

ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organization of a new interpretive geotouristic activity to the discover of some geosites in Genova Valley named “The water’s jumps”.
2. Organization of a new interpretive geotouristic activity for children named “Click in the Park!”
3. Educational programmes about geology and geoconservation in Adamello Brenta Geopark for the schools of the Park’s territory (until beginning of June 2016).
4. Temporary exhibitions at the Geopark’s houses in the framework of the big event “The mystery of the mountains”, in collaboration with local tourism offices and Geopark’s municipalities.
5. Events and temporary exhibition in the framework of the project “Let’s move”, to support the research about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
6. Setting-up and realization of a new Naturalistic and Cultural exhibition about the Geopark in Cles, one of the Geopark’s municipality.
7. New interpretation and promotional panels at the Infopoint of Dimaro, Geopark’s municipality, and realization of and exhibition about the Adamello Brenta Geopark in Folgarida, the main entrance in the northern part of the Geopark.
8. Organization of tourism packages at Villa Santi, Geopark’s environmental education centre, among which a week dedicated to geology.
9. Participation with a stand for promotion of the Geopark to the “Dolomitica Brenta Bike Marathon” in the Brenta Dolomites.
10. Award “Oscar of Eco-tourism” from Legambiente, Italian Association for environment protection, to the Adamello Brenta, for the promotion of best practices about environmental sustainability within the local tourism enterprises.
11. Realization of a new publication about the autobiographical writings of the captain Felix Fahrner during the First World War, fought in the Adamello.
12. Award from Legambiente, Italian Association for environment protection, in collaboration with Federparchi, Italian Federation of Protected Areas, for the efforts of the Adamello Brenta in the dissemination of good practices about renewable energy and energy efficient.

Networking

13. Participation in the 8th Italian Geoparks Workshop “Unesco Global Geoparks: protection, valorisation and management of the geodiversity” in Pollino Geopark, Italy, July 2016.
14. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
15. Planning and carrying out of the EGN week from the 17th to the 23rd of July, which is the period of maximum touristic flow in the region.

16. Organization and carry out of the revalidation mission of the Adamello Brenta Geopark, May 2016.
17. Participation to the international project “Youth at the top”, a collective project originating from the “Mountain Environment Education in the Alpine Protected Areas” working group, organised by ALPARC and Educ’Alpes, with the organization of a new initiative named “Sound at the top”, in partnership with Denno Alpine Society and a local music school.
18. Collaboration to the project “Nature Art” with the Castle Network of Buonconsiglio.
19. Organization and carry out of a new activity in the framework of the “Trento Film Festival”, where many local schools participate to educational laboratories.
20. Participation to the “Global Day of Biodiversity” with the organization and carry out of a guided tour in the Adamello Brenta Nature Geopark.
21. Visit of a delegation from experts of Montenegro and Kosovo in the framework of the European Project “BorN - BORderless Nature. Biodiversity protection and development of Prokletije and Bjeshkët e Nemuna Natural Parks”.
22. Participation in the round table discussion “The Protected Areas from the mountain to the sea”, organized by the Culture Commission of the Trentino Alpine Society in the framework of “Trento Mountain Film Festival”.

Activity by Partners

23. Organization of a new interpretive geotouristic activity “Afternoon at Malga Nudole – a footpath for anybody”, in collaboration with Alpine Guides and in partnership with Valdaone municipality.
24. Activities of environmental education at one of the most popular Geosite of the Geopark (Tovel Lake), realized by the Science Museum of Trento.
25. Guided trips in the mountains of the Geopark by the local Alpine Guide, talking about geology, botany and history.
26. Organisation of the geotouristic activities with the Tourism Boards of the Geopark.
27. Awarding with the “Quality Park” label to two new accommodation facilities.
28. Organization of two educational/trainings for local stakeholders with the aim of spreading out the consciousness about the value of the cultural and natural Geopark’s heritage.
29. Organization of the English Summer Camp 2016 at Villa Santi, Geopark’s environmental education centre, in partnership with Avenue Linguistic Centre for children of primary school.
30. Marketing project co-funded by the Giudicarie Community, Trentino Marketing Society, local Tourism Offices for the promotion of the Geopark’s area in the main national TV programs.
31. Participation to the “Terramare” (land-sea) project, with a guided excursion at the Geosite Tovel Lake, organized by the LTER Italian network (Long Term Ecological Research).

APUAN ALPS GEOPARK (ITALY)

Progress Report, March – September 2016

Geopark activities

1. Botanical Garden “Pietro Pellegrini”: special opening during the spring FAI days (19-20 March)
2. Cycle of workshop on national parks and protected areas in favor of students from Padua University; Conservation and promotion of geodiversity in Apuan Alps Geopark (Padua, 5 April)
3. Spring count of mouflons: activity guided by Geopark Rangers for the monitoring of mouflons in the Apuan Alps
4. “A taste of Nature”, 2016 Parks Festival: photo contest, guided visit to the Botanical Garden “Pietro Pellegrini”, cooking lesson with a famous chef, music concert
5. “Cibiamoci di Parco”, edition 2016 for recommended structures for the promotion of local food
6. “The Geopark in the exercise book” contest, collection of poems, stories, interviews, recipes and drawings
7. Presentation of the Geomorphological and Neotectonic Map of the Apuan Alps, a new scientific tool presented by Academics from the Universities of Pisa and Siena, in collaboration with Apuan Alps Geopark
8. Presentation of the book "Ai piedi del Monte Sagro" and the guide-book "Equi terme-A land of waters, caves and ancient inhabitants in the heart of the Apuan Alps"
9. Workshop about the presence of the Wolf in the Apuan Alps
10. 19th edition of the Summer Solstice Festival: paintings exhibition, music performances by artists belonging to the Puccini Festival Foundation and other local groups, tasting of typical products, magic shows and performances, trekking with Park Guides
11. Extemporaneous drawing contest at the Botanical Garden in Pian della Fioba
12. “Clean up the Park” in Mosceta
13. “The trails of the wind”, a guided walk by night along the trails of San Rocchino in Stazzema
14. Bike ride from Forte dei Marmi to Levigliani of Stazzema, from the sea to the hearth of Apuan Alps Geopark
15. 15th edition of the Apuan Alps Park mountain running race
16. “Discover the Apuan Alps”, summer camps for children aged between 8 and 15 years: eleven weeks during the summer on different topics to discover the Apuan Alps
17. “Jazz and traditional music on Apuan Alps”, fourth edition, musical event in Del Freo refuge in Mosceta

18. Geo Archeo Park Open Day (Equi Terme di Fivizzano), day full of sport, wellness, nature and fun for everyone: free visit to ApuanGeolab, “palaeontologist for a day – didactic laboratory for children”, entrance to the thermal pools, rock gym, tasting of typical food
19. “The nights of Archaeology”, inauguration of a new multimedia room in the ApuanGeoLab.
20. “Apuan Alps Festival” (Careggine): a lot of events in Careggine village and guided visit at the Geopark farm with tasting of typical food

Networking

1. Attendance at the 37th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, hosted by Basque Coast Geopark (Spain)
2. Revalidation mission in Huangshan Geopark (China) by Apuan Alps Geopark delegate
3. Attendance at the 8th Workshop of Italian Geoparks (Pollino Geopark)
4. Updating Apuan Alps Geopark pages in www.apuanegeopark.it, www.apuaneturismo.it
5. Updating pages in Italian Geoparks website www.europeangeoparks.eu

Activity by Partners

1. Literary prize “Apuan Alps”: 34th edition, national award about poetry and fairy tales
2. “Discovering the Geopark”, guided visits, and excursions for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives
3. 15th edition of “Sapori” (Fivizzano), sales exhibition for the promotion of typical products, ancient crafts and geological heritage of the Park
4. Inauguration of a new shelter in Careggine for the environmental and sustainable tourism
5. Conference around climate change and inauguration of two very fascinating photo exhibitions: "The flowers of the Apuan Alps" and "Botanical Loves" organized by Biology Department of Pisa University
6. Workshop “The Alta Versilia mining Geosites: past, present and future”, organized by Earth Sciences Department of Pisa University

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AROUCA GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, March to September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Meeting of AGA General Assembly with the approbation of the activities and financial plan for 2016, March 2016.
2. The Swiss school Heilsteinschule Schweiz made a field trip in Arouca Geopark, during five days, March 2016.
3. Arouca UGG become member of the consortium "Northern Natural - Nature Tourism in the Northern Region", April 2016.
4. Arouca UGG attended the Qualifica (higher education fair), in Exponor (Porto), April 2016.
5. Arouca UGG celebrates International Day of Monuments and Sites, April 2016.
6. Arouca UGG presents its gastronomy in the VIII Tourism Workshop in ISLA - Polytechnic Institute of Management and Technology in Vila Nova de Gaia, May 2016.
7. Arouca UGG present in Iberian Tourism Fair in Guarda, May 2016.
8. Organization of several workshops inserted in Child's Day, June 2016.
9. The national TV channel 'RTP' made a program show from Arouca UGG, June 2016
10. Participation in the Official Launch of the UNESCO Chair on Geoparks, Regional Sustainable Development and Healthy Lifestyles, Vila Real 20th June 2016;
11. Organization and development several scientific field trips integrated in the national program 'Ciência Viva no Verão em Rede' (Life Science in Summer), from 15th June to 15th September 2016.
12. Promotion of the historical event 'Arouca, uma Recriação Histórica' (Arouca, a Historical Reenactment), July 2016.
13. Participation on FIA - Lisbon International Carft Fair, from 25th June to 3rd July 2016.
14. Presentation of several lectures promoted by 'Círculo Mais Democracia', from March to September 2016.
15. Active commemoration of several important days: International Day of Museums, International Day of Biodiversity, National Day of the Geologist, National Day of the Weatherman, National Day of Archaeologist, International Day of Forests and International Day of Water, from March to September 2016.

16. The Arouca Geopark – Welcome Centre – Interactive Tourism Store was attended by 4490 visitors and hosted 7.534 people by 42 events, from March to September 2016.
17. The Rocks Delivering Stones House was attended by 19.696 visitors, from March to September 2016.
18. The Weather Radar from Arouca was attended by 3.732 visitors, from March to September 2016.
19. 6.038 students visited the Arouca Geopark, under the Arouca Geopark Educational Programs, from all country from March to September 2016.
20. 1734 people from 45 groups of geotouristic visits were accompanied, by Arouca Geopark guides, from March to September 2016.
21. 164.258 people from all world visits the Paiva Walkways, from March to September.
22. Clipping of about 200 news in the local, regional, national and international media and on multiple digital platforms about Arouca UGG, from March to September 2016.

Networking

23. Arouca Geopark attended to the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in the Basque Coast Geopark, March 2016.
24. Organization and wide promotion of several activities to celebrate the EGN Week, from 21st May to 3rd June 2016.
25. Participation in the ADRIMAG 'Partnership for Geoeducation' project under Life Long Programme ERASMUS+ in Croatia meeting, March 2016.
26. Participation in an evaluation mission in Aspirin Geopark Volcano Tungurahua (Ecuador) and in a revalidation mission in Vikos-Aoos UGG (Greece), June and July 2016.

Activity by Partners

27. Arouca Geopark attended the 1st Meeting of Local Development of Community-based in Azores, May 2016.
28. The Paiva Walkways (Arouca UGG) wins the "World Travel Awards" in the category "Europe's leading tourism development project in 2016" (innovative European project on tourism development), being considered the most innovative touristic project in Europe, September 2016.
29. During the official reception of teachers and teams of Arouca and Escariz schools, Arouca Geopark organized a family trip to visit Arouca Geopark, on September 2016.

AZORES GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publication of the Geopark monthly electronic newsletters, March to September;
2. Collaboration with the “Açoriano Oriental” newspaper, publishing a page every two weeks entitled “(Geo)diversidades”, March to September;
3. Monitoring of the Azores Geopark geosites in cooperation with the Nature Guards from the Azores Natural Parks in all islands, March to September;
4. Development of several activities for general population, in partnership with the Azores Natural Parks and included in the campaign “Open Park”, with a wide diversity of environmental awareness activities, such as guided thematic trails in geosites and protected areas and different approaches within the environmental interpretations centres. In all the territory where carried out 18 activities with a total of 425 participants, from March 1st until July 31st;
5. Implementation of the Geopark School Program, integrated in the regional offer “Scholl Park”, with several environmental education activities, for all different education levels. This activity involves schools and students from all islands, and also from the Mainland and other countries, during all the scholar year. From March 1st until June 9th there were 129 activities, with 3,158 students and teachers;
6. Cooperation with the Minho University (Dep. Earth Sciences) on the Field Trip “S. Miguel Island Geodiversity”, with 17 students of the Geology degree and master, May;
7. Promotion of an online contest about the geological heritage of the archipelago, in the Azores Geopark facebook page, each month about a different island, March to September;
8. Development of the exhibition “The Azores Rocks”, displayed each month in a different partner of the Azores Geopark, March to September;
9. Second edition of the workshop “Volcanoes, Geodiversity and Geotourism: A Trilogy of the Azores Geopark”, in partnership with the Regional Association of Touristic Activities Companies (AREAT), on the island of São Miguel, involving 15 participants from 13 private tourism companies, March 8th, 9th and 11th;
10. Organization of the regional event for the “National Olympiads of Geology, 2016”, in the Azores Autonomous Region, involving 19 students in the “regional round”, from 9 schools, and from 7 islands of the archipelago. The 2 winners participated in the “national round”. These Olympiads are nationally promoted by the National Geological Society and the national winners represent Portugal in the International Earth Sciences Olympiads (IESO), March;
11. Participation at the Lisbon International Tourism Fair, with the presentation of the Azores Geopark promotional video, March;
12. Development of 11 educational activities integrated in the “Week of the Guide of the Portuguese Geological and Mines Sites Partners”, March 14th to 20th;

13. Celebration of the World Earth Day, April 22nd, with 22 activities in the archipelago and 215 participants;
14. Promotion of the radio program "Azores Geopark in 5 minutes", in the radio station "Antena 1 - Açores", twice a week, May to September;
15. Celebration of the Europe Day, with an online contest "Discover the European Geoparks", on the facebook page of the Azores Geopark, May 9th;
16. Promotion of the "2016 European Geoparks Week", May 22nd to June 7th, with 75 activities and 1,475 participants;
17. Celebration of the Children's Day in partnership with the Municipality of Ponta Delgada, São Miguel Island, June 1st;
18. Participation in the event "Rural World Fair", June 10th to 12th, on Faial Island, with a stand and the promotional sessions "Meet the Azores Geopark", addressed to students of the Professional School of Horta;
19. Participation in the national programme "Alive Science in Summer", promoted nationally in partnership with the National Network of Science Alive Centres, July 15th to September 15th The Azores Geopark organized 3 activities with the theme "All aboard with science" in partnership with other institutions of the archipelago;
20. Participation in the "EXPOMAR" exhibition, August 7th to 14th, with a promotional stand at the "Sea Week 2016", Faial Island;
21. Cooperation with the Ribeira Grande Municipality (e.g. panels) on the development of the Municipal Trail "*Caminho da Água da Gorreana*", inaugurated in August 15th.

Networking

1. Participation in the 37th Coordination Committee Meeting of the European Geoparks Network in the Basque Coast Geopark, Basque Country (Spain), March;
2. Celebration of the International Day of Monuments and Sites, with production of a video with monuments and sites of interest from geoparks around the world, April 8th;
3. Participation with promotional material of the Azores Geopark in an exhibition promoted by the Katla Geopark (Iceland) to promote the literature on UNESCO Global Geoparks, that took place in the Library of Hvolsvöllur, May to June;
4. Visit to the Madonie Geopark (Sicily, Italy), July.

Activity by Partners

1. The Azores Geopark has currently about 40 partners, including institutions and private companies. For a detailed listing and characterization of the partners activities consider checking the Azores Geopark Newsletters.

BAKONY–BALATON GEOPARK, HUNGARY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Renewal of the geological/volcanological part of the exhibition in Lavender House Visitor Centre, the Eastern Gate of the Geopark (Tihany), March 2016.
2. Installing new boards along main roads with the Bakony–Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark name and logo, March 2016.
3. Designing new panels for a geological nature trail in a disused sandstone quarry near Alsóörs village, new information boards at an old wash-house near Kővágóörs village and at the Permian/Triassic boundary near Csopak village, March 2016.
4. Participation in the establishment of the Hungarian Geoparks Committee at the Headquarters of our Geopark, March 2016.
5. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, March–September 2016.
6. Oral presentations about our Geopark at numerous schools, universities, institutes and civil organisations, March–September 2016.
7. Guided geotours with hundreds of participants, carried out by the members of the Geopark Group and the Department of Ecotourism and Environmental Education, March–September 2016.
8. Full-day geo-programme for pupils in Alsóörs village on Earth Day, April 2016.
9. Final of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Contest (for 10 elementary school teams), in cooperation with local sponsors (Pangea Association, Cartographia Ltd, Herend Porcelain Manufacture), tests, a field trip and oral presentations. A camp and a 2-day-long geotrip in the Geopark for the winners, April and June 2016.
10. On the occasion of Earth Day, Anna Knauer, Geotourism Officer of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark Group, received a Ministerial Award from the Minister of the Ministry for Agriculture for her outstanding work in promotion of our geological heritage and for collaboration with local communities, April 2016.
11. Updating the new editions of hiking maps and guides regarding the Geopark area (published by Cartographia Ltd.). The advertisement of the Geopark leading organisation with the new UNESCO Global Geopark logo is included, May 2016.
12. Submitting a new EU project on management of geosites (key sections, caves, sinkholes, geological nature conservation areas, nature trails with holistic approach, etc.) of the Geopark (about 500,000 €), June 2016.
13. Preparing and promoting of the 9th geotour-guide training course in the Southern Bakony I. region, July–August 2016.

14. Celebrating and active promoting of the 'Geological Asset of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark in 2016', assigned to the geological wonders and the community of Alsóörs village: guided geotours, quiz, field programme for pupils, etc. May–September 2016.
15. Programmes for 9 days in the Valley of Arts Festival (Kapolcs), one of the most popular summer festivals of Hungary: Geopark stand, guided geotours, children's programmes, 3D slide-show on caves, etc., July–August 2016.

Networking

16. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark (Spain), March 2016.
17. Taking and preparing for publication of EGN CC members' portrait photos, March 2016.
18. Publishing two articles in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, March 2016.
19. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week: geotours, oral presentation on volcanic UNESCO Geoparks, photo exhibition of cultural assets of the Geopark, etc., for more details please see our EGN Week report, May–June 2016.
20. Two-day-long field trip in our Geopark for 30 visitors from Idrija and Karavanke/Karawanken Geoparks (Slovenia-Austria), April 2016.
21. Participation in the submission the Danube GeoTour INTERREG DTP project on geotourism networking and development (Coordinator: Idrija UGG, other partners include 9 Geoparks, total budget: 1,665,509 EUR, BBUGG budget: 257,000 €), May 2016
22. UNESCO field revalidation of our Geopark (by Dr Marie-Luise Frey and Alessandra Casini), July 2016.
23. Participation of a student group from our partner English-Hungarian Dual Language School (Balatonalmádi) and of a colleague from the Geopark in the very well organised International Geoparkcamp "Arts Meet Geology" (Muskau Arch Geopark, Germany–Poland), with its artworks to be exhibited in the participating Geoparks, August 2016
24. Collecting and preparing for publishing the reports on European Geoparks Week 2016 and the progress reports (March–September 2016) from all the members of the EGN, August–September 2016.
25. Participating in the work of the EGN Volcanic Geoparks Working Group, creating and updating the layout design of the future e-book, titled "Volcanic Geoparks in Europe", August–September 2016.
26. Thanks to the invitation of Haute Provence UNESCO Global Geopark, our Geopark and some local producers could present themselves in a 100 sq metres booth at the 95th Lavender Fair in Digne-les-Bains, France, 24–28 August 2016.

27. Meeting decision makers in the neighbouring Vas County and their guests from Bergstrasse–Odenwald UGG (including Jutta Weber) on possible extension of our Geopark (or creating a new one?), August 2016.
28. Visit of mayors, tourism experts, etc. from the territory of Novohrad–Nógrád UNESCO Global Geopark (Hungary–Slovakia), September 2016.

Activity by Partners

29. Helping the successful application of our Geopark Partner civil organisation, Bakonyalja Barátai Association for financing a geotour-guide training course to start in September 2016 in the Southern Bakony I. region, in cooperation with the Geopark leading organisation, March 2016.
30. Reception of the finalists of the Geopark Contest by the local government of Alsóörs village, April 2016.
31. Five-day-long volunteer work (two times) at geosites (Úrkút, Gyenesdiás) by our partner Steiner School in Nemesvámos, June and September 2016.
32. New “dino-playground” for kids (large sand-box with a 1:1 replica of a dinosaur skeleton) at Forrás Guest House (Bakonyjákó village), one of our Geopark Partners, July 2016.
33. Open days (“Dino Expo”) by the Hungarian Dinosaur Fund at the only Hungarian dinosaur locality, situated in our Geopark (Iharkút): geopark stand, visiting the excavations, meeting researchers, thematic programmes, July–August 2016.
34. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by our Geopark), March–September 2016.

BASQUE COAST GEOPARK, BASQUE COUNTRY (SPAIN)

Progress Report, March 2016–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Opening of a small interpretation space on the ground floor of Lastur Hostel sited in the rural area of the Geopark. Several panels and a video show the geology and the rural life of the area.
2. Strong communication effort publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Following with our active presence in social networks as Facebook and Twitter and beginning with Instagram.
3. Celebration of European Geoparks week 2016 between the 27th of May and 5th of June. Comprehensive program and successful participation. Guided visits, opening ceremonies, talks, workshops, exhibitions, etc
4. Updating the web site www.geoparkea.com with a new chapter about Natural Spaces translated into four languages.
5. Number 8th, six-month newsletter. 9.000 units posted to all Geopark homes in July 2016 with the most important news to raise the awareness of the citizen about the Geopark.
6. VIP visits management. International Universities, International TV channels, political representatives, bloggers, scientific associations, etc
7. Organization of a very successful course called “Mountains and geology” in the Summer Courses of the University of the Basque Country, in San Sebastian.
8. Participation in the sampling field work in the K/Pg boundary carried out by experts of the University of the Basque Country and University of Laussane. Coordination of the scientific activity.
9. Signature of a new agreement with the new Postgraduate degree of the Basque university “ Quaternary: environmental changes and human trace” to promote research in the geopark.
10. Elaboration of a new school agenda for the students of the schools located in the geopark.
11. Celebration of the World Oceans Day with Kantauri Garbia Divers associations and a great number of volunteers, cleaning the seabed of the port of Mutriku. tons of waste were extracted from the seabed especially plastic.
12. Public presentation of Guided Visit season 2016, more than 500 visits offered and 50% increase of visitors. Data record of visitors in the three tourism offices of the Geopark.

13. Workshop on nest boxes for birds for children in order to know more about birds, how to build the boxes, field trip for hanging the next from the trees and track the occupancy of the nest along the next months.
14. Development of a Strategic Plan 2016-2020 for the Geopark and definition of the main work axis and the needed resources for the next four years. Different agents from the territory participated in the plan through questionnaires or workshops.
15. Special visits to the abrasion platform together with the lowest tides in March and September to know the biodiversity of this fragile area, led by an expert.
16. Collaboration with the organization of Itsas Fest Festival in San Sebastián, capital of culture 2016. The field trip of the event was held in Basque Coast Geopark.

Networking

17. Geological Survey of Colombia and Spain came to the Geopark to know our experience in order to advise new candidacies in Colombia.
18. Signature of an agreement between Geopark and Aranzadi Science Society to promote Ornitho internet portal dedicated to compile and exchange information of nature in the Basque Country.
19. Participation with two lectures in the summer course organized by Sobrarbe Global Geopark: "Geoheritage, Geotourism and geoparks". Participation in the summer course organized by the University of Cantabria with two lectures about Geoparks and geotourism.
20. Basque Coast Geopark was invited to take part in an exhibition organized by Victoria and Albert Museum of London. A replica of GSSP spike from Zumaia was sent for the exhibition which will last until 2019.
21. Revalidation and evaluation missions in Rocca de Cerere global Geopark (Sicily) and Causses de Quercy aspiring geopark (France) carried out by Asier Hilario and Leire Barriuso

Activity by Partners

22. 8th European Conference of Sustainable cities and towns held in Bilbao in April 2016 visited the Geopark in its field trip.
23. Participation in the County Tourism Permanent Group, led by County Government, among other representatives from hotel sector, museums, guide professionals, etc.
24. Collaboration with Flysch Mountain Trail in Zumaia. This event has a big media impact and more than 700 runners took part in the trail. It is organized by a volunteers association and supported by the Geopark.
25. Participation in Basque Fest (Basque Lands Festival) in Bilbao. The council of Bilbao invited the Geopark to attend the event as an attractive and important sample of the Basque Country.

BEIGUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, March – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Spring and Summer 2016
2. Two new editions of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in April 2016 (Spring) and July 2016 (Summer). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, the European Geoparks Network, etc.
3. Six issues of the monthly electronic newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site) has been uploaded. It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (<http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews>)
4. Launching of the new Beigua Geopark website in English (www.parcobeigua.it) in May 2016
5. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark and UNESCO Global Geopark recognition on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews
6. Several new road signs and interpretative panels set in the field promoting the Beigua Geopark and the UNESCO recognition – in April/May 2016
7. Developing a new conservation project for the paleontological site in Maddalena – Ponte Prina (Sassello) to preserve the fossil coral reef and the best outcrops (supported by the University of Genoa) – in April 2016
8. New information kiosk and interpretative panels to promote the geomorphological features in the Pratorotondo – Torbiera del Laione sites (blockstreams and blockfields especially) – in May 2016
9. Joining the European Geoparks Week 1st May – 5th June 2016 with several activities (please see at the EG Week 2016 report)
10. Organizing the revalidation mission in Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark, July 18th-21st 2016
11. Launching of the new BEIGUA App for smartphone (for Android and iOS) about the main features of the Geopark’s territory (geology, biology, history and cultural heritage, trails, visitor centres and infopoints, meteo, webcam, etc. (download <http://parcobeigua.it/pagina.php?id=145>) – in August 2016
12. Organization of the “Mare e Monti 2016” event: non-competitive walks along the coastal area and the mountains of the Beigua Geopark – with the collaboration of the Arenzano Municipality (September 9th – 10th – 11th 2016)

Networking

13. Attendance at the 37th EGN CC Meeting in Basque Coast Geopark (Spain) on March 16th – 19th 2016.
14. Undertaking the evaluation mission (by Maurizio Burlando) in Lombok aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia, May 17th – 20th 2016
15. Participation at the 3rd coordination meeting in Sofia - Bulgaria (April 6th – 8th 2016) and the Civil Protection conference in Città di Castello – Italy (June 3rd – 4th 2016) in the framework of the EVANDE Project (Enhancing Volunteer Awareness and education against Natural Disasters through E-learning) aims to create a new learning tool to educate and train civil protection volunteers and local authorities' staff through identification of best practices and knowledge, to develop a web platform to host e-learning courses, as well as to implement local - based dissemination and training actions. The project is developed with EU funds (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
16. Undertaking the evaluation mission (by Maurizio Burlando) in Arxan aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark, China-Inner Mongolia, July 26th – 29th 2016
17. Submission of the EGN Week 2016 report in order to produce the total EGN Week 2016 Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 38th EGN CC Meeting in English Riviera Geopark (UK) September 26th – 27th 2016
18. Submission of the Activity Progress Report March – September 2016 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 38th EGN CC Meeting in English Riviera Geopark (UK) September 26th – 27th 2016

Activities by Partners

19. Field works and researches in Beigua Geopark led by the Earth, Environment and Life Sciences Department of the University of Genoa (May - June 2016)
20. Field work in Beigua Geopark led by the Lausanne University and the Neuchâtel University (September 6th - 8th 2016)
21. Several activities have been carried out by local sports associations to enjoy some of the most interesting geological features of Geopark (canyoning, trekking, hiking, bouldering, mountain biking, orienteering).

BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Event programme with 600 guided tours (Geopark Rangers, Geopark-on-site Guides, cooperation partners)
2. Publication of 5 electronic newsletters and one printed 28pp magazine (“Geo-Naturpark aktuell”, issue 23).
3. Publication of several Geopark brochures (new: also in French)
4. Publication of the first regional hiking maps No. 5 and No. 2 in the new series from Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald in cooperation with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald
5. Publication of the first Mountainbike guidebook of the Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald
6. Participation in different workshops of the Federal Tourism Agency of Hesse related to the marketing of the destinations Odenwald (“Odenwald apple”) and Bergstraße ““Red Riesling”” in cooperation with the “Hessen Agentur” and the Ministry for the Environment
7. Contributions in hiking and biking magazines, brochures and maps
8. Public lectures about Earthquakes, Earth heritage and the Geopark within the Geopark region
9. Opening of several Geopoints (e.g. Geology of the Messel area, Wine growing in Heppenheim)
10. Preparation for MTB trails in the south-eastern part of the Geopark together with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald and planning of MTB activity events (Überwald, Kuralpe)
11. Geopark Ranger activities (esp. for schools) within the whole Geopark territory
12. Annual advanced educational training for Geopark Rangers and “Geopark-on-site” Guides: three field trips “Biological diversity within the Geopark region”, “Megaherbivores and nature conservation”, “Dukatenfalter: an endangered butterfly”, techniques of felting etc.
13. Preparation meetings for tree planting event “Geopark - Fruit Variety of the Year” in cooperation with nature conservation initiative “Streubstwiesenretter”:
14. Completed training and certificates for new group of Geopark-on-site Guides “Breuberger Land”, regular monthly meetings of the other individual groups
15. Celebration of “Schlossgraben Heidelberg” as “Geotope of the year 2016”

16. Preparation for and Revalidation mission at UNESCO Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald

Networking

17. Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine
18. Publication of contribution in EGN magazine No. 13
19. Publication of EGN Electronic Newsletters No 5 & 6
20. Presenting the UNESCO Global Geoparks on International Tourism Fair in Berlin
21. Presenting the Geopark and the Network on regional and national tourism fares (Stuttgart and Mannheim)
22. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, Spain
23. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting in English Riviera (GB) and the International Global Geoparks Conference with 2 oral presentations, membership in the Scientific Committee of the Conference
24. Revalidation mission of UNESCO Global Geopark Carnic Alps
25. Participation in the European Geoparks Week 2016
26. Participation at the International Geotope Congress in Grimma, Germany, with oral presentation
27. Regular meetings of the Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany (common activity of the 6 Global Geoparks in Germany)
28. Exchange/networking visit from delegation of UNESCO Global Geopark Odsherred, Denmark at UNESCO Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald
29. Partnership with UNESCO Global Geopark Mt. Lushan (Intercultural peony project), preparation of next project step
30. Contribution to the first UNESCO World Heritage day in Switzerland together with UNESCO WHS Abbey Lorsch (Germany) at Biosfera market of MAB Val Müstair and UNESCO WHS Abbey Val Müstair
31. Partnership with the International Forest Art Association: 3 new BankArt projects, participation in the 6. International Forest Art Conference (oral presentation) and in the 8. International Forest Art Trail (opening and Ranger workshop)

Activity by Partners

32. Participation and planning of new projects within the regularly meetings of the 4 LEADER-working groups for the new funding period 2014-2020: LAG Darmstadt-Dieburg, LAG Odenwald, LAG Neckartal-Odenwald, LAG Main4Eck

33. New light system for the old visitors mine “Grube Marie” together with the working group “Historical Mining Association Odenwald” and the city of Weinheim
34. Kick off meeting with member municipalities and Castle Network Odenwald concerning new cooperation project on castles
35. Cooperation with the Governmental District of Karlsruhe and the Ministry for the Environment, Baden-Württemberg: implementation of a Soil monument with 2 original soils, 4 panels and integrated children information in Heidelberg

BOHEMIAN PARADISE UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, CZECH REPUBLIC

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. New geo-tourist map (March - July 2016)
2. Preparation of new internet presentation of Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark (March 2016 -)
3. Geopark day – workshops for kids aimed on geology and nature, local products... ca. 500 attendants (31st July 2016)
4. Revalidation mission (June – July 2016)
5. New strategic partner: Hotel Jičín (May 2016)
6. Lectures – Tatobity, Sedmihorky, Liberec (April – August 2016)
7. **Infrastructure improvement:** “AR” with Czech Geological Survey – 3D animations for mobile devices interpreting various geological processes and phenomena – 1st animation Trosky - origin of iconic volcano, information panel already in situ (May – July 2016)
8. Excursions for home and foreign visitors (March – August 2016)
9. Preparation of projects: Spirála (preparation of development of geo-tourist trails with local partner), Nadace Preciosa (workbook for kids) (April – August 2016)
10. **Infrastructure improvement:** 5 information panels on eastern slopes of Kozákov mountain dealing with local geological phenomena (April – May 2016)
11. Golden leaf – 44th year of kids science contest, local and regional rounds, ca. 250 attendants (April – May 2016)
12. Traditional craft day – workshops for kids aimed on local traditional craftsmanship ca. 500 attendants (9th July 2016)
13. Summer camp with geologist, week of various activities for kids (August 2016)
14. **Infrastructure improvement:** New geopark gate in Nová Paka (June 2016)
15. Preparations of project of interpretation centre in Sedmihorky (April – September 2016)
16. Starting cooperation with Polish colleagues from AGH University of Science and Technology Faculty of Geology, Geophysics and Environment Protection, Department of General Geology and Geotourism (June – July 2016)
17. Consulting of various student works (March – September 2016)
18. Article about External exhibitions of Geopark for Local Action Groups (May 2016)
19. New geo-tourist magnets – “Built Your World” (March – August 2016)

20. Book “Jewels from Treasury” – minerals and precious stones of Novopacko region (April – July 2016)
21. Kids day – workshops and activities for kids, ca. 1700 attendants (11th June 2016)

Networking

1. Article for EGN magazine (April 2016)
2. EGN week – “Geo-hazards”, workshop, lectures and fieldtrips focused on 90th anniversary of Dneboh landslide, Old bohemian market – cultural event – ca. 13500 attendants (25th May – 1st June 2016)
3. Preparation of project AD-MIRA (trans-European project of geological heritage digitalization) (July - August 2016)
4. Preparation of project Danube GeoTour (project of several European geoparks aimed on geo-tourist products) (May – June 2016)
5. Apuan Alps geopark – cooperation on exhibition about geo-hazards (May 2016)
6. Collecting and preparing for publishing the reports on European Geoparks Week, the progress reports (March–September 2016)

Activity by Partners

1. Cooperation with local subject (municipality, business representatives, destination management agencies, information centre...) on tourism strategy of region in upcoming years (April – May 2016)
2. New information leaflets published by partner – local destination management agency Bohemian Paradise Association (March – September 2016)
3. Preparations of project “Paleo-park” – area focused on palaeontology and local geology of Nová Paka by partner – town of Nová Paka (March – September 2016)

BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Winners National Geographic Legacy Awards, Best Destination at ITB Berlin March 2016
2. Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark shortlisted in Best Destination category for Irish Responsible Tourism Awards. June 2016
3. EGN Week activities including a talk on cave bears in Ireland, Teddy Bears picnic, exhibition of bear bones and other cave bones
4. Filming documentary with South Korean National TV company KBS, about Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark. July 2016
5. Participation in fieldwork and teaching in the international Burren Geology Field School at Caherconnell. June 2016
6. Collaboration with the Burren Outdoor Education Centre in presenting the annual Stone, Water & Ice, introduction to the geology of the Burren, adult evening class. March 2016
7. Facilitation of fieldwork with researchers from Wesleyan University, USA on isotope studies on Pleistocene flowstone and Carboniferous brachiopod shells. July 2016
8. Geology Field trip for North Clare Historical Society. July 2016
9. Fieldwork presentation for international conference organized by Centre for Landscape Studies, NUI Galway. June 2016
10. Presentation to staff and students of the international Global Ecologies Studio at Burren College of Art. June 2016
11. National Heritage Week activities; Guided Walks and Talks for the general public at several Geosites in the Geopark. August 2016
12. Promotional video developed by the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark and the Burren Ecotourism Network published on Facebook has had 98,000 views. June 2016
13. Visit by group of international journalists to sample the Burren Food Trail. May 2016

Networking

14. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Pais Vasco, Spain, March 2016.
15. Delegation from Yunnan Province in the People's Republic of China visited the Geopark to further progress the Friendship Park Agreement signed between the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark and Shilin Geopark. June 2016

16. Submitted article for publication in EGN Magazine 14. August 2016
17. The Burren Rocks Festival centred at Aillwee Cave was our contribution to EGN Week, May 2016
18. Meeting with newly appointed geologist for the Copper Coast Geopark, Ireland to discuss promotion and future collaboration. August 2016
19. Continued growing presence on social media; increase in Likes on Facebook from April to August increased by 50% to 3,341, Twitter followers from April to August increased by 17% to 2,453

Activity by Partners

20. Launch of Burren Way Trail Wardens Project by Rural Recreation Officer of Clare Local Development Company. August 2016
21. Continuation of the GeoparkLIFE EU funded programme which focuses on the development and strengthening of partnerships with local businesses, communities and national agencies.
22. Burren Ecotourism Network shortlisted for Irish Responsible Tourism Awards. June 2016
23. Research Field Meeting on Carron Turlough Geosite organised by Burren Outdoor Education Centre in collaboration with national universities
24. Working with Failte Ireland and Clare County Council to deliver a training programme for tourism businesses in environmental and business good practice; for example: waste, water and energy management, business development, product development and marketing
25. Working with Leave No Trace Ireland and local guides to develop a Geopark based Code for visitors
26. Working with the National Disability Authority to develop Universal Access programmes at Visitor Centres and Geosites
27. Working with local tourism businesses to implement a Code of Practice in Sustainable Tourism
28. Working with local businesses to develop tourism products, such as the Burren Food Trail, the Activity Trail, the Burren Tolkien Festival and the Burren Rocks Festival
29. Working with local community groups to develop conservation initiatives on hedgerow management, bio-diversity in villages, heritage trails, and adopt a monument
30. Working with local university (NUI Galway) communities and schools on Integrated Catchment Management and Groundwater Awareness programmes
31. Working with Coach Tourism Industry and local tourism attractions on developing a sustainable plan for coach tourism management in the Geopark.

CABO DE GATA-NÍJAR GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March 2016- September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. "Geo-day" in Almeria province: the Geopark coordinated this event in collaboration with Almeria's University and the Geological and Mining Institute of Spain. This event, celebrated in each province in Spain, had a participation of 250 people in Almería, which means a significant increase of public.
2. Organisation and promotion of the EGN Week 2016. (April-May 2016)
3. Monitoring and environmental compliance control, support and collaboration in the organization of 6 sport events: I Trail san jose - La Isleta del Moro Nijar 2016, Hiking from La Almadraba Monteleiva to San José, Cyclotouristic Route ParqueNat 2016, Beach Football Provincial Tour, XXX Aguacarro 2016 , Hiking activities by the Diputación de Almeria and fishing competitions. (all along the semester)
4. Collaboration and support in the organization at the installation of the outdoor museum "Rodalquilar", at the streets of Rodalquilar, which dressed the walls of the town with pieces of local artists (sculptures, paintings, poems....etc)
5. Authorization, monitoring and environmental compliance control to audiovisual producers interested in the shooting of movies, documentaries and commercials.
6. Authorization, monitoring and environmental compliance control to Universities and Research Centres: The Geopark manages all the administrative permits to national, EU and outside EU universities and Research Centres for their field trips and research projects activities. The Geopark also provides assistance and guidance.
7. Collaboration and logistic support in the organization of cultural events: photograph exhibitions, contemporary dance festival "Contemporary Coast", music festival "Clasicos en el parque" and flamenco festival " Flamenco 340" . Also at the "Night of the Candles , alum, silver and gold" (July-September 2016)
8. Guided visits addressed to schools under the Regional Programme "The Nature and You" at the House of the Volcanos. With explanations about the geology of the geopark.
9. Participation in local and regional media. March 2016-September 2016
10. Celebration of commemorative days: World Environment Day 2016 and European Day of Parks with different activities like talks, meetings local entrepreneurs and handcrafted beer degustation.
11. Collaboration and support in the organization of all the festivities related with the "50 th Anniversary of the closing of the Rodalquilar Gold Mine", including, workshops, meetings with former mine workers and public events at the small town of Rodalquilar (May- December 2016). Also, a documentary has been made about the people who worked at the mine and all the social background that lies behind all those ten years.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0kai3hZaGk>

12. Dissemination talk about volcanology “ Deconstructing a Volcano” (May 2016) with experiments for children and explanations about how a volcano is formed, types of volcanos and the volcanism of the Cabo de Gata -Níjar Geopark

13. Organization of the workshop “ Geopark and Green entrepreneurship” (April 2016) promoting relationships between the diverse productive sectors inside the geopark territorial scope.

14. Collaboration and support in the organization of the “Threshing Party” , a weekend that celebrates the threshing season and the traditional agriculture at the geopark. During all the weekend an eco market was installed, and there were workshops about wickerworking and handcrafted brewery, guided geoturistic tours around the village, and a flamenco show (July 2016)

Networking

15. Participation in EGN Working Groups.

16. Andalusian Geoparks coordination and collaboration: with Subbéticas Geopark and Sierra Norte de Seville Geopark.

17. Constant coordination and collaboration between the Spanish geopark network.

18. Participation in the EGN meeting in Costa Vasca (Spain) March 2016

19. Participation with photographic material at the exhibition held at Sierras Subbéticas Geopark about spanish geoparks “*From Norway to Subbética by pedal stroke*”

20. Launching of the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark Instagram profile:

<https://www.instagram.com/cabodegatanijargeopark/>

User: @cabodegatanijargeopark

Activity by Partners

21. Collaboration with the Local Government of Níjar in the edition of diverse dissemination materials as brochures, triptychs , posters of diverse nature.

22. Support to the Clean Ocean Project Association in the volunteering activities carried out in the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Coastal Area.

23. Geotours and workshops of our Geopark Partners (March 2016-September 2016).

24. Coordination, monitoring , evaluation, implementation and development of the LIFE AdaptaMED project.

CARNIC ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Numerous oral presentations (Landscape development, Story of stone masonry material (greenshist), Geology of Spitzbergen)
2. Excursion to the Nassfeld in June 2016; guided by Dr. Herbert Kabon, plant fossil expert
3. Guided tour in July 2016 on the Jauken mountain and its historical mining sites
4. Guided geocultural biking tour through the villages of the upper Gailtal valley in August 2016
5. Preparatory work for recovery of macrofossil-bearing rocks from the Lammer Creek
6. Numerous reports about geopark activities in print media
7. Premiere of a TV documentation about the Gailtal and Gitschtal Valley in the vicinity of the Reißkofel mountain with a strong geological focus in Dellach/Gail in April 2016
8. TV documentation about the “green” borders of Austria with the GeoPark Carnic Alps as a centre of geology, climbing and 1st world war battle field; August 2016
9. Numerous school work shops
10. Numerous guided tours along the Geopark’s geotrails und Visitor Center
11. Application for a Feasibility Study for a World Natural Heritage Carnic Alps, March 2016
12. Submission of an Interreg V Italy-Austria project “Cross border Geopark Carnic Alps“.
13. EGN/GGN Revalidation in mid-July 2016

Networking

1. „Relaunch Geotrail Plöckenpass“; cooperation project with the Austrian Alpine Club and the Dolomitenfreunde
2. Ore trail Jauken (Historical mining); cooperation project with Nachbarschaft St. Daniel, an agricultural association
3. Cooperation with the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt: lecture program and field trips to the Geopark Carnic Alps 2016
4. Cooperation with the University of Vienna: excursion program 2016
5. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in tourism in the Gail Vally, called “Best of – Nassfeld/Pressegger See-Weißensee-Lesachtal”

6. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in nature tourism in Carinthia, called “Naturerleben Kärnten”

Activity by Partners

1. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in tourism in the Gail Valley, called “Best of – Nassfeld/Pressegger See-Weißensee-Lesachtal”
2. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in nature tourism in Carinthia, called “Naturerleben Kärnten”

CENTRAL CATALONIA GEOPARK, (CATALONIA) SPAIN

Progress Report, March 2016- September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing numerous articles, interviews, news about the Geopark especially in the magazines "Discover Catalonia" for visitors to Catalonia and France. March - September 2016.
2. Presentation a new tale of Geopark for children 1 to 5 years old.
3. Organising a cantata, and event in collaboration with the Catalan Association of music Schools and the Central Catalonia Geopark, which brought to the Manresa's Kursal theatre nearly 900 children aged 3 to 8 and their families and staged a fairy-tale on a background full of values: science was represented by a fossil, a gypsum represented the dreams and imagination, patience and effort were represented by a round stone. April 2016.
4. Publication the Geological Landscape Guide of the Geopark. This edition is especially for experts of geology. April 2016.
5. Organization of the Geologic Day in the province of Barcelona. Event held at time in whole provinces of Sapin coordinated by the Geological Society.
6. Participation in the Expo Bages Fair (Bages). May 2016.
7. Press trips focusing on the European Geoparks Week through. The aim of the visit is that reporters know the Geopark project and the activities during the EGN week. May 2016.
8. Presentation of the results of a new educational program in cooperation with de Children Council of some municipalities (Callús, Santpedor, Artés, Sallent and Sant Joan de Vilatorrada). The program consists of adding value to the geological heritage and geology of the municipalities with the aim that children are able to explain and develop audio-visual material of what they have learned. June 2016.
9. Meetings, specific work and publication a new geological touristic guide of the Geopark. February-June 2016.
10. Celebration of the XIX Spanish National Symposium on Teaching Geology at the Geopark from 11th to 16th July, 2016.

Networking

11. Celebration of the EGN Week 2016.
12. Publishing an article IN the 6th EGN newsletter, June 2016
13. Cooperation with the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark by sending pictures of our Geopark for an exhibition. May 2016.

14. Participated in a meeting within the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO. June 2016.
15. The revalidation of geopark was taken between 20 to 22 of June with Setsuya Nakada and Aniello Aloia.
16. The geopark invited Artur Sa, from Portugal (Arouca Geopark) to give a talk on education in geoparks during the XIX Spanish National Symposium. July 2016.
17. Representatives of the Geopark visited Sardinia to participate in the festivities of August 31, invited by the Barcelona Provincial Council. The president of the Geopark met the representatives of the Conzorcio del Parco Geominerario Storico e Ambientale della Sardegna to define a cross-border project. September 2016.

Activity by Partners

18. Meetings with the new political representatives of the Catalonia Government . May 2016.
19. Meetings with private companies to create new tourism products of the Geopark.

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CHABLAIS GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Introductory meetings with the National Educational Authority to discuss formal partnerships at the secondary and high school level. March 2016.
2. Public talk by Martial Dray (President of the Scientific Advisory Committee) and Sophie Justice (Geopark Coordinator), "The Geopark, what has been achieved, prospects for the future".
3. EGN Geopark Week at Yvoire, over 10 free activities aimed at children, families and adults. June 2016.
4. Introductory training courses for secondary school directors and teachers introducing the Geopark, our geosites and our educational tools. April and May 2016.
5. Geopark fieldtrip for the University of Lausanne (Lecturers, Doctoral and Masters students from the department of geography) led by Sophie Justice, Geopark Coordinator. June 2016.
6. Meeting of the Geopark Scientific Advisory Committee. June 2016.
7. Meeting with Savoie Mont Blanc, the tourism agency for the Haute Savoie and Savoie. July 2016.
8. Revalidation of the Geopark by Alex Andrasanu, Hateg Dinosaur Geopark and Francesco Chiaramonte, Rocca di Cerere Geopark. August 2016.
9. Over 40 free half day and full day outings in the Geopark animated by Geopark mediators, Tethys and coordinated by the Geopark. April - September 2016.
10. A publicity campaign of radio and newspaper adverts on local radio advertising the free outings in the Geopark. April - September 2016.
11. Decoration of five roundabouts and municipal spaces with the Geopark logo and website address. April 2016 -
12. Regular presence of the Geopark stand at the Friday night summer market in Thonon-les-Bains. Animated by a Geopark staff member and a Geopark mediator from Tethys. July-August 2016.
13. Participation in the working group for the renewal of the Ramsar wetland centre, the Pré Curieux in partnership with Evian, Evian Mineral Water, RAMSAR, the Shoreline Conservation Agency and the Haute Savoie Department.
14. Provision of geological explanations of the landscape to the Tour de France as part of the route went through the Geopark.
15. Organisation of the first "Environment Commission" meeting for 19 of our public geosites. Objective : to define a management plan for each geosite concerned. September 2016.
16. A plan of public awareness raising for the geosites of the Georoute and the wider territory began to be developed. September 2016.
17. Implementation of the Geopark Partner program of visitor attractions, hotels and accommodation, restaurant, local crafts, local produce. First training day was held in June 2016. Over 28 partners signed up since the program was launched in January

18. Installation of UNESCO Global Geopark road signs at the 10 entry points to the territory.
19. Creation of new publicity material : Geopark USB memory sticks, coats, pens and balloons.
20. Publication of our first electronic newsletter in April 2016.
21. Educational projects realised on demand by high school and junior schools.
22. Regular meetings of the Geopark Working Group.
23. Installation of a new Geopark panel in the village of Yvoire.

Networking

1. Participation in the Basque Coast Coordination Committee, March 2016 - Geopark Coordinator, Sophie Justice and the Geopark councillor, Jean-Francois Baud.
2. Participation in the annual meeting of the Geological Society of France for the vulgarisation of Earth Sciences, presentation of UNESCO Global Geoparks. April 2016.
3. Participation in a training day for French and Swiss heritage guides at the Abondance Abbey in the Geopark.
4. Cooperation projects in early stages with Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse Odenwald and Val Sesia Grande.

Activity by Partners

1. Public talk by Martial Dray (President of the Scientific Advisory Committee) and Evelyne Baptendier (Hydrogeologist) about the Water of the Chablais, Past, Present and Future at the Museum of Prehistory and Geology, Sciez. March 2016.
2. LindArt classical music festival. Free public talk by Sophie Justice on Argentina and its geology. July 2016.
3. Abondance Cheese Festival. A Geopark partner, presence of the Geopark stand. June 2016.
4. The Nordic Walking Tour of Lake Léman. Accompanied by Geopark mediators. Geopark Chablais publicity on the departure/arrival arch.
5. More than 3000 pupils participated in Geopark educational activities that were realised by our principal partner, Tethys.
6. Public excursions to discover the Geopark, such as those offered in the Water Circuit (Thonon and Evian), in the Valley d'Aulps and by boat on Lac Léman by the guides of Téthys.
7. Participation in the Pass Portes Pedestres (Théthys).
8. Geopark publicity material provided during sporting events such as the Trial des Cretes and the road cycling events such as the Cyclo sportive.
9. Launch of a new exhibition of the geology of the Alps and the Chablais at the Museum of Prehistory and Geology.

CHELMOS VOURAIKOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in several Radio broadcasts (19 March 2016, 6 April 2016).
2. Participation in the Environmental Symposium of the Union of Greek Physicists in Kalavryta (8 April 2016).
3. Article for Kathimerini's travel site, Greece Is (Greece-is.com) about the 120-year anniversary of the Diakofto-Kalavryta Rack Railway (April 2016).
4. New infrastructure (labeling, kiosks, benches, bins) in several geosites (May 2016).
5. Celebration for 120 years of the rack railway train of Diakopto-Kalavryta and the importance for the Geopark region (lectures by the Mayors of Kalavryta and Aigialeia), at the traditional building of Palaiologina, in the Municipality of Kalavryta (7 May 2016).
6. 36th Annual Crossing of Vouraikos Gorge (8 May 2016).
7. Celebration of the International Day for Biological Diversity. Workshop titled "Rack railway train-M.B. of Chelmos-Vouraikos: parallel route", at the municipality of Diakopto (22 May 2016).
8. Educational Activities and hiking tours on Geotrails (in Vouraikos Gorge) with the Schools of the protected area and the cooperation of the Environmental Education Center of Kleitoria-Akrata in order to celebrate the World Environmental Day (June 2016).
9. Participation in the Environmental Exhibition organized in Patras, in collaboration with the Management Body of Kotychi-Strofylia Wetlands (June 2016).
10. Participation in the workshop titled "The Demokritos Research Station of Environmental and Climate Data Democritus in Chelmos mountain" organized by the Institution of Nuclear and Radiological Sciences of the National Center for Scientific Research "DEMOKRITOS" (17 June 2016).

Networking

11. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
12. Participation with article in EGN Newsletter No. 6 "Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark Diakopto-Kalavryta Railway, 120 Years of Beauty and History".
13. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week 2016.
14. Participation in the workshop organized by the Vikos-Aoos Global Geopark in Ioannina (10 June 2016).
15. Videoconferencing via Skype of the Greek Forum of Geoparks (8 July 2016).

Activity by Partners

16. Participation in the “Sand collection project” of the Geopark Muskau Arch-Germany, in order to start a new exhibition and education project (August 2016).

17. Participation in the Exhibition on Katla Geopark literature and promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks in the library of Hvolsvöllur (with booklets and brochures about our geopark).

18. Participation in the Exhibition about the topics of flood, landslide and hydrogeological hazard in Apuan Alps Geopark, sending a text titled “Landslide 103 years before and ...” (April 2016).

19. Celebration of the International Day of Monuments and Sites in Azores UNESCO Global Geopark by sending informational material about our Geopark in order to contribute in a promotional video with monuments and sites of interest from all the Geoparks around the world, to share on social networks and website (April 2016).

Cilento and Vallo di Diano UNESCO Global GEOPARK **Report, March 2016 - September 2016**

During last six months Cilento and Vallo di Diano UNESCO Global 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 37 th EGN CC meeting in Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark, March 2016
2. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
3. Participation to the 8° Workshop of Italian UNESCO Global Geoparks in Pollino Geopark, July 2016
4. Submission of one paper for the 7th International conference Of UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera on September 2016.
5. Participation to the mission of revalidation Central Catalunya Global Geopark

Geopark activities

1. 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.
2. Realizing and Printed some panels that explain the Egn on geological evolution of Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the difference of different UNESCO recognition.
3. Participation in national programs television were we speak about the Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark and the EGN-GGN
4. Tour with the university students on the geosites
5. 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 theatre)
6. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark supported by Italian Ministry of Environment has finished the procedure for recognition of the Charter for European Sustainable Tourism, with the valuation mission
7. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark has opened a new exhibition of geodiversity and biodiversity in Vallo della Lucania.
8. Open the new museum in the Palaeolithic cave Camerota

Activity by Partners

9. The National Park-Geopark has organized, in August the "Hydro-geomorphological summer school, in collaboration with University of Naples and Salerno, the regional Council of Geologists.
10. Participation for LIFE project with national and international partners
11. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity

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COPPER COAST GEOPARK, IRELAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The Copper Coast Geopark Visitor Centre opened during April, again with café, exhibition of mining and social history and geology as well as a shop selling locally produced food and crafts.
2. Spring Fair and Flower Show community events in March and July
3. Articles and promotion of CCG in local and national press
4. Hosted “Words” local literary occasion
5. Visits by politicians, ambassadors and people from all parts of the globe.
6. Launch of Tellus report in the Geopark Centre by Minister for Natural Resources, Sean Kyne, TD.
7. Visits to the Geopark Centre by Actively Retired and similar groups.
8. Visits to the Geopark by Geologist groups from Ireland and Europe.
9. Engagement of Geopark Geologist
10. Events for National Heritage Week involving 3 geological and 2 biodiversity walks.
11. Biodiversity programme involving local primary schools and scout groups, sponsored by Irish Wildlife Trust, relating to pollination.
12. Assisting in preparation of geological project for Young Scientist of the Year competition

Networking

13. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, March 2016
14. Organisation of events for European Geoparks Network Week in May and June. Included Miners’ Trail Walk and usual Amateur Radio event at Tankardstown mining site.
15. Involvement in Co Waterford Public Participation Network activities, tourism bodies and planning of Comeraghs Wild Festival.
16. Engagement with several local voluntary groups and organisations
17. Visits by Geologist to Burren and Cliffs of Moher and Marble Arch Caves Geoparks to meet their teams

Activity by Partners

18. Geological Survey/Tellus aerial geophysical survey conducted over Copper Coast and surrounding areas.
19. DFBA/DREL embarking on project to extend the Anne Valley Walk
20. Waterford County Council nearing completion of the Waterford Greenway which passes nearby to the Geopark.
21. Study on formation of copper ore minerals UCC masters research student.

EL HIERRO GEOPARK, CANARY ISLANDS - SPAIN

Progress Report, March – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs, SEVATUR (San Sebastian, Spain, 4-6 march), ITB (Berlin, German, 9-13 march), B TRAVEL (Barcelona, Spain, 15-17 abril), WORKSHOP VACACIONES EN CANARIAS (Tenerife and Gran Canarias Islands, Spain, 18-19 may), TOURNATUR, sustainable development fair (Düsseldorf, German, 2-4 September).
2. Public Petition of El Hierro to Canary Islands Government about economics funds for the joint promotion of the two Geoparks of the Canary Islands, El Hierro and Lanzarote and Chinijo Archipelago. (9 March).
3. Celebration of the first Open Online Fotosub El Hierro, images and videos Competition on line. Organiced by Insular Council of El Hierro (First winner, March 2016).
4. Celebration of Youth Encounter "Disconnect" participatory Day for young people between 14 and 17 years, training workshops and hiking trails Geopark. (8 and 9 April).
5. Implementation of the Program Activities for youth YOUTH "Un Puerto de Vida, April and May 2016," consistent sets painting, educational theater, workshops, and introduction to diving.
6. Publication of the story "El Hierro and Lanzarote Geopark, will have budget from the Government of the Canary Islands to promote theirs Geoparks (12 april).
7. Public presentation of The European Geoparks Week 2016 (May 5).
8. Public Presentation of The Geolodía 2016, organized by the Cabildo Insular de El Hierro (6 May)
9. Conference "Volcanoes US Goal" by the Association of Canary Volcanoes held in the Bubble Volcánica the Ecomuseum of Guinea, and organized by the Cabildo Insular de El Hierro. (6 May)
10. Guided tour "The historical volcanism El Hierro Geopark" by the volcanologist Vicente Soler. (7 May) .30 participants.
11. Presentation of GEO & SEA Festival, sustainability meeting, place and culture in El Hierro Geopark (9 May). The festival was held within the EGN Week 2016, attended by over 1,500 people in its four main events.
12. Celebration of the Third Meeting of Hiking, beginning and end of the great European path E7 (27-30 May).

13. Celebration "Weekend Geopark El Hierro" First geotourism celebration Route Geopark with the participation of the three municipalities (partners), active tourism companies and tourism training centers. (21 May).
14. Official Presentation "Travesía a Nado Mar de las Calmas, " Fifth Edition of this wimming crossing. (Open Sea Swimming competition, swimming about volcanoes.(19 July).
15. Presentation The Open Fotosub (20th Edition). The Most Important underwater photography contest in Europe. (27 July) This edition is dedicated to biodiversity.

Networking

16. 37th EGN Meeting – Costa Vasca Geopark. Participation of El Hierro Geopark. (March).
17. Participation in the Technical Conference on Geodiversity in the Canaries. Paper "El Hierro, Geopark", lecture given by Manager (7 and 8 April).
18. Participatory Celebration table with all institutions, active tourism companies and training centers for the design of geotourism routes in El Hierro GEopark, led by Dr. Ramon Casillas, geo scientific El Hierro Geopark. (21 May). 50 participants.
19. Visits and meetings with representatives of the University of the Island of Reunion, France, for study and social research in El Hierro Geopark.

Activity by Partners

20. Coorganization the "Il Fototrek", a photograph contest and hiking in places Emblematic of the Geoparq. Organized by La Frontera Municipality (Partner) and the Insular Council of El Hierro, (26 March – 2 april), 72 participants.
21. Celebration Summer Course "Geological interpretation of geological itineraries trails in El Hierro Geopark" taught by Dr. Ramon Casillas, geo scientific of El Hierro Geopark. Organized by the Cabildo Insular de El Hierro and the University of La Laguna (partner), (25-27 july).
22. Third year of "educational geological Routes" for groups of local students and visitors, conducted by company personnel Insular Public Service El Meridiano (Geopark partner). More than 250 participants from March 2016 to September 2016.
23. Coorganization with El Pinar Municipality (Partner) The MAGMA BIKE MARATON 2016, MTB race in a natural setting of lava, laurel, pine forest and meadows of El Hierro, (15 april), 400 participants.
24. Celebration XXII International Paraglading Meeting El Hierro Island. Organiced by Insular Council of El Hierro and La Frontera Municipality (Partner), (29 april – 2 may), 160 participants.

25. Promotion and management of the 2 Geopark Interpretation Centers: Center Volcanological (3,493 visitors), and The Geological Interpretation Centre (1,306 visitors), in charge of Insular Public Service El Meridiano (Geopark partner).

ENGLISH RIVIERA GEOPARK, UK

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The Geopark management team and partners have dedicated this period to delivering the conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in September 2016 including organising the 1st UNESCO Global Geopark Council meeting 38th EGN AC and CC, the APGN AC and CC gathering, the GGN AC and the GGN General Assembly.
2. Development and delivery of engagement projects to connect the community with the conference (i) Earth Echoes - the community GeoOpera for the Opening Ceremony of the conference, (ii) GeoArt creative school workshops and adult upcycling project
3. BBC TV interview on the Geopark and what it means to the South West of England (July 2016).
4. Numerous articles in local press including English Riviera Magazine and the Herald Express – March to September 2016.
5. Oral presentations about our Geopark at numerous schools March–September 2016.
6. Geopark festival week – May half term – see separate report
7. In partnership with the Torbay Culture Board, developed a Geopark Ambassador programme and trained 80 new volunteers.
8. Installation of new geosite interpretation panels
9. 6-month secondment to English Riviera Geopark by Lotta Savola from Oulu, Finland

Networking

1. Melanie Border selected by the DG of UNESCO to be a member of the new UNESCO Global Geopark Council for a term of four year
2. Melanie Border submitted candidature with supporting nominations to be a member of the GGN Executive Board
3. Participation in the 37rd European Geoparks Network AC and Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, Spain, March 2016.
4. Participation in the evaluation of the Tremp-Monsec aspiring Geopark evaluation mission – July 2016
5. Chaired and attended the UK UNESCO Global Geoparks meeting at Marble Arch – March 2016
6. Attended the launch of the Wider values to the United Kingdom of UNESCO at Westminster, London. (20th April 2016)

Activity by partners

1. Geopark Adventures events
 - Geopark Duathlon 16th April 2016
 - Geopark (Velopark Junior & Senior) Triathlon & GoTri 22 May 2016
 - GeoparkTriathlon 31st July 2016 – sold out
 - GeoSwim 28th August 2016 – sold out
2. Stone Age School “Flint knapping weekend” at Kents Cavern prehistoric caves (20/21 August 2016) as part of Project Firestone – 1,000 participants.

GEA NORWEGICA GEOPARK, NORWAY

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Established a 90-meter long outdoor timeline with 19 panels placed on local rocks telling important events in Earth's history. Funded by The Savings Bank Foundation DnB.
2. Regular events for schools on topics related to geodiversity and biodiversity, culture and history.
3. Education program for university college students on/at the volcanic area of Fen
4. Free guided tours in the season from Mai to August. 665 people attended the guided tours
5. Developed a special guided tour with boat along the coast, with geology and coastal culture and history. The tours were very popular and will continued next season.
6. Special guided tour for Centres of Excellence at University of Oslo
7. Developed model for guided tour for German walking groups along the coast trail
8. New information signs on localities started updating panels with new logo.
9. Interviews in local and national radio and newspapers on different topics.
10. Presentations for new politicians about UESCO Global Geoparks.
11. Developed a new guided tour concept in Kragerø, "Ibsen, Munch and the Norwegian bedrock".
12. Film project, promotion film from the Geopark for YouTube, will be launched in November
13. Celebration the Norwegian National day of geology. Two events for children and one special field trip in the Geopark.
14. Developed new English tourist brochure, tourist map and new series of thematic four page brochures. Printed or read online or download from the web-site at different localities.

Networking

15. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast in Spain and ITB in Berlin.
16. The manager gave lectures at intensive course on Lesvos and participated in ExB meeting.

17. Four revalidations/evaluation; two in China, one in Iran and one on Iceland.

18. Manager: several Skype meetings with GGN ExB and meetings

Activity by Partners

Partnership with hotels, special offers for geopark tourists.

Cultural events by partners

GEOMON GEOPARK, WALES, UK

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Presentation on BBC Good Morning Wales in March
2. Trained 5 new guides for new geotrail at Cadnant Gardens and they have taken monthly walks
3. Guided geotrails on demand and in Geopark Week
4. 3 separate University/ Geological Society field courses 2-3 days each.
5. Talks given to RSPB, Wessex Open University, Oswestry and Berwyn geological Society Earth Science teachers Association (ESTA)
6. Attended 3 meetings Bro Aberffraw Ward 14,s programme on Community Events, new projects working on disabled access and trails
7. Attended 2 meetings of the Food Group where arrangements made for Food Slams (Festivals). GeoMon represented at Menai Seafood Festival and Beaumaris Food Festival
8. GeoMon displays with Anglesey Tourism Association at Cheshire Show and Anglesey Show
9. 3 Board meetings and 4 new Board members voted in. Mr Paul Gasson our Chairman sadly died in November. A New Chairman of GeoMon, Professor Colin Jago, originally a geologist. Head of School, Biological and Marine Sciences and Dean of Bangor University was voted in. Most Board meetings now to take place in the University.
10. Meetings and correspondence with Graham Williams re forest trail, Newborough developments.
11. AOND and our volunteers working on accessibility and paths on our forest trail and large scale clearance of brambles and scrub. Put in some simple steps to special geosite.

Networking

12. Participation in the 33rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Country Geopark, Spain, March 2014.
13. Making arrangements to attend the GGN CC meeting and UNESCO General Assembly in English Riviera Geopark September 2016
14. Attended the UK Forum and visits to the Marble Arch Caves Geopark.
15. Revalidated the Rocca Di Cerere Geopark in Sicily July 2016 and prepared report.
16. Prepared photos and text for the ebook (Volcanic Geoparks Thematic group.)
17. Attended and visited 4 local and 2 national Festivals/with partners

18. Updating Masterplan with relevant new projects

19. Activity by Partners

20. Working with County Council on several projects regarding interpretation and visibility. Talks with new Chief Executive on what we want from the council. Drawn up an action plan.
21. Taking Geo field trips with partner groups eg Friends of the Coastal Path.
22. Working with the Anglesey Tourism Association on Food Project Group in an advisory capacity and offering help where necessary
23. Working with Archaeologists to do Identification of artefacts material and origins and writing report
24. Working with Soil advice on properties for court dispute.
25. Working regularly with Wylfa nuclear power Station (Horizon) on site localities, roads and geo sites and the effect of new power station on the statutory and non-statutory areas with the bounds of the new power station and providing advice.
26. Working with Bangor University Ocean Sciences and marine Departments on joint projects to coastal areas round Anglesey
27. Attending the opening of the new Universities College@btinternet.com Marine Science Building by Prince Charles and its use for GeoMon as our meeting venue as our previous meeting place became too small since we increased our number of Board members.

Contact: college@btinternet.com ; College. Llansadwrn, MENAI BRIDGE, Anglesey LL59 5SN, Wales, UK
www.geomon.co.uk phone 0044(0)1248 8110287

Contact: college@btinternet.com

HAUTE PROVENCE UNESCO GEOPARK

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Creation and installation of more than 60 panels in different Geopark localities and sites.
2. Geopark educational program in 7 Geopark municipalities
3. Geopark intervention inside several events of the territory (fête de la randonnée, fête des Monges, etc.)
4. New Geopark branding of 13 partners (hotels, products, etc.).
5. Installation of Geopark mark-panels in the entrance of the 60 Geopark municipalities.
6. Conception and Edition of new Geopark leaflet
7. Geopark presentation inside new exhibits (Musée Promenade- Papillons de ciné)
8. Conception of a new electronic map of the Geopark sites and routes.
9. Conception and realization of a new interactive kiosk presenting Geopark videos.
10. Realization of 40 drone videos of Geopark municipalities and publication in Facebook.
11. Different field intervention related with path equipment (Saint pancrace, Aiglun, etc.)
12. Realization of several TV programs (FR3, diciTV, etc.)
13. Geopark presentation inside all the Intercommunities council present in the Geopark (6)

Networking

14. Participation in the 37rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, Spain, March 2014.
15. Participation inside the Chine Geopark Course (January)
16. Participation inside the Japanese Geopark Network and support mission in two Japanese Geopark (May)
17. Participation inside 2 UNESCO/GGN revalidation and validation mission (Leiqiong, China and Batur, Indonesia)
18. Reception of a delegation from UNESCO Geopark Shennongjia and establishment of a formal partnership
19. Reception of a delegation from Famenne-Ardenne Aspiring Geopark conducted by the Belgian Tourism Minister
20. Participation in the construction of 2 International University funding program with Lesvos, Hateg and Catalunya Geoparks.

Activity by Partners

21. New equipment of Geopark partners
22. Organization of a Geopark stand inside the Lavender Fair with partner presentation. Invitation of Bakony–Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark (Hungary) and its partners
23. Development of a new Geopark working Group with private enterprises
24. Establishment of a new charta and conventions for all partners categories

Geopark Harz · Braunschweiger Land · Ostfalen / Germany

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

- (1) Presentation of new info panels at: Geopunkt “Hamburger Wappen” (April) at historic buildings in Hettstedt (May), at Geopoint 1 / Landmark 12 / “Spitzkegelhalde Hohe Linde” (July), at Geopoint 5 / Landmark 7 / “Kelle bei Appenrode” (July) and at Geopoint Bolmke quarry (August)
- (2) Several events at the International Museum Day (May)
- (3) Participation in the field trip of the “Harz Geology Conference” at TU Goettingen (May)
- (4) Opening of the renewed Geotrail Oderwald and presentation of the new info-brochure (June)
- (5) Publishing of the following English leaflet prints / reprints: „3 / Rammelsberg“, „14 / Huysburg“, „8 / Schloß Wernigerode, „21 / Burg Lohra“ (August)
- (6) Publishing of the following German leaflet prints / reprints: „3 / Rammelsberg“, „7 / Kohnstein“, „9 / Roßtrappe“, „13 / Baumannshöhle“, „14 / Huysburg“, „21 / Burg Lohra“ (August)
- (7) Online-publishing of the leaflet “Landmark 14 / Huysburg“ in French and Dutch language (August)
- (8) Presentation of special new infopanel („Dennerttannen“) at the mining trail Elbingerode (August)
- (9) Several guided tours published in the “Geopark Calendar of Events” (March to September)

Networking

- (10) Participation in the 37th EGN-Meeting in Basque Coast / Spain (March)
- (11) Meeting of Geopark Advisory Committee at the Mining Museum Roehrigschacht Wettelrode (April)
- (12) The district of Peine became a new member in the Geopark Association Braunschweiger Land – Ostfalen e. V. (May)
- (13) Constitutive meeting of the new Executive Geopark Board in Koenigslutter (June)
- (14) Workshop about the new Geotouristic Map, Northern Part, in Koenigslutter (August)
- (15) Participation in Meeting of the German National Geopark Group and in the “German Geosite Conference 2016” at Geopark Porphyryland Sachsen, Grimma (November)
- (16) Several meetings with “Allianz für die Region” about a common marketing strategy for the Braunschweiger Land area.

- (17) Cooperation with Dr. Scheller Foundation to create the new “Geopoint Jurassic Sea Schandelah” (March to September)

Activity by Partners

- (18) Start of the new nature film (75 min) about the karst hiking trail (May)
- (19) Annual conference of the German Association of cave and karst scientists in Ruebeland (May)
- (20) Excavation by National State Museum of Natural History Braunschweig at “Geopoint Jurassic Sea Schandelah” with spectacular new findings e.g. of a complete Ichthyosaur (May to September)
- (21) Field trip at Geo-day of Biodiversity done by the Scientific Association of Goslar (Naturwissenschaftlicher Verein Goslar) (June)
- (22) Historic Mining Kolloquium „Persönlichkeiten im Harzer Bergbau“ at Clausthal-Zellerfeld (June)
- (23) Opening of the exhibition „Drahtseilakt“ at mining museum Roehrigschacht Wettelrode (June)
- (24) Programm zum UNESCO-Welterbetag im 19-Lachter-Stollen Wildemann Juni 16
- (25) Preparational excavation at the Unicorn Cave Scharzfeld by “Unicornu fossile association” in co-operation with the State Office for Cultural Heritage of Lower Saxony with artefact findings of neandertal men (July to August)
- (26) Geopark tours and events of several partners (Calendar of Events 2016)
- (27) Several guided tours along the “Karst hiking trail” (September to November)

THE HONDSRUG GEOPARK, THE NETHERLANDS

Progress Report, September 2015 – March 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The hotspots in the newly extended areas of Haren and Groningen have been added to the website and will be linked by an attractive cycle route.
2. Much consideration has been given to creating a masterplan for the Hondsrug UNESCO Geopark. The outlines of the plan were discussed in various workgroup sessions during our recent conference and the Board expects to finalise the plan in the autumn of this year. The plan will provide direction for the activities of our diverse partners in the region over the next ten years. Themes discussed by the workgroups were (1) the strengths of the Hondsrug region (2) education and (3) marketing the region. At the Geopark conference, held on 12th May 2016, the contours of the plan were outlined by means of a film.
3. On 9th May the 3-year project 'Regional Entrepreneurs' was launched. This is designed to stimulate both existing and new entrepreneurs to incorporate the identity of the region as an economic factor in their products and services. A 'local area consultant' has been appointed to help entrepreneurs with issues such as marketing, financing expansion plans, and advice about hospitality and other Regional Entrepreneurship issues.
4. Specifically for the newly-added region of Haren we have developed a project called "Launching the head of the Hondsrug". The project consists of 5 main points: (1) the village of Noordlaren; (2) a cycle route over the Hondsrug called '*Discover prehistoric Groningen*'; (3) ambassadorship; (4) a network of Hiking Cafés for walkers; and (5) the Hortus Botanical Garden as the Haren gateway for the Hondsrug region.
5. Together with gas-drilling company NAM and nature group IVN, the Hondsrug Geopark has created an educational project to provide locally relevant geological lessons in primary schools in the Province of Drenthe. This consists of a group of ten active exercises in which children learn about the layers of the earth in this area, their creation and their present-day use. This educational project will be delivered within the community NME-school networks. (NME = nature and environment)
6. The first pilots of the study lesson about the Ice Ages have been carried out. In co-operation with the North Netherlands Scientific Network, the Hondsrug Geopark will offer this lesson regularly beginning in the school year 2016-2017. Students from the advanced level of primary education drill holes into the ground themselves and carry out professional research into the materials which the ice, water and polar winds have left behind during the last million years.
7. During the Geopark week in 2016 five one-day and half-day excursions were organised for people to experience the region for themselves after an explanatory introduction. Four of the excursions began at the Hondsrug Geopark Expedition Gateways and were led by a guide through the Hondsrug region, by bike, by car or on foot.

8. In conjunction with Marketing Drenthe a national television campaign was conducted in June via a spot on the programme 'Star and Culture'. The ad was transmitted 52 times in total.
9. The Geopark promotion team is doing a good job. The team consists of volunteers who actively promote regional activities at fairs and other events.
10. The Geopark website aims to help people experience the region for themselves. It features the Expeditions and provides other information obtainable from the database of the Drents Archive and drenthe.nl. The new hotspots for Haren and Groningen have recently been added. Navigation on the site has also been improved by introducing a block structure for the Safaris section. This system will also be implemented for the Routes and Education sections.

Networking

11. Three students from the Stenden University have carried out research into the possibility of organising a conference of the whole Global Geopark Network in the Hondsrug region. As a result a concept prospectus has been prepared and we would like to discuss the idea further with other members.
12. We are constantly trying to recruit new partners. At this moment we can boast 160 partners, the majority of whom are entrepreneurs who embrace the ideas of the Geopark.

Activity by Partners

13. In 2015-2016 the Historic Society of Annen, together with the Hondsrug Geopark and students from Van Hall Larenstein University in Leeuwarden, developed a paper on the subject of 'Annen, from working village to commuter village'. In the first half of 2016 the paper was revised with help from Art and Culture Drenthe to make it also applicable to other similar Drenthe farming villages.
14. A start has been made with a network of Hondsrug 'Hiking Cafe's'. Several hotels and restaurants are already participating in this initiative.
15. Several museums and entrepreneurs in the region have developed new Geopark safaris.
16. In prehistoric times mammoths trekked over the Hondsrug. Today a group of residents in the village of Erica plan to celebrate this fact by crossing the Hondsrug from Erica to Groningen in four days accompanied by a modern 'mammoth'. This PR stunt aims to increase awareness of the name of the Hondsrug Geopark. It is not for nothing that the new name boards on the borders of the Hondsrug Geopark feature a picture of a mammoth.

IDRIJA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SLOVENIA

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news in the newspapers (Primorske novice, Obzorja) on the website (www.geopark-idrija.si, www.visit-idrija.si, ...) and Facebook, March 2016 - September 2016. Promoting Idrija Geopark.
2. Presentation of UNESCO Global Geoparks on Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, March 2016.
3. Organising 7 partner meetings in 7 local communities of Idrija Geopark
4. Participation in ECO day, Idrija, April 2016.
5. New Idrija Geopark's mascot for pedagogical programs "Živa" and "Tonček", April 2016.
6. Didactical programmes "Geo-adventures for little and big researchers" for elementary schools
7. Participation in tourism fairs, festivals with Tourist information centre Idrija: Fair Days of beekeeping Celje, Saltern festival Piran, Ceramic Festival in Radovljica, Idrija Lace Festival, OIDFA in Ljubljana, Bee-friendly municipality in Ljubljana, Study tour for Italian journalists and agents Idrija Cerknjo, Slovenian Incoming Workshop in Čatez (SIW), Point for you - promotion in Ljubljana, Festival of Idrija žlikrofi in Idrija, The Hague Embassy Festival, March 2016 - September 2015.
8. Two interviews on the Geopark in the national and regional radio (Val 202, Primorski VAL), EGN Week news preview on regional radio Primorski VAL, May 2016.
9. Organising 13 events during EGN week 2016, May 2016.
10. Organising the sightseeing and workshop "The Idrija Municipal Apiary" and TurfHunt through Idrija Town at the Idrija lace festival, June 2016.
11. Organising 5 summer workshops for children under the auspices of the Počitnikarija 2016, June - August 2016.
12. Marking out Idrija geopark's thematic hiking and cycling trails, June - September 2016.

Networking

13. Presentation of Danube GeoTour project and participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Spanish Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark, March 2016.
14. Publishing article in the EGN Newsletter, Issue 5 and 6.
15. (leading partner) Danube GeoTour project application with Bakony–Balaton Geopark (HUN), Eisenwurzen Geopark (AUT), Papuk Geopark (CRO), Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark (AUT/SLO), Bohemian Geopark (CZE), Rokua Geopark (FIN), Naturtejo Geopark (POR) and Global Geoparks Network, April 2016.

16. Organisation an international excursion in Bakony–Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark (Hungary) for Idrija and Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark's partners (AUT/SLO), April 2016.
17. (leading partner) Erasmus+ project “Enhancement of School TEACHing Methods by linking between schools, experts and geoparks in the combination with outdoor activities and ICT technologies” successful application with Magma geopark, Norway and Bakony-Balaton Geopark, Hungary, June 2016.
18. Europe for Citizens project “RurAll” successful application with Abbadia San Salvatore (Italy), June 2016.

Activity by Partners

19. Co–organisation of “Ocvirkovca” GEOfood competition on Hleviše hill with mountaineering society, March 2016
20. Organisation of EGN Week with partners, May 2016
21. Co-organising international camp “with a view” with Local community Vojsko, Association of Rural Women and girls Vojsko, Idrija Municipality, Tourism association Vojsko, CŠOD Vojsko and local people.
22. Inauguration of new interpretation point (playground) – “Between the rocks and flowers” on Hleviše hill, September 2016. Carry out the prize game “Geological journey through the Idrija Geopark” – 7. epizodes through the geological era.

KATLA GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Geopark Week, April.
2. Presentations, meetings and informal letters sent, Katla Geopark to Municipal council for environment and land use of Skaftárhreppur municipality, regarding the legal protection and need of further measures for geological features, Skaftáreldahraun and Landbrotshólar, March-June.
3. Formal letter sent to Skaftárhreppur municipality about the legal protection of internationally important geological features under threat, July.
4. Oral presentation of Katla Geopark on next steps for private sector at the Annual meeting of South Iceland Tourist board. March-April.
5. Contracts drafted and introduced to private sector, March – Sept.
6. Contracts drafted and forwarded to board meetings, for the clear role of collaboration between Katla Geopark and organisational partners, March-Sept.
7. Three presentations on GeoEducation and GeoSchools during International conference, Land of the Extinct Volcanoes, Poland, June.
8. Collaboration work with the local Primary schools initiated. March-Sept.
9. Listing of priority sites for the visibility of Katla UNESCO Global Geopark, Cooperation with the road administration. Following the receiving of a large grant for the project. May-Sept.
10. The first solid cooperation of the three municipalities composing Katla Geopark, for singular application in the name of Katla Geopark, for grants regarding a new law on protection and facilitation of touristic destinations (Geosites), priority list and grant applications submitted in the name of and under the supervisor of Katla Geopark, May-August.
11. Two public presentations of the final results of leisure landscape planning for Skaftárhreppur municipality by NOHNIK landscape architects, worked in collaboration with the University of Iceland and local bodies. One presentation for local authorities and interested within the Geopark the other for all Governmental agencies involved in planning, tourism, nature protection, grant admissions for infrastructure and protection of sites and Ministries of Environment and of Tourism, Reykjavík. August.
12. Interview with an Italian regional TV crew, September.
13. Publication on the Geopark in local newsletter, April.
14. Publication of newsletter about the Geopark Week, August.
15. Participation in the 38th CC meeting of EGN, English Riviera, September.
16. Participation in UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference, post tour & presentation on our efforts to overcome the yellow card, English Riviera, September.

Networking

17. Cooperation meeting with the Tourist board for the identity and importance of Katla Geopark for public safety points, February 2016.
18. Collecting and preparing for publishing the reports on EGN Week, progress reports (March-September 2016), August.
19. Participation in the EGN CC meeting Bask Coast, March.
20. Experts meeting and individual Educators trip, Erasmus+ Adult GeoEducation project, Croatia Papuk Geopark, March/April. Local dissemination FSU, August.
21. Preparation and advertisement of the Geopark week in good local cooperation, April.
22. Meeting of the Icelandic Geopark forum, May.
23. Cooperation between the University of Iceland and Katla Geopark initiated, with school trip to the Sólheimajökull glacier monitoring site for evidence of global warming. May.
24. Experts meeting of Erasmus+ GeoEducation project, final dissemination, Land of the Extinct Volcanoes, Poland, June.
25. GeoSchool project received two grants. Contracting with outdoor educational expert, to start work with primary schools in September, ongoing. May-Sept.
26. Cooperation and local meetings for the protection of geological sites, June.
27. Hosting of kick-off meeting for the GeoVR cooperation project including Geopark Magma, and similar bodies from Greenland and Faeroe isles. August.
28. Cooperation meeting for the Icelandic partners of Drifting Apart project, August.
29. Site excursion with the major and planning officer of Rangárþing municipality, director of Katla Geopark, Educator and Landscape architect and a representative of the Icelandic municipalities agency involved in prioritising geosites for grants aimed on infrastructure and protection. August.

Activity by Partners

30. Further progress on the solid Identity of Katla Geopark by the South Iceland Tourism board – application approval for the making of marketing plan, approved by the South Iceland Municipal Council fund SASS, March-April.
31. Director of Kötlusetur, partner and info centre, interview with Korean national television crew on behalf of Katla Geopark, June.
32. Question game and introduction of Katla Geopark and geothermal heating for three school groups from United States in Katla Centre, May.
33. Cluster Friður & Frumkraftar, Skaftárhreppur published a map introducing eight parties that offer local food in the region. July 2016.
34. Rangárþing Municipality – summer treasure game visiting geosites in the region.
35. Primary school of Vík offered an introduction of Katla Geopark to the public through presentations and tastes of Local products, April 2016.
36. Coverage in summer 2016 Outdoor magazine *Katla Unesco Global Geopark Constant change*.

LANZAROTE AND CHINIJO ISLANDS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Presentation of INTERREG MAC and INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA-related projects, March-May 2016.
2. Several interviews, articles, banners and radio slots about Geopark, both in national and in regional media, e.g. RTVE, Televisión Canaria, Binter Más, etc. March-September 2016.
3. Conference “Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands Geopark” in the Canarian Geodiversity days held in Tenerife, April 2016.
4. Hosting university students from University G. D'Annunzio of Chieti-Pescara (Italy), University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and University of Vienna, April and June 2016.
5. First Instameet in Lanzarote, organized by IG_Lanzarote in collaboration with CACT (Art, Culture and Tourism Centres) in Timanfaya National Park, April 2016.
6. Geology Educational project, with Rural Schools of Lanzarote: hikes, games, workshops, etc. April-May 2016.
7. Receiving students for internship trainees from University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) and University of la Tuscia (Italy) (ERASMUS +), April-September 2016.
8. Contracting out local enterprises in order to develop publicity campaigns about Geopark addressed to local communities, educational centres and social media from May 2016.
9. "GeoDay" celebration in Lanzarote, with a guided tour, May 2016.
10. Volcanism Course (30 hours) addressed to tourist guides held by Professor Joan Martí (ICTJA-CSIC Barcelona), May 2016.
11. Conference “Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands Geopark”, held by Inés Galindo Jiménez (IGME) in University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), May 2016.
12. Celebration of EGN Week 2016 with exhibitions, talks, conferences and guided tours addressed to students and local people, May 2016.
13. Information stand about Geopark in the " VII Lanzarote Wine Run & Traditional Cuisine Festival" event, June 2016
14. Collaboration with "Open fotosub" photo competition, June 2016.
15. Travelling Exhibition "Lanzarote Pura Geología" throughout the 7 municipalities of Lanzarote, July and September 2016.
16. Inauguration of a new website (www.geoparque Lanzarote.org), July 2016.
17. Banner design for web advertisement and creation of radio slots about Geopark for promotion, July-September 2016
18. Guided tours in several Geopark's geosites (Lanzarote and La Graciosa island), July-August 2016.

19. Development and design of two scientific posters for the 7th International Conference of UNESCO Global Geoparks (English Riviera Global Geopark), "Mars-related routes in the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark" and " Jameo, a word to remember in the Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, August-September 2016.
20. Design and organization of activities for "Feria de los Dolores", April-September 2016
21. Co-organization of Haría Extreme sport event, March-May 2016
22. Oral communication titled "Planetary and astrobiological significance of Canary Islands (Spain): review, state-of-the-art and future developments", held in the 35th International Geological Congress, Cape Town (South Africa), 27 August-4 September 2016.
23. Oral communication titled "Los Geoparques como áreas de investigación, geoeducación y geoética de Geociencias Planetarias: el Geoparque de Lanzarote y Archipiélago Chinijo", held in the IX Congreso Geológico de España, Huelva (Spain), 12-14 September 2016.
24. Purchase Geopark promotional material (brochures, bookmarks, postcards...), March-September 2016

Networking

25. Cooperation with Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark (Portugal) with spanish translations of web content, March-July 2016
26. INTERREG ATLANTICO project meetings, March 2016.
27. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
28. Spanish Geoparks Exhibition, May 2016.
29. Publishing an article titled "Planetary relevance of Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain) in relation to Mars", Newsletter European Geoparks, June/September 2016, N.06, June 2016.
30. Editing an article titled "Lanzarote, Mars on Earth", E-book Volcanic Geoparks in Europe, July 2016.
31. Editing a presentation article titled "A volcanic open-air museum", EGN Magazine 14, 2016, July 2016.

Activity by Partners

32. Field works and researches led by Geological Survey of Spain (IGME) and the Institute of Geosciences (IGEO), March-August 2016.
33. Professorship training "Course: route towards Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands' Geopark's geosites", held by CEP Lanzarote and IGME, March-April 2016.

LESVOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organization of the exhibition “AEGEON · BIRTH OF AN ARCHIPELAGO” at National Hellenic Museum in Chicago (23 November 2015 – 31 December 2016)
2. Organization of the exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” at Evgenides Foundation in Athens presenting the unique findings of the excavations and conservation works of the fossil sites discovered along the new road Kalloni – Sigri (25 January – 29 May 2016)
3. Organization of the exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” at Chamber of Lesvos in Mytilini (17 June – 30 September 2016)
4. Organization of the travelling exhibition “The animals of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos” in the Information Centre of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest - special educational activities for school groups (Closing: 19 April 2016)
5. Organization of the travelling exhibition “The animals of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos” at Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest in Sigri – Organization of special educational activities for school groups (Opening: 18 May 2016)
6. Events presentation of the new program of UNESCO for Geosciences and Geoparks «UNESCO Global Geoparks» in collaboration with the HELLENIC NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO in Athens (9 March 2016)
7. Events presentation of the new book about Lesvos Geopark “Lesvos Island – Unesco Global Geopark” at Evgenides Foundation in Athens (13 April 2016)
8. Events presentation of the new book about Lesvos Geopark “Lesvos Island – Unesco Global Geopark” in Mytilini (11 May 2016)
9. Organizing the International Intensive Course of Geoparks 2016 «UNESCO Global Geoparks: An international programme for geoconservation, geoeducation and sustainable development » (20 - 30 June 2016)
10. Revalidation of Lesvos Geopark (26 - 28 June 2016)
11. Guided geotours and educational programs for Lesvos schools (March – June 2016)
12. Realizing of special field educational programs in Lesvos Geopark for university students (March – June 2016)
13. Numerous radio-TV and newspapers interviews and articles on the Geopark’s activities in the national, regional and local media – also in TV shows (March – September 2016)
14. Updating of the Lesvos Geopark website (March - September 2016)
15. Updating of the European Geoparks Network website (March - September 2016)
16. Implementation of the geotouristic activity: Daily guided boat tours with a glass bottom boat at Marine Nissiope Petrified Forest Parks (July – August 2016)
17. Realizing of a practice program for university students at Lesvos Geopark with the participation of 5 university students (July - August 2016)

18. Celebration of International Monument Day (18 April 2016)
19. Celebration of International Day of the Earth (22 April 2016)
20. Celebration of the International Museum Day (18 May 2016)
21. Celebration of EUROPEAN GEOPARKS WEEK 2016 (20 May – 5 June 2016)
22. GREEN CULTURAL ROOTS 2016 – Special geotour in areas of archaeological, cultural, ecological and geological interest in central and western Lesvos Geopark and educational programmes jointly organized by the Lesvos Ephorate of Antiquities and Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest under the aegis of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture (29 May 2016)
23. Celebration of GREEN WEEK 2016 organized by the **European Commission** (30 May – 3 June 2016)
24. Celebration of World Environment Day (5 June 2016)
25. Celebration of “The Earth Festival 2016” – Organization of special events in Lesvos Geopark (June - September 2016)
26. Printing of the Folder European Geoparks Network

Networking

27. Participation in the meetings and videoconference of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum (March – September 2016)
28. Operation of the Secretariat of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum (March – September 2016)
29. Participation in the Coordination Committee Meeting of the EGN
30. Printing of the European Geoparks Magazine - Issue 13
31. Received the delegation of the Wudalianchi Geopark China (20 - 22 June 2016)
32. Received the delegation of the Zhijindong Cave Geopark China (June 2016)
33. Participation in the Evaluation team of the Geoparks (July – August 2016)
34. Received the delegation from the China University of Geosciences (Beijing) (16 – 21 August 2016)

Activity by Partners

1. Collaboration in common activities of the Lesvos’ Museums Network (March – September 2016)
2. Realizing of the educational program about Lesvos Geopark by the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and the Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (March – June 2016)
3. 2016 European Museum Academy Conference and Awards Ceremony organizing by the Museum of Industrial Olive Oil Production of Lesvos (20 - 22 May 2016)
4. Promotion of Lesvos Geopark by the Region of North Aegean through the organization of targeted visits of journalist, high profile writers and bloggers (3 May 2016)

LUBERON GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Inauguration of the Dolmen of Goult, Neolithic monument reconstructed near the former Train Station, on the edge of the Calavon river and cycle route.
2. Meeting of the Luberon GeoPartners network (hosts, outdoor sports providers, visit sites) at the the Conservatory of ochre and color in Roussillon. This network brings together professionals sharing activities and values around the heritage of the Earth.
3. Geoparks week
One day in partnership with the “souk des sciences” in Apt. The Geopark proposed workshops (discovering fossils, sieve and microfossils, géorium, etc.), exhibition, guided tours...
4. Educational activities
 - Educational actions about geology, cultural heritage, ecology, history... concerning more than 250 classes from nursery school to high school)
 - Rencontres Luberon Jeunesse (Dating Luberon Youth 2016). A day of meetings and exchanges for youth from Luberon recreation centres. 300 young people gathered in Apt to participate in outdoor activities sharing their project driven during the year.
5. Welcoming the public
 - Guided tours to the exhibition “D’Apt à Aptien le découpage du temps” at the Salignan mill in Apt in April, July and August. This exhibition deals with time in geology, the aptian stratotype and the scientist Alcide-d’Orbigny.
 - 7 free guided tours for general public proposed by the Geopark’s staff about geology, natural and cultural heritage.
6. Launch of the website “Chemins des Parcs” which proposes interactive maps to discover the Geopark area. At present 24 itineraries are proposed with information on nature, geology, culture...
7. Thematic activities of Saturdays:
 - May : Geoparks week (science festival, etc.)
 - June : Honey and bees
 - July – August : Nature - Colours : ochres, clays and dye plants. Exhibition and workshops (vegetable ink, ochre pigments, mosaic workshop in terracotta tiles, made with traditional clays of the Luberon...)
8. Exhibition
 - Exhibition of Apt kindergartens pupils work
 - Nature Colours : ochre and dye plants
 - The terraced landscapes of Goult

9. New mountain bike guidebook to discover the Great Crossing of Vaucluse and its variants, taking the most beautiful trails and through the typical landscapes of Vaucluse: Mount Ventoux, Monts de Vaucluse, Luberon...
10. International Meeting of recreational climbing on the famous cliffs of Buoux. Escala'Buoux 2016 is a public event that welcomes both experienced climbers a family audience eager to discover a remarkable natural and cultural heritage.
11. Raid Discovery Vaucluse 2016 in the heart of Parc Naturel Regional du Luberon, UNESCO Global Geopark. This friendly sporting event has chained several sports outdoor, around the Château de l'Environnement, in Buoux : orienteering, vertical hiking, archery , trail and mountain bike.

Networking

12. Participation to the 37th CC Meeting in the Basque Coast Geopark
13. Cooperation with Hateg Country Dinosaurs Global Geopark
 - Photo exhibition "Founding rocks / Pietre of temelie" by Andreea Zan, art student, UNARTE Bucharest
 - Paintings exhibition "Colours of Time / Culorile Timpului" by Petra Lonaru and Roberta Maria Gaspar from Hateg Geopark, volunteers which were nominated as Geopark Cultural Ambassadors within the frame of a local project. Paintings have been made by ochre from the Luberon Geopark
 - Personal guidance of Andreea Zahn, photographer and student at the University of Bucharest to photograph Luberon landscapes and monuments for an exhibition in Bucharest and Hateg Geopark in 2017
 - Participation to the 37 coordination committee meeting in the Basque Coast Global Geopark

Activities by partners

14. Cooperation between Chapelle St-Ferréol association and Hateg Country Dinosaurs Global Geopark
 - Textiles and paintings exhibition by Daniela FRUMUSEANU (2/08-12-08), artist and art teacher at the University of Bucharest
 - Musical evening: piano, guitar and songs of France and Romania with Dana Florian, from Hateg Country Dinosaurs Geopark and French musicians
15. Participation of a Luberon association to the Rock festival in the aspirant Beaujolais Global Geopark

MADONIE GEOPARK - ITALY

Progress Report, March-September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Cooperation with Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark to share logos under the Conference titled "*Self-government and political representation in the European Countries*", held in Palermo city from 26 to 27 April. Sicilian and Basque Universities and important politicians of Sicily shared their points of views on how reinforce self-government;
2. Shared a specific agreement on May 10th with the Regional Order for Sicily's Geologists in order to activate actions, programs and projects for the Professional Continuous Updating (PCU) of all Sicilian geologists. The agreement cements an alliance never interrupted and is addressed to optimize and relaunch geological professional formation in the Madonie Geopark.
3. Oral presentation titled "*The EGN for geotourism promotion through geosites' appreciation. The Madonie Geopark experience on geosites*" in the frame of an event titled "*Villages and Landscapes, difficulties and promotion in the Monte San Nicola Geosite of international value*", held in Butera Municipality in southern Sicily from 13 to 14 May;
4. Oral presentation titled "*Geoparks in the EGN for the best promotion and management of Sicilian geosites*" in the frame of an event titled "*Mines Parks and UNESCO Global Geoparks: territory management and improvement*", held in San Cataldo Municipality, Caltanissetta Province, from 27 to 28 May;
5. The 2016 edition of the EGN Week, entitled "*Geo-Cooperation in the bottom-up approach*" with the motto "*Celebrating Earth Heritage, Sustaining local Communities (UNESCO Global Geoparks)*", was held from 14 May to 11 June in cooperation with about 20 local entities among public authorities, associations and private entrepreneurs offering gratis their services. The Regional Authority for Environment and Territory of all Sicily offered his legal aid because considered EGN Week, consistent with its own aims, deserving of the highest praise and useful for promoting our territory. Within the framework of an holistic approach each local entity run conferences, guided field trips, sport activities, educational activities and events offering local food. 8 of 23 days were dedicated to the Professional Continuous Updating (PCU) for geologists and credits were given by the Regional Order for Sicily's Geologists involved. It was a success, not only because of the big number of participants of all ages, estimated to be not less than 3000, but also because of the holistic approach and the deep interest that the geological history of the Madonie aroused in the public. Emphasis was given to raise awareness on precautionary measure and mitigation of our territorial and social hydrogeological risk, facilitate dialogue among actors, and promote innovative solutions. One of the most interesting event was a scientific field trip guided by Palermo University to a new National geosite validated by the Regional Department for Territory and Environment. Final event on June the 10th highlighted best practices and the Madonie Geopark PPF Workshop was titled "*Madonie Geopark: between Past that's present and Present for Future*";

6. Signed on August 11th an agreement with AIGAE, the only professional Italian Association of Environmental and Walking Guides recognized by the Italian Ministry for the Economic Development, to provide group instruction and personal guiding at every level from easy trails, walks and treks to the most demanding hiking at the Madonie Geopark all year round. Also to offer instruction and guiding in mountain bike, canoa, donkey-hike, and other specialities as geo-tours. Most important aims are to develop new methodologies for environmental and cultural interpretation, environmental education, sustainable tourism, environmental communication and participatory formation.
7. Launched a new Museum/Environmental Centre in Gratteri village on September 5th and signed an agreement with Gratteri Municipality for its day-to-day management.

Networking

8. Participation of one representative of the Madonie Geopark authorized by the Regional Ministry for Territory and Environment, in the 37th EGN CC Meeting (17-19 March), held at the Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark in Spain.
9. Participation of one representative of the Madonie Geopark in the 8th Workshop of the Italian Geoparks titled "*UNESCO Global Geoparks: protection, enhancement and management of geodiversity*", organized by Pollino UGG in middle-southern Italy from 4 to 6 July. Presented an oral speech titled "*Why UNESCO Global Geoparks are so useful to the sustainable development. Two positive denunciation example in the Madonie Geopark bottom-up approach*".
10. Participation in the mission, from July 30th to August 3rd, for the revaluation of the Songshan UNESCO Global Geopark in China.
11. Participation to the Advisor Mission in the Wudalianchi UNESCO Global Geopark in China, from 5 to 7 August, to offer together with Dr. Ibrahim Komoo suggestions on how to improve actions useful for next Wudalianchi's revalidation.
12. Participation to the Advisor Mission in the Jingpohu UNESCO Global Geopark in China, from 8 to 9 August, to offer together with Dr. Ibrahim Komoo suggestions on how to improve actions useful for next Jingpohu's revalidation.
13. Publishing one article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, March 2016

Activity by Partners

14. Earth Day 2016, supported by Madonie Geopark, was held from 22 to 24 of April in Cefalù where a lot of initiatives were developed about environmental sustainability and education, tourism, sport, energy efficiency and renewable sources.
15. In July and August, tens of thousands of tourists visited the hinterland of the park furthest from the coast and the charming mountain villages that have proved able to offer rich cultural and entertainment programmes, also for geo-touristic enjoyment, regarding different paths, and participation in the 26rd Salt Festival, held on August 20th, supported and patronized by the Madonie Geopark.

MAESTRAZGO UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Workshop: “Geoparques: oportunidades de futuro” (“Geoparks as opportunities for a better future”). European Geoparks Week 2016, Ejulve, 25 May 2016.
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media (El Periódico de Aragón, La Comarca, Heraldo de Aragón, Diario de Teruel, etc.) – also in high rated TV and radio programmes, March-September 2016.
3. Guided geotours in some Geosites (Galve, Aliaga, Alcorisa, La Ginebrosa,...) carried out by the members of the Geopark staff, assisted by colleagues of the Dinópolis Foundation and University of Zaragoza, March-June, 2016.
4. Maestrazgo Geopark Drawing Contest “What is a geopark for you?” (addressed to 3 to 12 years old schoolchildren), June, 2016.
5. Expansion of the Maestrazgo Geopark Viewpoints Network with new scenery interpretation panels (Castel de Cabra, Berge, Gargallo, Seno and Estercuel), July, 2016.
6. World Heritage Cave Art Promotion Day, Castellote (Maestrazgo Geopark), 1st June 2016.
7. Development of the research project by Dinópolis Foundation on Las Zabacheras Palaeontological Site (Galve) and the *Aragosaurus ischiaticus* dinosaur, in collaboration with different institutions (Spanish Geological Survey, University of Vigo, Isle of Wight Museum, etc.), January-June, 2016.
8. Maestrazgo Geopark “Gran Maestre” cycle touring route, 4 June 2016.
9. Opening Geopark Visitor Center in Ejulve, 5 August 2016.
10. II Biodiversity Fair in La Mata de los Olmos, 2-4 September 2016.

Networking

11. Participation in the Advisory Committee Meeting - European Geoparks Network in Costa Vasca UNESCO Global Geopark, Zumaia, Spain, 16 March 2016.
12. Participation in 36th Coordination Committee Meeting - European Geoparks Network in Costa Vasca UNESCO Global Geopark, Zumaia, Spain, 17-18 March 2016.
13. Publication of a contribution in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, 2016: A Dinosaur Nursery in the Maestrazgo UNESCO Global Geopark (Teruel, Spain).
14. Organisation and promotion of the Maestrazgo Geopark EGN Week: geotours, oral presentations, workshops, etc., May-June 2016.
15. Invited Conference entitled “Spanish geoparks turn fifteen” in the meeting: “PIGC in Spain, past and future”. 40th anniversary of the National Committee for the International Programme on Earth Sciences, Priego de Córdoba, 15 April 2016.

16. Evaluation mission in Hidalgo –Comarca Minera– Aspiring Geopark (México). 18-26 June 2016.
17. Evaluation mission in Mixteca Alta Aspiring Geopark (México), June 2016.
18. Evaluation mission in Zigong UNESCO Global Geopark (China). 30 July-4 August 2016.
19. Collaboration with the Hungarian Bakony-Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark in the photo exhibition on Geoparks of the World held at “Lavender House” Visitors Centre, May 2016.
20. Organising and hosting a mission from Zhangjiajie UNESCO Global Geopark of China in Maestrazgo Geopark, 22-24 September 2016.

Activity by Partners

21. Support and cooperation with ADEMA -association which foster the crowdfunding volunteer program “Guardians of the territory” to reinstate circular paths, 1-15 July, 2016. More information available at <http://www.goteo.org/project/guardianes-del-territorio>
22. Supporting the map of Aguaviva in collaboration with Ayuntamiento de Aguaviva, July 2016.
23. Assisting the organisation and collaborating with different entities and local authorities in the Aguaviva BTT, 12 June 2016.
24. Rock climbing activities and self-rescue workshop in collaboration with different local entities and companies ‘Molinos ROC2’, 2-3 June 2016.
25. Open public activity “Aliaga, Geologic folds paradise” - 50th Practical Geology Course organized by Teruel Summer University (Zaragoza University), 21 June 2016.

MAGMA GEOPARK, NORWAY

Progress Report, March 2016 –September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Running the GEOfood project until June 2016.
2. GEOfood Conference with local producers, local stakeholders, and international partners.
3. GEOfood commercial pins development.
4. GEOfood presentation at the Committee Conference in March 2016.
5. Development of new MAGMA GEOPARK posters layout. Magma Geopark localities with information and geological description
6. Opening of Gursli visit mine with new tourist path, secured within Bank fund support.
7. Opening of Magma Geopark event platform in Jøssingfjord.
8. Development of the pilot project geoVR virtual exhibition within the Norwegian UNESCO Commission support and Drifting Apart European project. Pilot project in Jaren Museum to be test within the public.
9. Development of 5 biking leaflets
10. Free guided geological tours in Egersund municipality all summer
11. Summer employees for supporting the Magma staff with the tourism flow.
12. Release of promotional material for the geoVR promotion
13. Launch of the Magma Geopark new web page.
14. Developing info leaflet on Gursli mine tourist project.
15. Proposal for hosting the Global Geoparks Conference on Geoparks in 2018.
16. Follow up the Magma Geopark social media channels
17. Implementation of the new Magma Geopark web page.
18. Guided tours for schools, tourists and companies in the region.
19. 3 promotion trips with journalists from Holland, Germany, Spain and Italy.

Networking

20. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, 2016.
21. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, March 2016.
22. Supporting the Czech Geoparks within EEA Grant project study visit, June 2016.
23. Presentation of EGN-GGN UNESCO Network to the Network of Russian Natural Park, June 2016.
24. Presentation of the EGN-GGN UNESCO Network at the TIM Accelerator Cup event in Italy, May 2016.
25. Supporting and leading the Norwegian Network on Geoparks.
26. Starting work on friendships agreements with Chinese Geoparks, July 2016
27. Partnership in the European Project Drifting Apart, networking within the member of the consortium.
28. Kick off of the GEOmuseum and GEOvr NORA projects: with Ilulissat UNESCO WHL site in Greenland, Geopark project in Faroe Island, Katla UNESCO Global Geopark in Iceland, August 2016.
29. ESTEAM project, Erasmus + funded, with Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark and Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark Portugal, December 2016.

Activity by Partners

30. Jæren Museum supported Magma Geopark in developing contents for the geoVR exhibition. It will host the testing of the exhibition to the public.
31. Egersund Municipality involves Magma Geopark in the bike- sharing project that give possibility to rent bikes from the Egersund train station.
32. Samfundet School, Egersund is partner with Magma Geopark in the Erasmus plus project.
33. Region Stavanger supports Magma Geopark in developing the proposal for hosting the Global Geoparks Conference in 2018.

MARBLE ARCH CAVES GLOBAL GEOPARK, IRELAND / UK

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. The Geopark had its four yearly geopark revalidation mission in June. Mr Klaus George: Geopark Harz, Braunschweiger Land Ostfalen and Mr Bill Merrifield: Stonehammer UNESCO Global Geopark undertook the revalidation mission MACGG from 7th to 10th June 2016.
2. The Geopark has been in attendance at a number of tourism events both locally and nationally including those organised by Tourism Ireland, Failte Ireland and Tourism NI. These have included familiarisation visits, meet the buyer events, networking opportunities and workshops.
3. MACGG has published a book the Cuilcagh Way: A Walker's guide for the Cuilcagh Way 33km walking route. The 20 page booklet is available at the Visitor Centre and electronically via the website.
4. The Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark has recently drafted Bye-Laws for the Northern Ireland area of the Geopark and are presently collaborating with a Solicitor to adopt the bye-laws across the geopark.
5. The geopark has updated all geopark sites threshold signage with the new UNESCO Global Geopark logo.
6. The geopark has produced and installed a number of new Interpretation panels as various geopark sites: Belcoo Cottage Lawn, Tully Castle, Lough Navar Forest, Belmore Forest and at centres Gortatole Outdoor Education Centre and Derrygonnelly Field Studies Centre.
7. The geopark has worked with Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland to provide information (walk descriptions, maps & photographs) on all geopark walks on the Walk Northern Ireland website.
8. Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark key sites: Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre, Cuilcagh Mountain Park, Lough Navar Forest and Cavan Burren Park have experienced one of there busiest seasons with visitor numbers averaging higher than previous years.
9. The Geopark continues to maintain a strong presence on social media with an increasing number of likes on Facebook and followers on Twitter.
10. The Geopark has delivered another comprehensive events programme with successful annual events such as Walking Festivals, Cuilcagh Mountain Jeep Safaris, Guided Walks and Rock Detective workshops taking place as well as new additions.
11. Geopark facilitated visits from a number of television projects eg: India Travel Programme, Ear to the Ground Irish Production etc.

Networking

12. Attendance at the EGN CC meeting and conference in Basque Coast Global Geopark, Spain.
13. Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark EGN CC members carried out evaluation missions as part of the UNESCO evaluation team. Visits were to Qeshm Island, Iran and the Iron Mountains Geopark, Czech Republic respectively.
14. Hosting of the UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks, with representation from all five of the seven UNESCO Global Geoparks in the UK, as well as from the UK National Commission to UNESCO, the Geological Society of London, and the statutory environment agencies of England, Scotland and Wales.
15. Geopark hosted a visit from the Irish Geological Association and the Belfast Geologists Society to both the Marble Arch Caves and Cavan Burren Park, attended by approximately 45 members.
16. Geopark hosted a meeting for the MACGG Drifting Apart Project Partners, 25th August, Cavan.

Activity by Partners

17. The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland had an article published in Geoscientist, the magazine of the Geological Society of London, The article outlines all the UNESCO Global Geoparks in the UK and how they can work more closely with academic geoscientists.
18. MACGG staff attendance at Science Week at Stormont, held in Parliament Buildings, Belfast. This event was organised by the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Assembly education team. Attended by over 120 school pupils from across Belfast, pupils learnt about geology from across Northern Ireland including from MACGG.
19. Geopark features in the Annual Science Review of the British Geological Survey together with the other UNESCO Global Geoparks in the UK.

MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK, FRANCE

Progress Report, March 2016 - September 2016

GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

1. Geopark executive board, election of the new representatives of the Region, 23rd March
2. "Cutting and grafting day", orchards animation, Bellecombe-en-Bauges, 2nd April
3. Start of the study on food and culinary knowledge and practices in the Massif des Bauges, Ministry of Culture, April
4. Participation to the European Artistic Crafts days, 2nd and 3rd April
5. Monitoring day of eagles with voluntary naturalists, 3rd April
6. Geopark's Wednesday "Flowing Artists", Curienne, 27th April
7. Press conference 20-years anniversary of the Nature Park, Chambéry gate-town, 29th April
8. Inventory of tufa mineral springs, May-August
9. EGN week conferences, Arith, Chambéry gate-town, Montaille, Cruet, Saint-Jorioz, Quintal, La Thuile, Aix-les-Bains gate -town, 20th May-7th June
10. Eductour for tourism stakeholders about fishing tourism, 23th May
11. France 3 TV program on UNESCO Global Geoparks, 24th May
12. Geopark's Wednesday, "aviators on the lake", La Thuile, 25th May
13. Temporary exhibition "A mountain of paths", in the cultural heritage Geopark house, Aillon-le-Jeune, April-June
14. Massif des Bauges "flowering meadows" contest, 27th May
15. Albertville-Bauges cycle touring, 5th June
16. Final performance of the cultural school project linked to the limestone quarry "budding quarry", Quarry of Bellecombe-en-Bauges, 11th June
17. Great Space evening, stars' station, Bauges' Observatory, Saint-François de Sales, 11th June
18. Geopark team seminar, transformation of the territory, Geopark house, 20 and 21th June
19. Information tour for tourism stakeholders, historical heritage, Le Châtelard, La Compôte, Chartreuse d'Aillon, 15th June
20. Public lecture on caves exploration and karst study on the Semnoz and La Sambuy, , Olivier Lanet, diver speleologist, Faverges, 17th June
21. 11th Geopark's schools event, gathering of 600 pupils which have participated to the annual pedagogical programme, Faverges, 28th June
22. Summer hustle and bustle in the 2 Geopark's interpretative centres, more than 40 activities, 3th July – 30th August
23. Organization of the national seminary on biodiversity and space management / National Nature Parks federation, Lescheraines, 5-8th July
24. Opening of the summertime exhibition in the cultural heritage Geopark house, Aillon-le-Jeune, 8th July
25. Geoparks activities during the "Nature and Music in Bauges" festival, 9th July – 21th August.

26. Geopark's eco-volunteers team to welcome tourists during summer holiday on main sites, July-August
27. Youth at the top, Alparc network 12th July
28. "The songs of the earth," special concert in the castle of Miolans, "Nature and Music in Bauges" festival and 20-years anniversary of the Nature Park, with the lecture of the famous astrophysicist Hubert REEVES, Saint-Pierre d'Albigny, 17th July
29. Conference on "Massif des Bauges, from oceans to mountains", Ecole, 15th July and Aillon-le-Jeune, 6th August
30. Public pastoral hike day, Semnoz alpine pasture, 11th August
31. Tournage de l'émission Des racines et des ailes, 12-14th August

NETWORKING

32. Participation to the 37th EGN CC meeting, Basque coast UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain, 16-19th March.
33. Cooperation on the Geopark project in Altaï Republic, Russia, 3rd working trip in Altaï, preparation for the participation to the 7th International conference on UNESCO Global Geopark, André GUERRAZ, 26th March 10th April.
34. Participation to two UNESCO Global Geoparks evaluation mission by André GUERRAZ and Jean-Luc DESBOIS, June an August 2016.

ACTIVITIES BY PARTNERS

35. Meetings on horse skidding, regional union of forests in private property, Saint-Jorioz, 9th April, Saint-Jean d'Arvey, 18th May
36. Participation to the organisation of the farming event "Goats springs", Faverges, 23rd and 24th April
37. Participation to the conference "Greenland today, Alpes 20000 years ago", Albertville gate-town, 10th May
38. Participation to the round table "The bike for new mountain areas" Montanea, Chambéry gate-town, 15th June
39. Participation to the organisation of "Bauges Y Cimes". Two days to discover outdoor activities, Saint-Jean d'Arvey, 18-19th June
40. Participation to the organisation of the Chéran's River event, WWF Wild River label, Rumilly gate-town, 2rd July
41. Participation to the Geofestival of the Massif du Beaufortain "From the rock to vegetable", 8-16th July

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MOLINA ALTO TAJO GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Contribution towards the EGN work.

- Participation of representatives in the EGN meetings in English Riviera (England) and Basque Coast (Spain).
- Participation on Spanish Nacional Geoparks Committee meeting
- Oral presentation and field trip about Geopark for Qiling Zhonghon Shan Global Geopark delegation

Geoconservation

- Ceremony of “Golden Spike” at Fuentelsaz GSSP Stratotype with it’s signalling.

Education

- Museum of Molina Program for primary and secondary schools guided visits.
- Museum guided visit and field trip for Arcos de Jalón Secondary School Institute.
- Bonsái technics course in the Molina’s Museum.
- Nature Guiding and Ecotourism Course of Dipuemplea Program for Molina de Aragón.
- Celebration of the XXXII Conference of Paleontology 2016 by Spanish Society of Paleontology on Molina and the Alto Tajo Geopark.
- UNED University Molina and Alto Tajo Geopark Course: Geoconservation and outreach of Geologic Heritage.
- Geopark Minerals and rocks Course.

Activities to Geopark Promotion

- Celtiberic Archaeology Exhibition in Fuentelsaz village.
- Geolodía 2016
- Hicking field trip journey from Milmarcos to Fuentelsaz with Geopark field presentation.
- Presence in media as websites, facebook and twiter.
- Molina’s Entrepreneurs Award from Tierra Molinesa Association to Geopark Team.
- Several Nacional Spanish Televisión reports about Geopark, geotourism and Geological heritage.
- Exchange of museum pieces with Regional Museum of Ciudad Real.
- Guided visit to Geopark with naturalist Luis Miguel Dominguez.
- Oral Presentation about Geopark organization and achievements in Milmarcos village.
- Decoration with paintings of Molina Museum Environment Rooms
- Oral Presentation and colloquy about Geopark in Pobo de Dueñas Locality
- Installing of signalling and out reach panels in:
 - Molina’s Castle

- Santa Catalina ermitage
- Fuentelsaz village, Estratotipe and access
- Labros locality

Activities for sustainable development

- Geopark Visit of Gudar-Javalambre County Businessmen Association
- II Haunting, Fhising and Rural Tourism Geopark Fair in Molina.
- Celebration of the Geopark Maranchon Handycraft Fair.
- Celebration of Molina Gift Fair.
- Celebration of VII truffle Fair in Molina.
- Presentation for Geopark stake holders of E.T.I. Active Tourism Business.
- Recovery of fuentelsaz village waste area for GSSP Interpretative Area.
- Geopark Handicraft and Presents Fair in Maranchón Village.
- Geopark Handicraft and Fair in Milmarcos Village.
- Geopark Handicraft and Fair in Hinojosa Village.
- Geopark Handicraft Fair in campillo de Dueñas Village.
- Exhibition of Tractor´s Chess of Hinojosa
- Handycraft Fair of Villed de Mesa.

Scientific Research

- Excavation program for Molina´s castle by Reading University team

Cultural Activities

- Concert by Press Association Chorus in Molina de Aragón.
- IV CERTAMEN NATURALIZ-ARTE:
- 2nd. Museum of Molina Archaeological Lectures Program:
 - Dra. M^a Luisa Cerdeño
 - Dr. Guillermo García-Contreras
 - Drs. P. Bueno Ramirez, R. Barroso y Rodrigo de Balbín
- Anual Seminar by Nautilus Palaentological Association.
- Visit of Telefónica fundation cultural program.
- Painting exhibition by artist Fernando de Marta
- Geopark Entomologycal exhibition in Codes
- Geopark faunal exhibition in Cubillejo de la Sierra

GEOPARK MONTS D'ARDECHE

Progress Report, March-September 2016

Geopark Activities (incl. activities by partners):

- 1) Coordination of 4 thematic conferences (*Rendez-vous géologique*) for a general audience
- 2) Coordination of 6 geological field excursions for a general audience (*Rendez-vous géologique*)
- 3) Setting up of the geological exhibition *The 7 colours of time* at Bourlatier exhibition center
- 4) Setting up of the photograph exhibition « Terre de pierres » at Les Vans Museum
- 5) Publication of the booklet « *Sentier de découverte géologique* » (geological path) at Saint Etienne de Boulogne, in cooperation with the municipality
- 6) Equipment of *Bois du Four* geosite with interpretation devices, in cooperation with Vernoux en Vivarais municipality
- 7) Technical support for fieldwork to University of Bourgogne for research projects on dinosaurs footprints
- 8) Technical support for fieldwork to University of Clermont Ferrand for research project on geoarcheology on Mount Mezenc
- 9) Setting up of an exhibition presenting the project "*Partage des eaux*" (parcours artistique) linking together geological heritage and contemporary art
- 10) Edition of an information video presenting the geosite of Neck de Craux,
- 11) Edition of 4 posters presenting the Geopark
- 12) Organization of a conquest about volcanism for schoolchildren, and visit of the Vulcania interpretation center with the winning team.
- 13) Organization of the European Geopark week
- 14) Launch of a feasibility study for the renovation of the geological section of Les Vans museum
- 15) Re-edition of the geosites map
- 16) Technical support for animations/activities with a geological focus. - (*Mon pays ma fête, La pierre dans tous ses états, and Les Astronomades*)

Networking :

17) Participation in the *Géole days* (journées Géole) in Jura (Section Mediation of the French geological society)

18) Participation in the Geoparks conferences and EGN Coordination Com. in Basque Coast Geopark and in English Riviera

MUSKAU ARCH GEOPARK, GERMANY-POLAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. participation and supervising the education network at the Nature Market in the biosphere reserve “Lusatian Heath and Ponds Landscape” (16th April) and in an educational fair in Hoyerswerda (09th March) with 10 environmental education facility partners under the auspices of the Geopark Muskau Arch
2. Opening of the joint German – Polish film project with one German high school in Weißwasser/O.L. and one Polish high school in Żary to report and document the Geopark activities over a year from youth’s viewpoint, March 2016
3. Start of a new German – Polish workshop “Into the field” with the language courses of the high schools Weißwasser/O.L. and Żary to work together in the nature, each of the monthly meetings finish with a joint picnic, April 2016
4. Publication of the new GeoparkMini edition
5. Mapping activities with the geopark rangers in preparation of a new soil educational trail in collaboration with the county of Spree-Neiße (Brandenburg)
6. Start of the collaboration with the state authority for mining, geology and raw materials (Brandenburg) with the first common project “stone of the year” 2016 and a lot of environmental education activities within this project, May 2016
7. Implementation of a Facebook account for the German – Polish geopark activities with news and reports in English, German and Polish to inform and involve inhabitants and guests, August 2016
8. Performance of a benefit concert with traditional choirs for preservation and conservation of the viewing tower at the Felix Lake with around 200 guests, 18th June 2016
9. Initiation of Geo and Earth caches within in the frame of a youth holiday program in collaboration with the Alternative Youth Centre “garage” in Weißwasser/O.L.
10. Conference “regional cooperations” for a future collaboration between the geopark and entrepreneurs in the region, 17th August 2016, with around 20 guests
11. Implementation of the II. International Geopark Camp with youth from Bakony-Balaton Geopark (HU), Geopark Kielce (PL) and Muskau Arch (G-PL), introduction in old craftsmen techniques, working in workshops with the traditional raw materials of the geopark Muskau Arch (glass cutting, pottering, forging and basket weaving), field trips and adventures, 13th – 20th August 2016
12. Implementation of a broad range of environmental education activities, for ex. field trips, guided hiking tours, lectures and craft activities within a thematic framework, reached nearly 2.000 children and teachers and caregivers in the period between March and August

Networking

13. Joint presentation (and joint financing) of the Global Geoparks Network (Geoparks under UNESCO) on the International Tourism Fair Berlin 2016 (ITB), participation with personnel support from 11. – 13. March 2016 and a plenty of interactive activities like sandpit and microscopes
14. Participation in the 37rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in the UNESCO Main Quarter in the Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 16th – 18th 2016.
15. Public event “season opening in the Geopark Muskau Arch” on the 15th April 2016 in the stables of the UNESCO world heritage “Prince Pückler Park Bad Muskau”, more than 50 guests (tourist manager, regional hosts and producers, employees of municipal bodies etc.) listen the touristic news in the Geopark for 2015
16. Participation in the Geo-conference of the German Geological Association (DGGV) and presentation of the Muskau Archs educational work and the joint culture landscape project with the UNESCO world heritage “Prince Pückler Park Bad Muskau”, 27th – 29th April 2016
17. Celebratory the handover of the Geopark UNESCO certificate in the castle of the UNESCO world heritage “Prince Pückler Park Bad Muskau”, with members of the UNESCO commission of Poland and Germany, the voivode of the voivodship Lubuskie (PL), the environment ministers of Saxony and Brandenburg (G) and more than 100 guests, 28th May 2016
18. Revalidation mission in the Wales UNESCO Geopark Fforest Fafwr June – September 2016
19. Start of a new joint project “stone of the year 2016 – sand” with a call to the European geopark network members to collect sand to prepare a new kids programme with puzzles, maps and microscopes to discover the diversity of sand
20. Participation in the negotiations with the German Nature Park Association to involve the Geoparks and create a joint structure, 30th August 2016

Activity by Partners

21. Support of the so called “Volkswandertag Berlin-Brandenburg” (folk hiking day Berlin-Brandenburg) with geopark guides, participation of around 400 people, 4th June 2016
22. Season Opening in the Erratic Boulder Park with public handover of a 5 x 2m big wall graffiti which shows the forward-moving inland ice shield and the formation of the Muskau Arch push moraine , 18th March 2016
23. Construction activities to attract the old industrial “Forest rail way“ with a new line to the active open cast mine Nochten and the viewing tower in Weißwasser/O.L.
24. Opening of a second wall graffiti in the Erratic Boulder Park Nochten with a 9m long, scaled miniaturised geological profile of Lusatia and esp. the Geopark Muskau Arch

25. Participation in the Saxony Day in Limbach-Oberfrohna with a joint stand with the town of Weißwasser/O.L., 2nd – 4th September 2016, with more than 400.000 guests

NATURTEJO UNESCO GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in BTL international tourism fair of Lisbon with the new Naturtejo Geopark stand. March 2016
2. Participation in the FIO, International Birdwatching Tourism Fair in Extremadura, Spain. March 2016
3. Organizing a Fam Trip for the German company UnaVision to meet the feopark territory. March 2016
4. Invited participation in the seminar “Reinventing the Tourism in Portugal: new challenges, new approaches” organized for the tourism graduation and master students of the University of Aveiro. April 2016
5. Educational Project “Rivers” with adoption of river sections by the schools of Idanha-a-Nova and environmental monitoring. March-June 2016
6. Technical visit of the National Network Science Alive to the geomonument of Portas de Almourão. May 2016
7. Participation in the National Agriculture Fair of Santarém to present the Geoproducts partners of the Geopark. June 2016
8. Invited participation in the international seminar “Best Practices in Tourism”, at S. Pedro do Sul
9. Participation in the local festivals of Oleiros and Penamacor with the geopark stand
10. Participation in the national seminar of Casa das Ciências in Lisbon, and the national annual meeting of the platform Roteiro das Minas e Pontos de Interesse Mineiro e Geológico, at Porto. June 2016
11. Internship for 1 month of the Brazilian Victor Vasques, from the Indiana University, USA. July 2016
12. Training short course about the Geopark for hoteliers and geoproduct partners. March-July 2016
13. Visit of German and Portuguese archaeologists on the research subject of tin historical mining
14. Invited participation in the II World Forum on Rural Innovation, Moraleja, Spain. September 2016
15. Celebration of the 10 years integration in the Global Geoparks Network of the Naturtejo Geopark with a seminar in Penha Garcia Cave, with the presence of the Minister of Culture of Portugal, the Member of the Parliament representing Castelo Branco Hortense Martins, and many regional and local authorities; public homage to the Naturtejo staff for their work and achievements. August 2016
16. Organizing under the frame of the International Ichnological Association of the 4th International Congress on Ichnology under the auspices of UNESCO, with field trips in Portugal and Spain. May 2016

Networking

1. Coordination of the GEOPARKS stand in the ITB – International Tourism Trade Show of Berlin, the most prestigious one in the world, involving 11 geoparks from Europe. March 2016
2. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2014.
3. Publishing one article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13. March 2016
4. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week – Landscape Festival: geotours, hiking, festivals to promote local products and gastronomy, medieval fairs, educational activities. Organization of municipalities, villages, local ngo's, local clubs with the participation of about 12000 visitors. May-June 2016
5. Participation in the Life Project GEOISNATURA together with Molina Alto Tajo Global Geopark – Project rejected
6. Participation in the Erasmus+ Project ESTEAM coordinated by Idrija Global Geopark together with Magma Global Geopark – Project Accepted
7. Invited participation in the summer course of Geological Heritage organized by the University of Santander in the Costa Quebrada Geological Park, together with Basque Coast Global Geopark. June 2016
8. Evaluation of the Mixteca Alta Aspiring Geopark in Mexico. July 2016

Activity by Partners

9. Organizing with the AHRESP Castelo Branco, the regional association of hotels and restaurants, a seminar for 200 students of tourism from the region. April 2016
10. Organizing with the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova the running competition "Rampa da Senhora da Graça". April 2016
11. Organizing with the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova of the Festival of Traditional Soups at Proença-a-Velha and the Paeonia Fest, at Toulões. April 2016
12. TTransGeopark offroad interpreted trip across the geopark. May 2016
13. Organization with visits to the Geopark of the International Conference Regional Helix 2016, by the Technology College of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco. May 2016
14. Organization and talks in PRAXIS V on the tourist valuing of Earth and Man's Heritage, Proença-a-Nova. July 2016
15. Organization of the Watermelon Festival of Ladoeiro. August 2016

NORTH PENNINES AONB GLOBAL GEOPARK, UNITED KINGDOM

Progress Report, April to September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. We submitted a 1million Euro geodiversity-focused bid to the UK Heritage Lottery Fund but sadly we discovered in May that this was not successful. The competition for funds in the UK is intense at this time, as it may be elsewhere. The work included new geotrails, work in schools, geobike trails, writing and photography workshops, apprenticeships and international GeoYouth Camps, all on a geodiversity theme. We are now trying to reshape this work into two smaller submissions, but it will inevitably lose some of the more costly items, including the Youth Camps in which some other Geopark teams had kindly expressed interest.
2. We have launched our new project – OREsome North Pennines. This project involves working with and training volunteers to record geodiversity, mining heritage and ecology of former lead mining sites, leading to a programme of future conservation work and interpretation.
3. After 18 months in development we have a submitted £2million to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a landscape scale project in the North West corner of our area which will involve significant work on understanding, celebrating and exploring geological heritage in the area (which is heavily modified by glaciation as well as having an attractive limestone escarpment and small scale coal and lead mining heritage). A decision is due on 25th October.
4. A long-delayed project - new interpretation touch-screen interpretation, with artefacts, fossils etc. with a digital 'chip' that are placed on a pad, revealing interpretation under various themes – should move forward shortly as we have dedicated one of our apprentices to complete it.
5. We are continuing to develop our work alongside the Coal Authority and Environment Agency around taking action to reduce pollution by heavy metals from historic lead and zinc mining sites.
6. Further development of our new three year Landscape Partnership Scheme in Allen Valleys which provides conservation and community activities of a wide range of topics in part of the Geopark, including new trails, restoration of heritage buildings and habitat improvements.
7. Work continues on our peatland restoration programme, including blocking drainage ditches on the moors to improve these important wetlands. A 12m euro partnership bid to the EU LIFE fund will be submitted on 15th September to further this work, including the development of new financing models.
8. We completed a tourism business survey and held our annual Tourism Seminar, attended by over 50 people from local businesses and tourism organisations.

9. As part of our work on High Nature Value Farming we are part of a partnership which has secured DG Environment funding to run a pilot results-based agri-environment scheme.

Networking

10. Participation in the 37th EGN Meeting in spring 2016.

Activity by Partners

11. A celebration was held this year for the 120th Anniversary of the Vieille Montagne Mining Zinc Company of Belgium's arrival in the North Pennines. Miners from mainland Europe came with this company to the North Pennines in the early 20th century. The celebration involved local people and delegations from Italy, Belgium, Germany joining a Conference exploring the history of mining. They also visited the company's former mines in the North Pennines and were shown some of the underground mine workings".
12. Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum – an important geology and mining heritage attraction in the Geopark – is undergoing a period of financial uncertainty. The Geopark team will do all it can to help but the future of the museum is unclear.
13. A group of local people, including one of our two EGN reps Peter Jackson, is currently engaged in trying to save some historic mining heritage (and important headgear structure) from being lost from the landscape involves working with the landowner to try and find a long-term solution to site management, safety and insurance, or this iconic feature of the Rookhope Valley will be lost.

NORTH WEST HIGHLANDS GEOPARK, SCOTLAND, UK

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Instalment of geological/cultural heritage interpretation into visitor centre (The Rock Stop) March 2016
2. Built augmented reality sandbox to assist quaternary interpretation May 2016
3. Commenced scoping for a computer based “Cadell Squeezebox” exhibit to demonstrate thrust faulting in partnership with Midland Valley Exploration and Aberdeen University.
4. Published new map and leaflet offering geotourist information and geological interpretation May 2016
5. Ran a program of guided walks between May and September utilising Knockan Crag NNR and Glen Coul May – September 2016
6. Submitted article to Earth Heritage magazine May 2016
7. Submitted an abstract to Petroleum Geoscience Collaboration Showcase for PETEX Conference and Exhibition to be held in London, November 2016.
8. Ran a school visit to the Rock Stop May 2016
9. Filmed with team from Channel 4 “Walking through time” documentary June 2016
10. Submitted article to Edinburgh Geologist magazine June 2016
11. Bus advert for Inverness commuters advertising Geopark events for Earth Science Week 2016 August 2016

Networking

12. Attendance at UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks meeting, Eniskillen, Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, Ireland. March 2016
13. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in the Basque Coast Geopark, Basque, Spain, March 2016.
14. Attendance at the 2nd Drifting Apart Project partners meeting in Kenozero national park, Russia, June 2016
15. Chaired Scottish Geoparks Partnership Skype meetings March – June 2016

Activity by Partners

16. Coigach Assynt Living Landscape project granted £5 million Heritage Lottery Funding to enable activities including woodland restoration and herbivore management. Geopark are managing the soils fertility aspect. June 2016
17. Assisting the organisation of path building volunteer days with the Highland Council Ranger service April 2016
18. Drifting Apart Project – Work package 4 with Magma Geopark and industry partner Double Think on digital (Virtual Reality) interpretation of geosites. March – September 2016

NOVOHRAD-NÓGRÁD GEOPARK, HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Changes in Geopark management (personal changes, modification of the working programme, action plan, communication towards EGN structures) (July – August 2016)
2. Preparation of the Geopark enlargement: communication with representatives of proposed area, execution of the document Enlargement of the Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark (arguments, overview, Geological and natural conditions, Nature and landscape protection, Cultural and historical heritage, Economy and tourism, Passport of selected geological localities, photo documentation, geological map etc. (April – September 2016)
3. Presentation of the Geopark and its activities towards Slovak Commission of UNESCO and Slovak Geoparks Commission, respectively Hungarian Commission of UNESCO and Hungarian Geoparks Commission (April – August 2016)
4. 3rd Medves Photo Marathon – a 48-hour marathon programme for more than 400 photographers and fans of Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark (many activities on many places, exhibitions, workshops, guided trips to geo-sites, illuminated medieval castles, historic groups posing the photographers, shooting of sunsets, sunrises, night sky, bird watch etc). Including a photo-competition with more than 400 pictures made by 86 photographers – competition evaluation and photographs exhibition at Fil'akovo Castle (June 2016 / September 2016)
5. Environmental education and edification (March – September 2016):
 - a. Youth Photo Marathon, Eresztvény, Salgó Castle (April 2016)
 - b. Competition on the Bird Day and Tree Day, Visitors Centre Eresztvény (May 2016)
 - c. The European Geoparks Week in Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark (May – June 2016)
 - d. Biodiversity Day, Fil'akovo Castle (organized by State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Town Fil'akovo) (May 2016),
 - e. “Explore the Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark” – quiz, fun, competition for the kids, Filakovo Castle, Šomoška Educational Trail (May 2016),
 - f. “We are playing in geopark” – teenagers prepare games for the kindergarten kids (May 2016),
 - g. “Souvenir for Geopark” – art-competition for local primary and secondary schools (May 2016),
 - h. “Family day” – 1 day programme for families full of activities for kids, trips guided by geologists, handicrafts activities etc., Visitors Centre Eresztvény (almost 800 participants) (June 2016),
 - i. “Volcano Day” in Nature Reserve Ipolytarnóc Fossils – various lectures for kids and volcano model presentations (1230 visitors);

- j. Photo exhibition at Nature Reserve Ipolytarnóc Fossils (April – June 2016),
 - k. 20 lectures on Geopark topic in Visitors Centre Eresztvény (April – August 2016),
 - l. 18 guided tours to the Geopark sites for general public including 2 night tours (March – August 2016),
 - m. 3 guided tours for kids, students and experts from outside the Geopark (May – June 2016),
 - n. Geopark Summer Camp 2016 for kids aged 7-15 (August 2016).
7. Preparation of common cross-border projects financed from the INTERREG V-A Programme, Visegrad Fund and ERASMUS Programme (September 2016)

Networking

- 8. Annual General Assembly of the Z.p.o. Geopark Novohrad-Nógrád, Fil'akovo (presentation of NNG activities, presentation of the GeoPart project results) (March 2016)
- 9. Presentation of NNG at the Utazás 2016 Budapest – Hungarian tourist trade fair (March 2016)
- 10. Active involvement the activities of NNG Action Plan into Action Plan of the Lučenec County (according to the Law on Support of less favoured counties in Slovakia) (March – July 2016)
- 11. Geopark Fiesta – informal meeting of members, partners, supporters and friends of Novohrad-Nógrád Geopark (May 2016)
- 12. Consultations with self-governments in the field of project preparation (village renewal, local development, environmental issues, ...) (April - August 2016)
- 13. Continuous communication with other partners (schools, expert organisations, civil societies, entrepreneurs, etc)
- 14. Co-operation with National Geoparks Commissions in SK and HU (meetings, consultations, conferences) (March – August 2016)
- 15. Annual meeting of the Slovak National Geopark Commission held in Fil'akovo (June 2016)
- 16. Consultations of 3 diploma works of students from SK and HU

Activity by Partners

- 17. Together with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and the National Park Bükk Directorate - preparation of common project proposal in the field of building and accessing the Geopark localities within the INTERREG V-A Programme (April – September 2016)
- 18. Preparation and execution of study trip for mayors to the Bakony-Balaton Geopark (HU) and Papuk Geopark (May – September 2016)

GEOPARK ODSHERRED, DENMARK

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. **Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark is visiting Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark September 5th and 6th. The Queen is visiting the place where the Sun Chariot was found in 1902. Her Majesty is also visiting the Geokids-project.**
2. Further progress and meetings on project about Lammefjord and the local produce (vegetables) involving the local farmers. The National Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS) did complete first round of the geological surveys. The project will finish in 2017. March 2016 – September 2016.
3. Further progress on the project about the Sun Chariot and where it was found in 1902 in Trundholm Bog. The project was presented in connection with Her Majesty visiting Geopark Odsherred. March 2016 – September 2016
4. 50 special invited guests and local stakeholders participating in Her Majesty's visit in Trundholm Bog where the Sun Chariot was found.
5. Continuing further development and working with one public school (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. So far 1800 masks are displayed in the landscape as a huge landart exhibition. March 2016 – September 2016.
6. 600 GEOkids participating in Her Majesty's visit on September 5th where further 600 masks were inaugurated.
7. Opening the Ridge Path in Geopark Odsherred with more than 700 participants. 7 km hike with dissemination of geology, landscape and cultural history along the way. March 2016.
8. Cooperation with University of Copenhagen 23 international students from 11 different countries doing a course in Transformation Studio about "The Future Geopark Odsherred". Result can be seen in a course magazine, Transformation Studio 2016. March – September 2016.
9. Cooperation with the National Museum of Denmark and University of Copenhagen,, Department of Geoscience and Natural Resource Management on the project of the Sun Chariot. March – September 2016
10. Preparing third edition of 160 new copies of the coffee table book about Odsherred in collaboration with local companies and VisitOdsherred with local recipes and many beautiful photos from our Geopark. The book has already sold 3800 copies, 400 copies sold in English. March 2016 – September 2016
11. One meeting with the geopark board of directors of the Geopark Odsherred Foundation. August 2016
12. First step of the Geoguide Course for volunteers and local inhabitants who wants do guided tours in Geopark Odsherred completed with 40 participants. May 2016
13. About 65 guided tours – both walks and buss tours, presentations, training programs with more than 500 participants. March 2016 – September 2016.

14. Organizing the 3 day Geopark Festival 2016 (Geopark week) tours and events in the landscape. About 120 different events and 13.000 visitors. August 2016.

15.

Networking

16. Network meeting in Magma Geopark about the Nordic GEOfood Project. May 2016.

17. Finishing the Nordic GEOfood project together with Magma, Rokua and Reykjanes Geoparks. September 2016.

18. Participation in the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in England and the EGN Coordination Committee in September 2016.

19. Study tour to Bergstrasse-Odenwalt UNESCO Global Geopark for Board of Directors from the Geopark Odsherred Foundation, Odsherred Municipality and the VisitOdsherred (tourism) – about 20 people participating. May 2016.

20. Participating in the 35th International Geological Congress in South Africa. August / September 2016

Activity by Partners

21. Formalized partnership agreements with an Information Center (Brofelde) and regional Nature Park (Naturpark Åmosen).

22. Further agreements with local partners in Geopark Odsherred. March – September 2016.

ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Starting an EU LEADER project together with our national Geopark partners in Germany, Porphyryland Saxony and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thuringia, with the thematic focus on sustainable Geotourism, especially the development of the European Copper Road, March 2016.
2. Signing of the agreement between the LAG Pongau and the “Ore of the Alps” UNESCO Global Geopark regarding the financial support of different Geopark activities (e.g. “Findlingspark” at the area of the waterfall in Bischofshofen) in the local LEADER programme 2015-2020, Leader Manager Mrs. Schwenoha, March 2016
3. Ceremonial opening of the special exhibition “People:Power:Music - from the Ore to the Instrument” in the Geopark “Visitor Centre Bischofshofen” with reference on the festivities on the occasion “200 years Salzburg belongs to Austria”, March 2016
4. Several articles on the Geopark in the local, regional and national media, March 2016 - September 2016.
5. Guided geotours on the ore-trail, guided visits in the show mines, lectures and workshops in the Geopark villages from March 2016 - September 2016
6. Special offers for environmental programs and programs for schools, March 2016 - September 2016
7. Regional Television feature about the special exhibition in the “Visitor Centre Bischofshofen”, April 2016
8. 2nd official meeting with the representatives of the community of Radstadt, which intends to become a member of the “Ore of the Alps” UNESCO Global Geopark, Mr. Feitzinger, Mr. Hubacek, Mr. Häupl, Mr. Ibetsberger, April 2016
9. Finalising the English version of the Geopark web presentation made by Mr. Sebastian Pichler, April 2016 - May 2016.
10. Planning of the 2017 special exhibition “Subsistence agriculture of the miners at Mitterberg region in the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century” by the experts Prof. Jürgen Breuste (University of Salzburg), Dr. Christoph Plawenn (chairman of the museum) and Dr. Horst Ibetsberger, May 2016 - June 2016.
11. Staging of the Geopark week 2016 with a manifold programme under the motto: “Hot springs, rapids, waterfalls”, May, June 2016
12. Realization of the “Miners Run” in Mühlbach, one of the most important running events in the Austrian Alps with more than 250 participants, June 2016.

13. Annual meeting of the tourism professionals from the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hüttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about promotional activities, June 2016.

Networking

14. Participation at the EGN conference in the Basque coast UNESCO Global Geopark, Mr. Herwig Pichler, Mr. Horst Ibetsberger and Mr. Josef Gantschnigg, March 2016.
15. Submission of the application for the EU-Project "Young Entrepreneurs in Geotourism on the Azores and in Salzburg" done by the Technical University Salzburg, "Ore of the Alps" UNESCO Global Geopark, Vulkaneiffel UNESCO Global Geopark and Azores UNESCO Global Geopark, March 2016.
16. Finalisation of an article about the "Ore of the Alps" UNESCO Global Geopark for the book "Austrian UNESCO Global Geoparks", Pfeil Verlag - Munich, which will be published in November 2016, March 2016 - August 2016.
17. Finalisation of the Master thesis about the "Hot springs at Liechtensteinklamm", a Geosite in the "Ore of the Alps" UNESCO Global Geopark (University of Salzburg, Department of Geography and Geology), April 2016
18. First discussions about a Master Thesis: "Subsistence agriculture of the miners at Mitterberg region in the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century" together with Prof. Jürgen Breuste (University of Salzburg, Department of Geography and Geology) and Martin Grillmair (student), May 2016
19. Visit of Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark in Cyprus. Together with Dr. Costas Constantinou (Director of the Geological Survey of Cyprus) and Dr. Efthymios Tsiolakis (Geologist of the Geopark) we visited the Geopark centre, different geosites and the giant copper mine near the Turkish side of Cyprus, Mr. Ibetsberger, Mr. Häupl, June 2016
20. Planning of the University seminar held by Prof. Jürgen Breuste, Dr. Horst Ibetsberger and Mag. Markus Häupl (2016/2017): Sustainable Regional development in the "Ore of the Alps" UNESCO Global Geopark and in the national partner Geoparks in Germany, Porphyryland Saxony and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thuringia, July 2016 - August 2016

Activity by Partners

21. Annual Geo-Talk together with our Geopark Partner Siegsdorf / Bavaria, March 2016.
22. Investigations about the copper history in the national partner Geoparks in Germany, Porphyryland Saxony and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thuringia regarding the joint project "European Copper Road", March 2016 - June 2016
23. Planning of an excursion through the "Ore of the Alps" UNESCO Global Geopark by the University of Salzburg in September 2016, Prof. Johannes Weidinger, August 2016

Papuk Geopark, Croatia

Progress report: March 2015 – September 2016

Papuk Geopark activities:

- 1.** We were hosted two days study trip from Nograd Novohrad Geopark. 40 guests (mostly from Slovakia) got acquainted with main Papuk Geopark features and could enjoy in cultural programme prepared by folklore groups of Slovakian minorities which live in the area of Papuk Geopark.
- 2.** We made a new arrangement and do some upgrading of Geopark corner which is situated in our new building at the Park Forest Jankovac
- 3.** Papuk Geopark hosted meeting of organizing committee who prepare „the 7th international workshop on the Neogene from the central and south-eastern Europe“.
Workshop will be organized in the Papuk Geopark – Visitor centre in Velika. The Programme of the workshop covers actual problems and perspective fields of Neogene geology, with special focus on the Paratethys.
- 4.** We organized two days Medieval festival with international groups. Numerous visitors (around 3.000) were entertained by archers, weavers, dancers etc. Also local producers, using medieval stalls, offered different products.
- 5.** Under the Erasmus+ programme: Strategic partnership in adult Education we participated in the project called “Partnership for geo-education”. Four countries were included: Poland, Iceland, Portugal and Croatia. The Project’s main goal was to exchange good practices and experiences in outdoor geo-education.
- 6.** We organized manifestation „Summer under the stars“ at the attractive location of Velika fortress. It is small open air festival, all visitors could revel in warm summer night. This year we showed four promotional movies from European Geoparks: Azores Geopark, Katla Geopark, English Riviera Geopark and aspiring geopark Trollfjell from Norway.
- 7.** Participation in common meeting with project partners in Bakony Balaton Geopark. Under Interreg Danube Transnational Programme we finished application – Valorisation of geo-heritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks. This project includes partners from 7 countries and 6 Geoparks.
- 8.** We successfully finished project “Campsite Duboka”. New campsite has been built near Visitor centre in Velika. Value of project was 375.000 Euro, money is secured from UNDP-GEF fund. In the future we plan to develop school-in-nature with base in the campsite.

9. In cooperation with Faculty of Geodesy of Zagreb University one post graduate thesis is in progress. Result should be Papuk Geopark geological map. Also there should be build interactive (web) touristic / geological map.

10. Preparation of future Project in cooperation with Association for rural development LAZ, Municipality Litija (Slovenia) under the program Europe for Citizens: Town twinning. Due to many other project commitments we are going to participate as associated partner.

11. 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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POLLINO GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. May 2016: first meeting of the Scientific Commission of Pollino Global Geopark (Professors of Universities of Calabria, of Basilicata and of Florence), discussion of the recommendations issued by Unesco and arrangement of the related actions.
2. June 2016: guided tours at the Romito Cave geosite by the University of Florence working team;
3. July 2016: start of the project “*Operazione Trabucco*”, study of a karst sinkhole, in partnership with several associations of speleologists and several Italian universities and research institutes;
4. August 2016: start of the Mark of the Park process, an initiative for the promotion and enhancement of the territory aimed at local companies of the Pollino Geopark, that will receive the eco-label.
5. September 2016: installation of information panels in the geosite “Valley of Argentino River” in collaboration with the municipality of Orsomarso;
6. The main events in partnership:
 - a. 5th to 7th August 2016: “*Pollino Music Festival*” in the municipality of San Severino Lucano, music concerts, guided tours, outdoor and sports activities, workshops for children and teens;
 - b. 22th to 24th July 2016: “*Festa della Bandiera*” (The feast of the flag) in the municipality of Morano Calabro, historical enactments, ancient customs and uses, fair of local products;
 - c. 20th to 22th August 2016: “*Radiazioni*” in the municipality of Alessandria del Carretto, buskers, cultural meetings, theater, music, educational workshops;
 - d. 25th-26th June 2016: “*16th Pollino Marathon*” in the municipality of Terranova di Pollino, MTB national race;
 - e. 12th to 14th August 2016: “*Bianco e Rossa Dop 2016*” in the municipality of Rotonda, the feast of the White Bean PDO and the Red Aubergine PDO of Rotonda (PDO: Protected Designation of Origin – UE trademark);
 - f. 5th-8th-9th August 2016: “*La regata del Pollino*” in the municipality of Laino Borgo, rafting race between the towns of Lao Valley;
7. From June to September 2016: project “*Parco Fruibile (Usable Park)*”. This is carried out by social workers, who work for maintenance of the park's trails and facilities, monitoring of tourism, environmental education and behavioural norms. The project is funded by the Region Basilicata;
8. 5th to 15th August 2016: participation in the 28th edition of “*Festambiente*”, in the village of Rispeccia in the natural park of Maremma – Tuscany, an ecological kermesse organised by Legambiente, one of the most widespread environmental organization in Italy. During the event the Pollino Geopark organized several workshops for children and performed the disclosure of its geological values and the park activities.
9. March – September 2016: Interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings;
10. March – September 2016: contributions to schools and local partner to carry out various environmental education courses.

Networking

11. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in Basque Coast, Spain, March 2016.
12. Organization 8th Italian Workshop of UNESCO Global Geoparks "*Protection, enhancement and management of geo-diversity*" which was held from 4th to 6th July 2016 in Mormanno and Senise. Guided tours and field trips in the most important geosites of the geopark (Ophiolite sequence of Timpa delle Murge and Timpa di Pietrasasso, Raganello Gorges, Lao Valley, Romito Cave, Plains of Ruggio and Belvedere di Malvento viewpoint, Civita and arbereshe community, etc.);
13. Printing and distribution to participants at Workshop of promotional materials about Pollino UNESCO Global geopark, July 2016;
14. Printing and distribution to participants at Workshop of the Italian version of the brochure "UNESCO Global Geoparks", July 2016;

Activity by Partners

15. Guided tours and outdoors lessons by the University of Calabria and University of Basilicata on the geosites of Timpa delle Murge and Timpa di Pietrasasso, from May to September 2016;
16. 28th to 31th July 2016: "*Trek Festival*" – San Severino Lucano, meetings, discussions and excursions around the nature tourism;
17. August 2016: ArtePollino Award, organized by Association ArtePollino, which aims to promote a new cultural and territorial development through creativity of the students of the Italian academies.

PSILORITIS UGG, GREECE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. By the April 2016 the replacement of the old geopark panels was finalised. 25 geosite panels with the new UGG logos were set insitu and 5 new panels for the geotrails too, after the funding from the Region of Crete.
2. A meeting for the discussion of the new Management Plan principles was organised in Anogia where the new achievements and the nomination of the Psiloritis UGG were presented in front of the local Authorities and inhabitants, on the 2/5/2016.
3. On mid April 2016 the geopark coordinated the submission of an Interreg proposal on geotourism development. Sitia, Lesvos and Troodos geopark are also participating.
4. On the 9/4/2016 Psiloritis geopark participated in a meeting hosted in Chania, Crete dedicated to the UNESCO sites in Crete. The new UGG was presented by C. Fassoulas.
5. Since the beginning of May 2016 the geopark is participating in an open discussion between the three UNESCO designated areas in Crete and the Region of Crete in order to prepare for funding a tourist route titled "The UNESCO sites in Crete". The discussion has led into an agreement which is going to be signed in October and funded as a new tourist product of Crete by the Crete Region.
6. On the 26-29/5/2016 two representatives of the Geopark participated in an exchange program between Cretan geoparks and German Nature Parks, and visited the area of Berchtesgaden in Bavaria.
7. In late May Psiloritis geopark hosted a regional TV Channel (Kriti TV) to present the Psiloritis UNESCO geopark. The first half part of the documentary was released on the 23/6/2016, while the second one is expected on September.
8. The final version of the Geopark Management Plan was presented by the end of August and is still under review by the local authorities, inhabitant and national Services.
9. The EGN week activities were dedicated this year to the nomination of the Psiloritis UGG and took place between June and August, with great success.
10. Psiloritis UGG has started the preparations for the revalidation process of geopark that will take place in 2017.

Networking

1. Participation in the 35th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast, Spain, March 2016.
2. The Psiloritis geopark coordinator C. Fassoulas evaluated the Lochaber aspiring UGG on the June 2016.
3. On the 8/7/2016 Psiloritis Geopark participated in the annual meeting of the Hellenic geoparks which was contacted through teleconference.

4. The Psiloritis UGG initiated since May discussions for twinning and collaboration between the Qinling Zhongnanshan UGG of China. On the 10-11 of September Psiloritis will host a delegation from Qinling to sign the twinning agreement and present its achievements.
5. Psiloritis UGG offered through the Natural History Museum samples to be included in the exhibition organised by Lesvos UGG "The birth of Aegean" that will be launched in Russia on the beginning of October 2016.
6. Preparations for the Participation in the 7th International Conference of UGG

Activity by Partners

7. The Anogia Environmental Education Center in Collaboration with geopark organised an open event-field visit in Psiloritis mts, on the International Day for Environment on 5/6/2016, dedicated to the Psiloritis UNESCO Geopark.
8. The Natural History Museum in collaboration with the AKOMM organised a public event to present the benefits of Nature 2000 areas in Psiloritis Mts, on the 29/5/2016

REYKJANES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ICELAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Numerous international, national and local interviews, articles and press releases on the Geopark.
2. Organisation and wide promotion of the EGN Week. See our EGN Week report (June 2016).
3. The Geopark advertised for a partner interested in building the visitor center next to Reykjanes lighthouse earlier this year. The board of the Geopark agreed to work with Reykjanes Aurora Ltd on developing their idea. Their plan is to open a visitor center in the summer of 2017.
4. Reykjanes Geopark outdoor activity and hiking map published (May 2016).
5. Work on a bird watching map that will be published in the spring 2017.
6. An article in EGN – Common Activities Newsletter No6 – 2016.
7. New welcoming signs with the new UNESCO Global Geoparks logo (August 2016).
8. New clothes with the Reykjanes Geopark and Visit Reykjanes logos for staff members (June 2016).
9. Printing and distribution of Reykjanes Geopark and UNESCO Global Geoparks flags (March 2016)
10. Working with Iceland Tourism Task Force to prioritizing of infrastructure building at Reykjanes Peninsula, e.g. at geosites (August 2016).
11. New visitor counters at two geosites (Reykjanes lighthouse and Garðskagi lighthouse) in cooperation with Iceland Tourism Task Force and PhD student at University of Iceland.
12. Preparation of new parking lots next to the geosites Reykjanes lighthouse, Brimketill and Gunnuhver.
13. Preparation of building new viewing platform next to the geosite Brimketil.
14. Development of “cold” visitor centres and new information points in cooperation with all partners.
15. An article in Iceland Review and WOW air magazine.
16. On site course for staff members of the information and visitor centres and local tourism companies.
17. Introduction of the Geopark with Icelandic travel agencies.
18. Participation in a working group with Iceland Tourism board on reviewing tourist information centres and visitor centres.
19. Participation in a working group with Iceland Tourism Task Force on reviewing reliable data regarding tourism in Iceland.

Networking

20. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain. (March 2016).
21. Attending a meeting in Icelandic Geopark Forum (May 2016).
22. Participation in a meeting in the GEOfood project with Magma Geopark, Rokua Geopark and Odsherred Geopark (May 2016).
23. Participation in GEOadventure conference in Ralsko Aspiring Geopark, Czech Republic (May 2016).
24. Organisation and participation in a meeting with Katla UNESCO Global Geopark and Saga Aspiring Geopark as a part of the Drifting Apart project in Saga Geopark (August 2016).
25. A meeting with the director general of The Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland and cultural heritage manager for the Reykjanes Peninsula.

Activity by Partners

26. The Municipality Garður has opened the two lighthouses (geosties) to public (June 2016).
27. Participation of all partners in the EGN week (June 2016).
28. Keilir offering assistance and courses in quality and hospitality. Assisting companies to apply for Vakinn, environment and quality label of the Icelandic Tourist board.
29. Working on increased visibility of the geosites on Visit Reykjanes website.

ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Excursions in several sites of the Geopark;
2. Preparing and installation of: new road signs, new interpretation panels for geosites and natural areas;
3. Realization a new promotional materials (brochures);
4. Preparing of the revalidation mission of Rocca di Cerere Geopark as a UNESCO Global Geopark, that took place from 13th to 17th July 2016 (evaluators: Asier Hilario Orus and Margaret Wood);

Networking

5. Participation in the 37th EGN CC meeting in Basque Coast Geopark (Spain);
6. Updating cartoguide of the mining civilizations in Geoparks for the EGN Mining Working Group as discussed with the partners during the last meetings (after the last meeting are 18 the 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);
7. Updating and managing of the new official Italian Geoparks website (www.geoparchitaliani.it);
8. Updating on behalf of the Italian Commission of the new edition of the Italian Geoparks Book (new graphics and layout);
9. Revalidation mission in Chablais UGG as evaluator, with Alexandru Andrasanu (Hateg UGG) – 12/15 August 2016;

Activity by Partners

10. Activities of the Scientific Committee of the Geopark;
11. Seminar of presentation of the new master plan for the new RDP from 2014 to 2020 (next seven years), in collaboration with our partners, local operators and local and regional authorities.

ROKUA GEOPARK, FINLAND

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Rokua Geopark offices have moved to a new location inside the Geopark area in July 2016, resulting more visibility for the Geopark and a space for small exhibition.
2. The Ahjo Magazine published a long article about the Geopark. Ahjo is the magazine of Union workers in steel industry, and has a distribution of about 100 000 magazines all through Finland. July 2016
3. The Scan magazine published a half a page article on Rokua Geopark. The Scan magazine is an internationally distributed magazine promoting Scandinavian lifestyle, travel and business. June 2016.
4. Rokua Geopark has published a new language to its website www.rokuageopark.fi. Now the website is also in Chinese.
5. The first Mountain biking trail in the Geopark has been planned and waymarked to the Rokua esker area. The trail is about 20 km long. August 2016
6. Rokua Geopark and the Unesco Geoparks are presented in the new geography book for upper secondary high schools in Finland. September 2016.
7. Rokua Geopark participates to the Attractive Oulu Region 2018 project focusing in attracting more international visitors to the Oulu region. Among other tourism developing tasks, the Geopark is trying to find ways to attract more Chinese tourists to the region by using the sister ships formed with the Chinese Geoparks. The Project financed from the ERDF is active until September 2018
8. A new developing project focusing on the Geopark visibility, information distribution and finding the locations inside the Geopark has started in May 2016. The project will also develop a mobile app for the Geopark services. Kyläpaikat Kartalle –project has got a two year long financing from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Networking

9. Participation of Vesa Krökki and Jari Nenonen to the 36th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
10. Coordinating and organizing the Finnish Geoparks Committee meeting and Geopark workshop for the aspiring Finnish and Estonian Geoparks. Helsinki, Finland. April 2016
11. Geopark cooperation between the Swabian Alb Geopark and Rokua Geopark. Rokua Geopark participated to the Geopark festival organized by the Swabian

Alb Geopark in Aalen, Germany. On the same trip we had a meeting with the local teachers to continue the educational cooperation between the two Geoparks. May 2016.

12. Evaluation mission to Fforest Fawr Geopark, Wales in July 2016 by Vesa Krökki
13. Evaluation mission to Black Country Aspiring Geopark, England in June 2016 by Jari Nenonen
14. Geofood project. Three local restaurants and food producers have signed the Geofood agreement and started using the Geofood brand. The Geofood projects final meeting, participated by Vesa Krökki, was held in Magma Geopark, Norway. May 2016.
15. Rokua Geopark has participated to the preparation of the Danube Geotour project as an associated partner. May 2016.
16. Rokua Geopark contributed to the 13 EGN Magazine with an article about the EGN Conference.

Activity by Partners

17. The Municipality of Muhos has continued to build and renovate the Lemmenpolku Geotrail next to the River Oulujoki. The Trail has now more length, view points and stairs than before. August 2016
18. The Erasmus project between the Rokua Geopark upper secondary high school from municipality of Vaala and the Sesia Val Grande Geopark is continuing and progressing. A delegation of teachers and students led by Rokua Geopark environmental educator, Mikko Kiuttu visited Sesia Val Grande Geopark in March 2016.

GEOLOGICAL AND MINING SARDINIA GEOPARK, ITALY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Open Monument Days:
 - a. La Maddalena May 7, 2016. Celebrations of Lovisatian's Year (2016): Commemoration in memory of the hundred years after the death of the scientist and geologist Domenico Lovisato. Conference on: "*Domenico Lovisato: a garibaldinian geologist*" in collaboration with the Universities of Cagliari and Sassari, La Maddalena National Park and local associations.
 - b. Cagliari May 14, 2016. Show entitled: "Life in the Dark: the work in the mines in the Camedda Collection's finds. Sardinian Museum of Geology and Palaeontology and Museum of Mineralogy, Department of Chemistry and Geology, University of Cagliari.
 - c. Carbonia May 21, 2016. European Night of Museums at the Coal Museum in the Grande Miniera di Serbariu, with guided tour at the underground tunnel. In collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism.
2. Iglesias, August 5, 2016. Tenth edition of the National Competition "Mining Geopark Thesis and Doctorate Renzo Paschi Award".
3. VIII National Day of Mines May 28, 2016. Guided tour along part of the route of Gutturu Mannu-Pixinamanna-Is Cannoneris.

Networking

4. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Meeting Basque Coast Geopark – Spain, March, 16-19 2016.
5. European Geoparks Week in Geological and Mining Sardinia Geopark Italy, May 7, 14, 21, 2016
6. 8th Workshop UNESCO Global Geoparks of Italy: Protection, enhancement and management of geodiversity. Mormanno (Cosenza) – Senise (Potenza) July 4-6, 2016.

Activity by Partners

7. Reportage dedicated to the history and architecture of the great epic period of Sardinia mining with attention to natural and geological beauties in collaboration with ISPRA TV. May 26-30, 2016. Visits to Ingurtosu Mine and Dunes of Piscinas (Arbus), Rosas Mine (Narcao), Mining Archive of Monteponi and Porto Flavia (Masua Mine, Iglesias), Su Zurfuru Mine (Fluminimaggiore), Galleria Henry (Planu Sartu mine, Buggerru).
8. 5th Edition of "Giornate Tecniche Iglesienti" organized by Mining Expert Association and in collaboration with the Arte Mineraria Museum of Iglesias. Series of lectures March 25, April 29, May 27, June 24 2016.
9. 8th National day of Mines. May 28-29 2016. Events:

- a. Guided tours to the Galleria Villamarina at Monteponi Mine. In collaboration with IGEA S.p.A., and Iglesias Municipality.
- b. Guided tours to the house of the Directorate of Montevecchio Mine, show entitled: "The objects make history ("Castoldi Collection" and "Tuveri Donation)".
- c. Su Zurfuru Mine (Fluminimaggiore): Inauguration of the show entitled: "Life in the Dark: the work in the mines in the Camedda's Collection finds and commemoration and placement of a stone in memory of the work accident when the 23 November 1926 R. Frau and A. Congia miners were killed. In collaboration with the SUZURFURUMINE cultural Association.
- d. Orani. Ludic laboratory for primary school entitled: Once upon a time the mine and there is still. In collaboration with ATI Ifras Society.
- e. Photo show of industrial archeology entitled: "La vida secreta del desus ", by the Catalan artist Jordi Aligué, in the mines of Argentiera (Sassari), Ingurtosu (Arbus), Rosas (Narcao), San Giovanni, Monteponi and San Giorgio (Iglesias) and La Marmora washery (Nebida, Iglesias). In collaboration with ATI Ifras Society.
- f. Guided tours to historical Museum, washery and galleria Santa Barbara of Rosas mine Village.

10.. Pupils of first degree classes 1^aA, 1^aB, 1^aC and 2^aB of the Secondary School of Arbus, on over 380 italian classes, with a video entitled "That you love remains", won the first prize of the national competition entitled "Articolo 9 della Costituzione" Cittadini attivi per il paesaggio e l'Ambiente" promoted by Education, Benetton Foundation, Ministry of Cultural heritage and activities, the Senate of the Republic, the Chamber of Deputies, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment etc. June 7 2016.

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SHETLAND UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, UNITED KINGDOM

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. A new Geopark Officer was appointed and took up his post at the end of March 2016; the post had been vacant since 11th December, 2015.
2. Main priority for the new Geopark Officer was to continue to work in collaboration with partners on the Northern Periphery and Arctic Interreg Project “Drifting Apart”. This involved a trip to Northern Ireland at the beginning of April to meet the Lead Partner for the project and visit various sites. Our hosts, the Causeway Coast and Glen’s Heritage Trust had prepared a full programme for our visit. We were able to visit the Giant’s Causeway visitor centre and the Titanic Museum in Belfast.
3. As part of this project Geopark Officer prepared a presentation on the educational component of Work Package 6 which was delivered by Pete Harrison from the North West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark one of the Scottish sub partners in the Drifting Apart Project.
4. Geopark Officer contacted senior managers in oil companies involved in North Sea Oil exploration. The intention was to secure redundant equipment which could be incorporated into improved interpretation of Shetland’s North Sea Oil story and the links between Shetland’s Oil wealth and its geology. As a result of this initiative we were given wire-logging equipment. This is being held in storage whilst we develop the idea.
5. Geopark Officer assisted Cunningsburgh Primary School with their Natural Disasters Project. This involved an illustrated talk and site visit to Eshaness to see the remnants of the extinct volcanoes still evident in the landscape.
6. Geopark Officer instigated a collaborative venture with Leeds University Geoscience Department, looking at the application of Geoscience techniques to determine extent of archaeological remains in two sites. The supervisor and two students were able to survey both sites as part of an undergraduate study using Magnetometry, Ground Penetrating Radar and Electromagnetics. The project fostered good cooperation with other sections within the Trust and in particular our Archaeology section which assisted the team from the University of Leeds in identifying the sites. A full report is due later in the year.
7. Completed another successful Shetland Nature Festival which is run in conjunction with European Geoparks Week. The event ran from the 2nd until the 9th of July and incorporates a vibrant mixture of natural heritage and of course Shetland’s geology.
8. Geopark Shetland has been approached by the British Geological Society’s Geomagnetism Team who have been continuously running a Geomagnetic Observatory on Shetland since the 1920s. To promote their science and to engage with the public they would like to participate in an outreach event such as the 2017 Shetland Nature Festival/ EGN Geopark week. They would contribute

to the event with science exhibitions, hands on interactive displays, science talks and geomagnetic observatory tours.

9. During August the Geopark Officer resigned and we have begun the recruitment process once more.
10. We are in receipt of the late Professor Derek Flinn's detailed records on the geology of Unst. These may form basis for a future interpretive project.

Networking

11. Attended the EGN CC meeting in the Basque Coast, Spain.
12. Collaborated with Elizabeth Silva on a joint paper to be delivered at the forthcoming GGN Conference in Torquay.

Activity by Partners

13. Main focus since end of March has been familiarising the Geopark Officer with the work of the Geopark and the work required for the Drifting Apart Project.

SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Change of the director of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park / UNESCO Global Geopark. After Lourdes Guerra, the new director is Antonio García. *March, 2016.*
2. Joint organization of the activities on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Spanish Committee of the IGCP (International Geoscience Programme-UNESCO) in the Mycological Garden (Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark). *April, 2016*
3. Organization of the 10th European Geoparks Week in Sierras Subbéticas with the highest participation achieved (1483 people) and 13 different activities. *May, 2016*
4. Opening of a new Geopark Centre, Cabra Jurásica, which includes a permanent exhibition of rocks and fossils from Sierras Subbéticas. *May, 2016*
5. Collaboration with the University of Córdoba to organize the Geolo-day of the province of Córdoba. *May, 2016*
6. Participation in the Spanish Geoparks National Committee meeting held in Madrid. *June, 2016*
7. Celebration a Board Meeting 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.
8. Restoration activities continue removing waste material in the Lanchares Quarries.
9. Publication of several articles in the provincial and regional newspapers: 40th anniversary of the Spanish committee of the IGCP in Sierras Subbéticas, the EGN Week in Sierras Subbéticas, the importance of UNESCO Global Geoparks, the Salt from the Tethys Sea, the new centre Jurassic Cabra, and the new project “Actions on Geological Resources in the Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark.

Networking

10. Attendance to the 37th EGN CC Meeting in the Basque Coast.
11. Submission of an oral presentation “The Flavours from the Tethys Sea” for the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, English Riviera.
12. Collaboration, with geoconservation examples of Sierras Subbéticas, in a publication on Good Practices for Nature Conservation of the Spanish Committee of the IUCN.

13. Shipping of the EGN's magazines and Unesco Global Geoparks' leaflets, with information on Geoparks, to the Sierras Subbéticas partners and interested people.
14. Collaboration with Azores Geopark, sending photographs from Sierras Subbéticas, for a video on the occasion of the International Day of Monuments and Sites.
15. Interview with Catalina González, PhD student of the Natural History Museum of Paris, who is making a research on Spanish Geoparks.
16. Interview with Hetty Laverman, who visited Sierras Subbéticas and promotes her territory in Holland, Gooi en Vecht, to become a Global Geopark.

Activity by Partners

1. Installation of a new information point for the Geopark in the Cycle-touristic Centre in Doña Mencía.

PARQUE NATURAL SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Field research to various trilobites' sites in the municipality of *Alanís*, together with palaeontologist's specialists, March.
2. Meeting of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park Governing Board (March, 10th).
3. Awards ceremony of the scholar contest to name the fossil trunk mascot, Visitor Center *Cortijo El Berrocal* (April, 11st).
4. Visit of a French Group of Rural Development, Public Forest *El Berrocal* (May, 5th).
5. Visit of the Heritage Group of IUCN: Botanical Garden and Visitors Center *El Robledo*, and the Natural Monument *Cerro del Hierro* (May, 6th).
6. Review of the "Management Plan of Natural Resources" of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, to enhance the protection of geological sites (March – July).
7. Celebration of the Geological Day 2016 of Seville in the Geopark (May, 15th): a geological excursion opens to the general public, sponsored by the Geological Society of Spain.
8. Celebration of the V European Geoparks Week, with 65 activities organized by 44 institutions, social associations and tourism enterprises
9. Report about the geology and geological heritage of the municipality of *Alanís*.
10. Field study and technical report for the transfer of a new fossil trunk found in the municipality of *Almadén de la Plata*.
11. Preliminary studies for the declaration of new geosites.
12. Edition of the "Guide of Geosites of the Natural Park Sierra Norte de Sevilla - UNESCO Global Geopark"
13. Course: Geotourism guides of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark.
14. Course: Geoparks and Sustainable Development, with the Pablo de Olavide University (Seville).

Networking

15. Attendance to the 37th meeting of the Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network (Basque Coast Geopark, 17 to 19 March).
16. Involvement in the EGN Fossils Group: production of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark paleontological geosites list, with the additional information, texts and photographs.

17. Attendance to the meeting of the Spanish National Committee of UNESCO Global Geoparks (Madrid, 28 June 2016).

18. Creation of information about Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark (texts and photographs) for the Spanish National Geoparks Committee.

Activity by Partners

19. Setting-up of the Association of Sierra Norte of Seville Natural Park - Global Geopark that has as its aims and objectives: build an integrated enterprise offer, and promote the Sierra Norte de Sevilla region in all kinds of activities.

20. Journal about the scientific research in the Caves of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark, held in the House of Science of Sevilla, June 5.

21. Setting-up of the Association *Abantos*, that has the aims of compile and protect the miner and palaeontology heritage of the municipality of Alanis.

22. Environmental Volunteer Fieldwork, 17 to 31 July. Organized by the City Council of *Almaden de la Plata* and the Andalusia Institute of Youth of the Department of Equality and Social Policy.

SITIA GEOPARK,GREECE - CRETE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation in 37th Coordination Committee Meeting Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark 17th - 18th March, 2016
2. Continuous interviews and articles on the Sitia Geopark in the national and regional media and Social Media aimed at informing of citizens. March–September 2016
3. Educational activities and training program in collaboration with primary and secondary schools. March– June 2016
4. Visits by representatives of the Geopark Sitia in schools for information concerning the geology and biodiversity geotrails the Geopark March– June 2016
5. Cleaning and signage of new and old geo- routes with the voluntary support local Cultural Associations that are active in the Geopark of Sitia. April-May 2016
6. Meetings with local organizations in order to inform them about the Geopark's activities. May 2016
7. Organization of the European Geoparks Week, events which aimed to promote and inform the citizens and visitors on matters about the Geoparks, the geology, culture and biodiversity. July - August 2016
8. Recording and mapping of new geological points of interest and new geotrails inside the limits of the Geopark Sitia

Networking

9. Attended by a representative of the Sitia Geopark in International Intensive Course on Geoparks "UNESCO Global Geoparks: An international programme for Geoconservation, Geoeducation and Sustainable Development". Lesbos June 2016.
10. Advertisement listing in for Sitia Geopark annual publication entitled "Greece, the ideal destination 2016" and subtitled "" a window to nature, a flight to adventure "" , which includes information offerings for all forms of alternative tourism developed in Greece. June 2016
11. Participation in the Event for the Presentation of New Project "Global Geoparks UNESCO» organized by the Greek National Commission for UNESCO in Athens. March 2016

12. The Directorate of Secondary Education of Athens, organized by Educational Experiential Seminar Geopark Sitia, entitled:
"Geopark Sitia. Global Geopark of UNESCO: the parallel course of man and earth, as an engine for growth of environmental consciousness of world citizenship "
The seminar is held under the auspices of the Greek National Commission for UNESCO. June 2016

Activity by Partners

13. Organizing new educational programs in cooperation with the Center for Environmental Education for biodiversity and geology of the Geopark. March– June 2016
14. Visit and information of tourist guides Group on the Geopark and geotrails that exist for geology and ecosystems. aim the strengthening and the attraction of alternative tourists in the region. April 2016
15. The voluntary participation for constructions and maintenance work of the information center and hospitality of Sitia Geopark. July 2016
16. Participation in the conference organized by the Geopark Troodos on the subject Geopark Troodos Monument Geological and Natural Heritage. Cyprus April 2016

SOBRARBE-PIRINEOS GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. **Educational activities:** During the months of April, May and June took place an educational programme with students from 3 to 14 years, teachers and families (630 participants), to participate in the World Heritage didactic activity developed by the Sobrarbe Geopark. This is the fourth year the Geopark organizes this activity. One of the main goals of this program is to promote awareness of the local population about the elements inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO which are located inside the Geopark, and also enhance the knowledge and appreciation of our heritage among children, teachers and parents of Sobrarbe, promoting awareness, enjoyment and protection of our valuable natural and cultural heritage. This activity is financed by the Ministry of Culture of Spain.
2. **Workshop “European day of the Megalithic culture”:** This workshop was organised by the Geopark since the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark has been included in the European itinerary of the Megalithic culture. 24th April 2016.
3. **Visit of Spanish and French secondary schools to the Geo-routes** of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark. April 2016.
4. **Celebration of the EGN Week:** From the 20nd May to the 5th June the Sobrarbe Geopark organised a series of activities promoted as the European Geoparks Week (guided visits and excursions, conferences, photo contest ...)
5. **New logo and 10th anniversary of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark:** Creation of a new logo of the Geopark to highlight its 10th anniversary and its new condition of UNESCO Global Geopark. May 2016.
6. **Collaboration in the Mycological Days of the Broto Valley** at the end of May, with a special prize of the Geopark to the winner in the “Tapas” contest.
7. **Participation in the IX International Congress on history of mining and minerals,** with a poster concerning the mining heritage of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark. Madrid, 23-26 June 2016.
8. **Project Excave with the Sobrarbe Geopark:** It's the fourth year this activity has been organised by the Geopark, it consists in the participation of 6 people for 6 days in an archaeological dig in Sobrarbe during the month of June. They work voluntarily in the field work carried out by a team of archaeologists. June 2016.
9. **Archaeological and paleontological activity for families:** The Geopark organized a visit to two archaeological and paleontological sites in June 2016. It was aimed at families (adults and children over three years)
10. **Tourism and promotion activity:** Organization of a visit of Norwegian and Belgian tour operators in the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark in cooperation with Turespaña and the Ecotourism club of Spain. June 2016

11. **Summer activities for youths in Sobrarbe:** The Geopark organises activities for young people between 10 and 18 years from the 5th to the 22nd of July, with special success of the activity “Our ice heritage” consisting of the visit to one of the Geo-routes of the Geopark devoted to the ice-age.
12. **Inspection of Partner Enterprises:** The annual inspection visit to all these enterprises was performed in order to check the fulfillment of all the requirements of the agreement signed with the Geopark.
13. **Developing of new merchandising and promotional materials of the Geopark.**
14. **Course on geological heritage, geoparks and geotourism:** This course held in Sobrarbe for the second time, took place between the 4th and the 7th July, has been organised by the International University Menéndez Pelayo in collaboration with the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark. One of the professors in charge of the course is the Scientific Director of the Sobrarbe Geopark, Anchel Belmonte.
15. **Publication of an article in the Magazine of the Spanish organization on earth sciences teaching.** August 2016.
16. **Visit of representatives of the Spanish Geological Survey and the Colombian Geological Survey** to the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark in order to share experiences and establish a cooperation aimed to the creation of Global Geoparks in Colombia. September 2016.
17. **Promotion of the craft-food products of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Global Geopark** in regional fairs, and participation in seminars to promote production and local consumption of the Geopark craft-food products. September 2016.

Networking

18. Participation in the **36th European Geoparks Network** Coordination Committee meeting and Conference in Rokua, September 2015.
19. **European Geoparks Week:** (May 20nd to June 5th). (Exhibitions, guided tours...)
20. **Participation in the 2nd Meeting of the Spanish National Committee** of Global Geoparks. June 2016
21. **Participation of the Scientific Coordinator** of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Global Geopark in a revalidation mission in China
22. **Participation in the EGN Newsletter nº 6 of the EGN.**
23. **Publication of news about the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark activities** in the EGN, GGN and UNESCO websites.

Activity by Partners

24. **Cooperation project** regarding the international World Heritage Site “Pirineos Monte Perdido”, that is partially inside the Geopark. June-September 2016.

25. **Cooperation with the University of Barcelona and CSIC in a seminar** on the Neolithic in the Pyrenees, focused in the archaeological findings in a cave in the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark.
26. **Participation in the “Geolodía” (Geo-day)**, organized by different organizations and in several places all over Spain, to enhance and disseminate geology, and collaboration in the recording of a promotional film with the Spanish Geological Survey. 7th May 2016
27. **Participation in the organization of the Training course for National Parks Guides**, together with the Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park and the Ministry of Environment. May-June 2016
28. **Cooperation with speleological groups** during the summer season 2016.
29. **Collaboration in promotional brochure** of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Global Geopark with the Association of tourism enterprises of Sobrarbe. July 2016
30. **Collaboration with and international photographer** in an artistic project involving landscapes and geology, focused in the Pyrenees and especially in the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark. August 2016.

STYRIAN EISENWURZEN NATURE- AND GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Personnel

1. Irmgard Auer who has managed the Nature- and Geopark with great enthusiasm has left this position with June 2016 after 8 years. The Park owes its successful development to a great deal of her efforts.
2. Eva Maria Vorwagner who holds a degree in Master of Science in forest economics has joined the management group. Besides her investigations on the biodiversity of the area she will be active in the cooperation with the Nature and Geopark schools. August 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Promoting and selling of food products of Geopark Partners at our office.
2. Start of a funded LEADER Project (National and European Union co-funded) "Orchard in the Nature and Geopark Styrian Eisenwurzen". The project has a term from 2016 to the end of 2018. It will support local farmers as well as generate additional scientific data on rare local fruits, March 2016
3. Emergency management tutorial for our employees and Geopark guides with the focus on guided field trips within the Geopark, April 2016
4. Organizing the Geoparks Week 2016, May 2016
5. Summer adventure days attended by approximately 100 children (a 9-day program for 9 days at each Geopark community, August 2016
6. Development and introduction of our new corporate design including logos, information boards, homepage, merchandise and brochures. (official launch: January 2017), March – September 2016
7. Family fieldtrip for members of the scientific meeting "Alpine Landsnails" to the GeoCentre, the GeoWorkshop and fossil localities in Gams, August 2016

Networking

1. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Coordination Committee Meeting at the Basque Coast, Spain. Heinz Kollmann, Oliver Gulas, March 2016
2. Participation in the Austrian Geopark Forum meeting. Heinz Kollmann, Oliver Gulas, March 2016
3. Application for the Interreg Project "Valorisation of geo-heritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks" (Danube GeoTour) together with our Lead Partner Geopark Iridja, Slovenia and 8 other partners (European Geoparks, Universities), March - May 2016
4. Participation in the public event "Steiermark Frühling" (Styrian Spring) in Vienna attended by more than one hundred thousand visitors, April 2016

5. Participation in a public presentation of all Styrian Nature Park in Graz: “Grünzeug von der Wiese” (Herbs from meadows), May 2016
6. Like each year, the Geoparks Week had an excellent start with the “Day of Biodiversity”. The event brought 250 children from all schools of the Park to the community of Landl. At numerous stations, the diversity of animals and of plants and their sustainable use were demonstrated, May 2016
7. Participation at an exhibition on landscapes of Geoparks at Lavender House, UNESCO Global Geopark Bakony-Balaton, Heinz Kollmann, May 2016
8. Visit of a delegation of the republic of Georgia. The regional development as well as the Nature and Geopark highlights were communicated to employees of various ministries, June 2016
9. Implementation of a video station with learning programmes in the foyer of the local authority in the Geopark municipality St. Gallen, July 2016
10. Preparation of an article for the local magazine of the Azores Geopark, Portugal, July 2016
11. Celebrating 20 years of “Nature Park” Styrian Eisenwurzen with live radio music show and Geopark Culinary Specialities Partner market at the castle of “Kassegg” (Geopark Partner and Nature hotel), August 2016
12. Preparation of individual information sheets on our Geopark in German and English language, March – August 2016
13. Preparation of an article for the Odenwald Magazine of the Geopark Bergstraße-Odenwald, Germany, August 2016

Activity by Partners

14. Nature- and Geopark school in St.Gallen: Winner of the “Climate protection junior award 2016” for building and implementing a solar house at the school area. The award was initiated by the Austrian broadcasting corporation (ORF). The award ceremony was transmitted nationwide on television. June 2016
15. Summer programmes of our Geopark Partners (different activities 7 days a week throughout the Geopark), July – August 2016
16. New Nature and Geopark Culinary Specialities Partner: Karl Schneiber (honey products), August 2016
17. Representatives of the GeoVillage Gams and different partners were attending various markets and events throughout the Geopark and in surrounding areas, May – August 2016

SWABIAN ALB GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Meeting of the Geopark Infocentres at the historical mine shaft “Tiefer Stollen” in municipality Aalen. Preparation of the seventh Geopark-Festival in April, March 2016.
2. Meeting in municipality Zwiefalten with representatives of the county Reutlingen about the progress and future perspectives of the Geopark project “GeoAdventure centre” in a quarry in Zwiefalten, March 2016.
3. Participation at an education event of guides of visiting caves in municipality Schelklingen. Presentation the Geopark Swabian Alb, March 2016.
4. Presentation the Geopark at a council meeting in municipality Beuren. The regional council decided the membership in Geopark association and the installation of a new Geopark Infocentre in the local thermal bath, March 2016.
5. Education the staff of the Geopark Infocentres about Geopark issues in municipality Beuron, March 2016.
6. Meeting with representatives of the “Grimminger foundation” about future support of Geopark activities, March 2016.
7. Presentation the Geopark at a council meeting in municipality Schelklingen. The regional council decided the membership in Geopark association, April 2016.
8. Meeting of the Geopark task force and Geopark advisory board in municipality Beuron, April 2016.
9. Celebration the Seventh Geopark Festival at the historical mine shaft “Tiefer Stollen” in Aalen in combination with the inauguration of the mine shaft as a further Geopark Infocentre. Nearly all Geopark Infocentres and landscape guides presented themselves with various activities like preparation of fossils, guided tours and much more. Participation of our partner Rokua Geopark. About 1.500 visitors, April 2016.
10. Meeting in Aalen with representatives of four UNESCO project schools in the Geopark area. Discussing the implementation of the new Geopark school concept in the member counties, April 2016.
11. “Geological evening” in the biosphere reserve in municipality Münsingen. Presentation a preview of a new documentary movie about cultural landscapes of the Swabian Alb, May 2016.
12. Participation at the first “Tourism Congress Swabian Alb” in municipality Münsingen, May 2016.

13. Celebration of the European Geoparks Week with about 35 activities, May-June 2016.
14. Presentation the Geopark at the "Gemeindetag Baden-Württemberg" in municipality Pliezhausen, May 2016.
15. Opening the first "Geopoint" at a local entrepreneur who has set up a hammering place at his manufaktur. Furthermore he produces fossil replicas as cookies and chocolate for sale, May 2016.
16. Inauguration the visiting cave "Kolbinger Höhle" in Tuttlingen county as a further Geopark Infocentre, August 2016

Networking

17. Participation in the 37rd European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
18. Participation at a meeting of all National Geoparks in Germany in Grimma, April 2016.
19. Meeting with representatives of the county Reutlingen in municipality Reutlingen. Discussing the implementation of a steering group in the county Reutlingen. It was decided to found a steering group in this county, May 2016.
20. Ceremonial handover of copies of the UNESCO-Geopark certificate to the county Zollernalbkreis and its two Geopark Infocentres, July 2016.
21. Ceremonial handover of copies of the UNESCO-Geopark certificate to the county Reutlingen and its five Geopark Infocentres, July 2016.
22. Ceremonial handover of copies of the UNESCO-Geopark certificate to the county Heidenheim and its six Geopark Infocentres, July 2016.

Activity by Partners

23. Participation in publication of a new book about the tertiary volcanism on the Swabian Alb in the Geopark Infocentre Nature reserve centre Schopflocher Alb, March 2016
24. Participation on the second Cave-Experienceday of the county Tuttlingen in municipality Kolbingen organized by the Geopark steering group in the county Tuttlingen, August 2016.
25. Participation at a regional art festival in a quarry organized by a cement company who is a partner of the Geopark, September 2016

TERRAS DE CAVALEIROS GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Ten TV interviews and 24 articles about the geopark in national and regional media, as well as seven newsletters, March-September 2016.
2. Host several educational programs with 760 participants, guided tours with 267 participants and pedestrian paths with 157 participants, organized by the Geopark, March-September 2016.
3. Three awareness-raising activities organized in various civil parishes of the geopark and a training action for teachers in Porto city, which involved 72 participants, March-September 2016.
4. Applying for an European program under the theme "*Treasures and knowledge in the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark*" which aims to develop a management plan for 4 geosites, the survey of traditions, customs and rituals of the geopark, as well as the dissemination and implementation of visitation actions, March-September 2016
5. Participation in the Lisbon Tourism Fair (BTL), a reference fair in the national tourism industry, Lisbon, March 2016.
6. Participation in six regional fairs for promoting products of the geopark territory, March-September 2016.
7. Presentation of the geopark to Dr. Rui Rio, chief adviser at Boyden and former mayor of Porto; Macedo de Cavaleiros, April 2016.
8. Presentation of the geopark to master's students of the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, April 2016.
9. Participation in the XI Conference of Young Geoscientists, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the publication of "*The Origin of Continents and Oceans*" (Die Entstehung der Kontinente und Ozeane) by Alfred Wegener; Coimbra, April 2016.
10. Guided tour in the territory of the geopark to the members of the Municipal Assembly of Macedo de Cavaleiros, under the 42-year commemoration of the April 25 revolution, April 2016.
11. Celebration of Earth Day and National Geoheritage Day, which included a traveling exhibition of oil painting, titled "*Geosites of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark*" in the Information Centre of the Geopark, April - September 2016.
12. Participation and presentation of the geopark's brotherhoods in the Agriculture Fair, as well as the Geo-dishes of participating restaurants, Macedo de Cavaleiros, May 2016.
13. Participation in the XI International Festival of Iberian Mask, for the promotion and dissemination of culture, history and gastronomy of the territory, Lisbon, May 2016.

Contact: gestao@geoparkterrasdecavaleiros.com

14. Participation in the Annual Meeting of the *Roadmap of Mines and Geological Points of Interest* partners, Porto, June 2016.
15. Participation in the St. Peter fair, with the traveling exhibition and oil painting contest, entitled "*Geosites of the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark*", Macedo de Cavaleiros, June-July 2016.
16. Open day to the community for the presentation of the video documentary "*Murçós Mines: the stories of its people*", Murçós, Macedo de Cavaleiros, August 2016.

Networking

1. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016.
2. Visit and presentation of the Geopark to Professor Patricio Melo, Rector of the Cariri Regional University and Head of the Araripe Geopark, Macedo de Cavaleiros, June 2016.
3. Organization and promotion of the European Week of Geoparks, with 955 direct participants, May-June 2016.

Activity by Partners

1. Organization and participation in activities under the "*Partners Week*" of the *Roadmap of Mines and Geological Points of Interest* of Portugal, March 2016.
2. Application "*Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark - internationalization of Macedo de Cavaleiros tourism promotion*" in partnership with ACISMC (Commercial and Industrial Association) one of the members of the Geopark Association, March-September 2016.
3. Organization and participation in the "*March on behalf of the Environment*" as part of the celebrations of "*World Environment Day*" integrated in the Eco-Schools program, sponsored by ABAE (European Blue Flag Association) in partnership with the Municipality of Macedo de Cavaleiros with 530 participants, June 2016.
4. Organizing and participating in environmental education activities on the beaches of the *Azibo Reservoir Protected Landscape*, with emphasis on awareness raising and cleaning of the beaches, promoted by ABAE (European Blue Flag Association) in partnership with the Macedo de Cavaleiros Municipality, July-August 2016.
5. Participation in the program "*Living Science in the Summer*", in partnership with the Centro Ciência Viva of Bragança (Life Science Centre), with 9 activities related to geology, biology and astronomy and attended by 172 participants, July-September 2016.

TERRA.VITA GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, March 2016 – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Presentation of a new information concept for the recreational area of the Alfsee (also Natura 2000 designation), including guidance for hikers. The press conference was held together with the mayor and the tourist manager.
2. The new interactive nature trail Zwickenbachtal has been opened, highlighting a cooperation between a school class, a local hiking organisation and TERRA.vita. A new TERRA.tip is helping to promote the trail.
3. The annual project planning initiative in the county of Gütersloh (representing the TERRA.vita communities) identified a new mining heritage project.
4. TERRA.vita representatives Timo Kluttig and Hartmut Escher carried out evaluation missions to a Greek and an aspiring Ecuadorian Geopark.
5. New TERRA.tipps have been printed for the area of Borgholzhausen and the Black Chalk quarry (German/English).
6. A new TERRA.natura brochure has been printed for the Grasmoor area
7. TERRA.vita participated with our new stand twice at Piesberg festivities and in Ibbenbüren.
8. TERRA.funga project started, offering information about mushrooms
9. A new Bufdi (federal volunteer service) has been employed for one year in September
10. An English version of the TERRA.map has been printed.
11. TERRA.vita has initiated a process to discuss the possibilities to support the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG`s) of the UN. The next step will be workshop in November organized by the German UNESCO Commission.

Networking

1. Participation at GGN presentation at ITB in Berlin
2. Participation in the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting at Basque Geopark Spain in April 2016.
3. Presentation of the German Forum of UNESCO Global Geoparks during the week of the Environment in the garden of Schloss Bellveue in Berlin, the seat of the German President. TERRA.vita organised an 1 hour discussion. Participants: Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German UNESCO Commission, the German Environmental Foundation, Dr. Marie Luise Frey and our Forum, represented by Hartmut Escher.
4. Presentation of TERRA.vita and UNESCO Global Geoparks in 5 ILEK groups (Integrated Rural Development Concepts, comparable to LEADER)
5. Presentation of TERRA.vita and UGG at the Environmental and Urban Planning committee of the city of Osnabrück
6. Talk about new developments at UNESCO and in Germany (concerning the new National Geopark Committee) at the National Geotop Meeting in Grimma by Hartmut Escher

7. Hartmut Escher carried out two evaluation missions to two of three potential UNESCO Geoparks candidates in Germany together with other members of the German National Geopark Committee

Activity by Partners

1. Germany`s Foreign Minister Frank Walter Steinmeier handed over the official UNESCO Global Geopark document to the president of TERRA.vita.
2. The undersecretary of the Environmental Ministry in Lower Saxony declared during a visit of TERRA.vita, that the application of the Geopark, addressing the landscape management und regional cooperation directive was successful, granting 860.000 € for a period of six years, allowing TERRA.vita to employ two regional managers, focussing on Natura 2000 areas.
3. The Association of German Natureparks carried out a quality check at TERRA.vita for the third time. As a positive result: TERRA.vita is listed as Quality Nature Park for another 5 years.
4. The consultant company IKU started a small competition among its customers while celebrating its 25 birthday. The price offered: One consultant day for a workshop. The issues to be discussed are: Communication strategy about our new UNESCO designation and how to address local people, politicians, stakeholders and important entrepreneurs.
5. The city of Georgsmarienhütte invited TERRA.vita and the Dutch UNESCO Geopark De Hondsrug for a first workshop to explore common goals and activities. This initiative has led to further meetings and as a result, a new INTERREG V application (NETWORK) will be worked out (50.000 €). Meanwhile the EUREGIO authorities responded in a very positive way to start in 2017.
6. TERRA.vita passed successfully a conformity check by the ministry of agriculture, focussing on EU funded projects.
7. Two new interns were presented to the press working on a new concept for our TERRA.trails. The internships are made possible by yearly donations of Commerzbank.
8. The community of Steinhagen joined TERRA.vita, filling the last gap in the county of Gütersloh.
9. The community of Bad Iburg, hosting the garden show in the state of Lower Saxony in 2018, invited TERRA.vita to join the steering group.
10. The community of Ostercappeln is planning an information concept for the Bog Venner Moor, using the expertise of TERRA.vita.

TROODOS GLOBAL GEOPARK, CYPRUS

Progress Report, March 2016– September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Organized a meeting of the Troodos Geopark Coordinating Committee on 1st March 2016, for the implementation of actions regarding the recommendations of the EGN and GGN networks.
2. Organized a conference with title “Troodos Geopark: A monument of world geological heritage of Earth” which was held on 8 April, 2016 (Amiantos Village).
3. Participated in the fair “Journey” (Tourist Fair), April 2016, that took place in Lefkosia- Promotional material was distributed for the Troodos Geopark and the visitor centre.
4. Placed paid advertising article in the German magazine “Wandermagazin” for the Troodos Geopark.
5. A 40,000 copies brochure was printed and distributed this summer throughout Cyprus for the uniqueness of Troodos region as a touristic destination, with special reference to the Geopark Visitors Centre.
6. Online advertisement of the Troodos Geopark through the web page “My Cyprus Insider”.
7. Implemented on 9th of May, 2016, a “Trooding Newsletter” in Greek with articles about: UNESCO Global Geoparks, UNESCO Global Troodos Geopark, Troodos Geopark Visitor Centre, the 39th National Conference of UNESCO Associated Schools on Troodos Geopark: "Geological, Natural and Cultural Heritage", that was held on 17-18th of March in Troodos area. Articles about the 37th meeting of European Geopark Network's Coordination committee and the visit of the President of Global Geoparks Network in Troodos Geopark on April, participating at the one day conference with title "Troodos Geopark: A monument of Geological, Natural and Cultural Heritage".
8. Implemented on 27st of May, 2016, articles in the “Trooding Mountain Spirit” 1st Issue newspaper in Greek, regarding the Troodos Geopark visitor center and an interview from Dr. Nikolas Zouros, President of the Global Geopark Network and member of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Bureau.
9. Presented the Troodos Geopark on 28th of May, 2016, at the Troodos Development Company (TDC) General Assembly in the presence of the President of the Republic of Cyprus. During the General Assembly of TDC, the Strategy of the Company was presented for the next 15 years, based on the development and promotion of Troodos Global Geopark.
10. Implemented during August, 2016, various articles in the “Trooding: Mountain Spirit” 2nd Issue newspaper in Greek, regarding the Troodos Geological Heritage, the Traditional Architecture: The dialogue of man with geology, the Troodos Churches in the World Heritage List and geopark cycling race “Ascent

Troodos Geopark: bike to the center of the earth” with geological description of the race.

11. Implemented during 10th August, 2016 various articles in the “Trooding e-newspaper” in English, regarding the Troodos Geopark Visitor Centre, the Troodos Geological Heritage, the Traditional Architecture: the dialogue of man with geology, the Troodos Churches in the World Heritage List

(<http://pub.lucidpress.com/3b0706eb-4a0e-4f4b-8701-68530155153f/?src=fb#Eh2IJtMi6srQ>)

12. Implemented on 13th of August, 2016, the event “Artemis Geo-Trail by night”. The geo-Artemis trail is on the top of the Troodos mountain. It is a circular path, 7 kilometres in length. During the evening hiking the participants had the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the forest from another angle using only Astral light. The hiking event started at 8pm and finished at 12am, while 260 people participated coming from all over Cyprus.
13. Implemented on 13th of August 2016, a Musical Concert in Agros village as part of the integration of the Troodos region in the Global Geoparks Network of UNESCO.
14. Presented the Troodos Geopark Visitors Center via Madame Figaro Awards 2015. Mrs Klelia Vasiliou, Director of Troodos Development Company was presented with the ‘Business Woman of the Year 2015’ award in a ceremony held on the 14th of April in Nicosia. Troodos Geopark Visitors Center was presented via a video during this ceremony.
15. Implemented during May-July, various presentation on TV and radio for the Troodos Geopark.

Networking

16. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Meeting, 17-18 March, 2016 (Basque Coast Geopark, Pais Vasco, Spain).
17. Participation in the International Intensive Course on Geoparks, 20-30 June, 2016 (Lesvos).

Activity by Partners

18. Organized on 4-5th of June, 2016, a Hiking event: Secret waterfalls and Kannoures geo-trail, in collaboration with “Cyprus from air”. 218 people participated from all over Cyprus. The first day included walking towards secret waterfalls & camping and the second day walking to the Kannoures trail.
19. Organized on 26th of June, 2016, a Cycling Race with title "Ascent Troodos Geopark: bike to the centre of the earth" in collaboration with the Cycling Association of Nicosia. 120 cyclists were participated in the Cycling Race starting from the Katydata village near Skouriotissas Mine, passing by Kalopanayiotis and Moutoullas villages and finishing at Kykkos Monastery.

20. Organized on 23rd-24th of July, 2016, a two day experiential workshop: Mountaineering Orientation at Troodos Geopark in collaboration with Cyprus Federation of Mountaineering and Sport Climbing. The action in addition to the parallel training of the athletes in Orienteering was held to familiarize the participants with the mountainous nature of Troodos under the project "Child and mountain".
21. Organized on 14th August, 2016, a creative workshop for children on making musical instruments using natural materials from Troodos Geopark. The workshop was attended by 30 people (children and parents). As a result, the children had the opportunity to learn about improvised musical instruments based on simple materials, discussing the traditional use of natural materials in Cyprus (e.g. reeds for making 'pithkiavli') and get to know some of the Troodos plants which were not familiar with, like 'Pifanis', part of which was used in the workshop. The children had the opportunity to make and take away at least a small simple instrument.

TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK – ITALY

Progress Report, March – September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. March – September - 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 Archaeological 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. 4th of March. Florence. Participation to the conference "Development of Tuscany Coast" organized by the Tuscany Region.
3. 10th of March. Rome. Participation in the Assembly of Italian Geoparks.
4. 16th – 20th of March. Participation in 37th European Geoparks Meeting in Basque Coast Geopark Alessandra Casini (Director), Lidia Bai (President).
5. 22nd of March. Florence. Presentation of the book "Geotopes of regional importance" by Armando Costantini (consultant geologist of the Tuscan Mining Geopark) at the presence of President of the Regional Council of Tuscany.
6. 1st – 3rd of April Participation in the workshop "the Club of Sails" for sharing best practices in the coastal localities in the Maremma Regional Park.
7. 10th of April Welcome and visit of the Tuscan Mining Geopark by the delegation of the Park Mining Museum of Amiata.
8. 19th of April Participation in the meeting "TOURISM IN TUSCANY: THE NEW INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND PROMOTION"
9. 21st – 25th of April XXVI National Course for teachers entitled "Landscapes of the Maremma, nature, history, archaeology, land reclamation, mining, geothermal energy." Organized by the Central Scientific Committee of CAI (Italian Alpine Club) at Tuscan Mining Geopark with funding from (MIUR) the Ministry of Education, University and Research. About 40 teachers.
10. 6th of May Gavorrano. Organization of the Conference " Mine water. An opportunity of development and promote the area". Geologists, engineers and experts of sustainable development participated.
11. 6th of May Maremma Regional Park. Participation in the Buy Tuscany on the Road organized by the Tuscany Region. Tourism fair where the Tuscan Mining Geopark has partnered with some of the participants at the European Charter of Sustainable Tourism to propose park tour packages (cultural visits, outdoor experience, farms).

12. 27th of May Gavorrano. FORUM of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. About 50 participants. Working on new scenarios in governance tourism in Tuscany with effects and prospects in Maremma; on the state of the Action Plan and the new funding opportunities for the participants to the ECST.
13. 29th of May Siena. Participation at VII Festival of Science Museums. Workshops. The Tuscan Mining Geopark organized a workshop on the properties of the park minerals. About 300 children.
14. 2nd – 4th of June. EGN Week. Festival "The Place of Time". Walks, guided tours, storytelling, music, theatre, book presentations in the sites and geosites of the Tuscan Mining Geopark with tasting of typical products of the park. About 900 participants.
15. 10th of June. Massa Marittima. Presentation of the project "Taken into chestnut. The rediscovery of the chestnut and the chestnut trees of the Colline Metallifere" by the Soc. Coop. in collaboration with Tuscan Mining Geopark and GAL Far Maremma.
16. 14th of June Torino. Presentation to Congress of the GIT (Geological Information Technology - Group of the Italian Geological Society) of the candidacy of the Tuscan Mining Geopark to host the Congress of 2017.
17. 22nd of June Participation in NATIONAL Rally of Bicycle of FIAB (Italian Federation of Friends of the Bicycle).
18. 5th of July e 15th of September Focus Groups of FREE WAT. The European Commission has funded the project EU HORIZON 2020 FREEWAT (FREE and open source tools for water resource management - <http://www.freewat.eu>) with financing agreement No. 642 224, whose partnership is coordinated by the Sant'Anna School (in the person of Dr. Rudy Rossetto) The International Project Partners (including the Region of Tuscany) are visible in this web page: www.freewat.eu/partners. The project provides for the application of FREEWAT platform to 14 case studies divided in 9 cases which primarily seek to address issues linked to the Water Framework Directive and five case studies related to water management in rural areas (in view of the fact that agriculture it is the largest user of water in Europe). In the Italian case study is the reservoir of Follonica in Tuscan Mining geoparks and its groundwater body.
19. 12nd of September Gavorrano. Hospitality of Technical Meeting "Sustainable Monitoring And Reporting To Inform Forest and Environmental Awareness and Protection" of the State Forestry Corps. LIFE 13 ENV / IT / 000813. About 70 participants.

Networking

20. June – September Technical visits of experts of tourism between Tuscan Mining Geopark (Fabrizio Santini) and University of Tenerife (Juan Cano Delgado).

Activity Partners

21. July – August 2016 Support for the Festival of music, theatre in the Geopark.
(Festival Teatro delle Rocce – Gateway of Gavorrano ; Festival Lirica in Piazza – Gateway of Massa Marittima; Festival Jazz Grey Cat – Gateway of Follonica; Festival Nuove Figure Gateways of Monterotondo Marittimo, Montieri, Massa Marittima, Gavorrano, Follonica).

INFO

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VIKOS- AOS GEOPARK, GREECE

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Participation, as co-organizer, to one day event dedicated to the old-time stone masons with origin from the Geopark's villages (Vikos Aaos Geopark/ Municipality of Konitsa, Society for Art and Literature) (Konitsa, April),
2. Participation, as co-organizer, to an event for schoolchildren in the Zagori municipality dedicated to the hydrology and the use of the water in the Geopark (Vikos Aaos Geopark/ Management Body of Northern Pindos National Park) (Kipi, May),
3. Participation, as co-organizer, of an event for schoolchildren in Zagori municipality, dedicated to the geology, the use of stone and the post byzantine architecture in the Geopark (Vikos Aaos Geopark/ Management Body of Northern Pindos National Park/ 8th Ephorate for Byzantine monuments) (Vitsa, June),
4. Organization of an open event presenting UNESCO Global Geoparks Network, Vikos Aaos Geopark main values and the activity of speleology (Vikos Aaos Geopark/ Cultural Society of Papigo/ Management Body of Northern Pindos National Park) (Papigo, August),
5. Organization of a field excursion presenting the Geopark's geological features to 90 school teachers (Vikos Aaos Geopark, Environmental Education Centers of Konitsa, Arachthos and Filiates) (Konitsa, May),
6. Production of 500 copies of two posters promoting the Vikos and Aaos gorges with the use of the new UNESCO logo (May),
7. Production of 500 copies of the new Geopark's sticker (April),
8. Production of the Geopark's map, promoting geology and especially the Geotopes (10.000 copies in English, 5.000 copies in Greek) (March),
9. Production of the Geopark's leaflet in both Greek and English (5.000 copies) (April)
10. Production and installation of 6 informative new panels for the Geopark with the new UNESCO logo (April)
11. Elaboration of a new thematic route regarding biodiversity and installation of 18 interpretive panels in the field (May),
12. Improvement of the Geopark's web site (April),
13. Production and installation to all the Geopark's panels, small indicative panels with the new UNESCO logo (May),
14. Co-organizer of the North Face Zagori Marathon Race (in the Geopark) with the participation of 2.000 athletes and about 4.000 people (July).

Networking

15. Participation in the 37th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in the Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain, March 2016,
16. Implementation of the revalidation mission with the UNESCO GGN revalidators (July)

17. Sign of a memorandum for further cooperation between the President of the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO and the Governor of the Region of Epirus (June) for further cooperation on Vikos Aaos Geopark and other aspects, including interview and open discussion with the local MEDIA.
18. Organisation of an open one day event presenting to the public and to the local MEDIA the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network and the role of the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO as well as the Hellenic Geoparks Forum and all the Greek Geoparks. (June),
19. Participation and presentation of the Vikos Aaos Geopark activities at the one day event organized by the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO in Athens (March),
20. Short visit to Troodos Geopark in Cyprus for exchanging experience and discussions for further cooperation (August),
21. Elaboration of a proposal for further cooperation between Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus (Vikos Aaos UGG, Helmos- Vouraikos UGG, Troodos UGG), already applied to the Balkan Med cross border cooperation projects (April),
22. Elaboration of a proposal to the Cross border cooperation projects Greece-Albania regarding the further improvement of the Geopark's infrastructure and promotion targeting mainly to geotourism and alternative tourism forms (September).
23. Several interviews to the local MEDIA regarding the UNESCO Global Geoparks and particularly the Vikos Aaos UNESCO GG (March to August).

Activity by Partners

24. Public awareness raising and provision of information to the visitors of the Vikos Aaos Geopark and Northern Pindos National Park in the Environmental Information Centres of the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National park (3.094 visitors) (March to August),
25. Environmental education to schoolchildren on several issues in the Vikos Aaos Geopark and in the Northern Pindos National Park carried out by the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National park (2.998 school- children and 30 activities) (March to June),
26. Environmental education in the Vikos Aaos Geopark carried out by the Konitsa Environmental Education Centre (2.000 school- children, 290 school teachers),
27. Production of a video promoting Konitsa municipality and the Vikos Aaos Geopark's landscapes and activities (June),
28. Numerous events and festivals organized by the Geopark's municipalities or by the local cultural societies in the Geopark's villages with the participation of locals and visitors (mainly July- August).

VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SPAIN

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. Management of the Geopark's Social networks; Facebook (3677 fans, 17% increase since the last report) and Twitter (@VilluercasGPark, 4433 followers, 14% increase). Instagram (@villuercasgpark, 410 followers 63% increase).
2. Lecture at the Primary School Nuestra Señora del Consuelo, Logrosán. 16th March. Fieldtrip to the geosite Cerro de San Cristóbal. 26th April
3. Field trip with the Cultural Managers Association of Extremadura. 16th March.
4. Educative workgroup meetings on coordination of the educative activities. 1st and 14th April, 13th May in Castañar de Ibor.
5. Meetings of the Geopark Territorial Committee. 5th April (APRODERVI Cañamero) and 25th July (APRODERVI Cañamero). Steering of the 2016 Action Plan.
6. Speech at the Augustobriga High School, Navalmoral de la Mata. 11th April.
7. Speech, field work and visit to the Fossils Interpretation Centre in Navatrasierra with students of the Rodrigo Dávila School from Castañar de Ibor. 4th May.
8. 7th European Geopark Week. 20th-29th May. Highlights: The opening ceremony was chaired by the President of the Autonomous Region of Extremadura and included a fieldtrip with the stakeholders. The so called “Geoconvivencia”, as a geopark celebration day at the educative community in Castañar de Ibor, with more than 500 pupils from different primary and high schools of the Geopark. The partners' activities –fieldtrips, geomenus at the restaurants and special offers to visitors-. The social activities organized by the municipalities.
9. “Geoparticipation” Technical Forum on the Master Plan. 23th May in Logrosán and 26th May in Cañamero.
10. Speech at the Cultural Centre of Alía. 24th May.
11. Participation in Ichnia 2016 in Idanha-a-Nova (Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark), Portugal, with a presentation on evolution of trace fossils of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. 6th–9th May. Poster: the early evolution of trace fossils and bioturbation, Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark, Spain
12. Field works of the Scientific Committee in Cijara (June), Amoladeras (June) and Sierra of Juncaldilla (August).
13. Meeting of the Scientific and Educative Committee. 21st June in Cáceres.
14. Speech at the Summer Courses of the University of Extremadura in Guadalupe. 21st July.
15. A day work at the APRENDIZEXT Programme (Public Employment Service of Extremadura) in Logrosán. 27th July.
16. Participation in the IX Congress of the Spanish Geological Society, Huelva. 12th-14th September. Speech: Geoparks or how the geology becomes a tourist experience.

17. Two lectures at the Master about Rural Tourism, University of Extremadura, in Mérida. 15th September.
18. Organization of sectorial workshops about proposals and initiatives for the Geopark Development Strategy 2016–2020.
19. Educative field trips organized by the geopark in collaboration with the regional ministry on Education for Primary and High School of the Province of Cáceres.

Networking

1. Works and meetings of the Spanish Geoparks Committee/Forum coordination team in order to facilitate the relationships with the Spanish National Geoparks Committee (workgroup of the NatCom UNESCO).
2. Visit to Wangwushan-Daimeishan UGG, Yandangshan UGG and Sanqingshan UGG in China. 15th-25th April. Twinning Geoparks Agreement signed with Shennongjia UGG, Wangwushan-Daimeishan UGG and Yandangshan UGG.
3. Collaborative scientific research about the Ordovician ichnofossil *Daedalus*. Naturtejo and Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGG scientific teams. June.
4. Online technical assistance to the Rio Coco Geopark project of Nicaragua.
5. Invitation to visit Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGG to Rio Coco Geopark Project from Nicaragua. Visit on 7th-10th June financed by FELCODE (Aid to Development Fund of the Extremadura municipalities and provinces).
6. Meeting with Catalina González (University of Colombia, Colombia) about the geopark programme. 27th June.
7. Meeting of the Spanish National Geoparks Committee (workgroup of the NatCom UNESCO). Madrid 28th June.
8. Visit to Maestrazgo Cultural Park UGG. 29th June.
9. Mission of the revalidation process of Beigua UGG (José M. Barrera). 18th July.
10. Visit of a delegation of the Sanqingshan UNESCO Global Geopark, China. 24th-25th September.
11. Updating of the SGC website www.geoparques.eu.

Activity by Partners

1. Approval of the "Geostrategy" (Local Participatory Development Strategy of the geopark by the LEADER Group APRODERVI) 2017-2022. 18th July.
2. The LEADER Group APRODERVI change its name to "Association for the Rural Development of Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark".
3. Assistance to the Environmental Education Strategy (8 working sessions). Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Environment and Energy (Extremadura Government).
4. Technical projects of new access to several geosites of special relevance. Rural Development General Directorate (Extremadura Regional Government).
5. Activities to Promote Social Awareness. LEADER project.
6. An extraordinary activity of the Geopark Tourist Business Association (Geovilluercas): different seasonal offers to visitors: <https://www.facebook.com/geovilluercas.asociacionturismo>.

VUKANEIFEL GEOPARK, GERMANY

Progress Report, March–September 2016

Geopark Activities

1. “Vulkaneifel Academy”: Presentation on the topic “man-environment-relationship” and excursion about landscape development, both with Dr. Rainer Dambeck, University of Frankfurt/Main, March 2016
2. Press conference of the Ministry of Economics of Rhineland Palatinate on tourism and Geopark Vulkaneifel on occasion of ITB 2016, March 2016
3. Presentation of the concept of EGN and GGN and Vulkaneifel Geopark at the municipality council of the combined municipality Wittlich-Land, March 2016
4. “Vulkaneifel Academy”: Presentation on the topic “Maar lakes of the world” by Dr. Martin Koziol, March 2016
5. Release of new calendar of events for summer season 2016. Compilation of more than 500 excursions, walks, activities, April 2016
6. production of a video spot on the Vulkaneifel for the presentation on the website of the tourism agency of Rhineland Palatinate, May 2016
7. Presentation of EGN/GGN and Vulkaneifel Geopark at “Rotary Club Vulkaneifel”, May 2016
8. “Vulkaneifel Academy”: Excursion “Volcanological field trip” with Alfred Graff, May 2016
9. Shooting of film-sequences in Vulkaneifel Geopark for SWR documentation “Water and landscapes”, May 2016
10. Presentation of Geopark concept at annual meeting of “Day of mineral resources Rhineland Palatinate” in Mayen, June 2016
11. Portrait of geopark director Dr. Andreas Schüller in weekly magazine “Wochenspiegel”, June 2016
12. Presentation of Geopark and guided tour for a delegation of University of Luxemburg, June 2016
13. Participation at the event “Steinbruch live” in Wartgesberg quarry in Strohn, presentation of the Geopark Vulkaneifel (Geopark booth, several excursions, geocaching tours), September 2016
14. Delivery of official document “UNESCO Global Geopark” by M. Reiffenstuel (Federal Foreign Office) and Prof. Dr. H. Lüdtkke (German national commission for UNESCO); Ceremony with broad participation of representatives from politics, regional administration, education, business, tourism partners and public, 12 September 2016
15. Weekly press information of Geopark Program in local bulletins and internet, March - September 2016
16. Press articles on Geopark Activities in local press media, March - September 2016
17. Guided excursions on local flora, fauna and geology, March - September 2016

18. Ornithological and plant sociology monitoring at Trautzberger Maar, March - September 2016
19. Several workshops on volcanism and ecology with kindergarten groups, March - September 2016
20. Continuation of the programme "Natur- and Geopark Guides on site": At the weekends in the summer our guides are on site at geological hot spots of the Vulkaneifel answering questions and giving advices, July - September 2016
21. Programme "The mysterious 13 - Twelve Maars and a Crater Lake", a series of guided walks, presenting successively all of the twelve waterfilled maar-lakes of Vulkaneifel, May - September 2016
22. Start of the new programme "Storytelling": During guided walks, our guides tell fascinating stories about the battle of the elements fire and water and the development of the Vulkaneifel, May - September 2016

Networking

23. Visit of a team from Messel Pit in Vulkaneifel Geopark, March 2016
24. Participation at the tourism fair ITB 2016 at a joint stand together with the other European Geoparks, March 2016
25. Participation in AC/CC meetings in Basque Coast Geopark, Spain, March 2016
26. Visit of a Norwegian group from the real estate office Nordfjord jordstifterett, excursion through Vulkaneifel Geopark, April 2016
27. Participation at the meeting of German UNESCO Geoparks in Fulda, April 2016
28. Participation at the meeting of the National Geoparks of Germany in Grimma, Saxony, April 2016
29. Participation at the meeting of German Nature Parks in Bad Malente, Schleswig-Holstein, May 2016
30. Signing of renewed cooperation agreement with Leiqiong UNESCO Global Geopark, China, July 2016
31. Permanent consultations with regional tourist boards and tourist information, March - September 2016

Activity by Partners

32. Opening of new "Historic village trail" and "Panorama trail" in the village of Kerpen, supported by the Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel, June 2016
33. Opening of new premises at Kindergarten Strohn, awarding the Kindergarten as first "Nature- and Geopark Kindergarten", June 2016
34. Signing of cooperation agreement with Primary School Üxheim, June 2016