Fawr Geopark which produces Penderyn Whisky, a world-class product.

### **European Geoparks Network Activities**

11 **Geoparks Week:** The Fforest Fawr Geopark Festival 2013 festival ran from 25 May to 9 June and included 22 events including guided walks, talks and a Family day out at Craig y nos Country Park in partnership with **Swansea Bay Orienteering Club**.

12. **EGN Committees:** Representation on the EGN's Coordination and Advisory Committees.

13. **The EGN Magazine.** Representation on the EGN Editorial Board and editing of articles for the Magazine.

14. **European Geoparks Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition:** Editing articles for the new edition

15. **Thematic Groups:** Representation on the Mining and Tectonic groups

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The outdoor season in Norway is still ongoing. So far it has been very successful, and has been dominated by outdoor activities for the public.

### **1. Current situation.**

1. Staff: Four full time positions, one part-time positions (80%), and one in maternity leave.
2. Our five Geopark committees are working continuously with different topics: Map/GIS, Education, Tourism/Local Enterprise Innovation and Attraction/Development. Each group meets regularly.
3. The Geopark board had 2 meetings during this period.
4. The board of representatives had one meeting (12 politicians representing the Geopark owners).
5. The guide group have met for networking and course in “Guiding” in May

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

1. Revalidation of GNG 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of June.
2. Two delegates participated in the EGN-meeting in Paris.
3. EGN Week 9<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of June.
4. Participated in 3 revalidations/evaluation; in China, Shetland and Italy.

### **3. Attraction development**

1. Official opening of The Gea Norvegica Information Center at Porsgrund Porselen.
2. Improving the Geopark exhibition at Jomfruland
3. New information panels. A new strategy for information sign along the main road, work in progress and four new signs along the main road.
4. Dream mile. Developing historical, cultural and Geological events in an attraction cluster. Common information system, guiding and payment.
5. Opening a new locality about limestone and industrial history in Brevik, Porsgrunn.
6. New panels along the Geopark trail in Nome.
7. New information leaflets about larvikite and Bøkeskogen Geopark site.
8. Developing digital applications for Smart Phones. Release of TurfHunt and Smart-guide applications in May/June. TurfHunt on localities at Mølen and Stavern for children/school activity. New locality at Århus Farm with digital information on six stops in the landscape around the farm. A guided tour in both Norwegian and English version.

### **4. A selection of Geopark events and activities.**

1. Outdoor program and field trips, free event every week throughout the whole Geopark region
2. Educational program for high schools continues

3. Ecotourism and tourism projects with local community and international experts.
4. Events in collaboration with local community
5. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.
6. Regular events for schools on topics relating to geodiversity and biodiversity
7. Developed an educational program for all schools in Bamble municipality. Geology, mining history and culture
8. Collaboration with local partners on events, geoparkproducts and information about GNG for summer season.
9. Newsletter June

## **5. Publishing in media**

During this season we have had many contacts with local and national media.

1. National Television (NRK) interview
2. Local Television -
3. Press conferences on different activities
4. Publicity in 5 local newspapers by staff or guides
5. Publicity during revalidation

1. GeoMon Patron, Marquess of Anglesey dies in July.2.
2. Completing Documents A and B for revalidation
3. Inspection of Hondsrug Geopark in the Netherlands with Andreas Schueller
4. Production of 5 new information Boards at Cemaes Bay, Llanbadrig, South Stack, Marquess of Anglesey's Column and Llanddwyn Island.
5. Signage produced at Bridges, Airport and Ferry terminal.
6. County Council produced 10 new information boards in most frequently visited places on the coast.
7. Negotiations with the Nuclear power Station to donate land alongside the coastal path to create an educational trail in Cemaes. Successful and put in ownership of the Community Council who will maintain it.
8. The education trail at Cemaes Bay completed with a time trail from Precambrian rocks and information to Quaternary. P small stone plinths erected with rocks from each geological Period attached.
9. Geokayaking combined with teaching the geology took place with 3 schools participating. This deemed a great success.
10. 2 Universities visited the Geopark and were given talks
11. 2 tables and 4 benches plus 2 information boards erected.
12. The dyke complex interpreted for schools.
13. 860 million year old stromatolites sampled for the Japanese to be dated.
14. St Patrick Heritage trail created at Llanbadrig.
15. Plaque erected on new wall overlooking St Patrick's well and cave. Simple path created over the rocks to the viewing point. Interpretation, table and benches erected in the National Trust Car Park.
16. Revalidation for 4 yearly geopark membership.
17. Meeting arranged in August with The Snowdonia National Park who wish to find out about membership of the EGN/GGN
18. Programme of guided walks run during school holiday of walks
20. Participation in Beaumaris Walking Festival ( stand and town walk)
21. Work in progress on Holyhead Town Trail, and possible booklet for Rhosneigr / Porth Nobla walk
22. Stand at Anglesey County Show ( 2 days)
23. Yorkshire Geological Society custom made tour
24. Technical advice to Pendle Geological Society on local geology.
25. John Conway reviewed Hondsrug application documents for IUGS
26. John Conway created a cycle trail booklet for Sustrans / green cycling organization on Holy island, 4 trail 'loops'

Information provided by GeoMon Board

Margaret Wood (college@btinternet.com)

March 2013

- (1) Participation in the International Tourism Fair Berlin, ITB. Winner of the 3rd price in the category NGO
- (2) Participation in the 31<sup>st</sup> EGN-CC-meeting UNESCO, Paris, France
- (3) Field trip to Wernigerode Castle, Geopoint 6 / landmark 8 with Inst. Geosciences and Geography of the Martin-Luther-University Halle and agreement of a co-operation.
- (4) Presentation of the Geopark Calendar of events 2013

April 2013

- (5) Start of an Environmental Internship (April to October)
- (6) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 7, 8
- (7) Presentation of the leaflet reprint LM 13 in German and English
- (8) Meeting of the Geopark advisory board in Halberstadt
- (9) Lectures „Faszination über und unter Tage“ at world heritage site and mining Rammelsberg
- (10) Kolloquium „Bad Lauterberg Mining History“
- (11) Opening of the Otto-Klages-exhibition in the Geopark-Infocenter Koenigslutter

May 2013

- (12) Participation in the workshop of German National Geoparks in Potsdam
- (13) Participation in the Geotop 2013 meeting in Prenzlau
- (14) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 1, 7
- (15) Guided tour to the Archeological Park Kaiserpfalz Werla with the SE-Lower Saxony State Forestry Team
- (16) Opening of the exhibition „Oberharzer Wasserwirtschaft en miniature“ at the Geopark Infopoint Pewter-Figure-Museum Goslar
- (17) World Heritage Day in Goslar, Quedlinburg and Eisleben

June 2013

- (18) Climbing of the mining dump Volkstedt event



(19) Opening of the new Geopark partner „paläon“ museum and archeological research center in Schöningen

July 13

(20) Geopark revalidation visit: Yuan Yuan Zheng, administrator of the Chinese National Geopark Network and Nick Powe, English Riviera Geopark

(21) Environmental award of the foundation for Environment, Nature- and Climate-Protection of the State Saxony-Anhalt (SUNK) for the Geo- and Naturpark adventure trails around Stangerode

(22) Presentation of the new Geopark route map „Geopark erfahren“

(23) Festivity: 10 years Geopark-Infocenter Koenigslutter

(24) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 16 in Bad Sachsa

(25) Presentation of the new infopanel at the Geopoint Ziegenberg (8/LM 8)

(26) Presentation of the leaflet reprints LM 4, 9, 10, 14, 15

(27) Presentation of the new infopanel at the Selke Valley Railway (Sternhaus/Ramberg)

(28) Presentation of the English version of the Geopark-Brochure “Geopark Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen - The Classic Square Miles of Geology”

(29) Opening of the new exhibition „Dimensions of the World Heritage“ at the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Shaft in Clausthal-Zellerfeld

(30) Miners day in Hüttenrode and Elbingerode

(31) Anniversary of the Miners Association Sangerhausen with participant from all over Germany

August 2013

(32) Opening of the new Entrance area at the Geopark-Infocenter SNHM Braunschweig

(33) Participation in the “Day of Lower Saxony” in Vienenburg and Goslar

Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen GbR

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- Dr. Klaus George [rvh@harzregion.de](mailto:rvh@harzregion.de)

### **Geopark activities**

1. The first educational expert started working on educational panels and signs for selected geosites. Coming August at least 20 signs have been produced for geosites, 20 picnic tables have been built and put up at selected sites and accessibility has been made better by enlarging carparks etc.
2. The new website [www.katlageopark.is](http://www.katlageopark.is), is in a constant updating with information on geosites as well and tourism in the area. All the Geosites 81 in the whole have been GPS located and put on a map on the webpage. As a part of a new and effective webpage a booking system is being developed for all tourism service providers within the Geopark to use.
3. Three hiking maps are work in process at the moment and will be printed and promoted in August.
4. KGP has taken part in different European projects – Northern Georoutes is a project that is designed to develop a high quality tourist offer and booking system for Geoparks and aspiring Geoparks in the North. Nordic GeoGuide School II is another project developing the guiding skills of people in Katla Geopark.
5. Still working on a marketing and management plan for the sustainable running of the Geopark.
6. The programme for next winter courses and seminars is ready with over 250 hours of education on subjects of the Geopark.
7. The second educational expert started work on the 1.st of June and is in charge of educational material for school groups and programs based on the geography, culture and heritage of the area.

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After its extension accepted in September 2012 to cover the total area of Lesvos island the new management structure formed by the Municipality of Lesvos, the University of the Aegean and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest made a significant progress for the unification of the Geopark

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

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

### **GGN/EGN – participation**

- Participation in the 31st EGN - Coordination Meeting at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.
- Participation in ITB 2013 with Hellenic Geoparks stand
- Participation in Geoparks Consultation Meetings at UNESCO, May, June and July 2013
- Editing and improvement of the EGN Website.
- Distribution of EGN Magazine No 10
- Preparation of 32<sup>th</sup> EGN AC/CC meeting – Meeting Link
- Organization of the EGN Week 2013 – Lesvos Geopark Spring festival
- Contribution in the Evaluation - Revalidation missions in 6 other Geoparks .
- Organisation of the Intensive Course on Geoparks 2013 with participation of 10 countries

### **Geopark events and progress**

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

- Conservation works in fossil sites in Nisiopi island for the Lesvos Petrified Forest Marine Park.
- Submission of a project for the Lesvos Geopark new signing and interpretation panels
- Submission of a project for the Lesvos Geopark publications

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

- Temporary exhibition : AEGEAN the birth of an archipelago - Guided tours – Educational Programmes
- Organisation of the Summer Geopark's Festival "EARTH FEAST 2013" (scientific and cultural events) with many events internally produced by the Geopark.

- Agrotourist Festival 2013 (more than 20 local companies and cooperatives participated).
- Summer Educational Activity: The secrets of the sand, Young Paleontologists and Understanding earthquakes

### **3. Educational activities**

- Educational Programmes for Spring 2013
- Cooperation in environmental education programs with the Environmental Education Center of Lesvos
- Special programs for volunteers in Geopark - Scout groups from Mytilene.

### **4. Lesvos Geopark Presentations to the Local Communities**

- Presentation of the Lesvos geopark – in Molyvos
- Presentation of the Lesvos geopark – in Athens April 2013
- Presentation of the Lesvos geopark – in Polychnitos July 2013
- Presentation of the Lesvos geopark – in Antissa August 2013

### **5. Research**

- Research project for Nisiopi Marine Petrified Forest Park in full operation
- Palaeolithic archaeological excavation in Lisvori – Collaboration with University of Crete

*Nickolas Zouros*

### **1 – New tourist map : "Luberon, rendez-vous nature" & "Luberon à plein poumons"**

This map gathers many offers of tourist service by 30 professionals through more than 1000 dates between 1<sup>st</sup> of April and 31<sup>st</sup> of October. The tours topics are geology, landscapes, nature, wine, cultural heritage by hiking, biking, riding or by air-balloon.

This map is also a document to promote sport activities in the Geopark with recommendations on behaviors on field in French and English.

### **2 – New Wine tourism map**

This map proposes a discovery of Luberon wines through cellars, museums, wine trails... It is a promotional tool for the local producers in French and English.

### **3 – Geoparks week**

- Activities:
  - o Guided tours
  - o Activities by Geoparks partners
- Exhibition "Geoballade" (june to august)
  - o This temporary exhibition, made of 17 panels, proposes to discover the Luberon Geology through water paintings illustrating landscapes, use of rocks, traditional buildings, fossils, tectonic... Now it is travelling in the Geopark area (3 places from September to November)
- Lectures on geology and wine, geological heritage
- Movie : "La ruée vers l'os", a documentary about the lookup of dinosaurs bones by two paleontologist (Cope and March) in the US in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **4 – Cooperation**

- LEADER project "Geotourism for sustainable development"
  - o Workshop in the Massif des Bauges Geopark gathering geopartners from Bauges, Luberon & Arouca Geoparks

### **5 – Promotion of the day of the home cultural heritage (15-16 june)**

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

### **5 – Educational activities**

- Educational actions about geology, cultural heritage, ecology, history... concerning more than 250 classes from nursery school to high school)

#### **6 – Welcoming the public**

- Guided tours to the exhibition “D’Apt à Aptien le découpage du temps” at the Salignan mill in Apt in april, july and august. This exhibition deals with time in geology, the aptian stratotype and the scientist Alcide-d’Orbigny

#### **7 – Radio broadcast**

- Recording of 15 thematic broadcasts on the Parc, Geopark and Biosphere Reserve about geology, environment, local products, farming, forest, business, cultural heritage, education... Broadcasting on the regional radio "France Bleue Vaucluse" in July and August.

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### **Geopark Activities**

1. Signature of a specific agreement on 12.03.13 with the Italian Alpine Club (CAI) Sicily Region in order to activate actions, programs and projects for excursions inside Madonie Geopark, also concerning means of communication and the routine maintenance of paths. The agreement cements an alliance never interrupted and is addressed to optimize and relaunch fruition in the park.
2. Submitted on May, to the UNESCO Committee in Rome, a dossier asking MAB Reserve designation for Madonie Park.
3. The 2013 edition of the EGN Week, entitled “*Once again...in Geo-Cooperation*” with the motto “*One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between Man and Nature shall not be broken*”, was held from 24 May (the European Day of Parks - *My Park. My Passion. My Story*) to 9 June. It was a success, not only because of the big number of participants of all ages, estimated to be not less than 3000, but also because of the holistic approach and the deep interest that the geological history of the Madonie aroused in the public. Within the framework of the International Year of Water Cooperation 2013, emphasis was given to raise awareness on the potential and challenges for water cooperation, facilitate dialogue among actors, and promote innovative solutions for nurturing water cooperation. Final event on May the 25<sup>th</sup> highlighted best practices of water cooperation from various perspectives and viewpoints also by means of an exhibition made by pupils. Three cooperatives contributed to the good result of different activities for younger people. Once again there was a lively and interesting exchange of visits with the Rocca di Cerere Geopark. Local newspaper, web sites and regional TV on the day by day basis gave info of more than 15 events.
4. A protocol was approved and set going on 17.06.13 with three cooperative societies (NEA Soluzioni, Petraviva Madonie and Talete Madonie) in order to realize and promote activities in conformity with the purposes of sustainable development pursued by the Madonie Geopark and by the EGN.
5. The Environmental Quality Hallmark (EQG) to promote tourist accommodation activities and the EQG for catering structures certifying high quality of the products that will be consumed in restaurants of the territory, now count 41 small entrepreneur members.

### **Networking**

6. Participation of the two representatives of the Madonie Geopark in the 31<sup>st</sup> EGN CC Meeting (20-23.03.13) held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, with the involvement of small and medium-sized enterprises of Madonie we've been offered local foodstuffs displayed and eaten during Meeting breaks.
7. Printed the book “Italian Geoparks” and common panels (roll-up) within the framework of the Italian Geoparks Forum activities.
8. Support and reception, from 24 to 27 June, for the evaluators Michael Sweeney representative of the Copper Coast Geopark and Pablo Rivas Palomo representative of the Cabo de Gata Geopark, designated for reevaluation of the Madonie Geopark.

9. Participation in the mission, from 25 to 28 July, for revaluation of the Psiloritis Geopark in Crete, Greece.

### **Activity by Partners**

10. Earth Day 2013 was held from 20 to 22 of April in Cefalù where a lot of initiatives were developed to discuss about environmental sustainability, EGN and GGN aims, economy, urban mobility, energy efficiency and renewable sources.
11. Salvalarte Madonie initiative under regional Legambiente, in collaboration with Madonie Park, opened the window again this year, from 20 to 28 of April, to the discovering of the unknown cultural and geological sites of the area. Fourteen appointments had the aim to overturn the economics approach and fortify the idea and perception of Madonie as a land of art.
12. From 16 to 20 April the final event of the annual project "*Let's colour our Future – Mini-Mayors and Mini-Presidents of the Parks of Italy*" was held, involving over 2000 pupils from all the comprehensive schools in the Madonie Park. With the representatives of other schools and parks in Italy, a delegation from the Madonie of over 100 pupils participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> National Conference held in the Sila National Park in Calabria Region.
13. Appointment to the Sicilian Regional Speleological Federation, for activities of use, valorisation and safety measures in the hypogeic site of the Battaglietta Sinkhole, at the cave entrance where meteoric and snow melting waters are channelled into the subsoil. Because of this, the innermost passages are obstructed by argillaceous material on a seasonal basis. This makes the annual exploration campaigns organized by groups of speleologists difficult.
14. From 9 to 18 August, second edition of the international biennial exhibition of rock-salt sculpture "Salt ... desire for art", a unique event of its kind for which artists coming from all over the world carved blocks of rock-salt. The purpose of the event was to reinforce permanent geo-touristic enjoyment of the only mining reality existing in the Madonie Geopark. About a thousand visitors appreciated the idea and the works done.
15. From 10 to 18 August there was held the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Landscape Film Festival. This is a unique event in its kind in the whole national panorama for the number of people participating, with an interlacement between literature and the cultural and landscape heritage of the Madonie Geopark.
16. In July and August, tens of thousands of tourists visited the hinterland of the park furthest from the coast and the charming mountain villages that have proved able to offer rich cultural and entertainment programmes, also for geo-touristic enjoyment, regarding different paths, and participation in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Salt Festival, held from 19 to 26 August, supported and patronized by the Madonie Geopark.

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### **Organization**

Magma Geopark (MG) has three employees: Pål Thjømmøe (100%), Frode Nærland (100%) and Sara Gentilini (50%). In addition there are two persons on contract that work by hours: Guro Aarre and Åse Hestnes. Magma is also building up a guide corps with so far 5 persons on the Magma pay list. Consultants used by Magma in the periode are Ipax, Wilrock and Jlag.

### **Educational activities**

- In July 2013 MG launched the MAGMA GEOPARK App for Android and Apple markets. It is possible to download the free App. The App is connected with the Treasure Hunt educational activities that allow kids to play educational games settled in the MG area with their own smartphone.
- Next autumn MG supported by the County will run the second course for Geopark guides. It will allow participants to the previous course to get licence to become guide recognized by the National and Regional Guide Association.

### **Promotion**

- All the activities have been promoted through the local newspaper and one special happening in the National Radio NRK P1 with half a million listeners, fully address to present and promote the geo-tourism.
- From March 2013 the MG web page has been improved with new layout and it has been constantly update.
- During July 2013 MG sent out an information brochure concerning all the activities of the Geopark to every single house (12.000) in the Region.
- In July 2013 MG launched the MAGMA GEOPARK App for Android and Apple markets. It is possible to download the free App. During October-November 2013 the App will be implemented with information about the localities in the Geopark.
- From June to August MG has been in charge for the Tourist Information in Egersund centre. The centre is promoting all the MG activities and supporting the selling of MG products.
- MG has been developing tourist packages in the area together with the partners and with the support of a specialised private Company (IPax). Packages are going to be promoted and sell through the MG web page and the GEO2NOR booking platform next winter.

### **Project/partnerships local and regional**

- Initiative together with EGN Geopark Gea Norvegica and Geological Society of Norway about making a national Network of Geoparks with the UNESCO commission of Norway, is now getting the support of Norske Parker: the Norwegian Park Association. The two Norwegian Geoparks aspire to become members of the Network make it growing as a National Network of parks, also compromising Geoparks.

- Magma Geopark, get a grant from the Ministry of local government and regional Development of 100.000 euro, in order to develop a marketing strategy for the Magma Geopark area from 2014-2020. The plan will support Magma with an effective tourist and business development strategy involving several local stakeholders. Through this project MG is setting up tailored schema to develop tourist packages and analyse the possibility to sell them in the Norwegian and European market. These results will support the GEO2NOR project during September- November 2013.

### **Project/partnerships international**

- **GEO2NOR part2:** MG successful faced the application to NORA and in June 2013 got confirmation that the grant has been achieved. The second project step includes two more partners like Greenland and Faroe: this makes the project even wider and the consortium more representative of the NORA Region. MG applied for 500.000 DKK, app. 70.000 Euro, and get 300.000, app. 40.000 Euro. This application is focused on developing further the GEO2NOR, in particular aims to: test, adapt and launch the website-booking system, build up a Northern Georoutes Association, analyze the possibilities to constitute a Northern Georoutes travel Company. It will run from November 2013 to November 2014.
- **North Periphery Program** MG successful faced the application to NPP, as a partner of the leader applicant: the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust in Northern Ireland with the project proposal, Drifting Apart: This project will seek to connect the fascinating geological heritage that exists throughout the Northern Periphery region and enhance geotourism opportunities. The applicants got a grant of 38.000 Euro in order to set up a partnership for the application to main projects in the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme (NPA) 2014-2020. MG will apply to the NPA during 2014.
- **GEA-Geotourism and Educational Activities: an holistic approach for development of rural areas and creation of green jobs,** MG enjoyed the partnership held by The Rocca di Cerere Geopark for the application to the: Youth in Action programme. The GEA project aims to develop a 7 days training course will cover a range of subjects including: Geoparks mission and activities, geo-diversity, approaches for developing geo-tourism, geo-education, community involvement, economic and territorial development, with a particular view to geological and natural heritage as a potential for creating new green jobs opportunities for young people.

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### **Geopark Activities**

1. Another successful European Geopark Network Festival took place at the end of May and the beginning of June. Over 10 different events took place including guided walks, talks, an amateur radio event and jeep safaris.
2. The 2013 events programme is currently well underway and so far over 20 events have taken place including the ever-popular Geopark Gourmet Tour which includes lunch at the restaurant of RTÉ Celebrity Chef, Neven Maguire.
3. Another successful Science Week took place at the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre with over 300 primary school pupils travelling from all over Co. Fermanagh and Co. Cavan to attend the Earth science workshops.
4. A significant archaeological excavation has taken place in Enniskillen, the county town of the Geopark. The Drumclay Crannog (or man-made island), is thought to date back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century and is proving to be one of the best preserved crannogs ever excavated.

### **EU-funded Projects**

1. The Geopark is currently implementing two major EU-projects funded through INTERREG IVA. These are both well underway and to date there have been several notable outcomes of this, some of which are mentioned below.
2. The extension to the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre and car park is now complete allowing for much needed extra office space. A new sustainable wood-burning heating system has also been installed.
3. Work has begun on the development of the Burren Forest. This site is one of the most significant in the entire Geopark and this development will include parking for cars and coaches, picnic areas, 9km of walking trails and the construction of an unmanned visitor centre.
4. The new Geopark DVD is almost complete and provides information on not just the geology but all other aspects of the heritage of the area. It also provides information on the entire GGN.
5. A website designer has been tendered for the design and redevelopment of a new Geopark website. Work has begun on this and will be completed in the New Year.

## **Networking**

6. The G8 summit took place in the Geopark in June. This provided the opportunity to market not just the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark but the EGN and GGN as a whole to the world's media, with information packs placed in all hotel rooms used by the press.
7. A talk on cross-border tourism focusing on the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark was given at the EURES cross-border tourism conference in Dundalk, Co. Louth.
8. Several notable visits have taken place including a visit from members of staff from the Hong Kong Global Geopark accompanied by delegates from the Chinese Geoparks Network. A separate visit took place with members of staff from the Wudalianchi Global Geopark, China, visiting the Marble Arch Caves before travelling to the other parts of the UK and Ireland.
9. Due to the cross-border nature of the Geopark, staff have participated in the Irish Geoparks Forum as well as travelling to the English Riviera Geopark to participate in the UK Geoparks Forum.

## **Staff**

10. A new Geopark Geologist, Grainne O'Connor, has been recruited and will take up position in September 2013. She will be based in the Ballyconnell Geopark Office and will be employed by Cavan County Council. Grainne is currently employed by Fermanagh District Council as the Environment Officer and is being seconded to Cavan County Council on a temporary basis.
11. A new Cave Supervisor, Claire Maguire, has been recruited and took up post in August 2013. Claire is a previous member of staff at the Marble Arch Caves and has since returned after working as a planner for several years. She will be based at the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre.
12. A Project Officer, Una Collins, has been recruited to deliver the INTERREG IVA Border Uplands Project and will be a valuable addition to the staff team at the Geopark.

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1. **New protected Monument.** The chapel of Mercy of Salvaterra do Extremo concluded the process to become protected as national Public Interest.
2. **“Lands of Gold”: tourism strategy for Vila Velha de Ródão.** Being the territory a reference for the history of gold mining in Portugal, with several Roman gold mines and a long tradition of gold panning professionals, this interpretation/communication strategy goes beyond and develops a municipal tour linking the major interest sites, which includes the geomonuments of Portas de Ródão and Portas de Almourão, archeological sites, built heritage and traditional villages. The project set up 5 new walking trails to discover the best natural and cultural areas together with a network of 6 interpretative centers dedicated to local culture.
3. **Evolution of the Forest in Portugal exhibited.** The natural history of Portuguese autochthonous forest is now presented in the Living Science Centre of the Forest as never before in Portugal. As a partnership between this centre, the municipality of Proença-a-Nova, the Universidade Nova from Lisbon through Professor and renowned paleobotanist João Pais and Naturtejo Geopark, the exhibition shows the major steps in the evolution of plants through the most important fossil sites of Portugal.
4. **III Festival of Asparagus, Truffles and Mushrooms.** The Festival of Asparagus, Truffles and Mushrooms is organized in the village of Alcafozes with the support of the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and Naturtejo Geopark.
5. **Engineers and geologists from several countries visit geosites.** Engineers and geologists from all over the world came for a convention organized by the University of Porto where the fieldtrip included the visit to Naturtejo Global Geopark.
6. **New Açafa Online released with the latest research studies in Naturtejo Geopark area.** The scientific and cultural e-journal edited by Associação de Estudos do Alto Tejo is now online. With the main subject “Fantastic Wars” for the 5th edition the journal is rich in many papers covering a wide range of subjects, from local history to archeology and geology. 5 papers are dedicated to the geological heritage of the Geopark, two of them reporting the municipal inventory of geological and mining heritage from Nisa and Proença-a-Nova. The public release of the e-journal Açafa Online was hosted by the municipality of Proença-a-Nova where the archeologists João Carlos Caninas and Francisco Henriques, together with the Historian Jorge Gouveia and the geologist Carlos Neto de Carvalho introduced the journal and the papers to the audience.
7. **TTransGeopark 2013.** For the fifth successive year the Casa do Forno from Salvaterra do Extremo partners with Naturtejo to organize the TTransGeopark, touristic all-terrain course with environmental vocation. Aiming to introduce the landscape diversity and the culture of the classified territory under the UNESCO auspices, allowing the visitor to better understand the local natural history, tasting and acquiring the best high quality local products, to experience the tradition and to reduce the ecological footprint, the TTransGeopark have become a reference to the region, counting this year with the support from the parishes of Orvalho in Oleiros, Alameda in Castelo Branco and Proença-a-Velha in Idanha-a-Nova and, the ever present, AutoHojeTT magazine.
8. **The Landscape Festival – Geopark European Week during the month.** They are 28 the events being promoted by Naturtejo in the scope of the Landscape Festival, between the days of 17 May and 16 June, betting in the main references of the Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão regions, concerning nature tourism and geotourism, local products of excellency, economic and environmental sustainability.

9. **A whole new Festival dedicated to the riverside culture.** The First Fish Soup Festival, a joint organization between the Vila Velha de Ródão municipality, Progestur, Adraces and Naturtejo, is a bet relying in the region's endogenic resources valuating a typical and differentiated product such as the Fish Soup of Vila Velha de Ródão.
10. **IV Flower Festival of the Santa Margarida village – a colour explosion.** The village of Santa Margarida was adorned with about 200000 paper and natural flowers, filling the streets and alleys, the frontages of simple houses and monuments with cheerful colours. Thousands of visitors coming from several places and from the neighbour Spain could not miss one of the most animated festivals of the region, celebrating Spring.
11. **Orvalho GeoTrail: the regional reference for the pedestrian trails.** More than 420 participants filled with life the village of Orvalho and the traditional surrounding paths.
12. **New agro-tourism to celebrate the Portuguese Federation for Rural Tourism scripture signing born in the Naturtejo Geopark.** This Federation can turn the Naturtejo Geopark into a reference in Portugal for tourism, which has the wish to develop itself in the Countryside.
13. **Geopark and Geomonuments with new brochures.** 19 brochures were developed that will integrate the territory promotion and can be already found in [www.naturtejo.com](http://www.naturtejo.com).
14. **Educational Train celebrates the European Geopark Network Day.** "Naturtejo Geopark may well be considered a role model for the effective regionalisation" was one of the considerations made by the deputy José Ribeiro e Castro, Chair of the Parliamentary Commission for the Education, Science and Technology who visited the Naturtejo Geopark territory, accompanied by the UNESCO National Commission representatives. Under the issue "Education for the Sustainable Development" – The Naturtejo Geopark Paradigm", and celebrating the European Geopark Network, this visit has as objectives to introduce to the Assembly of the Republic examples of the geological heritage of international reference, the resources and potentials of the territory, as well as the present challenges that this region.
15. **Save the Earth – Music Eco Festival of Salvaterra.** The artistic and environmental awareness joined in with the trails through the village rich heritage and with the nature of the International Tejo Natural Park. There was also a visit through the Erges "Cantchais" in Gorroal, guided by Carlos Neto de Carvalho, João Gerales and Joana Rodrigues, under the issue: sustainability in the mineral resources exploration. Around 25 participants discovered dozens of gold nuggets in the shores of the River according to ancient techniques here used.
16. **Geopark represented in the UNESCO meeting, in Paris.** Naturtejo Geopark was present in the UNESCO headquarters, in Paris, in the scope of the initiative "Let's speak Portuguese" of the Brazilian delegation and participated, having Joana Rodrigues as observer, in the work group meeting for the UNESCO Geopark Initiative, where it began to outline the way of how the Global Geopark Network will be officially integrated in the UNESCO.
17. **At the festival "Lands of Gold".** Vila Velha de Ródão hosted its Gastronomy and Economic Activities Fair this year dedicated to the theme "Lands of Gold".
18. **Analysis and evaluation of the 35 footpaths existing in Naturtejo Geopark.**
19. **Summer Course "Portuguese Language, Literature and Culture" for Californian students.**
20. **Participation in the Evaluation mission to the Emilia-Romagna Geopark project in Italy.**

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### Geopark activities

1. **Anniversary events programme.** 2013 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) designation for the North Pennines and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Geopark status. To celebrate, we are running a programme of 25 events (April to December), 10 of which have a geological theme.
2. **Geological walks.** To celebrate the exact 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Geopark status in June we ran a guided walk for the public to High Cup Nick, one of the most spectacular geological sites in the North Pennines. Other events included an archaeology and geology walk in Teesdale, a hill walk exploring geology and landscape on Little Fell, and a hill walk up Nine Standards Rigg to look at geology and blanket bog restoration.
3. In June we opened the **Bowlees Visitor Centre** in Upper Teesdale. This old Methodist Chapel has been fully renovated and refurbished with a café, shop, information, meeting area and space for exhibitions. Several events have been held here during the summer, including a wildlife photography course, a family fun day and a Hay Day celebration event.
4. Completion of the first phase of a **project to record the stories and memories of former fluorspar miners.** The last fluorspar (fluorite) mine in the area closed in 1999 so the industry is still well remembered by local people. The project culminated in a film night for the public in which we showed old films showing mining in the area in the 1970s. At least 200 people attended.
5. A **new panel interpreting an important iron mining site** at West Rigg Opencut in Weardale has been installed.
6. Peter Samsom and Elizabeth attended the **EGN CC meeting** at UNESCO in Paris in March 2013. Chris Woodley-Stewart attended a meeting at UNESCO in Paris in July.
7. Elizabeth contributed an article to EGN Magazine (March 2013) on the restoration of peat deposits in the North Pennines Geopark.
8. Elizabeth carried out a **revalidation mission to Gea Norvegica Geopark** in Norway, with Dr Zhang Hai for Leye-Fengshen Geopark in China.

9. **New walk leaflets** (a trail about a 19<sup>th</sup>-century lead miner and poet, and a geotrail at Allen Banks) have now been printed and distributed. A new trail linking two of our waterfall geo-sites in Teesdale is in development.
10. We heard that our application to the **Leonardo da Vinci programme** ('Geo-education in Action' project led by Arouca Geopark) was successful.
11. Our LEADER-funded **trans-national project (HINT)** with Geopark Shetland (Scotland), Chablais Geopark (France) and aspiring Geopark de Hondsrug (the Netherlands) was completed at the end of June with the installation of the iGlass touchscreen equipment at the Bowlees Visitor Centre. A best practice guide in English and French drawing together the experience of all four partners will be published before the EGN Conference in September 2013.
12. Our **Heritage Skills Project** to train more young people in the traditional skills of dry-stone walling has resulted in another three people getting recognised qualifications. Existing funding will allow us to train another two during the spring and summer of 2014. Unfortunately the application for funding to train apprentices in the ancient art of producing sandstone stone roofing 'slates' was turned down.
13. We have provided text and images to our EGN partners in Rocca di Cerere for the production of a European **Cartoguide** promoting the EGN members in the mining group.
14. The team continues to work with the UK Environment Agency and others to develop methods to **reduce the pollution of rivers** by heavy metal spoil, which is a legacy of our lead and other mineral mining history.

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**Geopark activities:**

1. As part of the event "Požega Healthy City", we presented the exhibition about Papuk Geopark. The Healthy Cities movement promotes comprehensive and systematic policy and planning for health, which fully correspond to Papuk Geopark activities. Our stand was full equipped with promotional materials – roll ups, posters, brochures etc. Also, this event is used to present "EGN Week" and its importance for all Geoparks all over the Europe.

2. Papuk Geopark is represented on Croatian Radiotelevision in the show „Scientific 5“. Through five different topics viewers had the opportunity to discover Papuk’s natural features, geology (Geoparks), rich cultural heritage, long tradition of mountaineering in this area, learn about new game "Geocaching".

3. Geocachers community celebrate the 11th Annual CITO (Cache In Trash Out) Weekend, and the action that we have organized is the first of its kind in Croatia!

Geocachers and all who want to participate during CITO event clearing litter and trash from geocaching-friendly areas around the world.

Before the cleanup action, at the Papuk Geopark Info Centre, we held a presentation where children can hear interesting information about GPS devices, and the relatively new game called Geocaching - outdoor treasure hunt.

4. We started with educational project "Rupko’s geological school". Some materials have been printed and tested by several school groups. Also we set up a few educational panels related to important geological features in the Papuk Geopark.

5. Celebrating Earth Day Papuk Geopark joined World Cleanup Action 2013. As part of the "World Cleanup - Let's clean the world together!" we have organized two cleaning campaigns (Park Forest Jankovac and Kutjevo area).

6. Participants of Summer School of Science, which is this year held in Gymnasium in Požega visited Papuk Geopark. Students from Croatia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Serbia and Hungary, along with their mentors get acquainted with educational "Count's trail" at Jankovac.

7. During "European Geoparks Week in Bakony–Balaton Geopark" we were guests of our Hungarian friends from Bakony-Balaton Geopark and personally introduce Papuk Geopark. Event took place on 18-19 May in the Lavender House Visitor Centre in Tihany.

8. An implementation of an eco tourism project that connects the mountain and lowland regions of Eastern Slavonia and Baranja started in April 2013. "Two

rivers and one hill - new eco tourist products along Drava, Danube and Papuk" is a project which was created and now implementing in partnership of Association for nature and environment protection Green Osijek, Danube-Drava National Park and Public Institution Papuk Nature Park.

Project is co-financed by the European Union through the Hungary-Croatia IPA CBC Programme

**9.** During EGN Week we hosted Valentina Hajek-Tadesse, PhD. from Croatian Geological Survey. We visited two local schools where Mrs. Hajek-Tadesse made workshops about Miocene epoch and microfossils that were found in and around Papuk Geopark.

**10.** Famous Croatian journalist and singer Sanja Doležal made a video reportage about Papuk Geopark. Reportage is shown on "24 hours TV" – First Croatian television news. There is also "24 Hours web portal" where all can see the most important features of the Papuk Geopark.

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

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During the period of March to August 2013 Psiloritis Geopark developed several activities related to the EGN week and implementation of several European and Regional Project focused on geotourism. A summary of activities can be found below:

1. Psiloritis Geopark participated, together with rest Hellenic geoparks at the ITB Berlin.
2. On April the geopark hosted a group of students from Loughborough University of England, continuing the collaboration established several years ago. Students and teachers attended a presentation on sustainable development in the Geopark and then visited the geopark's Migias' walking trail experiencing a cheese making performance.
3. EGN week was organised in collaboration with local stakeholders and was successful in most cases. It took place from June 2<sup>nd</sup> till July 6<sup>th</sup> and hosted 14 different activities, like athletic events, public talks, hiking, lectures, field trips, open air seminars, guided tours etc.
4. The new local program for LEADER+ activities was announced on July, focused on "Psiloritis: the myth inspiring life". Certain geotourism initiatives will be promoted under this call.
5. The first meeting of the Trans-border collaboration Greece-Cyprus of LEADER + between Psiloritis geopark and Troodos Mountain, focused on the "Development of Geo-products", took place at the headquarters of Geopark on July 11-12 at Anogia.
6. Dr C. Fassoulas was nominated for the revalidation mission of Swabian Alb geopark that took place on July 8-10.
7. Psiloritis revalidation also took place on the July 25 to 27.
8. A new geotrail, the Gonies georoute, was opened to public on July 27. Trail is accompanied with a signpost at the beginning of the route and a related leaflet.
9. A new project for the sustainable development of hinterland is taking place in Psiloritis area, supported by regional and National Funds. A large number of projects related to the development of Geopark, like renovation of Psiloritis Info centre at Anogia, development of three new info centers at the Municipality of Amari, development of several geo-trails all over the area, a new museum for Shepherds etc, which exceed 4.2 million Euros are almost ready for public calls and initiation of their implementation..
10. Psiloritis Geopark was presented at the national Congress for the area of Mylopotamos that took place on 17<sup>th</sup> of August at Faratsi village.

**Network activities**

1. Participation in the 31<sup>th</sup> EGN CC meeting in Paris, France - march 2013;
2. Processing and design of the first draft of the cartoguide for the EGN Mining Working Group as discussed in the last meeting in Paris (Geoparks participant at moment 17: Copper Coast Geopark, Rocca di Cerere Geopark, North Pennines AONB, Park Naturel Régional du Luberon, Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark, Fforest Fawr Geopark, Sardinia Mining Park, Geo Mon, Arouca Geopark, Chelmos Vouraikos Geopark, Magma Geopark, Tuscan Mining Geopark, Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, Bauges Massif Geopark, Muskau Arch Geopark; Central Catalunya Geopark, Cabo de Gata Geopark);
3. Processing and implementation as a lead partner of the "Youth in Action project: *GEA - Geo-tourism and Educational Activities: an holistic approach for development of rural areas and creation of green jobs*". Submission to the National Agency in May (partnership composition: Bohemian Paradise Geopark, Bauges Massif Geopark, Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald, Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest, Magma Geopark, Arouca Geopark, North Pennines AONB Geopark, Nisantasi Universites - Turkey);
4. Revalidation mission in Cabo de Gata Geopark as evaluator, with Hartmut Escher (TERRA.vita Geopark) – 7/10 July 2013;
5. Processing and graphic design a new proposal for common EGN geopark boxes ([www.roccadicerere.eu/boxes.zip](http://www.roccadicerere.eu/boxes.zip));

**Environmental Education Activities**

6. Implementation a new "Sentiero Natura" (new Nature's Trail) in Capodarso and Imera Valley Natural Reserve;
7. Change of management in Pergusa Visitor Center and implementation of a new activities;
8. Reproposal of the project for secondary school "The Geology in sulphur lands" about the Park's geology and mining culture;
9. Reproposal of the project for primary school "playing with rocks";
10. Excursions in several sites of Geopark in aim of Geoparks week;

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

11. Daily activities for public in Pergusa Visitor Center and in Environmental Education and Interpretation Centre of Villa Zagaria;
12. Management and Updating of the national forum website of Italian Geoparks ([www.geoparchitaliani.it](http://www.geoparchitaliani.it), [www.geoparchiitaliani.it](http://www.geoparchiitaliani.it))
13. Design of common geopark's boxes for the all Italian Geoparks for the EGN Conference in Cilento;

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

14. Activities of the Scientific Committee of the Geopark;
15. Participation to the 5th Workshop of Italian Geoparks Forum in Geological Mining Park of Sardinia - June 2013;
16. Organization of X Geoparks Week (May-August 2013).

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## Management

1. The Finnish Geoparks forum was founded in the beginning of March 2013 in Espoo at the headquarters of the Geological Survey of Finland. The first meeting consisted of participants from the Ministry of environment, the Geological Survey of Finland, The Visit Finland organization, the Finnish Unesco Committee, The Metsähallitus and of the representatives of Rokua Geopark.
2. Jari Nenonen and Vesa Krökki participated into the EGN coordination committees meeting in Paris in March 2013.
3. The preparations for the 2015 EGN conference held at Rokua Geopark have started. Konffa Ltd has been chosen as the Conference office in charge of registrations, reservations and bookings.

## Developing projects

4. 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.
5. Rokua Geopark started a new project on developing environmental education in the Geopark. The project aims in involving and informing the local schools, local people and entrepreneurs in the possibilities of the Geopark. The project began in June 2013 and it ends in March 2015. The project is partly financed by the EU's ERDF program.
6. 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.
7. New geotrail and geosite are being prepared. The Lemmenpolku geotrail in Muhos is under renovation, all the trail and information structures will be renewed during summer and autumn 2013. The geotrail presents the sand and claystone formation from which the Rokua esker has formed. A new geosite is under preparation to the island of Manamansalo, the geosite will present the old bedrock of

RGP, dating back 2,6 billion years. Both the Geotrail and Geosite will be opened to public in spring 2014.

### **Dissemination activities**

8. The Geoparks week was held during 20-26.5 of May and it consisted of several events. For example the renowned fire watch tower of Pookivaara was opened to the public.
9. Rokua Geopark participated to the ITB travel trade show in Berlin in March 2013 as part of the Global Geoparks stand.
10. The Geopark has participated into the Northern Finland Outdoor Life Fairs in Oulu in May and to the stone and wellness fairs in Utajärvi in August.
11. The Finnish aspiring Geoparks from Joensuu in eastern Finland and from Inari in Lapland (the Golden Geopark project of Lapland) have visited Rokua Geopark to see how the Geopark operates and to get information of the Global Geoparks network and its functioning. Also the people from an aspiring Geopark in the Estonian island of Saarenmaa visited Rokua Geopark.
12. Rokua Geopark was presented as a good project example in the European Commissions Panorama magazine, number 46, summer 2013.
13. Several presentations of the Geopark and its activities have been given in different occasions. The audiences range from school children to retired people.
14. Rokua Geopark and the Schwabische Alb Geopark participated to Finnish-German economic forum held in Oulu in June. The Geoparks have signed a cooperation agreement as part of the cooperation between the areas of Oulu and Baden-Württemberg.

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### **1) Networking**

The website for the 'HINT' (Heritage Interpretation using New Technologies) partnership project with Chablais Geopark North Pennines AONB and aspiring Geopark de Hondsrug was launched in French. The final learning outcomes of the project were added to the website and a project Best Practice Guide was completed and sent for translation. The Geopark Project Officer led a workshop on new technologies at a sharing good practice event run by the Scottish Government agency Scottish Natural Heritage in May, and another workshop for heritage groups in the south of Shetland. Further workshops are planned. The Project Officer attended the AGM of the Scottish Geodiversity Forum (<http://scottishgeodiversityforum.org/>) and has been invited to a meeting of the Forum executive later this year to discuss the strategic development of the organisation. She led a workshop on heritage interpretation at the 'Scotland Rocks' conference for Geology Higher Pupils in Perth organised by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

Two delegates represented Shetland at the annual meeting of the UK Geoparks Forum at English Riviera Global Geopark Torquay, which was attended by representatives from the UK National Commission for UNESCO.

### **2) Geopark Shetland projects**

The Geopark Shetland app for Iphone was completed and an official launch of the app was held during the Shetland Nature Festival in July. Work is ongoing to make the app content available via the Geopark Shetland website and to develop a Content Management System.

The EGN corner within the Shetland Museum and Archives is now up and running as part of a new interactive facility at the Museum.

### **3) Education activities**

'ShEEP DIP' 2013 took place in partnership with the Shetland Environmental Education Partnership. The two day outdoor learning event was attended by 136 pupils from 7 Shetland primary schools.

ShEEP members are working with Shetland Islands Council Outdoor Education officer and Shetland high schools on an outdoor education project that aims to support all S2 pupils to gain a John Muir Explorer award. The project involves helping the pupils to gain experience of a number of different wild places.

The Project Officer acted as a guide for a week long field visit by the Tectonic Studies Group (part of the Geological Society). Members of the TSG hosted an evening of public talks about Shetland's geology and gave out tailor made Shetland rock identifier kits developed by the trip leader.

### **4) Promotion**

'Welcome to Geopark Shetland' signage is now in place at Shetland's Gateway points (Sumburgh Airport and the Serco Ferry Terminal in Lerwick).

Regional information sheets developed by a geology graduate working for the Geopark on a voluntary basis have now been launched online and the information circulated to all tourism and hospitality workers in Shetland.

A Geopark Shetland display is on in place at the Tourist Information Centre in Lerwick at the request of the national tourism agency Visit Scotland. The Northern GeoRoutes project in partnership with Magma, Katla and Stonehammer Geoparks continues. Shetland has produced a report on the results of the project questionnaire and is working to identify potential tour packages.

## **5) Events**

The Shetland Nature Festival 2013 in partnership with EGN week took place from 29<sup>th</sup> June – 7<sup>th</sup> July. The Festival helped celebrate the 'Year of Natural Scotland'. This year new partnerships were developed with Shetland Arts Development Agency(<http://www.shetlandarts.org/>) , Climb Shetland (<http://www.climbshetland.co.uk/>) and Northern Focus Parkour (<http://www.northernfocusparkour.co.uk/>) , allowing for a range of creative and adventurous activities, and use of Shetland's new cinema and arts venue Mareel (<http://www.mareel.org/>).

## **6) Product Development**

The Geopark magnet sets and postcards are now on-sale at the Visit Scotland Tourist Information Centre.

Half of the illustrations for the geological guide to Geopark Shetland are complete and the text is being edited.

Work continues on the visual guide to identifying Shetland's Rocks, with most of the photographs selected and the structure of the book agreed.

## **7) Future Strategy – Scottish Geoparks**

In March Shetland worked with North West Highlands Geopark on a joint submission to request core funding from the Scottish Government. The application was successful and the Scottish Geoparks have secured £280,000 from the Scottish Government over a two year period. The funding is dependent upon the Scottish Geoparks working together where possible and developing long term business plans. We are currently working on a Memorandum of Understanding between Shetland and NW Highlands and exploring the potential to support Lochaber with an application to the EGN.

In August, Shetland hosted Timo Kluttig and Ingeborg Klepp on their revalidation visit. During the visit Timo and Ingeborg visited a number of Geopark interpretive exhibits and met with representatives from schools, community groups and Shetland Islands Council.

The Project Officer is drafting the Geopark Shetland strategy and action plan 2013-17 and developing a number of new projects. These include a proposal for a joint promotional project with all members of the UK Geoparks Forum, a project on 'Sustaining Shetland's Heritage Communities' with the Shetland Heritage Association, and a Shetland Sculpture Trail with Shetland Arts Development Agency.

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## **Geopark Activities**

1. Revision works in field of the historic route "Camino Real del Azogue" (Royal Trail of Mercury) in Sierra Norte Geopark (jointly with the Environmental Volunteers of the Geopark).
2. Celebration of the European Geoparks Week 2013, from 18 to May 26. Activities:
  - Exhibition: "The rocks of the geopark" in the Visitor Center Cortijo El Berrocal (Almaden de la Plata)
  - Training Day Geology for Environmental Volunteers: Karst forms in the "small limestone" at Cerro del Hierro Natural Monument.
  - Lectures:
    - ▶ "The paths of the Geopark".
    - ▶ "Geology ... a different look."
    - ▶ "Prehistoric and Historic Mining in the Geopark".
  - Visit to the mine of Los Molinos.
  - Geological route: "Geology for all in the crag lands of Almaden de la Plata"
3. Revision work in field of Carboniferous-Permian Basin of Viar, with the professors Robert Wagner and Eduardo Mayoral.
4. Update the list of Geopark geological and geotouristic sites, and generation of data forms of each site.
5. Works on gathering information of historical mines in the Geopark.
6. Support at Geopark visits by students and teachers from various universities.
7. Environmental Volunteer Field in the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark, from August 16 to August 25, 2013: "Cultivating biodiversity: ethnobotany and popular knowledge"

### **Work in the European Geoparks Network**

8. Preparation of a paper to be presented at the 12th Conference of European Geoparks, (September 2013, Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark, Italy): "Recovery and enhancement of the historic route "Camino Real del Azogue" (Royal Trail of Mercury) in the Geopark Sierra Norte de Sevilla (Spain)".

9. Preparation of a COST initiative (European Cooperation in Scientific and Technical Research (COST) [2013 / C - 165/09]), together with various European Geoparks.

### **Activities by partner agencies**

10. Workshop on Mineralogy and Rocks of the Geopark for students, made by the enterprise Natures, SCA.

11. Recovery of Geopark trails, by Seville Provincial Council.

12. Emission of a documentary about the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark on April 30 ("The Adventure of Knowledge", Spanish Radio Television).

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1. Attendance to the **XXXI EGN CC Meeting** held in Paris and participation in the exhibition of local products with enaras and products from Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.
2. **Celebration of the VII European Geoparks Week in Sierras Subbéticas Sierras Subbéticas** (from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2013), with these main activities:
  - a. **Issue of the leaflet-map “Geology for all”**, in Spanish and English, a map with the main geological sites which have *in situ* interpretation.
  - b. **Photography Exhibition of the European Geoparks in Santa Rita Visitors Centre**. This was printed by the Geopark Cabo de Gata Níjar, and further images and information have now been added by Sierras Subbéticas.
  - c. **Exhibition of local products**: a display of local products developed by enterprises adhered to the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism, those with the eco-label *Marca Parque Natural de Andalucía*, and other enterprises involved with the Geopark, which have developed products related to the geological heritage.
  - d. **The Wardens visit our school**, a plan of activities in the Schools of the Geopark. The wardens and staff of the Geopark visit one school of every municipality. They give talks on the natural values of the territory and make some games to recognise bones, rocks, prints, feathers, excrements, etc.
  - e. Course: **The Geopark Sierras Subbéticas From Primary and Secondary School**: Intensive course for teachers from the province of Córdoba, based on the geological resources of Sierras Subbéticas and the Geopark (12 hours of duration, 22 participants, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> April and 14<sup>th</sup> May).
  - f. Talk: **Geology: a different look**. Given by Encarna Águila, from the Official College of Geologists of Andalusia.
3. Publication of the European Geoparks Week results in the bulletins GEOBIO (nº 28) and RENPA (nº 143).
4. **Geología 13**: (11th May 2013) Organised by the Secondary School Nuevo Scala de Rute. Title: “Karstic Springs of South Córdoba”. This is a national day devoted to Geology. There is one Geolo-day for each Spanish province. The Geopark has collaborated with assessment in the organisation and with a member of the staff, as a geo-guide during the fieldtrip. This is the fourth consecutive year that the “**Geolo-day**” of the Córdoba Province is celebrated in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.
5. Shoot of video fragments from Sierras Subbéticas. Marble Arch Caves Geopark requested for some video images of the European Geoparks to participate in a documentary.

6. **Course: The Geopark Sierras Subbéticas for the Wardens:** Intensive course on the geological values and history of Sierras Subbéticas, Ahmed at the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park Wardens. (Duration 10 hours/ 16 participants/ 13<sup>th</sup> May and 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2013)
7. **Celebration of the XXV Aniversary of the Natural Park Sierras Subbéticas** (8th June): Activities organized by the County Council of Priego de Córdoba. The Natural Park & Geopark participated with talks of the Head of Service of Natural Areas of Cordova, the directress of the Natural Park Sierras and technical Subbéticas and CAPMA park. In connection with the Geopark was presented the talk: "The Subbetica Geopark" and there was a photo exhibition on European Geoparks.
8. Evaluation Mission in GeoMon Geopark of Alicia Serna (18th 19th, July).
9. Networking and collaboration with other territories: send pictures and information requested by other territories and institutions.
10. Booklet on the Geological History of Sierras Subbéticas Geopark (40 pages).
11. Celebration of a Board Meeting (Junta Rectora, July, 2013), The Delegate of the Local Government of Environment and the directress of the Geopark 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 generally communicated and discussed. In this meeting, the landscape restoration of a limestone quarry (Asentadero TER (39,50%) in Cabra was approved, and the valorization of the possible uses of the spaces left by the quarry activity is being studied.
12. Participation in the organisation of an international conference on Geotourism in Cabra (organised by the Rural Development Group of Sierras Subbéticas).
13. Continuous Assesment to county councils, enterprises, etc. to promote geological heritage.

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March 2012

- **New panels for the Geological Itinerary “Roadside Geology Route.** Thirteen panels all over the Geopark have been totally redesigned and renewed.
- **New panels for the Geological Itineraries by mountain bike:** The panels of the 13 geological itineraries existing in the Geopark have also been redesigned and renewed.
- **Quercus magazine** (a very prestigious magazine on environmental matters) published an article on the Spanish Geoparks. The article was written by a collaboration among all these Geoparks.
- **Participation in the Workshop of Arouca Geopark (Portugal):** Arouca Geopark invited Sobrarbe Geopark to participate in the Workshop Innovation & Local Development which took place in Arouca.. The representative of Sobrarbe gave a presentation on "Geotourism Strategies in Sobrarbe Geopark
- **Visit of a delegation from the Arouca Geopark (Portugal):** A delegation of the Arouca Geopark (Portugal) visited Sobrarbe Geopark, This delegation was composed of those responsible for the Geopark management, and tourism entrepreneurs. They came to know our experience and the geotourism resources development and especially to know more about the program of Partner Enterprises of Sobrarbe Geopark..
- **Training course for craft food producers (Partner Enterprises of the Geopark):** The course include matters as the “ABC” to use the Internet in your company (the tricks that will help you promote yourself), Following the course, there has been a custom consulting with each producer to assess the tools needed in each case.

April 2012

- **Training course for Partner Enterprises:** The course was dedicated to the presentation of all websites and digital resources that the Sobrarbe Geopark makes available to its Partner Enterprises, and included a field visit around the Geopark as a practical training.
- **Tourism fairs:** Attendance to a regional fair in order to promote the Geopark and the label of Products of the Geopark.

May 2012

- **Gastronomic workshops:** These workshops were organized to promote the craft food and products commercialized under the label of Products of the Sobrarbe Geopark.
- **Educational activities:** During the months of April, May and June took place an educational programme with students from 3 to 12 years (564), to participate in the World Heritage didactic activity developed by the Sobrarbe Geopark. One of the main goals of this program is to promote awareness of the local population about the elements inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO which are located inside the Geopark, and also enhance the knowledge and appreciation of our heritage among children, teachers and parents of Sobrarbe, promoting awareness, enjoyment and protection of our valuable natural and cultural heritage.

- **Geo- day:** The Geopark took part in the celebration on the annual “Geo-day” (a program developed all over Spain), in collaboration with the University of Zaragoza.
- **Visit of Secondary schools:** During this month the Geopark was visited by student groups of several Secondary schools of the region.
- **European Geoparks Week:** (May 20<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>). (Exhibitions, guided tours...)
- **Visit of a delegation from the Regional Natural Park of the Pyrénées Ariégeoises** (France), The aim of the visit was to know about the operation and management of Sobrarbe Geopark, as well as the possibility of future collaborations.

#### June 2012

- **V Photography Contest of the Sobrarbe Geopark:** This contest take place annually, each year it's dedicated to a different geological element of the Geopark.
- **Educational project: “Dig with the Geopark”:** Sobrarbe Geopark has designed a new educational program to promote awareness of local people about Sobrarbe Geopark and its rich archaeological and paleontological heritage. This is a program that will be developed in 2013 as a pilot. A professional archeological team will host six people from Sobrarbe who wish to volunteer in these excavations.
- **X Congress of the the Geological Heritage Commission of the Geological Society of Spain:** Sobrarbe Geopark was present at this meeting with two works *“Creating a Cartographic viewer for the management and the tourism promotion of the Sobrarbe Geopark”* and *“Geoconservation Plan of Sobrarbe Geopark: A tool for management purposes”*.

#### July 2012

- **National project Biodiversity:** Sobrarbe Geopark has developed a project for a national foundation dedicated to promote biodiversity (including geo diversity). If this project is selected, the Geopark will develop a lot of actions concerning its geological heritage during the next year.
- **Guided tours for young people:** The Geopark has organized several tours and visits to geological sites, aimed to young people living or visiting the Geopark.
- **Promotion of Products of Sobrarbe Geopark: Sobrarbe “Tapas” Contest:** The Geopark has participated in the "II Sobrarbe Tapas Contest" which took place from 28 to 30 June and from 5 to 7 July 2013. Sixteen Partner Enterprises of the Geopark took part in the Contest, and one of the awards was given to the best “tapa” made of products of the Geopark.
- **Inspection of Partner Enterprises:** An inspection visit to all these enterprises was performed in order to check the fulfillment of all the requirements of the agreement signed with the Geopark.

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1. Thomas Drechsler has started preparations for a conference of the Working Group on Geotopes of the German Geological Society to be held in Eisenwurzten Geopark in May 2014. It will be under heading “Geotopes – Authentic objects of geological processes”. The first circular has been issued.
2. The day of Biodiversity was hosted by the community of Wildalpen. Organized by Irmi Auer, Some 500 pupils of the region’s primary school gathered on 24 May to experience the properties of water and its flora and fauna.
3. The workshops on the policies of the protection of nature in the geo- and nature park were terminated with a meeting on 6 April at St. Gallen. Results will be presented in October
4. A poster highlighting the membership of the Eisenwurzten in the European Geoparks Network was hung out at all community centers and tourism enterprises.
5. Heinz Kollmann is completing the data base of geotopes with additional field surveys.
6. After a four-year period the geopark was revalidated by Welsey Hill (Geological Society of America and IUGS) and Henning Zellmer (Geopark Harz-Deutoburger Land-Ostfalen)
7. Together with Alicia Serna, Sierras Subbeticas geopark, Spain, Heinz Kollmann has revalidated GeoMon on the island of Anglesey in Wales, Great Britain.
8. The Austrian TV company has produced and diffused a report about GeoRafting on the Salza river in the Eisenwurzten geopark.

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### Geopark activities and progress

1. March 6<sup>th</sup>: Meeting of the GeoPark Info centres at the Nature conservation centre Schopfloch. Preparation of the fourth GeoPark Festival in April.
2. March 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>: Participation in the EGN meeting at Paris/UNESCO Headquarters
3. March 26<sup>th</sup>: Participation in a regional workshop of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association on development of a tourism concept
4. March 27<sup>th</sup>: Development of a new financing model is finished / distribution to all GeoPark's members (40.000 € and 0,5 staff more from 2014 onwards)
5. April 9<sup>th</sup>: Meeting of the GeoPark task force with representatives of the 10 rural districts, the Swabian Alb Tourism Association and of the GeoPark Advisory Board at the Biosphere Centre in Münsingen
6. April 11<sup>th</sup>: Participation in a meeting of the rural district of Esslingen with all organizations that are involved in tourism
7. April 14<sup>th</sup>: Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info centre Sonnenbühl (the two caves Bärenhöhle and Nebelhöhle) with an activity day and press conference.
8. April 16<sup>th</sup> / May 16<sup>th</sup>: Meeting of all involved persons/organizations about the conception of a new tourism and nature adventure centre in Bad Urach
9. April 21<sup>st</sup>: Fourth GeoPark Festival at Nature Protection Centre Schopflocher Alb. Nearly all GeoPark Info centres and landscape guides presented themselves with various activities like preparation of fossils and coral, ice age hunting, guided tours and much more. About 1.000 visitors (in spite of very bad weather).
10. April 21<sup>st</sup>: Beginning of a seasonal, common project with the Swabian Alb Tourism Association. It's called "time travel" and includes a virtual tour for children to around 20 geological / historical and popular destinations for excursions. Eight of these destinations are GeoPark Info centres
11. April 24<sup>th</sup>: Participation in the induction session of a seminar about creating educational material about the GeoPark Swabian Alb (in collaboration with University of Tübingen)
12. May 8<sup>th</sup>: Participation in the meeting of the German National Geoparks in Potsdam



13. May 9<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup>: Celebration of the European Geoparks Week with about 100 different activities.
14. May 14<sup>th</sup>: Participation in a panel discussion about tourism and the Mössingen landslide
15. May 16<sup>th</sup>: Participation in the meeting of the working group “Zeitreisen” (time travel) under the umbrella organization of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association
16. May 21<sup>st</sup>: Participation in a regional workshop for the development of a common fair conception of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association
17. June 7<sup>th</sup>: Meeting of the Geopark Advisory Board at the Biosphere Centre in Münsingen
18. June 6<sup>th</sup>: Release of an English version of the new brochure “GeoPark Adventure”
19. June 14<sup>th</sup>/ 15<sup>th</sup>: Participation in the “Economic Forum” in Oulu/Finland, together with the Rokua GeoPark
20. July 3<sup>rd</sup>: Geopark lecture at the county council of Reutlingen
21. July 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>: Revalidation visit by the representatives of the European and Global Geoparks Network Babbis Fassoulas and Jing Zhixing (and by the representatives of the National GeoParks in Germany Dr. Ulrike Mattig and Hans-Dieter Niederprüm)
22. July 17<sup>th</sup>: Participation in a regional workshop for the development of a tourism conception Swabian Alb
23. July to October: Presentation of the GeoPark and its information centres in the customer centre of the company ALB-GOLD in Trochtelfingen.
24. August 6<sup>th</sup>: Press conference about the new executive director of the GeoPark Swabian Alb (because of Renate Schrembs’ departure from office due to pregnancy)
25. August 7<sup>th</sup>: Relaunch of the new website (English version August 21<sup>st</sup>)

Renate Schrembs, 16.08.2013  
schrembs@geopark-alb.de

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Press conference: Opening of a new TERRA.vista outlook at 4.4.2013, joined by the county manager and several mayors with comparable vista points in the county of Steinfurt. The outlooks are equipped with QR Codes and phone numbers to upload information.
2. Information day in the Teutoburger Forrest, addressing downhill bikers trying to prevent damage in the forests together with landowners, police and forst wardens at 6.4.2013.
3. Meeting at university of Emmen (NL) to prepare a family event (Geopark Expedition) in 2014 for the two neighboring Geoparks TERRA.vita and De Hondsrug at 15.4.2013.
4. Workshop organized by member county Gütersloh, inviting communities in the county to decide on the cooperation with TERRA.vita in the future at 18.4.
5. Press conference: Opening of new TERRA.bike project (E-Bike recharging stations) in the city and the county of Osnabrück with the county manager and local mayor at 30.4.2012.
6. New tourguide published at 6.5.2013: "Hiking with Kids"
7. Social volunteering project with Coca Cola Company at 23.5.2013. 10 volunteers of local Coca Cola branches helped cleaning and upgrading the future geosite "Silversea".
8. Press conference: Presentation of 2 new TERRA.vita touchscreen info terminals in Bielefeld and Borgholzhausen with local mayor at 24.5.2013.
9. Participation with our info tent at the "Science Day" of the University of Münster at 9.6.2013 in the community of Lengerich, focusing on earth heritage issues. First contacts with the faculty of geoscience were established and invitations were exchanged. In parallel participation at the "Ibbenbürener Biking Day" with a stand.
10. Press conference: Opening of a new and massive outlook with interactive information at the Hahnenmoor bog at 10.6., together with the local mayor.
11. Member assembly of TERRA.vita at 18.6. Dr. Möller of the German UNESCO Commission gave a speech on the new developments concerning the UNESCO Geopark Initiative.
12. Meeting with local Commerzbank director at 20.6., introducing two young interns, sponsored by the bank for a period of three months each.
13. Press conference: Opening of a new TERRA.vista outlook at 27.6. in the village of Ostercappeln, joined by the local mayor and representatives from other communities in the city and county of Osnabrück with comparable equipped sites.

14. Meeting with the University of Münster at 28.6. at the new “Silversea” geosite.
15. Press conference: Funding of the “Silversea” Project by the “Stahlwerk Foundation” with 5.000 € together with the county manager and local mayor.
16. Meeting at 2.7. with a journalist of the monthly magazine “Merian”. A new extra Edition “Osnabrücker Land” in autumn 2013 will also highlight TERRA.vita.
17. Meeting with communities in the county of Gütersloh at 17.7. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting which from now on will take place every year in summer, to talk about future projects and possible funding.
18. Presentation about TERRA.vita at 22.7. at the Osnabrück City Rotary Club
19. Guided inclusion biking tour at 4.8. for blind people conducted by Timo
20. Moderated Team Day for TERRA.vita staff at 16.8. focusing on future perspectives to be integrated in a new masterplan.
21. During the summer a large number of members of parliament were informed about ongoing developments at UNESCO. Numerous calls were made in this case with the German UNESCO Commission.

### **Networking**

1. TERRA.vita visited from 5.-7.5.2013 by a delegation from “Odsherred” (DK), asking for information on setting up the 1<sup>st</sup> Danish Geopark.
2. TERRA.vita visited from 11.-12.5.2013 by a delegation from “Mount St. Pierre”, Quebec, Canada asking for information to set up another Canadian Geopark.
3. Revalidation of Sobrarbe Geopark (E) from 3.-7.7.2013, Hartmut together with Vajolet Masse.
4. Revalidation of Cabo de Gata Geopark from 7.-10.7.2013, Hartmut together with Francesco Chiaramonte
5. TERRA.vita visited from 19.-20.7. by a delegation from “Gooi and Vecht” area in the Netherlands to set up another Dutch Geopark
6. Revalidation of Shetland Geopark from 5.-9.8.2013, Timo together with Ingeborg Klepp

### **Activities by partners**

1. TERRA.vita participated at a workshop organized by the National Geoparks Network in Germany at 8.5.2013
2. Opening of a new exhibition at the Museum am Schölerberg at 12.5.2013, which is also hosting our info center. The exhibition “Treasures of our Landscape” displays minerals and fossils from the region.

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Timo Kluttig [Kluttig@lkos.de](mailto:Kluttig@lkos.de)

### Geopark Activities

- March – August 2013 - Project “Gateways of the Park” - Regular, guided museum tours were organized at all the seven Park Gateways: 1) Follonica Park Gateway (Iron and Cast Iron Museum) "the factory city"; 2) Scarlino Park Gateway (Portus Scabris Archeological Museum) "the mining freight village"; 3) Gavorrano Park Gateway (Mining Park) "the pyrite mountain"; 4) Massa Marittima Park Gateway (Museum of the Mine) "the city of metals"; 5) Monterotondo Marittimo Park Gateway (Route with facilities to the Biancane Hills) "a journey to the heart of the earth"; 6) Montieri Park Gateway (Boccheggiano Documentation Centre) "miners for 3000 years"; 7) Roccastrada Park Gateway (the Ribolla Mine's Documentation Centre) "land of castles and coal".
- September 2012 – March 2013 - Organization of the Course for Park guides and for the staff at the ticket "The geology and mineralogy of the Colline Metallifere" (80 hours of lectures and workshop). Teachers - Prof. Armando Costantini and Giancarlo Pagani - University of Siena.
- September 2012 – May 2013 - Project “know the Park II edition” The project was dedicated to the schools of the Province of Grosseto. The Park offered transport, services and free guided tours in 16 geological, mining and natural locations, with the possibility of a theatre play in the mine, telling stories about miners and geological discoveries. 1,500 students participated.
- 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2013 – Rome - Participation in the FORUM of Italian Geoparks.
- 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Participation in the 31st Coordination Committee in Paris at the UNESCO Meeting of the European Geoparks Network - Alessandra Casini and Riccardo Cinelli, members of the EGN Coordination Committee.
- 18<sup>th</sup> of April – 2013 – 25<sup>th</sup> of June 6. Start of the first part of the project of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism organized by plenary fora and tables of consultation with stakeholders in the area of the Park.
- 3<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 Stage di 15 students of a training course for technical staff of Geoparks launched in collaboration with Geopark of Sardinia.
- 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 Conference presentation of the results of studies about the geological heritage of the Park: A YEAR IN GEOPARK, speech by Prof. Armando Costantini, University of Siena. Presentation of projects to enhance and new routes and itineraries in the Park.
- 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 NATIONAL DAY OF GEOLOGY AND TOURISM and DAY OF THE MINES - EGN Week. A new guided tour of the ancient silver mines of Montieri and a conference about geology, mineralogy and mining activities in the territory of Montieri.
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>th</sup> of June 2013 Parco Geominerario della Sardegna. Participation in the Workshop of Italian Geoparks with a speech about the geoitineraries of the Tuscan Mining Geopark.

- 29<sup>th</sup> of June Inauguration of the new Museum – Gateway of Follonica: MAGMA (Museo delle Arti in Ghisa della Maremma - Museum of Arts in Cast Iron of Maremma). Museum exhibition inside the blast furnace of St. Ferdinand (XIX century). The museum traces the history of the steel activities of the area.
- TREKKING ON SUMMER IN THE PARK Project “Discovering the Maremma. Visits to the Park” with 17 different tour routes to archaeological sites and geological sites in the Park. It 's been made a brochure with all the system of trails in the Park for geotourism and a program of guided tours has been organized lasted all summer. Multithematic guided tours, (archeology, geology, mining, environment) are allowed to make easily accessible the cultural and geological heritage and of the Park.

### **Networking**

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2013 Participation in Conference Geology and Tourism at Bologna with 3 speeches and 4 posters: 1) TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK AND GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE Alessandra Casini; Riccardo Cinelli; Armando Costantini & Giancarlo Pagani 2) THE MONTIERI SILVER FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO THE RESEARCH OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES. THE SILVER TRAIL OF MONTIERI Alessandra Casini; Armando Costantini & Giancarlo Pagani; 3) The TRAVERTINE OF MASSA Elena Buracchi 4) THE CONEDERA METHOD Alessandra Casini; Armando Costantini & Giancarlo Pagani

### **Activity Partners**

- 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013 – Project "I Luoghi del tempo" (Places of Time." At the site "Ravi Marchi Mine" of the Gateway of the Park of Gavorrano was made a theater performance by PAOLO POLI and MARCO BALIANI (very famous Italian actors) Art, geology and industrial archaeology, organized by Museum of Province of Grosseto Network and the Park.
- 12<sup>th</sup> of August – 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2013 ARCHETYPES AND METAMORPHOSIS organized by Museum of Province of Grosseto Network and the Park.
- July – August 2013 Support for the Festival of music, theatre in the Park. (Festival Teatro delle Rocce – Gateway of Gavorrano's Park; Festival Lirica in Piazza – Gateway of Massa Marittima Park; Festival Parco Centrale – Gateway of Follonica; Festival Nuove Figure Gateways of Monterotondo Marittimo, Montieri, Massa Marittima, Gavorrano, Follonica).

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Riccardo Cinelli ([r.cinelli@provincia.grosseto.it](mailto:r.cinelli@provincia.grosseto.it))

**Geopark Activities:**

1. Meeting with tourist enterprises of the Geopark to explain and make with them Communication Plan and Marketing Plan. March 2013
2. Several meetings of the technical structure of the Geopark to coordinate works. March-August 2013
3. Oral communication titled “The Geopark; an opportunity for rural development” in a very little village, Deleitosa, with 50 people. March 2013
4. April. Fam-trip with journalists from national media, geography media and influential bloggers in the world of travel. Many impacts in these media as a result of the action.
5. New seventeen geotourism experiences described by the associated tourism companies as a result of the Marketing Plan
6. April. Workshop with national travel agencies specialists in nature and ecotourism: Geographica, Hacienda Huella, Nomaders, Gente Viajera, Cristal de Roca, Spainbirds, Tierra de Fuego, Taranna Viatges y Turismo Responsable.
7. Several meeting with many partners of the Geopark to organize the 4th European Week. May 2013.
8. On May 24th to 2nd of June to many activities and events a long of the territory during the 4th European Week of the Geopark
9. Oral communication titled “The Spanish Forum & European Geoparks Network” in the X National Meeting of the Geological Heritage Commission in Segovia (Spain). Many conferences between on June 10th - 15th organized by Geological Society of Spain
10. As a result of the Communication Plan: the Geopark and the social networks:
  - we are on twitter @villuercasGPark with 450 followers.
  - we are on facebook: [www.facebook.com/GeoparqueVilluercas](http://www.facebook.com/GeoparqueVilluercas) with 490 fans and a social group with 1623 followers: [www.facebook.com/groups/165864893440526/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/groups/165864893440526/?fref=ts)
  - we are in google + and in pinterest
  - we have a new webpage design: [www.geoparquevilluercas.es](http://www.geoparquevilluercas.es)
11. As a result of the Communication Plan: New leaflets and communication devices:
  - An electronic newsletter.
  - Set of posters, informative dossier and diffusion leaflets.
12. Oral communication in official Master of Rural Development in University of Extremadura about Villuercas Geopark, Spanish Forum and European Geoparks Network. May and June 2013
13. Meeting with education committee to organize The Geoschool Program to the next months. June 2013
14. Meeting in Navalморal de la Mata with a very important Hiking Club about trails in our Geoparks and activities about it. June 2013
15. Oral communication about “Geopark geological resources” in Augustobriga High School with two hundred students from different villages from the Geopark and surrounding villages. June 2013
16. Three Geo Labs in Cañamero, Castañar de Ibor and Villar del Pedroso with 100 about people (workshops with different kind of people about the Geopark, what think about it, etc. June 2013

17. Several meetings of the territorial partners; Tourism Enterprises (Geovilluercas), Municipalities (Mancomunidad de Municipios) , APRODERVI (Local Action Group) and Diputación de Cáceres to make the Action Plan and other several themes. July - August 2013.
18. Workshop about Geopark resources and geosites with children from 5 to 12 years old in a Urban Camp in Navezuelas, on the heart of our territory. August 2013.
19. Presentation of the multi-touch book version of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark Geosites' Guide as a tourist and educative tool. A new guide for iPad devices. August.

### **Networking:**

20. Participation in the 31st coordination (on March 20th - 23rd) committee of European Geoparks Network in UNESCO headquarters in Paris and we had participates in two groups: Intangible Heritage and Mining Heritage.
21. Meeting of Cooperation Group with Spanish Local Action Groups (LEADER) Exchange and Cooperation with Central America (Red ICC) to organize a meeting on November in Guatemala about rural development experiences, Geoparks by example, with regional authorities and international organizations.
22. Several meetings of Cooperation project with 13 Local Action Groups; "Geoempleo" about Rural development in Spanish Geoparks

### **Activity by Partners:**

23. The Geopark Newspaper by APRODERVI with some news about our villages, tourism, culture, geopark, agriculture, special events, etc.
24. By APRODERVI and the Government of Extremadura: "GeoParticipación" Social participation project for rural development: all about the geopark: contests, conferences, exhibitions, geo labs, trails, geosites' visits...
25. On April 24th held in Villar del Pedroso, a little village in our Geopark, the 3rd "Geoconvivencia" Rural Conference with three hundred pupils from different schools of the Geopark. Typical games, drawing contest about geosites, paintings caves workshops, etc.
26. Several fam-trips organized by the Government of Extremadura on the Geopark with journalists, bloggers, tour operators, etc.
27. Some scientific works about Geopark in Tourism and Geography in University of Extremadura.
28. Some activities organized by Geovilluercas' companies along the year; Tapa week, trails, slow tourism, Nordic walking, starlight, bird watching, assistance to a National Seminar on Ecoturism.

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## **1. Events/workshops/seminars**

### **- March – August 2013**

150 excursions, guided hiking tours, guided museum tours for summer season.

### **- June 8, 2013**

Excursion “geotope of the year” to Wollmerather Kopf with Prof. Schmincke

### **- September 1, 2013**

Excursion “Biotope of the year” to Kirchweiler Rohr

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

### **- March 8-10, 2013**

Presentation of EGN and Vulkaneifel Geopark at ITB Berlin

### **- March 2013 – August 2013**

Continuation of educational training for Nature- and Geopark Guides including touristic product development

### **May 25 – June 2, 2013**

Presentation of Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel and the touristic programmes at Umweltfotofestival, an environmental Photo Festival in Zingst (Baltic Sea)

### **May 26, 2013**

Presentation of Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel and the touristic programmes at Waldtag, day of the forest, in Birresborn

### **- July 2 – August 29, 2013**

Presentation of Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel along with calendar of events and touristic programs at the Environmental Agency in Wiesbaden

### **- July - October**

Presentation of and information about Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel and the Nature- and Geopark Guides at the Maarsaddle, a touristic focal point of Vulkaneifel

### **- July 2013**

New outfits for Nature- and Geopark Guides in corporate design of Vulkaneifel



### **3. Participation in meetings and projects**

- Continuing work in the approved **LEADER-project: “Development of sustainable geotourism in Vulkaneifel”**
- School Project with association of German Natureparks: Naturepark Schools

#### **- April 22, 2013**

Meeting of Natureparks in Rhineland-Palatinate

#### **- June 12, 2013**

Working Group on Geoparks consultation meeting at UNESCO headquarters, Paris

#### **- June 2013**

Evaluation of Deutsche Vulkanstraße, a signposted excursion route connects 39 geological sites of cultural and industrial historic interest, all related to the Eifel volcanoes.

### **5. Evaluation**

#### **- May 16-18, 2013**

Evaluation mission in Hondsrug aspiring Geopark, Netherlands

#### **-June 13-16, 2013**

Evaluation mission in Kula aspiring Geopark, Turkey

#### **- July 7-12, 2013**

Revalidation mission in Unzen Geopark, Japan

### **6. Press/Media**

- new calendar of events for summer season 2013 with portraits of Nature- and Geopark Guides
- Weekly press information of **Geopark Programs** in local bulletins and internet
- Weekly press information with **personalized presentation** of Geopark Guides and programs
- Documentation of Geopark activities in local bulletins of municipalities

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### **EGN – GGN activities**

1. Attendance at the 31st EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Paris - UNESCO (France) on March 20th – 22nd 2013;
2. Attendance of UNESCO Romanian
3. Revalidation mission (Dan Grigorescu) to Arouca Geopark (7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> July)
4. Revalidation mission (Alexandru Andrasanu) in Luberon Geopark (15<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> July)
5. Revalidation mission (Alexandru Andrasanu) in Chelmos Vouriakos Geopark (29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July)
6. Work for the volume EUROPaleontology, coordinated by dr. Luis Alcalá;
7. Preparation of the 32nd EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy) on September 2nd – 3rd 2013;
8. Submission of three abstracts for the 12th European Geoparks Conference in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy) on September 4th – 5th 2013;
9. Support for the aspiring Buzau Land Geopark in Romania;
10. Submission of the Activity Progress Report March-August 2013 to Basque Coast Geopark in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and discussed during the 32nd EGN CC Meeting in Cilento e Vallo di Diano Geopark (Italy);
11. Activities related to the EGN week: conference on Geology and Geoparks ; training on geoconservation issues for the members of the Museum of Geology in Bucharest, public presentations, educational activities;

### **Geopark events and progress**

1. Regular programs of walks and guided tours were realized in Spring and Summer 2013;
2. Set up of the Hateg Country Dinosaurs Association – in order to support geopark's activities on behalf of University of Bucharest;
3. Educational programs specially dedicated to discovering Hateg Nature for local schools;
4. Opening of a new visiting point The House of Dwarf Dinosaurs, Sinpetru, Dinosaurs Valley;
5. Celebration for the first time of the Geopark Days (23 – 24 of June). Will become the official celebration of the geopark;
6. Organization of a new geologic trail in Rachitova.
7. Geotechnical study for the organization of the Tustea nesting site as a touristic point;
8. Press conference in Constanta, 20 July 2013 on the dinosaurs in the Hateg Geopark;
9. Publication of several articles about Hateg Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews;

### **Education and research**

1. Interdisciplinary research studies in geology, geography, sociology and botany in geopark area (July – August);
2. Organization of field research for staff and students (July-August 2013);

3. Support for the master program Applied Geo-biology in conservation of natural and cultural heritage (University of Bucharest);
4. Support for the international Erasmus Intensive Course in Sustainable Development (Sinaia, April);
5. Support for the European Virtual Seminar (EVS) in sustainable development;

### **Partnership projects**

1. Organization of the preliminary studies for the creation of the Institute of Paleontologic Education and Research F.Nopcsa in Sacel village, in partnership with the County Council of Hunedoara, University and Architecture and colleagues from the Laboratory of Paleontology;
2. Partnership projects in tourism promotion, education and infrastructure development;
3. Field works and researches in Hateg Geopark leaded by University of Cluj and museums in May, June and July;
4. Support and partnership for Romania Discovery Chanel national contest – School of Dinosaurs;

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## Geopark Activities

1. Constitution of the Spanish Forum of Geoparks. March 2012
2. Feature in Aragón TV about Maestrazgo Geopark. March 2013
3. Publication of the Geopark corner, in the Sunday edition of the Journal of Teruel
4. Participation in a workshop organized by the Arouca Geopark
5. A group of forestry work in the Comarca “Maestrazgo”, did works of cleaning, clearing and preparation of various trails Maestrazgo Geopark. April 2013
6. New content on the paleontological museum of Dinópolis. April 2013
7. New edition of the Geolodía., 2013 GEOLODIA organized by Dinopolis Teruel. May 2013
8. Opening the trail in Miravete
9. Celebration of the European Geoparks week for 9 days, with activities in several villages of Geopark.
10. Maestrazgo Cultural Park works with the Municipality of Castellote in the “TRAIL of Prehistoric Art”, between Las Planas de Castellote and “Abrigo de la Vacada” path adapted for persons with disabilities that extends along 7 kms. June 2013.
11. Works with the Municipality of Mosqueruela in the “TRAIL of Prehistoric Art”, between the road and “Abrigo del Barranco de Gibert” path adapted for persons with visua disabilities that extends along 3 kms. June 2013.
12. Installation of road signs of Maestrazgo Geopark in the road network of the Cultural Park. June 2013.
13. Installing a new information panels in Castellote and Las Planas. July 2013

14. Development the plan of signage in the Geopark with Dinopolis. July 2013.
15. Development of Geopark Management Project. August 2013.
16. Visit of the Official delegation from a Longhushan Geopark (China) August 2013.

## **Networking**

17. Participation with other local members, in the European Project from Dinópolis, PLACES -Platform of Local Authorities and Communicators Engaged in Science. 2013
18. Dinopolis organized a summer course of the University "Paleontología y Desarrollo. Teruel: Territorio Paleontológico". Teruel. July 2013
19. Participation in the Cultural Week of Molinos. August. 2013

## **Activities by Partners**

20. **Alcalá, L.**, Hernández, A. (2013). Breathing geology for years in Maestrazgo Geopark. *European Geoparks Magazine*, 10: 20.
21. **Alcalá, L.** (2013). Participation in European Geoparks 31st Meeting at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, including chairing a session and coordination of Thematic Group meeting on Fossils. 21 to 22 March 2013.
22. **Alcalá, L.** (2013). Elected member, European Geoparks held during 31st Meeting of the European Geoparks Network Advisory Committee.
23. **Alcalá, L.** (2013). Appointed during the 31st European Geoparks Meeting for assessment missions and Yanqing Taining Geopark (China).

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### **Geopark activities**

1., The consortium of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit Ltd. and the Municipality of Salgótarján (the largest city in our geopark) won an emphasized tourism development project (HU) about slightly more than 2 million EUR (cca. 600 million HUF), with 100% intensity. A project started at February with the authorizations of the constructions - this was the most important result of this period.

2., We submitted three other applications: to the Slovakian Ministry of Agriculture for geopark marketing, to the SPP Foundation (SK) for attitude-forming and education, and to the Orange Foundation (SK) for education, in March/April of 2013.

3., We prepared an application for the three LEADER-area of the NNG's hungarian side for tourism development and creating common identity in August of 2013.

4., In the 5th time of EGN Week, we organized six different quiz and competition, three guided tours to geosites for the public, and sport programmes. We organize a Photography Maraton in the area of Medves plateau with two hundred registered participants. We estimate that the participants take over then 40.000 photos within the 48 hours of the programme. The EGN week held from 24th of May to 9th of June.

5., Promoting the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark at local elementary schools by a travelling exhibition assembled from geosite-information panels in May of 2013.

6., Information exchange with the Slovakian Ministry of Environment, in order to update the conception of the slovakian geoparks in June of 2013.

7., Organize the summer camp of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark in Fil'akovo (SK) in July/August of 2013.

8., Open guided tours to the Nagy-Hargics (SK), Pohansky Hrad (SK), Fenek (SK), Rhyolite erosion of Kazár (HU).

### **Networking**

9., Participation in the 31th EGC Coordination Committee meeting in the UNESCO, Paris, France in March of 2013.

10., The winner team of the Bakony – Balaton Geopark's quiz competition visited our geopark. They met with our staff, and saw our most important values in June of 2013.

11., Participating in creating Nógrád County's (HU) planning strategy for the EU 2014 – 2020 period.

12., Organizing a Photo Exhibition from the Photography Maraton with the Karancs – Medves Nature Conservation Foundation. The first exhibition was at the Visitor Center of the Ipolytarnóc Fossils Nature Reserve in June and July of 2013.

13., Presentation of the hungarian geoparks (as the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark, as the Bakony – Balaton Geopark) in the event-series called „new ways in the earth sciences” – „Geoparks in Hungary”. The presentation held at the Hungarian Geological Institute in May of 2013.

#### **Activities by partners**

14., With the Local Tourism Destination Management Organisation of Salgótarján we participated in Hungary’s most important tourism event the Travel Exhibition in the hungarian capital, Budapest in March of 2013.

15., With the funding of our partners we finished the first geopark tour guide training in cooperation with the Local Tourism Destination Management Organization of Salgótarján and the Bükk National Park Directorate in June of 2013.

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### Major achievements of geopark in 2012

1. Invested in the centralized Mining Archive of Monteponi-Iglesias, one of the biggest in Europa, which houses all the mining heritage documentation, currently managed by the in-house companies of the region and the Geopark Consortium. In this Archive are preserved, valued and accessible all the documents. It will be implemented through the constitution of the Museum of Mining Models and the exhibition of mining machinery for a total investment of € 1,800,000 (resolution no. 2 of 1/24/13).
2. Participated with several events in the XIV Culture Week April 14 to 22 organized by the Italian Ministry of Heritage and Culture (MIBAC) to promote and enhance the Italian cultural heritage.
3. Co-financed the IGEA Company for the purchase of storage and retention materials storage for the Mining Archive.

### Contribution towards the work of the EGN

1. Framework Convention for activities of scientific collaboration between the Geomining Park of Sardinia and the GeoPark Colline Metallifere, both unique mining parks in Italy. This collaboration is the result of the invitation of the General Direction of the Italian Ministry of Environment to collaboration between National Parks in order to achieve economies of scale, providing the sharing of scientific and technical knowledge developed in the context of environmental remediation, the study of industrial archeology and geological sites. ....
2. Participation from May 29 to June 2 at the VII Congress of the Italian Parks Federation. (Grosseto).
3. Participation from 16 to 17 May 2012 to the 4th Geoparks Workshop Italy (Massa Marittima).
4. Co-financing and participation from the 20th to 22<sup>nd</sup> of July at the Posidonia Festival 2012, an International Festival of Arts, Environment and Sustainable Development, held in the Sardinian Island of San Pietro.
5. Co-financing and organization, in collaboration with the Consortium Forgea International and IGEA SpA of the Workshop "The management of contaminated mining and industrial areas" (July 16th to 18th) presenting a synthesis framework for the management and revitalization of contaminated sites.
6. Co-financing the Forgea International Consortium for the organization of meetings with experts on issues related to the management of national parks.
7. Participation in the call LIFE - Nature and Biodiversity with the project Exploitation of sustainable development: environmental adaptation of forest management and in abandoned mining areas of south-western Sardinia.
8. Organization of the 5th Workshop of Italian Geoparks from the 19th to 22nd June 2013 in Iglesias in the Headquarters of the Geological, mining, environmental and historical Park of Sardinia, focused on "Geoparks and National Parks trails network: design, restoration and enjoyment."
  - Organization of Geoparks Week EGN 2013 in August and September to achieve a larger number of tourists.
9. • Organizing a series of promotional and cultural events with the Region of Sardinia named Sea and Mines 2013.

### Management structure and financial status

10. The Geopark was officially named as one and only conversation partner of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia in planning, programming and monitoring four-year activities on the Geopark territorial jurisdiction financed with 28.000.000 Euros a year.

### Conservation (geoconservation) strategy

11. The Geopark has strengthened its relationship with the territory also relating to the Council Board of Cultural, Environmental and Humanitarian Associations of the Geo-mining Park of Sardinia (which includes about 55 local and regional associations) which, even in 2012, has contributed to a large number of initiatives to promote the Park, even thanks to the ordinary and extraordinary contributions supported by the Consortium for a total of about € 90,000.
12. Agreement with the Association of Industrial and Geotechnical Engineers for the collaboration with the Mining Museum in Iglesias, of particular historical, scientific and educational value, housed in the second oldest of the four Italian Mining Institutes.
13. Collaboration with the HafenCity Universität Hamburg for the Master course on reconversion and development of mining areas of the Geomining Park of Sardinia, included in the official academic program of the Faculty of Architecture Fachgebiet Entwerfen und Baukonstruktion. The final papers of students were a constituent part of an exhibition and a publication in three languages on the themes of recovery and enhancement of historic mining artifacts to be divulged in the main international studies centers.



14. Contribution to the Second Edition of the International Master in Mediterranean Landscape and Urbanism by the Department of Architecture, Design and Urbanism of the University of Sassari, including field research and a Workshop on upgrading and revitalization of the areas falling within the limits of the Historical and Environmental Geo-Mineral Park of Sardinia and the realization of a documentary officially presented in Bangkok.
15. Subscription of the agreement between the Agency Forestry Board, IGEA SpA and the Geopark to formally establish a partnership to create and consolidate a network of itineraries focusing on the main vocation of the area (environment, culture, gastronomy, cycle paths and bridleways) and for a joint participation in the call of the Local Action Group Linas – Campidano, size 313, PSR 2007-2013 Action 1 and 2 with the goal of introducing innovative services and promote networking systems for tourism in rural areas.
16. Subscription of an understanding with G.A.L. Sulcis Capoterra Campidano for an effective and continuous cooperation, aimed, in general, to the establishment of an instrument of local governance as a system of integrated territorial quality, able to create synergies between resources and actors, aiming also at creating a from outside recognizable unique image.

#### **Strategic partnership**

17. Together with G.A.L. (Local Action Group) Sulcis, is running a program agreement signed on 20.04.12, carrying out interventions, for the protection, promotion and transnational cooperation (e.g. Youth and Rural Development, "MeDIETerranea", "smarTOURism", "Territorial Marketing and Communication Plan and tourism promotion" for a total of € 1,326,000. (Resolution no. 20 of 24.04.2012 and no. 64 of 12.05.12)..
18. On 2.1.13 signed with the Region of Sardinia, the concerned municipalities and the IGEA (in-house company of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia), a program agreement called "Intermunicipal Strategic Plan" for the territory of Guspinese -Arburese, aimed to implement a program of measures to protect and enhance the existing historical and cultural heritage of the former mining areas and at the same time to create new economic opportunities. The role of the Park Consortium will be to manage the cultural and natural heritage, providing guidance on the constraints and objectives of its venue (resolution no. 5 of 1/30/13).
19. Co-financing the municipalities of Arbus, Villamassargia and Narcao for participation in the regional call for environmental restoration measures in brownfield areas (€ 25,000 each).

#### **Marketing and promotional activities**

20. New edition of the Geopark Thesis Scholarships. During the year, were presented in the municipalities of the consortium sixteen thesis on the Geominig Park in the presence of journalists, scholars and authorities. The award ceremony took place on April 2013.
21. Cofinancing, coediting and presenting several publications of particular scientific and editorial quality which deal with issues concerning significant aspects of the Geopark heritage, e.g. "Landscapes and Mines of Sardinia from above"; "When the barilocca played", "Work to live, not to die", "History of the School of Mining Iglesias", "Cesare Vecelli mining engineer", "The legendary Surfuraru", "80 years of football Rossoblu - Monteponi / Iglesias",
22. Supported the education-trip of the "Baudi of Vesme" High School in Mosbach (Germany) in the context of an important international exchange project between schools called European Comenius - Empowering Gender Equality.
23. Co-organization of the 20th edition of the Miner athletics event road race. At the end of the event, gratified by the presence of 180 international athletes, was awarded the title of the Regional Championship.
24. Renewal of the annual contract SOGAER for the promotion of the Geominig Park at the main airport of Sardinia through projections on LCD display screens in the arrivals and departures.

#### **Sustainable economic development**

25. Signed on 28.12.12, with the Regional Planning Center, an agreement aimed at the "Development of innovative technologies for remediation and environmental restoration, land-use planning and sustainable economy paths in the areas falling in the Geological, Mining, Historical and Environmental Park of Sardinia. On 24.01.13 was presented the rough estimate of the first project agreed for an amount of €. 323,000 and concerning "Manufacturing industrial and environmental restoration - The opportunities of mining dumps in Sardinia." This project will test the possibility of pre-industrial scale recovery of minerals in economic value.
26. Co-financing projects of the Communitie of Narcao in environmental education and sustainability for 10,000 Euros and the Community of Domusnovas for the consolidation works of the rocky ridge south-west of Monte Acqua for 30,000 Euro.

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