

# **ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK, ITALY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Realization of a new project “Change the Climate!” in collaboration with Oikos and Oxfam, an international project which involve 20 Italian, 4 Brazilian and 4 Tanzanian high school classes participating in the training activities of the project financed by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The projects involves practices of active citizenship for the promotion of responsible lifestyles against climate change and of an equal development of the North and South of the World.
2. Realization of a new activity for high school in collaboration with ISPRA (Institute for Environment Research), environmental education tool for a simulation of climate change “VADDI” (Go and tell it to the dinosaurs).
3. Realization of a new project “Landscape Message” for children of primary school and high school.
4. Project for high school “Guetti” about the European Geoparks Network, the importance of preserving the geological heritage and the geology of the Adamello Brenta Geopark;
5. Project for secondary school (1st degree) “The Geology of the Park” about the Park’s geology and rocks’ classification (17 classes joining);
6. Promotion of the educational programs about geology, geoconservation and environmental themes in all the schools of the Park for the school year 2014-15 (260 schools);

### **Networking**

7. Collaboration to the draft of the Management Plan of the “Sarca Fluvial Park” and to the organization of the local forum with the management body of the Park, the protected areas along the Sarca River, one of the main river of the Geopark.
8. Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> “Mountain Environment Education Workshop in the Alpine Protected Areas” organized by ALPARC and REEMA in Berchtesgaden, October 2014, and development of a joint project for girls/boys 18-25 years old “Youth at the top”.
9. Participation to the fair “Expo Dolomites WHS” in Longarone (Belluno), in collaboration with Trentino Development and the Trentino Network of Protected Areas, September 2014.
10. Participation to “Eco-fair of mountain” in Tione promoting the EGN and the Adamello Brenta Geopark, October 2014.

### **Activity by Partners**

11. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism office, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that will take place during the summer.
12. Conclusive excursion for the Protected Areas of Emilia Romagna for the “Winter training Nature course”.
13. Eductour in the Adamello Brenta Geopark for the touristic operators of the National Park of Mercantour.

# **APUAN ALPS GEOPARK (ITALY)**

## **Progress Report, September – March 2015**

### **Geopark activities**

1. “Apuan Autumn”, fair in Bosa di Careggine with phototrekking course, live painting experience, tasting typical food and Apuan traditional songs
2. “Cibiamoci di Parco”, tasting of six “zero-mile food” dishes selected during the 2014 edition
3. Workshop “The Apuan wine in the Global Warming Age: discussion on an idea of “terroir” for the years to come”
4. “Enjology”: presentation of the Bosa wine produced by the Geopark Farm
5. Practical course “Building the dry stone walls”
6. Award of the Photo contest “Apuan Alps terracings”
7. Inauguration of Giuseppe Nardini Path, collecting the Geopark Farm to a panoramic point enjoying the view of the ridge of Apuan Alps and Apennines ranges.
8. Forth Forum of the “European Charter for Sustainable Tourism” in the Apuan Alps Park about environmental education and naturalistic teaching
9. Project 2014-2015 for primary and secondary school: “Knowing and doing Park” with five educational offers aiming to the development of the politics of environmental education
10. Fifth edition of the contest “The Geopark in the exercise book”, collection of poems, stories, interviews, recipes and drawings.
11. Autumn count of mouflons: activity guided by Geopark Rangers for the monitoring of mouflons in the Apuan Alps
12. Meeting “The children and the “European Charter for Sustainable Tourism” in Geopark Farm of Bosa di Careggine
13. Conference “The return of the wolf in the Apuan Alps Geopark”
14. “Landscape and Nature - Andrea Pierotti photo contest 2015” in collaboration with Forte dei Marmi Municipality and Versilia Section of Italian Union for the fight against muscular dystrophy
15. Traditional exhibition of Christmas cribs in the Antro del Corchia cave

16. Presentation of 2015 Geopark Calendar and the illustrated book “Thorny histories of a porcupine” ISBN 978-8897157151
17. “Cibiamoci di Parco 2015”, contest for the promotion of local food and typical products with a tasting tour all along the Apuan Alps

## **Networking**

1. Attendance at the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, hosted by Harz Braunschweiger Land Geopark (Germany)
2. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, March 2015.
3. Signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Mining National Office of Tunis to expand the GGN in North Africa
4. Article “Enhancing the geological heritage of the Apuan Alps Geopark (Italy): tangible and intangible assets” in “From Geoheritage to Geoparks – Case Studies from Africa and Beyond”, Springer, ISBN 978-3-319-10707-3
5. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in [www.apuanegeopark.it](http://www.apuanegeopark.it)
6. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in [www.apuaneturismo.it](http://www.apuaneturismo.it)
7. Updating pages in Italian Geoparks website [www.europeangeoparks.eu](http://www.europeangeoparks.eu)

## **Activity by Partners**

1. “Walking with snowshoes in Careggine to discover the Geopark”, organized by Careggine Municipality and Apuan Alps Geopark
2. Participation to the EU proposal “Sport for wellness” COS–TSUST–2014–3–15 with Forte dei Marmi Municipality and other partners
3. “Discovering the Geopark”, guided visits, and excursions for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives
4. Didactic projects with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark

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# AROUCA GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Contribution to the organization of the most important venue in Arouca «The Harvest Fair» – 2014, September 2014.
2. 400 teachers and educational assistants for 2014-2015 school year from Arouca Schools visited geosites of Arouca Geopark, September 2014.
3. Participation with local products on Douro Wine Fest in Peso da Régua (Portugal), September 2014.
4. Organization of the several workshops like: «Propagating herbs»; «Production of domestic mushrooms»; «Bee, beekeeper and honey»; and the lecture «Practices for eco-sustainable organic farming», inserted in Chestnut Festival, October 2014.
5. Participation on Heritage Fair in Guimarães – Portugal, October 2014.
6. Integration of two technicians to the AGA team, for the areas of biology and tourism, October 2014.
7. Inauguration of Merujal Biodiversity Station, November 2014.
8. Celebration of the second birthday of the *House of stones that give birth*, November 2014.
9. The Arouca Geopark hosted the IX Guest Meeting Hybrid Peer with 120 participants from all country, boosted by Toyota Caetano Portugal, which comprises the project "A Toyota, a tree ". In this event the Toyota Portugal offered 3000 trees to Arouca Geopark, November 2014.
10. Meeting of AGA General Assembly with the approbation of the activities and financial plan for the 2015, December 2014.
11. Organization and promotion of the school contest «The water that join us - is the soil that sustains life », in a partnership with the National Commission for UNESCO, January 2015.
12. Participation in FITUR – International Fair of Tourism (Madrid, Spain) in the Stand of Porto and North of Portugal, January 2015.
13. Auditing and revalidation of the Management Quality System of AGA - ISO 9001:2008, January 2015.
14. Integration of a trainee to the AGA team, from tourism area, January 2015.
15. The President of Portuguese Republic, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, had the opportunity to know two Geosites *House of stones that give birth*, inserted in the inauguration of the *meteorological tower – (Costa da Castanheira)*, February 2015.
16. Participation in BTL – Lisbon Tourism Fair, from February to March 2015.

17. Training course for teachers «Geoeducation in action: the case of Arouca Geopark», March 2015.
18. The Arouca Geopark – Welcome Center - Interactive Tourism Store was attended by 1201 visitors and hosted more 4327 people by 43 events, from September 2014 to March 2015.
19. The House of Stones that give birth was attended by 9514 visitors, from September 2014 to March 2015.
20. 1458 students and 325 teachers visited the Arouca Geopark, under the Arouca Geopark Educational Programs, from all country September 2014 to March 2015.
21. 64 people from 4 groups of geotouristic visits were accompanied, by Arouca Geopark guides, from September 2014 to March 2015.
22. Environmental Education activities like: reforestation of Freita Mountain, with children from Urrô parish; celebration of International Day of Forests and World Water, from September 2014 to March 2015.
23. Disclosure of 170 news in the local, regional and national media and on multiple digital platforms – from September 2014 to March 2015
24. Presentation by Daniela Rocha, technical of AGA, in UTAD his doctoral thesis related with the potential enlargement of *Arouca Geopark* to the *Magic Montains*.

### **Networking**

25. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference of GGN in Canada, September 2014.
26. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting in Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark (Germany), September 2014.
27. Participation in the «Rural Heritage Promoter» Cooperation Project, under the Gruntivig Program, from September and November 2014.
28. Participation in the «Geoeducation in Action» cooperation Project under the Leonardo Program, November 2014.
29. Participation in the first meeting of the National Geoparks Fora, under the program proposed by UNESCO «UNESCO Global Geoparks» in the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, January 2015.
30. Arouca Geopark tour packages sold by Bestravel - largest national travel agency, March 2015.

### **Activities by Partners**

31. Promotion of thematic field trip about local mushrooms organized by Quinta de Novais rural hotel (AGA's associated), October 2014.
32. Tourism players have come together in making the tourist offer of Arouca Geopark more competitive, September 2014 to January 2015.
33. The tourism entertainment company «Clube do Paiva» promoted a white water rafting to the accommodation sector of Arouca Geopark, February 2015.

# AZORES GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September.2014 – March.2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Publication of the geopark monthly electronic newsletters, September 2014 to March 2015
2. Collaboration with the newspaper “*Açoriano Oriental*”, by publishing a page every two weeks entitled “(Geo)diversidades”, September 2014 to March 2015
3. Monitoring of the Azores Geopark geosites in all the islands, in cooperation with the Nature Parks Guards, September 2014 to March 2015
4. Implementation of several environmental education activities, for different Education levels, and with participation of schools and students from almost all the territory/islands, September 2014 to March 2015
5. Realization of a session about the Azores Geopark at the The Azores House in Ontario, Toronto (Canada), September 2014
6. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Saint John, Canada, September 2014
7. Publication of scientific articles in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Saint John, Canada, September 2014
8. Participation in a session included in the activity Discovering the S. Miguel Island under the Geocaching 2013 Awards Ceremony, September 2014
9. Participation in the celebration of the Parish Day of Ribeirinha (S. Miguel Is.), with a presentation about the Azores Geopark, September 2014
10. Development of an Interpretative trail in partnership with EXPOLAB, in the geosite “*Fajã Lávica e Arriba Fóssil da Caloura*” (S. Miguel Is.), September 2014
11. Chapter on the book “*Volcanic Tourist Destinations*”, by P. Erfurt-Cooper (Ed.) and published by Springer, Editors.
12. Celebration the World Habitat Day, in partnership with the Caldeira Velha Environmental Interpretation Centre, October 2014
13. Development of an interpretative trail, in the geosite “*Caldeira do Vulcão das Furnas* (S. Miguel Is.), October 2014
14. Participation in the XI Regional Meeting of Environmental Education and Eco-schools, in the session “Partners: contexts and environmental education practices in the Azores”, October 2014
15. Development and participation in the inauguration of the Municipal Trail of “*Ponta do Cintrão e Pico Queimado*” in Ribeira Grande Municipality, November 2014

16. Development of several educational activities in the celebration of the Science Night, in partnership with EXPOLAB, November 2014
17. Participation in the workshop “Natural resources sustainability on islands context”, November 2014
18. Organization of the on-line contest “A Christmas Tale in the Geopark”, December 2014
19. Launch of the French version of the Azores Geopark website, December 2014
20. Participation in the workshop “Valuing tourism experiences through the Storytelling” organized by the Azores Tourism Observatory, December 2014
21. Participation in the activity “Open day of the Center: the Christmas spirit in the mouth of the volcano”, at Furnas, in partnership with the Natural Park of São Miguel island, December 2014
22. Participation in the inauguration of the exhibition “Water: life transparency” in the “*Observatório Microbiano dos Açores*” center, December 2014
23. Participation in the “XIX Hunting and Tourism Fair” held in the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, Portugal, including an exhibition on local products, January 2015
24. Divulcation of the School Contest “Water that Unit us”, February 2015
25. Participation in the session “Geocaching: living on volcanoes” yielded at the “*Observatório Vulcanológico e Geotérmico dos Açores*” center, February 2015
26. Development of the exhibition “Azorean Rocks” and several education activities, on the islands of São Miguel, Faial and Pico, integrated in the “*Semana dos Parceiros do Roteiro de Minas e Pontos de Interesse Mineiro e Geológico de Portugal*”, March 2015.

### **Networking**

1. Organization and development of the international workshop "Volcanic Geoparks: strategies for sustainable development", October and November 2014
2. Participation in the seminar "Geoparks – New territories of Education, Science and Culture of the 21<sup>st</sup> century", organized by the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark and the Municipality of Macedo de Cavaleiros, January 2015
3. Participation in the two meetings of the Portuguese Geoparks Forum (Oct.2014 and Jan.2015) and of the Geoparks National Fora (Jan.2015), organized by the UNESCO National Commission, January 2015
4. Catalyst of the Volcanic Geoparks Working Group of the EGN.

### **Activity by Partners**

The Azores Geopark has currently about 30 partners, including institutional and public partners, and several private companies at the Geotourism framework. For a detailed listing and characterization of the partners activities considered the Azores Geopark Newsletters.



# **BAKONY–BALATON GEOPARK, HUNGARY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2014–March 2015.
2. Guided geotours with hundreds of participants, carried out by the members of the Geopark Group and the Department of Ecotourism and Environmental Education, September 2014–March 2015.
3. Organisation of and giving oral presentations and field trips at the Keszthely Hills geotour-guide training course, September 2014.
4. Closing event (geotour, presentations by geologists, etc.) of the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2014', assigned to the geological wonders and the community of Felsőörs village, October 2014.
5. Consultation event with active geotour-guides of the geopark, plans for next year, practices of promotion, etc. October 2014.
6. Stand of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark at the Geological Fair at the Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary (Budapest), November 2014.
7. Guided geotours during the Garda Festival (Tihany Peninsula), one of the most popular autumn festivals of Hungary, November 2014.
8. Signing cooperation agreements with trained geotour-guides, our new Geopark Partners in Keszthely Hills region, December 2014.
9. Opening a new visitor centre at the Lake Cave of Tapolca (the most visited geosite of our geopark), which is also the Western Gate of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark. The geological features are interpreted by special attractions, 3D photos and an impressive 3D movie, January 2015.
10. Presentation of our Geopark and animation for children at the stands of the leading organisation and of the Hungarian National Parks during the International Travel Fair, Budapest, February 2015.
11. Participation in a one-day long training course for tour guides about guiding handicapped persons, February 2015
12. Preparing geological nature conservation action with the VERGA Veszprém Forestry Ltd. at Zsidó Hill geological key section (Bakonynána): clearing the outcrop, new wooden seats, shelter and information panels, etc., February 2015.
13. Discussion and preparation with local government, school and civil partners on the topic of promoting the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2015', assigned to Eperjes Hill (Olaszfalva village), presentation at the Community House for local people, February–March 2015.

14. Organisation of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest (for 15 elementary school teams), seeking sponsorship, creating two tests and preparing the final, January–March 2015.
15. National promotion of two show caves and two adventure caves of the Geopark in the framework of a tourism campaign; discounts and programmes, March 2015

### **Networking**

16. Participation in the 34th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen Geopark, Germany, September 2014.
17. Oral presentation at the workshop “Geoparks in volcanic areas: sustainable development strategies” (title: “Diverse volcanic features as dominant landscape elements and pillars of geotourism in the Bakony–Balaton Geopark, Hungary”), Azores Geopark, October 2014
18. Visit of the delegation of Muskau Arch Geopark: presentation of our geopark, field trip and preparation of the exhibition of the summer geopark camp artworks in Lavender House Visitor Centre, Tihany, October 2014.
19. Contribution of an article to EGN Newsletter No 3 (on the new visitor centre at the Lake Cave of Tapolca), December 2014
20. Collecting and preparing for publishing the reports on European Geoparks Week 2014 and the progress reports (September 2014–March 2015) from all the members of the EGN, October 2014, March 2015.

### **Activity by Partners**

21. Thanks to a successful application by a local civil organisation (Forrásvíz Association) for financing a geotour-guiding course, the training was held in Keszthely Hills, in cooperation with the Geopark leading organisation, September–October 2014.
22. Successful Norway Grants Application by Bakonyalja Barátai Association (our Geopark Partner) for building a civil geonetwork in Bakony–Balaton Geopark. Support: 14 800 EUR, duration: 13 months. Cooperating partners: 8 civil organisations and the leading organisation of the geopark, December 2014–March 2015
23. Participating in the ERASMUS+ application “Enhancement of School TEAching Methods by linking between schools, experts and geoparks in the combination with outdoor activities and ICT technologies”, coordinated by Idrija Geopark. Involving the local Kárpáti János Elementary School in the project. March 2015
24. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by our Geopark), September 2014–March 2015.

# **BASQUE COAST GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Big effort in communication has been made with press releases being sent at least once every month. News related to the Geopark activities have been published in the main local newspapers.
2. Updating social Networks, specially Facebook and Twitter to keep in contact to the citizens and potential visitors. Two posts have been published everyday in three different languages.
3. Numerous interviews and articles about the Geopark have been edited in national and international media, both general and specialized magazines and newspapers.
4. Taking advantage of the impact of the year's lowest tides in the media, special guided tours around the tide platform have been organized.
5. Karst audiovisual was selected by CINETROFA for the official section of the Portuguese film and literature festival.
6. In response to the growing demand of visitors, the web site has been redesigned and the on line guided tour booking system improved.
7. Geopark Newsletter number 5 with the latest news and progresses of the last six months was posted to every house of the Geopark.
8. Several oral presentations in different conferences have been given around Spain: Urdaibai MBA conference, Menorca MBA conference, Sociedad Paleontológica de España Teruel, CIPIE Bayone...
9. Several international scientific visits have been welcomed as well as other type of visits like bloggers, travel agencies and international media...
10. Under Basque Country tourism brand, the Geopark was present in FITUR (Madrid tourism market) promoting the tourism resources of the territory.
11. New infrastructures including a footbridge over the road and an spectacular viewpoint have been built along the coast line walking path.
12. A new audiovisual project for the conservation of intangible heritage has been developed about the cement industry at the late nineteenth century in Zumaia.
13. Geoparkezaleak (Geopark friends community) First steps to set up the community have been done. Several working sessions led by a group leader formed by different participants (institutions, tourism companies, associations,

industrial companies, citizens) thinking together about the concept and the benefits and commitments of being part of the community.

14. A new training session for tourism sector (hotel owners, tourism office staff...) about basic geology of the geopark and main geological resources have been organized.
15. The 2015 Guided Visits season has been prepared. This includes designing leaflets, new contents, and new interpretative graphic material for the guides.
16. First preparation steps for the National Geological Heritage Conference that will be held in the Geopark in June, have been done. 90 papers have been received from Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia and more than 100 participants have already signed up.
17. An archaeological excavation has been made in one of the iron furnaces of the Geopark. The scientific results are being analyzed.

### **Networking**

18. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Harz, Germany 2014.
19. Setting up the UNESCO Basque Network among all institutions who have to do with Unesco (MAB, world heritage, schools, libraries...) Basque Coast Geopark representatives are member of the working committee. Next 16<sup>th</sup> of March the presentation of the network will be made at the Basque Parliament.
20. STRONG GREEN CARD for the first revalidation of the Geopark has been achieved.
21. Attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Open Conference organized by the Spanish Committee in Villuercas Geopark.
22. Sending news to EGN web site and newsletter.

### **Activity by Partners**

23. The new Algorri Interpretation centre project has been developed.
24. First draft to develop what Mutriku should cover according to the Interpretation Plan of the Geopark, the interpretation of The Sea of Basque and the fishing culture.
25. The Town Council of Deba is renewing the hostel of Lastur and will include a new Geopark info point in the ground floor, also has tendered out the management. The place will become a hot spot of the Geopark

# BEIGUA GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Autumn 2014 and Winter 2015.
2. Publication of the 2014/2015 catalogue for educational and tourism activities for schools (September 2014) - Educational programs for schools about geology and geoconservation - with some special activities about natural hazards – have been realized in Beigua Geopark during Autumn 2014 and Winter 2015.
3. Publication of the tourism brochure (Autumn 2014 – Winter 2015) on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 with the cooperation of all the Geopark's Municipalities.
4. Organization of educational activities about the geological heritage in the frame of the 12<sup>th</sup> Science Festival – Genoa 24<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014.
5. Two new issues of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in October 2014 (Autumn) and January 2015 (Winter). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, EGN and GGN, etc.
6. Electronic monthly newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site). It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area.
7. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and EGN-GGN on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews.
8. Joining the annual initiative in the framework of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014 through local educational activities on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014.
9. Local meetings and workshops to raise public awareness about nature conservation, sustainable development and natural hazards, supported by Regional funds (Autumn 2014 and Winter 2015).
10. Restoration of several thematic path trails after floods damages (Autumn 2014 – Winter 2015).
11. Hosting in Arenzano, Beigua Geopark (March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 2015) the kick off meeting of the “EVANDE - Enhancing Volunteer Awareness and education against Natural Disasters through E-learning” project – with funds by EU ECHO Programme (partnership with the Natural History Museum of Crete - Greece, the Technical University of Chania Crete – Greece, the Earthquake Planning and Protection Organisation of Athens – Greece, the Consorcio de La Ribera – Spain, the Centre for Educational Initiatives of Sofia - Bulgaria, the Centro Studi e Formazione Villa Montesca of Città di Castello - Italy).

12. Launching of the new Beigua Geopark website ([www.parcobeigua.it](http://www.parcobeigua.it)) in March 2015.
13. Closing of the “C3PO” project realized with EU funds with the ALCOTRA programme (working together with French and Italian partners) about waste reduction policy, in March 2015.

### **Networking**

14. Attendance at the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN – AC and CC Meeting in Harz. Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen Geopark (Germany) on September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014.
15. Attendance at the 6<sup>th</sup> Italian Geoparks National Forum in Rome on February 17<sup>th</sup> 2015.
16. Participation at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the “GeoEducation in Action” project – EU Leonardo Da Vinci Programme (with the Vocational Training Center - Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest – GR, Arouca Geopark - PT, North Pennines AONB Partnership Geopark - GB) in North Pennines AONB Partnership Geopark, England (November 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2014).
17. Participation at the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the “GeoEducation in Action” project – EU Leonardo Da Vinci Programme (with the Vocational Training Center - Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest – GR, Arouca Geopark - PT, North Pennines AONB Partnership Geopark - GB) in Arouca Geopark, Portugal (March 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2015).
18. Submission of the Activity Progress Report September 2014 – March 2015 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 35<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting in Paris (UNESCO Headquarters), France.
19. Submission of the Annual Report 2014 in order to produce the total EGN Annual Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 35<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting in Paris (UNESCO Headquarters), France.
20. 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).

### **Activity by Partners**

21. Field works and researches in the Beigua Geopark led by the Earth, Environment and Life Sciences Department of the University of Genoa (September – November 2014).
22. Field trips and sports activities offered by local organizations (CAI, FIE, UISP, etc) in Autumn 2014 and Winter 2015.

# **BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK, GERMANY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Event programme with 400 guided tours (Geopark Rangers, Geopark-on-site Guides, cooperation partners)
2. Publication of 4 electronic newsletters and one printed 24pp magazine.
3. Publication of several Geopark brochures
4. Contributions in several hiking magazines, brochures and maps
5. Presentation of the “Geotope of the year 2014” as special window into the Geopark’s Earth history.
6. Preparation of brochure “Earth history discoveries” together with Odenwald Tourism and WHS Messel Pit
7. Two public lectures about Earth quakes in connection with Earth’s history of the Geopark territory
8. MTB activity day with guided tours, workshops and test opportunities from a well-known MTB company.
9. Opening of arts exhibition “Mario Derra sieht den Geopark” in the former Powerplant of the city of Gernsheim (nowadays the artist’s workshop and atelier): graphics, lithographies, woodcuts.
10. Adventure days at the Felsenmeer (Geopark information centre): Children activities, treasure searching, sound- and light show, local food.
11. Nature-Kitchen: Cooking workshop with the Geopark Rangers at the Bioversum (Geopark information centre). Getting to know wild herbs and mushrooms, cooking and celebrating a meal together.
12. Geopark Ranger activities: Farming activity days in autumn, winter and spring, Geo-workshops at WHS Messel Pit (“How long takes Earth history”). Wellness-walks and landart for the “Lufthansa” business & training centre
13. Inauguration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Geopark ambassador (Prof. Dr. Bernhard Eitel, president of the University of Heidelberg).
14. Construction of three mountain huts for hikers
15. Opening of the Geopark information centre “Bayerischer Odenwald” in Amorbach. Cooperation between Odenwald Tourism, Geopark and 6 local communities. Interior decoration with geological panorama.
16. Annual meeting of the Geopark Rangers
17. Annual meeting of all Geopark-on-site Guides

18. Annual advanced educational training for Geopark Rangers and “Geopark-on-site” Guides: February: Easy going maths in the forest, March: The Geo-suitcase.
19. Public lecture about modern mammoth hunters: What geo-scientists can learn from the huge fossils about climate, environment and landscape way back.
20. Preparation of the hiking trails by more than 150 volunteers of the Geopark: marking & maintenance.
21. Meeting with the Department of Environment and Geology of the State of Hesse: Information about the international Geopark development.
22. 12 new Geopark-on-Site Guides in the “Überwald” region: training of the new guides in cooperation with the municipality and different partners
23. Implementation of region wide project: Cultural landscape documentary
24. Preparation of several nature conservation projects

### **Networking**

25. Celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Global Geoparks Network together with the regional cooperation partners, officials and politicians.
26. Preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> EGN newsletter (together with Arouca Geopark, Portugal)
27. Preparation of the EGN week programme 2015
28. Regular meetings of the National Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany
29. Editorial board work to EGN magazine No. 12

### **Activity by Partners**

30. Active support in the application process for 5 LEADER-regions within the Geopark region: LAG Darmstadt-Dieburg, LAG Odenwald, LAG Neckartal-Odenwald, LAG Main4Eck, LAG Badisch-Franken
31. Participation within the regularly meetings of the 5 LEADER-working groups for the new funding period 2014-2020: LAG Darmstadt-Dieburg, LAG Odenwald, LAG Neckartal-Odenwald, LAG Main4Eck, LAG Badisch-Franken
32. Opening of the “Viniversum Bergstrasse” – show and sales room of the Bergstrasse winegrowers. Long lasting cooperation partners, who strictly focus on the connection between rocks and wine.
33. Price for the Nordic-Walking-trail Heiligkreuzsteinach, Neckarsteinach etc. in cooperation with Geopark



# **BOHEMIAN PARADISE GEOPARK, CZECH REPUBLIC**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Geopark realized different programmes for visitors from 35 countries around the world (September 2014 – March 2015)
2. Nine new external geo- exhibitions was built on the Geopark territory (December 2014)
3. Ceremonial opening of information promenade in the village center of Koberovy with presentation EGN/GGN, (September 2014)
1. Extending and updating the information related to the Geopark in the smartphone application, developed by our management body. (August 2015).
2. Two 30 minutes long movies on the topic of activities were filmed in cooperation with the Czech TV and were presented on the Channel 2 on Czech Television ( June 2014, November 2015)
3. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media about geopark, national geoparks network and EGN/GGN (September 2014– March 2015).
4. Richly illustrated textbooks for elementary schools of the Geopark with an emphasis on neighborhood Sobotka was published in an edition of 2000 copies
5. Publishing new book “Czech Paradise for the Eyes and walks” (December 2015)
6. Two conferences about geoparks and geotourism were held ( January-February 2015)
7. New geological mapping of sheet Nová Paka and Jičín in scale 1:25 000 started in the Geopark (May 2014, March 2015)
8. Surveying a recently recognised causes of sandstone gates, arches, towers etc. were discovered in the geopark and verified by experiments at work, which was published in the journal Nature by colleagues from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and the Academy of Sciences ( June 2014)
9. Guided geotours, geo-camps and pedagogic programmes with altogether more than 1200 participants, carried out in the Geopark ( September 2014 – March 2015)
10. Big exhibition “Decorative stones” in Museum of Jílové ( September 2014 to March 2015)
11. Workshop "Decorative stones" for conservationists was held in Turnov (September 2014)

12. Under event “Clean Up the World” red tourist path in Klokočské rocks area was repaired, municipal waste in Maloskalsko was disposed, locality Vyskeř was cleared and tourist paths in Hruboskalsko were cleaned.

### **Networking**

1. Participation by two representatives in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Geopark Harz Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen (September 2014.)
13. Promotion of the European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Network and information about EGN/GGN at the local level by lectures in municipalities and it's councils. ( September 2014 – March 2015)
2. Promotion of the European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Network at the local level (September 2014- March 2015)
3. Study visit of colleagues from Slovakian – Hungarian Geopark Novohrad/Nógrad and German – Polish Geopark Muskauer Arch (October 2014)
4. visibility of Geopark as member of the EGN/GGN was supported by several new big-board with information about activities EGN/GGN

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Discussion with Bohemian Paradise Association, which is an independent body, concerning to streamline the visible cooperation between both partners. (September 2014 – March 2015)
2. New Geopark map for geotourists was created, leaflet published and study about Kozákov was presented under cooperation with Association Český ráj ( September 2014 – March 2015)
3. Traveling Exhibition “Crystals” in Geopark Železné hory ( September 2014)
4. Organizing a special program on geology for blind and partially sighted for TYFLOSERVIS (Septmeber 2014)
5. Providing a varied geological educational programme for student groups. More than 150 participants ( September 2014- March 2015).
6. Providing a varied workshop for student groups. More than 120 participants (September 2014 – December 2014).
7. Geological educational programme for children. More than 150 participants ( September 2014- March 2015).

# BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK, IRELAND

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Launch of the Burren Tourism Story 2015 with the Burren Ecotourism Network, Lisdoonvarna 2015.
2. Contributed to the publication of 'The Banner Rocks!' a free geology guide to County Clare, launched March 2015.
3. Installation of 17 People Counters along walking trails and visitor attractions throughout the Burren as part of the monitoring and conservation aspect of the GeoparkLIFE programme. September – November 2014
4. Provision of Geopark Code of Practice training for members and aspiring members of the Burren Ecotourism Network. November 2014-March 2015
5. The Burren listed in top 100 Geosites in Ireland and UK by UK Geological Society survey.
6. Organisation and promotion of a workshop on *Pilgrimage in the Burren*; Exploring good practice around the development and promotion of pilgrimage sites and routes in the Burren as part of GeoparkLIFE programme. Michael Cusack Centre, October 2014
7. Co – lead Student Geology Field Trip with Earth and Ocean Science Department NUI Galway. November 2014
8. Participated in ATTA (Adventure Travel Trade Association pre-summit Fieldtrip to the Burren in collaboration with Adventure Burren and Failte Ireland to promote sustainable activity-based tourism in the Burren.
9. Collaboration with Lisdoonvarna Secondary School on projects for national BT Young Scientist Competition. December 2014
10. Preparation of a new public informational Groundwater diagram for the Burren in collaboration with the Geological Survey of Ireland. December 2014
11. The Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark and Burren Ecotourism Network were winners in 9 categories at the Responsible Travel and Tourism Awards, Dublin. November 2014
12. GeoparkLIFE Awards night; In collaboration with the Burren Ecotourism Network; recognising and sharing contributions, achievements and good practice in the development of sustainable tourism in the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark. Hotel Doolin. December 2014
13. Organisation of *Meitheal*; a collaborative post-tourist season repair and clean up event with local landowners, conservation groups and businesses. November 2014

14. Presentation at Irish Centre for Responsible Tourism Conference on farming and tourism, Dublin. March 2015
15. Development of 4 new Heritage Walking Trails in the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark in collaboration with local community groups.
16. Completion of a survey on bus and coach travel and associated economic and environmental impact in the Burren as part of the GeoparkLIFE programme.
17. Annual Adult Evening Course on the Geology of the Burren in collaboration with the Burren Outdoor Education Centre. February-March 2015

### **Networking**

18. Participated in Irish Geoparks Forum meeting, Dublin March 2015
19. Participation in Irish Geoparks Annual Seminar at Marble Arch Geopark. October 2014
20. Contributed an article to the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, November 2014.
21. Participation at the Geological Survey of Ireland Geoscience Day 2014, Dublin. November 2014.
22. Promotion of Facebook and Twitter accounts and continued increase in likes, each and followers.
23. Further development and improvement to website [www.burrengeopark.ie](http://www.burrengeopark.ie); 10,000 visitors between September 2014 and March 2015

### **Activity by Partners**

24. Preparation of Site Condition Reports for selected visitor attractions in the Burren as part of the monitoring and conservation aspect of the GeoparkLIFE programme.
25. GeoparkLIFE partner meeting with national agencies for conservation, tourism, heritage and local businesses. November 2014
26. The Burren Ecotourism Network organised Fam trips for members to visit other businesses in the Burren area. November 2014 – March 2015
27. Collaboration with the Tolkien Society organising the Tolkien Festival in the Burren for 2015
28. Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience launch Seabirds Festival for May 2015

# CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. **“Collaborator enterprises educational program”**: Collaborator enterprises (Andalusia Natural Park Brand and European Charter for Sustainable Tourism) conducted several educational in coordination with the Geopark.
2. **“El Albardinal” Botanic Garden**. Joint activities between the House of the Volcanoes (Geo Centre) and the Botanical Garden.
3. Interviews and appearances in local and regional media on the Geopark, including a documentary film about the Natura2000 network.
4. **Educational programs in Cabo de Gata**: several educational programs are carried out in the Geopark “Nature for all”, “Andalusia in its Parks” and “Open days”.
5. **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. 16 foreign universities, mainly from Europe, visited the territory.
6. **Andalusia’s Natural Protected Areas Network and GEOBIO Newsletter**. Andalusia’s newsletters dedicated to geodiversity, biodiversity and Geoparks.
7. **Filming**: The Geopark attended Imanol Uribe film “Lejos del mar” and Kike’s Mailló film “TORO” and provide with assistance, amongst other regular filming assistance (comercials, short movies, etc).
8. **Cultural events**: painting, photography and diverse exhibitions at the Geopark’s facilities.
9. **New website for visitors “Reserve your visit”**. Through the website: <http://www.reservatuvisita.es/es/sc/1/inicio.html> the visitors can access to the activities, cost and schedules in Natural Parks in Andalusia
10. Geopark assistance for Civil Services in search&rescue task in coordination with local authorities, October 2014.
11. Andalusia’s government **official Geotourism Guide course** in Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark in collaboration with Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark, November 2014.
12. **Natural Park Enterprises’s Association Workshop**. Geotourism trails as resource for local enterprises, novembre 2014
13. International Coastal CleanUp in Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark, driven by Ocean’s Conservancy.
14. Periodically review of public use equipments.

15. Participation in **1<sup>st</sup> Murcia's Regional Confere about Scientific and Geologic Tourism**, January 2015.
16. Elaboration of the report about overlapping Geoparks and Reserve of the Biosphere, February 2015.
17. Meeting in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation to decide the position of Spain on Geoparks and Reserve of the Biosphere, February 2015.
18. Collaboration with Almeria and Granada's Universities as co-guardian of final work for students of environmental sciences and Geological sciences, november 2014.
19. Cabo de Gata-Níjar Steering Committee's working group for the conservation of "Cortijo del Fraile" (The Fraile's farmhouse), stage of the actual events *Blood wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca.

### **Networking**

20. Participation in the **First open Workshop of the Spanish Geoparks Committee**, celebrated in Gualupe.
21. Participating in "Las Loras" apiring Geopark workshop.
22. Collaborating with an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, March 2015.
23. Participation in the 34th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Harz, September 2014.
24. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Unesco Conference on Global Geoparks, Stonehammer Geopark, Canada, September 2014.
25. 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.
26. Participation in EGN's mining group.
27. Visit of Yandangshan Global Geopark, October 2014

### **Activity by Partners**

28. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by the Geopark), March–August 2013.
29. Discussion with the Economic Committee of Várpalota town concerning the geotourism development of the Várpalota Sand Pit Nature Conservation Area, May 2013.
30. 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.

31. 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.
32. Collaboration with writing Prize “Palabras en el Parque” (Words in the Park).
33. Collaboration with the photographic exhibition “Así era la vida” (The way we were)

# **CARNIC ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media ; thematic focus: tetrapod imprints
2. TV-report about the petrified trees and tetrapod imprints of Laas; broadcasted 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014
3. TV-report about the Carnic Alps as part of the TV-report “Austria – Land of green borders”; broadcasted 21<sup>st</sup> Oktober 2014
4. Public presentation “Dellach in alten Ansichten”; contribution to the national event “Lange Nacht der Museen 2015”
5. Kids Dino-Day in Oktober 2015
6. Exhibition “Fossilized plants in the Geopark Carnic Alps” in February/March 2015, donation of Dr. Herbert Kabon, plant fossil expert

### **Networking**

1. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in tourism in the Gailtal valley, called “TOP 7 – Nassfeld/Pressegger See-Weißensee-Lesachtal”
2. Participation in the cross-border strategy and cooperation development process “Smart borders 2020”
3. Cooperation with the University of Innsbruck, Austria; Bachelor thesis “Der Amphiporenkalk im Devon der Karnischen Alpen”, Alexander Mörtel
4. Urweltmuseum GEOSKOP Thallichtenberg, Germany: Research work on the oldest tetrapod ichnofossils in Austria

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Numerous meetings with Italian Geopark supporters in the frame of the strategy process “Smart borders 2020”
2. Numerous meetings with Italian Geopark partners in the frame of the feasibility Check “Transnational Geopark Carnic Alps”



# **CENTRAL CATALONIA GEOPARK, (CATALONIA) SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark activities**

1. Fam trip addressed to the Geoparc tourism companies focused on how to take advantage of the singular geology of the Geopark and the possible ways of innovation in their touristic products, September 2014.
2. Visitors Centres Geoparc signal installation: Valentí Masachs Museum, Toll Caves, Salt Mountain, Collbato Caves, Suria, September 2014.
3. Presentation of the Geoparc to students of the municipality of Suria, member of the Geoparc, October 2014.
4. Organization of a preparation day addressed to the secondary professors for the 6th Geology Olympiads of Catalonia that will be held in February 2015, November 2014.
5. Collaboration with the Tourism Agency of the Barcelona Province Council to promote the Geopark in the form of the edition of a new touristic map of the Geopark County, November 2014.
6. Promotion and support of university student's works in Geopark issues, especially geoconservation. UAB and UPC mainly, 4<sup>th</sup> trimester 2014.
7. Promotion of the the Geopark through the AENA (Spanish Airports Authority) website during the first trimester of 2015 thanks to a collaboration agreement with all the Spanish Geoparks and AENA.
8. Organization of the 6<sup>th</sup> Geology Olympiads, February 2015.
9. Conferences and activities in the rest of the visitor's centres (El Toll Caves, Salnitre Caves, Museum of Geology Valentí Masachs, etc.).
10. Theoretical course about the Geopark fundamentals and the Geological heritage of our territory addressed to professional guides within the new official Geoparks guides program (programmed for the 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of March).
11. Edition of a new promotional video of the Central Catalonia Geopark and its Gastronomy March 2015 (not finished).
12. Edition of a new promotional leaflet in different languages (in progress).
13. Geological tour around the Geopark with the 6<sup>th</sup> Geology Olympiads winners, March 2015.

### **Networking**

14. Attendance and participation in the 34th Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network, Germany, September 2014.
15. Attendance and participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Spanish Geoparks Open Houses, Guadalupe, October 2014. The Central Catalonia Geoparc gave to speeches about Geotourism and the Geoparc itself.

16. Coordination of a series of guided visits (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>on</sup> of November 2014) within the Geological Heritage Day organized by the Geological Spanish Society, November 2014.
17. Attendance to the Geotourism Workshop held in Tremp, Spain, October 2014.
18. Fam trip focused on the potential of geotourism and the Geoparc of Central Catalonia addressed to managers and majors of the municipalities of the Geoparc. The fam trip took place on November 24<sup>th</sup> and visited some of the main POIs (Points Of Interest) of the Geoparc with a group of 20 managers and majors directly related to the sustainable economical development of the Geoparc.
19. Full collaboration with the Gastronomic Association “Els Fogons del Bages” to promote the Geoparc through Facebook contests, 4<sup>th</sup> trimester 2014.

### **Activity by partners**

20. Political meeting with the Catalan Tourism Agency representatives to find a solution to the lack of traffic signal of the Geoparc and grant the installation of access road-signals to the Geoparc, September 2014.
21. Meetings with the Natural Park of St. Llorenç del Munt i l'Obac managers to create touristic products, September 2014.
22. Meetings with Cedricat to include the importance of the mining and geological heritage in the new Economic Development Plan of Suria, member of the Geoparc, October 2014.
23. Meetings and agreement with Manresa tourism managers to introduce the geological storytelling to their guided visits. The Scientific Director of the Geoparc wrote the geological guidebook of their urban visits and gave a talk to the professional guides of Manresa, October 2014.

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# Geopark Chablais

## Progress Report, October 2014 - March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Continued installation of the Georoute interpretation panels and street furniture. Landscaping of geosites : Lac des Plagnes, Bassachaux Pass, Lake Montriond.
2. Preparation of educational work sheets linked to the visits organized by the endorsed Geopark Chablais guides. Worksheets for children from primary school (8 years), secondary school (11-16 years), 6th form college (17-18 years): Chateau des Allinges, Lakes of Chablais, Dranse Delta, The Drunken Forest, Mont Forchat, Pertuis Village, Bioge and its environs, The Alpage of Bise, The Ski Runs of Les Gets, The Morzine Slate Mines.
3. Preparation of educational trips for 6th form college (17-18 years): Plagnes Lake, Rouleau de Bossetan.
4. Workshop for masters students in territorial development : 2 days in the Chablais  
Day One : Geosite - Chateau de Ripaille, Dr S Justice  
Lecture on the Chablais Geopark, Lecture on the Chateau de Ripaille and its Foundation  
Workshops investigating : improvements for disabled visitors; events at the geosite and development of a school outing  
  
Day Two :  
AM Geosite - Plagnes Lake, Mr Guilhot (accredited Geopark Guide)  
Discovery tour of the geosite and its newly installed interpretation facilities  
PM Geosite - Montriond Lake, Mr Peersman (deputy mayor of Montriond and former EGN representative)  
Lecture on the redevelopment of the site and the installation of the geosite interpretation panels
5. Release of the promotional Geopark Chablais video in French with English subtitles. The video is based around the discovery of the 23 geosites of the recently installed Georoute.
6. Recruitment of new Geopark Assistant to develop the educational activities of the Geopark.
7. Fabrication and launch of the installation of road signs for the territory, sign posting to the sites of the Georoute.
8. Presentation of Geopark Chablais and its tourist initiatives at the Aspiring Beaujolais Geopark Forum, 26 February 2015.

9. 8 day professional training for the Geopark Chablais guides. Objective, to deepen and reinforce their knowledge acquired through their initial training with the Geopark. 13 participants.

## **Networking**

10. Participation in the 34th Coordination Committee Meeting, 3-4 September, 2014, Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen Geopark
11. Continued participation in the newly formed French Geoparks Association (CNGF).
12. Cooperation with the Bauges Geopark : The travelling exhibition "Glacial Heritage of the 3 Chablais" created by the Geopark Chablais is currently on display in the Bauges Geopark park centre.

## **Activity by Partners**

13. A number of new walks and workshops to explore wealth of heritage of the Chablais territory have been developed by the Geopark Chablais endorsed guides for winter 2014/5.

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# CHELMOS-VOURAIKOS GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Completion of the project “Water Resources Assessment of Chelmos-Vouraikos National Park and promotion of the Geological Diversity of the region” ,Oct. 2014.
2. Organization of a campaign directed at 1500 students and 200 teachers, and delivered to all schools within the protected area during the “Week of Environmental Education”, October 2014.
3. Publication of a new advertising flyer with maps and information on 8 trails within the Geopark area.
4. Participation of Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark in the *EuroBirdwatch14* festival which included observing raptors and hiking along a new Geotrail in the area, with a group of teachers that specialize in environmental education issues, October.
5. Publishing news on the EGN website, On the Chelmos-Vouraikos website and Facebook.
6. Preparing a new information flyer based on the mythology of several Geosites of the Geopark, ongoing.
7. Planning of a new geotrail, restoration of old trails and the construction of rest areas in existing trails (kiosks, benches, information panels etc), ongoing.
8. Financial support through the project “Natural Environment 2015” from the Green Fund, Ministry of Environment and Climatic Change
9. Participating in a collaborative project between Greece and Italy ie. BiG: «Improving governance, management and sustainability of rural and coastal protected areas and contributing to the implementation of the Natura 2000 provisions in IT and GR», ongoing

### Networking

10. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, October 2014.
11. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Wernigerode, Germany, September 2014.
12. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week.

### Activity by Partners

13. New educational programs and workshops on Geodiversity, promotion of the Geopark from the Environmental Education Centre of Kleitoria –Akrata, February 2015

## **Cilento and Vallo di Diano GEOPARK** **Report, September 2014- March 2015**

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 Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen-Germany, September 2014
2. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
3. Participation to the 6° Forum of Italian Geoparks in Rome February 2015
4. Revision of Italian Geoparks Book
5. Submission of the article for publication in European Geopark Magazine 12
6. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International Geoparks Conference in Stonehammer Geopark (Canada) on September 16<sup>st</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2014

### **Geopark activities**

7. 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.
8. Realizing and Printed a biodiversity books :
  - “atlas of amphibians in Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark”;
  - Proceedings of 12<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference (E-Book);
9. Attendance at the Archeologic Tourism Meeting in Paestum (ITALY) on November 2014;
10. Attendance with Campania Region ITB Berlin 2015
11. Participation in national programs television as Italia uno “Wild Nature”, “Easy Driver RAI 2 “ –“Linea blu”, RAI 1 “ Linea Verde”, were 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 Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and Campania Region have organized, in November, the 1th Festival of Mediterranean Diet
14. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and Legambiente have organized, in September, “Clean the word”. A symbolic but very concrete day, with the aim of recovering some places to the degradation
15. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark, Agropoli Municipality and Medfest Association have organized Mediterranean Video Festival - the international

competition of documentary film. This festival is dedicated to Mediterranean Cultural landscape.

16. The National Park-Geopark has organized, during the summer, cultural events in some municipalities, for geological historical and environmental valorisation of the territory. (for example Elea Velia geo-archeosite theater)
17. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark supported by Italian Ministry of Environment has started the procedure for recognition of the Charter for European Sustainable Tourism

### **Activity by Partners**

18. Participation for LIFE project with national and international partners
19. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity

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# **COPPER COAST GEOPARK, IRELAND.**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. First marriage ceremony in the Geopark Centre
2. Employed a F/T Business Development Executive/Geopark Manager.
3. Geology day course by kayak conducted by Tina Keating, our geologist and a local kayaking tours provider.
4. The Copper Coast in partnership with The Agriculture and Food Development Authority – “Teagasc” hosted a soil classification fieldtrip for the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation in September 2014
5. Fieldtrips and school visits as part of our “Out-Reach Programme for National Schools”, catering to schools in the Waterford area and surrounding counties.
6. Ongoing Beach Surveys as part of Secondary Schools Geographical Investigation, the practical element of the National Leaving Certificate Exam, catering to secondary schools and colleges in the Waterford area and surrounding counties - The theme of 2014/2015: Evidence of Erosion.
7. Development of a good-governance strategy for the Geopark.
8. New underground model unveiled in the Centre.
9. Refreshed and upgraded exhibition, café and shop in the Geopark Centre.
10. Several musical events held in Geopark Centre.
11. Copper Coast Geopark was featured in Week 3 of TV3’s documentary “Our Island” with Dick Warner. Televised in October.
12. Substantial inclusion in travel articles in the Irish Independent – “Copper Coast Geopark - one of Ireland’s top 10 places to visit in 2015” & in thejournal.ie – “Heritage Ireland: Why you need to see the Copper Coast”
13. Christmas Market in the Geopark Centre
14. Christmas Dinner in the Centre for guides, volunteers and friends of the Copper Coast.
15. Visit and meeting in Geopark Centre by GIFT (Green Innovation and Future Technologies) InterReg project group from Waterford Institute of Technology.
16. Presentation on Geology and Tourism to Geological Survey Infomar conference in October in Waterford.
17. Copper Coast events in Comeraghs Wild Festival – Miners’ Trail, literary event, musical event

## **Networking**

18. Participated in EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Harz.
19. Attended and contributed to Irish Geoparks Annual Seminar at Marble Arch Global Geopark
20. Participated in two Irish Geoparks Committee meetings in Marble Arch and G.S.I., Dublin
21. Twinning delegation visited Vulcaneifel European Geopark in Strohn, celebrating ten successful years of the partnership.

## **Activity by Partners**

22. Meetings with senior members of Waterford City and County Council exploring future plans and collaborations.
23. Ongoing enhancement of the offerings to visitors in the villages of Fenor and Dunhill – Fenor Bog, play park, Wood-carvings, Dunhill walks and wetlands.
24. Representative elected onto Planning and Corporate Strategic Policy Committee of Waterford Council.
25. Representative elected onto new Waterford Council Tourism Committee.
26. Became a member of the Environmental Pillar on the Public Participation Network.
27. Joined Waterford Chamber of Commerce.

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## *NATURE and GEOPARK STYRIAN EISENWURZEN*

Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015

### **Geo and Nature Park News**

1. New executive manager. Andreas Danner, former chairman of the Nature and Geopark has taken over the responsibilities of the executive manager with January
2. Renaming. The Name of the Park has now officially changed its name into Nature- and Geopark Steirische Eisenwurzen.
3. Merging of communities. The 7 communities of the Nature- and Geopark and one of the neighbouring district have merged to the municipalities St. Gallen, Altenmarkt, Wildalpen and Landl with January 1.
4. Temporary Change. The Nature and Geopark office has moved temporarily from St. Gallen to the community of Weißenbach because of construction work.
5. Workshop: On February 27 and 28 we will have a workshop for the planning of activities in the next 5 years together with E.C.O., Institute of Ecology. After internal discussions on February 27, we will have a public workshop for stake holders and inhabitants of the park on February 28.

### **Geo and Nature Park Activities**

6. New Folder. An updated folder on the Nature- and Geopark is currently produced
7. Winter Adventure days for children. Two days during school vacations offered hiking tours through the winter landscape, games, meals and, of course, much fun for the kids.
8. Winter outdoor programs for everybody: Snowshoeing from December to February and sleigh rides
9. Seminar: Emergency management for Geo and Nature Park guides. January
10. Participation in the Advent Fair (Magic Advent) of Palfau. Children Programs, sale of regional food specialities and craft objects. Last five Sundays before Christmas, November – December
11. Long night of museums. The GeoCenter Gams has opened its doors for the “Long night of Museums” organized by the Austrian Radio Corporation ORF. The museums are connected by a taxi and bus service. 4 October.

### **Networking**

12. Geopark Forum. H. Kollmann was elected coordinator of the Austrian Geoparks Forum
13. Geoparks Forum Meetings. Realisation of the second meeting of the Austrian Geopark Forum in Gams, 6 November; preparation of the third meeting to be held in Bischofshofen (Erz der Alpen) on 17 March

14. Participation at CC meetings at Sobrarbe and Harz
15. Teambuilding. Participation in teambuilding activities at the secondary school of Weißenbach, October

### **Activity by a Partner**

16. Scientific meeting. From October 9 to 12, the Union of Austrian Speleologists had its annual meeting at our “GeoVillage” Gams with scientific meetings and field excursions to the famous caves of the Nature- and Geopark

### **Marketing**

17. Information booth at public event: “Aufsteirern” in Graz in September
18. Participation in the parish fair of St. Gallen (Galli-Kirtag) in October.

### **Contacts**

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# **EL HIERRO GEOPARK, CANARY ISLANDS - SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Inauguration of the new Geological and El Hierro Geopark Visitor Center. Dec 2014
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the international, national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, 2014
3. “La Aventura del Saber”, El Hierro Geopark Documental TV Show on Spanish TV, for national cultural channel. Oct. 2014
4. Meeting Spanish National Geographic Institute. Agreement proposal with the Geopark on Geophysics and Geodynamic new living laboratory and monitoring. Jan.2014
5. Improving the contents related to the El Hierro Geopark geology aspects in the App “El Hierro Te Sigue”, based in QR codes, developed by our management body. Continuous updating.
6. Fam/ Press trips of more than 6 different European media. Sep.2014- Mar. 2015
7. Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs, WORLD TRAVEL MARKET (London, Nov 2014, CMT Stuttgart, Germany Jan 2015, FITUR (Madrid, January 2015), VAKANTIBEURS (Utrecht, Holland, January 2015), NAVARTUR (Pamplona, February 2015), ITB (Berlin Germany, March 2015), SEVATUR (San Sebastian, March 2015).
8. Providing varied geological educational routes for local student groups, supported by a local enterprise Meridiano SAU (Geopark partner). More than 350 participants since September 2014 to March 2015.
9. Recycling Oral presentation and field trip guiding after the declaration of El Hierro Geopark, to partners and new employees. Dec. 2014
10. Open Fotosub (18<sup>th</sup> Edition). The most important underwater photography contest in Europe. Oct. 2014
11. III Travesía Mar de las Calmas, nadando sobre volcanes. (Open sea Swimming competition, swimming over volcanoes) Oct. 2014
12. 20<sup>o</sup> Concentración Inter. de Parapente.(International Paragliding Meeting) Oct. 2014
13. Oral presentation of the Geopark at the Las Palmas de Gran Canaria university, organizado por el Aula de la Naturaleza, los grupos de investigación GEOVOL y BIOCONTER, La Facultad de Geografía de Historia y los Departamentos de Geografía y Física todos los organismos pertenecientes a Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. March 2015
14. Participation with an oral Presentation on Volcanic Hazards 2nd. Technical workshop on Civil Protection and Emergency, Organized by Gran Canaria Government. Oct 2014

15. Meeting visit with Dr. Carmen Lopez (Director of Central Observatory on Geophysics) and Dr. M<sup>a</sup> José Blanco (Director of Spanish National Geographic Institute in Canary Islands). Feb.2015
16. Meeting visit with geologist of MACAVOL and professors of the University of Las Palmas, for future agreements and students field trips. Feb. 2015
17. GeoHiero Joven activities, (GeoHiero youth) Cultural, gastronomic, sports, and more activities specially for young people in the island. In the frame of antidrugs programs, from sep 2014 to mar 2015

### **Networking**

1. The 12th European Geoparks Conference at Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark, ITALY Oral Presentation – El Hierro Free WiFi Island
2. 6th International Unesco Conference on Global Geoparks. Oral Presentation Hydrowind power plant
3. Article for publication in EGN MAGAZINE 12, 2015 Title: The Island of 1,000 volcanoes. The first Geopark in the Canary Archipelago
4. Spanish Geoparks I Congress at Villuercas Ibores Jares Geopark Oral Presentation: El Hierro Geopark
5. Workshop Volcanic GPK in Azores Islands. Oral Presentation: El Hierro Geopark, Volcanoes, Sports & Adventure. Oct-Nov 2014

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Noche de Los Volcanes,(night of volcanoes) Presentations, cultural activities and field trips. Promoting by INVOLCAN and La Frontera Municipality, partner of Geopark. Sep 2014.
2. Project of geolocation and virtualization of every tourist business of El Hierro, done by, Google, Ashotel, Canary Islands Tourism Bureau and El Hierro Government through its Tourism Council. (Oct. 2014 and ongoing)
3. Mountain Race Marathon El Merdiano, Organized by La Frontera Municipality. Feb 2015
4. I Fototrek Contest. Organized by La Frontera Municipality, Nov. 2014
5. V Ruta “De Tapas por Frontera”. (Gastronomic Event) Organized by La Frontera Municipality
6. IV “Ruta de Tapas de Valverde” “. (Gastronomic Event) Organized by Valverde Municipality
7. III “Ruta de Tapas Sur de El Hierro” “. (Gastronomic Event) Organized by El Pinar Municipality
8. Volcanic Hazards Presentation for general public Organized by El Pinar Municipality, Sep 2014
9. II Regata Puertos Canarios (Sailing Race Canary ports) Organized by El Pinar Municipality. Dec. 2014

# ENGLISH RIVIERA GLOBAL GEOPARK, UK

## Progress Report, Sept 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Presented and won the bid to host the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Geoparks in 2016. Strategic Board for 2016 have been appointed and are now meeting on a regular basis. The new position of Conference Director has been filled. David Randall was appointed in January 2015 and is now working on all aspects of organising the event.
2. A funding bid to develop a Geopark Ambassadors Scheme in under development working in partnership with Torbay Council, Ageing Well, Torbay Libraries, Future Museums and the Torbay Cultural Board
3. Continued to work with arts organisation Situations on the development of the new look Geopark Festival for 2016
4. Successfully gained £30,000 for the further research and development of the new look Geopark Festival from Arts Council England with a stronger remit for the festival event to develop significant economic benefit in the territory.
5. Planning is in progress for the Geopark Festival 2015
6. With the help of Arts Council England funding, enabled and assisted the attendance of the creative, Geo-Collective (3 artists, 3 young people and a facilitator) at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer Canada. The group worked with schools, local people and delegates.
7. Restoration work in Chapel Woods has begun. The site contains a dilapidated cliff top 19<sup>th</sup> century stone chapel with spectacular views over the Geopark, The phased works will include tree clearance, clearance of important rock faces, improvements to the path network, restoration of the Chapel and interpretation. This fascinating site includes St Michaels Chapel, a Scheduled Ancient Monument and it is designated a Regionally Important Geological Site. For many years both the Chapel and important geology has been hidden from view but that's about to change.
8. A Geopark linked Health and Wellbeing research project is being explored with Exeter University

### Networking

9. Participation at the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee, Hartz, Germany.
10. Attendance of Melanie Border and Nick Powe along at the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer, Canada
11. Melanie Border continues to chair the UK Geopark Geoparks Forum and coordinated the meeting in GeoMon (Mar 2015).

12. Organised two remote teleconference meetings of the UK Global Geoparks Forum members in Nov 2014 to discuss aspiring Geoparks.
13. Liaison with two aspirant Geopark areas on behalf of the UKGGF

### **Activity by Partners**

14. As part of a Comenius funded project the students and teachers of Churston Ferrers Grammar School hosted students and teachers from four other members of the EGN (GeaNorvegica Geopark, Bergstrasse-Odenwald, Madonie and Novohrad Nograd) plus a Natural Park in France. The visit included trips to key Geopark sites, a guided boat trip and culminated with a live e-school link up with the Hong Kong Global Geopark
15. Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP Secretary of State for Culture in the UK visited Kents Cavern where he saw a presentation on the Geopark and the 2016 Conference as well as having a tour of the Caves.
16. The Kents Cavern has received funding from the HLF for Project Firestone to develop class room material for schools across the UK based on the Stone Age. The project includes interpretation of Ice Age animals and the geology of the area.
17. Local outdoor activities company, Geopark Adventures are preparing events for the 2<sup>nd</sup> season of the Geopark Adventure Race series. The same company are proposing to hold an Adventure Race in 2016 to coincide with the Geopark Conference.
18. All Geopark partners are planning events for the Geopark Festival 2015. Events scheduled so far range from art sketching underground in Kents Cavern to free Geopark Stand-Up Paddle Board taster sessions run by activity provider Reach Outdoors.
19. Torbay Community Development Trust and Paignton Community Partnership are working together to ensure the sustainability of the Paignton Geopark through the potential addition of refreshment kiosk to the site.
20. Collins Educational have published 25,000 copies of Key Stage 3 (12-16 year olds) Geography - Geographical Enquiry Student Book 1, endorsed by the Geographical Association, and includes a case study on the English Riviera Global Geopark and Kents Cavern. Principle markets for these books are the UK and Saudi Arabia. The class room exercise in the book is to design a piece of children's play equipment themed on geology!



# **Fforest Fawr Geopark Wales United Kingdom**

Progress within the Geopark following the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN Co-ordination Committee, September 2014, is presented below.

## **Fforest Fawr Geopark Activities**

**1. Business Improvement Days 24<sup>th</sup> February, 11<sup>th</sup> March** The Geopark organized and delivered '*The Iron Landscapes*' - a Geopark orientation day for local businesses on 24<sup>th</sup> February at Penderyn Community Centre. This event focussed on the history of the Iron and Steel Industry in South Wales to which the Geopark made a major contribution as a mineral resource. The participants visited a mineral extraction site at Moel Penderyn and the site of the former Hirwaun Ironworks in the company of local experts. A further day is being organised on 11<sup>th</sup> March concerning the Iron Age and Victorian legacies of Pen-y-crug, a hill above Brecon and other tourist attractions in the vicinity, many of which are intimately related to the underlying geology

**2. Fforest Fawr Geopark Ambassador Scheme 3<sup>rd</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> March.** The Geopark continues to contribute to the well-established National Park Ambassador Scheme and also to the Geopark Ambassador Scheme. For the latter, Geopark Development Officer, Alan Bowring organized two days with talks and fieldtrips aimed at introducing tourism providers to the geopark concept, and to the Geopark's holistic approach in using its geology, cultural history, industrial history in geotourism and education. The events focussed on two areas of the Geopark and National Park; the Upper Swansea Valley and Waterfall Country. The participants were introduced to the accessible nature of a truly wonderful landscape created by tramways dating back to the Industrial Revolution. They were also introduced to opportunities for visitors to use public transport when visiting the Geopark. The Ambassador Scheme is a useful means for tourism providers and local businesses to engage with and contribute to the development of the Geopark. The participants are provided with Geopark products including leaflets describing walks and trails and the recently produced geological map of the Geopark.

**4. 'National Park Knowledge' 10<sup>th</sup> March.** This initiative focusses on introducing taxi drivers to aspects of the Brecon Beacons National Park and the Fforest Fawr Geopark in order for them to act as 'ambassadors' and story-tellers. An event on 10 March equipped taxi drivers with stories about numerous locations associated with the long military history of the area which extends from the Roman conquest of the Celtic Silures Tribe in AD 77 to the present day.

## **Educational activities.**

**5. The Old Red Sandstone Symposium 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October.** The symposium, organized in conjunction with the South Wales Geological Association was held in the Elim Church Centre, Brecon and was attended by over 100 delegates. The programme, which included a keynote address delivered by Prof. Brian Williams, was followed by 12 lectures which considered various aspects of the Devonian

rocks, a major component of the Geopark's geology. This hugely successful and enjoyable symposium closed with a *Public Exhibition and Activity Session* and *Field Meetings*.

**6. Geological Field Mapping Training Programme.** Students from the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University, were trained in the principals of geological mapping on the Cribarth, Upper Swansea Valley – a significant exposure in which a folded sequence of limestone and siliciclastic rocks is associated with the major Swansea Valley Disturbance.

### **Research in the Geopark**

**7. Structural Geology.** The major faults in the Geopark, the Carreg Cennen Disturbance, the Swansea Valley Disturbance and the Neath Disturbance are a legacy of the Caledonian Orogeny and are still associated with earthquakes. They probably extend deep into the basement rocks and were possibly created at the margin of a sea over 500 million years ago.

These faults have been investigated by academics and also by the British Geological Survey. Prof. Tom Blenkinsop, a structural geologist at Cardiff University and Tony Ramsay, the Geopark's Scientific Director are currently investigating the Swansea Valley Fault in the Cribarth area of the Upper Swansea Valley.

**8. Investigating effects of climate change and human activities using sediment DNA and pollen stratigraphy at Traeth Mawr.** Traeth Mawr is, the site of a former lake in which approximately 5 metres of sediment accumulated during temperate and cold climate intervals over the last 15,000 years. This important site is now the focus for testing and applying new and innovative research using DNA meta-barcoding to determine the occurrence and origin of DNA fragments attached to silicate grains and humic substances.

This research involves scientists from Cardiff University's Schools of Biosciences, Earth and Ocean Sciences, and School of History, Archaeology and Religion, and Fforest Fawr Geopark.

### **European Geoparks Network Activities**

**1. EGN Committees:** Tony Ramsay is a member of the EGN Advisory Committee.

**2. The EGN Magazine.** Tony is a member of the EGN Editorial Board and organizes and edits the articles submitted for inclusion in the EGN Magazine.

**3. The EGN Newsletter.** Tony edits articles submitted for inclusion in the Newsletter.

**4.** Julian Atkins is currently the catalyst for the **Mining Thematic Group**.

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# **GEA NORVEGICA GEOPARK, NORWAY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Educational program for schools continues
2. Thematic evenings
3. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.
4. Meeting with the minister of education.
5. Geology day – National day of geology. Family event and field trip in the Geopark.
6. Norwegian geological survey – seminar - Geopark presentation
7. The Norwegian mining museum, Kongsberg – seminar – Geopark presentation
8. New information signs on localities
9. Planning and preparing the new Geopark headquarter and visitor center.
10. Developing digital guided tours on new localities. Smartguide
11. Film project – short films from different localities for local television, schools, YouTube etc.

### **Networking**

12. Two delegates participated at the EGN-meeting in Harz.
13. Three delegates participated at the Global Geopark Conference in Stonehammer, Canada
14. The manager of the Geopark participated in working group UNESCO and GGN bureau meetings.
15. The manager of the Geopark participated at the General Conference of UNESCO and working group meeting on Geoparks, Paris
16. The manager participated at a seminar in Saimaa Geopark project Finland.
17. Visiting Rokua Geopark in Finland exchanging experience about education programs.
18. Advisors for a new Rumanian Geopark project together with Hateg Country Dinosaurs Geopark. (EU project)

# **GEOLOGICAL AND MINING SARDINIA GEOPARK, ITALY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Technical Seminars cycle programmed by the Iglesias's Mining Museum.
2. Conference on Mining and mining law, legal history and local history. Cagliari and Iglesias 19-20 December 2014.
3. Workshop: Green Economy: Development opportunities in the industrial architecture of the Park, Iglesias November 27, 2014.
4. Week of Earth Planet: Italy to discover the Geosciences. 12-19 October 2014: twenty-seven geoevents in the whole Sardinia territory.

### **Networking**

5. Participation in 34<sup>th</sup> EGN meeting in Germany, 2-5 September 2014.
6. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks Canada, September 19–22, 2014
7. Participation in the 6° Forum dei Geoparchi Italiani, Roma, February 17, 2015.

### **Activity by Partners**

8. Second level Master's Degree in Management of Natural Heritage, Convention between Geological and Mining Sardinia Geopark, University of Cagliari and Consortium AUSI Iglesias.
9. February 25, 2015, presentation to Sardinia regional government, the municipality of Sassari, La Maddalena National Park, the Porto Conte Natural Regional Park and University of Sassari, of the Project on environmental cultural historical values, of the Geological and Mining Sardinia Geopark, created pursuant to Resolution of the Regional Council of the Sardinia regional Government number 34/10 of September 2, 2014
10. Workshop "Mining Landscapes. Plans for the Geological and Mining Sulcis-Iglesiente Geopark", organized by DICAAR - Civil Engineering, Environmental and Architecture Department - University of Cagliari, AUSI Consortium for the promotion of the Sulcis-Iglesiente university activities and the Master of Landscape Architecture ACMA / UPC, Iglesias, December 2-6 2014.
11. Financial support to local authorities and other institutions in the promotion for the construction in the Geopark territory of a new integrated process of sustainable development in the sectors of designated ecological and cultural tourism and handicrafts

12. Agreement between Geological and Mining Geopark and Porto Conte (Alghero), La Maddalena and Asinara Natural Parks to promote together sustainable development, cultural and scientific activities

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# **GEOMON GLOBAL GEOPARK, WALES, UK**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Completed series of geoboards around Anglesey Coast in December 2014.
2. Completed and produced 14 new trails December, 2014.
3. Published our new geology book on Anglesey- the first since Greenly's 1919 Geological Survey of Anglesey called Footsteps Through Time- the rocks and landscape of Anglesey explained.
4. Guided tours for the public as requested in addition to our normal programme and two for specialist groups booking at our centre.
5. Organised 4 school field days and college field weeks using our nationally trained field guides and geologists.
6. Took on two work experience school pupils, One an expert on dinosaurs who has made children's activities for our centre and the other who helped with our events and in the centre.
7. Trained and used one new ex teacher volunteer at our centre. Took on two new volunteers with expertise on public relations- Mervyn Wynne Jones who will produce press releases and media material and Sheila Bennell who will work on grants as was her work in Bangor University.
8. Increased our Board members to include a new education specialist Prof. C. Burek who will re-invigorate our programme for schools and colleges.
9. Working with IoACC's AONB department to set up a 'Friends' group to help them create events and do remunerative work in the AONB. It will be called the 'Islomaniacs' and will be launched in July.

### **Networking**

1. Formed a new partnership with the Cemaes Bay Heritage Centre that will open in April and where we will exhibit in their centre and offer guided walks around two of our developed trails in the area. We will be taking on volunteers from the local Job Centre to train and carry out this work.
2. Formed a new partnership with 'Keep Wales Tidy. An all Wales organisation that is setting up an app all over coastal Wales and into which we will input the geology, landscape and Tourism along the Anglesey Coast.
3. Published article- geo-guided walk in Swn y Mor, the AONB's annual magazine.
4. Published an article in Earth Heritage, the conservation magazine for Great Britain.

5. Produced a press release for the United Kingdom Global Geopark Forum to be held here in March, 2015-02-17
6. Participation in the CC meeting in UNESCO, Paris March 31<sup>st</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015
7. Participation in the CC meeting in Harz, Germany in 2014
8. Spent 2 hours on a local radio chat show talking about geoparks and our activities.
9. Spent one day at sea with the BBC Discovery Channel researching and finding the best cliffs for Bear Grylls to do some daring stunts.
10. Planning the UK Forum for Global Geoparks that we are hosting in our Geopark this March.

### **Activity by Partners**

11. Cemaes heritage new centre in which we will partner. They will run events and have displays and local guided walks- we will be involved with them in all activities.
12. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are working on projects in Newborough Forest, creating trails and making new entrances. We are working with them on a new pi;ow lava trail in the forest with simple paths going in cleared areas beneath the cliffs and possibly a viewing platform. They will also put up a n exhibition for the geopark in the Pilot Houses on Ilanddwyn Island.
13. Ribride who take fast boats along the Menai Strait and Holy Island have been working with us to include the coastal geology in their tours.
14. Our Geokayaking organiser (B-Active) is increasing the areas he takes schools on geo-kayaking courses in the summer but we work on this during the quiet winter season together.
15. As members of the Anglesey Tourism association we work with them when required at their events and give talks.
16. WE Continue to work with the County Council's Economic Development Department who completed our Geoboards and trails and printed our new book. They have also translated it into Welsh and it will soon be available on our website [www.geomon.co.uk](http://www.geomon.co.uk)

# **HATEG COUNTRY DINOSAURS GEOPARK, ROMANIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Five prizes for Geopark`s projects. Four for The House of Volcanoes (most popular projects involving volunteers, best green project financed by Partnership Foundation, best educational project in Hunedoara, best partnership project in Hunedoara Country), and one for the Water and Stone Valley Project (youth);
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. Publishing news in the media, on the website and Facebook, March 2015.
4. Establishing the Edu - GEOPARK Network. An educational partnership of schools, school inspectorate, university led by the geopark in order to sustain education and public awareness for local development;
5. Guided geotours and geo-pedagogic programmes for 300 participants, new educational projects carried out in the frame of Edu – GEOAPRK network;
6. Signed local and national partnerships for a new project aiming to prepare the designation of Hateg Country – Retezat area as an ecotourism destination;
7. Presentation of the Geopark at different meetings (Bucharest, France);
8. Launching the project for a Dinosaurs festival in 2015;
9. Surveying a recently opened geo-trail Carnivorous Plant Trail (botany, geology, landscape interpretation), planning future nature trails in the vicinity;
10. Launching an educational 7 days programmes for 2015 summer in HCDG in partnership with Colibris Club and local association;
11. Inviting internationally renowned volcanologists to reinterpret Volcanoes geotrail;

### **Networking**

12. Participation in the 32nd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Vernigerode, Germany, 2014.
13. Starting the process for creation of the Romanian Geoparks Forum;

### **Activity by Partners**

14. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides from partner associations trained by the Geopark),
15. Discussion with the local group for the new LEADER project;
16. Discussion with the tourism professionals from neighbouring areas for a common promotion;



# **Geopark Harz ` Braunschweiger Land ` Ostfalen / Germany**

## **Progress-Report September 2014 to February 2015**

### **September**

- (1) 34<sup>th</sup> EGN-Meeting in Wernigerode and Koenigslutter
- (2) Sunday hikes at Karst trail Southern Harz
- (3) Participation in the UNESCO Geopark Conference, Stonehammer, Canada
- (4) German „Day of Geosites“ – Several events and guided tours
- (5) Presentation of the new info panel „Eichsfeldschwelle“

### **October**

- (6) Sunday hikes at Karst trail Southern Harz
- (7) Hiking tour from Samson Show Mining St. Andreasberg to the power sources of the Upper Harz Water supply world heritage site
- (8) Geological hike at Harly trail
- (9) Meeting of the Geopark advisory board / Appointment of new advisory board members
- (10) Opening of the mining monument at Büchenberg mine

### **November**

- (11) Opening of the infopanel at geopoint Hoppenstedt, landmark 14
- (12) 9<sup>th</sup> Lautenthal Montanist Kolloquium
- (13) Opening of the new landmark 27 “Burg Ummendorf”
- (14) Meeting about the structure of the new Northern Geopark supporting association

### **Dezember**

- (15) Mining Christmas inside Copperhill – Adventure Centre Röhrigschacht / Show Mining Wettelrode
- (16) Opening of the new infopanel at geopoint 4, landmark 11 and geopunkt 9, landmark 5
- (17) Publishing of the following reprints: landmark 4 „Brocken“, landmark 8 „Schloss Wernigerode“, landmark 11 „Alte Burg Osterode“, landmark 12 „Spitzkegelhalde“,

landmark 14 „Huysburg“, landmark 16 „Sachsenstein“, landmark 17 „Schloss Mansfeld“, landmark 19 „Bösenburg“

## **February**

(18) Presentation of the new infopanel at geopoint 9 landmark 11

(19) Hiking tour at Mining Trail Wettelrode

Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen GbR

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

# **THE HONDSRUG GEOPARK, THE NETHERLANDS**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Major achievements in 2014**

- Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info centre for Nature in Anloo
- Inauguration of the new GeoPark Info centre for Water In Midlaren

### **Contribution towards the work of the EGN and GGN**

- Starting the process of forming a national forum in The Netherlands
- Participation in the GGN meeting in New Brunswick, Canada.
- Participation in the EGN meetings in Sobrarbe and the Harz.

### **Management structure and financial status**

- At first we had some problems with the local council of Coevorden about the funding. We are very pleased to say that the local council of Coevorden have decided to continue the funding.
- 2014 was the last year of the project funding and the first year of structural funding of the Foundation Geopark the Hondsrug.

### **Strategic partnership**

- The scientific committee, which consists of various scientists, has composed a scientific database in which we can find all the researches which have taken place in the area. Linked to this is a scientific agenda. In this we can find all the research the various scientists are planning to execute in the coming years.
- We are constantly trying to recruit new partners. At this moment we can boast 140 partners of which the majority consists of entrepreneurs that embrace the ideas of the Geopark.
- Due to extensive contact with us, the local council of Haren are very keen to take part in the Geopark concept.

### **Marketing and promotional activities**

- In cooperation with the leading tourist organisation in our area we have presented the Geopark for the period of 6 months at the 'Gartenschau' in the town of Papenburg in Germany.
- Geopark de Hondsrug has been brought to the attention of many viewers of the national television programme 'Hello Holland'.
- In cooperation with the Terra Vita Geopark and the Stenden university which is situated in the area, we have developed the Geopark Expedition. German and Dutch families have had the opportunity to be introduced to the two Geoparks in an adventurous way. The interaction between two countries and cultures has been a fascinating result of the expedition.
- Release of Dutch versions of the new booklets written about the topics of: Artists on the Hondsrug, Nature, Woodlands, Water and Traces of War. German and English versions of Peat, Prehistory and Ice age were also published.
- **Contacts:**

Manager: Cathrien Posthumus, [c.posthumus@geoparkdehondsrug.nl](mailto:c.posthumus@geoparkdehondsrug.nl)  
Earth Scientist: Gretha Roelfs, [g.Roelfs@drenthe.nl](mailto:g.Roelfs@drenthe.nl)

# **IDRIJA GEOPARK, SLOVENIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing news in the newspapers (Primorske novice, Obzorja, Dnevnik) on the website ([www.geopark-idrija.si](http://www.geopark-idrija.si), EGN and GGN website, Spirit Slovenia) and Facebook, September 2014 - March 2015.
2. Participation in tourism fairs with Tourist information centre Idrija (Alpe-Adria: Tourism and Leisure Show, Ljubljana; Expomego Gorizia; Natour Goriška brda; WTM London; Brussels holiday fair; Festival za tretje življenjsko obdobje, Ljubljana), September 2014 - March 2015.
3. Signing the cooperation agreements with four new Geoparks partners, November 2014 – January 2015.
4. Promo folded pamphlet: "Entertaining and instructive geology" (with Geological survey of Slovenia), October 2014.
5. Signing Local Action Group agreement, October 2014.
6. Workshops and lectures during European Heritage days, October 2014.
7. Hike with the kindergarten Idrija and Godovič, Sensual journey through the Geopark Idrija, Children's Day, October 2014.
8. Organising the two-day international event »Geoparks and marketing« (workshop and fieldtrip), October 2014.
9. Participation in the round table on the establishment of Geopark Kras/Carso, Sežana, November 2014.
10. Reprint Geopark Idrija Map presentation: "Experience the natural and cultural heritage" (Slovenian and English version), November 2014.
11. Establishment of National forum on Global Geoparks in Slovenia, December 2014.
12. Finished of Lajšt interpretational point, March 2015.

### **Networking**

13. Participation in the 6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer Geopark, Saint John, New Brunswick – Canada, September 2014.
14. An oral presentation of the Geopark (title: Integration of UNESCO mercury heritage into Geopark Idrija) at the 6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer Geopark (Canada), September 2014.

15. Participation in 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Meeting of National Fora of Geoparks, in the framework of proposed Program »Global Geoparks of UNESCO« in Global Geopark Terras de Cavaleros, Portugal, from 31<sup>st</sup> of January to 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2015

### **Activity by Partners**

16. Organising inter-school themed day of all School Network members within Geopark Idrija, October 2014

17. Presentation of new geopark product "Geruš" – an old miners' drink with geopark partner Hiša zelišč (House of herbs) and Idrija mercury mine in Antony's main road, November 2014.

18. The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Geopark Idrija Expert Council, November 2014

19. Partners workshop, December 2014.

# KATLA GEOPARK, ICELAND

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Full day conference in Vík: **Katla Geopark – Looking to the future**. A number of presenters including the Director General of the Icelandic Tourist Board, a leading geologist at the University of Iceland, tourist operators in Katla Geopark, Katla Geopark staff and two geopark projects in Iceland, October 2014.
2. Publishing new information pamphlets for Katla Geopark, September 2014.
3. Published educational material for students, available through the Katla Geopark website and distributed to school groups, September 2014.
4. Educative colouring bilingual colouring book published for the youngest students visiting Katla Geopark, September 2014.
5. Hiring of new Geopark manager/CEO, Brynja Davíðsdóttir, February 2015.

### Networking

1. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Geopark Harz. Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen, September 2014.
2. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer Geopark, Canada, September 2014.
3. Meeting with English geology/geography teachers in Vík discussing possibilities on running professional development courses in Katla Geopark, September 2014.
4. Sharing promotional material with Batur Geopark in Indonesia, September 2014.
5. A two year Erasmus+ contract on Geo education signed with partners in Poland, Portugal and Croatia, January 2015.
6. Drifting apart, a new NPP (Northern Periphery Program) project approved involving geoparks in Iceland, Norway, Ireland, Scotland and Canada.
7. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Network Magazine, Issue 11, 2014.

### Activity by Partners

1. Conference in Kirkjubæjarklaustur organized by visitklaustur.is: **What's for dinner? – Conversation between tourism and agriculture in Skaftárhreppur municipality**, October 2014.
2. Regnboginn (Rainbow) – Cultural festival in Mýrdalshreppur municipality with active participation from Katla Center, Vík, October 2015.

3. Harvest festival in Skaftárhreppur municipality involving visits to geosites and local food producers, November 2015.
4. Participation by Seglbúðir, a local meat producer in Katla Geopark, at the Artisan Food Fair in Reykjavík, March 2015.



# LESVOS GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Organization of the exhibition “AEGEON · Birth of an Archipelago” at Evgenidou Foundation in Athens (3 September - 23 October 2014)
2. Celebration of European Heritage Days (26 – 28 September 2014)
3. Extensive research and excavation project for the protection and conservation of the fossilized trees discovered during the construction of the new Kalloni – Sigri national road – Safeguarding fossils with high scientific value (September 2014 – February 2015)
4. “LESVOS GEOPARK - Actions of labelling, digital promotion and projection” – Implementation of a Geopark promotion and interpretation project (September 2014 - March 2015)
5. Numerous interviews, articles and TV specific program on the Geopark activities in the national, regional and local media – also in TV shows (September 2014 – March 2015)
6. Promotional activities of Lesvos Geopark as a “European Destination of Excellence” – EDEN” (September 2014 – March 2015)
7. Guided geotours and educational programs for Lesvos schools (September 2014 - March 2015)
8. Updating of the Geopark website (September 2014 – March 2015)
9. Organising the educational program “The changes of seasons and the geological time” for primary and elementary school groups (September 2014)
10. Practical program for university students from Czech Republic at Lesvos Geopark (September – December 2014)
11. Realization of special educational programs for university students of Kiel, Salzburg and Aegean Universities (September – December 2014)
12. Participation in videoconference with students of Toyooka High School of San ‘in Kaigan Geopark in Japan on the results of their educational visit at the Lesvos Geopark (2 October 2014)
13. Celebration of International Day of Disaster Reduction with the exhibition “Lets know the earthquakes and the volcanoes” (13 October 2014)
14. Participation in the celebration of Environmental Week that organized by the Ministry of Education – Oral presentation about geothermal in Lesvos Geopark at the Primary School of Loutropolis Thermis (15 October 2014)
15. Oral presentation at Special School of Mytilene about the Earthquakes at Lesvos Geopark and the protection measures (11 November 2014)
16. Realization of educational seminar for teachers about Lesvos Geopark in collaboration with the Educational Centre of Evergetoulas at Lesvos Geopark and the National History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest (18 November 2014)
17. Production of a TV spot for the national media (December 2014)

18. Participation in the workshop which organized by the University of the Aegean for the presentation of the new technology tools used at Lesvos Geopark (13 January 2015)
19. Preparation of special material for the promotion of the Geopark at the magazine Butterfly of the Astra Airlines air company (February 2015)
20. Reward of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest by the University of Thessaloniki for the Practical program for students at Lesvos Geopark (26 February 2015)
21. Presentation of the Lesvos Geopark in Germany in an event organized by the Association of promotion of the Greek-German friendship (28 February 2015)
22. Organization of the exhibition «AEGEON · Birth of an Archipelago» at Vittoriano in Rome (16 - 27 March 2015)
23. Publication of the Chart of geological time
24. Preparation of the geotouristic map of Lesvos Geopark in collaboration with University Aegean - Department of Geography

### **Networking**

25. Participation in the meetings and videoconference of the Greek Forum Geopark (September 2014 – March 2015)
26. Operation of the Secretariat of the Greek Forum Geopark (September 2014 – March 2015)
27. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in Hartz Braunswaiger land Ostfalen Geopark - Germany (September 2014)
28. Reception of delegation of the Northeastern Research Institute of the Petrified Wood and the Mineral Resources Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University of Thailand, working meeting on Geopark issues, develop of paleontological researches, including petrified wood conservation, exhibition and utilization for public sensitization, Geopark development and collaboration on international networks (10 - 11 September 2014)
29. Signing of MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING with the Northeastern Research Institute of the Petrified Wood and the Mineral Resources Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University of Thailand and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest (11 September 2014)
30. Participation at the International Geoparks Conference in Canada (14 - 23 September 2014)
31. Reception of delegation of San'in Kaigan Geopark, University of Hyogo and University of Tottori, working meeting on Geopark issues, realisation of comparative research between San'in Kaigan Geopark and Lesvos Geopark in the sectors of protection and conservation, education, collaboration, promotion, creation of infrastructures and geotourism (5 - 8 October 2014)
32. Reception of the European Commissioner for Regional Policy Mr. Johannes Hahn and European delegation - Presentation of the Nisiopi Island project and working meeting (23 October 2014)
33. Participation in the workshop organized by Vikos-Aoos Geopark "Geoparks and

Geotourism: Present & Future” in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark - Greece (16-17 October 2014)

34. Participation in the meeting for the EU project «Lifelong Learning Programme, Leonardo da Vinci, partnerships» in North Pennines AONB - England with the participation of Arouca, Beigua and Lesvos Geoparks (12 – 13 November 2014)
35. Participation in the seminar “The criteria for establishing a Global Geopark and Geosites visiting for pre-evaluation in Thailand” in Thailand which organized by the North eastern Research Institute of Petrified Wood & Mineral Resources (10 - 18 January 2015)
36. Participation in the International Symposium “Geoparks and Education” in Tottori Japan which organized by the San’in Kaigan Geopark and the University of Tottori – Special presentation of the educational activities that organized at Lesvos Geopark (7 - 8 March 2015)
37. Participation in the regional workshop on sustainable geopark management 2015 “Effective Management For Better Geopark Future” organized at Langkawi island, Malaysia by Langkawi Global Geopark and Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN) (7 - 11 March 2015)

#### **Activity by Partners**

38. Meeting with the tourism professionals of Lesvos Geopark about Lesvos Geopark promotion (7 October 2014)
39. Promotion of Lesvos Geopark during the event that organized by the Chamber of Lesvos – working meeting with the delegation of the Chamber of Aivaly Turkey (20 November 2014)
40. Meetings with local producers to develop new Geopark products in association with Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest.

# **LUBERON GEOPARK, FRANCE**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Launch of Educational activities 2015-2016 Program. For the current school year (2014-2015), 208 classes have 520 half-days of intervention in the territory.
2. Edition of the DVD " Luberon Geology ", a short animated film to discover the local geological history
3. Day of fruits and flavors of the past. Sale of plants and ancient fruit, tastings, conferences and exhibitions.
4. Saturday in the Park : "Christmas in Provence, the 13 desserts". Funny workshops around Christmas gourmet traditions.
5. Saturday in the Park & Souk des sciences : "Being a geologist" (workshops for young people)
6. Conduct awareness and training program on water saving for technicians and elected people
7. TV Broadcast : "Buoux or vertical fun" about the Buoux valley, famous climbing site rich by its geological, natural and cultural heritage
8. 3rd Forum on agricultural short circuits in the Luberon
9. Luberon Park festival : shows, workshops, guided tours, educational activities, building an arch as romans... in the antic site Pont Julien, on the Via Domitia.(5,000 participants).
10. European day of heritage : "discovery of heritage and landscapes" at the Buoux castle in the heart of the Geopark
11. Evaluation, proposals and validation of the new LEADER program.
12. Review of geology and paleontology showcases of the Forcalquier Museum

### **Networking**

13. Participation at the EGN meetings in Harz. Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen Geopark, Germany
14. Participation to the EGN meetings organization in Paris with the National Committee of French Geoparks

### **Activity by Partners**

15. Publication of Volume 2 of the encyclopedia of the Luberon

# MADONIE GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Celebrated on October, from 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, the Earth Week with guided geological excursions and a final workshop titled “Geosites in the Madonie Geopark”. About 100 people enjoyed field trips and the workshop supported by national and regional organizations of geologists.
2. Closed on October the 20<sup>th</sup> the exhibition area programme “*A summer of art – A different route of Madonie Geopark*”, launched on August the 5<sup>th</sup>, where national and international prominent artists exhibited their paintings in different municipality of Madonie Geopark.
3. Celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Madonie Park established on November 9<sup>th</sup> 1989, with a conference where founders reminded purposes and expectations on development of the protected area recognized Geopark on 2001.
4. Developed on November, from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, the project “The Madonie Geopark feeds the Environment” in the frame of the European Clean-Up Week. More than 100 children had our leaflets, books and games to apply good practices on reduction of waste and visited an innovative and private examples to obtain energy from waste.
5. Signing on January the 14<sup>th</sup> an agreement with the “Astrid Services for Nature and Environment Society” to promote activities for sustainable development in the Madonie Geopark.
6. 115 musicians living in Madonie attended, on March the 1<sup>st</sup>, at the first selection to play a part in the new Orchestra Band that Madonie Geopark wish to set up. The new Madonie Geopark Orchestra Band will have from 75 to 85 wind instruments and will be conducted by Vincenzo Toscano. The first performance was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Madonie Geopark headquarter in front of many supporters of this cultural initiative.
7. On March the 11<sup>th</sup> started the annual project “*Let’s colour our Future – Mini-Mayors and Mini-Presidents of the Parks of Italy*”, involving over 2000 pupils from all the comprehensive schools in the Madonie Park.

### Networking

1. Participation of one representative of the Madonie Geopark to the 34<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting, held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> on September in the Hartz Geopark, Germany.
2. Cooperation with Copper Coast Geopark, because M. Sweeney was an evaluator of the Madonie Geopark during 2013, to send a letter of support to the Governor of Sicily and regional responsible administrations. In this letter, sent on

February the 11<sup>th</sup>, M. Sweeney expressed his own concerns at recent activities staff changes at the Madonie Global Geopark involving 5 key workers being moved to operate in Palermo town, far from Madonie 240 km return, believing this would have a significant negative impact on the operations and viability of Italy's premier Geopark.

3. Extraordinary participation of five representatives of the Regional Councillorship for Environment and Territory, to the 6<sup>th</sup> Forum of Italian Geoparks, held in Rome on February the 17<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the recent staffing changes at the Madonie Geopark and the negative impact these will have on the functioning and viability of the Geopark. The five workers, involved with an inappropriate order of transfer from Madonie Geopark to the Sicilian Councillorship, were in charge of key staff for environmental education and Geoparks Network, development, economic increase in value and social fruition, and in charge of environmental damage evaluations. The national Forum gave support and sent a letter to the Governor of Sicily and regional responsible administrations. After Forum, the EGN coordinators and GGN Executive Board sent their letters of support to ask that the five workers be allowed to continue their work within the Geopark to avoid damaging further development of the rural area protected by the Regional Madonie Geopark and expulsion of the same Geopark from GGN.

### **Activity by Partners**

4. Participation to the annual event "Ecoborgo" (Eco Village) held from 10 to 12 October in Gangi, a town of Madonie LAG, declared on 2014, by the national association "Borghi più belli d'Italia", one of the most beautiful village of Italy. An oral communication titled "*Geoparks and local products. Use of EGN Logo*" was held in a meeting and thousands of people visited the promotional stands full of biological food at 0 km.
5. A day for Environmental Education and Eco-Sport was held in the Madonie Adventure Park on 28<sup>th</sup> October to promote school tourism in the Madonie Geopark. A didactic approach method was offered in the morning to 30 teachers about geology, biodiversity, archaeology, anthropology and sport in nature. In the afternoon didactic laboratories, excursions and guided visits were performed.
6. Held a Conference in Madonie Geopark headquarter on October 29<sup>th</sup> based on the experience of the European project "Proforbiomed" to promote activities and the use of forestry biomass in Mediterranean environment.
7. The Sicilian delegation present in Rome at the 6<sup>th</sup> Forum of Italian Geoparks visited on February the 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Exhibition Centre Vittoriano, the great exhibition of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest "AEGEAN: the Birth of the Arcipelago" that's part of a series of Greek events organized in Rome in the framework of the World Exhibition EXPO 2015 in Italy (May 1 – October 31).

# MAESTRAZGO CULTURAL PARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Conferences dealing with Geoparks in Guadalupe (1st Spanish Geoparks Committee Workshop, October), Ejulve (City Hall, October), Madrid (University Complutense, November), and Murcia (Jornadas Regionales Turismo Geológico, January).
2. Scientific papers on Geoparks/Geopark fossils published in *Enseñanza de las Ciencias de la Tierra*, *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, XXX Jornadas de Paleontología de la Sociedad Española de Paleontología, *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, *Historical Biology*.
3. Interviews concerning the Maestrazgo Geopark's activities in the following stations: SER, COPE, Onda Cero, Aragón TV, Aragón Radio.
4. News dealing with Geopark's activities in Diario de Teruel newspaper.
5. Sharing Maestrazgo Geopark management experiences with Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) delegates: Hon. Job Ndugai, Deputy Board Chairman NCAA, Member of Parliament; Ms Margereth Kaisoe, Laetoli Footprints Project; Mr Donatius Kamamba, Board Member NCAA, Director of the Antiquities Division at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in Tanzania; Dr David Mrisho, Board Member NCAA, St. Augustine University of Tanzania. 19-23 January.
6. Sharing Maestrazgo Geopark management experiences with Cecilia Muñiz. (Geoparque Global Grutas del Palacio, Uruguay). September.
7. Sharing Maestrazgo Geopark management experiences with Karina Lucia Garcia (Brazilian PhD student, Director: José Brilha). January.

### Networking

8. Participation in GGN Newsletter, 2014, issue 1.
9. Participation in the EGN AC meeting in Wernigerode (Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen, Germany). September.
10. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN CC meeting in Wernigerode (Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen, Germany). September.
11. Coordination of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee.
12. Participation in the Ordinary Meeting of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee in Cañamero, Geoparque Villuercas-Ibores-Jara, October 2014.



13. Participation in the 1st Workshop of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee in Guadalupe, Geoparque Villuercas-Ibores-Jara, October 2014.
14. Coordination of the book: Wonders of ancient life. Fossils from European Geoparks.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. Agreement to organize the VIII Clcloturista "Geoparque del Maestrazgo". February.
16. Agreement of collaboration ADEMA/CAIRE-Geoparque Maestrazgo. February.
17. Aragonia 2014 Award to Maestrazgo Geopark. December.
18. Celebration of the Feasts of Winter (dealing with the cultural use of fire) in the Maestrazgo Cultural Park. January.
19. Presentation of the book "El Alma en Llamas" in Estercuel (Maestrazgo Geopark). January.

# **MAGMA GEOPARK, NORWAY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Testing of Geopark tours, three hours tours with 42 people involved. Testing of packages with tourist guide and food packages.
2. Survey for development of local products and local menus through the GEOfood project together with GGN Geoparks Rokua and Odsherred and Reykjanes Geopark project. Meetings with local producers, chefs and restaurants.
3. Schedule of free Magma Tours for 2015 and advertising on the web page.
4. Guided tours with presentation of Georoutes app to companies as The Norwegian Road Government and ENI in Egersund and Sogndalstrand.
5. GEOvisual project: Virtual exhibition in Magma Geopark, financed by the Norwegian UNESCO Commission, local meetings with museum partners and agreement for setting up the exhibition demo. 18<sup>th</sup> March VR demonstration.
6. GEOvisual application to the Norwegian UNESCO Commission and Nordplus for developing the exhibition further, including new partners.
7. Added Value project: Inspection of the visit mines Ørdsalen and Gursli.

### **Networking**

8. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 10, March 2013.
9. Participation in the Global Geopark Conference In Stonehammer Geopark, Canada, September 2014.
10. Poster presentation of the Georoutes app at the Geological society Winter Conference, January 2015.
11. Participation in the first Forum of Geoparks National Networks in Portugal, Terra de Cavaleiros, February 2015.
12. Successful Northern Periphery application with a total budget of 1,75 mill EURO: "Drifting Apart" Together with Causeway Coast Glens Heritage Trust and GGN Geoparks: Marble Arch Caves, Shetland Geopark and Stonehammer Geopark.
13. Erasmus+ planning meeting with Sesia Val Grande Geopark and Torino University in February 2015.

### **Activity by Partner**

14. Discussion with tourism professionals and local chefs about the inclusion of food packages in outdoor activities in Magma Geopark.
15. Planned Outdoor Recreation Year with the Outdoor organisation.

# **MARBLE ARCH CAVES GLOBAL GEOPARK, IRELAND / UK**

## **Progress Report, September 2014 to March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. A new exhibition was installed at the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre with significant extra space provided for the wider Global Geoparks Network.
2. The Cavan Burren Park won a number of awards in 2014 and in 2015 including the RDS Community Woodlands Award and the prestigious Best Heritage Project Award from the Local Authority Members Association of Ireland.
3. Marble Arch Caves were listed as one of the Top 100 Geosites in the UK and Ireland by the Geological Society of London, and received a large amount of coverage in both local and national press.
4. Upgrade of the Cuilcagh Mountain Path with €250,000 funding under EU INTERREG IVA. This section of the long distance Cuilcagh Way crosses a Special Area of Conservation consisting of active blanket bog and montane heath. The path upgrade will prevent habitat erosion in the SAC by walkers.
5. The Geopark continues to maintain a strong presence on social media with an increasing number of likes on Facebook and followers on Twitter.
6. Promotion of the Geopark at the World Travel Market with the three other Irish Global Geoparks in November.
7. The Geopark has delivered another comprehensive events programme with successful annual events such as the Geopark Gourmet Tour and the Cuilcagh Mountain Jeep Safaris taking place as well as new additions.
8. A variety of educational programmes have been delivered with over 12,000 school pupils visiting the Geopark in the summer season.
9. The popular lakeside footpaths in Ely Lodge Forest have been upgraded to provide wheelchair access for disabled people.
10. An exhibition of art from the Geopark by members of the public was opened in Mullagh on 15<sup>th</sup> January.
11. 2014 was the busiest year for visitors at Marble Arch Caves since 1985.

### **Networking**

12. The Geopark was represented at the EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Geopark Harz Braunsweiger Land in Germany in September 2014.
13. Members of the Geopark Management Team attended the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks in Stonehammer Geopark, Canada.
14. Hosting of the Irish Global Geoparks Annual Seminar with representations from all three Irish Global Geoparks and four Aspiring Geoparks.

15. Participation in the UK Geoparks Forum remote meetings to assess new applications for Global Geopark status.
16. Participation in the First Meeting of the National Fora of Global Geoparks in the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, Portugal.
17. The EU-funded INTERREG VB NPP Drifting Apart Project has recently been approved with other Global Geopark and Aspiring Geopark partners from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Norway, Iceland, Canada and Greenland.
18. The Geopark was represented at a meeting of the Irish Geoparks Forum at the offices of the Geological Survey of Ireland in Dublin on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Activity by Partners**

19. A new geological map of the Geopark has been produced with the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and the Geological Survey of Ireland.
20. The activities of the Geopark were promoted by the Geological Survey of Ireland at the Geoscience 2014 conference in Dublin Castle.
21. Meetings were held with the Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment to discuss the potential for new schools education programmes about the Geopark.
22. Archaeologists from several universities in the USA carried out field research work in the Cavan Burren Park in 2014 as part of the project to establish a research station in the border region of Ireland. As part of that process, the President of the international Organisation of Biological Field Stations visited the Geopark in January 2015.
23. Derrygonnelly Community Association launched an economic appraisal of their village on 24<sup>th</sup> January that will include the economic benefits of the Geopark.
24. Mountain Rescue Ireland held their Annual General Meeting in the Geopark on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and a reception was held for rescue teams from all over Ireland in the Marble Arch Caves visitor centre.
25. The Geopark has been engaging in a series of meetings with local universities to explore further opportunities for cooperation especially in the development of multi media information and educational tools.
26. The Geopark hosted the inaugural meeting of the Marlbank Neighbourhood Watch at Marble Arch Caves on 24<sup>th</sup> February.
27. The Geopark is cooperating with its sister Recreation, Tourism and Economic Development sections in Fermanagh District Council to explore the potential for new off road cycling facilities in the region.
28. On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, Fermanagh District Council, the founding management authority of the Geopark, will cease to exist when it is officially incorporated into the new Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

# MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK, FRANCE

## Progress Report, September 2014 - March 2015

### GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

1. Opening of the interpretative installation inside the dairy cooperative, Trévignin, 6<sup>th</sup> September
2. Closing meeting of the forest's biodiversity program, Aillon, 23<sup>rd</sup> September
3. Conference on Geoparks, Parks' House, Chambéry, 3<sup>rd</sup> October
4. Installation of information panels on the climbing sites (practise and environmental, heritage information), October
5. Welcoming of the Prime Minister and the Minister for Agriculture: agro-ecology, tourism, 16<sup>th</sup> October
6. Wild River Chéran's event, 18<sup>th</sup> October
7. "Share the Lake Annecy", geological story of the lake, ways of water, landscape interpretation. 19<sup>th</sup> October
8. Participation to the "Grand Bivouac" festival (international travelling festival), Albertville, Projection of the "The 14 2000m summits in Bauges", 17-19<sup>th</sup> October.
9. Approval of the touristic strategy for the Geopark, 28<sup>th</sup> October
10. "Plant the landscape", local plants selling and information, 8<sup>th</sup> November
11. Day of the Night. Light pollution, night birds, bats, 8<sup>th</sup> November
12. Tourism observatory restitution, 25<sup>th</sup> November
13. Seminary on Geopark strategy 2015-2020 with the Executive Board, 29<sup>th</sup> November
14. Moving in the new extension of the Geopark head office, 5<sup>th</sup> December
15. Educational tour on wild River Chéran for B&Bs and environmental education teachers, 10<sup>th</sup> December
16. Geopark team seminar, Geopark strategy 2015-2020, 15-16<sup>th</sup> December
17. Geopark Selected for a new agro-environmental program inside the Common Agricultural Policy 2015-2020, 22<sup>nd</sup> January
18. Intercommunal Urban plan study for the Geopark centre area, February, March
19. Geopark selected for a new Leader program 2015-2020, Touristic economy as a motor of the rural economy in the Bauges massif, 15<sup>th</sup> October
20. Communication on agro-ecology in the Massif des Bauges Geopark, Ministry for Agriculture, 9<sup>th</sup> February
21. Geopark and his gate-towns selected for a national project on positive energy balance territories, Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy, 9<sup>th</sup> February
22. Approbation by the steering committee of the Geopark strategy and operational goals 2015-2020, 10<sup>th</sup> February
23. Participation to the International Agriculture Show, local products promotion and agro-ecology, 24-26<sup>th</sup> February
24. Glaciers heritage exhibition (from Chablais Geopark), cultural heritage Geopark house, 25<sup>th</sup> February – 10<sup>th</sup> May
25. Restitutions of the study on energy balance, between Massif des Bauges Geopark, Annecy and Chambéry gate-towns, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 9<sup>th</sup> March
26. Restitution of the "Combe de Savoie" Landscape study, field planning, landscape and vineyards, 12<sup>th</sup> March

27. Seminar on biologic agriculture potentiality for the Massif des Bauges Geopark, 17<sup>th</sup> March
28. Find-funding forum for energy transition, Annecy, 19<sup>th</sup> March
29. Participation to the regional hiking show, Lyon, 19-22<sup>nd</sup> March

## **NETWORKING**

30. Participation to the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, Stone hammer Geopark, Saint John, Canada, 19-22<sup>nd</sup> September
31. Participation to Europac conference, Killarney, Ireland, 27<sup>th</sup> September-1<sup>st</sup> October
32. Participation to the forum for European Alpine Strategy, Lyon, 2<sup>nd</sup> October
33. Welcoming of a delegation from the Altaï Republic during the International Mountain Festival, Chambéry, 20-24<sup>th</sup> November
34. Conference on Altaï Geopark project, Chambéry, 22<sup>nd</sup> November
35. Welcoming of the young laureates of the environmental contest “Altaï-Massif des Bauges”, 21-28<sup>th</sup> November
36. Alparc General Assembly, Austria, 23-25<sup>th</sup> January
37. Meeting with the French delegation at UNESCO, Paris, and 26<sup>th</sup> February

## **ACTIVITIES BY PARTNERS**

38. Pastoral farming event. Marthod, 28<sup>th</sup> September
39. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Reserve “Bout du Lac d’Annecy”, 19<sup>th</sup> October
40. “Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps”, UNESCO World Heritage Site, steering committee, Lyon, 18<sup>th</sup> November
41. Launch of the multi-activities stadium (summer cross-country skiing and biathlon), Grand Revard resort, 22<sup>nd</sup> November
42. Christmas market, Bauges local products promotion, Chambéry, 19-21<sup>st</sup> December
43. Christmas market, Bauges local products promotion, Annecy, 11-29<sup>st</sup> December
44. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Aillons-Margeriaz, ski resort, 31<sup>st</sup> January
45. Information day on European cooperation programs 2015-2020, Région Rhône-Alpes, Lyon, 12<sup>th</sup> January
46. Elected representatives in the local farms, 28<sup>th</sup> March

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# **MOLINA-ALTO TAJO GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Participation in the meeting convened by the Spanish Mining and Geology Institute (IGME), in response to the Geopark Scientific Committee request, for the protection and adaptation of the stratotype section at Fuentelsaz. At this meeting, we created the Working Committee, constituted by all parties involved in the stratotype protection and it was decided to sign an agreement with the IGME to finance the adaptation works and the installation of informative panels. February 2015.
2. Publication of an article in the Spanish Society for the Defense of Geological and Mining Heritage (SEDPGyM) magazine, called "Re Metallica" (No. 23. July-December 2014) about the integration of Molina-Alto Tajo Geopark in the European Geoparks Network (EGN ).
3. Publication of various news about Geopark activity in different media both regional and national. September 2014-March 2015
4. Scientific Committee Geopark meeting to establish the commitments and lines of action for 2015. February 2015.
5. Geological tours to the Molina Museum and the most representative Geopark places, directed towards pupils according to their educational level. September-October 2014; February-March 2015.
6. The Molina-Alto Tajo Geopark receives the "María José Gallego" award for the best Environmental Practice awarded by the Ecologistas en Acción organization. February, 2015
7. Conclusion of several meetings with the Geopark tourism entrepreneurs to keep them up to date on the project and define next steps forward for their collaboration strategy. January 2015.
8. Running training workshops and guided tours for tourism entrepreneurs to different Geopark geological resources, January-March 2015
9. Promotion of the Geopark in the International Tourism Trade Fair in Madrid (FITUR). Presentation of the Molina-Alto Tajo Geopark and the time-lapse "Un año en el Barranco" by Miguel Ángel Langa, about "La Hoz" ravine. January 2015
10. Meeting with the Geopark Executive Committee to establish the budget, funding lines and the actions to be developed in 2015. December 2014.
11. Meeting with the Castilla-La Mancha's Agriculture Adviser, María Luisa Soriano, to discuss about Geopark 's concerns and its infrastructure maintenance. November 2014.

12. Guided geotours to the most representative places of the Molina-Alto Tajo Geopark aimed to groups and scientific associations (The Spanish Association of Landscape Architects and the JW Fulbright Association, formed by spanish former grantees of this prestigious program). October 2014.
13. Elaboration of a project to run an employment workshop called "Geopark Dynamic Agents". The aim is to train ten unemployed people to improve their employability; to assist the development of business initiatives and the promotion of an entrepreneurial spirit. The workshop has been approved by the Government of Castilla-La Mancha and will start in April. September-October 2015.
14. Preparation of the request to participate in the Spanish signposting program to post Geopark signs on motorways and national roads. September-October 2015.

### **Networking**

15. Cooperation Agreement with the Castilla-la Mancha Mountain Sports Federation to consolidate Long-Distance Trails (GR's) and standardize trails of lesser length (PR). Development of a project to mark these routes, install information panels and develop computer applications. January 2015.
16. Development of Autumn Courses in collaboration with the Provincial Government and Alcalá de Henares University (UAH) with educational activities for different groups (students and adults). Guided tours to the "Los Casares" Cave and other Geopark places. November 2014.
17. Wildlife and bird identification workshop in Geopark geological formations with Birdlife SEO organization. October 2014.
18. Agreement with Maranchon City Hall to accommodate a municipal room as Local Museum of Paleontology and Geology. September, 2014.
19. Participation in the 6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, held from September 19 to 22, 2014 in Saint John, Stonehammer Global Geopark, Canada. September 2014.
20. Molina-Alto Tajo Geopark helped to arrange the 8th International Olympiad of Earth Science (IESO), held from September 22 to 29, 2014 at the "Palacio de la Magdalena" in Santander. September 2014.

### **Activity by Partners**

21. Participation in the 1st Spanish Geoparks Committee Open Day held in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. September 2014
22. Visit the Copper Coast Geopark, in Ireland, to see how it works and the projects already underway.



# **GEOPARK MUSKAU ARCH, GERMANY - POLAND**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. expansion of the geopark partnership in the German part of Muskau Arch with the big major county town Weißwasser/O.L., and signing the contract together with the current contract partnership district Spree-Neiße (Brandenburg), district Görlitz (Saxony) and Amt Döbern-Land, December 2014
2. erection of two brown motorway signs on the motorway A 15, December 2014
3. erection of six big entrance signs with a size 3.20m x 1.60 at the entrance gates into the geopark areal in Brandenburg and preparation for the further expansion of the geopark routing system to improve the visitor management by close cooperation with the responsible authorities, September 2014
4. holding of three working group meetings with geopark guides, geopark partners and tourism service providers to prepare the EGN week and exchange experiences to improve the public perception and the touristic offers in the region, September to December 2014
5. implementation of a training course for new geopark guides in collaboration with the ministry of environment, agriculture and geology in Saxony, and revalidation of the current geopark guides, September to December 2014
6. certification event and welcome ceremony for the new and the revalidated geopark guides with invited guests, promoting the event (among other topics) by a press conference December 2014
7. participation in international tourist guides day with more than 70 hikers, February 2015
8. holding of numerous “geological holiday games” in the GeoEvent-Center in Döbern with about 100 children in the age of 6 to 14
9. closing an EU project that financed the establishment of a German–Polish cross-border information and tourism centre (345,000 €), 2012 – December 2014
10. Analysis of the accessibility of the geotouristic path “Old Mine Babina” in Poland to create accessibly activities and a common integration event in the Geopark and to develop an accessibly touristisc map in collaboration with a regional association for people with disabilities in Weißwasser/O.L., Sept. to Oct. 2014
11. common German–Polish event at the end of the year 2014, celebrating the partnership and looking back to the results of 2014, organised by the major of the town Łęknica, December 2014
12. undertaking a field trip to collect dates for an old brickyard on the polish side, ensuring material and creation of a photo-documentation, interviews with different persons to analyze the possibilities to save this object, October 2014
13. publication of the 2nd edition of GeoparkMini – a half-yearly children’s booklet with a circulation about 1,000 pieces in polish and 2,000 pieces in German

14. Participation on different fairs in Poland and Germany, for ex. at the biggest polish tourism fair TourSalon in Poznan (PL) to capture a wider public from polish touristic market, and at Reismesse Dresden, November 2014, January 2015
15. Meeting the director of the environmental department, Marshal office of the voivodship Lubuskie, to exchange ideas, plans and projects and to clarify overlapping scopes of responsibility and authority and coordination of further meetings and common projects in future, January 2015

## **Networking**

16. first consultation with the Geoparks Český Ráj and Novohrad-Nógrad on the development of a common geoguide education project, negotiating contents and components and coordinating timeframe, October 2014
17. Publishing the first English edition of geotouristic map of Muskau Arch, Dec. 2014
18. elaborating an article for the newsletter of Global Geopark Network (the text has not yet been published), subject was the International Geopark Camp held in Geopark Muskau Arch in June and July 2014, September 2014
19. execution of an three-day exchange of experiences with another cross-border Geopark, the Slovakian-Hungarian Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark, on the territory of Geopark Muskau Arch, carry out a field trip to show some geological and tourism highlights on the polish and the German side, October 2014
20. Participation in the 34th EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Wernigerode, Geopark Harz.BraunschweigerLand.Ostfalen, September 2014
21. Organisation and promotion of forthcoming exchange of an art exhibition to the Bakony-Balaton Geopark in Hungary, these artworks are components of an eight-day International Geopark Camp with self-created artworks by 23 young people from Czech, Hungary, Poland, Germany, participants of the first IGC in Geopark Muskau Arch, carried out in October 2014 and combined with a three-day visit and exchange of experiences in Geopark Bakony-Balaton
22. Participation in the network meeting of National German Geopark Network, November 2011
23. Participation in the National Forum Meeting of German Global Geoparks, discussing the latest developments of the National Forum and its activities, developing a common working plan for 2015
24. Creating and finishing the poster of National Geoparks in Germany, leaded by Geopark Muskau Arch, July - October 2014

## **Activity by Partners**

25. Organisation and execution of a sustainable major sports event in frame of the German-Polish day of geosites with more than 200 participants, October 2014

26. Promoting the geopark in the “Waldeisenbahn”-Festival of Weißwasser/O.L.  
(festival of an old industrial railway which is current used as an tourism railway)  
with more than 1.000 visitors, September 2014

# NATURTEJO GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. The Beira Baixa Intermunicipal Community, which includes municipalities from Geopark Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional, and the Portuguese Society for Innovation, together with dozens of local institutions and private companies developed the first participative action plan for the territory. This integrated strategy for development follows the priorities of the Strategy Europe 2020.
2. In the same month that Naturtejo Geopark celebrated 100 months of existence in the Global Geoparks Network assisted by UNESCO was created the first participatory business plan for 2015.
3. The Gardunha Mountain introduced a new promotional image for its most recent protected area. The Gardunha trails gather 130km in 10 pedestrian trails around the mountain. In the Naturtejo Geopark territory are highlighted the Gardunha Trail and the Marateca Trail. The MTB centre of Lourical do Campo is the starting point for 250km of signalized tracks that adventure themselves in the mountain.
4. Monsanto inselberg geosite at Naturtejo Global Geopark was for the third time the best scenario for the International Orienteering Meeting that brought in March the best runners from 15 countries to Portugal.
5. The project for the application of the transborder Nature Park of International Tagus to UNESCO Biosphere Reserve was presented in September at Idanha-a-Nova, Castelo Branco and Vila Velha de Ródão by the Institute for Nature and Forest Conservation.
6. The Traditional Dances of the Virgins, Men and Scissors from Lousa were inscribed in the National Inventory of Intangible Heritage, as proposal from the union of villages of Escalos de Cima and Lousa.
7. The Iberian Women Orienteering Tournament was held in Idanha-a-Nova under the Portugal's Championship and National Clubs Championship. This was another fine opportunity to develop the sport in the region.
8. Naturtejo Geopark in partnership with the Superior School of Technology from the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco was present in the Science, Culture and Tradition Fair in the Entrepreneurial Association of Beira Baixa promoted by the Superior School of Education from the IPCB and supported by the Gulbenkian Foundation.
9. Between the days 3 to 31 October took place an exhibit about Naturtejo Geopark in the exhibit hall of the Travel Agency "Tierra de Fuego" - Hiking -Travels, next to the Gran Via, in Madrid.
10. Súbito brand from the local company Viniregra introduced the new Geo-Wine in the Wines and Liqueurs Festival of S. Miguel d'Acha.
11. A Fam Trip for German touristic operators in Naturtejo Geopark was organized, as consequence of the promotion efforts in the German market that have been developed at the International Tourism Fair of Berlin ITB.
12. Project "Lands of Gold" of Vila Velha de Ródão wins national museology prize

13. New Naturtejo Geopark educational programmes for 2014/15 with some novelties in [www.geonaturescola.com](http://www.geonaturescola.com).
14. The Association “Trilhos do Estreito” together with Oleiros Municipality, The parish of Estreito and Naturtejo geopark hosted a geotouristic tour for Land Rovers in the Muradal Mountain called Landgeosites.

## **Networking**

15. An international project coordinated by the China University of Geosciences in Beijing is being developed by Tianzhushan Global Geopark with the technical and scientific support of its partner Naturtejo Geopark. The aim of the project is to refresh the interpretation of the remarkable geological heritage of Tianzhushan. The Tianzhushan Project involves the innovative design of about 150 information panels, geo-educational exhibitions, mascots, a website and merchandising, the training of tour guides, editing popular science texts, the production of a new promotional video and the design of a new geopark guidebook, leaflets and a tourist map in five different languages to cater for international visitors to Tianzhushan Geopark.
16. The Global Geoparks Network brochure was translated to Portuguese by Naturtejo and Azores geoparks so GGN communication can be improved in Portuguese-spoken countries.
17. Naturtejo was once again in Madrid for FITUR – International Tourism Trade Show to promote the tourism potential of geoparks together with Villuercas.Ibores.Jara Global Geopark. FITUR has been an opportunity for Naturtejo Geopark to accomplish a mission of representing the European and Global Geoparks, under the auspices of UNESCO, together with the promotion of tourist products of Naturtejo Geopark, with emphasis for lodging, restaurants and outdoor companies.
18. Naturtejo presented the stand GEOPARKS for the first time in Portugal during BTL Lisbon International Trade Show which was held between 25 February and 1 March.
19. Naturtejo successfully participated also in ITB Berlin, from 4th to 9th March, the world’s largest trade show together with other Global Geoparks, such as Tianzhushan from China, Vulkaneifel, TERRA.Vita, Harz-Braunschweiger Land-Ostfalen, and Bergstrasse from Germany, Muskau Arch from Germany and Poland, and Messel Pit World Heritage Site. The stand GEOPARKS is the GGN embassy in these major events related to tourism.
20. Submit a joint article with Tianzhushan Global Geopark in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, March 2015.
21. Naturtejo Geopark participated in the 1st Open Day of the Spanish Committee for Geoparks took place in Guadalupe, a successful organization of Villuercas Geopark (Cáceres, Spain).
22. Seminar “Geoparks: New Territories for Education, Science and Culture for the 21st century” organized by Lands of Knights Geopark with the participation of all the Portuguese geoparks

# **NORTH PENNINES GEOPARK, UNITED KINGDOM,**

## **Progress Report, October 2014 to March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Eight geotrails redrafted and reprinted covering the whole area (Feb 2015).
2. Work continuing on new geologically focused trail to High Cup Nick (geosite) (Jan 2014).
3. New interpretation in development at our Bowlees Visitor Centre. This is touch-screen, with artefacts, fossils etc. with a digital 'chip' that are placed on a pad, revealing interpretation under various themes. This is an approx. 20,000 euro project which should be completed by early April. Also, using new large screens, we are turning our panels and material from our book 'Reading the Rocks' into interpretive materials for the centre (Jan-March 2015).
4. Completion of the next phase of our electric bike network with five further locations for hire, including our Visitor Centre (Feb 2015).
5. Continuation of work with Environment Agency and Coal Authority to develop action to reduce pollution by heavy metals from historic lead and zinc mining sites.
6. Recruitment of two further graduate trainees in conservation and land management. They will gain experience of all aspects of the work of the Geopark team (Jan 2015).
7. Review of the Geodiversity Action Plan, resulting in proposals for a shorter, simpler and more focused annual document.
8. Further development of our new three year Landscape Partnership Scheme in Allen Valleys which will provide conservation and community activities of a wide range of topics in part of the Geopark (April 2014), including new trails, restoration of heritage buildings and habitat improvements.
9. Work continues on our peatland restoration programme, including blocking drainage ditches on the moors to improve these important wetlands.
10. Work continued on our 'Nectarworks' project, which aims to help communities and schools to restore and increase flower-rich habitats in order to help bumblebees and other pollinators. Wild flower seed was harvested from flower-rich banks and used to seed new wild flower areas.
11. We secured funds for further work to promote dark skies and star gazing tourism. A series of winter events is being delivered and a programme is being developed for the coming year.
12. Following our research last summer on community attitudes to the development of tourism in the Geopark, (as part of work towards the EUROPARC Charter for

Sustainable Tourism), a tourism business survey and a new visitor survey are being developed.

13. We are developing a Natural Capital Investment Plan for our area, and neighbouring Protected Landscapes, whilst leading on a national project to produce such plans. This is aimed at identifying and quantifying our natural capital and promoting private sector investment.
14. We have facilitated a new Farmer Forum, as part of our work on High Nature Value Farming.
15. Work continues with our neighbouring National Park to the north on our community archaeology project (the subject of a presentation to a previous EGN Conference).

### **Networking**

16. Participation in the UK Geopark Forum meeting in Geomon Geopark (March 2015).
17. Participation in the 34th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Germany in September 2014.
18. We received 10 delegates in our Geopark as part of the Leonardo da Vinci project 'Geo-Education in Action'. The participants came from Beigua, Arouca and Lesvos.
19. We will be sending 7 delegates to the next Leonardo meeting in Portugal at the end of March

### **Activity by Partners**

20. Delivery of the second North Pennines Walking Festival in October 2014.
21. Major bridge restoration by the National Trust at Allen Banks, bringing one of our Geotrails back into use.

# NOVOHRAD-NÓGRÁD GEOPARK, HUNGARY/SLOVAKIA

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Continuously realizing our high priority, governmental supported tourism development project. We finished building the Geopark Education, Research and Management Centre, finished building the Geopark Visitor Center. The tasks ahead by this project: building 7 new, and renew 2 study trails, placing 8 welcome board along major transport routes in the borders of the geopark, books, maps, brochures, etc.
2. Publishing news on the EGN CC 34. meeting (Harz, Germany) and the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Geoparks (Stonehammer, Canada) in the media, on the website and Facebook, September. Publishing the positive results of the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark's revalidation in press conference and National News Agency.
3. Participated in the update of the concept for the Slovakian geoparks (January, 2015). Based on this update, the national network of the geoparks will be set up in Slovakia.
4. Opening the Geopark Educational Research and Management Center in Eresztvény, Hungary (October, 2014.)
5. Started realizing our HUSK CBC project about cross-border activities, planning and creating strategies for the coming years. (GeoPart – Systematic partnership in the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark.)
6. Continued realizing our Visegrad Fund Project with 10 sectorial workshop. More than a hundred organization and municipality was attended.
7. Photographers Maraton in our cross-border area, organize by the geopark organizations and partners. More than 300 participant, uncountable visibility in the online press. More than 100.000 photo shooted in the territory along the 48 hour long programme (October, 2014.). Exhibition was opened (in February, 2015.) from the best 40 photos.
8. 3 guided geotours (October 2014, February and March 2015), and 1 guided tour on the Geotop Day (October 2014).
9. Prepared and submitted an application for the Visegrad Found (V4: Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary). The application's main theme: Cross-border programs in the Novohrad – Nógrád Geopark from September, 2015 to August, 2016. (March 2015).
10. Take part in the Earth Science "Whirlabout", main two day long, open programme of the Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary, in Budapest (September 2014).



## **Networking**

11. Participation in the 34th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Harz, Germany, September, 2014. (Erika Anderková, János Lóska, István Kéri.)
12. Participation in the 6th International Conference on Global Geoparks in Stonehammer, Canada, September, 2014. (István Kéri.)
13. Study Tour to Cesky Raj and Muskau Arch Geoparks about the topic; networking practices in different geoparks. (October, 2014.)
14. Continued realizing our Visegrad Fund Project with 10 sectorial workshop. More than a hundred organization and municipality was attended. (October, 2014 – March, 2015.)
15. The geopark was a coupling partner for an application to the Norway Grants in partnership with the Bakony-Balaton Geopark. The application was supported (February, 2015).

## **Activity by Partners**

16. In cooperation with the Hungarian Office for Mining and Geology and with one of our geologist, Péter Prakfalvi edited the books: “Biography of Gyula Varga geologist” and “The history of the coal-mining near Terény-Kiskérpuszta” (February, 2015).
17. In cooperation with the Municipality of Salgótarján organizing a guided night tour from the downtown to the Mining Museum, part of Miner Day’s programs. (September, 2014).
18. Our Slovakian and Hungarian partners finished their HUSK CBC project. They developed a 25 kilometers long study trail for hikers and bikers on the Hungarian-Slovakian border of the Geopark’s territory. They placed 50 panels with the image of the Geopark, built a belvedere, and placed many resting place along the route. (December, 2014).
19. Discussion with the Municipality of Salgótarján City, in connection with the planning of the area’s objectives in the 2014-2020 EU budget period (September, 2014).

# GEOPARK ODSHERRED, DENMARK

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. September 2014 – Geopark Odsherred admission in the EGN / GGN as the first Geopark in Denmark.
2. Celebrating the admission Global Geopark Odsherred with the local inhabitants of Odsherred Municipality, October 2014.
3. Numerous interviews and articles on the admission of Geopark Odsherred in the national and regional media, September – October 2014.
4. Closure of the process of trademark protection regarding the Geopark Odsherred logo, October 2014.
5. Visit from Estonia, 30 participants from the Jõgevamaa Koostöökoda-area wanting to hear about how to make a Geopark, October 2014.
6. Guided geotours with altogether more than 500 participants, September-October 2014.
7. Extending and further development of the smart phone app *The Landscape Created by the Ice* to be finished in spring 2015, September - December 2014.
8. Working with two schools (250 pupils) in the Geokids project giving outdoor class lessons about the geology and landscape, cultural history, art and local produce in Geopark Odsherred and finally making their own Geokids mask, October-November 2014.
9. Organizing the final elements in creating a new “Ridge Path” across the end moraines in Geopark Osherred together with the local stakeholders. The Ridge Path will be ready for inauguration in summer 2015, January-March 2015.
10. New Geopark organization from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 Geopark Odsherred was secreted from the Odsherred Municipality and the Geopark Odsherred Foundation was established. January – March 2015.
11. Coauthor on a Special Edition of the magazine “Geoviden no. 1, 2015” from the National Danish Geological Survey on Geopark Odsherred, January 2015.
12. Promoting Geopark Odsherred in Holiday Partner magazine for holiday rental houses, February 2015
13. Promoting Geopark Odsherred in tourist magazine for the local Tourist Bureau Visit Odsherred, February 2015.
14. Promoting Geopark Odsherred in the local magazine “Landliggeren” for the 25.000 holiday house owners within the Geopark. The magazine is distributed to all households, March 2015.

## **Networking**

15. Authoring an article for the European Geoparks Magazine 2015, October 2014.
16. Participation in the 35<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Paris, March 2015.
17. Participation in the Nordic GEOfood-project with Magma and Rokua Geoparks, September 2014-March 2015.

## **Activity by Partners**

18. Meeting with all potential partners (120 participants) in the Geopark-area discussing themes for the new 4-year-strategy for Geopark Odsherred, November 2014.
19. Developing partnership agreements between Geopark Odsherred and local businesses and public institutions on how to participate in the Geopark developing work and how to use the Geopark-logo, January - March 2015.
20. Developing partnership agreements with local farmers developing a Geopark-brand for their local produce. Also developing partnership agreements with local restaurants getting them to make menus and dishes with at least 50 % local produce – kind of GEOfood-dish, September 2014-march 2015.

# **ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. The Geopark Ore of the Alps has become a member of the EGN and GGN, September 2014.
2. Several articles on the Geopark in the local, regional and national media, September 2014 - March 2015.
3. Kathrin Haas (student trainee) finished her Masterwork “Mission statement and marketing concept of the Geopark “Ore of the Alps”, with a lecture in German and English in Bischofshofen / St. Veit, September - October 2014.
4. Further development on the Geopark Ore of the Alps Logo, September – October 2014.
5. Guided geotours on the ore-trail, lectures and workshops with all together more than 300 participants, September 2014 - March 2015.
6. Total amount of visitors 2014 of the four Geopark-museums (Bischofshofen, Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit) and three show mines (Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 15.085 visitors
7. 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium “European Copper Road” in Bischofshofen. The topic of the meeting was to reconstruct the prehistoric trading routes of copper in Central Europe, October 2014
8. Finalisation of the construction of the Geopark visitor centre in Bischofshofen - ski jumping area, November 2014.
9. Planning of the exhibition “The Sky disc of Nebra”, 2015 in the new visitor centre in Bischofshofen, November 2014 - March 2015.
10. An oral presentation of the Geopark “Ore of the Alps” at the GEOS meeting in Salzburg, December 2014.
11. Meeting of the tourism professionals from the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hüttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about the future of environmental programs, December 2014.
12. Public presentation of environmental programs and programs for schools by Mr. Silbergasser, the responsible person for that in the Geopark, January 2015
13. Realization of the Erz-Trophy, one of the most important ski touring events in the Alps with the “city speed up” and the “snow leopard” trophy with more than 200 participants, January 2015 .
14. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium “European Copper Road” in Salzburg. The topic of the meeting was to compare the prehistoric and historic trading routes of copper in central Europe, February-March 2015

15. Closing an EU LEADER project together with our Geopark partners in Germany, Porphyryland Sachsen and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thüringen, that financed several cooperation meetings, the application dossier, the mission statement and the marketing concept (150.000 €), March 2015.
16. Closing an EU INTEREG project together with our partner in Siegsdorf / Bavaria, that financed the construction of the visitor centre and the installation of an exhibition, (1.120.000 €), March 2015.

### **Networking**

17. Publishing the article "Copper so close to heavens" in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue..., November 2014.
18. Participation at the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Gams, EGN/GGN Geopark Pyrhon Eisenwurzen, November 2014.
19. Partnership contract between the Geopark Ore of the Alps and the University of Salzburg (Department of Geography and Geology) to initiate and support research projects and dissertations, December 2014
20. Preparation of an article for the book "Landscape and Landforms of Austria", Springer Verlag, December 2014 - March 2015.
21. Meeting at the Salzburg government with the representatives of the public funding agency and discussing the project "Public mines as therapeutic climate resorts" together with the Paracelsus University of Salzburg, December 2014 - March 2015.
22. Organisation and carrying out of the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Bischofshofen, EGN/GGN Geopark Ore of the Alps, March 2015.

### **Activity by Partners**

23. Geo-Talk together with our Geopark Partner Siegsdorf / Bavaria about special exhibitions for the future, October 2014.
24. Our Geopark Partner Porhyrland Sachsen became a new member of the National Geopark Network of Germany, October 2014.
25. Geopark-Partner cooperation meeting in Thüringen, spring 2015: The Geopark Partners Ore of the Alps, Porphyryland Sachsen and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen talk about "Geo and Wellness" and the future of the cooperation in the next supporting period 2015-2020, February 2015
26. Discussion about an interdisciplinary partner-excursion trough the Geopark Ore of the Alps for offering this excursion for schools, February 2015

## **Papuk Geopark, Croatia**

Progress report: September 2014 – March 2015

Papuk Geopark activities:

- 1.** Through Integration Project EU Natura 2000 (NIP) we built new object situated in Park Forest Jankovac. Jankovac is recognized as most visited place in Papuk Geopark and getting this object is big achievement for us. It will served as main info point for all visitors of Jankovac and wider and there is room purposed for children workshops if weather conditions doesn't allow to do it outdoor.
- 2.** At the Park Forest Jankovac we established the first path for people with disabilities. The trail is 350 m long and it starts with wheelchair ramp, passes by two lakes where we placed two piers and ends at the spring of Jankovac stream.
- 3.** Project "Gymnasium Ecological Laboratory" started to implement. The role of Papuk Geopark is to provide services of its staff in organizing and conducting workshops about environmental monitoring and GIS. The main goal of project has been achieved - interdisciplinary curriculum for gymnasium.
- 4.** We accepted invitation of representatives of College of Tourism and Management – Konjic and Municipality of Konjic to participate the initial meeting of the group of experts considering Global Geopark Network. They launched an initiative for the establishment of the first geopark in Bosnia and Hercegovina. Goran Radonic presented mechanism of applying for GGN membership and main guidance. Functioning of Papuk Geopark as member of network also presented to all participants of meeting.
- 5.** For the first time we organize 10 km uphill trail run, from Papuk Geopark info-centre towards one of the Papuk's peak. Despite late schedule (end of November) race gathered around 100 runners of all ages who enjoyed running through some of the most beautiful and scenic terrain of Papuk.
- 6.** Papuk Geopark participated in local wine touristic festival in Kutjevo which is famous regarding white wine type – Graševina. On the Papuk Geopark stall many visitors have been acquainted with Papuk Geopark and Global Geopark Network through talks, leaflets and posters.
- 7.** We conducted clearance of few geosites, the biggest action took place at most important geosite Rupnica (geological monument of nature). Maintenance of Rupnica demanded a couple of workers and whole day included scrub management and rubbish removal.
- 8.** Over the main Papuk Mt. ridge we set up six informational boards with topographic map of specific area. These panels are mostly intended to outdoor

groups such as hikers, mountain bikers, horseback riders because they can find inscribed different types of routes on the map.

**9.** Celebrating International Mountain Day 2014 the ninth trip to unknown Papuk has been organized in cooperation with Slavonian Mountaineering Association, under the auspices of Croatian Mountaineering Association. This event continues to grow and attract more and more visitors, primarily mountaineers. On this occasion we opened mountain shelter – “Kneževe vode”

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

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# PSILORITIS NATURAL PARK GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Initiation on September 2014 of reconstructions for the New Visitors Centre of Geopark at Anogia
2. Finalisation of a Leader project with the Troodos aspiring geopark of Cyprus titled “Geoproducts”, for Geoproduct development
3. Organisation of “Geocreating” exhibition in Heraklion, Crete, on 12 – 24 of October 2014 ([www.geocreating.weebly.com](http://www.geocreating.weebly.com)) as a contribution to a late EGN week event.
4. On 29 and 30 of October Geopark hosted and guided a group of seven postgraduate students and their teachers from Univ. Freie of Berlin, Germany for a study on bio- and geo-diversity of Psiloritis mountains.
5. Establishment of collaboration with local Market Shops for the development of Psiloritis Geopark, shopping card, as an output of “Geoproducts” project on November 2014.
6. On November 2014, two meetings with geopark stakeholders took place for discussing funding possibilities of geopark and coordination of common activities.
7. On December 10, 2014 geopark representatives had a meeting with the organisers of Piera Creta mountain skiing race for the collaboration and support on race development.
8. On January 20, 2015 geopark hosted a group of teachers from the school of IIS Statista Aldo Moro of Rome, who participated in an Erasmus project between Region of Crete and the School. Visit was focussed on the geoheritage of Psiloritis and the educational activities.
9. Geopark coordinator participated on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 at a Meeting on the World Heritage lists and other initiatives of UNESCO organised by the Center for Architectural Environment of Mediterranean and the Hellenic Commission for UNESCO at Chania, Crete, representing Hellenic Geopark Forum.
10. Geopark participated on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 in a meeting on the development of policies for biodiversity and the protected landscapes for the Region of Crete hosted at the Region of Crete Heraklion.

### Networking

11. Geopark hosted a delegation of 4 members from the San In Kaigan Geopark on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of October and discussed conservation and educational activities, as well as possibilities of further collaboration, and visited several geosites of the park.



12. Participation in Vikos – Aaos two day seminar on “Ne.T. Routes” projects dedicated to alternative and geo-tourism, that was hosted at Papingo on 16-17 of October 2014, presenting EGN network and Psiloritis activities.
13. Supported on October 2014 Troodos aspiring geopark for submission of applications to EGN and GGN
14. On November 26, 2014 we hosted prof. TSUCHIDA Satoshi, Dean of Educational Sciences of KAGOSHIMA Univ. of southern Japan and collaborated with the Park and the Natural History Museum on educational products.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. The Centre of Educational Activities of Anogia presented Psiloritis Natural Park to the Cultural Association of Myrtia village on November 12, 2104.
16. The Centre of Educational Activities of Anogia performed all former period several educational projects in collaboration with Geopark, and organised on December 17, a seminar for teachers on developing environmental educational products.
17. On December 2014, Hellenic Institute for Speleological Research has started implementation of a new Leader project for the promotion of Geopark in Local societies. Project is under implementation.

## **ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK, ITALY**

### **Progress Report, September 2014 - March 2015**

#### **Geopark Activities**

1. Reproposal of courses and laboratories for students;
2. Excursions in several sites of the Geopark;
3. Preparing and proposal new paths inside the natural protected areas;

#### **Networking**

4. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN CC meeting in Harz, Germany - September 2014;
5. Implementation and upgrading cartoguide of the mining civilizations in Geoparks for the EGN Mining Working Group as discussed with the partners during the last meetings (after the Harz meeting are 18 the final Geoparks participant in this group: Arouca Geopark, Bauges Massif Geopark, Cabo de Gata Geopark; Central Catalunya Geopark, Copper Coast Geopark, Fforest Fawr Geopark, Geological Mining Park of Sardinia, Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen, Idrija Geopark; Luberon Geopark, Magma Geopark, Molino Alto Tajo, Muskau Arch Geopark, North Pennines AONB, Rocca di Cerere Geopark, Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, Sobrarbe Geopark, Tuscan Mining Geopark);
6. Preparing a project proposal under EU COSME Work Programme 2014, title "*GEA – Geotourism: an holistic approach for sustainable development of rural areas and creation of green jobs*", that includes the collaboration of several european organizations and also one European & Global Geopark;
7. Preparing a project proposal under regional funds "*Rocca di Cerere Geopark: ideal destination for alternative naturalistic tourism*", that includes the collaboration of several Geoparks at National (5) and European level (3) with the support of the Chief of Earth Sciences Section of UNESCO;
8. Elaborating and realization of the new official Italian Geoparks website ([www.geoparchitaliani.it](http://www.geoparchitaliani.it)) in "responsive design" for different formats (PC, smartphone, tablet, iPad, etc..);
9. Preparing on behalf of the Italian Forum of the new edition of the Italian Geoparks Book (new graphics and layout), that will be present in the next EGN conference in Rokua Geopark
10. Participation to the Italian Geoparks Forum in Rome (February 2015);

#### **Activity by Partners**

11. Activities of the Scientific Committee of the Geopark;
12. Informative day: "*Strategy of sustainable touristic development*" - meeting with local stakeholders (20<sup>th</sup> November 2014).

Francesco Chiamonte [chiamonte@roccadicerere.eu](mailto:chiamonte@roccadicerere.eu)

# ROKUA GEOPARK, FINLAND

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Participating into the EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Geopark Harz.Braunschweiger Land.Ostfalen in September 2014. Vesa Krökki participated into the meeting. Rokua Geopark was awarded a green card as a result of the revalidation mission in June 2014. Mr Jari Nenonen was unable to attend the meeting as the Conference in Canada was upcoming soon after the CC meeting.
2. Participating to the Global Geoparks Conference in Canada in September 2015. Three persons from Rokua Geopark participated to the GGN conference: Mr. Jari Nenonen, Mr. Vesa Krökki and Mr. Mikko Kiuttu. Rokua Geopark had a stand at the Conference hall to promote the next EGN Conference.
3. Mr. Mikko Kiuttu, the Environmental teacher of Rokua Geopark was invited to visit and lecture at the local schools of Stonehammer Geopark during the GGN Conference.
4. The organization committee for the EGN 2015 Conference has had three meetings to coordinate and organize the meetings and the Conference. The call for papers was opened in January and the registration in February 2015.
5. The Scientific Committee has been formed and nominated for the EGN 2015 Conference. The first papers have been received and delivered to the scc members.
6. Several EGN 2015 Conference newsletters have been sent to promote the upcoming Conference.
7. Mr. Vesa Krökki, the Executive director of Rokua Geopark was invited to present the Geoparks network and its activities to the meeting of the Finnish Coordination Committee for UNESCO. The meeting and presentation were held in Helsinki in October 2014.
8. Ms. Kristin Rangnes and Mr. Vesa Krökki were invited to participate to the symposium of the Aspiring Geopark of Saimaa in the South-East of Finland. Rangnes gave a presentation on the GGN and EGN networks and Krökki gave a presentation on the Finnish Geoparks Committee and Rokua Geopark. November 2014
9. Ms Kristin Rangnes and Ms. Mona Holte visited Rokua Geopark in November 2014. The visit included presenting the Geopark and sharing of experiences.
10. Ms Veronika Wirthova from Czech Republic began Erasmus training at the Rokua Geopark in February 2015. Veronika has learned about the Geoparks in Czech.

11. Rokua Geopark had a two week long promotional campaign on the MTV 3 channel in the Finnish TV in December 2014.
12. The promotional Rokua Geopark brochures were renewed and reprinted in December 2014.
13. Rokua Geopark joined the Visit Oulu marketing company as a partner from the beginning of 2015. This partnership will bring the Geopark a large amount of publicity in the promotional channels of Visit Oulu Company.
14. The RGP participated into the Helsinki travel fair in January 2015.
15. Rokua Geopark started a new initiative of Geopark schools. Five local schools were nominated of Geopark schools after an application process.
16. A new four-year-long Financing agreement between the founding partners of the Geopark and Humanpolis Ltd (the company operating RGP) was negotiated and signed in autumn 2014. The agreement covers the years 2015-2018.
17. The Rokua Geopark business developing project ended in the end of year 2014. As a result of the project the Geopark has now 40 companies operating with the Geopark and using the Geopark in their promoting.

### **Networking**

18. Rokua Geopark and Qinling zhongnanshan global geopark from China made a pre-agreement on developing cooperation between the Geoparks. The pre-agreement was signed in September in GGN conference.
19. Rokua Geopark and Yandangshan global geopark from China made a pre-agreement on developing cooperation between the Geoparks. The pre-agreement was signed in October at Rokua as the delegation from Yandangshan visited Rokua.
20. Rokua Geopark is participating into the Geofood project led by Magma Geopark. During the reporting period we organized workshop for the local food producers and food users to gather information about the local food and to disseminate the Geopark information.

### **Activity by Partners**

21. A course on Geology is ongoing in the Folk High School of Lake Oulujärvi. The course is inspired and supported by the Geopark.
22. The Vaala high School from Rokua Geopark and the Gobiانchi high school from Sesia Val Grande, Italy, are cooperating. The students and teachers from Italy visited Vaala and Rokua Geopark in November 2014.

# SEZIA VAL GRANDE GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, March – September 2014

### Geopark Activities

1. 7/9/2014 Guided trip – Sostegno (BI) “Walking through rocks, grapes and apple tree”. An easy walk along the Bramaterra hills to discover the relationship between soil wine and food. Final stop at the Bramaterra museum and wine tasting event.
2. 21/9/2014 Guided trip – Rassa (VC) “Geodiversity, Biodiversity and human culture”. Alpine marbles: carbonate islands in a metamorphic sea. 2 hours walk along a beautiful alpine valley to discover the string relation between rocks and the environment. In collaboration with the alpine club.
3. 5/9/2014 Conference – Crevacuore (BI) – Crevacuore and the Supevolcano. A voyage from the hearth deep to the human culture. At the end tasting of local food.
4. 3/10/2014 Conference – Ispra (VA) – “The discover of the Sesia Supervolcano” with Professor Silvano Sinigoi.
5. 4/10/2014 Conference – Lozzolo (VC) – “From the Sesia Supervolcano to the Sesia Val Grande Geopark” with Professor Silvano Sinigoi. At the end a short walk trip to an interesting volcanic outcrop.
6. 5/10/2014 Conference – Serravalle (VC) – “From the Sesia Supervolcano to the Sesia Val Grande Geopark” with Professor Silvano Sinigoi. During the afternoon a brief walking tour of the Serravalle heritage: Romanic church, Medieval Castle, Museum.
7. 6/10/2014 Conference – Borgosesia (VC) – “geology and mountaineering ” Patagonia and more. with Professor Silvia Metzeltin: geologist, writers and climber.
8. 12/10/2014 Guided trip - Supervolcano geological guided trip from the mantle to the supervolcano caldera. As top event of planet earth week.
9. 23/10/2015 – Slow Food Congress in Turin “salone del gusto e terra madre” presenting wine and volcanos. Land with a hot soul.
10. 3/10/2014 Conference – Ispra (VA) – “The Sesia Val Grande Geopark opportunities and perspectives” with Edoardo Dellarole.
11. 4/10/2014 Conference – Roasio (VC) – “The Supervolcano under your feet” Landscape, soil and wine which make the difference.
12. 6/12/2014 Educational – NATALAB – at the Geopark info point - Decorating while recycling – Workshop for child to learn about sustainable devopment while playing.

13. 14/10/2014 Education guided trip to discover the origin of the rocks (10 to 13 years old child).
14. 13/12/2014 Educational – Prato (NO) – at the Geopark info point. Theater laboratory of Supervolcano. Discover the Supervolcano with arts, sculpture, paints, music.
15. 13/12/2014 Exposition – Prato (NO) – at the Geopark info point. Show demonstration of ancient handicraftsman that expose their masterpiece. At the end tasting event with local food.
16. 15/02/2015 Annual assembly- Crevacuore (BI) presentation of the activity and plan for the future development at the end visit to the monuments of Crevacuore.
17. Education – December and January: 2 classroom laboratory (6 to 10 years old child)
18. Education – March : classroom laboratory about mineral, geology and more (6 to 10 years old child)
19. September 2014 March 2015 – Development. Deployment of the communication plan of the geopark (logo, communication, posters, letters, website, panels, etc) with the winner company of the Geopark design contest.
20. October 2014 – Development. Development of three new geo-trekking trip within the project “Geoturismo in Valle Cannobina”
21. October 2014 – Development. Publication of the book “Tra rocce, ghiacci e acque della Val Cannobina”, geo-guide to the three geo-trekking path
22. Second half of the 2014 – Development. Conclusion of the construction work of the future Geo.museum of Gurro.
23. Promotional activity of the new educational project “Scuole al Geoparco: percorso di Educazione Ambientale nel Sesia Val Grande Geopark”
24. 15/3/2015 Educational – Mineral lab for child under the project discover your valley.
25. 26/10/2014 Guided trip – Vogogna (VB) Geological track “travel to the earth deep” to discover the extraordinary geology of the park.
26. 21/2/2015 Guided trip – Vogogna (VB) Geological track “travel to the earth deep” to discover the extraordinary geology of the park. During the XXVI day of touristic guide.

## **Networking**

27. 24-29 November 2014 - Exchange program together with Rokua Geopark. Italian students have been hosted in the Rokua Geopark and engaged in some educational activity in the geopark.

28. Collaboration with the Italian Geoparks to update the official web site of Italian Geoparks and to the second edition of the Italian geopark book.
29. Participation at the Italian Commission on Geopark in Rome – 17/2/2015
30. Participation in the 35th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Paris, France March 2014
31. Participation in the 6th Global Geoparks Conference Coordination Committee meeting in Paris, France March 2014
32. Participation at the course about valorisation of geolociacal-heritage at the Beigua Geopark as part of the program “GeoEducation in Action”

### **Activity by Partners**

33. University of Milan, Department of Earth Science “Ardito Desio”- Study and development of two news geological track (Pogallo’s Line and Lake series).
34. From October 2014 - University of Turin, Department of Earth Science: scientific collaboration on the following topics: geodiversity, geoheritage and their promotion.

# **GEOPARK SHETLAND, SCOTLAND**

## **Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Developed Geopark Shetland Business Plan 2015-18 and submitted it to the Scottish Government along with a request for ongoing financial support.
2. Worked with Shetland Environmental Education Partnership to develop a survey for Shetland teachers, to progress development of classroom resources for Environmental Science subjects.
3. Adult Learning Class 'Landscape, Geology and Geopark Shetland' led by Anderson High School Geography Teacher who is the educational representative on the Geopark Shetland Working Group.
4. Guided walk and geology workshop for RSPB WEX Explorers.
5. Geological classroom session and site visits for Anderson High School pupils with additional support needs.

### **Networking**

6. Delivered workshops on Scottish Geology in three Canadian primary schools during the Global Geoparks Conference in New Brunswick.
7. Completed working with Magma Geopark (Norway), Katla Geopark (Iceland) and Stonehammer Geopark (Canada) on the second phase of the Northern Georoutes tourism project funded by the Nordic Atlantic Cooperation Fund. A website, project app and online booking system have been developed and implemented and work to develop tourism packages and new tourist offers in Shetland is ongoing.
8. Attended the EGN CC meeting in Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen, Germany.
9. Attended and minuted the Global Geoparks Association meeting and conference in New Brunswick, Canada. Delivered presentation on 'Developing Geopark tour packages in peripheral regions – a Shetland case study'. Met partners to develop the 'Drifting Apart' project application.
10. Attended meeting of the Scottish Geoparks Partnership in Edinburgh.
11. Represented Scottish Geoparks Partnership at a meeting of the Scottish Geodiversity Forum Charter Working Group to progress implementation of tourism strand of Scottish Geodiversity Charter.



12. Worked with North West Highlands and Lochaber Geoparks to secure a prominent presence for Scottish Geoparks alongside the National Parks on the Visit Scotland website.
13. Worked with North West Highlands and Lochaber Geoparks to secure funding from Government Agency Highlands and Highlands Enterprise and recruit a one year graduate placement student to develop the social media capabilities of the Scottish Geoparks and connect with international tourist operators, beginning in spring 2015.
14. Worked with project partners to submit a successful application to the Northern Periphery Programme for the 3 year 'Drifting Apart' project to develop and utilise the geological story of the North Atlantic region. The project is led by the Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust. Partners are from Canada, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Scotland and Russia. Shetland is the administrative lead for the Scottish Geoparks in this project and will lead the work package on geotourism and education.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. Attended World Adventure Travel Summit in Killarney, Ireland and worked with Highlands and Islands Enterprises and Shetland delegates to share the learning.
16. Delivered a workshop on using digital technologies in heritage interpretation for community groups in Shetland's North Isles.
17. Completed work on the photographic guide to Shetland's rocks in partnership with local author and sent for publication.
18. Developed illustrations for a forthcoming geological guide to Geopark Shetland by local author.
19. Secured £7,000 from Creative Scotland for a Shetland Sculpture Trail in partnership with Shetland Arts Development Agency and Shetland Islands Council.
20. Worked with the Institute of Physics, the University of Glasgow, Sumburgh Head Lighthouse and Shetland Astronomical Society to develop a public event to coincide with the total eclipse of the sun on 20<sup>th</sup> March, celebrating the UNESCO International Year of Light and promoting Solar Aid.

# SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Construction projects and survey for generating new geotouristic paths in *Cerro del Hierro* Natural Monument.
2. Review of the "Management Plan of Natural Resources" of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark; to enhance the protection of geological resources.
3. Preparatory works of the interpretative exhibition at Visitor Centre *Cortijo El Berrocal*, with installation of the large fossil trunk.
4. Update of Geosites Inventory of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark.
5. Advice and sampling of mines for provisioning the Geology Hall in the *El Pedroso* village.
6. Journal of "European Finance Projects in Natural Areas"; January 22, 2015, Interpretation Centre of *Santa Ana, Guadalcanal*.
7. Journal on the "Geopark Sierra Norte de Sevilla and Geodiversity protection", for Environmental Agents of the province of Seville; Visitor Center *El Robledo (Constantina)*, March 10, 2015.
8. Journal on "The Geopark Sierra Norte de Sevilla and its geosites" for teachers of superior college *Chaves Nogales; Sevilla*, March 17, 2015.
9. XV International Congress of Geological and Mining Heritage (*Logrosán, Cáceres*, September 25 to 28, 2014).
10. Formative visit to *Cerro del Hierro* Natural Monument, of touristic guides students, Employment Studio of *Constantina*.
11. Geological route to the *Herrerias* Mine; October 18, 2014

### Networking

12. Spanish National Geoparks Committee meeting (*Villuercas-Ibores-Jara* Geopark), 22 October, 2014.
13. First Open Days of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee; *Guadalupe (Villuercas-Ibores-Jara* Geopark), October 23 – 24, 2014.
14. Course for managers of Protected Areas of Andalusia: "European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas: adherence of companies to the Charter. Andalusia Natural Park Brand Certification"; January 27 and 28, 2015, *El Pedroso*.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. Workshop on Dry Stone constructions: limekiln of *Cerro del Hierro*; October 25, 2014, (by Environmental Volunteer Network of Sierra Norte de Sevilla).

16. VI Meeting of Environmental Volunteer Groups of Andalusia Natural Spaces; November 16, 2014.

17. Reforestation works in *Constantina*; December 13, 2015, (by Environmental Volunteer Network of Sierra Norte de Sevilla).

18. I Geological Food Day (SierraTUR, Almaden de la Plata, December 14).

19. Reforestation in amphibian habitat in *La Atalaya* public forest (Cazalla de la Sierra) February 21, 2015, (by Environmental Volunteer Network of Sierra Norte de Sevilla).

# SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. **Design and installation of 4 new interpretive panels of the Geopark:** “The Bats Cave” (at the entrance of The Bats Cave), “The Speleothems” (inside The Bats Cave), “La Campiña y La Subbética Cordobesa” (panoramic view of the Guadalquivir Basin”) and the “Panoramic View of Santa Rita” (Santa Rita’s recreation area).
2. **Updating of the Web site “Ventana del Visitante” with new digital material of the Geopark.**  
<http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/servtc5/ventana/mostrarFicha.do?idEspacio=7414>
3. **Celebration of 3 Board Meetings in the Geopark:** The Delegate of the Local Government of Environment and the director of the Park meet with the representatives of different collectives and administrations linked to the Natural Park/ Geopark (mayors, landowners, entrepreneurs, etc.). At this meeting the Geopark progress and the main achievements are communicated and discussed. (September and November, 2014; February, 2015).
4. **Application to include the Word Geopark in all Welcome panels of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park.**
5. **Participation in the Spanish Geoparks Committee meeting (Cañamero, Cáceres) and in the First Open Conference of the Spanish Geoparks Committee.** (Guadalupe, Cáceres). An oral communication, “Education and social involvement in the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas” was presented, Information on the Geopark was displayed and Geopark leaflets were distributed (October 2014).
6. **Design of a mini-survey on the Geopark,** in English and Spanish, for its use in the visitor centres of Sierras Subbéticas Geopark. This survey increases visibility of the Geopark status, compiles information about the visitors knowledge on Geoparks, and provides information on the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas.
7. **Update of the leaflet-map “Geology for all”,** freely distributed in all visitor centres of Sierras Subbéticas Geopark. It includes the list and location of geosites which are interpreted *in situ* with panels, photographs of the geosites and some slogan or attractive phrases of each geosite.
8. **Restoration activities continue removing waste material in the Lanchares Quarries.**
9. **Scientific advice for the design of a permanent exhibition on the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark** (especially focused on fossils) in Cabra, very near the Subbética Green Way (the ancient railway), organised by the council of Cabra (in progress).

10. **Collaboration with the council of Carcabuey to update and improve its Historical Museum.**
11. **Writing of a project that will restore some damaged fountains situated in livestock paths of the villages Zuheros and Luque.**
12. **Removal of anchors from non-authorized climbing routes that can damage natural heritage in Sierras Subbéticas Geopark.**
13. **Updating of the Map-Guide of Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park, in collaboration with other regional ministries.**
14. **Design of the Forest Fire Prevention Plan of the public terrains of Santa Rita, where the Geopark's visitors centre is located.**
15. **Participation in the writing of Agenda 21 (a program of environmental sustainability) for the village of Doña Mencía. Participation in Europarc Geoportal, a website that shows cultural resources of natural protected areas in Spain.**  
[http://www.redeuroparc.org/geoportal\\_recursos\\_culturales.jsp](http://www.redeuroparc.org/geoportal_recursos_culturales.jsp)
17. **Internal audit ISO 14001 to check the quality of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park & Geopark facilities.**

### **Networking**

1. **Article “Cabra, Jurassic City” for the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12.**
2. **Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in Harz Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen Geopark (3-6 September 2014).**
3. **Contribution to the project GeoFOOD: draft document of the quality standards to create menus in the frame of the European Project GeoFOOD.**

### **Activity by Partners**

1. **Presentation of the book: *Underground Water in the Natural Park Sierras Subbéticas. Hydrogeology and Natural Areas*.** Included in a series of books on Hydrogeology of natural parks of Andalusia.
2. **Workshop: “Water in Sierras Subbéticas”** celebrated in Rute (29<sup>th</sup> September 2014). Organised by the Geological National Survey (IGME).
3. **Environmental Workshop for the elderly in the collaborating enterprise Cortijo de Frías (October, 2014).** The workshop included a documentary on the Geopark Sierras Subbéticas, a thematic itinerary, and several practical activities including manual arts with Jurassic fossils.

# **SOBRARBE GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015**

1. Promotion of the craft food products of the Geopark in regional fairs. September 2014
2. Organization of the annual Seminar of the Geopark. This year the Seminar was devoted to “Climate change and methodology to monitor and analyse climate changes”. It consisted in lectures and fieldtrips around the Geopark from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014.
3. Visit of students and teachers from a Secondary School of Avila in the Geopark . September-October 2014
4. Visit of students and professors of a Farm Lyceum from Bretagne (France) in order to know the project of the Geopark´s food products. October 2014
5. Presentation of the Sobrarbe Geopark at the Seminar on Geological Tourism organised by the University of Lerida in the municipality of Tremp. October 2014.
6. Organization of cooking workshops with Geopark food products. These workshops were aimed to young people over 14 years. October 2014.
7. Geological Autumn in Sobrarbe: this activity consisted of guided geological tours carried out every weekend during the autumn season. October-November 2014:
8. Organization of a field trip with local food producers from Sobrarbe Geopark in the Natural Park of Ariège (France) in order to exchange experience with the producers of the Natural Park, about promotion of local agriculture, and consumption of local products. November 2014
9. Organization of workshops on geological photography. November 2014
10. Publication of the call for proposals of the research grants of the Geopark. This grants are aimed to research works on the geology of the Geopark. November 2014
11. Participation in the National Fair of Interior Tourism INTUR, in Valladolid, to promote tourism in Sobrarbe Geopark. November 2014.
12. Publication of the Magazine “Discover Sobrarbe” in French, for its distribution in the French towns near the border with Sobrarbe, to promote tourism in the Geopark. December 2014.
13. Preparation of 30 Geological itineraries around the Geopark. December 2014.
14. Publication of an article about ecotourism and Geoparks in the Europarc magazine, through the association Turebe. December 2014
15. Cooperation in the VI Geological Olympiad of Aragon. January 2015
16. Organization of guided visits to the medieval monastery of San Victorian, located in one of the best known geological sites of the Geopark. January-December 2015
17. Participation in the tourism fair “FITUR”, in the stand of the Spanish Ministry for the environment, with the association Turebe, to promote ecotourism in the Man and Biosphere Reserves and in the Geoparks. January 2015.

18. Organization of a fieldtrip on archaeological surveys for young people over 14 years. February 2015.
19. Preparation of a Project for the study and dissemination of the pastoralism in the World Heritage Site "Pirineos Monte Perdido", and two projects to access to several caves with rock art, in the World Heritage Site "Rock art of the Mediterranean Arc", located inside the Geopark. February 2015.
20. Training course for Geological Heritage guides of Sobrarbe Geopark: It took place between the months of October 2014 and February 2015. 35 students have worked the theoretical framework and general concepts as the composition of the Earth, formation processes of the mountains and landscape modeling, and more specific ones as Pyrenees and Sobrarbe Geopark geology and Geoconservation concepts, among others. This training course is aimed to qualify people who in the exercise of their professional activity uses or wants to use geological heritage of Sobrarbe as social, cultural and economic resource, presenting the geological heritage of Sobrarbe as a factor of integral development, promoting the emergence of new sources of employment in our country and the birth of new business projects related to the geological heritage.

### **Networking**

21. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN Committee Meeting in Hartz Geopark. September 2014
22. Preparation of an article of the GGN Newsletter for GGN Conference. September 2014:
23. Participation in the Magazine nº 12 of the EGN by sending an article about the training course for geological heritage guides of the Sobrarbe Geopark .October 2014.
24. Participation in the EGN mining cartoguide prepared by the mining working group inside the EGN. October 2014
25. Participation in the EGN Newsletter number 3. December 2014
26. Visit of representatives of the Tremp municipality in order to know about the infrastructures, activities and working of Sobrarbe Geopark, to prepare their own application of Geopark. February 2015

### **Activity by Partners**

27. Meeting in Sobrarbe Geopark of the Tectonic Commission of the National Geological Society of Spain. September 2014.
28. Participation of Sobrarbe Geopark in the LIFE Project " "Monitoring of climate change in the high Pyrenees", with the Spanish council for scientific research. October 2014
29. Development of a cooperation project regarding the international World Heritage Site "Pirineos Monte Perdido", that is partially inside the Geopark. Like in previous years Sobrarbe Geopark was visited by representatives of several

tourism offices from the French Pyrenees, in order to learn about the tourism resources of the Spanish side of this World Heritage Site. October 2014:

30. Organization of workshops to prepare the management plan of the World Heritage Site "Pirineos Monte Perdido", in cooperation with the regional Government of Aragon and the French authorities in charge of this WHS. February 2014.
31. Participation in an INTERREG-SUDOE Project together with the University the Toulouse, Spanish council for scientific research, and Portuguese partners. March 2014.



# Swabian Alb GeoPark, Germany

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Celebration the “Day of the Geotop” in an outstanding quarry in Münsingen for the first time, September 2014.
2. Participation on an excursion concerning recultivation of abandoned quarries, September 2014.
3. Participation in a regional workshop of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association on development of a tourism concept, October 2014.
4. Inauguration of the Museum Auberlehaus in Trossingen with its famous fossil site as a new Geopark Infocentre, October 2014.
5. Meeting of the GeoPark Infocentres at the museum of prehistory in Blaubeuren, October 2014.
6. Meeting in Holzmaden concerning the future use of a posidonia shale quarry after ending commercial use, October 2014.
7. Meeting of the GeoPark advisory board at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen, November 2014.
8. Meeting of the GeoPark task force with representatives of the 10 rural districts and the Swabian Alb Tourism Association at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen, November 2014.
9. Carrying out a world café in preparation of workshops about the main objectives of the GeoPark, November 2014.
10. Annual general meeting of all members of the registered association GeoPark Swabian Alb at the Biosphere reserve information centre in Münsingen, December 2014.
11. Participation on a product training in preparation of the attendance at the tourism fair CMT, January 2014.
12. Presentation of the GeoPark to the staff of the GeoPark Infocentre Werkforum Holcim company, January 2014.
13. Presentation of the GeoPark at the winter conference of the association of stone and earth industry Baden-Württemberg in Schladming, January 2014.
14. Presentation of the GeoPark at the tourism fair CMT in Stuttgart, activity program with partners, January 2014.
15. Meeting with the association of stone and earth industry Baden-Württemberg. Decision in establishing a partnership between the two entities, January 2014.

16. Carrying out four workshops to the main objectives of the GeoPark concerning the update of GeoPark master plan, February, March 2015.
17. Preparation of the Week of the European Geoparks with probably 40 activities, February and March 2015.
18. Attending the meeting of the marketing committee of the Swabian Alb Tourism Association, February 2015.
19. Meeting of the GeoPark Infocentres at the shale adventure park in Dormettingen. Preparation of the sixth GeoPark-Festival in June, March 2015.
20. GeoPark training for staff of all GeoPark Infocentres, March 2015.
21. Release of the new brochure "Guide to the show caves on the Swabian Alb" with presentation of 12 show caves, March 2015.

### **Networking**

22. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in Geopark Harz. Braunschweiger Land. Ostfalen., September 2014
23. Setting up the website of the national forum of the European and Global Geoparks in Germany, November 2014.
24. Participation on the meeting of the National Geoparks in Korbach. Release of a joint brochure about German National and International Geoparks, November 2014.
25. Participation in the 35<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting in Paris, March 2015.

### **Activity by Partners**

26. Participation of GeoPark's partners at the Germany wide "Day of the Geotop". with different activities like guided tours or activity days, September 2014.

# TERRAS DE CAVALEIROS GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. Organization of the exposition “Paleo-Art: fossils that come to life” with participation of schools in the opening event with a total of 110 students, September 2014.
2. Educational programmes, guided geotours and pedestrian trails with altogether more than 1007 participants, organized by the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark Association, September 2014–March 2015.
3. Interviews on TV (13) and articles (44) about the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark (TCG) in national and regional media as well as a monthly Geopark newsletter, September 2014–March 2015.
4. Participation in the Eco-Schools Programme promoted by ABAE (European Blue Flag Association) with approximately 510 participants, September 2014–March 2015.
5. Organization and promotion of the UNESCO contest “Water that unites us” with the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, September 2014–March 2015.
6. Development of a documentary about the Murçós Mines geosite, September 2014–March 2015.
7. Participation in Portugal Agro Fair at FIL, Lisbon, November 2014.
8. Participation in the international event “Smart Travel 2014”, with the organization of a visit to the TCG territory included in the event program, December 2014.
9. Participation in the Tourism and Hunting Fair in Macedo de Cavaleiros and organization of the seminar “Geotourism: Territorial Development Engine” as part of this fair, with a total of 133 participants, January 2015.
10. Application for the Blue Flag Programme promoted by ABAE with nine activities, January–March 2015.
11. Application for the “Local and Regional Traditions 2015” Programme of EDP P (Energies of Portugal) entitled “Treasures of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark”, February 2015.
12. Oral presentation of the Geopark at the Careto’s house during the festivities of the *Chocalheiro* Carnival, February 2015.

13. Participation at the Lisbon Tourism Fair at FIL, Lisbon, and organization of a contest during the fair, named “Smile, you are at the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark” in partnership with the hotel industry, February–March 2015.
14. Organization of a field trip with the restaurants, hotels, cafes and bars in the TCG territory, March 2015.
15. Participation in the conference “A look at the Estrela Mountain” with a presentation about the TCG, March 2015.

### **Networking**

16. Participation in the 6<sup>th</sup> International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks in Saint John, Canada, and presentation of two papers and two posters, September 2014.
17. Organization and participation in the First Meeting of the National Fora of Geoparks in cooperation with the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, as also in the meeting of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, January 2015.
18. Participation in the 35<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, March 2015.
19. Publication of an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12 (in print).

### **Activity by Partners**

20. Geotours promoted by the Geopark Partners, September 2014–March 2015.
21. Organization of a Christmas quiz with collaboration of the local radio *Onda Viva*, and participation with the *Geo Santa Claus* in the Christmas City organized by the Municipality of Macedo de Cavaleiros, December 2014.
22. Oral presentation of the president of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks for the Municipal Assembly, December 2014.
23. Participation of the TCG in an event organized by the CERCIMAC Association to celebrate the International Day of Deficiency, December 2014.
24. Exposition about the TCG in the Maia Welcome Center promoted by the Municipality of Macedo de Cavaleiros, January 2015.
25. Divulgence of the villages of the TCG by the municipality of Macedo de Cavaleiros in Facebook, January–March 2015.
26. Collaboration with the Honey’s brotherhood in the divulgation of a photography competition about beekeeping in the Honey Fair, February 2015.
27. Participation in the 7-day-event “Week of the Partners of the Mines and Points of Geological Interest Roadmap”, with two activities in the territory of the TCG, March 2015.

# TERRA.vita Geopark, Germany

## Progress Report, September 2014 - March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. A fourth and fifth workshop were held to set up TERRA.vita's new masterplan.
2. Timo offered information sessions for **new tourguides** for the new Shark Center in the village of Bippen.
3. A new leaflet presents TERRA.vita's mayor highlights. 10.000 copies of the TERRA.map have been printed will be circulated to reach a wide audience.
4. A working group – inspired by TERRA.vita - has been set up to discuss possibilities to establish a label for regional products. Partners are the chamber of commerce, a Slow Food representative, the University of Applied Sciences of Osnabrück and a representative of a regional tourist board. In parallel a group of students of the University of Applied Sciences is working on the same issue.
5. Raising the profile of Germanies Global Geoparks at the highest level, TERRA.vita initiated a meeting with Members of Parliament in Berlin. One MoP from every Geopark took part and made sure that they will support our common goal to establish UNESCO Global Geoparks, pushing the German government to second all efforts necessary. The conservative and socialist coalition partners will present a call to the German parliament to support the issue and Marie Luise Frey as board member of the GGN Association and Hartmut as the speaker of the German Geoparks Forum will be invited to give a presentation at the federal parliament tourism committee.
6. The Silversea gallery, which was opened in April attracted about 2500 visitors, who booked a guided tour. Only 1.000 visitors were expected. Meanwhile we applied for money to improve the welcome situation at the parking lot, to professionalize our offer. Additionally an interpretational program, called the "dinosaur cave" received complete funding, to make the visit more attractive for children.
7. TERRA.vita organized a meeting with the new mayor of Wallenhorst, to push the developments on a new "Plaggenesch Centre". The Plaggenesch is an important agricultural, anthropogenic soil to be found only in North Western Germany and parts of the Netherlands. The goal is to open the centre during the international Year of Soils in 2015.
8. TERRA.vita participated was present at the common stand of Global Geoparks network at ITB in Berlin.

## **Networking**

9. Hartmut participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Global Geoparks Conference in Canada, chaired one session and contributed two oral presentations. We also joined the GGN general assembly.
10. As the new European funding directives are developing TERRA.vita has sent a letter of intent to all applying areas in the park. Three Leader groups and five so called "integrated rural development strategy groups" are preparing applications. All groups signed the letter and agreed to the following proposals of TERRA.vita: Improvement of Mobility and public transportation, development of regional products, improvement of quality of the extended hiking network, improvement of quarries and pits as windows to earths history.
11. Hartmut presented the new developments at the international stage during a meeting of German National Geoparks.
12. TERRA.vita welcomed a group from South Africa, searching for first hand information about Global geoparks.
13. Hartmut participated at the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of National Fora of Global Geoparks in Portugal, chaired by Elisabeth Silva of the Portuguese National UNESCO Commission

## **Activity by Partners**

14. The member county of Minden-Lübbecke organized a first workshop to discuss future projects. This workshop will be held annually, to set up a permanent working structure.

## **Contact :**

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# TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. September 2014 – March 2015 - 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".
2. Release 2 new brochures in Italian and English languages: geosites of the park and georesources of the park.
3. September 2014 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.
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2014 Partecipation at 34th Meeting of Coordination Committee in Werningerode in Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen Geopark members of the EGN Coordination Committee of Tuscan Mining Geopark: representative responsible for geology: Giancarlo Pagani; representative responsible for regional development: Alessandra Casini.
5. 31<sup>st</sup> of October – 2<sup>nd</sup> of November laboratory and performance at the headquarters of the geopark: Campo di Carne. Private story of the Unknown Soldier. The park is home to many cultural activities for local communities.
6. 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 University of Pavia, Tuscan Mining Geopark is a case study for Department of Economic and Management Science of University of Pavia in the meeting “From Theory to Practice: the Bridges to next generation of Performance Management and Mesurement. Speech of Alberto Francescone and Michela Magliacani (Department of Economic and Management Science of University of Pavia) “Stakeholder hengagement, govenrance accountability and performance management system: the case of Tuscan Mining Geopark.
7. 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 Bruxelles European Parliament Participation in the award ceremony of the 2014 of Tuscan Mining Park Geopark as Park of European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas. TMG is now a Park Area ECTS.

8. 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2015 Rome Partecipazione at ECTS seminar meeting of the network of italia protected areas organized by Federparchi Europarc Italy.
9. 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 Massa Marittima Presentation of the book I CODICI MINERARI nell'Europa preindustriale: archeologia e storia. (CODES MINING in the pre-industrial Europe: archeology and history). Proceedings of the Conference held in Iglesias (Sardinia) and Massa Marittima (Tuscany) organized by Tuscan Mining Geopark and Geomining Park of Sardinia.
10. 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> of March 2015 Grosseto Participation at the Meeting Maremma Buy Online in 2015 with a speech "European Charter of Sustainable Tourism. Social Governance 2.0. work in progress in the Tuscan Mining Geopark by Alessandra Casini and Fabrizio Santini.
11. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2014 – March 2015..
12. January - March 2015 Preparation of the new website of the Tuscan Mining Geopark. It is a tool designed to raise awareness of the various options of visiting the park for visitors and schools, a scientific area for further details. An educational area in order to download the handouts for teachers and for students. Very important the area social 2.0.

### **Networking**

13. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine.
14. 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 Fabriano (AN) Partecipazione at Stati Generali delle Aree Protette. La Natura: bene e risorsa per l'Italia (States General of Protected Areas. Nature: good and resource for Italy) organized by Federparchi – Europarc Italy.
15. Contact with Syndial spa, the mining company that is working for reclamation of the mining areas. The geopark will be the coordinator for the activities of enhancement within the areas to be reclaimed.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. The Tuscan Mining Geopark is working with ISPRA (Institute of Environmental Protection) of the Ministry of Environment for the organization of a technical table attended by all the Italian mining parks and museums with the aim to develop strategies and methods of the management and enhancing of mining areas.



## **VIKOS AOS GEOPARK (GREECE)- 09 2014 – 03 2015 report**

During this period Epirus S.A. as managing body of the Vikos – Aaos Geopark, implemented many actions with the aim to raise awareness of the local population regarding the establishment and the value of the Vikos-Aaos Geopark. More specifically, we implemented the following actions, many of which were mostly financed by European transnational programs. The produced printed material constitutes basic element for the documentation of the geological, natural, cultural etc values of the Vikos - Aaos Geopark area.

Specifically the following actions were done:

1. Creation of two Information Centres for the Geopark. One is founded in Papigo and the other in the area by the Voidomatis river, two strategic places regarding the touristic development of the Geopark area.

2. Creation of 5 interpretive cultural and natural thematic routes for the promotion of the Geopark's values (geology, prehistory, flora, architecture, landscape) accompanied by interpretive signs.

3. Publication of a booklet regarding the thematic routes within the limits of the Vikos – Aaos Geopark

4. Publication of a guide- book for the Vikos – Aaos Geopark

5. A two-day seminar in Papigo village in Zagori on 16 & 17 October 2014, titled: "Geoparks and Geotourism: present and future"

6. Conference in Papigo village in Zagori on October 15 2014, on "Creation of a Network for Thematic Tourism by developing Interpretive Routes"

### **Contribution towards the work of the EGN & GGN**

- Promotion of the EGN & GGN networks through the Information centers and the Eco-guide book.

### **Management structure and financial status**

- Efforts for the establishment of a more flexible operational and financial model.
- Appointment of a new staff member, specialist on cultural heritage, Georgia Kitsaki.

### **Strategic partnership**

- Consultation to Albanian stakeholders for the establishment of a common cross border Geopark along the Aaos river.
- Cooperation with the local municipalities of Zagori and Konitsa for the creation of the information centres
- Cooperation through a specific project with the Region Authority of Epirus to create all the interpretive material of the Vikos Aaos Geopark.
- Cooperation through a specific project with the Region Authority of Gjirokastra in Albania and the municipality of Pogon in Albania

### **Marketing and promotional activities**

- Release of a leaflet regarding the 5 interpretive thematic routes of the Geopark in Greek and in English
- Promotion of the Geopark through a TV program dedicated to the Greek Geopark forum and the EGN & GGN
- Release of a video to the local TV news regarding the Vikos Aaos Geopark as a member of EGN and GGN.

### **Contacts:**

Haritakis Papaioannou (biologist), Panayotis Paschos (geologist), Georgia Kitsaki (historian- archaeologist)

# VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2014–March 2015

### Geopark Activities

1. XV international conference on geological and mining heritage. Spanish Society for the defense of the geological and mining heritage. Logrosán (Villuercas-Ibores-Jara). Participation in the organization, field trips and scientific communications. September-october 2015.
2. Comenius activity with young pupils of Italy, Poland, Turkey and Spain at Deleitosa Primary School. October 2014.
3. Educative project "Geocentros" seminar in Cañamero. Field trips for the Primary Schools of the province of Cáceres. October 2014.
4. Speech about the Geopark's approach at Alicante University. November 2014.
5. Installation of eighteen Geopark's signposts on internal roads. December 2015.
6. Speech on the Spanish Parliament. Subcommittee on Employment and Social Issues. The Geopark as a model for local development. December 2015.
7. First meeting of the new Geopark's Council at the Cañamero Visitor Centre. Approbation of the 2015 Action Plan. <http://bit.ly/19beDKc>. January 2015.
8. Meeting of the Working Group Geocentros. Planification of the Educative Activity Book redaction and other activities of the educative project. January 2015.
9. Edition of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark Touristic Services Book. A service's guide for tour operators. <http://bit.ly/1AhCdtZ>. January 2015.
10. Agreement with the Juan Carlos I University of Madrid. The geopark will provide practical stages for the students. January 2015.
11. New Fossil Interpretation Centre inaugurated in Navatrasierra. It was financed by the government of Extremadura. <http://bit.ly/1C61nDf>. February 2015.
12. The geopark is awarded as Best Practices in Rural Tourism by the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and Environment. <http://bit.ly/1AfdDea>. February 2015.
13. Meeting of the Geopark Educational and Scientific Committee in Cáceres. New activities decided. <http://bit.ly/1NlpD1d>. February 2015.
14. Speeches and week activities about "Geoparks as a model for territorial management" at the International meeting of the Local Economic Development Agencies Network in Mao, Dominican Rep. March 2015.
15. The geopark on the net: Social Networks' evaluation: 1,651 followers on Twitter, @VilluercasGpark (49% increase in the last six months). 1,840 fans on Facebook, (39% increase in the last six months).

<https://www.facebook.com/GeoparqueVilluercas>. Re-launch of the main site web: [www.geoparquevilluercas.es](http://www.geoparquevilluercas.es).

## **Networking**

1. Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> EGN CC meeting in Harz Geopark, September 2014.
2. Meeting of the Spanish Geoparks Committee , SGC, in Cañamero, Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. October 2014.
3. 1st Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks Committee. Guadalupe, Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. <http://bit.ly/1GqzvqT>. 230 participants. #opengeoday14 impacts on Twitter: 856 tweets, 165.071 total audience, 917.419 impressions. Communications about the Global Geoparks Network and talk shows on heritage and conservation, social awareness, environmental education and geotourism. Field trip to the geosites around Guadalupe. October 2015.
4. Participation in the EGN Stand at the International Tourism Fair of Madrid, FITUR, with Naturtejo Global Geopark. Speeches at the stands of the Extremadura Region, the Spanish National Parks and the Agriculture and Environment Spanish Ministry. January 2015.
5. Contribution to the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 12, March 2015.
6. Meeting of the SCG coordination staff with the UNESCO National Commission, other Spanish Geoparks, representatives of the Regional Governments and representatives of the MaB Program in Spain to coordinate the relationships among public administration, geoparks and biosphere reserves in Spain. February 2015.
7. Management of the SGC siteweb <http://geoparques.eu> and @ComEspGeoparks (SGC on Twitter): 630 followers. 109% increase in the last six months.

## **Activity by Partners**

1. Promotion of a Wine Path in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara. October 2014.
2. Geopark tourism companies at INTUR Fair, Valladolid, Spain. November 2015.
3. The LEADER Group APRODERVI organizes a set of social participation activities under the Chestnut Week: geocaching, paths, seminars. <http://bit.ly/1B3BgWv>. December 2015.
4. Geopark Territorial Commission. Meetings with the Geopark tourism companies, the municipalities and the LEADER Group. <http://bit.ly/1D4gZHh>. February - March 2015.
5. Participation at the International Birdwatching Fair, Monfragüe. New product on birdwatching: Wings over the Geopark: [www.birdingvilluercasgeopark.com](http://www.birdingvilluercasgeopark.com) February 2015.
6. The LEADER Group APRODERVI: Geopark communication system. The magazine on internet: <http://bit.ly/Nn53YI>. Last issue: February 2015.

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# **VULKANEIFEL GEOPARK, GERMANY**

## **Progress Report, September 2014 – March 2015**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. weekly press information of Geopark Program in local bulletins and internet
2. press articles on Geopark Activities in local press media
3. guided excursions on local flora, fauna and geology
4. Participation at Vakanz, local tourism fair in Luxemburg
5. Participation at ITB
6. Maintenance of various Geotopes and Biotopes
7. release of new geopark calendar for winter season 2014/15. Compilation of more than 150 excursions, walks, activities
8. release of flyer on Maars of Vulkaneifel, 50.000 copies printed
9. release of Vulkaneifel magazine in English and Dutch, 40.000 copies printed
10. Vulkaneifel was rewarded as “Qualitäts Naturpark” for 5 years
11. nomination of Geotope and Biotope of the year in Vulkaneifel

### **Networking**

12. Participation in EGN AC/CC meetings in Harz and Paris
13. Networking on National Geoparks Fora, Germany
14. Meeting of working group of nature parks in Rhenania-Palatinate
15. meeting with experts, local players and schools’ representatives on environmental education
16. permanent consultations with regional tourist boards and tourist informations

### **Activities by Partners**

17. Launch of new magazine “Vulkaneifel – Heimat hautnah”, 4 issues per year, 12.000 copies
18. Workshop on environmental education (earth science) with kindergarten teachers
19. Work shops “Junior Ranger”