International Intensive Course on Geoparks 2020
UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability

LESVOS ISLAND
1-10 June 2020
GREECE

Registration:
www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks 2020

Information - Secretariat:
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International Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks

“UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability”
1 – 10 June 2020
Lesvos Island – Greece

HOSTED & DELIVERED BY: UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF THE LESVOS PETRIFIED FOREST

CO-ORGANIZERS: UNESCO Natural Sciences Sector
Global Geoparks Network

SUPPORTERS: GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF AEGEAN AND ISLAND POLICY
REGION OF NORTH AEGEAN
UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF THE LESVOS PETRIFIED FOREST
MUNICIPALITY OF LESVOS
MUNICIPALITY OF WESTERN LESVOS

Application deadline: April 30th, 2020

Invitation

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network are co-organizing the 12th session of the International Intensive Course on Geoparks 2020 “UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability”.

The Course is hosted and delivered by the University of the Aegean – Department of Geography and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest at Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, North Aegean Region, Greece, one of the first Global Geoparks in the world.

The Course will take place from 1st to 10th June, 2020.

The Intensive Course on Geoparks 2020 will focus on UNESCO Global Geoparks delivery and integration of sustain development to enhance contributions toward meeting the United Nations, Sustainable Development Goals.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are also known as the Global Goals, and were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.

The 17 SDGs are integrated and it is recognized, that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. To achieve the SDGs by 2030 there is a need to work in partnership with government, the private sector, civil society and the local community to ensure that we protect and develop a better planet for future generations.

UNESCO Global Geoparks have been working towards meeting these challenges.

The scope of this undertaking may seem immense, however the International Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks provides the opportunity to explore the SDGs and learn from UNESCO Global Geoparks best practice, focusing and successful activities and possibilities to contribute to the Global Goals.

The course provides an opportunity to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks can make a real impact in local communities and on society as a whole.

Participants will gain the knowledge and expertise to implement new initiatives within their organizations to meet the SDGs, and will be sign-posted to the resources and case studies to inform successful action.

The Intensive Course on Geoparks 2020 will combine theoretical background with extensive fieldwork.

If you are interested in participating please submit an application form accompanied by a short CV and an abstract (one page) of your country’s geoparks project which you will present during the Course.

ECTS Credits

Participants will gain 5 ECTS credits after successful completion of the Intensive course on Geoparks.

Application deadline: April 30th, 2020
**Intensive Course main topics**

- UNESCO Global Geoparks
- Global Geoparks Network
- Global Geopark – Evaluation and revalidation procedures
- Aspiring Geoparks and Geopark building
- Geoparks contributing to Sustainable Development Goals
- Geoparks: Initiatives for conservation and protection to Sustainable Development
- Geoparks: Geoheritage management and Sustainable Development
- Geoparks and sustainable tourism: Examples and new opportunities
- Geoparks and Education for Sustainable Development
- Geoparks and sustainable local development

**Invited lecturers**

**UNESCO**

- Mr. Kristof Vandenberghe  
  Chief of Section, Earth Sciences and Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences
- Dr. Özlem Adiyaman  
  Programme Specialist, Earth Sciences and Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences

**GEOPARK EXPERTS**

- Dr. Guy Martini  
  UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair,  
  GGN General Secretary, Advisory Committee of the European Geoparks Network
- Prof. Ibrahim Komoo  
  University Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Malaysia  
  GGN Executive Board Vice-President,  
  Vice-Coordinator of the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network
- Prof. Xiaochi Jin  
  Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, P.R.China  
  GGN Executive Board Vice-President,  
  Coordinator of the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network

**COURSE DIRECTOR:**

Prof. Nickolas Zouros  
University of Aegean, Greece  
GGN Executive Board President, UGG Council,  
Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest Director,  
Lesvos UNESCO Global Geopark Coordinator
Information on the Course

Language: English

Participation: 30 – 40 Geoparks staff members, PhD and Master students and graduates.

Venue: Silver Bay Hotel, Mytilene.

University of the Aegean - Faculty of Geography, Mytilene.
Natural History Museum of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos, Sigri.
Access: All participants will be welcomed at Mytilene airport or port. Transportation from Mytilene airport and Mytilene port to the Course and the hotel by coaches will be arranged.

The course is taught in English. The program includes lectures, workshops, in-course presentations, field work, group work and a final participant presentation.

The Intensive Course is framed by social events and possibilities of enjoying the gorgeous physical and cultural landscape of Lesvos Geopark, combining excellent learning and recreation opportunities.

Target Groups

The course is open to Geopark staff members, geoscientists, local development professionals, PhD and Master students and graduates involved in geo-education in relation with geo-conservation, popularization of Earth sciences, geopark management, geotourism and sustainable development of rural areas.

Teaching methods

The Intensive Course on Geoparks 2020 comprises of theoretical background together with extensive fieldwork.

The main activities of the Course include:

• pre-lectures activities which will take place through e-class and distribution of the latest documents regarding Geoparks building and Earth Heritage Management,
• 10 days – 80 hours ‘hands on programme’ distributed as following: 40 hours lectures by top UNESCO and Global Geoparks Network experts, as well as specialists in Earth heritage management in theory and practice and 40 hours field training and activities.
• an Activity Report, long distance assisted work, which shall take place after the end of the course.

Lectures will be given by geoparks experts and academic staff with long experience on geoparks, sustainable tourism and geoheritage management.

Transportation

Arrival by air: Odyseas Elytis International Airport of Lesvos Island (airport code MJT) has several daily connections to Athens and Thessaloniki. Charter flights from the UK, Germany and other countries can be also used. Delegates are strongly recommended to book air travel as early as possible.

Arrival by boat: Ferries to Mytilene depart from Piraeus Port.

Climate: The weather in June is usually hot. Temperatures may reach well above 25°C.

Registration

All participants are kindly requested to complete the Application form [www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks2020] and submit it electronically to the Organising Committee.

Registration Fee 500 €

The Registration Fee includes:

• lessons by International staff
• books, didactic material, materials for the conservation workshops
• 4 field trips during the course
• lunch during the course (10 lunch coupons)
• welcome dinner and dinners during field trips (5 dinner coupons)
• coffee breaks (20 coffee break coupons)
• Museum and archaeological sites entrance fee
• participation at social events
• transportation from Mytilene airport to the Course Hotel and vise versa upon arrival and departure.

Information - Secretariat

For further information all participants are kindly requested to contact

Kostantina Bentana – Dimitris Mpatsios
Course Local Secretariat – Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest
E-mail: lesvospf@otenet.gr • Tel- Fax: +30 22510 47033

Marie-Laure Faber
UNESCO Earth Sciences and Risk Reduction Section
E-mail: ml.faber@unesco.org

Useful addresses

• Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark: www.lesvosgeopark.gr
• University of the Aegean: www.aegean.gr
• Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest: www.lesvomuseum.gr
• Global Geoparks Network: www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org