

# ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Organization of the temporary exhibition “Dino-miti, fossil reptiles of the Dolomites” at the Geopark’s house, promotion and realization of guided visits to the exhibition for schools and visitors.
2. Realization of a training course for the Geopark’s staff about the geology and fossils of the Dolomites.
3. Opening of the Geopark House for the winter season and organization and realization of guided visits for groups and school classes to explore the Geopark House.
4. Organization and realization of a teacher training course about “Climate Change, strategies of survival”, held in the Geopark’s guest house in Mavignola in September 2016.
5. Organization, promotion and realization of winter activities from the 5th of December 2016 to the 17th of April 2017 organized by Adamello Brenta Natural Park in collaboration with the local tourism offices. These activities aim at reading and comprehending the landscape under a geological and geomorphological point of view, where also wildlife, botanical, historical and cultural aspects are considered. Such activities were conducted also in collaboration with local Alpine Guides.
6. Active presence in social networks (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) #parcoadamellobrenta to promote the Geopark, the Geopark House, the educational activities and the thematic exhibitions.
7. Output of the first number of 2016 of “Adamello Brenta Park” magazine, distributed to the resident population (24.000 copies). In the magazine there are some geological articles: “UNESCO Global Geoparks” (by Maurizio Burlando) “Stories about glaciers, climate and people changing” (by Christian Casarotto), “La Sarca, a river park” (by Roberto Bombarda), “The story of hydroelectric industry in Trentino” (by Alessandro de Bertolini and Renzo Dori).
8. Writing an informative article about Geoparks and the geological sites that will be published in the magazine Dolomites Premiere, distributed as insert with the national newspaper “Corriere della Sera”.
9. Contribution for the geological introduction to the new publication about “Bouldering in Genova Valley”, Geopark’s geosite.
10. Participation in “Ecofiera“, a fair about sustainable tourism, from the 30th of September to the 2nd of October 2016 in Tione (TN).

11. Television filming in the mountains of Adamello Brenta Geopark for the TV show "Linea Bianca", which will broadcast on RAI in March 2017.
12. Video interviews and footage with drone carried out by high school students visiting and studying the Adamello Brenta Geopark.

### **Networking**

13. Participation in 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks at the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark in September 2016.
14. Application and win of the bid to host the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in 2018 in the Adamello Brenta Geopark.
15. Participation at the 4th International Workshop "Mountain Environmental Education in Alpine Protected Areas from the 17th to the 20th October 2016 in Mercantour National Park, France.
16. Participation in the "National Committee of Italian UNESCO Geoparks" in Rome the 2nd of March 2017

### **Activity by Partners**

17. Planning and carrying out, in cooperation with the local tourism office and local Alpine Guides, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that took place during the winter 2016-2017.
18. Meetings with the municipalities of Non Valley for the valorisation of the footpaths around the Geopark's villages.
19. Collaboration with the management body of the protected area "Sarca Fluvial Park". Ideation and organization of a new activity about the fluvial Park for secondary school. Lesson for a University of the Third Age.
20. Planning, in cooperation with the local tourism office and local Alpine Guides, of the communication and education activities with geotouristic topic that will take place during the summer 2017.
21. Signing a convention with the Artistic School Institute Artigianelli in Trento for the creation of the Logo for the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.
22. Promotion of the temporary exhibition at the Geopark's house by a local web marketing consultant Ilary Bontempelli.

# APUAN ALPS GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. “Sax Quartet in the Apuan Alps”, fourth edition, musical event in Vergheto village
2. Production of a new bilingual leaflet about a geotrail discovering the Giants’ pot holes along Angujllaia stream
3. Publishing several news on the media, off and on line
4. Activity of wildlife monitoring in the Geopark
5. Autumn count of mouflons: activity guided by Geopark Rangers for the monitoring of mouflons in the Apuan Alps
6. Training course for Park Guides. A group of twentysix people joined the course where they were taught different aspects of mineralogy with a special educational laboratory under the supervision of experts from Pisa University
7. “Cibiamoci di Parco”, three special events hosted by the recommended Park accommodations for the promotion of local food
8. Educational Offer 2016-2017 with sharp increase of resources for schools in favour of educational trails and contests on environmental issues with a special focus on disaster risk reduction
9. “Men in the Apuan Alps”: presentation of the 2017 Apuan Alps Geopark calendar
10. Opening of the educational exhibition “Rains & Ruins” in collaboration with some European UNESCO Global Geoparks and the UNESCO Section on Earth Sciences and Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction (December 2016- September 2017)
11. Research project carried out in collaboration with Pisa University on deposits deriving from old marble quarry workings
12. Tv series Linea Verde on National TV RAI dedicated to Apuan Alps Global Geopark
13. Updating Apuan Alps geopark pages in [www.apuanegeopark.it](http://www.apuanegeopark.it), [www.apuaneturismo.it](http://www.apuaneturismo.it)
14. “Education to territorial management as part of consolidation in the democratic tunisian process”, project placed first in the Integrated Plan of International Activities of Cooperation, in collaboration with Office National des Mines of Tunis, Pisa National Council of Researches and Association des Jeunes de Zammour

## **Networking**

15. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera Geopark, September 2016
16. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera Geopark (England) September 2016
17. Participation at the panel discussion and special workshop about "Disaster Risk Reduction at UNESCO Global Geoparks, ways forward..." during the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera Geopark (England)
18. Participation in the national Italian Commission of UNESCO Geoparks in Rome

## **Activity by Partners**

19. "Mangialonga along the Lucido river": guided walk through villages, woods and castles with typical products tasting, in collaboration with Fivizzano municipality
20. Mountain festival in Stazzema village: meeting, guided visits, photo exhibition and promotion of local food
21. Educational projects with primary and secondary school of different areas of the Geopark
22. Inauguration of a new shelter in Careggine Municipality
23. "Discovering the Geopark", guided visits, and excursions for children with the collaboration of local cooperatives

# AROUCA GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Contribution to the organization of the most important venue in Arouca «The Harvest Fair», September 2016.
2. Organization of several workshops like: “walking tour around herbs in the Arouca Monastery”, “edible herbs and medicinal plants”, “guided tours to the weather radar and visit to the Enchanted Mountain exhibition” and also the route «The fall of the chestnut tree – discover Castanheira Village», inserted in Chestnut Festival, October 2016.
3. Presentation of *Geofood* project during the Chestnut Festival, October 2016.
4. Collaboration in the organization of pedestrian trail “Paths of the Urtigosa valley”, inserted in Chestnut Festival, October 2016.
5. Spanish journalists visited the Arouca Geopark, October 2016.
6. Arouca Geopark became match sponsor of ‘Vitória de Guimarães’ soccer team, in an initiative promoted by the Port and North of Portugal Tourism Entity, October 2016.
7. Celebration of the fourth birthday of the *House of stones that give birth*, November 2016.
8. Organization of several activities about Christmas in the Castanheira village, December 2016.
9. Collaboration in the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Geological Interpretative Centre of Canelas, December 2016.
10. Celebration of the week of Science and technology in Arouca Geopark, November 2016.
11. Participation in FITUR – Tourism International Fair – Madrid (Spain), January 2017.
12. Organization of the schools contests «Sustainable Tourism in the School», «Route of the Geosites Illustrated» and «3D Geosites» from January to March 2017.
13. Organization of the several training courses for teachers, from January to March 2017.
14. Arouca Geopark named by World Travel Awards 2017, in the category «tourism development project » and « tourist attraction», February 2017.

15. Publishing articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, from September 2016 to March 2017.
16. Participation in the first congress on tourism 'Humanize Tourism', in Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark – January 2017.
17. Participation in the second tourism journey, in Sertã village – February 2017.
18. Participation in the international conference of Sustainable Tourism, in Naturtejo Geopark, February 2017.
19. Arouca Geopark promotes training action 'to know how to divulge', aimed at the staff of the Paiva Walkways, February 2017.
20. Participation in BTL – Lisbon Tourism Fair, March 2017.
21. Participation in Qualifica – Education, Training, Youth and Employment Fair, at Exponor (Porto), March 2017.
22. Presentation the guidebook «To the Discovery of the Arouca Geopark Biodiversity », march 2017.
23. Presentation of the photographic book 'Arouca Geopark: pictures of a trip, March 2017.
24. The Arouca Geopark – Welcome Centre – Interactive Tourism Store was attended by 1.395 visitors and hosted more 5.948 people by 34 events, from September 2016 to March 2017.
25. The Rocks Delivering Stones House was attended by 7459 visitors, from September 2016 to March 2017.
26. The Weather Radar from Arouca was attended by 1255 visitors, from September 2016 to March 2017.
27. 1407 students and 119 teachers visited the Arouca Geopark, under the Arouca Geopark Educational Programs, from all country September 2016 to March 2017.
28. 267 people from 12 groups of geotouristic visits were accompanied, by Arouca Geopark guides, from September 2016 to March 2017.
29. Disclosure of 187 news in the local, regional and national media and on multiple digital platforms, from September 2016 to March 2017.

## **Networking**

30. Participation of 2 representatives in the International Conference of GGN in English Riviera, with 3 oral presentations, September 2016.
31. Participation in the EGN AC and EGN CC Meetings in English Riviera, September 2016.

32. Participation in collaboration with Portuguese Forum on the technical meeting in Estrela Aspiring Geopark – October 2016
33. Participation on the meeting of the Portuguese Forum of UNESCO Geoparks at UNESCO National Commission – Lisbon – December 2016.
34. Participation in the International conference 'UNESCO Global Geoparks – Science territories', to celebrating the first anniversary to the «International Geosciences and Geoparks Programme», Organized by Portuguese Forum of UNESCO Global Geopark, in Lisbon, on November 2016.

### **Activity by Partners**

35. Arouca Geopark team collaborated with High School of Arouca in the project 'Detection of forest fires with the Meteorological Radar of Arouca', which won the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Science in School - Ilídio Pinho Foundation', September 2016.
36. Promotion of several events promoted by "More Democracy Conference" from September 2016 to March 2017.
37. School carnival was inspired by the Geosite Route of Arouca Geopark, February 2017.
38. Promotion of several activities promoted by Arouca Geopark's partners, from September 2016 to March 2017.

# AZORES GEOPARK, PORTUGAL

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Production and emplacement of several materials, devices and actions integrated on an overall program of increasing Azores UGG visibility throughout the territory including: i) about 50 new info wood poles in sites of special geological interest in São Miguel, Faial, Pico, Santa Maria and Terceira island; ii) new interpretative geological panels on the 4 terrestrial geosites of international relevance; iii) 10 “panoramic panels” in iconic Azorean geolandscapes of the Azores; iv) revision and improvement of the exhibition and its geological contents of the Furnas Monitoring and Research Centre, in the Furnas geosite; v) improvement of the visibility in the "geoparks corners" in the Azores UGG Island Delegations and in harbour's terminals, September to March;
2. Publication of the Geopark monthly electronic newsletters and daily update of the Azores Geopark’s Facebook, with activities, photos and news;
3. Collaboration with the “Açoriano Oriental” newspaper, by publishing a page every two weeks entitled “(Geo)diversidades”, and the radio station “RDP - Antena 1 Açores”, with the radio program "Geoparque Açores em 5 minutos/Azores Geopark in 5 minutes", twice a week, September to March;
4. Development of several activities for the general public , in partnership with the Azores Natural Parks and included in the campaign “Parque Aberto/Open Park”, with a wide diversity of environmental awareness activities, as guided thematic trails in geosites and protected areas and different approaches within the environmental interpretations centres. In all the territory were carried out 15 activities with a total of 1,203 participants, September to March;
5. Launch of the "Queijo do Vale" geoproduct, developed by Queijaria Furnense, located in the Furnas geosite, November;
6. Promotion of an online contest under the theme “Geological Heritage” in the Azores Geopark Facebook page, with a quiz about Pico Is., in September, Corvo Is., in October, Usufruct of the Geological Heritage, in November and Geological Heritage and Cultural Manifestations, in December;
7. Participation in the national programme “Ciência Viva no Verão/Alive Science in Summer”, promoted nationally in partnership with the National Network of Science Alive Centres. The Azores Geopark organized 2 activities under the theme “All aboard with science” in partnership with stakeholders of the archipelago, with 320 participants, July to September;
8. Launching the summer contest "Azores Geopark - Flavors, Aromas and Experiences", July to September;
9. Participation in the XII Regional Meeting on Environmental Education and Eco-Schools Seminar, under the theme "Global Understanding: building links between global thoughts and Azorean local actions", stimulating a workshop on local



geodiversity entitled "The rocks of my city/village ", which took place on the islands of Pico and São Miguel, September;

10. Publication of articles for the general public in the "Elementary Science" magazine (of Porto University "Casa das Ciências"), and the "I Like This" magazine, September to December;
11. Production of posters/flyers for on-line dissemination of commemorative dates, in social networks and newsletter;
12. Application for the award "100 Most Sustainable Tourism Destinations" of the Green Destinations organization, in close cooperation with the Azores Tourism Board, with the Azores being elected for the second time, September;
13. Participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum "Renewal of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (CETS)", October;
14. Collaboration with the Trail Run "Azores Triangle Adventure", that cross through geosites of the Azores Geopark, Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites located in the Pico, São Jorge and Faial islands, 2<sup>st</sup> Edition, October;
15. Participation in the II Workshop of the Regional Program for Climate Change, November;
16. Participation in the meeting of the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks, December;
17. Participation in the "I Congresso Terras de Cavaleiros – Humanizar o Turismo/1<sup>st</sup> Terra de Cavaleiros Congress – Humanize Tourism", as part of the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, January;
18. Participation in the International Conference on sustainable Tourism in the Naturtejo Geopark with the presentation "Tourism Strategy for the Azores and the role of the Azores UNESCO Global Geopark", February;
19. Through the Azores Tourism Board, participation in the ITB and BTL tourism fairs, promoting the Azores UGG and the 14<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference (EGNAZORES2017), March;
20. 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 involved schools and students from all islands, and also from the mainland and other countries, during all the scholar year, with 107 activities and 2,217 students and teachers, September to March;

## **Networking**

21. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting and the "7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark", in the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, September;
22. Several activities at the aim of the EGN "Volcanic Thematic Working Group", where the Azores UGG Scientific Coordinator act as Catalyst;

23. Reference to the 14<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference (EGNAZORES2017) in the IUCN WCPA Geoheritage Specialist Group newsletter, January;
24. Participation, with photos about the Azores UGG, in the exhibition organized by the Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark, March;
25. Cooperation with the Portuguese Forum of Geoparks and the UNESCO National Commission on a joint activity, including a photo exhibition;
26. Contributions to the EGN Magazine, Nr. 14 (November) and the EGN Newsletter, Nr. 8, February.

### **Activity by Partners**

27. The Azores Geopark has currently about 45 partners, including public and private 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, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Working with the “Protection and Promotion of our Geological Heritage in Bakony–Balaton Geopark” EU project: signing the grant agreement, preparing construction plans, etc. 22 geosites: geological key sections, caves, sinkholes, geological nature conservation areas, nature trails with holistic approach, information booklet, etc. Budget appr. 500,000 €. September 2016–March 2017.
2. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media – also in TV shows of high ratings, September 2016–March 2017.
3. Publication hundreds of post in the Facebook page of our Geopark with very high organic reach (more than 4,000 “Likes” recently), September 2016–March 2017.
4. Guided geotours with hundreds of participants, carried out by the staff of the Geopark Group and the Department of Ecotourism and Environmental Education, September 2016–March 2017.
5. Organising of the Southern Bakony I. geotour-guide training course, giving oral presentations and guiding field trips, etc., September–October 2016.
6. Field survey of geological key sections and springs (preparing their designation as protected sites by national law), September 2016–March 2017.
7. “Car-free” activity days for children in Balatonalmádi and Tapolca, September 2016.
8. Stand of the Bakony–Balaton Geopark at the “Geological Whirl” in the Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest), November 2016.
9. Designing and production of new Geopark promotional products (T-shirts, linen bags, fridge magnets, etc.), November 2016.
10. Installing a new, bat-friendly door (made from stainless steel) for a protected cave near Hárskút Village, November 2016.
11. “Meet Santa Claus” programme in the Lóczy Cave (Balatonfüred) for families, December 2016.
12. Lecture on geoparks for geology students at Eötvös University, Budapest, December 2016.
13. Launching two new menus in the website of our Geopark: “Man and Landscape” (cultural/intangible heritage) and “Diverse Wildlife”, publishing numerous articles on these topics, January–March 2017
14. Updating the new editions of Northern Bakony Mts and Southern Bakony Mts hiking maps (published by Cartographia Ltd.). The advertisements of the Geopark management organisation with the new UNESCO Global Geopark logo are in their back covers, January–February 2017.
15. New promotional leaflet (for year 2017) with logo and main features of visitor centres and interpretive sites of the Geopark (250,000 copies, in English and Hungarian), February 2017.

16. National promotion of two show caves and two adventure caves of the Geopark in the framework of a tourism campaign; discounts and programmes, March 2017.
17. Oral presentation on our Geopark at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, March 2017.
18. Indoor activity geological programme for families in Lavender House Visitor Centre (Tihany), the Eastern Gate of the Geopark, March 2017.

### **Networking**

19. Volunteers' and young ambassadors' study tour in our Geopark from Hateg County UNESCO Global Geopark, Romania, October 2016.
20. A member of our Geopark staff, as an invited speaker, gave an oral presentation on our Geopark at an international conference in the aspiring Saarte Geopark, Estonia, October 2016.
21. Participation in the successful Danube GeoTour INTERREG DTP project on sustainable geotourism networking and development. Coordinator: Idrija UGG, other partners include 8 Geoparks and 3 supporting partners, total budget: 1,665,509 €, BBUGG budget: 257,000 €. Kick-off meeting in Idrija UGG, March 2017
22. Participation, oral and poster presentations at the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, English Riviera Geopark, UK. At the same venue, participation in the 38th EGN CC meeting, in the 1st GGN General Assembly, our delegate is also member of the GGN Advisory Committee and the GGN Election Committee, September 2016.
23. Contribution of an article for the EGN Magazine Issue 14 ("Alsóörs – a place of connections. The Geosite of the Year in Bakony–Balaton Geopark, Hungary"), November 2016.
24. Collecting and preparing for publishing the European Geoparks Week programme 2017 and the progress reports (September 2016–March 2017) from all the members of the EGN, February–March 2017.
25. Participating in the work of the EGN Volcanic Geoparks Working Group, working with the layout design of the future e-book, titled "Volcanic Geoparks in Europe", January–March 2017.

### **Activity by Partners**

26. Thanks to a successful application by a Geopark Partner civil organisation (Friends of Bakonyalja Association) for financing a geotour-guiding course, the training was held in Southern Bakony I. region, in cooperation with the Geopark management organisation, September–October 2016.
27. Geotours of our Geopark Partners (geotour-guides trained by our Geopark), September 2016–March 2017.
28. "Geo-Santa": a two-day-long informal meeting and outdoor programme with our Geopark Partner geotour guides in Városlőd, December 2016.

# **BASQUE COAST GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Distribution of more than 4,000 school diaries to students in 15 educational Centres. The diary uses an entertaining and funny style to reflect on the important geological, natural and cultural value of the Basque Coast Geopark.
2. Updating the web site [www.geoparkea.com](http://www.geoparkea.com) with new chapters and better usability for on line booking. 25 news published at the web site during the six months period.
3. New e-newsletter format to send news to a specific list of emails. 6 deliveries along the period leaded basically to citizen written in bilingual, Spanish and basque language, in order to rise the awareness of the Geopark actions.
4. Number 9 six-month newsletter. 9.000 units posted to all Geopark homes with the most important news to raise the awareness of the citizen about the Geopark.
5. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook /Geoparkea and @geoparkea on twitter and Instagram.
6. Different scientific publications related to on going researches related to K/T boundary, Albiense-ammonites for instance.
7. Workshop and exhibition for school children about “European mink” and its situation in the Basque Country. More than 500 school children visited the exhibition along two weeks
8. Nesting workshop with young people from the three towns. After built the nests they were hang on the trees to encourage the bird breeding.
9. Set up a new Georoute in Olatz (Mutriku) in order to complete the georoute network and include interpretation about karstic area. 6 big panels and 3 small panels along 6.5km of length.
10. Management of VIP visits to the Geopark. Universities, aspiring geoparks, electives from different towns, region or countries, Geological Surveys, Museums, etc.
11. Guided visits program of 2016 ended with an increase in visitors of 44% comparing the previous year. A total 14.076 visitors joined the guided tours. The best tool for promotion and science divulgation.
12. Launching of Guided Visits season 2017 with more than 1.170 arranged visits available at Geopark Tourism Offices and at the web site. Tourism Deputy of Tourism presented the new season in San Sebastian Region Tourism Office.

## Networking

13. Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the UNESCO Basque Country Network in Salt Valley (world heritage candidacy) with more than twenty members among schools, libraries, MAB, world heritage sites and other associations to strengthen the links among them and develop the UNESCO values.
14. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera Geopark 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> of September with an oral communication about "Anthropocene" .
15. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 14, "Whaling Watchtower in the Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark. Archaeological excavation and a lively documentary about Basque whalers"
16. Nine electives, most of them mayors from Cabo Ortegal- Galicia (Spain) came to our Geopark to know about our management model as they are thinking on a Geopark project.
17. Participation in The 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Session of the Spanish Geoparks Fora in Molina Alto Tajo UNESCO Geopark were the scientific director of the Basque Coast Geopark was elected as the Spanish Fora coordinator.
18. Participation as a lecture in "Geological heritage, geoparks and geotourism" organized by Sobrarbe Geopark and Mendendez Pelayo University.
19. Participation in many conferences related to geological heritage: Terra de Cabaleiros Geopark, Cabo Ortegal Geopark project, Guadix-Granada aspiring Geopark project...
20. Participation in FITUR in EGN stand on the 18<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>th</sup> January together with Sobrarbe, Naturtejo and Villuercas Geoparks. The presentation of the Spanish Geoparks book was done by the Scientific Director of the Basque Coast Geopark.
21. Colombian Geological Survey visited Basque coast Geopark to know our working model. After that we were invited to Colombia to an advisory mission.

## Activity by Partners

22. Surfrider Foundation carried out OSPAR initiative, which means picking up, characterization and quantification of waste collected on the coast. This initiative was carried out in the beaches of Zumaia and Mutriku.
23. Basquetour, the Basque Agency of Tourism has developed a strategic for Ecotourism in Basque Country. Basque Coast Geopark is a reference for this plan.
24. The Local development agency of the region boosted a project to know the level of social innovation in different projects around the region. The Basque Coast Geopark has been selected as a pilot project to analyze its social impact on the territory. The results will be available during the next year.

# BEIGUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Organization of educational activities for schools, training courses for civil protection operators and open meetings for local people about natural hazards (in September – October – November – December 2016) in the framework of EVANDE EU project
2. Attending in Heraklion, Crete - Greece (October 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2016) the fourth project meeting of the “EVANDE - Enhancing Volunteer Awareness and education against Natural Disasters through E-learning” project – with funds by EU ECHO Programme (partnership with the Natural History Museum of Crete - Greece, the Technical University of Chania Crete – Greece, the Earthquake Planning and Protection Organisation of Athens – Greece, the Consorcio de La Ribera – Spain, the Centre for Educational Initiatives of Sofia - Bulgaria, the Centro Studi e Formazione Villa Montesca of Città di Castello - Italy)
3. Attending in Bruxelles, Belgium (December 6<sup>th</sup> 2016) the final meeting of the “EVANDE - Enhancing Volunteer Awareness and education against Natural Disasters through E-learning” project – with funds by EU ECHO Programme
4. Publication of several articles about Beigua Geopark on local newspapers/magazine and national reviews
5. Launching of a new project to increase Beigua UGG visibility through more structured social media activities (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YuoTube), in Arenzano on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017
6. Presentation of the Beigua UGG calendar of events in the framework of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017 with the support of the Liguria Regional Administration, Local Communities and Associations, in Genoa on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017
7. Regular programmes of walks and guided tours have been realized in Autumn 2016 and Winter 2017
8. Two new issues of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” newsletter (readable in the web-site too) has been published and distributed in October 2016 (Autumn) and January 2017 (Winter). They contain articles about projects, activities and future plans; special features were dedicated to the Geopark territory and his highlights, EGN and GGN, etc.
9. Seven issues of the monthly electronic newsletter of the “Parco del Beigua – Beigua Geopark” (downloadable by the web site). It contains articles on activities, promotional offers and special features about the Geopark area (<http://www.parcobeigua.it/newsletter.php?arc=beiguanews>)

10. Organization of a regional meeting at Villa Figoli, in Arenzano (16<sup>th</sup> February 2017), to develop new projects about outdoor activities with the support of the Liguria Regional Administration and the Liguria Regional Agency for Tourism

### **Networking**

11. Attendance at the 38<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting in English Riviera Geopark (England) on September 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> 2016
12. Attendance at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera Geopark (England) on September 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2016
13. Submission of an article for the EGN magazine n.14 (to be published in 2017)
14. Submission of two articles for the EGN newsletter n. 7 (published in 2016) and n. 8 (published in 2017)
15. Submission of the Annual Report 2016 in order to produce the total GGN Annual Report to be published in GGN web-site
16. Submission of the Activity Progress Report September 2016 – March 2017 in order to produce the total EGN Progress Report to be published in EGN web-site and to be discussed during the 39<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting in Burren and Cliffs of Moher UGG, Ireland
17. Attendance at the 8<sup>th</sup> Italian National Geoparks Committee in Rome on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017
18. Supporting Adamello Brenta UGG for the organization of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks scheduled for September 2018
19. Attendance at the GGN Executive Board meetings (Maurizio Burlando) in September – October - November - December 2016 and January - February 2017

### **Activity by Partners**

20. Networking activities with several national and local Associations (Club Alpino Italiano, Federazione Italiana Escursionismo, Unione Italiana Sport per Tutti, Beigua.net MTB, etc.) about new projects and activities to develop outdoor strategies and actions in the geopark's territory
21. Field works and researches in the Beigua UGG led by the Earth, Environment and Life Sciences Department of the University of Genoa (September – December 2016)
22. Field trips and events offered in the geopark's territory by local organizations and local authorities in Autumn 2016 and Winter 2017.



# **BERGSTRASSE-ODENWALD GEOPARK, GERMANY**

## **Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Event programme with 500 guided tours (Geopark Rangers, Geopark-on-site Guides, cooperation partners)
2. Publication of monthly electronic newsletters and one printed 24pp magazine (“Geo-Naturpark aktuell”, issue 24).
3. Publication of several Geopark brochures
4. Publication of the regional hiking maps Nr. 2, 8, 9, 12 & 18 in the new series from Geo-Naturpark Bergstrasse-Odenwald in cooperation with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald
5. Contributions in hiking and biking magazines, brochures and maps
6. Public lectures about Earth heritage and the Geopark within the Geopark region
7. Opening of several Geopoints
8. MTB activity event: festival / tourguiding through Geopark area in cooperation with bike companies, voluntary Geopark bike guides and local hotel/restaurant “Kuralpe”
9. Seminars/Workshops for schools: e.g. MTB-course at Karl-Kübel school in Bensheim, Geopark & regional tourism for hotel and gastronomy Fitz-Gabler school in Heidelberg, Sustainable tourism at Karl Ernst Gymnasium in Amorbach
10. Regional workshops/meetings of trailmarkers with field trips and presentations
11. Geopark Ranger activities (esp. for schools) within the whole Geopark territory
12. Annual meeting of the Geopark Rangers in the new Geopark information centre Weinheim
13. Annual advanced educational training for Geopark Rangers and “Geopark-on-site” Guides: techniques of traditional spinning, “Cultural landscape elements within the Odenwald region”, seminar on rock identification, the show cave in Buchen, vocational training for staff of UNESCO WHS Messel Pit
14. Activity day: “Geopark - Fruit Variety of the Year” in cooperation with nature conservation initiative “Streuobstwiesenretter” and many other local partners
15. Celebration of “Schlossgraben Heidelberg” as “Geotope of the year 2016”

### **Networking**

16. Member of the Editorial Board of the EGN Magazine (J.W.)

17. Publication of contribution in EGN magazine No. 14
18. Publication of EGN Electronic Newsletters No 5, 6 & 7 (J.W.)
19. Presenting the Global Geopark Network on International Tourism Fair in Berlin  
Global: Geoparks booth and Common press conference of German UGG and GGN
20. Presenting the Global Geopark Network and UGG at regional and national tourism fairs (CMT Stuttgart etc.)
21. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting in Cliffs of Moher / The Burren, Ireland
22. Participation in Annual EGN Coordination Committee meeting and the International Global Geoparks Conference in English Riviera (GB) in September 2016 with 2 oral presentations as chair of several sessions and participation in the Geopark Fair
23. Workshop of UGG in Germany on SDGs in cooperation with the German UNESCO Commission and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
24. Regular meetings of the Forum of Global Geoparks in Germany (common activity of the 6 Global Geoparks in Germany)
25. Exchange/networking visit from UNESCO Global Geopark Bakony Balaton (Hungary) at UNESCO Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald
26. Exchange/networking visit from UNESCO Global Geopark Hateg (Romania) at UNESCO Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald
27. Preparation of Partnership with UNESCO Global Geopark Naturtejo (Intercultural peony project)
28. Cooperation with UNESCO WHS Abbey Lorsch (Germany) at their opening day and in the frame of the UNESCO World Heritage Day

### **Activity by Partners**

29. 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
30. New light system for the old visitors mine “Grube Marie” together with the working group “Historical Mining Association Odenwald” and the city of Weinheim
31. Visitor mine “Marie”: winner of the award “Landscape on the move - Metropolitan Region Rhine-Neckar” and major achievements towards visitor service and light system
32. Preparation meeting for the “Global Nomadic Arts Project” in cooperation with the International Forest Art Association

# **BOHEMIAN PARADISE GEOPARK, CZECH REPUBLIC**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Excursions and fieldtrips for visitors from the whole world (September – November 2016)
2. Preparation of “4<sup>th</sup> conference on National geoparks of Czech Republic Nová Paka 24. – 26. 5. 2017” (January – March 2017)
3. Infrastructure improvement: upgrade of all information panels in “Hruboskalsko” – the greatest sandstone rock-town area in geopark (October 2016)
4. New strategic partnership and new source of geopark financing negotiations started with Královehradecký region (January – March 2017)
5. International kids contest “Take yellow pencil...” – preparations and start of 13<sup>th</sup> year, this year theme “UNESCO heritage in your country” (January – March 2017)
6. Cooperation in preparation of new nature education strategy of regional government with Liberecký region (January – March 2017)
7. Student internships (December 2016, February – March 2017)
8. Preparations of joint project of 5 Czech National geoparks focused on geoparks visibility improvement. (November – December 2016)
9. VIII. Cretaceous Seminary – prestigious specialized workshop popularizing last research of the Cretaceous period in Bohemian Paradise. (October 2016)
10. Preparations of “Meeting of museum geologists of Czech/Slovak Republic” 15. – 19. 5. 2017 (October 2016 – February 2017)
11. Promotional lectures and speeches (October 2016, February 2017)

### **Networking**

12. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, UK (September 2016)
13. Preparation and realization of project Valorisation of geo-heritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks (September 2016 – March 2017)
14. Participation in 39<sup>th</sup> CC GGN, Ireland (March 2017)
15. Martina Páskova’s work for EGN, GGN, UNESCO. (September 2016 – March 2017)

16. Work in Palaeontology and Volcanic groups of EGN (September 2016 – March 2017)

17. Collecting and preparing for publishing the reports on the progress report

### **Activity by Partners**

18. New lookout tower “Čížovka” opened (February 2017)

19. Implementation of new “regional guest card” by strategic partner Bohemian Paradise Association – reduced prices and special services for tourists (September 2016 - )

20. New information leaflets and materials published by strategic partner organizations.

21. Annual “Cleaning of Bohemian Paradise” held by strategic partner organization. (Autumn 2016)

# **BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER GEOPARK, IRELAND**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Completed our annual Introduction to Geology Evening Course for Adults (Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017) which had 20 participants.
2. Development of an online Code of Practice which is a system for recording and tracking progress for sustainable tourism businesses in the Geopark, currently being trialled and tested by 10 businesses in the Geopark.
3. Integrated Catchment Management project for 18 Transition Year students at Lisdoonvarna Secondary School, in collaboration with NUI Galway funded through GeoparkLIFE project. Project involves students learning about all aspects of the local river catchment and mapping the catchment using GIS software. Project submitted to ECO UNESCO Young environmentalist awards.
4. New version of Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark Geology booklet 'Stone, Water & Ice – a geology trip through the Burren' printed.
5. Issue 4 of Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark Newsletter published and available online; <http://www.burrengeopark.ie/the-organisation/newsletter/>
6. A conservation project at a prehistoric hilltop cairn in the Geopark has started in collaboration with University College Dublin and private contractors. This will provide a template for a national policy on hilltop cairn conservation. Funded by GeoparkLIFE.
7. We continue to promote the Geopark on social media: Facebook up to 3,600 likes and Twitter up to 2,700 followers. Website updates continue.
8. The Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark was a finalist in the Irish Tourism Industry Awards 2017.
9. Public presentation on the fossils of County Clare to Clare Archaeological and Historical Society
10. Opening of art exhibition 'Geological Cake' at the Burren College of Art.
11. Public guided geology walk on 'The geology, landscape and farming around Kilfenora' for the Burren Winterage Festival.
12. New UNESCO-branded Geopark signage for Roads, Geosites and partner businesses developed.
13. A new Geopark 'Leave No Trace' visitor awareness information leaflet was designed with local artist Sonja O'Brien.

## **Networking**

14. Publication of article in Earth Science Ireland, Issue 20; '*Caherconnell: an ancient Centre for Modern Earth Science Field Studies*'
15. Submitted article for the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 14, '*National Geographic World Legacy Award for the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark*'
16. Partner on application with other Atlantic margin Geoparks for EU funded 'Atlantic Geoparks Route' project
17. Partner on application for EU funded H2020 'Ruritage' project proposal.
18. Draft article submitted for 'Geobiological history of Geoparks' book.

## **Activity by Partners**

19. GeoparkLIFE project - balancing tourism and conservation in the Burren, continues with ongoing collaboration between the Geopark, the local authority, the Geological Survey of Ireland, local community groups, 2 National Universities, the national tourism body and four national conservation bodies working together towards integrated management in the Burren
20. Fifth Annual Burren Food Fayre at Lisdoonvarna, promoting local food produce from the Geopark area developed by the Burren Ecotourism Network.
21. The Burren Winterage Festival promoting farming heritage in the Burren by local conservation and awareness charity, Burrenbeo Trust.
22. Consultants for the National Parks and Wildlife Service develop draft traffic management plan for the Burren National Park.
23. Hotel Doolin announced winners of the national Green Tourism and Entertainment Award 2017.
24. Geological Cake: An art exhibition by four emerging young Irish artists inspired by local geology at the Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan.

# **CABO DE GATA-NIJAR GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Monitoring and environmental compliance control, support and collaboration in the organization of sport events: 5<sup>th</sup> Triathlon Cabo de Gata -Nijar, 4<sup>th</sup> Cyclotouristic Route MTB Parque Natural Cabo de Gata- Nijar, I Flamingo Running Cabo de Gata, 2<sup>nd</sup> Almería Western Ride , 5<sup>th</sup> Las Negras Running festival, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ultra Marathon Costa de Almería, and many more, including hiking, beach tennis, and fishing contests ( more than 15 activities from september to march).
2. Collaboration and support in the organization at the installation of the outdoor museum “Rodalquilar” 2017, at the streets of Rodalquilar, which dressed the walls of the town with pieces of local artits ( sculptures, paintings, poems....etc)
3. Authorization, monitoring and environmental compliance control to audiovisual producers interested in the shooting of movies, documentaries and commercials.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Participation in local and regional media. September 2016- March 2017
7. Organisation of the Workshop “Volcanic Days”, with the participation and collaboration of the teachers and the students of the Johhanes Gutenberg university of Mainz. September 2016.
8. Collaboration with the Spanish Geoparks Fora for the ellaboration of leaflets about spanish geoparks.

### **Networking**

9. Participation in EGN Working Groups, and the release of the ebook Volcanic Geoparks, by the Volcanic Geoaprks working group.
10. Andalusian Geoparks coordination and collaboration: with Subbéticas Geopark and Sierra Norte de Seville Geopark.
11. Constant coordination and collaboration between the Spanish geopark network.
12. Participation in the edition of the leaflet “Spainsh geoparks” by the Spanish Geopark working group and its presentation at FITUR 2017 in Madrid. (January 2017)

13. Participation with a sand sample in the exhibition at the Muskau arch UNESCO Global Geopark.

14. Participation with photographs for exhibition at Reikjanes UNESCO Global Geopark.

### **Activity by Partners**

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

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

17. Geotours and workshops of our Geopark Partners (September 2016-March 2017).

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

19. Collaboration with the Barcelona University and the Geological Survey of Spain (IGME) with its investigation about the Carboneras Fault and Seismic Hazard and Risk monitoring



# **CARNIC ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Numerous interviews and articles on the Geopark in the national and regional media
2. Approval of the cross-border Interreg V I-Ö project GeoTrAC (1.061.300,00 EUR); September 2016
3. Recovery of a trace fossil stone of extraordinary quality from the Laaser Berg, November 2016
4. Oral presentation: "Geopark Karnische Alpen – ein Kandidat fürs Weltnaturerbe"; given by Gerlinde Ortner on 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2016
5. Oral presentation: "Zeugnisse der Eiszeit und Nacheiszeit rund um Hermagor"; given by Gerlinde Ortner on 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2017
6. Oral presentation: „Im Oman unterwegs, orientalisches Märchenland voller geologischer Spezialitäten; given by Hans Peter Schönlaub on 11th of March 2017
7. Guided geotours and geopedagogic programmes
8. Numerous Marketing measurements m

### **Networking**

1. Austrian Geopark Forum Meeting: 12th December 2016
2. Marketing cooperation with the most important players in tourism in the Gail Vally, called "Best of Nassfeld-Pressegger See-Weißensee-Lesachtal"
3. Cooperation with local schools and universities: guided tours, oral presentations
4. Cooperation with research institutes:
  - University of Innsbruck, Austria: Partner of the Cross-border Interreg V I-Ö project GeoTrAC
  - Cooperation with the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt: Lecture program and field trips to the Geopark Carnic Alps 2017
  - University of Geography Vienna: Partner of the Cross-border Interreg V I-Ö project GeoTrAC

### **Activity by Partners**

Contact: [office@geopark-karnische-alpen.at](mailto:office@geopark-karnische-alpen.at)

1. Corporate marketing project “Naturerleben Kärnten”; partners: tourist organisations (Naturarena Kärnten, Kärnten Werbung), Carinthian nature and national parks; <http://www.kaernten.at/naturerleben/de>

# **CENTRAL CATALONIA GEOPARK, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Appearance on catalan television show promoting the Geopark and its geotourism proposal.
2. 45 tourism businesses participate in the Quality Tourism training programme, 43 of them get the distinction at the end of the year.
3. Updated promotional leaflets in different languages.
4. Representation of the tale “Geopark, wow, a long time ago!” in libraries of our county.
5. Published the Central Catalonia Geoparc Geological guide (Farell Ed.).
6. New contents and constant update of the web site [www.geoparc.cat](http://www.geoparc.cat).
7. 2nd Central Catalonia Gastronomy Fair, promoting the Geopark’s local farmers and gastronomy.
8. Co-ordination of new geotourism products including Wine, Cultural events and activity, Hiking and Accommodation.
9. Implementation of the new training programme for tourism related companies within the Geopark area.

### **Networking**

10. Participation in the National Forum meeting in November.
11. Edition of a new promotional leaflet of the oil producers of our Geopark as a result

# CHABLAIS GEOPARK, FRANCE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Signature of a partnership agreement with the Education Department for all the primary and junior schools of the Haute Savoie Department. 09/2016.
2. Organisation and leading of meetings with the local municipalities to follow the preparation and implementation of management plans for the 21 geosites of the Georoute. 9/9/16, 13/9/16, 4/10/16.
3. Public talk for the European Heritage days in Evian. Presentation of the Geopark and the international GGN network. 17/9/16.
4. Continued professional training for the Geopark guides. 2 days of training on thrust tectonics in the field with Prof M. Marthaler 5-6/10/2016.
5. Day of networking with the researchers, members of Pole Montagne Department at the University of Savoie 14/11.
6. A free field trip for 70 high school students from the La Versoie Lycée, a partner school. Discovery of the geological climate history of the Chablais and thoughts for the future...
7. Continued professional training for the Geopark guides. First module of training studying soil in the field with Prof P Faivre and Dr JM Dorioz 3/11/2016.
8. Development of a new school project with the national educational department for the Thonon area. A project to learn about the Vailly Geosite.
9. Participation in a working group with the tourist agency for the Savoie-Haute Savoie Departments (Savoie Mont Blanc Tourisme) to promote natural spaces. 16/11/2016; 23/01/2017.
10. Organisation and leading a meeting for the 40 members of the Society of Geopark Guides "Tethys". Presentation of the years actions, initial results and outline calendar for 2017. Discussion of new projects and initiatives. 17/11/2016.
11. Meeting with Emmanuel Reyard from the University of Lausanne to discuss new projects. 2/12/2016.
12. Co-organisation of two days free treasure hunt game across the Portes du Soleil ski domain. Geopark quiz and goodies distributed to 300 participants. 20-21/01/2017.
13. Participation in the AGM of the "Visit Chablais" association, of which the Geopark is a special member. 26/01/2017.
14. Working with a partner site, the Abbey d'Abondance on the content of a new family game. 26/01/2017.
15. Participation in a working group with the Archaeology departments and the tourist agency for the Savoie-Haute Savoie Departments (Savoie Mont Blanc Tourisme) to promote the Stilt Village World Heritage sites, one of which is located in the Geopark. 31/01/2017.
16. Meeting with the Chateau de Ripaille Geopark Partner to discuss a new school product. 09/02/2017.
17. Meeting with the Douvaine Secondary School (A UNESCO EDD school) to discuss a formal partnership. 10/02/2017.
18. Formal member of the Douvaine Secondary School EDD steering committee, participation in meeting, presentation to pupils and other partners. 13/02/2017.
19. Meeting with the members of Tethys to present the new LEADER programme, "The Forestry Sector" and discuss the possible creation of Geopark tools and projects. 14/02/2017.

20. Launch of a new Masters research project on the Chablais Geopark. Led by Evian with participation by the University of Savoie, this project will investigate the origin and functioning of a local tourist spot, the Lac de la Beunaz. 17/02/2017.
21. Participation in the working group for the renewal of the Pré Curieux visitor centre. A centre dedicated to the RAMSAR wetlands found in the Chablais Geopark. 17/02/2017.
22. Organisation of the Chablais first participation in the national science festival:
  - Free public talk, "The Historic Built Heritage of the Chablais" by the departmental archaeology service; "Architectural Heritage, the Longview" by the CAUE. 13/10.
  - A days free discovery at the partner site, the Abbey d'Aulps. The reconstruction of the ruined abbatial using a 3D printer; Geopark workshops; the building stones of the abbey treasure hunt... 16/10.

## **Networking**

23. Participation in the meeting of the CNGF "Comité national des Geoparks Francais" 25/11/2016 at Valence.
24. Visit to Val Seisia Grande Geopark, Italy to participate in an Erasmus+ school exchange with Rokua Geopark. Discussions about the participation of the Chablais Geopark in the new Erasmus+ program. 22-23/9/16.
25. Participation in the EGN Coordination Committee and the UGG International Conference in the English Riviera Geopark, UK 25-30/9/2016.
26. Participation in the "Réunion des Science de la Terre", the Biannual meeting of the French Geological Society. Presentation of long term development projects in the Chablais, Lubeon, Bauges and Ardèche Geoparks. 25-29/10/16.
27. Meeting with a local society promoting relations between the Chablais and the Lake Baikal. Discussion on future cooperation. 18/11/2016; 13/02/2017.
28. Presentation of the Erasmus+ project with Val Seisia Grande Geopark to the Lycée La Versoie, Thonon. 07/02/2017.

## **Activity by Partners**

29. Free visits to certain of the Geopark sites offered by Geopark guides, members of Tethys. September 2016.
30. Public talk, "Geoparks and Geotourism: An opportunity for Alpine Tourism" by Dr. Fabien Hoblea, University of Savoie and member of the Geopark Scientific Advisory Council. 16/11/2016.
31. Public talk, "The exceptional Geological Heritage of the Haute Savoie", by Danielle Decrouez. President of the Museum of Prehistory and Geology, Sciez and member of the Geopark Scientific Advisory Council. 22/02/2017.
32. Public talk, "The Anthropocene", by Dr Nicolas Kramar, Director of the Sion Museum of Natural History, Switzerland and member of the Geopark Scientific Advisory Council. 9/2/2017.

# CHELMOS VOURAIKOS GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Active presence in social networks: Facebook
2. Different scientific publications related to ongoing researches, Iron furnaces in the Geopark, the management of geo-heritage in Pro Geo news, etc.
3. Hiking trail within the Geopark with a team of educators as a part of a training seminar-laboratory of the National Thematic Network for Environmental Education with the title "Wild Fauna in Danger".
4. Certification for the "European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas" at the European Parliament in Brussels by EUROPARC's Executive Director, Ms. Carol Ritchie.
5. One-day Workshop under the auspices of the Municipality of Aigialeia, with the participation of the Management Body of Chelmos-Vouraikos with the title "Protection and Sustainable Use & Utilization of Water Resources"
6. Experiential approach of the Tsivlou Lake with guided tour around it by the staff of the Management Body of Chelmos-Vouraikos and the Environmental Education Centre of Kleitoria – Akrata.
7. Participation of the Management Body of Chelmos-Vouraikos in the meeting "PELOPONNESE EXPO" with the stand of Municipality of Kalavryta.
8. Educational excursion of 3rd year students of Geology of the University of Patras at the UNESCO Global Geopark of Chelmos-Vouraikos
9. Participation of the Management Body of Chelmos-Vouraikos with the stand of Municipality of Kalavryta in the «NOSTOS» 1st GREEK ALTERNATIVE TOURISM EXPO 2016.
10. Informative event with the title "Metachromatic ulcer of the plane tree: Prevention and measures of treatment of the disease" at the Geotope of the springs of Aroanios river
11. Events organized with the cooperation of the *Hellenic Ornithological Society* with the title "*Shallow sounds 2017*" with the participation of students of 2nd Grade of Gymnasium for the arrival of the spring

### Networking

1. Participation in the 7th International Conference of UNESCO Global Geoparks 2016 in English.
2. Contribution to EGN magazine Issue 14 "Diakopto-Kalavryta Railway", 120 Years of Beauty and History

3. Sent a high definition video that represents the descent of a path that leads to the waters of Styx, one of the Geotopes in Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark in order to embody it to the EGN video during the EGN CC.
4. Sending an article of Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark for EGN newsletter No. 7
5. Videoconferencing via Skype of the Greek Forum of Geoparks (Nov 2016).

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Sending photographic material in Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark in order to present the strength of our network and other UNESCO Global Geoparks with a photo exhibition on a screen in our Visitor Center.
2. Send text and photographs for the creation of a newsletters that will be presented at ITB Exhibition in Berlin (8<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> of March), as an advertisement of our network and for the creation of an informative map for publication and distribution in the tourism exhibition ITB Berlin, which will be related with Sustainable Development.
3. Sending a representative picture with a landscape of the Geopark at the European network of GEOPARKS (EGN), for the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017.
4. Update of the web page of our UNESCO Global Geopark in the site of GGN

## **Cilento and Vallo di Diano GEOPARK** **Report, September 2016- March 2017**

During last six months Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark staff started his work to improve the geological heritage conservation and promotion.

The following are call out important activities:

### **Networking**

1. Participation to the EGN CC meeting and General Assembly of GGN in English Riviera, September 2016
2. The staff of Geopark has organized the EGN Week
3. Participation to the Committee of Italian Unesco Global Geoparks in Rome march 2017
4. Revision of Italian Geoparks Book
5. Participation to the 7<sup>th</sup> International Geoparks Conference in English Riviera (England) on September 2016 and submission of the article
6. Submission of the article for publication in European Geopark Magazine 14
7. Support for the aspiring Geoparks

### **Geopark activities**

8. 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.
9. Attendance at the Archeologic Tourism Meeting in Paestum (ITALY) on November 2016;
10. We have produced new videos to promote the Geopark
11. A project to realize a new visibility (through a new panels) in all most important site and municipality of Geopark
12. Tour with the university students on the geosites
13. The Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark supported by Italian Ministry of Environment has been awarded the Charter for European Sustainable Tourism (December 2016)
14. the Geopark has realized: a new virtual museum on geodiversity, a museum of Geobiodiversity in a new Centre of Castellabate (SA)
15. Started to improve the pathway network
16. The National Park-Geopark has organized, during the summer, cultural events in some municipalities, for geological historical and environmental valorisation of the territory. (for example Elea Velia geo-archeosite theatre)
17. We support the activities to recover an important geoarcheological site Elea velia
18. We are sponsored all the works to allow access for tourists in a cave in Camerota where there is the remains of Neanderthal Man and Homo Sapiens.
19. We started to realize a master plane to manage all Unesco designations: an unique strategy of conservation
20. Organization WORKSHOP on Geomorphological Map ". Cilento, Vallo di Diano Unesco Geopark and AIGEO (National Association of Geomorphology)
21. Organization Summer school on Hydro geomorphology. Cilento, Vallo di Diano Unesco Geopark and Council of Geologist of Campania Region
22. Realized a several publication:
  - D. Calcaterra, A. Aloia, A.M. Rizzo. 2015. Moving geosites/Suoli che si muovono" in: M. Amato (ed.). 2015. Underneath our feet: Communicating soil. Sotto I nostri passi: Comunicare il suolo. MIIdA ISBN. 978-88-90833748 pp.77-94



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### **Activity by Partners**

23. We are realizing with all stakeholder a permanent forum to sustainable tourism
24. We are realizing with Italian University research project on biodiversity and geodiversity and cultural heritage

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# COPPER COAST GEOPARK, IRELAND

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing articles in the media (radio, press), off and on line. Active presence on social networks: Facebook /CopperCoastGeopark and @Coppercoast on twitter.
2. Updating the web site [www.coppercoastgeopark](http://www.coppercoastgeopark) with a new interactive map on geological sites in the area.
3. Published and distributed a monthly Copper Coast Geopark newsletter with 600 units distributed online and physically each month to raise awareness of the Geopark and environmental issues in the community.
4. Ran and managed a successful Copper Coast Geopark Biodiversity program in conjunction with a range of community and organisational stakeholders to highlight the biodiversity of the Geopark.
5. Ran a successful geology and earth science education and outreach program with local primary schools called “geoschools”.
6. Facilitated and organised a local social enterprise meeting in the Geopark visitor centre to focus on co-operation opportunities between social enterprises and ngos.
7. Organised a variety of science and geoheritage events in conjunction with national weeks such as national heritage week and science week Ireland 2017.
8. Currently developing an earth science outreach program for local pre schools working title “earth sense”.
9. Involved in research project of University College Cork to determine the ore “A geochemical study aiming to characterize the Waterford Copper Coast mineralization”
10. Assisted a local secondary school in preparing a research project for entry into a national science competition “Coastal erosion linked to climate change on Bunmahon” beach.
11. Management of group visits to the Geopark. A European MEP, Geology research students from Zurich, local politicians etc
12. Guided visits program of 2016 ended with an increase in visitors comparing the previous year. A total of 10'000 visitors were received at the Geopark Visitor Centre in 2016
13. Participated in the Drafting of the Waterford City and County Development plan 2017-2020 to include reference to geoheritage and geoparks.

## **Networking**

14. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, *GeoSchools education program in the Copper Coast*
15. Participation in the Irish Geoparks Forum meeting in Dublin in September 2017
16. Collaboration with 10 other Atlantic area geoparks in Interreg funding application and travel to Bilbao, Spain in October 2016 for co-ordination meeting.
17. Participation in local trails and tourism development course
18. Planned Participation in Irish Green party conference in March to raise awareness of Geoparks
19. Participation in Copper Coast Community Enterprise Forum with local stakeholders and community representatives.

## **Activity by Partners**

20. Took part in beach clean of local Geopark beach “Bunmahon” in association with local “Tidy Towns” group.
21. Waterford City and County council constructed a new pathway from the Geopark visitor centre to the beach allowing greater access for tours and tourists to the centre.
22. Participation in drafting the development plan for the City and County of Waterford to include a clause to promote and protect geoheritage.
23. Participation in the West Waterford food festival
24. Represented the Geopark in Waterford meeting of the Irish Wildlife Trust in January 2017

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

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Promoting the Geopark in touristic fairs: TOURNATUR (Düsseldorf, Germany, September 2016), UNIBIKE (Madrid, September 2016), WORLD TRAVEL MARKET (London, Nov 2016), INTUR (Valladolid, Spain, November 2016), VAKANTIEBEURS (Utrecht, Holland, January 2017), CMT Stuttgart, Germany Jan 2017, FITUR (Madrid, January 2017), NAVARTUR (Navarra, February 2017), VELOFOLLIES (Courtrai, Belgium, January 2017), ADVENTURE TRAV SHOW (London, England, January 2017), REISE MESSE (Dresden, Germany, January 2017), DUIKVAKER (Houten, Holland, February, 2017), DIVE TRAVEL SHOW (Madrid ,Spain, march 2017), ITB (Berlin, Germany, 2017), SALON MAP (Paris, France, march 2017), SEVATUR (San Sebastian, Spain, march 2017).
2. Promotional campaign of Spanish Geopark as innovative destinations for sustainable tourism. FITUR. (Madrid, January 2017).
3. Thirst year of "educational Routes" for visitors and groups of local students, conducted by company personnel Insular Public Service El Meridiano SAU (Geopark partner). More than 350 participants from September 2016 to March 2017.
4. Organization Open Fotosub (20th Edition). The most important underwater photography contest in Europe. Oct. 2016.
5. Colaboration IV Travesía a nado Mar de las Calmas, nadando sobre volcanes. (Open sea Swimming competition, swimming over volcanoes) Oct. 2016.
6. Celebration V Anniversary of TAGORO submarine volcano in El Hierro, located in the Marine Reserve of El Mar de las Calmas, oct. 2016.
7. Collaboration in the first contest of volcanic photography of the Canaries, organized by the Association of Canary Volcanoes, giving the winners a stay in the Spa Hotel Pozo de la Salud, and a dinner in the Restaurant Mirador de la Peña.
8. Start of the actions for the construction of the building for the official headquarters of the Biosphere Reserve and Geopark El Hierro. Jan.2017.
9. Organization of the exhibition "the look of the earth". Stay for a month by the 3 municipalities of El Hierro Geopark. Feb.2017

10. Projection, for the first time in El Hierro, of the feature film "Telesforo Bravo, the man who spoke to the stones". Feb.2017.

### **Networking**

11. Participation of El Hierro Geopark in the 38th EGN Coordination Committee Meeting – English Riviera UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK. Sept. 2016.
12. Contribution and participation in the elaboration VOLCANICS GEOPARKS IN EUROPE e-book edition. The most dynamic geological heritage, breathtaking destinations, local traditions, fun & food & more.
13. Contribution of El Hierro Geopark 7<sup>th</sup> EGN Newsletter edition. Oct.16
14. Participation in the III Open day of the Spanish Geoparks in Molina y Alto Tajo Geopark, and constitutions of the Forum of Spanish Geoparks.

### **Activity by Partners**

15. Mountain Race Marathon El Meridiano, Organized by The Insular Council of El Hierro and La Frontera Municipality. January 2017.
16. "Ruta de Tapas de Valverde". (Gastronomic Event) Organized by Valverde Municipality.
17. "Ruta de Tapas Sur de El Hierro" ". (Gastronomic Event) Organized by El Pinar de El Hierro Municipality.
18. Volcanological Interpretation Center of El Hierro Geopark (Center managed by the partner "Insular Company of Services El Meridiano"). It served a total of 2.555 visitors, including students and schoolchildren.
19. Geological Interpretation Center of El Hierro Geopark. (Center managed by the partner "Insular Company of Services El Meridiano"). It served a total of 1.246 visitors, including students and schoolchildren.
20. Volcanic Cave of Guinea Ecomuseum. (Center managed by the partner "Insular Company of Services El Meridiano"). It served a total of 5.000 visitors, including students and schoolchildren.

## **ENGLISH RIVIERA GEOPARK, UK**

### **Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017**

#### **Geopark Activities**

1. The Geopark management team and partners delivered the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, 27 to 30 September including organising the 1st UNESCO Global Geopark Council meeting 38<sup>th</sup> EGN AC and CC, the APGN AC and CC gathering, the GGN ExB, the GGN AC and the GGN General Assembly.
2. Engagement projects were delivered 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. Over 100 community members aged 8 to 80 were involved.
3. Earth Echoes resource pack (Teachers/community group Learning pack, script, score, short documentary, report, mp3's) is being finalised and will soon be available on the Geopark website
4. GGN206 was supported by 80 fully trained Geopark Ambassador volunteers. The Ambassadors will continue to be engaged with Geopark activities
5. Geopark Ambassador thank you event organised in Dec. The Ambassadors were presented with certificates by Mayor Gordon Oliver and the Earth Echoes documentary film previewed.
6. GGN2016 Archive created on [www.englishrivierageopark.org.uk](http://www.englishrivierageopark.org.uk) were all photos, documents and key notes from the conference will remain available
7. Preparation for Geopark festival week 2016 – May half term
8. Geopark Apprentice Jessica Dimond term extended for 2<sup>nd</sup> year
9. Geozone project in early development for Heritage Lottery Fund application
10. Installation of large logo'd welcome sign at the main entrance to the Geopark
11. Geological recording and sampling of Hollicombe Regionally Important Geological site in advance of necessary coastal protection works
12. Social media remains active with @RivieraGeopark having 3856 followers on twitter and our facebook page has 914 Likes
13. Ongoing liaison with the Paignton Community Partnership regarding the Paignton Geoplay Park in particular related maintenance which is now being funded by the onsite refreshment kiosk.
14. Plans are underway for the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Geoplay park
15. Plans underway for the English Riviera UGG 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations

#### **Networking**

16. Melanie Border selected to be a member of the GGN Executive Board and participation in monthly skype meetings.
17. Participation in the 38<sup>rd</sup> European Geoparks Network AC and Coordination Committee meeting in English Riviera, September 2016.
18. Participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary GGN General Assembly, English Riviera, UK
19. Participation in the GGN AC, English Riviera, UK
20. COSME EU funded GeoRoute project bid under development. Working with Magma (Lead), Stonehammar, GeaNorvegica, Region Stavanger, Norwegian Centre of

Expertise in Tourism, North West Highland Geopark, Geological, Mining, Historical and Environmental Park of Sardinia, Saint John Destination Marketing Inc.

21. Organising the UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geopark Committee meeting at North Pennines – May 2017
22. Represented the UK UGG's at The House of Lords, London, at the invitation of Historic England
23. Article on Conference submitted to GGN Magazine
24. Article on Conference submitted to EGN Magazine
25. Joint research project between Carlos Carvahlo (Naturtejo) and Kevin Page on the invertebrate burrows found in the Permian deposits of the Geopark
26. #Geopark Hour still kept active by @RivieraGeopark and interacting with @unescoEARTH and @EGNetwork
27. As previous host of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks the English Riviera is providing advice and support to Ademello Brenta who will host the conference in 2018

### **Activity by partners**

28. Kents Cavern prehistoric caves has developed and published a comprehensive Conservation Plan in conjunction with advice from our geologist Dr Chris Proctor, archaeological expertise from Dr Rob Dinnis of Oxford University. The document is to be used as a pragmatic guide for anyone entering the caves in a professional capacity including tour guides, contractors and academics. Funding to produce the document was supported by the Heritage Lottery and the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark.
29. Doorstep Arts (key partner in Earth Echoes) are applying for Arts Council England National Portfolio status linked to the Geopark which means that they will be funded annually to provide creative support to the Geopark and other local organisations
30. 12k Riviera Rock Run organised by GeoPark Adventures in November

# FFOREST FAWR UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, WALES, UK

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Walks, talks and training events for Waterfall Country volunteers, Cardiff Naturalists Society, walking group leaders and the University of the Third Age.

### Engaging with Businesses

**2. National Park Ambassador Scheme:** the Geopark contributed to this well-established scheme aimed on 27 Sept 2016 & 7 March 2017. Participants were introduced to the geopark concept, and to the Geopark's holistic approach in using its geology, cultural history and industrial history for geotourism and education.

**3. Fforest Fawr Geopark Ambassador Scheme:** this successful training programme for local businesses and tourism providers was delivered. Participants were introduced to the Geopark concept, and to the rigorous EGN/GGN procedures which ensure that the geopark designation stands for quality.

**4. Local Ambassador scheme:** the geopark officer delivered local Ambassador Scheme training to the staff of a public house at Pontneddfechan (1 Feb 2017).

**5. Business Improvement Days:** the Geopark organized several training days for local tourism businesses during the period:

- '*Coffee and Coal*' - an event at Ystradowen on the Geopark's southern border (13 Oct 2016).
- '*Legends of the West*' – an event at Penderyn/Dinas Rock organised under Visit Wales' '2017 Year of Legends' (22 March 2017)
- '*Legends in Limestone*' – an event at Abercraf (Cwm Tawe) organised under Visit Wales' '2017 Year of Legends' (28 March 2017)

**6. Tailored training** for businesses/business groups included a Geopark training day for staff of the Storey Arms Outdoor centre (8 Feb 2017), training for businesses at the BBT event (14 Feb 2017) and the '*Dinas History Day*' - training for 15 members of South Wales Outdoor Activities Providers Group (SWOAPG) at Dinas Rock/Pontneddfechan on the area's history, geology and archaeology. (17 Feb 2017)

### Activities involved with Sustainable Economic Development

7. A number of projects have contributed specifically to this goal, including Beacons Way Development, Route 49 Long Distance Road Cycle Route, Underground project promoting safe visitor access to caves and a Visitor Transport Initiative



## **Educational Activities**

9. Introduction to geological fieldwork: The School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University used Fforest Fawr Geopark to introduce Year 1 students to the geology of the Cribarth in the Upper Swansea Valley.

10. The Geopark officer has worked with the BBNPA education team to develop a 'Glacial processes' study day, following a change in the Welsh curriculum. The first study day was delivered on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

## **Research in the Geopark**

11. Sediment DNA and pollen stratigraphy at Traeth Mawr Geosite: This research involves scientists from Cardiff University's Schools of Biosciences, Earth and Ocean Sciences, and School of History, Archaeology and Religion, and Fforest Fawr Geopark.

12. The structural geology of the Cribarth Geosite and the Vale of Neath Disturbance: A collaborative project involving the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Cardiff University, and Beni-Suef University, Egypt and Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark.

## **Networking**

13. Published an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, *The Swansea Valley Disturbance Revisited: A collaborative project between Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark and Cardiff University to investigate the nature and origin of anomalous folds in the South Wales Coalfield.*

14. Participation in the 37<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, September 2016

15. Oral communication at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, September 2016. Participated as co- chairman in one session.

16. Editing EGN Magazine 14, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of European Geoparks and articles in EGN Newsletters 7 and 8.

17. Membership of the EGN Advisory Committee and the Global Geoparks Network Communication Committee

## **Partnership Activities**

18. The Geopark was represented at several meetings of the South East Wales Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (SEWRIGS) group. The geopark officer led a walk for the group on Moel Penderyn (26 Nov 2016)

# **GEA NORWEGICA GEOPARK, NORWAY**

## **Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Working with a new digital and physical exhibition in the visitor centre.
2. Regular events for schools on topics related to geodiversity and biodiversity, culture and history
3. New information signs on localities. Continuous updating of panels.
4. Guide meeting with planning for the next guided season
5. A number of talks for different groups, and politicians in particular.
6. “Scientific” Saturday in Porsgrunn with activities for children.
7. Meeting and guided tour for accountants for Geopark and municipalities.
8. Strategic meeting with main contacts in the municipalities.
9. New in Strategic plan for 2017 – 2021 developed by the administration and adopted in the board
10. National day of geology. Family event and field trip in the Geopark.
11. Developed a new tour concept, “The painter Theodor Kittelsen and the secret of the moraine Island”.
12. Developed new 4-page brochures in Norwegian and English. Printed or read online and download for local print from web site

### **Networking**

13. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and the GGN conference in English Riviera Global Geopark, UK.
14. Manager is vice coordinator in EGN and member of GGN ExB. Several Skype meetings with GGN ExB and meetings with other Global Geoparks and Geopark project.
15. Representing GGN in Conference on sustainable tourism in Naturtejo Geopark,
16. Meeting in Norwegian Geopark committee
17. Nordic cooperating meeting on Iceland with Nordics Geoparks. Developed a Nordic Geopark brochure.

### **Activity by Partners**

18. New tour concepts for next season developed by partners

# **HATEG COUNTRY DINOSAURS GEOPARK, ROMANIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing 20 news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook
2. Several scientific articles (dinosaurs and interpretation)
3. InfoGeopark newsletter. 500 units with the most important news to raise the awareness of the citizen about the Geopark.
4. Training course for volunteers and guides. A group of 26 young students joined the courses on personal development, natural heritage interpretation, tourism;
5. 18 Ambassadors were selected and officially recognised as Geopark Ambassadors for one year;
6. Ambassadors organised an official visit to Bakony Balaton Geopark (Hungary);
7. Guided visits program for students and secondary school teachers.
8. Signed MOU with UNESCO Romania;
9. Creation of the Romanian National Forum (December);
10. Development of a Master Program dedicated to conservation of natural and cultural Heritage (Hateg Geopark as a case study)
11. Participation in European Virtual Seminar (on line courses coordinated by the University of the Netherlands) with the GEO module having Hateg geopark as a case study;

### **Networking**

12. Sending an article to European Geoparks Magazine, Cultural exchanges between Hateg Geopark and IUberon Geopark;
13. Sending an article to EGN Newsletter;
14. Participation in the Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera, September, 2016;
15. Two oral communications at EGN Conference in English Riviera, in September 2016;
16. Application of an Admira Cultural project in partnership with Magama Geopark;
17. Participation in many conferences related to geoparks in Romania;

18. Cooperation with Idrija geopark and other institutions in developing the Interreg Transdanubian Project: Danube GeoTour. A 30 months cooperation project with other 7 International geoparks or Aspiring Geoparks to develop geo-products;
19. Students exchanges with Minho University and Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro and Arouca Geopark and Naturtejo Geopark;
20. Master thesis dedicated to geoparks in Minho University on partnership with University of Buchares and Hateg Country Dinosaurus Geopark;

### **Activity by Partners**

21. Drag de Hateg Association carried out a project aiming to develop new educational packages and a new mascot for education: Andi Andezit;
22. CRAL Association developed a project in partnership with HCDG in order to prepare educational support and outdoor modules;
23. Geomedia Association developed the project geoparks Ambassadors;
24. Participation in drafting the eco-tourism strategy fo Hateg Country – Retezat area, in partnership with national and international bodies;
25. Participation in two tourism fairs, in November and February;
26. Hateg Country – Retezat become the fourth eco-tourism destination in Romania (officially recognised by the Ministry pf Tourism);
27. Partnership for a new visiting centre: Transsylvanian Dinosaurs Museum;

# HAUTE PROVENCE GEOPARK, FRANCE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook
2. Production of UGGp Haute Provence video (15)
3. Designing UGGp georoutes.
4. Receiving delegation from Fangshan Geopark (China)
5. Organization of training courses for Geopark partners ( different sessions for a total of 60 people)
6. Equipment of 40 sites inside the Geopark (final stage)
7. Organisation of special event in the 60 communes inside the Geopark (Parlons Geopark)
8. Participation in different event in the territory (journée milieux humides, etc..)
9. Visit to the abrasion platform leaded by a biologist and two photographers in order to know the biodiversity and understand how sensitive the place is and raise the awareness about it.
10. Preparation of a new exhibition on natural hazards
11. New Geopark partnership with 12 new partners (products, hotels, restaurant, open air activities)
12. Developing LEADER project for several communes from the Geopark (restoration lavender field, traditional hives, old slate exploitation, etc.)

### Networking

13. Realization of promotional videos for EGN and GGN inside 2017 IY
14. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera
15. Participation in GGN ExB (1 monthly meeting at least)
16. Participation in the management of GGN association
17. Creation of a Geopark discovery product by a Geopark partner in Dong Van Geopark
18. Participation in the Shennonglian forum (China)

19.Cooperation with M'Goun Geopark, Ngorongoro-Lengai Aspiring geopark (Tanzania), Shennongjian Geopark (China), Fangshan Geopark (China)

### **Activity by Partners**

20.New art exhibition developed by the CAIRN

21.New exhibition Musée Promenade

22.Creation of a leaflet related with local products

23.edition of promotional material for partners of the Geopark

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

## **Progress Report, September 2016 - March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

- (1) Presentation “Tag des Geotops” = German day of Geosites (about 15 events inside the Geopark area (September 2016)
- (2) Presentation of the Experience Nature Point at Lutherweg (September 2016)
- (3) Presentation of 8 new informational panels for landmark 21 (September 2016)
- (4) Presentation of a new information panel at Knüppeldamm near Wippra (October 2016)
- (5) Presentation of the first informational Geopark-Stele at Heimburg (November 2016)
- (6) Presentation of geopark leaflet reprints of the following landmarks (German) :  
1/Hübichenstein bei Bad Grund, 4/Brocken, 8/Schloß Wernigerode, 11/Alte Burg Osterode am Harz, 17/Schloss Mansfeld, 18/Schloss Liebenburg (November 2016)
- (7) Presentation of geopark leaflet reprints (english) of the following landmarks:  
2/Ottiliae-Schacht bei Clausthal-Zellerfeld , 13/Baumannshöhle Rübeland (November 2016)
- (8) Presentation of new information panels within landmark 14 (Danielshöhle, Gläserne Mönch, Hoppelberg, Westerburg, Burg Schlanstedt, Höhlenwohnungen Langenstein, Gletschertöpfe) (November 2016)
- (9) Presentation of the new information panel at Helsunger Bruch of four additional information panels along the “Geological Hiking Trail” near Blankenburg (December 2016)
- (10) Presentation of the information panel at the former hut near Hahausen (December 2016)
- (11) Presentation of the leaflet „Art-Exhibitions inside the UNESCO Global Geopark HBLO“ (January 2017)
- (12) Presentation of the new informational Geopark-Stele in Drübeck (January 2017)
- (13) Presentation of new Geopark-information panels: parking place Windberg (LM 14) (February 2017),
- (14) Presentation of the New Geopark-Calendar of Events 2017 (march 2017)

### **Networking**

- (15) Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> EGN-Meeting and UNESCO-Geopark-Conference in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark / England (September 2016)
- (16) Preparing and submitting all necessary documents for the upcoming UNESCO Geopark revalidation in 2017
- (17) Meeting of Geopark Advisory Committee in Koenigslutter (October 2016)

- (18) Meetings of the new Executive Geopark Board in Quedlinburg (November 2016) and Koenigslutter (February 2017)
- (19) Participation in Meeting of the German National Geopark Group at Geopark Westerwald-Lahn-Taunus in Braunfels (November 2016)
- (20) Several meetings with regional tourism organisations about a common marketing strategy for the Braunschweiger Land area.
- (21) Official acceptance of new co-operational members to the Geopark-Association Braunschweiger Land – Ostfalen (HV Asse, palaeon, Natural Landscape Foundation, Dr. Scheller Foundation, Senckenberg, FUN Hondelage) (January 2017)
- (22) Cooperation with Dr. Scheller Foundation to create the new “Geopoint Jurassic Sea Schandelah” (September 2016 to March 2017)
- (23) Meeting with the new German UNESCO Geopark Committee, the German UNESCO Commission and representatives of the German Ministry for Foreign Affairs (February 2017)
- (24) Participation in ITB tourism fair Berlin with a press conference about UNESCO Geoparks. (march 2017)

### **Activity by Partners**

- (25) 19. International „Montanistic Workshop“ (September 2016)
- (26) Special conference about the Harz caves in Scharzfeld by Association Unicornu fossile (October 2016)
- (27) Excavation by National State Museum of Natural History Braunschweig at “Geopoint Jurassic Sea Schandelah” with spectacular new findings e.g. of pterosaur bones (September to October 2016)
- (28) Preparation of the new excavation season at the Unicorn Cave Scharzfeld by “Unicornu fossile association” in co-operation with the State Office for Cultural Heritage of Lower Saxony (September 2016 to March 2017)
- (29) Several guided tours along the “Karst hiking trail” (September 2016 to March 2017)
- (30) Guided tour through the Geological collection of the museum at the University of Clausthal-Zellerfeld and talk about the carstic landscape at the Southern Harz region (February 2017)
- (31) Geopark tours and events of several partners (Calendar of Events 2016)



# THE HONDSRUG UNESCO GEOPARK, THE NETHERLANDS

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook and on twitter.
2. The Masterplan 2017-2027 has been presented. The Municipalities, provinces, museums and nature conservation organisations have signed a declaration that they support the implementation of this masterplan.
3. We have produced a movie clip over the content of the Hondsrug Masterplan. A very useful method to inform entrepreneurs and other partners about the Masterplan.
4. A new bicycle route has been developed along the sites in the north part of the Hondsrug region called "The prehistory in Groningen".
5. To make entrepreneurs Ambassadors of the Geopark we have started a project for entrepreneurs to use the special qualities of the region. Three courses have been given. 50 entrepreneurs have had an advice and tips and tricks from the consultant.
6. We had 5 exhibitions about art boulders.
7. Starting the process for making an new website.
8. The Geopark promotion team is doing a good job. The team consists of volunteers who have actively promote regional activities at fairs and other events.
9. In February we have organised the annual Small Business Fair. The theme of the fair was "Rolling Stones". Several new initiatives were presented by entrepreneurs in the region. One of the entrepreneurs showed a clip about the Hondsrug area in Chinese.
10. Together with a number of tourist organisations we have promoted the Hondsrug region at the annual national Holiday Fair and the cycling and walking exhibition in Utrecht and during the "Vakantie Salon" fair in Antwerp.(Belgium).
11. In the autumn of 2016 a lecture series by the Hondsrug Academy was organised in Zweeloo, a village in the middle of our Geopark.
12. The educational project "The ground beneath our feet" has been started at the primary schools. This project is a corporation between the Dutch gas-drilling company NAM, IVN Drenthe (the local branch of a Dutch nature and environment group) and The Hondsrug Geopark.
13. Guides, belonging to Hondsrug Geopark and to our partners National Park Drentsche Aa, Drents Landscape Foundation and the State Forestry Commission have offered guided walks to the public throughout the year.

14. Several presentations for groups like Rotary, Vrouwen van Nu, councils etc.

### **Networking**

15. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, The Hondsrug Unesco Geopark goes Urban.

16. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in the English Riviera Geopark, September 2016

17. One oral communication at GGN Conference English Riviera Geopark in September 2016, participated into one session as chairman.

18. Preparing our revalidation documents.

19. A group of representatives of Qeshm Island Geopark Iran, who has presented their candidacy and will be evaluated this year came to the Hondsrug area to exchange experiences.

20. Together with the German Geopark Terra Vita and the Drenthe province we started an Intereg project about Unesco and marketing.

21. Three initiatives for aspiring Geoparks off region's in the Netherlands visited our Geopark.

### **Activity by Partners**

22. The National Park Drentsche Aa had been participating in the competition for most Beautiful area of the Netherlands.

23. A group of enthusiastic inhabitants travelled along The Hondsrug route with a Mammoth.

24. The Geopark Cross Circuit for running clubs has been organized again.

25. The Geopark Hondsrug Classic, a mountainbike tour (amateurs and professionals) has been organized again.

# **IDRIJA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SLOVENIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing news in the newspapers (Primorske novice, Obzorja) on the website (www.geopark-idrija.si, www.visit-idrija.si, ...) and Facebook, September 2016 - March 2017.
2. Participation in tourism fairs, festivals with Tourist information centre Idrija: Embassy Festival - Haag, Sladka Istra, Ljubljana – Mineralfes, Utrecht, Brussels, Berlin (ITB), September 2016 - March 2017.

### **Networking**

3. Participation in the 37<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting and 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, September 2016
4. Two oral presentations (Bojan Režun: Idrija Unesco Global Geopark international cooperation and Sanja Marija Pellis: promotion of Idrija UGG in relation to the promotion of the Idrija tourist destination) at 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference English Riviera Geopark in September 2016, and participation in mining Geoparks working group (Sanja Marija Pellis) and national forums working group (Bojan Režun)
5. Publishing article in the EGN Newsletter, Issue 7 and 8.
6. (lead partner) Project Danube GeoTour (valorisation of geoheritage for sustainable and innovative tourism development of Danube Geoparks), co-financed by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, has officially started, January 2017 – geoparks as project partners: 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
7. (lead partner) Erasmus+ project “Enhancement of School TEAching Methods by linking between schools, experts and geoparks in the combination with outdoor activities and ICT technologies” has officially started, September 2016 - geoparks as project partners: Magma geopark, Norway and Naturtejo Geopark, Portugal
8. Europe for Citizens project “RurAll” with Abbadia San Salvatore (Italy) successfully finish, December 2016.

## **Activity by Partners**

9. New interpretational playground between the rocks and flowers (cooperation with Alpine Association Idrija), September 2016
10. Organising inter-school themed day of all School Network members within Geopark Idrija, September 2016.

# KARAVANKE/KARAWANKEN GEOPARK, SLOVENIA-AUSTRIA

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook @geoparkkarawanken and @geoparkKaravanke on twitter.
2. Articles about UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark in GEOLOGICAL ATLAS OF SLOVENIA, NATURE PARKS OF SLOVENIA books and NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC JUNIOR.
3. Different publications related to on-going projects, The Children's programme of the Geopark Karavanke (written in Slovenian, English and German languages), in the frame of the LEADER project Geoparkforscherkids, for instance.
4. Updating the web site <http://www.geopark-karawanken.at> with new chapters.
5. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark at „Otroški bazar/Children's bazaar“ in Ljubljana (SLO), 09.-11.09.2016.
6. Organisation of Press conference in the frame of EUfutuR project (Petzen), 20.09.2016.
7. Presentation of the Geopark Karavanke/Karawanken at the Sittersdorfer wine-festival (AUT), 25.09.2016.
8. Various events in the frame of „European Heritage days“, 01.-08.10.2016.
9. Workshop for teachers and educators focused on the topic »We are UNESCO!« (Pliberk/Bleiburg) 20.10.2016.
10. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark at „Alpine Convention“ - Tainach, (AUT), 21.10.2016.
11. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark and its educational programs in Ljubljana (SLO), at the conference of the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, 17.11.2016.
12. Educational seminar for our Geopark guides and study tour (Mežica Geopath), 02.12.2016.
13. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark and EUfutuR project at Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Ljubljana, University of Ljubljana (Workshop on Popularization of Geology), 08.12.2016.
14. Meeting of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives and EGTC GO representatives in Nova Gorica, SLO (EGTC establishment), 13.12.2016.

15. International JAKOB 2017 award (01.02.2017), award for quality and excellence in tourism in the Alps-Adriatic region.
16. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark at NATOUR Alpe-Adria fair in Ljubljana (01.-04.02.2017).
17. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark at Bike and Outdoor Show in London (16.-20.2.2017).

### **Networking**

18. Preparing articles for the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 14, NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE KARAVANKE/KARAWANKEN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, and EGN Newsletter No. 8 (Karavanke/Karawanken UNESCO Global Geopark is JAKOB 2017).
19. Participation of two Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives (mag. Suzana Fajmut Štrucl, dr. Darja Komar) at 38<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Meeting (English Riviera Geopark, UK, 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2016).
20. Participation of two Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives (mag. Suzana Fajmut Štrucl, dr. Darja Komar) at 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks (English Riviera Geopark, UK, 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September 2016).
21. Participation of Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives at Slovenia and Austria Geopark Forum meetings.
22. Participation at ITB BERLIN - International Tourism Fair, with European Geopark Network (08.-12.03.2017).
23. 13. - 15.03.2017: Participation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives at KICK OFF MEETING (PROJECT DANUBE GeoTour) in Idrija, SLO.

### **Activity by Partners**

24. Ongoing Project EUfutuR (INTERREG V-A SLOVENIA-AUSTRIA).
25. Ongoing Project INTERREG DANUBE GeoTour
26. Presentation of the Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark and active participation at traditional partners event: „Building Castles of King Matjaž“ (Črna na Koroškem, Slovenia) - information, promotional materials, brochures, etc. 28.01.2017.

# KATLA GEOPARK, ICELAND

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing news on the media (webpage and municipality webpages), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook.
2. Publishing no 2 of Katla Geopark Newsletters for inhabitants of the Geopark.
3. Contracts finalized for partners with prices. Introductory meeting for Visit Klaustur, visit Vík and individuals showing interest in partnership. Emails to follow up.
4. Updating the web site [www.katlageopark.is](http://www.katlageopark.is) with new chapters about partner contracts.
5. Organization, writing and handing in of the Revalidation papers to be filled in and sent to Ministry of Education and UNESCO GG.
6. Working on signing of UGG status, new signs for geosites ordered, updated signs made for info panels, conclusion found for public signage of Geopark boundaries with road administration. All signs funded and designed but still to be produced and erected at this point.
7. Teaching about the Geopark to 8-10<sup>th</sup> grade in Kirkjubæjarskóli primary school.
8. New wall-map made and handed out to primary school Kirkjubæjarskóli.
9. Local logos finalized for partners, products and Katla UNESCO Global Geopark.
10. Contract made with NOHNIK for the making of management plan for Katla Geopark.
11. Signed clothes with UNESCO logo made for employees of the Geopark and contracted partners.
12. Introduction of the Geopark to university students at Vík.
13. Funds for employee promised by Government in January, still to see the money.
14. DMP – Destination management plan initiated by the governmental tourism agency. Katla Geopark to become one of three South Iceland Destinations.

### Networking

15. Participation in two marketing fairs (4 people from Geopark and South.is).
16. Contracts finalized for GeoSchools, criteria has been made and is in the process of being signed and started formally (28.2.17)

17. Hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the GeoVR/Geo Museum Networking project with Magma, Greenland and Faroe islands.
18. Participation and hosting of the first meeting of the Nordic U.G.Geoparks to strengthen the links among them and develop the UNESCO values. First day/meeting in Reykjanes and second day field excursion in Katla Geopark with majors and info centres as well as geosites.
19. Networking in the South of Iceland for making of Katla Geopark tourist map, in collaboration with South.is.
20. Meeting with Ministry of Education and Reykjanes UGG for closer collaboration.
21. Meeting with Ministry of Education and UNESCO schools for closer collaboration and further work of Katla UNESCO Global Geopark –GeoSchools.
22. Working with Safe Travel for the development of security sign for Geosites Sólheimajökull and Gígjökull.
23. Meeting with UST – Department of Nature Conservation, for the collaboration in signing and nature protection at geosites and wider. Contract under way.
24. Participation in new RURITAGE project initiated by UNESCO, Katla and HFSU work on public resilience.
25. Enrolment in EGN group on Natural Hazards.
26. Meeting of Icelandic Geoparks Forum.
27. Funding and translation of the publication of Icelandic UGG introductory brochure.
28. Publishing of final dissemination on outdoor Geoeducation Erasmus+ project.
29. Participation in the Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera, September 2016.
30. Two oral communications at EGN Conference English Riviera September 2016, participated in two sessions as chairman and participation in Volcanic Geoparks working group.
31. Marketing analysis completed and published. Katla one of the three distinct zones in South Iceland.
32. First meeting with Land Art in Skaftárhreppur hosted by Katla U.G.Geopark.

### **Activity by Partners**

33. Signed contracts with partners, Kötlusetur, VisitKlaustur, Rangárþing eystra.
34. Cooperation on GeoMuseum meeting and GeoSaga in the making in Kötlusetur.
35. Official introductory opening of Lava centre and application as formal partner.



# LANZAROTE AND CHINIJO ISLANDS GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Print the guide “Geoparks. The most innovative destinations of sustainable tourism”, presented in FITUR 2017.
2. Participation in the “28th Artisan Fair of Lanzarote” with a stand dedicated to promotion and dissemination of the different values of the Geopark.
3. Support for the management of the Pangaea (Geological and Astrobiological Analogous Planet) course designed to provide European astronauts with introductory and practical knowledge of the Earth and planetary geology and organized by the European Space Agency (ESA).
4. Organization of the workshop "Geoparks and local development, bases for an approximation to the reality of Lanzarote", directed mainly to professionals, technicians, self-employed, companies and associations directly related to the objectives and programs projected by Geopark of Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands.
5. Exhibition “Pura Geología”, the material of the exhibition has been published in five languages and has a guide that accompany the visitors during the tour. Among other contents, through the sample will be able to know the concept, the objectives, the brief geological history of the earth, etc.
6. 2nd Conference on Geological Heritage. The underwater geological heritage.
7. Edition and presentation of the “Guide to the anchialine ecosystems of Jameos del Agua and Tunnel of Atlantis”, by Alejandro Martínez et al.
8. Lecture "Planetary caves, from the depths of the Earth to the Moon and Mars", by Francesco Sauro y Robbie Shone.
9. Science Week, dedicated to Planetary Geology with activities such as nebula workshop, planet building, theatre, scientific breakfast for students of different levels and for the general public: conferences and Martian walk.
10. Management of visits to the Geopark: geoscientist, university students and teachers, TV, films, documentaries, etc.
11. Different scientific publications related to Lanzarote as analogous to Mars and the geological heritage of the geopark, as the use of the term "jameo" as scientific nomenclature.
12. Publication of Geopark Newsletter, four-monthly digital about the news and activities.
13. “Geolorutas” or guided visits program for the weekends, special success of the first "pequeruta" or route for small children.

14. Geology Educational project with Rural Schools of Lanzarote: hikes, games, mockup of a volcano, etc.
15. Acquisition of geopark promotional material.
16. Updating the web [www.geoparque Lanzarote.org](http://www.geoparque Lanzarote.org) with news and information about geosites and the geological heritage of the geopark.
17. Publishing news on the media (TV, radio, press). Presence in social networks: Facebook / Geoparque Mundial Unesco de Lanzarote y Archipiélago Chinijo and twitter/GeoparkLanzarot.

### **Networking**

18. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Newsletter 07/2016, "Pure Geology a travelling exhibition."
19. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera UGG.
20. Two posters at 7th international UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, in September 2016.
21. Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Session of the Spanish Geoparks Committee in Molina y Alto Tajo UNESCO Global Geopark.
22. Host of student internship practices in Europe.
23. Tutoring practices of vocational training who obtained a scholarship (Erasmus+) in European Geoparks. Students of "Higher Technician in Environmental Education and Control".
24. Ask for a grant of Atlantic Area Transnational Programme, 2014-2020 for the project "Atlantic-Geoparks".
25. The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) Best Practices Award.

### **Activity by Partners**

26. Organization of the The Haría Extreme Lanzarote, a mountain race along many places of the island of Lanzarote, Haria Municipality.
27. The Art, Culture and Tourism Centres presented an application that creates a cognitive tourism, which allows the traveller to live a more satisfactory, rich and personalized experience. This application has been developed by Red Skios from the cognitive technology in the cloud of IBM.

# LESVOS GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Successful revalidation of Lesvos Geopark (September 2016).
2. Organization of the exhibition “AEGEON · BIRTH OF AN ARCHIPELAGO” at National Hellenic Museum in Chicago (23 November 2015 – 30 June 2017) and at Polytechnic Museum in Moscow in collaboration with the Region of North Aegean (13 October 2016 - 14 March 2017).
3. Organization of the exhibition “The FOREST under the ROAD” presenting the unique findings of the excavations and conservation works of the fossil sites discovered along the new road Kalloni – Sigri at Chamber of Lesvos Mytilene (17 June 2016 - 30 November 2016) and at Yeni Mosque (Old Archaeological Museum) in Thessaloniki (14 February 2017 – 7 April 2017) – Organization of special educational activities for school groups.
4. Realizing of guided geotours and educational programs for Lesvos schools and refugees (September 2016 – March 2017).
5. Collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs - ASPnet Greece for the creation of the new educational program «Geoparks & Climatic Change» (September 2016).
6. Realizing of special field educational programs in Lesvos Geopark for university students (September 2016 – March 2017).
7. Realizing of educational programs in Lesvos Geopark for schools about the seismic danger and raise the awareness about it (September 2016 – March 2017).
8. Updating of the Lesvos Geopark website (September 2016 – March 2017).
9. Celebration of European Heritage Days (23 – 25 September 2017).
10. Celebration of International Day of Disaster Reduction (13 October 2015).
11. Implementation of the geotouristic activity: Daily guided boat tours with a glass bottom boat at Marine Nissiopi Petrified Forest Parks (Closing: 25 October 2016).
12. 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 (Closing: 30 October 2016).
13. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press) in national, regional and local media. Active presence in social networks (Facebook and twitter).
14. Management of visits to the Geopark (journalists, bloggers, etc.).

## **Networking**

15. Updating of the European Geoparks Network website (September 2016 – October 2017).
16. Preparing the publishing of European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 14.
17. Participation in the meetings and videoconference of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum (September 2016 – March 2017).
18. Operation of the Secretariat of the Hellenic Geoparks Forum (September 2016 – March 2017).
19. Participation at the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism (January – March 2017) and at the opening ceremony in Fitur (18 January 2017).
20. Participation at Fitur tourism exhibition (18 – 22 January 2017).
21. Participation at ITB tourism exhibition (8 – 12 March 2017).
22. Participation at the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera Geopark – UK (25 - 26 September 2016).
23. Participation at the 7th International Geoparks Conference (English Riviera Geopark, UK, 27 - 30 September 2016).
24. Participation at the 35th International Geological Congress (Cape Town, 24 August - 4 September 2016).
25. Organization of a promotional exhibition for San'in Kaigan Geopark at Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest - Printing of leaflets in Greek and English (September 2016).
26. Collaboration with Yanqing Geopark, China – Conservation program of petrified plant fossils (September 2016 – March 2017).
27. Received the delegation of Yanqing Geopark, China – Signing of an agreement (16 - 17 February 2017).

## **Activity by Partners**

28. Lesvos' Museums Network carried out common activities (September 2016 – March 2017).
29. Realizing of educational program about Lesvos Geopark by the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and the Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (September 2016 – October 2017).
30. Promotion of Lesvos Geopark by the Region of North Aegean – Tourism office through the organization of targeted visits of journalist, high profile writers, bloggers and VIP visitors (September 2016 – March 2017).

31. Organization of a training educational seminar for teachers from Lesvos Geopark at Mytilene in collaboration with Secondary Education N. Lesvos, Primary Education N. Lesvos, Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (4 October 2016).
32. Signing of an agreement between the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and the Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (5 February 2017).
33. Organization of a training course for alternative tourism enterprises of Lesvos Geopark where they were taught different aspects of the Lesvos Geopark (geology, nature, culture and creation of alternative tourism activities) (23 February 2017).
34. Creation of the Local School Network «UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece» in collaboration with Primary Education N. Lesvos, Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and Environmental Centre of Evergetoulas (2 March 2017).

# **LUBERON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, FRANCE**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook /Geoparkea and @geoparkea on twitter.
2. Different scientific publications related to on-going researches: Pickford M. 2016, Baudouin et al. 2016
3. Training course for police agents
4. Training course for tourism professional about geology and Luberon area heritages
5. Discovery of two new mammal footprint slabs in two different municipalities.
6. New poster for the promotion of the Geopark
7. Inauguration of the sulphur water spring development in St-Martin-les-Eaux
8. Organisation of the field meeting for Luberon Geopartners: visit of former lime furnace, sulphur water spring, traditional reconstitution furnaces area, Mourres geomorphological site
9. Month of the Regional Parks: guided tours, Day of the night event to promote the combating of light pollution, etc.
10. Participation to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the South-East Geologists Association
11. Day of fruits and flavours: market, exhibition...
12. Welcoming "L'échappée belge", broadcast of the Belgian channel Vivacité, 1st Belgium radio station in French-speaking. A true media event, this trip allowed 14 winning candidates to travel our beautiful region by bike.
13. Annual meeting on sustainable tourism gathering 80 people on tourism and local products issues
14. Exhibition " Views of nature by the inhabitants of Luberon and Lure" ;
15. Validation of the Strategic Plan 2016-2018 by internal bodies

### **Networking**

1. Participation to the French Geoparks National Committee meeting

## **Activity by Partners**

2. Participation to the Territorial pole for economic development: conception of new experience tourism products

# MADONIE GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

On september 5th in Gratteri it was opened the Museum - Environmental Center of Madonie Geopark. At the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony attended the president of Madonie Geopark, the professors Rosario Schicchi e Maurizio Sara' of Palermo University, the mayor of Gratteri Giacomo Ilardo and many representatives of towns and region of the Palermo province area.

On November 20 and 21, Madonie Geopark was present in many center of towns squares to celebrate the Three Day of 2016, in order to promot the project of "plantation of abies nebrodensis" a three very rare which is facing extinction. It was possible for the public to request a three adsorption, which is the landmark of Madonie Geopark

On december 9th at the Animal Protection Institute it was organized a convention on animal life where the Madonie Geopark presented its project on Griffin Volture of Madonie, project made possible through strong cooperation with the Italian Parks Federation

In order to promote the Re-introduction of Griffin Volture on Madonie park area, the Madonie Geopark staff made many activities of enrico mental education to benefit the schools of first and second grade, but also made a program for high schools

On december 13 the P. Domina High School students of Petralia Sottana, which are attending a training session with Madonie Geopark, presented as a theatrical act the Griffin Volture history for the children of elementary school

On august 20th the Madonie Geopark un designed an agreement with the Regional Environmental Guard in order to promote the conservation and protection of environment, of animals and citizen performing actions in order to preserve all areas of great naturalistic value

Madonie Geopark undersigned with some association as "Madonie a Passo Lento" and "Il Grifone" appropriate agreements in order to develop fruitful cooperation in promoting conservation, cultural, visiting and educational activities connected also to local and territorial geology, also to stimulate ideas and sinergies for creating new job opportunities

Following the signature of the agreement with Italia Association of Naturalistic Guides (AIGAE) it started on the Madonie Geopark main office the training course for environmental excursion guide attended by many students from all sicilian provinces

On march 10/13 Madonie Geopark staff attended the Milano Fair to promote geological and naturalist itineraries and promote the project on the adoption of "Abies nebrodensis" already done with great success at EXPO International still in Milan

1. Professional training day for all geologists in Sicily held in Cefalù on September 29<sup>th</sup>, dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the geological and environmental value areas of Sicily. The day was attended by more than 200



geologists who also followed the oral presentation titled “*The Madonie Global Geopark next to be integrated into the UNESCO International Geoscience Programme (IGCP): a territory of real environmental value in the context of the Geo-Med Charter of Sicily Island.*”

2. Signed on September 29<sup>th</sup> a memorandum of understanding between Sicily Regional Order of Geologists and Madonie Geopark, to impart knowledge and mitigation of geological risks to support a specific information campaign, education and awareness in municipalities and schools.
3. Signed, on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Minà Palumbo Museum in Castelbuono, a memorandum of understanding with Federparchi to start the project for protection and reintroduction of the Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) in the Madonie Geopark.
4. In November, four new hotels and restaurants obtained the Madonie Geopark Quality Certification which now counts over 50 companies.
5. Launched in December the three-year hybrid pig-wild boar control plan, to contain damages caused by wildlife to rural and regional development.
6. Completed in December the new ski resort at Piano Battaglia geosite, expected after ten years. It will revitalize touristic activities and winter sports activities in the Madonie and Sicily.
7. On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Regional Minister for Territory and Environment visited the Madonie Geopark headquarters in Petralia Sottana. He presented new point of views for development and revitalization of the protected area in accordance with the “vision” of the Sicilian Region which monitors and controls 5 regional parks, occupying an area of 185,824 hectares (7,2% of the regional territory) and 72 natural reserves with a total area of 85,181 hectares (3,3% of the regional territory).
8. Because of the completed conservative restoration of the stucco, frescoes and wooden parts of the Palazzo Pucci Martinez, old residence and Madonie Geopark headquarters, Madonie Park Authority opened all the restored halls to the public fruition.
9. Conference, held on January 31<sup>st</sup> at Villa Sgadari in Petralia Soprana, dedicated to the Mediterranean Diet with a presentation of the book “Spontaneous Vegetables of Sicily”.
10. Public presentation, at the Conference held at Villa Sgadari on January 31<sup>st</sup>, of the Biennale establishment of the historic Sicilian cart and connected exhibition that will remain open six months.
11. Started at Villa Sgadari, in collaboration with Coop Petraviva Madonie, the cultural route named “At a cart’s pace” aimed at opening a store to rediscover ancient traditions and handicraft connected with traditional food.
12. Presented on February 2<sup>nd</sup> the results of two projects: “Madonie in network” and “Madonie 2.0”. Both projects, realized under POR-FESR 2007-2013 and with the contribution of public and private institutions and the spin-off of the Camerino

University. “Social Media Travelling” and the most innovative technologies were used to enhance environmental, cultural and artistic local heritage.

13. The [www.cefalumadoniehimera.it](http://www.cefalumadoniehimera.it) website, in Italian, English, French and German, summed up the project “Madonie 2.0” and contains 45 trails accessible through the App “Cefalù Madonie Himera” that can be downloaded for free from the App Store, Google Play and Windows Store.
14. The inappropriate staff changes and the negative impact on the functioning and viability of the Geopark, involving 5 key workers being moved from Madonie Geopark to Palermo town at the Regional Department for Territory and Environment, continues and on January 13<sup>th</sup> the court of justice confirmed that changes. Now, Madonie Geopark, is waiting the last ruling of the court to win the case on appeal.

### **Networking**

15. Participation of one representative of the Madonie Geopark authorized by the Regional Ministry for Territory and Environment, in the 36<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting (2 September) and in the 13<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference (3-6 September), held at the Rokua European and Global Geopark in Finland.
16. Drawn up the article “*Madonie Astronomical Park in its advanced stage of completion. A key site for astronomy with links to Earth science*” for EGN Magazine Issue 13.

### **Activity by Partners**

17. Presented on October 19<sup>th</sup> in Petralia Sottana, the Haliotis’ Association proposal titled “*Madonie, a network of geological villages*”. Siciliaparchi.it documented the initiative available in [youtube.com/watch?v=TC7cpA302to](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TC7cpA302to).
18. “ANAS Collesano” and “Madonie Outdoor” Associations, recognized by Madonie Geopark, guided from September to March many field trips. These Associations have distinguished themselves for their ecological and cultural activities.
19. Legambiente Conference about Green Job and sustainable tourism, held on February 24<sup>th</sup> in Petralia Sottana.

# MAESTRAZGO GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Touristic Guide of the Maestrazgo Geopark, Spain.
2. Tourist Merit Award 2016 (Government of Aragon) to the Maestrazgo Geopark (September 2016).
3. Sending the contribution to the EGN Newsletter No.7 (*Maestrail 2016*).
4. Sending the contribution to the EGN Magazine No. 14 (*Sport & Active Leisure in Maestrazgo UGG*).
5. New information panels within the Maestrazgo Geopark Viewpoint Network (Castel de Cabra, Crivillén, etc.)
6. Mountain foot race *Maestrail* across the heart of the Maestrazgo Geopark (8 November 2016).
7. Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Days of the Spanish Geoparks (Molina -Alto Tajo Geopark).
8. Active Tourism. Panel and conditioning of the geotope “The Recuenco cave” (endokarst), Ejulve.
9. Notification of the decision of the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO to withdraw UNESCO Global Geopark Maestrazgo from the list of UNESCO Global Geoparks (24 November).

### Networking

10. Visit of a Chinese Delegation from Zhangjiajie UGG (September, 22-23).
11. Collaboration agreement to promote the Exchange of experience between the Zhangjiajie UGG and the Maestrazgo UGG (September 23).

### Activity by Partners

12. “*Geoland Experience*” project developed by the Bajo Aragón Tourism Entrepreneur Association and the Maestrazgo UGG.

# **MAGMA GEOPARK, NORWAY**

## **Progress Report, September 2016 to March 2017.**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. GEOfood questionnaire to the EGN members.
2. GEOfood questionnaire result presentation at the Committee Conference in March 2017
3. Development of new 20 MAGMA GEOPARK posters layout. Magma Geopark localities with information and geological description, finish by 2017.
4. Magma Geopark is member of the board in the Flekkefjord tourism strategy plan that involve main tourist attractions like Prekestolen.
5. Magma participate to the local event- concert: "the music of the solar system" having the Germany Embassy as guest, Pål Thjømøe introduce the connection with the moon and Magma Geopark geological heritage.
6. GEOMuseum project , development of local Magma Geopark info centre with virtual reality exhibition and geological interpretation of the main geological highlights in Magma Geopark.
7. Participation to the local school open day for profession with more than 50 kids trying the geoVR exhibition.
8. Magma Geopark participates to the Business- Students Conference in Stavanger presenting Magma Geopark and geoVR.
9. Magma Geopark offer a week internship to a student from the local high school, introducing about Magma Geopark, developing turfhunt in the APP.
10. Magma Geopark guide teachers and kids from Iceland exploring Magma Geopark.
11. Magma Geopark is member in the forum for the Region and the destination company that meet every month.
12. Magma Geopark had guided tour with ENI group.
13. Printing of 5 biking leaflets in Norwegian, English version will be ready soon.-
14. Release of promotional material for the geoVR promotion
15. Launch of the GEOfood web page.
16. Proposal for hosting the Global Geoparks Conference on Geoparks in 2018.
17. Follow up the Magma Geopark social media channels

18. Owners meeting with all the Magma's shareholders to prepare the evaluation 2018 and the future Magma Geopark budget.
19. Guided tour with kids from Italy, USA discovering Magma Geopark.

### **Networking**

20. News for the EGN Newsletter and article for the EGN promotional material.
21. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference in UNESCO Global Geoparks.
22. Magma Geopark candidature to host the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference in UNESCO Global Geoparks together with Region Stavanger.
23. Participation in the European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in Burren and Clift Geopark, March 2017.
24. Supporting the Saarte Geopark project in Estonia within EEA Grant Conference and project study visit, October 2016.
25. Meeting of the Norwegian Committee for Geoheritage and Geoparks. Pål Thjømøe, Magma Geopark Director, was confirmed Coordinator.
26. Drifting Apart EU project, meeting in Scotland.
27. ESTEAM project meeting, Erasmus + funded, with Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark and Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark Portugal, March 2017.
28. COSME H2020. Magma leader of the application involving 6 coastal Geoparks.
29. ADMIRA- Creative Europe proposal with Hateg Country Dinosaurs UNESCO Global Geopark.
30. H2020 proposal with University of Bologna to expand the GEOfood as model for cultural heritage and tourism development.
31. Norwegian Council of Minister application with Saarte Geopark project and KenoZero Russian Natural Park.
32. Application to the Norwegian UNESCO Commission for opening the Magma Geopark info centre in October 2017.

### **Activity by Partners**

33. Egersund municipality build a parking lot in one Magma Geopark location.
34. Flekkenfjord municipality is developing a tourist development strategy in connection with Magma Geopark.
35. Lund municipality and Magma Geopark prepare 13 new posters in the Gurlsi location.

# MARBLE ARCH CAVES GLOBAL GEOPARK, IRELAND / UK

## Progress Report, October 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

The Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark passed its 2016 revalidation inspection.

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 their busiest ever seasons with the Caves having their best year ever. There was a corresponding increase in visitor numbers across all visitor sites based on data from people counters.

The Cuilcagh Boardwalk has been a huge hit with the public and visitors are travelling from far and wide. The numbers of people using the trail jumped from 3,000 in 2015 before the boardwalk was open to 24,000 in 2016 after the boardwalk was launched. Facebook coverage has been extraordinary with many people posting photographs and movies of the boardwalk.

A new walking trail and interpretation have been developed in the Geopark at Castle Saunderson.

A new £3M extension opened at the Enniskillen Castle Museum housing a new visitor reception area, tourist information centre, gift shop, cafe and exhibition halls as well as the pictorial Geopark wall.

The Geopark installed a number of new or replacement interpretation panels at various geopark sites including Enniskillen Castle Museum, Arney Bridge historical site, Marble Arch Caves and Cuilcagh Mountain Park.

Installation of new visitor management data analysis counters at 4 additional key Geopark sites. Launch of website for Geopark visitor attraction Cavan Burren Park [www.cavanburrenpark.ie](http://www.cavanburrenpark.ie)

Appointment of consultants to carry out a Management Review of the Geopark.

Appointment of consultants to undertake feasibility study for phase II development at key MACUGG site Cavan Burren Park

Completion of Environmental Study of Cuilcagh Mountain in relation to use, environmental erosion and future development.

Consultation event with community and geopark guides in relation to development in Geopark village of Blacklion.

Participation in Local Community Economic Plan launch activity as well as featuring in other plans and strategies produced by the Geopark's local government management partners.

Involvement in Town Renewal plans for a number of Geopark villages

In March 2017 the Geopark supported the publishing of a well-researched book on the Archaeology of the Cavan Burren and the Fermanagh Marlbank.

Continue to develop link with University College Dublin School of Archaeology in relation to archaeological surveys of geopark sites.

The Geopark delivered another comprehensive events programme with more than 60 successful events such as Walking Festivals, Jeep Safaris, Guided Walks, Gourmet Tours and Rock Detective workshops.

Science Week activities have been as popular as ever with Geopark staff staging travelling scientific events for schools in Fermanagh, Cavan and Monaghan.

Publication of Geopark Events Guide January 2017 - July 2017 which is packed with fun, interesting events. Publication of new information leaflet for key Geopark site and environs.

Participation in tourism shows, fairs and events both locally and nationally including those organised by Tourism Ireland, Failte Ireland and Tourism NI including familiarisation visits, meet the buyer events, networking opportunities and workshops.

The Geopark continued to attract good media coverage.

Strong presence on social media with significant followings on Facebook and Twitter.

Trip Advisor comments continued to be overwhelmingly favourable.

Purchase of a capable UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) to carry out aerial surveys of Geopark sites, condition monitoring of Geopark trails and to take movies/photographs for promotional and record purposes. Helen Carleton, a member of the Geopark Team, has successfully qualified for her Pilot's Licence, which is a legal requirement when UAV's are used commercially in the UK or Ireland.

Helen Carleton is currently our Acting Geopark Development Officer during 2017 covering for Martina O'Neill who is on maternity leave. Simon Grey is our acting Geopark Supervisor covering for Michelle Shannon who is on an extended career break. Darren Farrell is our Acting Geopark Ranger covering for Simon.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Sean and Lorraine Corrigan who were married on New Year's Eve, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. Sean is a member of the Geopark Management Team and is the Supervisor of Marble Arch Caves.

## **Networking**

MACGG continued to participate in the Drifting Apart Project alongside partners from existing Global Geoparks and aspiring ones in Ireland, UK, Norway, Iceland, Canada and Russia.

MACGG was represented at an INTERREG Atlantic Area project proposal meeting in Bilbao in October 2016 with colleagues from Global Geoparks in Portugal and Spain.

# MASSIF DES BAUGES GEOPARK, FRANCE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Edition of the Lake Annecy guidebook, natural, cultural and geo heritages, collaboration with the Regional Nature Conservatory, Sep 2016
2. Working groups on tourism development of the “Gorges du Sierroz”, La Thuile lake, Mount Nivolet, Chéran Islands, geosites, Sep 2016 -Mar 2017
3. Management plans on dry lawns, 25 farmers and 450 ha covered, Sep 2016
4. Exhibition on Pastoral farming during the agriculture event, Marthod, Sep 2016
5. Press conference on local photovoltaic power stations, Plateau de la Leysse, Sep 2016
6. 2016-2017 Geopark’s schools educational program, Sep 2016
7. Restoration of dry lawns with the La Tour du Pin High school, La Thuile, Oct 2016
8. Protection of the Fitoja Cave path, information panels on value and fragility of the site, guideline and surveillance by local cavers, Oct 2016
9. Study on the 4 sky resorts, climate adaptation and diversification, Oct 2016
10. National TV program on the Bauges Wildlife National Reserve, Oct 2016
11. Public event during the Day of the Night, nocturnal fauna, Oct 2016
12. Course on energy and agriculture for the environmental education teachers network, Oct 2016
13. Participation to the “shared lake” event around lake Annecy (commented trips on boat shuttles), Oct 2016
14. Restoration of dry lawns with the local environmental associations, Cruet Ferroud, Oct 2016
15. Laureate, as partner, of an Interreg Alpine Space programme, GAYA = Governance And Youth in the Alps, Oct 2016
16. Laureate, as partner, of an Interreg Alpine Space programme, AlpFoodWay, conservation and enhance of the alpine food heritage as an intangible cultural heritage (UNESCO 2003 Convention), Oct 2016
17. Birthday party for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Massif des Bauges Park during the Mountain Trades International Festival, Chambéry, Workshops on outdoors, cultural activities and climate change, Nov 2016
18. Study on photovoltaic potentiality of the public buildings, Dec 2016
19. Edition of a coffee table book on the hidden underground heritage, “Bauges inner world”, Dec 2016
20. Elaboration of the Albanais landscape master plan, Dec 2016
21. Inauguration of an educational blazing site, biodiversity and forestry, Faverges, Dec 2016
22. Course on winter outdoor activities impacts for the environmental education teachers network, Dec 2016
23. Prize giving of the Massif des Bauges Geopark trails challenge, Dec 2016
24. Participation to the “Gourmet round”, Christmas local products promotion, Chambéry Gate-town, Dec 2016
25. Installation of a “geoborne” (information terminal on geoheritage) at the Chéran Canyon geosite, Gruffy, Jan 2017



26. Article on the architectural heritage of the Massif des Bauges, National magazine, Jan 2017
27. Edition of a posters collection on the Geopark heritages, Jan 2017
28. Reorganisation of the Geopark team, Jan-Mar 2017
29. Evaluation of the image of the Geopark through the tourism partner's websites, Savoie-Mont-Blanc University, Feb 2017
30. Eagles and falcons participative monitoring, Feb 2017
31. Promotion of the Geopark and local products during the international agriculture show, Paris, Feb 2017
32. Launch of a one year workshop on the Massif des Bauges territory, elaborate a shared master plan for the territory with the new surrounding urban authorities, Mar 2017
33. Installation of an information point on the Massif des Bauges Geopark in the Chambéry Outdoor tourism office, Mar 2017
34. Laureate, as partner, of a Interreg Alpine Space, ASTUS - Alpine Smart Transport and Urbanism Strategies, Mar 2017

### **Networking**

35. Participation to the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, EGN CC, English Riviera Geopark (4 persons and 2 lectures) Sep 2016
36. Participation to the 25th RST –French national congress of Geosciences in Caen, 1 lecture and holding of a stand on geo-initiatives and geoparks, Oct 2016
37. Lecture on the Massif des Bauges Free flight master plan during the conference of the French league for the protection of birds, Oct 2016
38. Welcoming of a delegation of the Vyzhnytsia National Nature Park, Ukraine, Nov 2016
39. Cooperation working trip in Rucar (Romania), meetings presentation of UNESCO GG to the President of ARGES Department. Proposal for sustainable tourism development based on rural, cultural, geologic heritage and. Nov 2016
40. Participation as guest to a colloquium "Labels in the field of heritage" Orléans University, Dec 2016

### **Activity by Partners**

41. Collaboration with the Art School of Annecy, "A new eye on the Massif des Bauges", Sep 2016
42. Participation to the Taste Show, St Pierre d'Albigny, food and culinary heritage, Oct 2016
43. Exhibition on the Massif des Bauges Geopark (under the ski trails) in collaboration with the tourism offices, shopping arcade, Chambéry, Nov 2016
44. PhD Report "Impact of human activities on the mountains ungulates", Tiphaine LEFEBVRE Savoie-Mont-Blanc University, Nov 2016
45. Mapping of the forests playing a protection role against natural risks (avalanche, falling blocks, landslide), Dec 2016

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

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Education**

- Course of Geopark Ecotourism and Environment Guiding
- Traditional Geopark Pottery Course
- Launch of Geopark Track Ways Network.
- Arte and Nature School Infant Concourse.

### **Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation**

- Organizing and receiving of III Open day of Spanish Geoparks
- Assistance to 39th European Geoparks Meeting in Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark.

### **Management:**

- Participation in Rural Development Group Assembly
- Signing of founding agreement between Geopark and Provincial Government
- 3<sup>th</sup> Geopark Scientific Committee meeting
- 5<sup>th</sup> Reunion of Geopark Management Body

### **Geoconservation**

- Collaboration with national Geological survey for inventory and conservation of Permian Fossil forest and Triassic reptile footprints.

### **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**

- Organization of III Geopark Haunting Fair
- Organizing IV International Congress on Environment Mining for Sustainable Development and Land Use Planning.
- Organizing of Molina Handicraft and Gift Fair.
- Organizing of VII truffle Fair.
- Collaboration on the 1<sup>st</sup> Milmarcos Hiking Day.
- Signalizing of Milmarcos - Labros village Hiking Ways.
- Organizing of Guided visits for primary and secondary school to archeological sites.

- Several lectures for the program of Geopark Conferences.
- Welcoming of several groups in the frame of Primary and Secondary School Program for Geopark and Museum of Molina Visiting.

**Promotional activities**

- Recording of several regional and national television programs to broadcast the Geopark.
- Presence in FITUR 2017 international tourism fair.
- Participation in the 3rd Spanish Ecotourism Seminar.
- Presence in media as websites, Facebook and Twitter.

# **MONTS D'ARDECHE GEOPARK, FRANCE**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

- 1- Organisation of 2 field visits for local communities, schoolchildren and tourists ;
- 2- Technical and financial support of the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of *Société géologique de l'Ardèche* ;
- 3- Oral presentation about the Geopark label and its application in Monts d'Ardèche during the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of SGA ;
- 4- 3 conferences organized in Feb. and March 2017: *L'odyssée d'une chaîne de montagne, la genèse de la ligne de partage des eaux – the odysseum of a mountain chain: how the Atlantic/Med/ watershed line was born?* (M.P. Bouin, seismologist, 24 Feb); *Mais qui a détourné la Loire? – Who diverted the Loire River?* (E. Defive, geomorphologist, 10 March), *La ligne de partage des eaux, une histoire de paysages – The Atlantic/Med/ watershed line, a landscape affair* (Gilles Clément, landscape architect, 31 March) ;
- 5- Feasibility study for a new museography for geological topics at Les Vans Museum
- 6- Co-organisation of Museomix event – a local think tank about geo-heritage ;
- 7- Finalisation and implementation of the geologic path “Entre mer et montagne “ – *between sea and mountains* -, in Saint Etienne de Boulogne ;
- 8- Welcoming and supporting a palaeontologist's scientific mission of University de Bourgogne, - Dinosaurs footprints ;
- 9- Oral Presentation about the contemporary art project *Le Partage des eaux*, at the GGN Torquay conference ;
- 10-Conference about geology for teachers - launching event of the Geopark annual schoolchildren conquest.

### **Networking**

- 1- Participation in the GGN Conference in Torquay (GB)
- 2- Welcoming the future aspiring Geopark of Haut-Languedoc – technical information about the label, application, etc. and field visits at several geosites

### **Activity by Partners**

1. 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of SGA - including guided tours, conferences, and exhibitions

# MUSKAU ARCH GEOPARK, GERMANY / POLAND

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Progress of the EGTC founding process by establishment of a strong local and regional collaboration and cooperation within the participating institutions of the advisory board and partners, continuing the discussions on ministry level
2. Development and expansion of the communication elements by active presence in social networks – Facebook Geopark-Muskauer-Faltenbogen-Łuk-Mużakowa, homepage, completion of geopark information in the regional tourist association [www.neisseland.de](http://www.neisseland.de) (currently is still the older version online) in German, Polish, Czech and English
3. Signing a cooperation agreement with the State Office for Mining, Geology and Raw Material of Brandenburg (LBGR) for a future and closer collaboration within the main topic fields research, environmental education and public relationships
4. Implementation of different events, for example the so called “Anradeln” (opening event of the bike season in the geopark), season opening for tourist agencies and service providers, geopark days with the local industrial railways (forest railway, clay railway), children’s walk etc. with about 1.200 guests
5. Deepening of the contacts to the polish regional authority Marshallamt by consultations to diverse topics, for example funding acquisition
6. Professional support of the renewal process in the World Heritage Muskau Park concerning the meaningful subsequent usage of the Kavaliershaus (Cavalier House) and active participation of future functional adaptations with the potential target to create a UNESCO Geopark Visitor Centre
7. Beginning of a new co-operation with the Technical University of Dresden, chair of information technology, in preparation of a future project with the subject “History of Glass” in the Muskau Arch

### Networking

1. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 15: “Geoparks face challenging problems related to land use”
2. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting and EGN-Conference in English Riviera Geopark, September 2016
3. One oral presentation Kupetz et al.: The Pūrst-Pūckler Landscape Convention 2015 – a long term cooperation concept between UNESCO World Heritage and UNESCO Geopark at EGN Conference in the English Riviera Geopark in September 2016, chairman in two sessions

4. Participation in the International Tourist Fair (ITB) Berlin on a common stand of UNESCO Global Geoparks and co-organiser of the press conference *UNESCO Global Geoparks in Germany, March 2017*
5. Participation and active contribution in two meetings of national forum of German UNESCO Global Geoparks
6. Participation and active contribution in a joint workshop from the ministry of foreign affairs and the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Germany concerning the UN-Agenda 2030 and the objectives of sustainable development in particular
7. Active part of accession negotiations of the German Geopark Network on the Association of German Nature Reserves (VDN) (two meetings)
8. Supporting and consulting an aspiring Geopark area around the border triangle Czech – Poland – Germany by presentation, workshops and field trips, September 2016 – March 2017

### **Activity by Partners**

9. Support for investigations of the country Spree-Neiße to create a soil nature trail in the geopark area around the nature conservation area Reuthener Moor (Reuthen moor)
10. Geopark Presentation in collaboration with the World Heritage Muskau Park at a dendrologists congress (annual meeting of young dendrologists) in Cottbus and preparation of interesting points of the following excursions
11. Winter Light Soiree – a star walk with torches through the Muskau Park World Heritage with more than 1.000 visitors, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017, organized by the polish Geopark partner association and the cultural centre of Łęknica (PL)
12. Participation in a two-year research project “Industrial Architecture” of the town of Weißwasser/O.L. in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs (BMVBS), kick-off on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017

# **NATURTEJO UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, PORTUGAL**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Celebration of the decade of the UNESCO Naturtejo Geopark inclusion in the European & Global Geoparks Network in the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia, the birthplace of the Geopark, with the presence of the Minister of the Culture of Portugal.
2. Organization of the teachers shortcourse “Naturtejo Geopark as Educational Resource” for teachers of the Geopark
3. Press releases published on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook, Instagram, ISSUU and YouTube.
4. Different scientific publications and reports related to ongoing researches, both in the Geopark and in other sites in Portugal and abroad.
5. Updating the web site [www.naturtejo.com](http://www.naturtejo.com).
6. Training courses for local guides, tourism officers, thermal spa workers, and tourism agents in Oleiros, Termas de Monfortinho, and Penamacor, besides hotels.
7. Several educational programs were provided to both local and schools coming from different regions in Portugal.
8. Development of tour packs and promotional material in German language.
9. Monitoring of granite boulder movements in the villages of Segura and Monsanto.
10. Lectures in regional seminars in Portugal and local schools about different subjects in the Geopark.

### **Networking**

11. Participation in the kick-off meeting at Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark of the Danube GeoTour Interreg Project as Associate Partner
12. Coordination of the UNESCO Global Geoparks booth in FITUR Madrid and ITB Belin
13. Oral communications at UGG Conference at English Riviera Geopark in September 2016, participated in one session as chairman.
14. Participation as lecturer in the Congress Terras de Cavaleiros, Terras de Cavaleiros UNESCO Global Geopark, in January 2017.
15. Scientific cooperation with English Riviera, Villuercas UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Interpretative Center of Canelas at the Arouca Geopark for the study of fossils
16. Kick off Meeting of the EU Erasmus + Project “ESTEAM” in Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark. Naturtejo Geopark and a local school are project partners.
17. Participation in the 1st year celebration of Geosciences and UNESCO Geoparks Program, together with other Portuguese geoparks.

### **Activity by Partners**

18. Participation in the Strasbourg Christmas Fair organized by the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova in Strasbourg. For one month the geoproductions were sold and the geopark was promoted to 2.5 million visitors of this fair.

19. Organization of regional and national thematic tourism guidebooks such as *Beira Baixa Terras de Excelência* and *Circuitos Ciência Viva* with inclusion of Naturtejo Geopark offer and packages.
20. Organization of the International Conference on Sustainable Tourism on 24 and 25 February held by the Municipality of Penamacor with the support of the Geopark, included in the IYSTD celebrations.
21. Participation with the Municipality of Idanha-a-Nova in the International Fair of Biological Products, BIOFACH, Nuremberg, Germany to promote Geoproducts.
22. Participation in the INFOTECH Fair of the Technology School of Castelo Branco for high school students.
23. Idanha + Negócio Meeting for businessmen and entrepreneurs with the participation of the Geopark.
24. Participation with a booth in the Tourism Fair of Termas de Monfortinho organized by the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova
25. Opening of an Environmental Trail in the Oleiros River with 12 panels and guided tour for more than 150 participants in the Municipality of Oleiros
26. Organization with the municipalities of the Naturtejo Geopark 54m2 outstanding booth in the International Tourism Fair of Lisbon with an agenda of activities, contests and presentation of the new Geopark's mascot Judite – A Trilobite.
27. Participation in the project "Tejo Great Route" coordinated by the Comunidade Intermunicipal da Beira Baixa
28. Development of Geoproducts together with local companies and training courses about business opportunities in the Geopark.
29. Support of different Christmas celebrations in the municipalities. Joint organization of Penamacor – Vila Madeiro with several environmental, cultural and sport activities.
30. Opening of the new municipal hiking trails network of Penamacor with the first interpreted trail connecting different geosites located in the surroundings of the town.
31. Participation in the i-Danha Food Lab Accelerator Soft Launch Event. that launched a new Agritech accelerator, specific to rural environments, which main objective is to form a consistent community around green technology in order to bring benefits to this project.
32. Geopark region integrates European Chart for Sustainable Tourism. The initiative came from the Municipalities of Almeida, Penamacor and Sabugal and covers a wide range of agents, which were mobilized and involved in the certification that recognizes the strategies of sustainable tourism in protected areas in Europe. The European Chart for Sustainable Tourism 'Gata-Malcata Terras do Lince' was so validated in Brussels after several months of meetings/forums, action plan and strategic document preparation, and after the auditor's visit last May.
33. Participation with the partner Bikotel in the 13th edition of the Festival Bike Portugal, the biggest event in the country dedicated to the bike and all that in a professional, sports or leisure manner, are linked to this sector, dedicated to importers, retailers, distributors, event planners, media, professional and amateur athletes, and received a total of 25.650 visitors.
34. The Abastena company celebrated its 50th anniversary with a visit of near 200 people, among employees, associates and guests, to the Geomonument Fraga da Água D'Alta recently sponsored by the company.
35. Naturtejo Geopark attended the 3rd edition of Portugal Agro – International Regions Fair, Agriculture and Agri-food, at FIL, in Lisbon, together with the Intermunicipal Community of Beira Baixa.



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

## **Progress Report, September 2016 to April 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. In late November the North Pennines team submitted a £375,000 (approx. €432,000) geodiversity-focused bid to the UK Heritage Lottery Fund for a project worth approximately £650,000 (€722,000). In March news came that this bid was successful. The work will include new staff costs, interpretation and trails, projects in schools, work with visually impaired people on exploring geology, art installations, writing and photography projects, apprenticeships and engagement with local tourism businesses, all on a geodiversity theme. We will have a six - month 'development phase' to establish the fine detail of the programme. The main programme will begin in early 2018 when we host a display of one of William Smith's original geological maps, which some Geopark colleagues will have seen in English Riviera. This news is embargoed at the moment, and should not be shared outside the Network.
2. We are active partners in an INTERREG Atlantic Isles project led by our colleagues in Arouca. The bid was submitted in January and the result will be known in April.
3. In October we were partners in a large-scale art installation in the Geopark. 'Waterfall' was created by artists Steve Messam and curated by Lucy Jenkins, both Geopark residents. It involved projecting, at night, moving images of three local waterfalls onto traditional white painted barns in fields near or Visitor Centre. These waterfalls are formed by the outcropping of the Great Whin Sill across the nearby River Tees. Nearly 2000 came to see the installation. The AONB/Geopark team ran workshops for 300 local school children as part of the project, focused on the geological story behind the waterfalls.
4. One of new projects with a geological theme – OREsome North Pennines - is now well underway. 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.
5. Our Visitor Centre (Bowlees) won 'Small Visitor Attraction of the Year' at the North East of England Tourism Awards. This reflects the quality of the facilities and the welcome but also the programmes we deliver there including children's clubs, family events, guided walks and evening activities such as music and spoken word events with noted writers.
6. As part of our Allen Valleys Landscape Partnership Scheme (which provides conservation and community activities on a wide range of topics in part of the Geopark) we are just finishing off our new Community Observatory and have created a new North Pennines Astronomical Society. The work includes simple but effective interpretation panels on 'The Geology of the Solar System'
7. 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 – is now moving forward slowly towards completion but should be worth the wait!

8. After a failed funding bid we are currently working to resubmit £2.5million bid 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, amongst many other things. That area of the Geopark is heavily modified by glaciation and also has an attractive limestone escarpment and small scale coal and lead mining heritage.
9. Quaternary deposits are an important feature of our Geopark and work continues on our long term peatland restoration programme. In March we received news that the €6.9m LIFE project which we are leading has been approved. News on this is embargoed at the moment and should not be shared outside the Network.
10. We have further developed our North Pennines Electric Bike Network to help people explore the Geopark in more sustainable ways.

### **Networking**

11. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> EGN Meeting and the Global Geoparks Conference in the English Riviera in September 2016.
12. We are working to prepare for the annual meeting of the UK Global Geoparks which we are hosting in May.
13. See also item 2 on the INTERREG project.

### **Activity by Partners**

14. Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum – has new management and new programmes and will soon re-open for 2017.
15. A group of local people, including one of our two EGN reps Peter Jackson, has worked to secure the future of some historic mining heritage (including important headgear) and prevented it from being lost from the landscape.

# **NORTH WEST HIGHLANDS GEOPARK, SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Highlight was Channel 4 documentary 'Walking through Time' aired at 20:00, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Active presence in social networks: Facebook /nwhgeopark and @nwhgeopark on twitter.
2. Soil Fertility Research in conjunction with the University of Stirling  
[www.nwhgeopark.com/research/](http://www.nwhgeopark.com/research/).
3. Updating the web site [www.nwhgeopark.com](http://www.nwhgeopark.com) with podcasts from Earth Science Week and 2017 events.
4. Autumn and Winter Newsletters sent to 650 subscribers
5. Training course for Mountain Leaders on the Landscape Evolution and Geology of the North West Highlands.
6. October week-long Geotour
7. Submitted articles to the 2017 EGN magazine and Newsletters
8. Earth Science week 2016 including talks from Dr Laura Hamlet (University of Stirling/NWHGeopark) and Prof Simon Harley (University of Edinburgh), workshops by Dr Hannah Mathers (University of Glasgow) and Dr Laura Hamlet. Included bus advert in Inverness. Supported by the Quaternary Research Association.
9. Working closely with the Scottish Government on future of financing the North West Highlands Geopark
10. Management of VIP visits to the Geopark. In one side geoscientist , university students, Basque Center for climate change, astrobiology students from NASA. In other side, Vice Minister and Director of Tourism of the Basque Country and many fam trips with bloggers, TV programs, documentaries, etc.
11. New North West Highlands Geopark Business Plan 2017-2019
12. Virtual lecture delivered to University of Stirling Geoarchaeology students on Geoparks
13. Management of NWHG visitor centre, the Rock Stop
14. Production of two new Pebble Routes (landscape interpretation) and updating current Routes
15. Application to LEADER for tourism infrastructure and product development project

16. Drafting the Strategic Plans for the North West Highlands Geopark on Education, Conservation, Interpretation, Marketing, Finance, Sustainable Tourism & Sustainable Regional Economic Development
17. Hosted fieldtrip for Gairloch High School
18. Successful funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund with the Scottish Geodiversity Forum for a October Geoheritage festival and developing materials for Scotland's 50 best places to view our Geoheritage
19. Developed 2017 events program with partners

### **Networking**

1. Attendance at the EGN Coordination Committee and the Global Geoparks Conference in Torbay, English Riviera Geopark
2. Attendance at Geoconservation UK meeting – delivered workshop on Local Geodiversity Action Plan 28/10/2016
3. Attendance at the UNESCO Scotland Wider Value meeting and workshops 1/11/2016
4. Attendance at Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain Expo in London 15-17/11/2017
5. Contribution to the Sutherland LEADER Local Action Group
6. Chairing Scottish Geoparks Partnership meetings 13/9/2016 & 07/02/2017
7. Cooperation with partners for Drifting Apart Project including steering group meeting in Lochaber Geopark
8. Cooperation with Magma Geopark for a new EMFF application for a Nautical Trail
9. Cooperation with University of Edinburgh, National Health Service Highland and University of the Highlands and Islands on funding applications for Health and Wellbeing research

### **Activity by Partners**

10. Reiff Climbing Festival including Geology talks and workshops by Coigach Hall Committee and Hamlet Mountaineering October 13-16
11. The Coigach Assynt Living Landscape project were successful in their HLF funding bid and are now delivering a range of projects across the south of the Geopark including path improvements, land management, marine environment management and cultural heritage interpretation
12. The Achiltibuie Tourist Association are working on a new geotrail

13. The North Coast 500 continue to promote the Highland and Geopark region this may have contributed to a 17% rise in visitor numbers in 2016. The NWHG is now a member and we are working on a memorandum of understanding.
14. The Highland Council Countryside Ranger Service will deliver an events program in 2017 – due to essential council budget cuts this service was set to be stopped but thanks to a successful campaign by the community it will remain

# NOVOHRAD–NÓGRÁD GEOPARK, HUNGARY-SLOVAKIA

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Preparation of the Geopark enlargement: communication with representatives of proposed area, presentation of the document Enlargement of the Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark towards Slovak Commission of UNESCO and Slovak Geoparks Commission, respectively Hungarian Commission of UNESCO and Hungarian Geoparks Commission, preparation of new geological map etc. (September 2016 – March 2017)
2. Presentation of the Geopark and its activities towards Slovak Commission of UNESCO and Slovak Geoparks Commission and towards Hungarian Commission of UNESCO and Hungarian Geoparks Commission (November 2016 – February 2017)
3. Environmental education and edification (September 2016 – March 2017):
  - a. Medves Photo Marathon exhibition at Fil'akovo Castle (August – November 2016)
  - b. 5 guided tours to the Geopark sites for general public (September 2016 – February 2017)
  - a. The Geotop Day in Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark (Eresztvény Education and Research Centre, September 2016)
  - b. World Walking Day (Eresztvény Education and Research Centre, October 2016)
  - c. Advent time in Geopark – Christmas wreath preparation, honey-cake decorating (Eresztvény Education and Research Centre, December 2016)
  - d. “What do know about the Geopark?” - art competition for kids – together with Future Community Foundation - evaluation in Eresztvény Education and Research Centre (December 2016)
  - e. Birdwatch and – photoshooting in the Eresztvény Education and Research Centre (December 2016 – February 2017)
  - f. Public debate on Tourism development in Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark (Eresztvény Education and Research Centre, January 2017)
  - g. The Bird and Tree Day regional art competition for kids - evaluation (Eresztvény Education and Research Centre, March 2017)
4. Preparation of common cross-border project proposals financed from ERASMUS Programme, Visegrád Fund, other national granting programmes (October 2016 – February 2017)

## **Networking**

5. Annual General Assembly of the Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark Nonprofit kft., Salgótarján (February 2017)
6. Annual General Assembly of the Z.p.o. Geopark Novohrad–Nógrád, Filákovo (March 2017)
7. Co-operation with National Geoparks Commissions in SK and HU (meetings, consultations, conferences) (October 2016 – February 2017)
8. Annual meeting of the Hungarian National Geopark Commission held in NNG UGG – Eresztvény with additional programme in Filákovo (October 2016)
9. Constitution of Geoparks Network of the Slovak Republic, Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark has also become a National Geopark of the Slovak Republic
10. Continuous communication with other partners (schools, expert organisations, civil societies, entrepreneurs, etc)
11. Meeting with State Nature Conservancy – preparation of common educational programmes and projects (January 2017)
12. Consultations with self-governments in the field of project preparation (village renewal, local development, environmental issues, ...) (September - October 2016)
13. Consultations of 2 diploma works of students from SK and HU

## **Activity by Partners**

14. 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 (September - October 2016)
15. The World Tourism Day – together with Protected Landscape Area Cerová vrchovina Upland and Slovak Tourists Association - several hiking trails in the Novohrad–Nógrád Geopark (October 2016)
16. Participation on the Geological Whirling in Museum of Natural Sciences in Budapest (November 2016)

# GEOPARK ODSHERRED, DENMARK

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media (TV, radio, press), off and on line. Active presence in social networks: Facebook  
[https://www.facebook.com/geoparkodsherred/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/geoparkodsherred/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)
2. Updating the web site [www.geoparkodsherred.dk](http://www.geoparkodsherred.dk) with new design, chapters and news.
3. Producing new leaflet about Geopark Odsherred – 15.000 copies.
4. 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 in September 2016. September 2016 – March 2017.
5. 2 newsletters send to 650 units with the most important news about the activities in Geopark Odsherred. September 2016 – March 2017
6. 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 second round of the geological surveys. The project will finish in 2017. September 2016 – March 2017
7. Preparing new tours for the summer season – bus tours, guided walks, presentations and training programs. September 2016 – March 2017
8. Organizing the 3 day Geopark Festival 2017 (Geopark week) tours and events in the landscape. About 120 different events and 13.000 visitors. September 2017- March 2017
9. Preparing a national network meeting on UNESCO designations in cooperation with the Danish UNESCO National Commission in May 2017. February – March 2017.
10. Further progress in the GeoGuide program. 15 new GeoGuides will soon finish the education. September 2016- March 2017
11. Cooperation with University of Copenhagen, Institute for Geoscience and Nature Management. Workshop for 25 international students from Transformation Studio on spatial planning increasingly focuses on the transformation of existing built environments and landscapes through strategic development projects. Focusing on the coastal landscape in Odsherred. February 2017.



## **Networking**

1. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, *flagship location Lammefjord, Geopark Odsherred*
2. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark – September 2016.
3. Participating in a network meeting in Estonia, October 2016.
4. Initiating and participating the first Nordic Geoparks Meeting in Reykjanes and Katla Geoparks, Iceland – February 2017
5. Participation in the ITB and supporting the EGN-stand. – March 2017

## **Activity by Partners**

6. Further agreements with local partners in Geopark Odsherred. September 2016 – March 2017.

# ORE OF THE ALPS GEOPARK, AUSTRIA

## Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Planning of the special exhibition “Rudolf Lettner - 100 years ski steel edge”, 2017 in the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, September 2016 - March 2017.
2. Special offers for environmental programs and programs for schools, September 2016 - March 2017
3. Guided geotours on the ore-trail, lectures and workshops (also for children and schools) with all together more than 600 participants, September 2016 - March 2017.
4. Several articles in local, regional and national media about the Geopark, September 2016 - March 2017.
5. Marketing of local Geopark products at farmer markets and baking bread with the Geopark brand at the old mill at Lehen, September - November 2016
6. Erection of the 400 years old Maximilian-fountain, which was formed of an erratic boulder, in the garden of the Christian church of Bischofshofen, September 2016
7. Closing event of the special exhibition “People : Power : Music” (From the copper ore to the trumpet), 2016 in the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, 1197 visitors (adults: 789, children 408), October 2016.
8. Continuation of planning work for the special exhibition “Subsistence agriculture of the miners at Mitterberg region in the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century” together with the University of Salzburg (Prof. Jürgen Breuste), 2018 in the visitor centre in Bischofshofen, December - March 2017.
9. Celebration of the feast of St. Barbara (5th of December) in the Geopark villages Mühlbach am Hochkönig, St. Veit and Hüttau, December 2016
10. Meeting of the tourism professionals from the four Geopark-villages Bischofshofen, Mühlbach am Hochkönig, Hüttau, St. Veit / Sonnenterrasse, about promotional activities, December 2016.
11. Anchoring of different Geopark activities in the local LEADER programme 2016-2022, (e.g. European Copper Road, Stone carching workshop etc.) February 2017
12. Total amount of visitors in 2016 of the three Geopark-museums (Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 5537
13. Total amount of visitors in 2016 of the three show mines (Hüttau, Mühlbach, St. Veit): 10743

## **Networking**

14. Participation of Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist) and Josef Gantschnigg (Financial Director of the Geopark) at the 7<sup>th</sup> International conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks at the English Riviera, Great Britain, September 26-30 2016.
15. 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 April 2017, September 2016 - March 2017.
16. Work out of 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), September 2016 - March 2017
17. Start of the cooperation with GeoCompass Salzburg (Salzburg Geographic Society), Prof. Werner Gamerith, Sept. 2016, [www.geocompass.at/partner/](http://www.geocompass.at/partner/)
18. Cooperation meeting of the transnational LEADER Geopark partners: german national Geopark „Inselsberg - 3 Gleichen“ in Thuringia, german national Geopark „Porphyrland Sachsen“ in Saxonia and UNESCO Geopark „Ore of the Alps“ in Saxonia. Meeting place: Hohburg, October 21-23 2016
19. 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, Porphyrland Saxony and Inselsberg - Drei Gleichen in Thuringia, Part 1: October 2016 - February 2017
20. Delegation's visit, Jim and Helen Cincad from Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark / Canada, November 2016
21. Finishing of an article written by Sylke Hilberg (University of Salzburg, Dep. of Geography and Geology) and Horst Ibetsberger: „LIECHTENSTEINKLAMM - Deep Gorge and Mystic Springs in the Ore of the Alps UNESCO Geopark, Austria“ in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue.., November 2016.
22. Finishing of an article written by Horst Ibetsberger: "Ore of the Alps UNESCO Geopark, Austria" for the EGN Coffee Table Book, November 2016.
23. Participation of Horst Ibetsberger (Geopark Geo-scientist), Herwig Pichler (Geopark Manager) and Josef Gantschnigg (Financial Director of the Geopark) at the Austrian Geopark-Forum in Vienna, Austrian Academy of Sciences, December 2016.
24. Preparation and Publication of an article for the GGN news feed 2 / 1-2017: Ski-mountaineering in the Geopark Ore of the Alps / Austria, January 2016

## **Activity by Partners**

25. German national Geopark „Inselsberg - 3 Gleichen“ in Thuringia and „Porphyrland Sachsen“ in Saxonia: Submission of the application dossiers to get the possibility to become a member of EGN, October 2016.

## **Papuk Geopark, Croatia**

Progress report: September 2016 – March 2017

Papuk Geopark activities:

- 1.** We participated in the International Conference “Geodiversity, Geoheritage and Geotourism in Karst Areas” which took place in Cave Park Grabovača, Croatia. On that occasion we presented UNESCO Global Geoparks and share best practice in conservation of geological heritage. UGG best way in protection, sustainable use of geodiversity.
- 2.** Inside the Campsite Duboka we established eight educational/interpretative panels which explain natural and cultural features of nearby area. Main objective of these panels is use them in school-in-nature which should start this Spring.
- 3.** Catholic gymnasium of Pozega started a project "How to preserve the smallest lizard in Croatia" – regarding to Snake-eyed skink, very rare and endangered species. With support of Papuk Geopark and Croatian Herpetological Society – HYLA pupils prepare “travelling” exhibition about lizard in order to educate students and citizens about the threat to the rare species of reptiles.
- 4.** Papuk Geopark was presented in adventure documentary television show about wild, native and non-native plants. Except rich plant life Goran Pavić talked about importance of Papuk geological heritage.
- 5.** We set up network of beacons all around Papuk Geopark, covering among the others important places and interesting geological features. Beacons are small devices designed to attract attention to a specific location. To find the beacons visitors need to have application.
- 6.** At the Park forest Jankovac there is new opportunity to rent a canoe and all safety gear. There are no many places in Papuk Geopark you can do paddling. Two artificial Jankovac lakes are unique place where you can hire a canoe and enjoy in beautiful nature.
- 7.** Delegation from Vis archipelago, aspiring geopark, visited Papuk Geopark and in two days finds out most important information about geopark. Also we visited Vis island and gave a presentation to local people about benefit which status UNESCO global geopark brings to the island.
- 8.** In the end of September at the Park forest Jankovac we organized event Open day specially dedicated to school groups who wanted to find out more about geology of Papuk and Jankovac area. This event attracted around 100 pupils who successfully finished all interesting workshops.

**9.** We organized big running weekend and marked closing of running season. Saturday race was 10 km uphill trail race “Papučki cener” and on Sunday “Papuk trek” race with three various distances (12/25/35km). Mountain (trail) running is more and more popular as evidenced by 400 participants in both races.

**10.** Papuk Geopark participated on „Viroexpo“ 21st International fair of business, crafts and agriculture. During three days of fair 28.000 visitors saw rich offer 587 exhibitors from 27 countries. Papuk Geopark received best stall award.

**11.** We introduced new souvenirs and enrich offer for tourists at the souvenir shop at the Eco-point Jankovac. There are, among others, puzzle and memory games specially designed for kids.

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

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# POLLINO GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Publishing several news on the media: National Geographic website, Geo & GEO (national channel TV Rai 3), TGR (regional channel TV) etc.
2. Publications about 8th Italian Workshop of UNESCO Global Geoparks “*Protection, enhancement and management of geo-diversity*”;
3. Creating and updating the Facebook page on the Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark.
4. Participation in the “Terra Madre Salone del Gusto” 22-26 September in Turin, organized by Slow Food, a global, grassroots organization, founded in 1989 to prevent the disappearance of local food cultures and traditions
5. Inauguration of the new path “Annanza” in the municipality of Cerchiara di Calabria, very important geological and cultural site of the Geopark, in collaboration with Club Alpino Italiano, an independent national association that “has mountaineering, the knowledge and study of mountains, specifically those in Italy, and the protection of the environment in the forefront in all of its events”. .
6. Visit to the geosites “Timpa delle Murge” and Timpa Pietrassasso (ophiolitic sequences) by University of Basilicata.
7. Scientific support to a graduation thesis on geosites of the Pollino Geopark in collaboration with the University of Perugia

### Networking

8. September 2016: Participation in the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, English Riviera.
9. Contribution to EGN Magazine Issue 14 „*CIVITA, a model of sustainable tourism from a little village of Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark*“.
10. Participation in the National Committee of the Italian UNESCO Geoparks, in Rome.
11. Participation in the Workshop The geological heritage of the National Park of Aspromonte (aspiring geopark).

### Activity by Partners

12. Ethnic festival “zampognara art” in the municipality Terranova del Pollino.
13. 3th 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 GEOPARK, GREECE**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. The new management Plan for sustainable development of Psiloritis UGG was submitted and accepted on September 2016
2. Geopark published two articles at EGN magazine 13 and one article at EGN magazine 14
3. Geopark presented Psiloritis and EGN and guided the staff of a Japanese tv channel who prepared a documentary for Santorini eruption on late September 2016 that was presented early 2017 at the National TV channel of Japan.
4. Geopark announced the initiation of a new project titled “Psiloritis Friends” on December 2016 which aims to support local goods and economy with the development of a personal card to collect points during shopping and spend in local enterprises.
5. Geopark participates since 2017 as a partner in an INTERREG MED project on the "Emblematic Mts of Mediterranean"
6. The geopark prepared and submitted all necessary documents related with its forthcoming revalidation on the January 2017.
7. The geopark co-organised the very successful “Pierra Crete 2017” the southernmost Mountain ski race in Europe on the 4 and 5 of March. 168 athletes from 8 European countries participated. A pupil’s ski race was also organised with the support of geopark.
8. Geopark organised on the 7 of March 2017 a seminar for the implementation of Innovative technologies in rural tourism and the new funding opportunities.

### **Networking**

9. Geopark hosted a delegation and signed a twinning agreement with Qinling Zhongnanshan UGG of China on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016
10. A delegation from Beigua geopark was hosted and guided at geoparks new Info centre on the 13 and 14 of October 2016.
11. Geopark’s Vice president acted as a coordinator of Hellenic Geopark Forum for all period
12. Geopark’s Vice president represented Hellenic geoparks at a special discussion in Greek Parliament on the geoconservation in Greece which took place in Athens on 8/2/2017

## **Activity by Partners**

13. NHMC finalised together with Beigua Geopark an EU funded Civil Protection project titled EVANDE under which many training activities for volunteers and local authorities staff were undertaken during October and November 2016.
14. NHMC undertook a project from the Region of Crete to develop together with Psiloritis and Sitia geoparks, as well as Samaria MAB a Master Plan for the development and support of a new Tourist Product titled the “UNESCO sites of Crete” which is going to be delivered in June 2017.
15. Anogia Environmental Education Center offered 8 educational projects related to geopark in 2016 with more than 39 schools and about 1700 pupils as participants.



# REYKJANES UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ICELAND

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Numerous international, national and local interviews, articles and press releases on the Geopark.
2. The yearly Reykjanes Geopark / Visit Reykjanes winter conference was held in the Geopark. The theme was tourism and marketing of the area. Many of the guests were local tourist service providers (February 2017).
3. Visit Reykjanes and Reykjanes Geopark participated in tourism fairs. Vestnorden Travel Mart in Reykjavík (September 2016) and Mid-Atlantic in Reykjavík (February 2017).
4. Work on an outdoor birding map that will be published in the spring 2017.
5. The Geopark has been working on guidelines for local operators on how to use the Reykjanes Geopark logo and how to combine the logo with UNESCO Global Geoparks logo.
6. The Geopark was awarded a grant to work with local enterprises who are willing to use the Reykjanes Geopark logo. Reykjanes Geopark is a partner in three other awarded local grants.
7. Preparing new information panels for the year 2017.
8. Article in EGN Magazine 14.
9. Working with Iceland Tourism Task Force to prioritizing of infrastructure building at Reykjanes Peninsula, e.g. at geosites.
10. Working on a new local plan for Gunnuhver geothermal area.
11. Improvement of the partner network and increase of Geopark budget.
12. Familiarisations and media tours in cooperation with Visit Reykjanes and Promote Iceland.
13. Seven new visitor counters at geosites in cooperation with Iceland Tourism Task Force and Phd student at University of Iceland.
14. Working on a new viewing platform next to the geosite Brimketil.
15. Ongoing development of “cold” visitor centres and new information points in cooperation with all partners.
16. Reykjanes Geopark will lead the work on a new Destination Management Plan for Reykjanes Peninsula in cooperation with Visit Reykjanes.

17. The Geopark signed a declaration on responsible tourism. Responsible tourism is an incentive project where companies connected with tourism agree on a limited number of clear and simple measures of responsible tourism.
18. The Geopark was awarded a grant to create an educational material for local elementary schools in Icelandic and English and another one to create a plan for building infrastructure at geosites (December 2015)

### **Networking**

19. Participation in the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting in English Riviera Geopark.
20. Participation in the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera Geopark.
21. Participation in NCGE conference in Tampa and AGU conference in San Francisco.
22. The Geopark hosted a meeting where Rokua UGG, Gea Norvegica UGG, Odsherred UGG and Katla UGG discussed cooperation between the Nordic geoparks.
23. Meetings with members of the Parliament, the new Minister of Tourism, Industry and Innovation, the director general of The Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland, the director General and specialists in Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources and the Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO.
24. Meeting in the Icelandic Geopark Forum

### **Activity by Partners**

25. A photo exhibition from other UNESCO Global Geoparks during the Reykjanes Museum Weekend where all the Museums in the peninsula were open to public and organized some events.
26. Visit Reykjanes, GeoCamp Iceland and Reykjanes Geopark are working together with Google Education on developing educational material and 360-degree filming of geosites and hiking trails.
27. The Municipality of Grindavík organized a cultural week with varied programme of activities.

# ROCCA DI CERERE GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Excursions in several sites of the Geopark;
2. Educational activities in new environmental educational and didactical centre in Calascibetta town;
3. Redesign and new contents for the Rocca di Cerere UGG website;

### Networking

4. Participation in the 38th EGN CC meeting and 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in English Riviera UGG (UK);
5. 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 Geopak; Luberon Geopark, Magma Geopark, Molino Alto Tajo, Muskau Arch Geopark, North Pennines AONB, Rocca di Cerere Geopark, Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park, Sobrarbe Geopark, Tuscan Mining Geopark);
6. Updating and managing of the new official Italian Geoparks website ([www.geoparchitaliani.it](http://www.geoparchitaliani.it)) in "responsive design" for different devices (PC, smartphone, tablet, iPad, etc.);
7. Updating on behalf of the Italian Forum of the new edition of the Italian Geoparks Book (new graphics and layout);

### Activity by Partners

8. Presentation of the new master plan for the new RDP from 2014 to 2020 for the next seven years), in collaboration with our partners and other local operators.

# **ROKUA GEOPARK, FINLAND**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Hosted a two day national meeting of Environmental Educators in Rokua Geopark. The meeting was attended by approximately 50 teachers and developers of environmental education programs in Finland. September 2016
2. Participation to the tourism parliament of Northern Ostrobothnia in Raahе, Finland. Oral presentation to the parliament audience on the activities in tourism of Rokua Geopark. September 2016.
3. Guiding and hosting a group of 27 Chinese decision makers in Rokua Geopark. The group was in Finland to learn about the functioning of ecological societies. September 2016.
4. Developing a new Geopark trail brochure for the Lemmenpolku trail in Muhos. The brochure is the first of its kind, combining trail information, stories and geological information. The brochure was published in January 2017.
5. Planning new brochures for the Rokua and Manamansalo areas in the Geopark, the brochures adopt the format of the Lemmenpolku trail brochure. Published in Geoparks week, 2017.
6. Rokua Geopark participated in the Matka 2017 travel fair in Helsinki, Finland. Matka is the biggest annual travel fair in Nordic countries, gathering about 70 000 visitors during four days, 3 Geopark staff attended. January 2017.
7. Participating in the Attractive Oulu Region 2018 ERDF –project. The aim of the project is to attract more international visitors to Oulu region and to the Geopark. The tasks of the project involve marketing and sales activities as well as product development.
8. Implementing the Kyläpaikat kartalle –project. The aim of the project is to inform and include the localities/communities within the Geopark more: 1. Of Geopark activities 2. To highlight the touristic possibilities inside the Geopark.
9. Rokua Geopark Chaired the Regional Environmental Education Group Meetings for 2016. The group consists of representatives from 20 organizations operating in the Northern Ostrobothnia region.

### **Networking**

10. Participation in the 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting in the English Riviera Geopark, September 2016.
11. Participation in the UNESCO Global Geoparks conference in English Riviera Geopark, September 2016. Two oral presentations and chairing of two sessions by Jari Nenonen and Vesa Krökki.

12. Hosting visits of delegations from Yuntaishan and Funiushan UNESCO Global Geoparks of China. Signing of sistership agreements with both Geoparks. October 2016.
13. Hosting a study visit from the Salpausselkä Geopark –project (Finland) to Rokua Geopark. October 2016.
14. Visiting the Qinling Zhongnanshan UNESCO Global Geopark in China. The visit was part of the sistership agreement / program between our Geoparks. October 2016.
15. Participation in the application process of the Danube Geotour Interreg –project. Rokua Geopark is a strategic partner of the project. October 2016.
16. Hosting a pedagogically oriented study visit from the Salpausselkä Geopark project (Finland). November 2016.
17. Attendance at and oral presentation at the Salpausselkä Geopark –project meeting in Lahti, Finland. November 2016.
18. Lecture to geography students of Oulu University on the development of Rokua region into a UNESCO Global Geopark. November 2016.
19. Participating in the first meeting of Nordic Geoparks held in Iceland. The meeting was hosted by Katla and Reykjanes Geoparks. February 2017.
20. Lecture for geography students of Oulu University on the geomorphological characteristics of Rokua esker and dune area, the most important geomorphological unit of Rokua Geopark. February 2017.

### **Activity by Partners**

21. Rokua Geopark participates to the Erasmus –project coordinated by the Vaala High School. The project is implemented between the Geopark regions of Sesia Val Grande Geopark Italy and Rokua Geopark. Presentative of Rokua Geopark participated in exchange in Sesia Val Geopark in September 2016.
22. Utajärvi Elementary and Secondary Schools created a Geopark path inside their curricula, meaning that pupils visit every year some nature or culture attraction or geosite of Rokua Geopark. Rokua Geopark participated in planning the curricula.
23. Vaala Secondary School implemented a Geopark course for its pupils in sixth and seventh grades. Rokua Geopark and the Department of Education of Oulu University participated in planning the contents and methods of the course. September 2016 onwards.

# GEOLOGICAL AND MINING SARDINIA GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Guided tours by specialized staff of the Park in some of the most picturesque mining sites: Porto Flavia (Masua mine, Iglesias), Grotta Santa Barbara (San Giovanni Mine, Iglesias), Galleria Villamarina (Monteponi Mine, Iglesias), Galleria Henry (Planu Sartu mine, Buggerru). For years, this type of geo-tourism activity is also carried out in other sites such as the Rosas mine (Narcao), the Great Mine Serbariu (Carbonia) and Montevecchio Mine (Guspini-Arbus).
2. Framework agreement extension for the use of mining tourist sites: Galleria Porto Flavia, Galleria Villamarina, Grotta Santa Barbara.
3. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. Photo exhibition "The underground Sardinia" Museo del Carbone Grande Miniera di Serbariu 16-23 october.
4. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. Photo exhibition "7 Mois", Museo la Via dell'Argento San Vito. 15 october.
5. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. To discover the Mining Geopark of Sardinia. The Mining Village of Rosas: guided tours, workshops and exhibition stands to know the mines and minerals of Sardinia. Villaggio Minerario di Rosas Narcao. 18 october
6. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. Seulo: a walk in Barbagia between Geology, Nature, History and Archaeology. 20-22 october
7. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. Orani, Mines yesterday and today. Workshops and guided tours. 20-21 october
8. 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Week of Planet Earth. Footprints seminar / conference on the latest findings of trace fossils in Pleistocene deposits of SW Sardinia. Museo PaleoAmbienti Sulcitani PAS/E.A. Martel, Grande Miniera di Serbariu, Carbonia 21 october.
9. Implementation of the project "Preservation of historical Memory". It is a project meant to preserve the mining history and heritage of geological mining park of Sardinia Miners. The interview conducted and filmed by the park staff record stories told by men and women who have worked in Sardinian geopark mines.
10. Teaching activities of the Mining GeoPark of Sardinia at the Institute of Higher Education ITI Tortolì. 8 november.
11. The program agreement scheme for the safety and the requalification of archaeological site, mining/industrial called "Laveria Lamarmora". 2 december.
12. Creation of a list of professional guides for the needs of the Mining GeoPark of Sardinia. 10 february.

## **Networking**

13. Publishing a contribution in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 14, *The European Destinations of Excellence within the Geological, Mining, Historical and Environmental Park of Sardinia*.
14. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks e 38<sup>th</sup> EGN Coordination Committee Meeting, English Riviera GGN Geopark, Torquay UK. September, 25-29 2016.
15. Participation of the Mining Geopark of Sardinia to the GEOfood Project promoted by the Magma Geopark Norway presented in Torquay English Riviera Geopark at 7<sup>th</sup> international Geoconference of UNESCO Global Geoparks September 2016.

## **Activity by Partners**

16. Publication on the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" n. 250 the new reform Decree of the Sardinia Mining Geopark by Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare.
17. Memorandum of understanding signed between Mining Geopark of Sardinia and the Young Committee of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO with aim the establish a cooperation to implement activities designed to promote awareness of the younger generations about the appreciation of the Italian Cultural heritage in areas and sites of UNESCO Heritage, 22 December.
18. Open day organized by ITI of Tortolì on the occasion of the Orientation days. Students of IV C of the Science-Applied Science High School and IV A of the Commercial Technician-Business Information Systems High School showed the public the results achieved so far from the work done in the project "crocodiles, sharks, turtles Stories of fossils in Cagliari and the urban area". They also presented the prototype of the APP that the IV class of ITC A-SIA built in support of the virtual map and virtual tour made by the University between rocks and fossils of the city of Cagliari
19. Closing ceremony of the project "crocodiles, sharks, turtles Stories of fossils in Cagliari and the urban area" promoted by the University of Cagliari in collaboration with the Geological and Mining Park of Sardinia for the students of classes 3 and 4 of the classic and Scientific High School of Applied Sciences ITI from Tortolì, Euclide high school of Cagliari, Pythagoras High School from Isili and Laconi and Asproni High School from Iglesias. 23 march.

# SESIA VAL GRANDE UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016 - March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. GUIDED TRIP – 6 September 2016 – Special Guided trip - Supervulcano geological guided trip from the mantle to the supervulcano caldera.
2. GUIDED TRIP- 16 October 2016 – “Green marble and white Granite:” A circular path along the heritage of ancient quarries .
3. GUIDED TRIP – 26/11/2016 Vogogna To conclude the annual meeting of SSNVCO the Geolab Burlini has been visited as well as the geological trail.
4. CONFERENCE – 7/10/ 2016 – “Friday’s talk”: ”Una vita tra i camini” The history of a chimney sweeper told by Fulvio Bianconi.
5. EXHIBITION – OCTOBER – Photos by Marco Giardino “Giustapposizioni”
6. EXHIBITION – MARCH – Local painters
7. WORKSHOP – MARCH – Living traditions – Handcrafters from geopark area.
8. EDUCATION – October - 4 full day field trip and laboratories on Geology: high school from Moncalieri (TO)
9. EDUCATION – November : 3 Half a day field trip on Supervulcano (13 years old child From Fara and Borgomanero)
10. EDUCATION – November : 1 Half a day field trip on Supervulcano (high school from Milan)
11. EDUCATION – February: 1 classroom laboratories (13 years old child) from Carpignano
12. EDUCATION – March : 5 laboratories on Geology (13 years old child From Grignasco, serravalle and Boca)
13. EDUCATION – March : 2 Half a day field trip on Supervulcano (13 years old child From Carpignano)
14. EDUCATION – March : 2 Half a day field trip on Supervulcano (10 years old child From Serravalle)
15. EDUCATION – February: 1 classroom laboratories (13 years old child) from Carpignano
16. EDUCATION – February and March – Open School activities in the Geolab, Geo trail and Historical Candoglia Quarry and Lab.
17. EXHIBITION 7 December 2016 – 15 January, Prato. Photo exhibition on the theme “Sesia Val Grande Geopark. Arte, cultura e natura del geoparco più alto d’Europa” of the Geopark photo contest.
18. Development of new book for Child about geology, environment and archaeology.
19. WORKSHOP – Malesco Geopark Museum- Each Sunday in September and October guided tours and workshop for child Under the title "Alla scoperta di un angolo di Ecomuseo. Dal marmo alla calce, all'affresco"
20. EDUCATION Starting this year a new program dedicated to the Marble has been proposed to the schools of the Area.
21. CONGRESS – 8/10/2016 Varallo “The soapstone in the Alps” Congress on the quarrying and use of the Soapstone form West to East in the Alpine region.
22. FIELD TRIP - 9/10/2016 – Geopark Museum and field trip in the Geopark to conclude the seminar on Soapstone.



23. CONGRESS – 8-12/10/2016 ITLA - International alliance on Terraces 3<sup>rd</sup> International meeting – workshop on Construction and Maintenance of dry walls.
24. DEVELOPMENT – Presentation of the project Via Geo Alpina along the Geopark and conclusion of the thematic trail “Pogallo” and “Cadorna”.
25. CONGRESS – 4/2/2017 Borgosesia – “Piemonte ARCHEO-MINERARIO” Congress on mining activities and its heritage in the Piemonte Area- potential development for the Geopark.

### **Networking**

1. Participation at the CC meeting in English Riviera and at the following Global Geopark conference (3 delegates, 5 oral presentation)
2. Participation to the Italian Geopark forum Rome- 2 March 2017.
3. Cultural Exchange with Rokua Geopark under Erasmus+ project, field activity in April and September. “GEOHERITAGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE OPENING THE SECRETS OF HOME”
4. Definition of the collaboration with Chablais UNESCO GG to enlarge the Erasmus+ network.

### **Activity by Partners**

1. 2/12/2016 – Ghemme. “Antichi Vigneti di Cantalupo” Official presentation of the commemorative wine bottle for Christmas 2016: Ghemme the entrance gate of UNESCO Global Geopark.
2. From October 2014 - University of Turin, Department of Earth Science: scientific collaboration on the following topics: geodiversity, geoheritage and their promotion.
3. “Sentieri del Gusto” Gastronomic itinerary inside the Geopark.
4. Vogogna, "Piemonte In...Canto" Alpine choir meeting. Filed trip on the geological trail.
5. Guided trip in different Geopark location by GEAV (environmental guides partner of the Geopark) to discover the most unusual corner of the Geopark.

# **GEOPARK SHETLAND, UNITED KINGDOM**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. In October 2016 Geopark Shetland appointed Rory Tallack as the new Geopark Officer, following the departure of Jim Henderson in August.
2. Alan Blain, an official representative of Geopark Shetland, retired in December. This position has now been filled by Paul Harvey.
3. Work on the transnational Drifting Apart project has continued. Through this project, work is in progress to improve the geology interpretation in the Shetland Museum and create a Geopark 'hub'. Progress has been made on all of the Work Packages associated with this project.
4. Geopark Shetland has led the organisation of the Shetland Nature Festival, run in partnership with European Geoparks Week. Plans are well underway and the event will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017.
5. The final batch of Local Nature Conservation Site statements were completed, including a number geological sites. These have been sent to the local authority for adoption to the Local Development Plan.
6. Work on a Shetland Geology Guide has recommenced and we are working towards publication in 2017.

### **Networking**

7. Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Geoparks Conference in Torquay, September 2016.
8. Representation, along with the Scottish Geoparks Partnership, at PETEX conference in London in November.
9. Participation in Drifting Apart meeting in Fort William in November, with project partners.
10. Continued communication with the Scottish Geoparks Partnership.

# **GEOPARK PARQUE NATURAL SIERRA NORTE DE SEVILLA, SPAIN**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Report about the geology and geosites of the municipality of Alanís, with generation of geological map and geological cross section.
2. Field-works for the definition of new geosites.
3. Preliminary works for the revalidation of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park as UNESCO Global Geopark.
4. Translation to English of the "Guide of Places of Geological Interest of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park - UNESCO Global Geopark".
5. Geological route to the mining group La Lima (El Pedroso), with the Andalusian Mountain Federation; November 6<sup>th</sup>.
6. Geological - ethnographic route to the high point of the Geopark: Cerro La Capitana (Guadalcanal); November 27<sup>th</sup>.
7. Design and evaluation of new geological routes
8. Practical workshop "Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark", within the Environmental Education Program in Protected Natural Areas: "Nature and You".
9. Design of a Geopark Rocks-Promenade to be installed into the Botanical Garden El Robledo (Constantina).

### **Networking**

10. Participation in the 37<sup>th</sup> of the European Geopark Network Coordination Committee Meeting in English Riviera Geopark (United Kingdom), September 26.
11. Participation in the 13<sup>th</sup> European Geoparks Conference in English Riviera Geopark (UK), 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September. Presentation of an oral communication: "A new Natural Monument: Lower Cambrian jellyfish impressions".
12. Assistance to the Spanish Geoparks Forum Meeting; Molina - Alto Tajo Geopark, November 16<sup>th</sup>.
13. Participation in the III Open Day of the Spanish Geoparks; Molina - Alto Tajo Geopark, November 17<sup>th</sup>.
14. Meeting of the Governing Board of the Geopark Parque Natural Sierra Norte de Sevilla, participation organism of people and social agents, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

15. Preparation with the Spanish geoparks of the brochure: "GEOPARKS. The most innovative sustainable tourism destinations ".
16. Presentation in the tourism fair FITUR 2017 (Madrid), of the brochure: "GEOPARKS. The most innovative destinations of sustainable tourism ".
17. Meeting of Sierra Norte de Sevilla Working Group: "Public Use, Paths and Livestock Routes", constituted by the Geopark's staff, municipalities of the region, environment technicians, ecological, sports and cultural associations, etc. for the protection and sustainable use of the Geopark communication ways.

### **Activity by Partners**

18. - Collaboration with *Abantos* Cultural Association for the creation of a geological-paleontological museum in the locality of Alanís.
19. - 2016 Autumn Festival of *Dehesas de Sierra Morena* Biosphere Reserve, with more than 54 activities organized by 34 entities.
20. – 5<sup>th</sup> Fair of Artisan Products of Sierra Norte de Sevilla; November 25<sup>th</sup>.

# SIERRAS SUBBÉTICAS GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. **Subbética's Geopark Weekend.**, with 30 activities related to geological heritage and with the participation of more than 25 enterprises, institutions and associations. Local schools were involved through the painting and crafts contest: "Paint or model an ammonite". Free buses were offered among the Sierras Subbéticas Municipalities and Córdoba city. A gigantic chocolate ammonite was built, and ten candles were blown to commemorate 10 years of Geopark (October 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
2. **Course: "Geotourism Guide Interpreter in Natural and Urban Areas"**.. Organised in the framework of the Andalusian Plan for Environmental Education, in the Centre of Environmental Education "La Subbética". Talk on Green Employment, by the Geopark manager, Antonio García. Urban Route guided by the geopark advisor, Alicia Serna. (October 22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>, 2016).
3. **Awards Ceremony** of the 10th anniversary of the Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark.. These awards acknowledge a person, enterprise and institution especially involved with the Geopark: the botanist Enrique Triano (posthumous award), the guesthouse Pensión Guerrero, and The Local Action Group Subbética Cordobesa. The Geopark Awards were made by the local artisans Vidriomundo. Four video-presentations were edited to commemorate 10 years of Geopark, and to present the merits of the three awarded. (December 13<sup>rd</sup>, 2016)
4. Celebration a Board Meeting in the Geopark: The Delegate of the Provincial 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. (December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016).
5. **Update of two interpretive panels:** "Jarcas Spring" and "La Subbética and Campiña districts" (February, 2017).
6. **The Geopark in the public Regional TV Canal Sur.** Filming of two episodes of the Canal Sur Program "Tierra y Mar" in the Sierras Subbéticas geosites. "Horsense Spain" (as an example of geoturism) in La Nava Polje and the Waters Spanish Dog in the polje of Luque (February 20-21<sup>st</sup>, 2017).
7. **ECOCAMPUS in the Geopark:** Ecocampus engages university community in environmental activities in natural areas. Two activities have taken place: "Jurassic Adventure" and "Discover the Natural Park and Geopark Sierras Subbéticas". (November 19<sup>th</sup>, March, 11<sup>st</sup>)
8. La Trufa Mycological Garden Boost Program: "Aromatic and Medicinal Plants in La Trufa". Workshop to make your own cosmetics products.

9. Constitution of the **Working Group of the II Sustainable Development Plan** of Sierras Subbéticas.

### **Networking**

1. Participation in a joint booklet of the Spanish Geoparks: "Geoparks, the most innovative destinations of sustainable tourism". Attendance to its presentation in the International Tourism Fair FITUR, in Madrid (January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017).
2. Participation in a joint leaflet of the Spanish Geoparks, edited by the Spanish Geological and Minery Survey.
3. Submission of the article "A fossil for charity" to the European Geoparks Network Magazine.
4. Selection of videos from Sierras Subbéticas UGG to participate in the joint promotional video of the European Geoparks Network.
5. Participation in the Spanish Geoparks Forum Meeting and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Workshop on Spanish Geoparks, held in Molina de Aragón (Molina-Alto Tajo UGG) (November 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>, 2016).
6. Publication of the Sierras Subbéticas UGG activities program in the EGN website, in the framework of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017.
7. Attendance to the 38<sup>th</sup> EGN CC Meeting and participation with the oral presentation "The Flavours from the Tethys Sea" (7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, English Riviera, September-October 2016).
8. Participation of Villuercas-Ibores Jara Geopark in the III Meet Subbética (Workshop on Design and Merchandising of touristic products in rural destinies, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016).

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Collaboration with the Enterprise Almazaras de la Subbética, to promote their adhesion to the regional ecolabel Marca Parque Natural de Andalucía.
2. COURSE: "Introduction to Speleology as a Scientific Discipline" organised by the Speleological Group G40. The Geopark participated with a talk and with the visit of two caves.
3. BIKE FESTIVAL Vía Verde. The most important bike event in Andalusia. Organized by the local enterprise Dxocio in the Green Way (former railway) of La Subbética. The Geopark participated with a stand in the Bike Festival Fair, organized an interpreted geo-trail through the Bailón Gorge, and a workshop for making fossils casts with children. (February, 24-26<sup>th</sup>, 2017).
4. Earth Science Olympiad. The provincial phase took place in the Geopark, in Rute. The Secondary School Nuevo Scala has organized this event for six consecutive years. The Geopark has collaborated in the supervision of the theoretical and practical tests, and contributed with geopark material (February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

# SITIA GEOPARK, GREECE – CRETE

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Participation in 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, at English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark from 27 to 30 September, 2017
2. Educational activities and training program in collaboration with primary and secondary schools. September 2016–March 2017
3. Presentation of geology and biodiversity of the Sitia Geopark and educational programs for students of primary schools and secondary schools, November 2016–March 2017.
4. Organizes two-day thematic seminar on Sustainable Education: "Wetland of Crete. Protecting and promoting them to sustainable education " and organize the educational workshop: "Caves of Sitia Geopark. Their utilization in sustainable education " 25-26 November 2016.
5. Visits by representatives of the Geopark Sitia in schools for information concerning the geology and biodiversity geotrails the Geopark January- February 2017
6. Recording and mapping of new geological points of interest and new geotrails inside the limits of the Sitia Geopark. September 2016–March 2017
7. Sitia the Geopark Sitia, the Nature and Sitia Climbing Association, the Municipal of Sitia and WWF Greece, organized an event entitled "Citizens and the environment: The role of citizens in the protection of island wetlands" Monday 23 January 2014 .
8. Continuous interviews and articles on the Sitia Geopark in the national and regional media and Social Media aimed at informing of citizens. September 2016–March 2017
9. Hosting students from secondary schools in the Sitia Geopark from five European countries, within the framework of their participation in the Erasmus + program under the name " Eco-Hiking Europe "

### Networking

10. Signing protocol of cooperation with the laboratory paleontology and stratigraphy of Patras University geology department. November 2016

11. Submitted the proposal on strategic projects program Greece-Cyprus 2014-20, with the acronym 'Geostars" with the cooperation of Sitia Geopark and Troodos Geopark. Participating universities of Crete and Cyprus, February 2017
12. Participation in day conferences related to alternative tourism and sustainable development
13. Collaboration with the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Paysage in Versailles, with partial sponsorship of the Landscape Research Group of Oxford, a series of information and awareness actions initiated with the aim of creating participatory processes that will support the management of Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark January March 2017

### **Activity by Partners**

14. Cleaning and signage of new and old geo- routes with the voluntary support local Cultural Associations November 2016
15. Cooperation with local agencies tourism plan for sustainable tourism, with the participation in exhibitions and promotion of the Geopark objective the promotion of Geotourism October 2016
16. Cooperation with local businesses in order to promote and financially support Sitia's Geopark February 2017



# SOBRARBE-PIRINEOS GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. 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.
2. Promotion of the craft-food products of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Global Geopark in regional fairs, and participation in the launching event of the Association of craft-food producers of Sobrarbe, supported by the Geopark. . September 2016.
3. Educational activity: Last September 15<sup>th</sup> the Geopark received the visit of 13 students and teachers of a professional school who had taken a course on "Maintenance of forest masses, fire prevention and extinction". This visit wanted to relate the geological environment to the soils, rocks and forest masses of the Geopark for which they visited the interpretation centre of the Geopark, and also the scientific coordinator of the Sobrarbe Geopark accompanied them during a field trip. September 2016
4. Visit of GEOLVAL: This is a French association of Geologists visited the Sobrarbe Geopark in order to know its infrastructures and resources. October 2016
5. Visit of a Lycee of Brittany(FRANCE). The Geopark received for the third consecutive year the visit of the French Lycée "Théodore Monod" for general education and agricultural technology in Le Rheu (Brittany) to learn about rural development models in our region, such as the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark . October 2016
6. Association of European Centres for Professional Education in Tourism (ACEEPT): The Geopark received on November 15 the visit of one hundred students and professors of the ACEEPT that were celebrating a meeting in the university of Huesca devoted to "Slow Tourism". They visited the Geopark as an experience of living a tourism "calmly", to know about its culture, and to enjoy local products, landscapes and environment with criteria of social responsibility with the territory. During the visit, through a presentation of the manager of the Geopark, they received information about the UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geoparks as a model of "Slow Tourism". October 2016.
7. Geological Autumn in Sobrarbe: Once again the Sobrarbe Geopark has organised the "Geological Autumn in Sobrarbe": this activity consisted of guided geological tours carried out every weekend during the autumn season. October 2016.
8. Organization of the X Seminar of the Sobrarbe Pirineos Geopark. In 2016 the Seminar was devoted to "The Turbidites and the deep seas of Sobrarbe". There were 110 people attending the Seminar, having also the participation of the Spanish National Commission of UNESCO during the presentation of the 10

years history of this seminar and its first celebration as UNESCO Global Geopark. October 2016

9. Participation in the XX Seminar of Municipalities of the National Parks in Spain: This Seminar took place in the Geopark from 19 to 23 October. The Geopark collaborated with the presentation "The geological importance of the National Park of Ordesa y Monte Perdido", by Anchel Belmonte, scientific coordinator of the Geopark. October 2016
10. Workshop on "Nature and Landscape Video" : This workshop was organised by the Geopark, and it combined nature and landscape with the geological heritage of Sobrarbe. November 2016
11. Visit of chinese tour operators: The Geopark received the visit of 4 Chinese tour operators to present them the tourist offer of the Geopark: November 2016.
12. Visit of the Secondary School of Sierra de Leyre (Navarra): The group was made up of students with special educational needs, so the visit was of great interest for the Sobrarbe-Geopark to test the academic adaptation of the geopark educational materials. The visit was highly satisfactory for both the school and the Geopark, so they agreed to establish this visit as an permanent activity. December 2016.
13. Celebration of the X Anniversary of the Geopark: The Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark celebrated 10 years as a Geopark and its first year as a UNESCO Global Geopark. Apart from several events and activities of commemoration programmed throughout the year, the main event took place on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016, coinciding with the commemoration of the International Mountain Day declared by the United Nations Organization, since the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark is a geopark the mountains. December 2016.
14. Publication of a report about the geological itineraries of the Sobrarbe Geopark in the main newspaper of the province (Diario del Alto Aragón). January 2017
15. Sending of the annual calendar of activities of the Geopark to the Geopark's Friends (more than 1000 people), partner enterprises, media, etc. January 2017
16. Organization of an event for dissemination and networking on new experiences related to online shops for craft food products of the Geopark. February 2017
17. Geo-conservation measures concerning new paleontological findings in the Geopark . February 2017
18. Participation of the Sobrarbe Geopark at the meeting organised by the Ministry of Environment of Spain, with the attendance of all the Spanish National Parks, in order to clarify the relationships between Geoparks and National Parks. February 2017
19. Lecture on meteorology in the central Pyrenees, The purpose of this talk is to know how the meteorological phenomena behave in this area and how to program activities avoiding risks related with these phenomena. March 2017

20. Second visit of teachers and pupils of the secondary school of Sierra de Leyre (Navarra). March 2017
21. Educational activities: Lectures on geology and geological heritage of the Geopark in the Secondary School of Sobrarbe. March 2017
22. Visit of student of the Cologne International Tourism Business School for PHD work in geotourism. March 2017
23. Cooperation with the Central University of Chile, with the participation of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark in several activities and seminars organised in Chile to promote geo-tourism and geo-conservation. January 2017

## **Networking**

24. Cooperation project regarding the international World Heritage Site "Pirineos Monte Perdido", that is partially inside the Geopark. June-September 2016.
25. Participation of the representatives of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark in the 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CC of the European Geoparks Network and also in the General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Association. September 2016
26. Participation and presentation on the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark during the Conference of Geoparks taking place in English Riviera Global Geopark. September 2016
27. Participation on the meeting of the Spanish Geoparks and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks taking place in the UNESCO Global Geopark of Molina-Alto Tajo. November 2016
28. Participation in the presentation of an application to the 2<sup>nd</sup> call for proposals of POCTEFA European program, Poroject "GeoArch : "Geo- Architecture like a new resource for sustainable development in the Central Pyrenees". December 2016
29. Publication of news about the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark activities in the EGN, GGN and Unesco websites all over the year.
30. Participation in the Tourism Fair FITUR, together with the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara and Costa Vasca Geopark, under the coordination of the Naturtejo Geopark. The four Geoparks shared a boot at the fair, and promoted de EGN through its participation in this event. January 2017
31. Participation in the presentation of a new brochure on the Spanish Global Geoparks at FITUR. The preparation of this brochure and its presentation at FITUR was coordinated by the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark. January 2017
32. Publication of an article in EGN Newsletter 8
33. Publication of an article in GGN Newsletter 1
34. Presentation of a project to the SUDOE European funds, together with Arouca and Villuercas Geoparks, and several other international partners.

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## **Activity by Partners**

35. Participation in the organization of the Sobrarbe "Tapas" annual contest (organised by the Association of Enterprises of the Province), which has a specific award for those tapas made with products from the Sobrarbe Geopark. September 2016
36. Participation in the organization of the I Congress on Speleology of the Pyrenees, that took place in Ainsa the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, and presentation of the scientific coordinator of the Geopark "The karst in the Pyrenees" October 2016
37. Collaboration with the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME) in the recording of a promotional video of the "Geolodía" (Geo-day): the Geopark collaborated in the recording of the video realized by the IGME about the activity of the "Geolodías" in Spain. October 2016
38. Collaboration in the autumn events organised during the mushroom season by partner enterprises of the Geopark
39. Participation in the presentation of a book on geological heritage of the Santo Domingo range of mountains: The Geopark participated in the presentation of the book "Geology of the Sierras de Santo Domingo and Salinas as a resource for rural development", which wants to boost the geology of this territory as an aid to its sustainable development. The scientific coordinator of the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark gave an oral presentation about the work carried out in Sobrarbe Geopark concerning geotourism and geological heritage dissemination. November 2016
40. Collaboration with the Spanish Ministry for the Environment in the organization of a course aimed to the training of guides for the Spanish National Parks. The practical part of the course took place in the Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark, in the National Park of Ordesa and Monte-Perdido. November 2016
41. Participation on the presentation of the Spanish Charter of Ecotourism, as a member of the Ecotourism Club of Spain, at FITUR, under the coordination of Turespaña. January 2017
42. Signature of a cooperation agreement with the University of Goiás (Brassil) to promote academic, cultural and scientific relations in the areas of teaching, research and culture. January 2017
43. Participation in the tourist fair of Monfragüe in cooperation with an Association of Bird-watching of the Geopark. February 2017
44. Collaboration with the University of Saragossa in the VIII Geological Olympics of the region of Aragón. February 2017

# **STYRIAN EISENWURZEN NATURE- AND GEOPARK, AUSTRIA**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Promoting and selling of Geopark Partner food products at our office.
2. Implementation of a new corporate design including logos, information boards, homepage, merchandise and brochures. January 2017
3. Application and Approval 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), January 2017
4. Different tasks within the 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. One task within the project have been charitable activities for example. Refugees were harvesting regional orchards. September 2016 – March 2017
5. Different projects towards biodiversity of the area. Public relations activities, lectures and knowledge transfer is a major work by our biodiversity expert Eva Maria Vorwagner. Furthermore, she also develops a new project in this direction. September 2016 – March 2017

### **Networking**

6. Participation in the 38th European Geoparks CC Meeting and the 7th GGN Conference at the English Riviera, Great Britain, Oliver Gulas, September 2016
7. Participation in the EGN Fossil Group
8. Participation in the GeoFood Project
9. Participation in a public presentation of all Styrian Nature Park in Graz: “Hirschbirne trifft Schafnase” (Presentation of different apple and pears), October 2017
10. Participation at the meeting of the Austrian Geopark Forum and the Austrian UNESCO Commission in Vienna, December 2016
11. Participation at the “Interpaedagogica”, an exhibition for schools, teachers and education in Vienna, November 2016
12. Finalisation of a manuscript for a Guidebook of all four Austrian Geoparks, to be published at spring 2017. January 2017

## **Partners**

13. New project to strengthen or implement a partnership between the partner network of our Geopark and the Nationalpark Gesaeuse.
14. Nature and Geopark schools in St. Gallen and Weißenbach: visits and presentations of the Nature and Geopark throughout the educational program, September-November 2016

# **SWABIAN ALB GEOPARK, GERMANY**

## **Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017**

### **Geopark Activities**

1. Special guidance of the Geopark in the famous marble quarry, Böttingen, to students of the institute of landscape development, Technical University Munich, September 2016.
2. Day of Geotope. Publicly effective presentation the cleaning the important geotope “Snail slab” (embedded ammonites in a river bed) in Offerdingen by visitors with scrubbing brushes, September 2016.
3. Gaining the elementary school (Wachtfelsschule) in Kolbingen as a further Geopark-School, September 2016.
4. Lecture about sustainable regional development in Geopark Swabian Alb. Lecture was hold on a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Reutlingen about sustainable development, September 2016.
5. Meeting of the working group Geopark alliance in Münsingen. Discussion of further activities in 2017 with quarry companies in the frame of the partnership with the building material association Baden-Württemberg, October 2016.
6. Meeting with the purpose association “State water supply” in Langenau. Discussion in making the “Groundwater experience world” (permanent exhibition) of the entity to a Geopark Infocenter as well as discussion an education partnership, October 2016.
7. Annual General Meeting of the Geopark association in Infocenter Nature reserve center Schopflocher Alb, December 2016.
8. Participation on the tourism fair CMT in Stuttgart. Presentation Geopark and its partner, January 2017.
9. Inauguration of the open air museum and the thermal bath in Beuren as new Geopark Infocenters during the tourism fair CMT, January 2017.
10. Special guidance of the Geopark in the marble quarry, Böttingen, to students of geography of Tübingen University, February 2017.

### **Networking**

11. Half year meeting of all Infocenters of the Geopark in Trochtelfingen, September 2016.
12. Meeting with a member of parliament in Stuttgart. Discussions the possibilities in integration the Geopark in a department of the ministry of rural affairs and consumer protection, October 2016.

13. Participation on a meeting of the marketing body of the Swabian Alb tourism association in Bad Urach, October 2016.
14. Meeting of the Forum of the German UNESCO-Geoparks and of the National Geopark Network in Braunfels, November 2016.
15. Participation on the ceremony “10 years Geopark Ries” in Wemding, November 2016.
16. Meeting of the Forum of the German UNESCO-Geoparks in Erfurt. Discussion national affairs concerning public relation and common education projects, January 2017.
17. Geopark lectures about geology and cultural landscape development on the Swabian Alb in the frame of the education new landscape guides on the Swabian Alb, March 2017.
18. Half year meeting of all Infocenters of the Geopark in Sontheim, March 2016.

### **Activity by Partners**

19. Participation at a regional art festival in a quarry organized by a cement company who is a partner of the Geopark, September 2016.
20. Participation and presentation of the Geopark on a regional fair about orchard meadows in Dettingen/Erms, September 2016.
21. First broadcast of a movie about Geopark Swabian Alb (title: Geological heritage of the Swabian Alb) in the frame of the TV education serie “Planet knowledge”. Special geotopes and topics in earth history of the Swabian Alb were highlighted, February 2017.
22. Start Up event of the beginning of a course in education new landscape guides on the Swabian Alb. The course is organized by the state Environmental Academy Baden-Württemberg with the Geopark as a partner. February 2017.
23. Participation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> tourism forum of our member county Alb-Donau-Kreis in Ulm, September 2016.



# TERRA.VITA GEOPARK, GERMANY

## Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

- 1.** Accompanied by the mayor a new TERRA.vita point has been opened in November in the community of Pr. Oldendorf.
- 2.** A workshop was organized by TERRA.vita, inviting the press speakers of all counties, big cities and other organizations to discuss the advantages and challenges of the UNESCO designation.
- 3.** TERRA.vita gave two presentations, addressing the issue of health in parks at the University of Applied Sciences in Osnabrück and at the Green Week in Berlin.
- 4.** The hiking project, raising the quality profile of hiking trails in the geopark is progressing as planned, finishing the selection of quality trails together with communities in the southern area. An application for financial support from European and national resources has been sent out in time.
- 5.** The Hünenweg trail (long distance trail between TERRA.vita and De Hondsrug Geopark (NL) addressing our common megalithic culture) has been granted support from European and national resources during winter for the TERRA.vita part.
- 6.** Meeting with the CEO of one of our most innovative companies “Solarlux”, to discover future ways of cooperation.
- 7.** As a first step to improve TERRA.vita`s Geosite Management System, the programming of a new database structure has been commissioned. Contractor is the bureau “concepts and solutions” in Bielefeld, TERRA.vita.
- 8.** A co-operation between TERRA.vita and the Climate-Initiative of the County of Osnabrück has been started dealing with geothermal energy. A first technical seminar with 100 participants was organized.

### Networking

- 1.** Participation at GGN presentation at ITB in Berlin in March 2017 including a press conference together with Nickolas, a representative of the Foreign Ministry of German (as chair of the National Committee) and Hartmut as speaker of the German Forum.
- 2.** Participation in the 39th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting at English Riviera Geopark and the Global UNESCO Geoparks Conference in UK in September 2016.
- 3.** The German Geopark Forum met twice in Braunfels at 7<sup>th</sup> of November and in Erfurt at 24<sup>th</sup> of January.

- 4.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> German national Geopark Committee Meeting took place in November in Osnabrück at the German Environmental Foundation.
- 5.** Timo Wölken (SPD), member of the European Parliament visited TERRA.vita, offering his help, if the EGN or GGN wants to have an exhibition at the European parliament in Strasbourg.
- 6.** Hartmut gave an interview on Geopark developments to the press speaker of the German UNESCO commission, published in February.
- 7.** One hour media appearance at the local radio station Osnabrück Radio.
- 8.** Revival of a meeting with specialist on geology from the geopark area, to be continued on a regular basis in the future.
- 9.** The Network Project together with UNESCO geopark De Hondsrug has been accepted in the framework of INTERREG V A, including a grant of 40.000 €, enabling both Geoparks to develop common future ideas of cooperation in 2017.

### **Activity by Partners**

- 1.** The PAN project (monitoring of environmental changes in the Geopark) by the University of Osnabrück by Prof. De Lange is entering its second stage, opening the project to all UNESCO Geoparks in Germany.
- 2.** Meeting with Prof. Menzel (UNI Osnabrück), discussing a project to develop a role model for UNESCO Geoparks on environmental education. The national criteria in Germany is asking for a strategy in each geopark, addressing a concept for sustainable development education, enabling the people in the area to change minds and to take action. The UNI presented an expose, as a basis to ask for grants.
- 3.** Prof. Härtling (UNI Osnabrück) made an offer, to continue a questionnaire on economic benefits of TERRA.vita.
- 4.** Prof. Müller (UNI of Applied Sciences) offered to develop an atlas of the soils in TERRA.vita
- 5.** Prof. Broll (UNI Osnabrück) is planning a project in the TERRA.vita area to raise awareness on soils.

# TROODOS UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, CYPRUS

## Progress Report, September 2016– March 2017

### Geopark Activities

- Organized a meeting of the Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark Coordinating Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, for the implementation of actions regarding the recommendations of the EGN and GGN networks.
- Signing a cooperation agreement between Troodos Development Company (TDC) and the Central Cooperative Bank of Cyprus for the purposes of operating 'Troodos Media', a new department of TDC, that in a large extent deals with the promotion and visibility of Troodos Geopark (November 2016).
- During the end of 2016, big guiding and informational signs have been constructed and installed in the highways and secondary roads to increase the visibility of the Troodos UGG.
- A touchscreen with appropriate software has been placed in the Geopark Visitor Center with information regarding the UNESCO Global Geoparks. This infrastructure was made in the frames of the creation of the "Geoparks Corner". The visitors interactively can be informed for all the Global Geoparks (December, 2016).
- Contributing in the organization of the cycling ascent 'Troodos Hill Climb' by the 'Biking Cyprus' organization, under the Cyprus Cup of Cyprus Cycling Federation (September 2016).
- Establishing events (once a month) such as:
  1. Night walk on the geo-trail 'Teisia tis Madaris' in September 2016, where almost 130 people participated, in collaboration with 'Cyprus from air' (NGO).
  2. Walking the geo-trails 'Moutti tis Choras' and 'Teisia tis Madaris' in October 2016 where almost 130 people participated, in collaboration with 'Cyprus from air' (NGO).
  3. Walking the Kannoures geo-trail in December 2016 where almost 90 people participated, in collaboration with 'Cyprus from air' (NGO).
  4. Walking the 'Almirolivado' geo-trail in February 2017 where almost 150 people participated in collaboration with 'Cyprus from air' (NGO).
- Updated Troodos Geopark social media pages.
- Published 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of Troodos newspaper, by Troodos Development Company, with a four page tribute to Troodos Geopark in Greek language (updated on the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, articles about the Cypriot copper mines, UNESCO Monuments, local museums and Cypriot reptiles etc.) (October 2016).
- Organizing a small trekking event on Troodos Geopark Mountains in collaboration with Cyprus from air (NGO) and some journalists.
- Translation of the Geopark movie regarding the geological, mining, cultural and natural heritage of the area in three more language (German, French and Russian).
- Published 4<sup>th</sup> issue of Troodos newspaper by Troodos Development Company with a four page tribute to Troodos Geopark in Greek (UNESCO monuments, Cultural Heritage, local customs, article about the old Amiantos mine, article about the creation of Troodos mountain, article about Troodos Geopark bats etc.) (December 2016).
- Promotional printed material such as 'Troodos Geopark 2017 diary' (December 2016).
- 13 scientific seminars-workshops on issues of Troodos Geopark have been approved and are under implementation.
- 10 tours in the geo-trails of Troodos Geoparks for tourists, journalist, schools, tour guides etc. have been improved for implementation in 2017.

- A small seminar about Amiantos mine has been approved for implementation in April 2017.
- A photography contest has been approved for implementation in February-April 2017.
- 2-3 presentations will be implemented during 2017 about the importance of Troodos Geopark.
- A big conference for sustainable tourism has been approved for implementation in June 2017 in Troodos Geopark area.
- Two music & cultural festivals have been approved for implementation in May-July 2017

### **Networking**

- Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks and the European Geoparks Coordinating Committee Meeting, which was held between 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 (English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, England).
- Contributing to the EGN newsletter no.7 with a short text and some photos regarding the Wild Roses Festival in Agros village.
- Contribution to EGN magazine Issue 14 "THE VISIBILITY PROJECT OF THE TROODOS GEOPARK".
- Participation in the meeting of the 39th EGN CC Meeting in Buren Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark in Ireland (23rd - 25th March, 2017) .

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# TUSCAN MINING GEOPARK, ITALY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. September 2016 – March 2017 - 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. 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016 . Conference "The Niccioleta Documentation Center" The mine, archives, workshops and activities. Speeches of Alessandra Casini (Director of the Park), Fabrizio Santini (ECST Manager). The conference laid the foundation for the development of research and education related to organizing the documentation Centre
3. 26<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> of September 2017 Participation in the EUROPEAN NETWORK English Riviera Geopark 38<sup>th</sup> Coordination Committee Meeting, 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference and GGN General Assembly;
4. October 2016 – March 2017 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](http://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.
5. Partnership in the production of a video "Seekers of Mines" by MaremmAvventura (Follonica).
6. November 2016 Rimini, Participation in the States General of the Green Economy, 2016, at Rimini Fiera - Ecomondo.
7. 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016 Gavorrano Exhibition "Stars of Pyrite" Stories and characters of Gavorrano and Scarlino. Presentation of biographies of scientists, artists and people born in the geopark. Involved 250 students.
8. 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 Rome, Participation in the workshop "The ECTS; a tool for sustainable tourism. Good for parks good for all" Organized by Federparchi.

9. 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 Rome Chamber of Deputies Congress "Italy of Parks"
10. February - March 2017 Meeting in the council chamber in Grosseto, to begin the process of definition of collaborations on the tourist promotion of the new law Regional downstream territory following the redefinition of the role and functions of the Province
11. 28<sup>th</sup> of February Rome -Meeting with the members of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada. The park is moving towards the sale of tourist packages and local products.
12. 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 San Miniato - Tuscany Region, Tuscany Tourist Board and the City of San Miniato, together with the Ministry of cultural heritage and cultural and tourism activities, and with the collaboration of the European Council and of the European Association of Vie Francigene, organized the conference 'The Francigena and Walk' . The Geopark is working to enter a path in the project of the historical paths of Tuscany.
13. 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 Grosseto Day Training for tour operators on Tuscan Mining Geopark. 50 people.
14. 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 - Paris Participation in Sector Engagement for the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S): Translating European User Requirements SECTEUR is an EU Copernicus SECTEUR Climate Change Workshop. Climate information uses, needs and gaps.

### **Networking**

15. Publishing, of Guide on Geopaths of the Park

### **Activity by Partners**

16. Work in progress to draw up a memorandum of understanding between Region Tuscany and Geopark for the management and promotion of protected areas of the park.

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# VIKOS-AOOS GEOPARK, GREECE

## Progress Report, September 2016 – March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Organization of a photo contest regarding the special features and values of the Geopark for amateur photographers.
2. Creation of a photo documentary accompanied by music based on the photos of the above mentioned contest.

### Networking

3. Participation in the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting and the International Conference in the English Riviera Geopark, 25–30 September 2016.
4. Numerous meetings with the local stakeholders for the strengthening of the relations and the better implementation of the Geopark's activities
5. 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).
6. Elaboration of a proposal to the Cross border cooperation projects Greece- Italy regarding the further improvement of the Geopark's infrastructure and promotion targeting mainly to geotourism and alternative tourism forms (October).
7. Creation of a proposal to the Cross border cooperation projects Med regarding the further improvement of the Geopark's infrastructure and promotion targeting mainly to geoparks' features and biodiversity (March).
8. Initiative taken for collaboration between Geoparks in Greece, Cyprus and other countries in the frame of Leader CLLD programme.
9. Several interviews to the local MEDIA regarding the UNESCO Global Geoparks and particularly the Vikos-Aoos UNESCO GG, especially after the results of revalidation.

### Activity by Partners

10. Public awareness raising and provision of information to the visitors of the Vikos-Aoos Geopark and Northern Pindos National Park in the Environmental Information Centres of the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National park (5.340 visitors) (August-December),
11. Environmental education to schoolchildren on several issues in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark and in the Northern Pindos National Park carried out by the Management Body of the Northern Pindos National park (448 school- children and 15 activities) (August- December),
12. Environmental education in the Vikos-Aoos Geopark carried out by the Konitsa Environmental Education Centre (741 school- children, 17 schools, 61 school teachers),

# VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA UG GEOPARK, SPAIN

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Management of the Geopark's Social networks; Facebook (4172 fans, 13% increase since the last report) and Twitter (@VilluercasGPark, 4906 followers, 10% increase). Instagram (@villuercasgpark, 967 followers 135% increase).
2. Educative workgroup meeting on coordination of the educative activities. October.
3. Meetings of the Geopark Territorial Committee. 11st Oct., 28th Nov. and 7th March Steering of the 2016-2017 Action Plans.
4. 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.
5. New promotional brochures.
6. Speech at the University of Extremadura: "Sustainability of Protected areas from an economic perspective: The Case of Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGG". November.
7. Speech in the Master on Rural Tourism, University of Extremadura. "Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGG Heritage and Geoturism". November.
8. Speech at the Iberoamerican Seminar on Tourism: Cooperative management of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGG" Junta de Extremadura. Mérida, November.
9. Technical project for the management of the geological paths of the geopark. November
10. Organization of GEODISEA 2016. Three special weekends with specific tourism offers: Adventure-Gastronomy-Culture. October-November.
11. Financial support to the geopark infocentres. November.
12. Meeting of the Scientific and Educative Committee. February.
13. Celebration of the regional Geological Olympiad in Logrosán. In cooperation with the Spanish Association of the Education in Sciences. February.
14. Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Castañar Cave. March.
15. Field works of the Scientific Committee in Berzocana and Castañar de Ibor. March.

### Networking

1. Assistance to the 38th EGN CC and 7th UGG International Conference 2016 (English Riviera UGG, UK).
2. Assistance to the 1st Forum of Shennongjia UGG, China. 10th-13th October.
3. Educative visit of Naturtejo Global Geopark. October.
4. Works and meetings of the Spanish Geoparks Forum related with the internal rules and election of a new coordination team. November.



5. III Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks. Molina-Alto Tajo UGG. Two speeches about “The Spanish Geoparks” and “Geoparks and Communication Tasks”. November.
6. Updating of the SGC website [www.geoparques.eu](http://www.geoparques.eu). Twitter: @ComEspGeoparks: 1965 seguidores. Facebook: Geoparques Españoles: 1.252
7. Online collaboration with the aspiring Geoparque Andino, Colombia.
8. Speech at the III Seminar on Tourism Products in Subbéticas. Iznájar (Córdoba). Sierras Subbéticas UGG.
9. Coordination of the booklet “Geoparques. The most innovative destinations of Sustainable Tourism” as a presentation of the Spanish Geoparks.
10. Participation in the GGN Stand in FITUR. Presentation of the booklet “Geoparques” and coordination of the general GGN presentation at the stand of Extremadura in FITUR. January.
11. Welcome and technical assistance to the aspiring Geopark “Geoparque Cuaternario” of the North Valleys of Granada. February.
12. Welcome and technical assistance to the aspiring Geopark “Campos de Calatrava” of Castilla la Mancha. February.
13. Speech at the International Conference of Sustainable Tourism in Penamacor. Naturtejo UGG. February.
14. Speech at the Seminar organized by the aspiring Geopark Geoparque in Guadix. Granada. March.
15. Participation in the GGN Stand in ITB Berlin 2017. March.
16. Meetings of the INTERREG SUDOE preparation project GEOSKY with several Spanish, French and Portuguese UGG and other partners. February.

### **Activity by Partners**

1. Technical projects of new access to several geosites of special relevance. Rural Development General Directorate (Extremadura Regional Government).
2. Activities to Promote Social Awareness. LEADER project.
3. Tourism activities of the Geopark Tourist Business Association (Geovilluercas): different seasonal offers to visitors: <https://www.facebook.com/geovilluercas.asociacionturismo>.
4. LEADER Group APRODERVI. Speech at the Leader Cooperation Event organized by the Rural Development National Network.
5. Geovilluercas Tourism Companies Association and LEADER Group. Stand at the Ornithology International Fair at the National Park of Monfragüe. March.
6. Presentation of the new tourism Guide of the Geopark at Ornithology International Fair at the National Park of Monfragüe. March.
7. Publication of the Book: The Castañar Cave. By the General Directorate of Environment.

# VULKANEIFEL GEOPARK, GERMANY

## Progress Report, September 2016–March 2017

### Geopark Activities

1. Vulkaneifel Academy: Presentation on the topic “Floods of the past 60,000 years, proven by maar sediments of the Eifel”, by Dipl.-Geologist Heiko Brunck of Mainz University, October 2016
2. Weekly press information of Geopark Program in local bulletins and internet, September 2016 - March 2017
3. 28 Press articles on Geopark Activities in local press media, Sept 2016 - March 2017
4. 250 Guided excursions on local flora, fauna and geology, Sept 2016 - March 2017
5. Maintenance of various geotopes and biotopes, September 2016 - March 2017
6. Release of new geopark calendar for winter season 2016/2017. Compilation of ca 250 excursions, walks, activities
7. Printing and release of an “activity report 2016”, informing about all measures and activities that have been carried out by Nature- and Geopark Vulkaneifel in 2016
8. Continuation of the programme “Natur- and Geopark Guides on site”: At the weekends during summer our guides are on site at geological hot spots of the Vulkaneifel answering questions and giving advice, Sept-Oct 2016
9. 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, Sept-Oct 2016
10. continuation 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, Sept-Oct 2016
11. Continuation of environmental education (earth sciences), implementation of environmental education concept on volcanism and ecology

### Networking

12. Publishing an article in the European Geoparks Magazine, Issue 13, *First-time “Parcours on Environmental Education” in Vulkaneifel Geopark*
13. Participation in the AC/CC meetings in Torbay, English Riviera Geopark, September 2016
14. network meeting, project “nature park Kindergartens” in Germany, Nov 2016

15. Participation at the meeting of the National Geoparks of Germany in Braunfels, November 2016
16. Participation at "Tourism Day Rhineland-Palatinate" in Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, Nov 2016
17. Participation at the meeting of German UNESCO Geoparks and German UNESCO Commission in Messel Pit, Nov 2016
18. Participation in meetings of advisory committee for Nature conservation in Vulkaneifel and Rhineland-Palatinate, Nov 2016 and Feb 2017
19. Participation at round table concerning landscape and mining, Nov 2016
20. Participation at round table concerning hotspot Kalk- und Vulkaneifel, Nov 2016 and Feb 2017
21. Meetings with partners concerning INTERREG V A Euregio Maas-Rhein and Großregion, Nov/Dec 2016
22. presentation of new project "tourism for all" (barrier free tourism) in tourism board Vulkaneifel, Dec 2016
23. Presentation of Vulkaneifel and UGG at Vakanz, tourism fair in Luxembourg, together with local tourist service centres, local producers and geopark hosts
24. Participation at the meeting of the National Geoparks of Germany in Erfurt, January 2017
25. participation at workshop "tourism strategy Eifel", January 2017
26. meeting with university of Kaiserslautern concerning dark sky association and sky parks, Feb 2017
27. Participation in the AC/CC meetings in Ennistymon, Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark, March 2017
28. Participation at the tourism fair ITB 2017 at the joint Geoparks booth together with other UNESCO Global Geoparks, March 2017
29. Organization of press conference at ITB 2017 concerning German UNESCO Global Geoparks
30. Permanent consultations with regional tourist boards and tourist service centres, September 2016 - March 2017
31. meeting with ministry of the environment, Rhineland-Palatinate, March 2017

### **Activity by Partners**

32. Festival of Eifel-Maars by Maarmuseum Manderscheid, Oct 26 2016