



Report of the GGN Executive Board Activities 2022-2023



GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks



CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE – SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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4th ORDINARY GGN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Report of the GGN Executive Board Activities 2022-2023

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

GGN - Governing Structure

General Assembly

The General Assembly is the legislative body of the GGN. The General Assembly consists of all individual, supporting, and honorary members and the designated representatives of institutional members.

Executive Board

The Executive Board is the decision making body of the GGN. It consists of no less than nine (9) and no more than fifteen (15) elected members as well as the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee and a UNESCO Secretariat representative as ex-officio members. The members of the Executive Board are elected by the Ordinary General Assembly and serve a four (4)-year term of office.

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is the advisory body of the GGN. It consists of the Chairpersons (or their appointed representatives) of the National Geopark Fora / Committees, and the designated representatives of the Affiliated Organizations.

Regional Geoparks Networks



Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network
 European Geoparks Network
 Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network
 African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network

Working Groups - Task Forces International Committees

The Executive Board appoints standing committees, task forces, and working groups, and defines their duties.



GGN Executive Board meeting in Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark (June 2023)

This is the 4th Global Geoparks Network Executive Board Report on the activities of the Global Geoparks Network in the period December 2021 – September 2023 submitted to the Global Geoparks Network General Assembly.

The GGN was initially founded in 2004 as an international partnership developed under the umbrella of UNESCO. Since its foundation, the GGN serves to develop models of best practice and set quality-standards for territories that integrate the protection of Earth heritage sites in a strategy for regional sustainable economic development.

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) in September 2014 became a non-profit, non-governmental organization subject to French legislation (the 1901 law on associations) after a unanimous decision of the General Assembly of the Network held in Saint John, Stonehammer Global Geopark, Canada on September 20, 2014. At the same General Assembly of the Network the Statutes of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) were agreed and adopted.

Following the provisions of the GGN Statutes, during the 1st Ordinary General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) which took place at the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark on September 28th, 2016, the GGN Executive Board was elected.

During the 2nd Ordinary General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN), which took place in Adamello-Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark on September 12th, 2018., the strategic plan for the period 2018-2020 was adopted.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the GGN Executive Board elections and the 3rd Ordinary General Assembly were postponed following the postponement of the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks which was organized digitally by Jeju island UNESCO Global Geopark of the Republic of Korea in December 2021.

The new Executive Board of the Global Geoparks Network was elected during the 3rd General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Network on December 15th, 2021.

The 4th Global Geoparks Network Executive Board Report covers the two years period January 2022 - September 2023 corresponding to the first two years of the elected GGN Executive Board.

The new GGN Executive Board members during the period 2022 – 2023 worked for the implementation of the GGN Statutes and the effective operation of the Association as well as for the support of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, the broader visibility of the Geoparks and awareness raising on their mission.

During the years 2022 and 2023 the GGN Executive Board had to face major challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, such as, the GGN effective operation, efficient communication and activities with all its members, organization of various events, as well as the support of the newly established UNESCO Global Geoparks.

During the years 2020 - 2021 with the travel restrictions of COVID-19 pandemic, the GGN focused mainly to keep the network alive and to continue the communication with its members. This was succeeded due to the organization of many digital meetings, forum and events and by using digital communication and social media promotion.

In the years 2022 and 2023, where the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic began to gradually promotions, the GGN adapted once more to the new conditions. In this new period, the GGN limited the digital events and meetings and worked mainly to motivate the Geoparks to reopen and restart their activities. At the same time, the GGN cooperated with the Regional and National Geoparks Networks for this direction, urging them to start organizing events and meetings in person and to limit online meetings.

CHAPTER II

GGN ADMINISTRATIVE CHALLENGES

II.1. The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) for the period 2022-2025 is composed by the following individuals:

Executive Board
President: ZOUROS Nickolas - Greece
Vice – President: JIN Xiaochi – P.R. China
Vice – President: KOMOO Ibrahim - Malaysia
General Secretary: MARTINI Guy - France
Treasurer: RANGNES Kristin - Norway
Members:
ACHBAL Driss – Morocco (AUGGN)
BORDER Melanie – UK (EGN)
CALDER John – Canada (CGN)
FREY Marie-Luise – Germany (Individual Member)
FURUSAWA Kana– Japan (APGN)
SÁ Artur – Portugal (EGN)
ZHANG Jianping – P.R. China (APGN)
Ex-officio: UNESCO Representative VANDENBERGHE Kristof
Ex-officio: GGN Advisory Committee Chair NAKADA Setsuya
Observers
Coordinator of the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network BIDONDO Eugenio – Uruguay
Coordinator & Vice coordinator of the European Geoparks Network JUSTICE Sophie – France FASSOULAS Charalampos - Greece
IUGS International Commission on Geoheritage Chair HILARIO Asier - Spain
Chair of the Geoparks Youth Forum Deo Silalahi Immanuel - Indonesia
GGN Secretariat
BENTANA Konstantina

The role and function of the GGN Executive Board is described in the GGN Statutes. Main challenges of the GGN Executive Board during the period 2022 – 2023 were:

- The implementation of the different operational bodies of the GGN.
- The spreading of information to all GGN members regarding the news and activities of the GGN.
- The implementation of the GGN Working Groups / Task Forces / Committees, which gave the opportunity to many colleagues to actively contribute to the life of the Network.
- The implementation of the framework for the Cooperating Members and Sponsors.
- The close coordination with the Regional Networks APGN, EGN, GEOLAC and African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network as well as with Geoparks in North America.
- The Financial stability of the Association.
- The implementation of the Network during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.



GGN Executive Board meeting in Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark (June 2023)

The GGN Executive Board during the period 2022-2023 had meetings regularly to deal with various issues of the GGN's activities and implement the GGN Strategic Plan for the period 2022 – 2023 which was agreed by the 3rd GGN General Assembly.

The GGN Executive Board during the period January 2022 - June 2023 met every first Tuesday of the month and also organized extraordinary meetings. The GGN Executive Board arranged 24 meetings.

Main issues for the GGN were:

1. Implementation of the GGN Internal Rules and Regulations for the effective operation of the different GGN bodies.
2. Implementation of the GGN General Assembly decision for the GGN financial stability including the annual Fee for Institutional and Individual Members and the Conference Fee.
3. Operation of the GGN Working Groups / Task Forces / Committees.
4. Adjustment of the GGN Communication and Marketing Strategy on UNESCO Global Geoparks proposals to the COVID-19 reality.
5. GGN promotional and capacity building activities
6. GGN communication and promotional tools maintenance
7. Close collaboration with UNESCO for the implementation of the new initiatives for the expansion of the UNESCO Global Geoparks in areas that are not well represented in the programme:
 - UNESCO - GGN Grant for Geoparks in Africa and the Arab States
 - UNESCO - GGN Grant for Geoparks in Small Island Developing States.
8. Establishment of the new strategy for supporting Geoparks development in indigenous communities

All decisions and actions of the GGN Executive Board were presented through the GGN communication tool for the GGN members' internal communication, the GGN Newsfeed.

DECLARATION AGAINST THE WAR IN UKRAINE

The Executive Board of the Global Geoparks Network on Tuesday 1st of March 2022 expressed concerns on the recent developments and adopted the UNESCO declaration on the war in Ukraine.

FINANCIAL OPERATION

The GGN Executive Board adopted in March 2022 the GGN Accounts for 2021 and in February the GGN Budget 2022 for the implementation of the GGN Action Plan. The GGN Annual General Assembly for Accounts on 30 April 2022 agreed the 2021 Accounts and the 2022 Budget for the implementation of the GGN Action Plan.

GGN Treasurer managed during 2022 the collection of the GGN Annual Fees, the payment of the GGN contribution to UNESCO as well as the payments of the GGN expenses with the support of the Executive Assistant in the GGN Secretariat.

The GGN Executive Board adopted in February 2023 the 2022 Accounts and the 2023 Budget. The GGN Annual General Assembly for Accounts on 30th of April 2023 agreed the 2022 Accounts and the 2023 Budget.

II.2. GGN Secretariat

The GGN Secretariat continued its operation and communication with the Global Geoparks on GGN issues.

The GGN Secretary Executive Assistant has been responsible for providing administrative support services for the Global Geoparks Network Executive Board activities including administrative support for the Global Geoparks Network General Assembly and to update the Roster of Geopark Evaluators' data base.

The GGN Secretary Executive Assistant has been working under the overall authority of the Global Geoparks Network Executive Board and the direct supervision of the President and the General Secretary of the Executive Board of the Global Geoparks Network following the 4.4./63/28.10.2019 GGN Executive Board decision.

II.3. GGN Membership

The GGN Executive Board had to deal with the implementation of the GGN Statutes regarding the inscription of its members with the following actions:

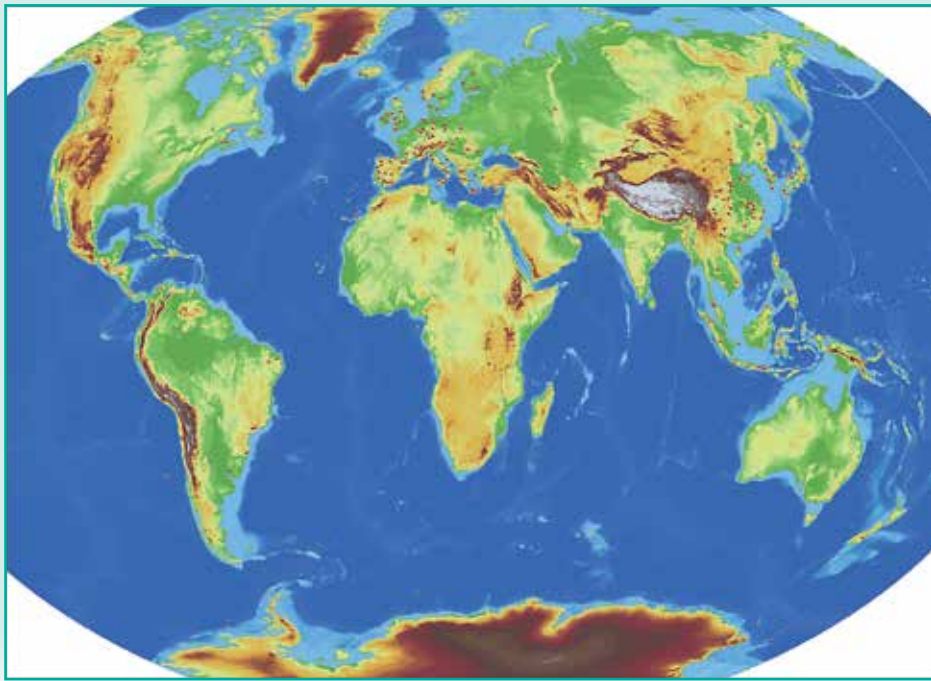
- Inscription of the new UNESCO Global Geoparks (8 new members in 2022 and 18 new members in 2023)
- Inscription of the new GGN Individual Members (3 new members in 2022 and 3 new members in 2023)
- Nomination of 2 Honorary Members in 2021 (agreed by 3rd GGN Ordinary General Assembly).

The current Membership of the GGN:	
Institutional Members:	195
Individual Members:	39
Honorary Members:	8
Cooperating Members:	-

A great challenge for the operation of GGN is the continuous update of the contact details of the Geopark Representatives in the GGN members' lists. This can be achieved only with the regular update of the GGN member's communication list. For this the GGN asks for support from its members and their representatives.

UNESCO Global Geoparks

195 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 48 countries




98
 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming the European Geoparks Network

78
 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network.


12
 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming Geoparks in Latin America and Caribbean.

5
 UNESCO Global Geoparks in North America.

2
 UNESCO Global Geoparks in Africa.



UNESCO Global Geoparks
195 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 48 countries



Global Geoparks Network
The International Association of UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geopark Professionals

II.4. General Assembly

According to the GGN Statutes the GGN General Assembly is the legislative body of the GGN.

The General Assembly consists of all individual, supporting, and honorary members and the designated representatives of institutional members.

The Ordinary General Assembly makes decisions on recommendations from the Executive Board on changes to the conditions on application for membership.

The Ordinary General Assembly at its session once every four years on the same dates and in the same place as the International Conference on Geoparks elects the members of the Executive Board.

The Executive Board establishes the agenda of the General Assembly and convenes the Assembly at least thirty (30) days before the date fixed for the meeting. The meetings of the GGN Ordinary General Assembly takes place at the location indicated in the official invitation.

II.4.1. 3rd Ordinary General Assembly

The GGN Executive Board took special care in collaboration with the Organizing Committee of the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks at the Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark, for the organization of the 3rd Ordinary General Assembly of GGN. Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions the 3rd Ordinary General Assembly was held digitally as the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks on the 15th of December 2021.

II.4.2. Annual General Assembly for Accounts

The Annual General Assembly for Accounts can be made by written statements sent by the GGN members in good standing by e-mail to the Executive Board within one month after receiving the Report on the accounts of the previous year. This decision needs simple majority of the GGN members in good standing.

The GGN Executive Board during the period 2022 – 2023 organized two digital Annual General Assemblies for Accounts in which were adapted the GGN annual Accounts and Budget:

- On 30th of April 2022 for the agreement of the 2021 Accounts and the 2022 Budget.
- On 30th of April 2023 for the agreement of the 2022 Accounts and the 2023 Budget.

GGN 2021 Accounts and 2022 Budget

The GGN Executive Board in its 114th session of the GGN Executive Board Meeting on 1st of March 2022 agreed to the 2021 Accounts and in its 113th session of the GGN Executive Board Meeting held on the 22nd of February 2022 agreed to the 2022 Budget of the Association.

The income of the 2021 was 282.091,20 €.

The expenditure of the 2021 was 204.827,67 €.

From the total GGN expenditure 139.594 € or approximately 68% were transferred to UNESCO as 2021 contribution to UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme.

62.855,21 € were payments for the GGN operation and activities in 2021. Following the article 10 of the Global Geoparks Network Statutes all members of the Association were invited to participate in the 8th GGN Annual General Assembly for Accounts, on April 30th, 2022 and agreed to the GGN 2022 Accounts and the 2023 GGN Budget.

GGN 2022 Accounts and 2023 Budget

The GGN Executive Board in its 126th meeting on the 7th of March 2023 agreed to the 2022 Accounts and the 2023 Budget of the Association.

The income of the 2022 was 320.562,83 €.

The expenditure of the 2022 was 242.168,36 €.

From the total GGN expenditure 171.159 € or approximately 70% were transferred to UNESCO as 2022 contribution to UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme.

63.009,36 € were payments for the GGN operation and activities in 2022.

The 9th GGN Annual General Assembly for Accounts on April 30th, 2022 with positive replies that reached approximately 90% of the GGN Association Members, agreed to the GGN 2022 Accounts and the 2023 GGN Budget.



II.5. Regional Networks

Recognizing the very strong role networking has played in the success of the Global Geoparks movement and recognizing the valuable role it plays in facilitating the sharing of experience, formation of joint initiatives and projects and in capacity-building, the GGN encouraged the strengthening of Regional Geoparks Networks. The Regional Geoparks Networks include GGN members at a regional or continental level.

The GGN Executive Board supported the operation of the APGN, the EGN, the GeoLAC and the Africa UNESCO Global Geoparks Network regarding their function as Regional Networks of GGN in Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean and Africa respectively.

More specifically the GGN Executive Board decided to invite as observers the Coordinators of GeoLAC and EGN aiming better coordination between GGN and Regional Networks. The GGN Executive Board also endorsed the following documents:

- The APGN Annual Report of Activities 2021 and 2022 as submitted by the APGN Coordinator.
- The EGN Annual Report of Activities 2021 and 2022 as submitted by the EGN Coordinator.

The continuous communication and collaboration of the GGN Executive Board with the Regional Network Coordinators is essential for the operation of the GGN.

II.5.1. The European Geoparks Network

The Coordinators and the Advisory Committee members of the EGN continue their duties since the last elections which took place during the 45th European Geoparks Spring Meeting on 29th April 2022 - De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark (Netherlands):

EGN Advisory Committee members:

Coordinator: **Sophie Justice**, Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark (France)

Vice Coordinator: **Babbis Fassoulas**, Psiloritis UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece)

• Alesia Amorfini	Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy)
• Chris Woodley-Stewart	North Pennines UNESCO Global Geopark (UK)
• Christian Ciobanu	Hateg Country UNESCO Global Geopark (Romania)
• Thuridur Braun	Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark (Iceland)
• Elena Mateo Maderos	Spain (Special Advisor – Individual Member)
• Tony Ramsey	UK (EGN Editorial Board)
• Guy Martini	France (Founder member)
• Nickolas Zouros	Greece (Founder member)
• Andreas Schüller	Germany (Founder member)

UNESCO: Kristof Vandenberghe, France
IUGS: Asier Hilario, Spain
IUCN: Tim Badman, Switzerland

II.5.2. The Asia Pacific Geoparks Network

The new APGN Coordinators and the APGN Advisory Committee were elected in September 2022 during the 7th APGN Symposium which was held in Satun UNESCO Global Geopark in Thailand. The Coordinators and the Advisory Committee members of the APGN continue their duties since the last elections:

APGN Coordinators:

JIN Xiaochi , Coordinator (China)
KOMOO Ibrahim , Vice-Coordinator (Malaysia)
FURUSAWA Kana , Vice-Coordinator (Japan)

APGN Advisory Committee (AC):

• JIN Xiaochi (China)	Elected Member
• TRAN Tan Van (Vietnam)	Elected Member
• KOMOO Ibrahim (Malaysia)	Elected Member
• NAKADA Setsuya (Japan)	Elected Member
• FURUSAWA Kana (Japan)	Elected Member
• HENG Yuanyuan (China)	National Representative
• KUSHMHRATA Yunus (Indonesia)	National Representative
• AMRIKAZEMI Alireza (Iran)	National Representative
• SUGAWARA Hisanari (Japan)	National Representative
• HUH Min (Republic of Korea)	National Representative
• MOHD BUKHARI Azmil Munif (Malaysia)	National Representative
• TECHAWAN Sommai (Thailand)	National Representative
• TRINH Hai Son (Vietnam)	National Representative
• ZOUROS Nickolas	GGN Representative
• VANDENBERGHE Kristof	UNESCO Representative

II.5.3. The Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network

The Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network CC Meeting took place at Imbabura UNESCO Global Geopark in Ecuador in November 2022. The GeoLAC members elected the new team for GEOLAC's coordination and management for the next two years (2023-2024).

Coordinator: Eugenio Bidondo – Grutas Del Palacio UGGp (Uruguay)
Vice Coordinator: Carlos Ernesto Merizalde Leiton - Imbabura UGGp (Ecuador)
Treasurer: Juan Carlos Mora Chaparro – Comarca Minera UGGp (Mexico)
Secretary General: Patricia Herrera – Kutralküra UGGp (Chile)
Member: Mónica Bueno de Frutos - Rio Coco UGGp (Nicaragua)

II.5.4. The African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network

The African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network consists of:

(a) two representatives of M'Goun UGGp (Morocco):

- **Driss Achbal** - President of the M'Goun Geopark Association
- **Mohamed Boutakiot** - Vice-president of the M'Goun Geopark Association and president of the scientific committee

(b) two representatives of Ngorongoro Lengai UGGp (Tanzania):

- **Joshua Mwankunda** - Manager
- **Ramadhani Khatibu** - Geologist.

II.5.5. Geoparks in North America

North America is currently not represented by a Regional Network in the Global Geoparks Network. At present, in North America, only Geoparks in Canada have been nominated.

The Canadian Geoparks Network (formerly Canadian National Committee for Geoparks) is a national committee that was formed in 2009 under the auspices of the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (CFES) to address the need for coordination of Global Geopark applications from Canada.

The Canadian Geoparks Network represents the North America Geoparks in the Global Geoparks Network.

Chair: Sarah Gamble
Vice-Chair: Sarah Behn - Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark
Treasurer: Manda Maggs - Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark

II.6. GGN Working Groups

Working Groups are nominated by the Executive Board to implement programmes and activities and to serve as channels of communication between members of the GGN with similar scientific and professional interests.

The GGN Executive Board decided to establish thematic GGN Working Groups. Working Groups have geographical representation.

The following GGN Working Groups have been established for the period 2022-2025:

1. Geohazards
2. Geological heritage & Geodiversity
3. Geodiversity and Biodiversity
4. Climate Change & SDGs implementation
5. Tourism
6. Education
7. Island and Coastal areas / Water / Ocean
8. Indigenous people
9. Heritage
10. International Networking
11. Communication
12. Cooperating members

The GGN Executive Board is encouraging all Regional Networks to form similar working groups with the participation of representatives from UNESCO Global Geoparks.

1. WG on Geohazards

Setsuya Nakada , University of Tokyo (Japan)
Charalampos Fassoulas , Psiloritis UGGp (Greece)
Ibrahim Komoo , University Malaysia Terengganu (Malaysia)
Alessia Amorfini , Apuan Alps UGGp (Italy)
GEOLAC Representative

2. WG on Geological Heritage and Geodiversity

Asier Hilario , IUGS International Commission on Geoheritage Chair, Basque Coast UGGp (Spain)
Jianping Zhang , University of Geosciences (P.R. China)
Ibrahim Komoo , University Malaysia Terengganu (Malaysia)
Xiaochi Jin , Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (P.R. China)
John Calder , Cliffs of Fundy UGGp/CGN (Canada)
Ding Haiyang , Taishan UGGp (P.R. China)

3. Geodiversity and Biodiversity

Stéphane Legal , Luberon UGGp (France)
Chris Woodley-Stewart , North Pennines AONB UGGp (UK)
Joshua Mwankunda , Ngorongoro Lengai UGGp (Tanzania)
Manuel Schilling , Kütralkura UGGp (Chile)
Xiaochi Jin , Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (P.R. China)
Norhayati Ahmad , National University of Malaysia (UKM)
Manda Maggs , Tumbler Ridge UGGp (Canada)

4. WG on Climate Change & SDGs implementation

Jutta Weber , Bergstraße-Odenwald UGGp (Germany)
Elizabeth Silva , GGN Individual member (Portugal)
Mega Fatimah Rosana , Ciletuh - Palabuhanratu UGGp (Indonesia)
Mohammed Boutakyout , M'Goun UGGp (Morocco)
WANG Lulin (P.R. China)
Li Wei , Huangshan UGGp (P.R. China)

5. WG on Tourism

Carlos Neto de Carvalho , Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional UGGp (Portugal)
Marie-Luise Frey , Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH (Germany)
Aniello Aloia , Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni UGGp (Italy)
Frances Heydeman , Stonehammer UGGp (Canada)
CHAN Yu Nam , Hong Kong UGGp (P.R. China)
Zhu Guohang , Ningde UGGp (P.R. China)
GEOLAC Representative

6. WG on Education

Jose Maria Barrera , Villuercas Ibores Jara (Spain)
Sarah Gamble , Canadian Geoparks Network Chair (Canada)
Noritaka Matsubara , San'in Kaigan UGGp (Japan)
Artur Sá , University of Trás-os-Montes & Alto Douro, Arouca UGGp (Portugal)
Konstantina Bentana , Lesvos Island UGGp (Greece)
Ye Qingzi , Xiangxi UGGp (P.R. China)
GEOLAC Representative

7. WG on Island and Coastal areas / Water / Ocean

Kazuhiro Nobe , Oki Islands UGGp (Japan)
Elizabeth Silva , GGN Individual member (Portugal)
Elena Mateo , Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UGGp (Spain)
Alireza Amrikazemi , Qeshm Island UGGp (Iran)
Melanie Border , English Riviera UGGp (UK)
Nickolas Zouros , GGN President, Lesvos Island UGGp (Greece)

8. WG on Indigenous people

Guy Martini , UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair (France)
Patricio Melo , Universidade Regional do Cariri (Brazil)
Ibrahim Komoo , University Malaysia Terengganu (Malaysia)
Martina Paskova , Bohemian Paradise UGGp (Czechia)
Ramadhani Khatibu , Ngorongoro Lengai UGGp (Tanzania)
Sarah Behn , Canadian Geoparks Network (Canada)

9. WG on Heritage

Alexandru Andrasanu , Hațeg Country UGGp (Romania)
Guy Martini , UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair (France)
APGN Representative
GEOLAC Representative
CGN Representative

10. WG on International Networking

Artur Sá , University of Trás-os-Montes & Alto Douro, Arouca UGGp (Portugal)
José Luis Palacio Prieto , Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mixteca Alta UGGp, Oaxaca UGGp (Mexico)
Driss Achbal , M'Goun UGGp (Morocco)
Asier Hilario , IUGS International Commission on Geoheritage Chair, Basque Coast UGGp (Spain)
Nickolas Zouros , GGN President, Lesvos Island UGGp (Greece)

11. WG on Communication

Nickolas Zouros , GGN President, Lesvos Island UGGp (Greece)
Guy Martini , UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair (France)
Kana Furusawa , Japanese Geoparks Network, Muroto UGGp (Japan)
Tony Ramsey , Fforest Fawr UGGp (UK)
Javier López Caballero , Villuercas Ibores Jara UGGp (Spain)
Sarah Behn , Canadian Geoparks Network (Canada)
Zheng Yuanyuan , CGN (P.R. China)
GEOLAC Representative

12. WG on Cooperating members

Jianping Zhang , University of Geosciences (P.R. China)
Marie-Luise Frey , Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH (Germany)
Kristin Rangnes , Gea Norvegica UGGp (Norway)

II.7. GGN National Bodies/Committees/Fora

The GGN Executive Board taking into account the current situation of the Network, the need of the coordination of activities of the GGN at the national level and the increasing number of UNESCO Global Geoparks encourages the operation of a GGN National Body including all the members of the GGN in each country (which can use the name National Geoparks Network).

In P.R. China and Japan there are well operated National Geoparks Networks. The same model follows the Republic of Korea, Vietnam and Indonesia in Asia.

There are already operating National Geoparks Networks in Spain, Germany, France, UK, Ireland, Greece, Portugal, Austria, etc.

Recently in June 2023 the Brazilian Geoparks Network was founded with the participation of the 5 Brazilian UNESCO Global Geoparks.

II.8. GGN Reporting

II.8.1. Geoparks Annual Reports (Institutional Members)

All GGN Institutional Members have to submit to the GGN Executive Board an Annual Report on their activities.

GGN Institutional Members' Reports for the years 2021 and 2022 uploaded on the GGN website (https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=1945).

II.8.2. GGN Regional Networks Annual Report of Activities

Annual Reports of the GGN Regional Networks for the years 2021 and 2022 were uploaded on the GGN website

(https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=1945).

II.8.3. GGN National Fora / Committees Annual Report of Activities

The GGN National Fora / Committees were also invited to submit to the GGN Executive Board an Annual Report on their activities. The GGN National Fora / Committees' Annual Report on their activities were uploaded on the GGN website.

(https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=1945).

II.8.4. GGN Working Group Annual Report of Activities

The GGN Working Groups' Coordinators were invited to submit to the GGN Executive Board an Annual Report on their activities.

CHAPTER III COMMUNICATION TOOLS

III.1. GGN Communication Tools

The GGN developed a variety of communication tools in order to facilitate the communication between the GGN Executive Board and the GGN Members as well as the coordination of the GGN activities and events. The GGN communication tools are the following:

A. GGN websites

The GGN operational website (www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org) which includes all data, documents, activities and news of the GGN and its members.

The GGN operational website works in complementarity with the GGN website operated by the GGN office in CAGS – Beijing (www.globalgeoparks.org).

Both sites avoid duplication of the information. The GGN operational website presents mainly the GGN activities while the UGGp's activities are presented by the Beijing website.

The GGN promotional website (www.visitgeoparks.org) was launched in 2020. The main aim of this website is the promotion of Geoparks to society and to the tourism industry, allowing visitors to easily understand, feel and experience the territories. This site is also connected, by links, to the existing administrative sites of the GGN, in order to transmit all kinds of information to members and visitors. The GGN asked members for contribution to make the webpage more effective in disseminating the information and raising every Geopark's profile by sending information, photos and videos of every Geopark and its activities.

B. GGN NewsFeed

The GGN Executive Board continues the regular communication with GGN members through the GGN NewsFeed, which has monthly and special issues. For better distribution of the GGN NewsFeed the regular update of the GGN members' contact and communication data is necessary.

There is a regular edition of the GGN NewsFeed every month as well as Special Editions for the Important Events as the organization of Geopark Conferences and Capacity Building Activities, the celebration of International Days, important events, etc.

C. GGN presence in Social Media - GGN page in Facebook

All Geoparks can use the GGN page in Facebook to promote their news and activities (<https://www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork>). The page includes a variety of information on Geopark events as well as Geopark promotional campaigns.

D. GGN map

The Global Geoparks Network during the period 2022 – 2023 created two editions of the GGN Map for the years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

The GGN Map is the annual GGN publications on nominations of new UNESCO Global Geoparks.

GGN Map is circulated during the UNESCO General Assembly and distributed to all GGN members, tourism fairs, GGN Meetings and Conferences etc. Main target of the GGN map is the unified presentation of all UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The GGN Map for the years 2022/2023 included the new UNESCO Global Geoparks and presented all 177 UNESCO Global Geoparks from 46 countries.

The GGN Map for the years 2023/2024 included the new UNESCO Global Geoparks and now presents all 195 UNESCO Global Geoparks from 48 countries.

E. GGN brochure

The GGN prepared the GGN Brochure Issue 4 which included the updated information on GGN activities as well as the new GGN Institutional Members - UNESCO Global Geoparks. It was distributed digitally to the members of the 3rd digital Ordinary General Assembly which was held in conjunction with the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks coordinated by Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geoparks - Republic of Korea.



F. GGN Newsletter

The GGN Newsletter, is the official magazine of GGN, published by the GGN Office in CAGS Beijing significantly improved in article quality and representativeness and includes articles covering the Geoparks' activities worldwide. During 2022 published the issues 1 & 2 (https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=1562). The GGN members are encouraged to send their articles on their activities.

G. GGN Promotional Video

The following promotional videos have been prepared for the promotion of the Global Geoparks Network and its activities:

• International Geodiversity Day (6 October)
• World Ocean Day (8 June)
• International Day of the World's Indigenous People (9 August)
• Africa Grant field mission at Baringo 2022
• Africa Grant field mission at Tunisia 2022

The GGN promotional videos have been uploaded on the GGN website: https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=2934, <https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?p=6741>, <https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/WorldOceansDay4.mp4> and at the GGN facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork>).

The GGN encourages the presentation of GGN activities in the Internet through videos and will continue to produce similar promotional videos in the future.

III.2. New publications

III.2.1. Welcome Guide for the New UNESCO Global Geoparks

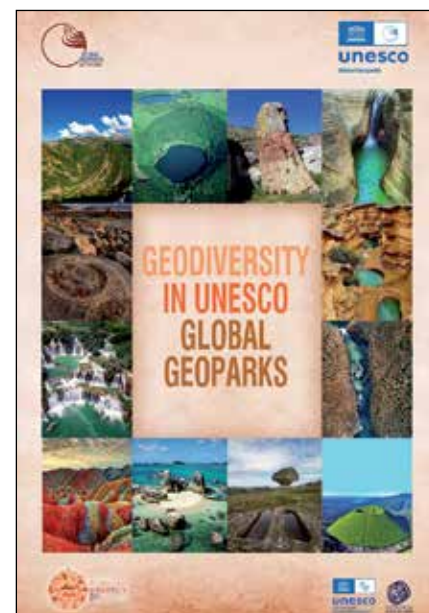
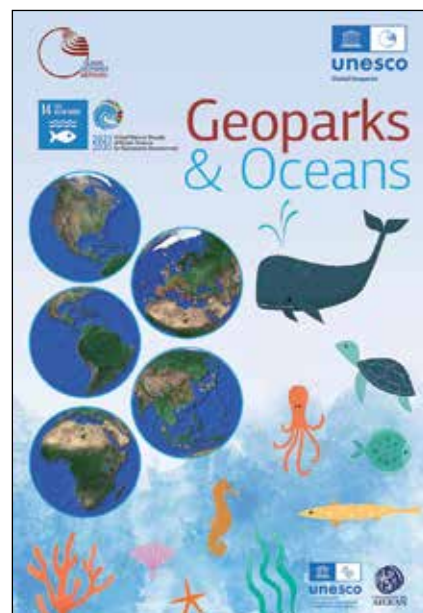
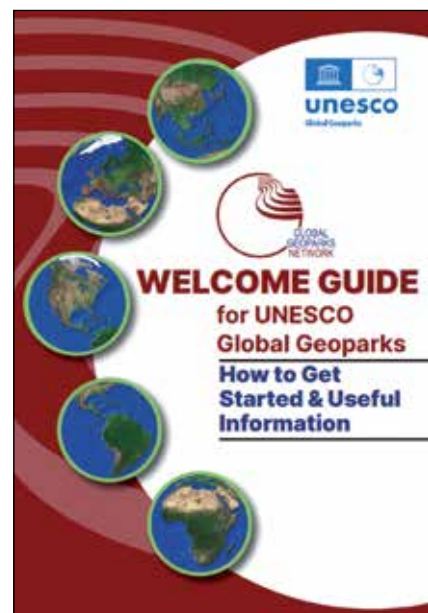
The revised Welcome Guide for the UNESCO Global Geoparks was published by the Global Geoparks Network and includes all the updated information.

The Welcome Guide provides information for the new Geoparks but also the existing members of the Global Geoparks Network with step-by-step descriptions of how to get started through the GGN operational procedures, how to continue and participate in active networking and how to stay informed and connected with all the members of the Global Geoparks Network.

The Welcome Guide was first presented in the Welcome Event for the 8 New UNESCO Global Geoparks of 2022.

The publication has been uploaded on the GGN website at the following link:

https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/GGN_GUIDE_2023.pdf



III.2.2. The new publication “Geoparks & Oceans”

The Global Geoparks Network celebrated the World Oceans Day 2022 and in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat presented examples of activities and good practices on how Geoparks contribute to the decade of the Ocean through the new publication “Geoparks & Oceans”.

The new publication “Geoparks & Oceans” has been uploaded on the GGN website on the following link: https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=7198

III.2.3. The new publication “Geodiversity in UNESCO Global Geoparks”

The GGN Executive Board in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat participated in the celebration of the 1st International Geodiversity Day on the 6th of October 2022.

The celebration of the International Geodiversity Day was an opportunity to spread information on the value of the Geoparks as special territories hosting Geological Heritage Sites of international significance and custodians of the Memory of the Earth.

Following the decision of the GGN Executive Board published the new magazine “Geodiversity in UNESCO Global Geoparks” which presented examples of the most significant Geological heritage sites and Geodiversity of UNESCO Global Geoparks around the globe.

The new publication “Geodiversity in UNESCO Global Geoparks” has been uploaded on the GGN website at the following link:

https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=7127

III.3. 2nd Global Geoparks Network Film Festival 2023

The 2nd Global Geoparks Network Film Festival will be organized during the 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks from 7th to 9th September 2023 in M’Goun UNESCO Global Geopark (Morocco).

It is open to all UNESCO Global Geoparks and official nominees of Aspiring UNESCO Geopark.

The 2nd Global Geoparks Network Film Festival is a unique opportunity to promote our Geoparks and their unique characteristics but also to mobilize both Geopark directors and documentary directors – filmmakers to collaborate in order to create new documentary and promotional videos on Geoparks.

The electronic platform for more information and for uploading the videos for the 2nd Global Geoparks Network Film Festival 2023 is:

<https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org>



Awards & Prizes

A trophy and a financial award will be delivered:

2023 winner: Trophy + 3.000€

2023 2nd & 3rd winners: Trophy + 2.000€ (for each one of the two nominee)

Video thematic

The candidate videos should:

- present globally the UNESCO Global Geopark or aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark with all its features (geological, natural, cultural, intangible heritages, sustainable development, etc..) or
- present specific UNESCO Global Geopark or aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark action or activity in one of the following thematic:
 - Heritage conservation: conservation actions on geological or natural or cultural or intangible heritage.
 - Education: UNESCO Global Geopark actions realized in education at all levels
 - Research/innovation
 - Poverty reduction
 - Sustainable development: UNESCO Global Geopark actions on sustainable development, stakeholder involvement, partnership, local products, Geotourism activities, etc.
 - Local population involvement: Involvement of population inside UNESCO Global Geoparks
 - Gender equality: initiative or realization related with gender equality (women cooperative, etc.)
 - Water resources
 - Marine environments: action realized for marine environment conservation
 - Good health: UNESCO Global Geopark or aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark sport event, etc.
 - Networking: Networking UNESCO Global Geopark or aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark actions at national or international level
 - Natural hazards mitigation
 - Climate change adaptation

CHAPTER IV EVENTS & CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

IV.1. GGN digital events

IV.1.1. Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks (21 April 2022)

A Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks was organized on April 21st, 2022. UNESCO ADG and all Geoparks were present to welcome the 8 new UNESCO Global Geoparks and to celebrate their participation in the Network.

The event was jointly organized by the GGN Executive Board in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section.

The new UNESCO Global Geoparks were greeted by the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences at UNESCO Mrs Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, the President of the Global Geoparks Network Prof. Nickolas Zouros and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair and GGN General Secretary Dr. Guy Martini.

The Representatives of the 8 New UNESCO Global Geoparks presented shortly their territories and received the wishes of all participants:



• Ries (Germany)	• Salpausselkä (Finland)
• Platåbergen (Sweden)	• Kefalonia-Ithaca (Greece)
• Mëllerdall (Luxembourg)	• Caminhos dos Cãnions do Sul (Brazil)
• Buzãu Land (Romania)	• Seridó (Brazil)

Nickolas Zouros, President of the Global Geoparks Network presented the basic principles served by the Geoparks with the aim of highlighting the natural and cultural heritage of rural areas and their use as sustainable development tools.

The representatives of the GGN Regional Geoparks Networks Kristin Rangnes (EGN), Xiaochi Jin (APGN), Eugenio Bidondo (GeoLAC) and Driss Achbal (AUGGN) but also John Calder from the North America welcomed the new members.

During the event the new UNESCO Global Geoparks presented also traditional songs, music and dancing from their territory:

- Buzãu Land UNESCO Global Geopark (ROMANIA) presented a live traditional music event by Cristian Micu.
- Kefalonia-Ithaca UNESCO Global Geopark (GREECE) presented the “Mbalos” traditional dance and “Kantades” traditional music.
- Mëllerdall UNESCO Global Geopark (LUXEMBOURG) presented a music performance by the music-association “Burer Musik” which played a traditional polka melody.
- Platåbergen UNESCO Global Geopark (SWEDEN) presented a live music event by the local artist Gaeya.
- Ries UNESCO Global Geopark (GERMANY) presented a music video with the local school children.
- Salpausselkä UNESCO Global Geopark (FINLAND) presented a video dedicated to the Geopark.
- Seridó UNESCO Global Geopark (BRAZIL) presented a live music and dance event- Forró.
- Caminhos dos Cãnions do Sul UNESCO Global Geopark (BRAZIL) presented the “Tatu com volta no meio”, a traditional folk dance from southern Brazil.

There were 171 unique connections to the Zoom platform during the event but the total number of participants is estimated to be much higher as at every connection there were more than one attendee. It is interesting that many of the event participants were not members of the close family of the Geoparks.

The video of the Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks has been uploaded on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyhE1OUTzMQ&t=8s>

IV.1.2. Digital event for the celebration of the International Geodiversity Day (6 October 2022)

The Global Geoparks Network participated in the first celebration of the International Geodiversity Day on 6th October 2022.

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network organized on October 6th a digital event to celebrate the International Geodiversity Day and raise awareness on geodiversity.

During the event celebrated the winners of UNESCO / GGN Grant for Geoparks 2022. Territories from Africa and Arab States and the Small Island Developing States were awarded with the Grant and supported to build their Geoparks.

Nickolas Zouros, Global Geoparks Network (GGN) President opened the event and at his welcome speech presented the activities of the Global Geoparks Network for the International Geodiversity Day.

Kristof Vandenberghe, Chief of Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section of UNESCO presented the UNESCO/ Global Geoparks Network Grant policy for Geoparks in Africa

The activities of the Global Geoparks Network, the Regional Geopark Networks and the UNESCO Global Geoparks around the globe were also presented during the event:

- Prof Jin Xiaochi the coordinator of the APGN presented the activities on Geodiversity Day in Asia and Pacific,
- Sophie Justice the coordinator of the EGN presented the activities in European Geoparks,
- Driss Achbal the coordinator of the African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network presented the activities in Africa,
- Eugenio Bidondo the coordinator of GeoLAG presented the activities in Latin America and Caribbean and
- Frances Heydeman the geotourism coordinator of Stonehammer UGGp presented the activities in Canada.

During the event there was projection of the video for the International Geodiversity Day:

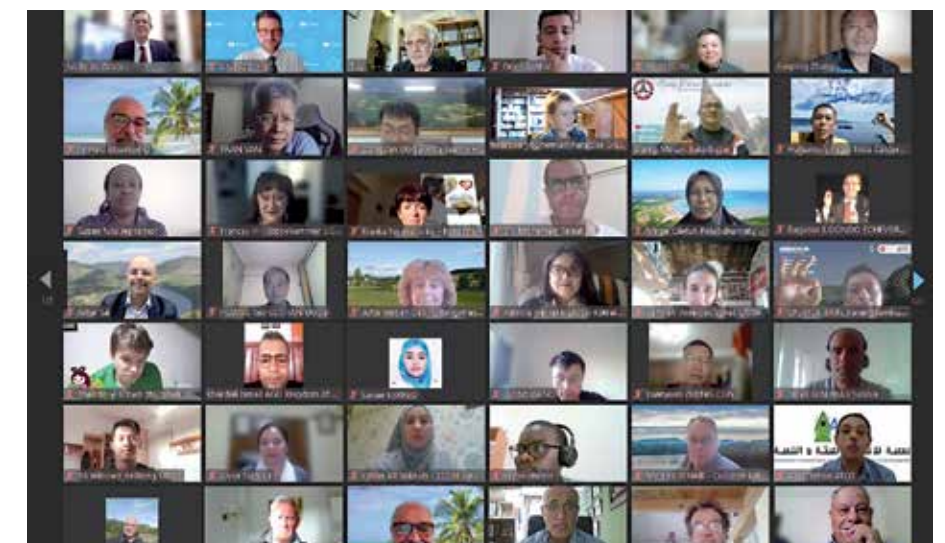
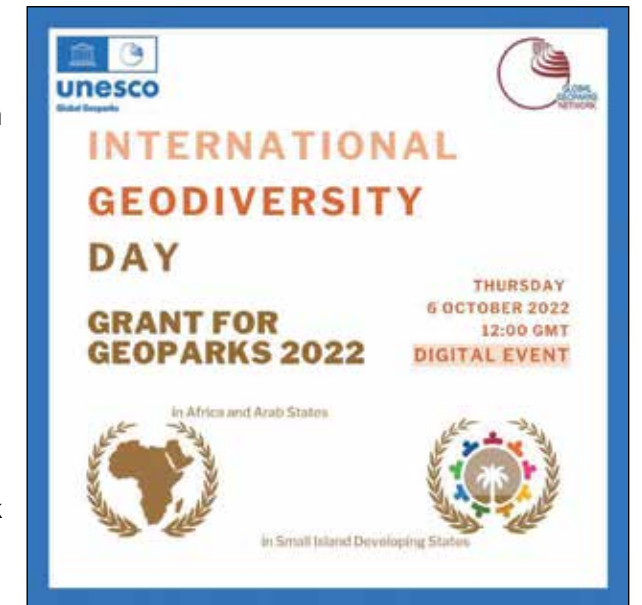
https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=2934

Many colleagues from UNESCO Global Geoparks and aspiring Geoparks attended the event live through the zoom platform and many more through Facebook and YouTube making the event a great success. The video of the digital event for the celebration of the International Geodiversity Day has been uploaded on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzBrJIUXXTs&t=31s>

The celebration of the International Geodiversity Day was an opportunity to spread information on the value of the Geoparks as special territories hosting geological heritage sites of international significance and custodians of the Memory of the Earth!

The GGN presented daily through social media and its website the geodiversity of the UNESCO Global Geoparks through emblematic geological heritage sites of their territory.





IV.1.3. Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks (6th June 2023)

A WELCOME DIGITAL EVENT for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks was organized on June 6th, 2023. UNESCO and all the members of the Geoparks were present to welcome the 18 new UNESCO Global Geoparks and one major extension which were approved by UNESCO's Executive Board.

The event was jointly organized by UNESCO and the GGN with the presence of more than 200 participants all around the globe!

The new UNESCO Global Geoparks were greeted by the Chief of UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section and UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat, Kristof Vandenberghe, the President of the Global Geoparks Network Prof. Nickolas Zouros and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Chair and GGN General Secretary Dr. Guy Martini:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| • Caçapava (Brazil) | • Kinabalu (Malaysia) |
| • Quarta Colônia (Brazil) | • Waitaki Whitestone (New Zealand) |
| • Lavreotiki (Greece) | • Sunnhordland (Norway) |
| • Ijen (Indonesia) | • Bohol (Philippines) |
| • Maros Pangkep (Indonesia) | • Jeonbuk West Coast (Republic of Korea) |
| • Merangin Jambi (Indonesia) | • Cabo Ortegal (Spain) |
| • Raja Ampat (Indonesia) | • Khorat (Thailand) |
| • Aras (Iran) | • Mourn Gullion Strangford (United Kingdom) |
| • Tabas (Iran) | • Kütralkura (Extension) (Chile) |
| • Hakusan Tedorigawa (Japan) | |

During the digital event, the coordinators of the Regional Geoparks Network presented greeting speeches, Prof Jin Xiaochi, the coordinator of the APGN presented the activities on Geodiversity Day in Asia and Pacific, Babbis Fassoulas the vice coordinator of EGN presented the activities in European Geoparks, Driss Achbal coordinator of the African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network presented the upcoming 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks at M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark in Morocco, Eugenio Bidondo coordinator of GeoLAC presented the activities in Latin America and Caribbean and Sarah Gamble, Canadian Geoparks Network Coordinator presented the activities in North America.

Many colleagues from UNESCO Global Geoparks and aspiring Geoparks attended live through the zoom platform and many more through YouTube making the event a great success.

The video of the Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks has been uploaded on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZa2mlbl7M8>

IV.2. Capacity Building Activities

IV.2.1. Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022 “UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability” (15 – 25 November 2022)

The Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022 on “UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability” was co-organised by UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network with the collaboration of 31 Geopark experts all around the world.

The Course was held from 15th to 25th November, 2022 through the digital platform zoom.

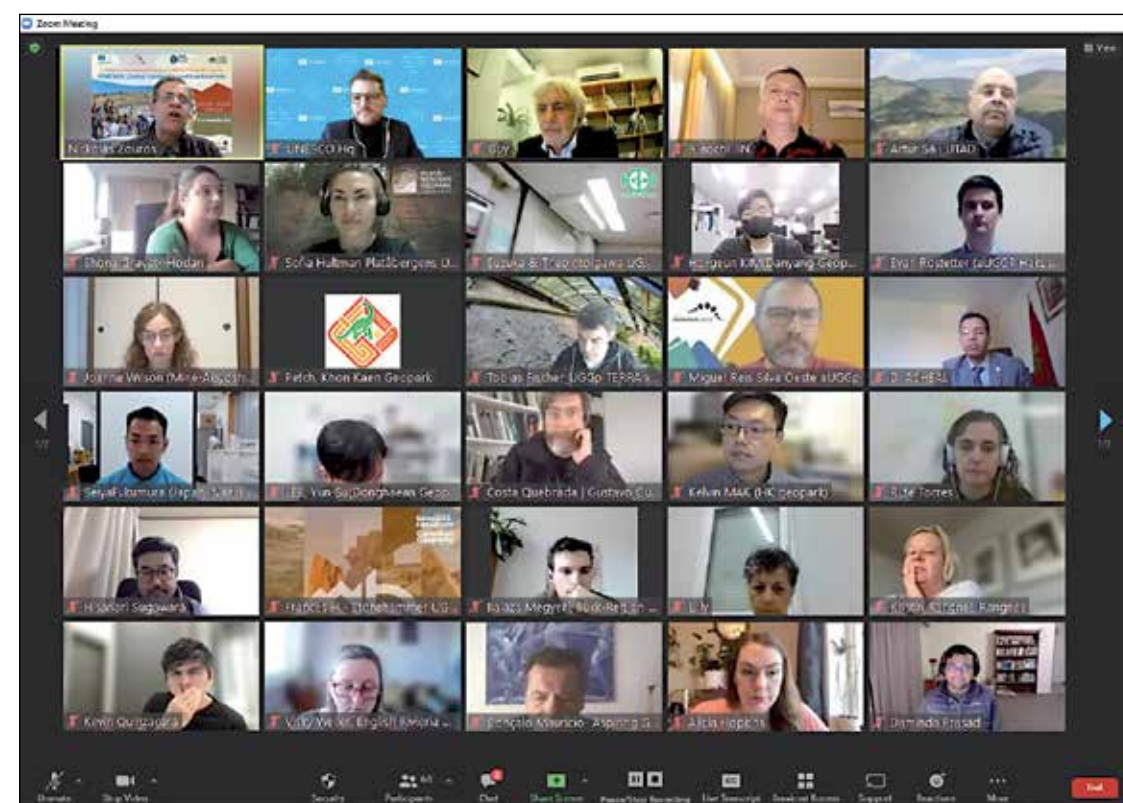
It was hosted and delivered by the University of the Aegean – Department of Geography and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest at Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, North Aegean Region, Greece.

The Course was attended by 113 participants from 36 different countries, including Aruba, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jersey Island, Madagascar, Malaysia, Morocco, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of China, Republic of Congo, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

The Intensive Course on Geoparks 2022 focused on how UNESCO Global Geoparks promote geotourism development.

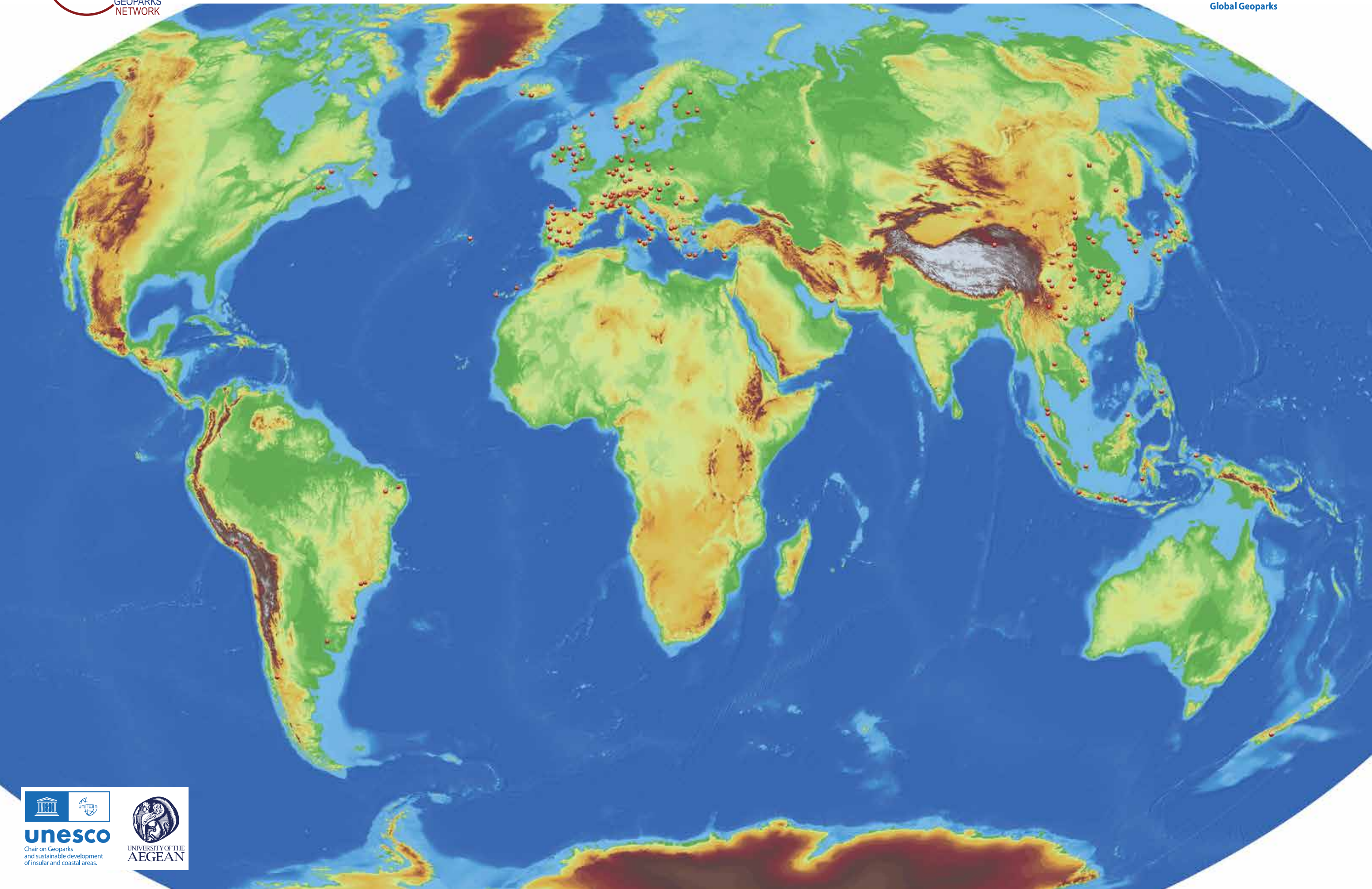
The course provided the opportunity to the participants to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks can make a real impact in local communities and on society as a whole during COVID-19 pandemic but also provided conceptual issues on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

During the Digital Course, the participants attended lectures by internationally renowned scientists and experts from UNESCO and UNESCO Global Geoparks, who presented good practices on UNESCO Global Geoparks as “Memory of Earth” and sustainable tourism destinations, the geotourism activities and services in Geoparks, the evaluation and revalidation procedure as well as the guidelines of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.





UNESCO Global Geoparks





List of UNESCO

195 Geoparks

Global Geoparks

in 48 Countries



No.	Geopark name	Country	Year
1	Lushan Geopark	China	2004
2	Wudalianchi Geopark	China	2004
3	Songshan Geopark	China	2004
4	Yuntaishan Geopark	China	2004
5	Danxiashan Geopark	China	2004
6	Shilin Geopark	China	2004
7	Zhangjiajie Geopark	China	2004
8	Huangshan Geopark	China	2004
9	Haute-Provence Geopark	France	2004
10	Lesvos island	Greece	2004
11	Vulkaneifel Geopark	Germany	2004
12	Psiloritis Natural Park	Greece	2004
13	Terra Vita Geopark	Germany	2004
14	Copper Coast	Ireland	2004
15	Cuicagh Lakelands	N.Ireland & R.Ireland	2004
16	Madonie Natural Park	Italy	2004
17	Rocca Di Cerere Geopark	Italy	2004
18	Styrian Eisenwurzen	Austria	2004
19	Bergstrasse-Odenwald	Germany	2004
20	North Pennines AONB	England	2004
21	Luberon	France	2005
22	North West Highlands	Scotland	2005
23	Swabian Alps	Germany	2005
24	Harz Braunschweiger Land	Germany	2005
25	Xingwen National Geopark	China	2005
26	Hexigten National Geopark	China	2005
27	Yangangshan National Geopark	China	2005
28	Taining Geopark	China	2005
29	Hațeg Country Dinosaur Geopark	Romania	2005
30	Beigua	Italy	2005
31	Fforest Fawr Geopark	Wales	2005
32	Bohemian Paradise Geopark	Czech Republic	2005
33	Sierras Subéticas Geopark	Spain	2006
34	Sobrarbe-Pirineos Geopark	Spain	2006
35	Caba de Gata	Spain	2006
36	Naturtejo Geopark	Portugal	2006
37	Gea-Norvegica	Norway	2006
38	Araripe Geopark	Brazil	2006
39	Fangshan Geopark	China	2006
40	Leiqiong Geopark	China	2006
41	Funiushan Geopark	China	2006
42	Wangwushan-Daimeishan Geopark	China	2006
43	Jingpohu Geopark	China	2006
44	Taishan Geopark	China	2006
45	Papuk Geopark	Croatia	2007
46	Langkawi Geopark	Malaysia	2007
47	English Riviera Geopark	England	2007
48	Longhushan Geopark	China	2008
49	Zigong Geopark	China	2007

No.	Geopark name	Country	Year
50	Adamello Brenta Geopark	Italy	2008
51	Geo Mon	Wales	2009
52	Arouca	Portugal	2009
53	Qinling Zhongnanshan Geopark	China	2009
54	Alxa Geopark	China	2009
55	Itoigawa Geopark	Japan	2009
56	Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Geopark	Japan	2009
57	Unzen Volcanic Area Geopark	Japan	2009
58	Shetland Geopark	Scotland	2009
59	Chelmos-Vouraikos Geopark	Greece	2009
60	Novohrad-Nograd Geopark	Hungary & Slovakia	2010
61	Magma Geopark	Norway	2010
62	Basque Coast Geopark, Pais Vasco	Spain	2010
63	Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni	Italy	2010
64	Rokua Geopark	Finland	2010
65	Tuscan Mining Park, Toscana	Italy	2010
66	Vikos-Aoos Geopark	Greece	2010
67	Stonehammer Geopark	Canada	2010
68	Leye Fengshan Geopark	China	2010
69	Ningde Geopark	China	2010
70	San'in Kaigan Geopark	Japan	2010
71	Jeju island Geopark	Republic of Korea	2010
72	Dong Van Karst Plateau Geopark	Viet Nam	2010
73	Muskau Arch Geopark	Germany & Poland	2011
74	Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park	Spain	2011
75	Burren and Cliffs of Moher	R.Ireland	2011
76	Katla	Iceland	2011
77	Massif des Bauges	France	2011
78	Alpi Apuani	Italy	2011
79	Villuercas Ibores Jara	Spain	2011
80	Muroto	Japan	2011
81	Hong Kong	China	2011
82	Tianzhushan	China	2011
83	Chablais Geopark	France	2012
84	Bakony-Balaton Geopark	Hungary	2012
85	Batur Geopark	Indonesia	2012
86	Central Catalonia Geopark	Spain	2012
87	Sanqingshan	China	2012
88	Azores	Portugal	2013
89	Karavanke/Karawanken	Slovenia & Austria	2013
90	Idrija Geopark	Slovenia	2013
91	Oki islands Geopark	Japan	2013
92	Grutas del Palacio	Uruguay	2013
93	Yanqing Geopark	China	2013
94	Shennongjia Geopark	China	2013
95	De Hondsrug Geopark	Netherlands	2013
96	Sesia-Val Grande Geopark	Italy	2013
97	Kula-Salihli Geopark	Turkey	2013
98	Molina and Alto Tajo	Spain	2014

No.	Geopark name	Country	Year
99	Ore of the Alps	Austria	2014
100	Tumbler Ridge	Canada	2014
101	Mount Kunlun	China	2014
102	Dali Mount Cangshan	China	2014
103	Odsherred	Denmark	2014
104	Monts d'Ardeche	France	2014
105	Aso Global Geopark	Japan	2014
106	M'Goun Global Geopark	Morocco	2014
107	Terras de Cavaleiros Global Geopark	Portugal	2014
108	El Hierro Global Geopark	Spain	2014
109	Dunhuang	China	2015
110	Zhijindong	China	2015
111	Troodos	Cyprus	2015
112	Sitia	Greece	2015
113	Reykjanes	Iceland	2015
114	Gunung Sewu	Indonesia	2015
115	Pallino	Italy	2015
116	Mount Apoi	Japan	2015
117	Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands	Spain	2015
118	Arxan	China	2017
119	Las Loras	Spain	2017
120	Cheongsong	Republic of Korea	2017
121	Mixteca Alta	Mexico	2017
122	Keketuohai	China	2017
123	Gausses du Quercy	France	2017
124	Qeshm Island	Iran	2017
125	Comarca Minera, Hidalgo	Mexico	2017
126	Famenne-Ardenne	Belgium	2018
127	Perce	Canada	2018
128	Guangwushan-Nuoshuihe	China	2018
129	Huanggang Dabieshan	China	2018
130	Beaujolais	France	2018
131	Izu Peninsula	Japan	2018
132	Mudeungsan Area	Republic of Korea	2018
133	Origens Geopark	Spain	2018
134	Ngorongoro Lengai	Tanzania	2018
135	Satun	Thailand	2018
136	Non nuoc Cao Bang	Viet Nam	2018
137	Ci letu h-Pala bu hanratu	Indonesia	2018
138	Rinjani Lombok	Indonesia	2018
139	Colca y Volcanes de Andagua	Peru	2019
140	Courel Mountain	Spain	2019
141	Vis Archipelago	Croatia	2019
142	Imbabura	Ecuador	2019
143	Jiuhuashan	China	2019
144	Kütralkura	Chile	2019
145	Yimengshan	China	2019
146	Trollfjell	Norway	2019
147	Cliffs of Fundy	Canada	2020

No.	Geopark name	Country	Year
148	Discovery	Canada	2020
149	Xiangxi	China	2020
150	Zhangye	China	2020
151	Lauhavuori-Hameenkangas	Finland	2020
152	Toba Caldera	Indonesia	2020
153	Rio Coco	Nicaragua	2020
154	Estrela	Portugal	2020
155	Hantangang river Geopark	Republic of Korea	2020
156	Yangan-Tau	Russian Federation	2020
157	Djerdap	Serbia	2020
158	Granada	Spain	2020
159	Maestrazgo	Spain	2020
160	Black Country	England UK	2020
161	Oak Nang	Viet Nam	2020
162	Holy Cross Mountains	Poland	2021
163	Thuringia Inselberg-Drei Gleichen	Germany	2021
164	Vestjylland	Denmark	2021
165	Saimaa	Finland	2021
166	Aspromonte	Italy	2021
167	Grevena Kozani	Greece	2021
168	Belitong	Indonesia	2021
169	Maiella	Italy	2021
170	Ries	Germany	2022
171	Platåbergens	Sweden	2022
172	Möllerdall	Luxemburg	2022
173	Buzău Land	Romania	2022
174	Salpausselkä	Finland	2022
175	Kefalonia-Ithaca	Greece	2022
176	Southern Canyons Pathways	Brazil	2022
177	Seridó	Brazil	2022
178	Caçapava	Brazil	2023
179	Quarta Colonia	Brazil	2023
180	Lavreotiki	Greece	2023
181	Ijen	Indonesia	2023
182	Mares Pangkep	Indonesia	2023
183	Merangin Jambi	Indonesia	2023
184	Raja Ampat	Indonesia	2023
185	Aras	Iran	2023
186	Tabas	Iran	2023
187	Hakusan Tedorigawa	Japan	2023
188	Kinabalu	Malaysia	2023
189	Waitaki Whitestone	New Zealand	2023
190	Sunnhordland	Norway	2023
191	Bohol UNESCO	Philippines	2023
192	Jeonbuk West Coast	Republic of Korea	2023
193	Cabo Ortega	Spain	2023
194	Khorat	Thailand	2023
195	Mourne Gullion Strangford	UK & N.Ireland	2023

What is a UNESCO Global Geopark?

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development.

A UNESCO Global Geopark uses its geological heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our earth's resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing natural disasters-related risks.

By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, UNESCO Global Geoparks give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area.

The creation of innovative local enterprises, new jobs and high quality training courses is stimulated as new sources of revenue are generated through geotourism, while the geological resources of the area are protected.

At present, there are 195 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 48 countries.

All the UNESCO Global Geoparks are institutional members of the Global Geoparks Network.

Global Geoparks Network

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is a non-profit and a non-governmental organisation. It was initially founded in 2004 as an international partnership developed under the umbrella of UNESCO, and was officially registered as an association in 2014 subjecting to French law. The Global Geoparks Network is the official partner of UNESCO for the operation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Networking and collaboration among Global Geoparks is an important component of the Global Geoparks Network.

The four GGN Regional Geoparks Networks are the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN), the European Geoparks Network (EGN), the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network (GeoLAC) and the African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network (AUGGN).

www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org

www.visitgeoparks.org

IV.2.2. Support of Capacity Building Activities

The GGN operates or supports training courses and other capacity building activities relevant to UNESCO Global Geoparks establishment, operation, management and activities.

The GGN Executive Board gave special emphasis to the organization of Courses and Workshops during the last two years in collaboration with UNESCO.

In order to support effectiveness, visibility and participation of the different Geopark capacity building activities, the GGN Executive Board supported the organization of the following activities:

1. IV Geoparks and Geotourism Symposium in Kütralkura UNESCO Global Geopark, Chile (27-29 January 2022)
2. Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark & the project KaraWAT (17 February 2022)
3. The 1st Symposium of Geoparks in Thailand (25-26 April 2022)
4. 3rd International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus (3-5 June 2022)
5. 6th International Summer University on Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyle, Portugal (13-15 June 2022)
6. Workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Latin America in Comarca Minera Hidalgo, Mexico (19-22 June 2022)
7. The 5th Regional Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks (21-23 October 2022)
8. China-Italy UNESCO Global Geoparks Forum (3 November 2022)
9. The 20th International Symposium on Vulkanospeleology in Dak Nong UNESCO Global Geopark, Vietnam (21-26 November 2022)
10. Capacity-building workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Africa (13-15 December 2022)
11. International Marine Debris Symposium 2023 in Oki Islands, Japan (11 March 2023)
12. International Workshop of the 47th meeting of the European Geoparks Network (27-30 March 2023)
13. The International Geopark Management Workshop of Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark (29 April-1 May 2023)
14. 4th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus (25-27 May 2023)
15. 1st Brazilian Meeting of UNESCO Global Geoparks (4 - 5 June 2023) - Creation of the Brazilian Network of UNESCO Global Geoparks
16. The 2nd Symposium of Geoparks in Thailand (8 June 2023).



IV.2.3. 5th Regional Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks (23 October 2022)

The 5th Regional Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks was successfully organized from 21st to 23rd of October 2022. The theme of the course was “Utilizing Geosite for Geotourism Products”.

It was hosted by Langkawi UNESCO Global Geoparks in Malaysia, with Co-organizers the Global Geoparks Network, the Asia Pacific Global Geoparks Network, Institute for Environment and Development, and the University Kebangsaan of Malaysia.

IV.2.4. Evaluators’ Seminar (26 - 27 April 2023)

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network co-organised the 1st Evaluators’ Seminar 2023. The Evaluators’ Seminar 2023 was held on 26th and 27th of April 2023. The seminar was organized in digital format.

Main target of the Evaluators’ Seminar was to improve the common understanding of the Evaluators’ on the UNESCO Global Geoparks Statutes and Operational Guidelines, the basic documents and procedures.

The seminar was attended by 124 evaluators (senior and junior).

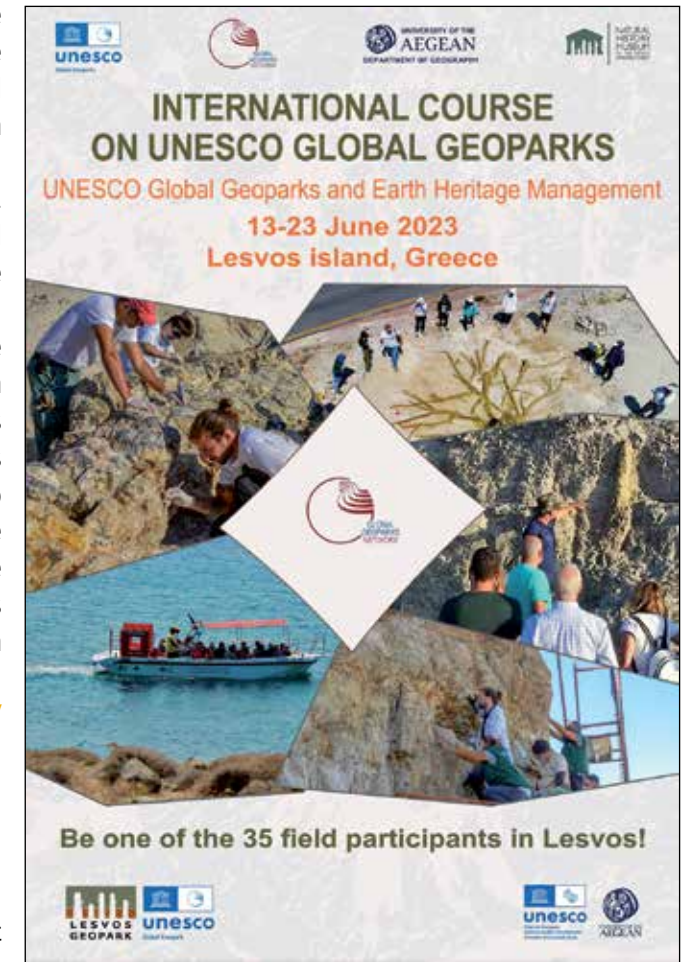
IV.2.5. International Intensive Course on Geoparks in Lesvos 2023

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network are co-organising the International Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2023 which will deal with the topic “UNESCO Global Geoparks and Earth heritage Management”.

The Course will be organized in hybrid format. It will be hosted on Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece and at the same time for those who cannot travel, there will be online lessons.

35 participants will be selected to attend the lectures and have the opportunity to participate in field training in Lesvos Island. Other participants will attend the lectures and the virtual field trips digitally. The course will provide an opportunity to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks contribute to earth heritage management, how they can make a real impact in local communities and on society as a whole but also will provide conceptual issues on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Course website: <http://www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks2023>



IV.3. Support of digital meetings & events

The Global Geoparks Network taking into account the conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic decided to operate a digital platform to support the operation of various Geopark events and meetings. Main target of the GGN was to support the networking and the organisation of digital meetings and events for up to 1000 participants.

The digital platform was used during the period 2022 - 2023 for the organisation of various activities and events bringing in contact UNESCO Global Geoparks colleagues from all around the globe giving them the opportunity to contact each other.

The Global Geoparks Network supported also the organisation of the following meetings events through the Zoom platform:

- UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Forum Meeting (23 March 2022)
- 1st GGN Advisory Committee Digital Meeting (8 April 2022)
- 2nd GGN Advisory Committee Digital Meeting (10 June 2022)
- 3rd GGN Advisory Committee Digital Meeting (12 January 2023)
- 4th GGN Advisory Committee Digital Meeting (28 February 2023)
- Digital meetings for the implementation of the UNESCO/GGN Grant for Geoparks 2022 in Africa and the Arab States & Small Island Developing States
- GGN Executive Board meetings
- GGN Working Group meetings.



4th GGN Advisory Committee Digital Meeting (28 February 2023)

CHAPTER V DIGITAL PROMOTION

V.1. Social media promotional campaigns

V.1.1. Campaign “UNESCO Global Geoparks: Discover the Earth’s hidden treasures”

The Global Geoparks Network initiated in September 2021 a campaign for the promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations. The campaign continued until August 2022.

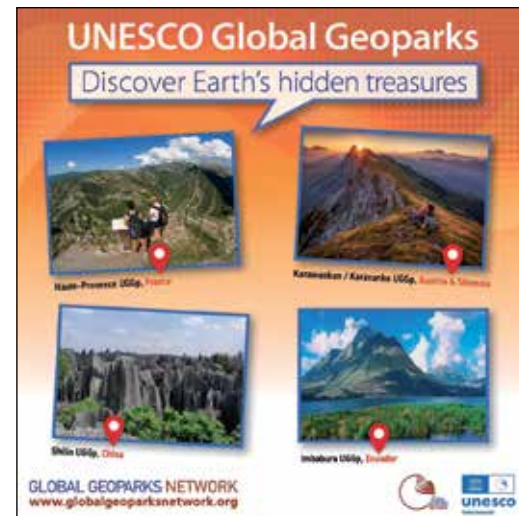
This global campaign to promote UNESCO Global Geoparks through social media reached 1.280.365 people in just 7 days! 21.663 of them asked for further information by clicking and visiting the Global Geoparks Network webpage during the same period. This proves the progress made by our Network in raising the Geoparks’ profile and promoting them as sustainable tourism destinations.

UNESCO Global Geoparks promote tourism for inclusive growth collaborating with local entrepreneurship and especially women cooperatives and family run businesses in their territory, supporting local communities and creating new job opportunities for all.

UNESCO Global Geoparks promote local products and local gastronomy, support the use of traditional techniques in the production of local products and traditional recipes in food preparation, connecting the local traditions with the territorial geological heritage and landscapes.

UNESCO Global Geoparks offer to their visitors unique experiences and a broad variety of activities such as hiking, trekking, horse riding, mountain biking, surfing, climbing, mountain running, bird-watching, sailing, rafting, and many more. The Global Geoparks Network started also a new campaign through social media to promote all UNESCO Global Geoparks and their Earth’s hidden treasures to the Geopark community and the tourism market.

Every week several UNESCO Global Geoparks were presented and promoted as global geological attractions and sustainable tourism destinations! #GlobalGeoparksNetwork, #UNESCOGlobalGeoparks



V.1.2. Campaign “Geodiversity wonders in Geoparks”

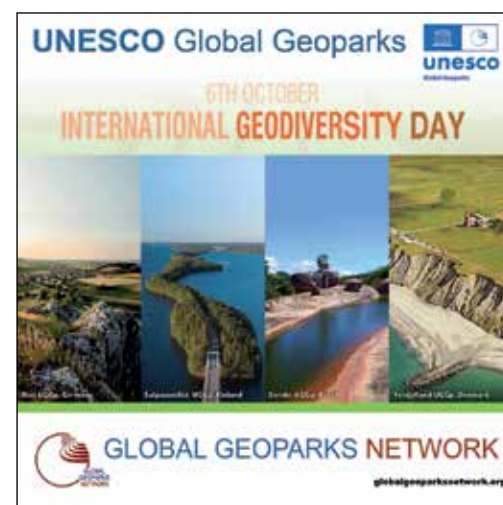
The Global Geoparks Network initiated in August 2022 a campaign for the promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations, and continued until February 2023.

On October 6th, 2022, the Global Geoparks Network celebrated the International Geodiversity Day.

The celebration of the International Geodiversity Day was an opportunity to spread information on the value of the Geoparks as special territories hosting Geological Heritage Sites of international significance and custodians of the Memory of the Earth.

The GGN Executive Board encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks to send materials on the 5 most important Geological Heritage Sites of their Geopark which were presented during the GGN global campaign in social media for the promotion of the Geodiversity in UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The GGN Executive Board also encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks to participate in the new publication “Geodiversity in UNESCO Global Geoparks” which presents their most significant Geological heritage sites and Geodiversity.



V.1.3. Campaign “Geopark Museum of the week”

The Global Geoparks Network initiated in April 2022 a campaign for the promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks’ museums as sustainable tourism destinations.

Every week on the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) facebook page a Geopark Museum or Interpretation Center from a UNESCO Global Geopark was presented.

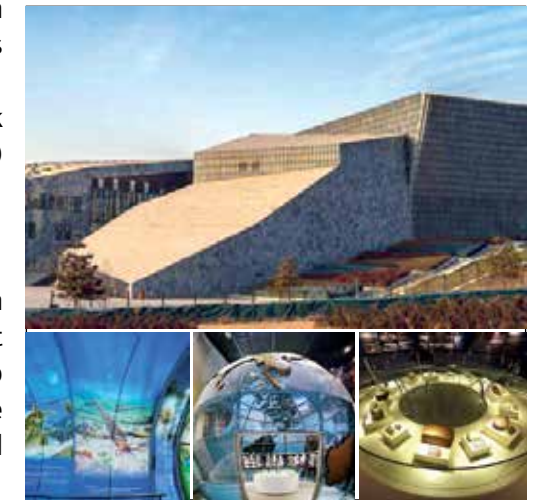
Geopark Museum - Interpretation Center

A Geopark’s Museum - Interpretation Center is the main interpretation infrastructure of a UNESCO Global Geopark. It acts as the communication and awareness raising mechanism to the public. It presents, interprets and promotes the value of the Geological heritage sites and attractions of a UNESCO Global Geopark.

A Geopark’s Museum - Interpretation Center researches, interprets, communicates and exhibits, for purposes of education and enjoyment, material evidence of the Geopark’s geological, heritage linked with our planet Earth’s history and evolution. It also presents the relationship between abiotic nature, modern ecosystems and human communities and their environment.

It acts as the interpreter and promoter of the material elements of the Geopark’s heritage.

A Geopark’s museum should be of a sufficient size to demonstrate the geology and geomorphology of the Geopark’s territory and it’s natural and its cultural heritage. It should also demonstrate the uniqueness of the territory being part of the Networks of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.



V.2. Celebration of International Days

V.2.1. International Mother Earth Day (22 April 2022)

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section participated in the celebration of the International Mother Earth Day 2022 on 22nd of April and encouraged each of its members to recall how the Earth provides life and sustenance.

Climate change and other environmental degradations have broken our natural systems, leading to new and fatal diseases as well as a breakdown of the global economy.

The Global Geoparks Network during the EARTH DAY 2022 on 22nd of April realized the digital welcome event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks, because all Geoparks together are stronger in promoting Earth heritage and sustain our local communities!

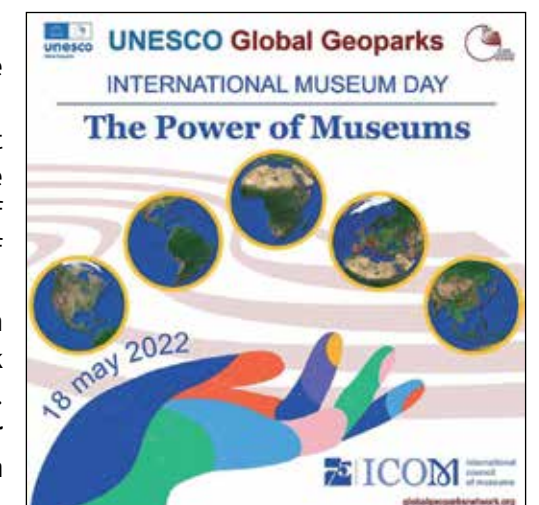


V.2.2. International Museum Day 2022 (18 May 2022)

On 18th May 2022 UNESCO Global Geoparks celebrated the International Museum Day 2022.

Following the COVID-19 outbreak and the subsequent lockdowns, Geoparks and their Museums decided to adapt the format and focus on digital activities, to promote the values of the International Museum Day 2022 while ensuring the safety of the public and Geopark staff alike.

The theme of the celebration of the International Museum Day 2022 was “The Power of Museum”. Day 2022. Geopark Museums have the power to transform the world around us. As incomparable places of discovery, they teach us about our past and open our minds to new ideas — two essential steps in building a better future.



V.2.3. World Ocean Day (8 June 2022)

The GGN in collaboration with UNESCO celebrated the World Oceans Day 2022.

World Ocean Day has been celebrated on June 8 every year since 1992, and since 2009, it has been under the auspices of the UN.

The Global Geoparks Network encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks management bodies, partners and stakeholders to join the campaign and present initiatives on how they protect the ocean and its biodiversity based on their geodiversity heritage and current activities.

Geoparks are working towards achieving clean oceans. They are concerned about how they can interact with the oceans without disturbing the ecosystem, the measures that they need to take for dealing with pollution and how to achieve balance between human activities and sustainability. Geoparks also promote traditional activities like fishing and implement various good practices which are in line with the United Nations Decade of the Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

The Global Geoparks Network, in collaboration with UNESCO, presented some examples of activities and good practices in a special video for the celebration of the world ocean day 2022.

<https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/WorldOceansDay4.mp4>



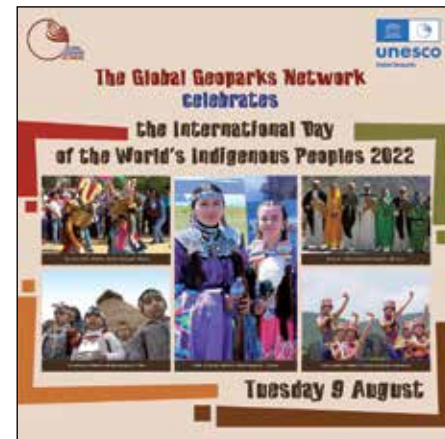
V.2.4. International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 2022 (9 August 2022)

On Sunday 9th of August 2022, UNESCO Global Geoparks celebrated a very special day, the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples as indigenous peoples have a vital role in the preservation and celebration of their culture, their human rights, languages, ancient histories. The GGN invited all the Geoparks to celebrate with their indigenous peoples for their culture, their human rights, languages, ancient histories, to join the campaign and to promote through social media the important role of their indigenous peoples, their culture and their communities.

By involving indigenous communities, UNESCO Global Geoparks recognize the importance of these communities, their culture and the link between these communities and their land. It is one of the criteria of UNESCO Global Geoparks that local and indigenous knowledge, practice and management systems, alongside science, are included in the planning and management of the area.

The GGN created a special video which has been uploaded on the following link:

<https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?p=6871>

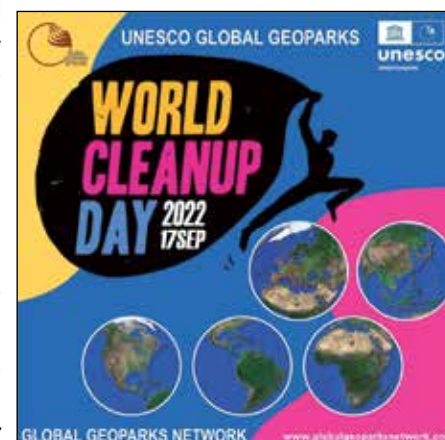


V.2.5. World CleanUp Day 2022 (17 September 2022)

Many UNESCO Global Geoparks worldwide participated in the World CleanUp Day on September 17th. Volunteers and partners of many UNESCO Global Geoparks come together to rid our planet of cleaning up litter and mismanaged waste from forests, beaches, villages etc.

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section encouraged all the UNESCO Global Geoparks to participate in the World CleanUp Day campaign and promoted their events through social media but also encourage them to use all these activities as inspiration to take actions and to ensure ongoing activities for the environment and our communities.

The World Cleanup Day is a voluntary cleaning action of our Earth. It is an action of positive collaboration with the spirit of unity and its main target is to mobilise all local communities, through their participation to cleanup and to find solutions to tackle mismanaged waste in our home, Earth.



V.2.6. World Tourism Day 2022 (27 September 2022)

The Global Geoparks Network invited all UNESCO Global Geoparks, their partners, associated agencies, businesses and individuals to celebrate World Tourism Day 2022.

World Tourism Day of 2022 was focused on the future. As the sector's recovery gets underway and building on unprecedented political and public recognition for the sector, UNWTO was highlighting the opportunity to rethink how we do tourism.

World Tourism Day put people and planet at the centre of key discussions, bringing everyone from governments and businesses to local communities together around a shared vision for a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient sector.

The Global Geoparks Network and all UNESCO 177 UNESCO Global Geoparks shared the UNWTO decision to designate World Tourism Day 2022 as a day to focus on Tourism for Inclusive Growth.



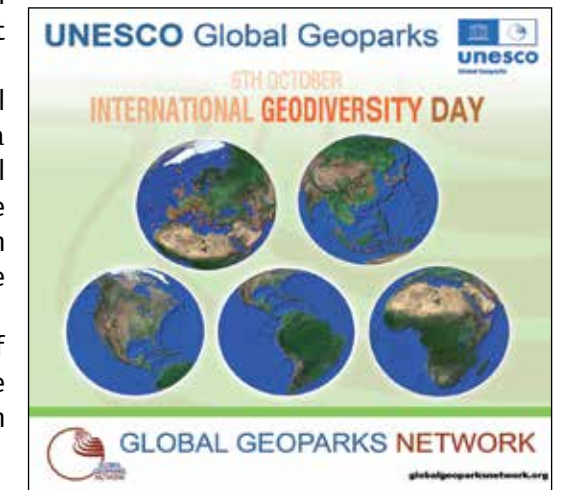
V.2.7. International Geodiversity Day (6 October 2022)

The Global Geoparks Network celebrated the International Geodiversity Day on 6th October 2022. This was the first celebration of the International Geodiversity day.

In the frame of the 1st celebration of the International Geodiversity day, the Global Geoparks Network promoted a special video and invited all Geoparks to promote the International Geodiversity Day and use that unique opportunity to raise public awareness on the abiotic nature, to join the campaign "Geodiversity Wonders in UNESCO Global Geoparks" and promote their geological heritage sites.

The GGN created a special video for the celebration of the International Geodiversity Day and the promotion of the geodiversity of UNESCO Global Geoparks. The video has been uploaded on the following link:

https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=2934



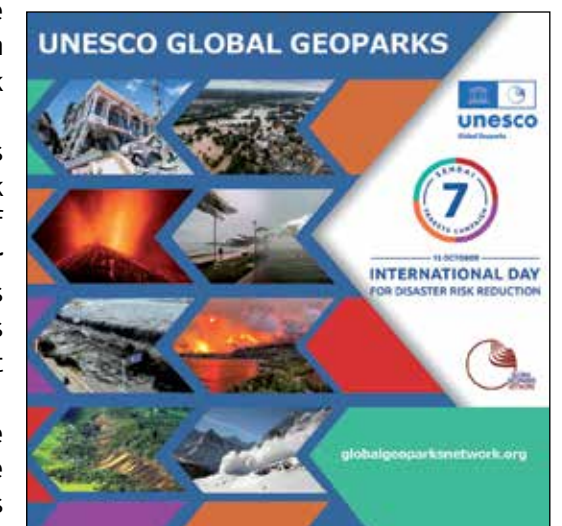
V.2.8. International Day for the Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 (13 October 2022)

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with the UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section celebrated on 13th of October, the International Day for the Disaster Risk Reduction.

This 2022 theme was all about Early warning and it was focused on Target G of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 "Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030". This theme reminded the impact that the disasters have in our lives and was conveying the message that we can avoid or prevent many disasters by implementing early warning strategies.

Many UNESCO Global Geoparks worked together with the local people and the local authorities in order to promote awareness of geological hazards, like volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis and to help preparing disaster mitigation strategies. They also emerged as educators on current climate change and worked for adaptation of best practice approach to prevent climate-related events like floods, droughts, storms.

The Global Geoparks Network encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks to use this day as an opportunity to work in order to prevent hazards to become disasters.

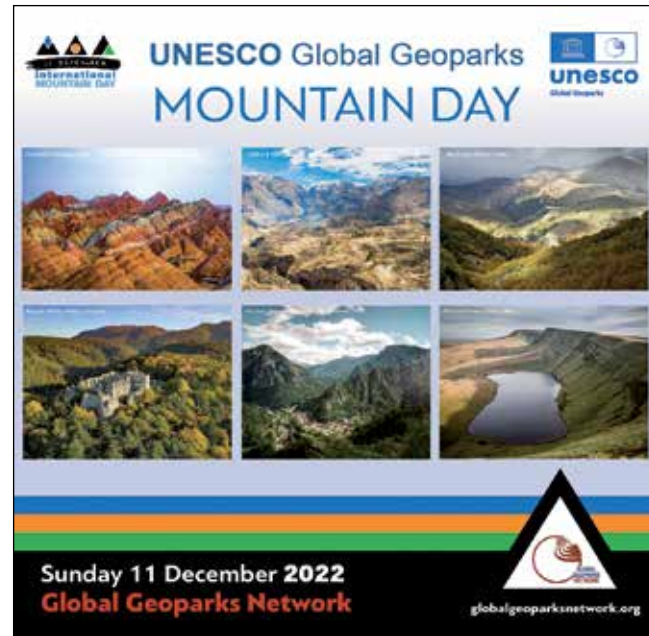
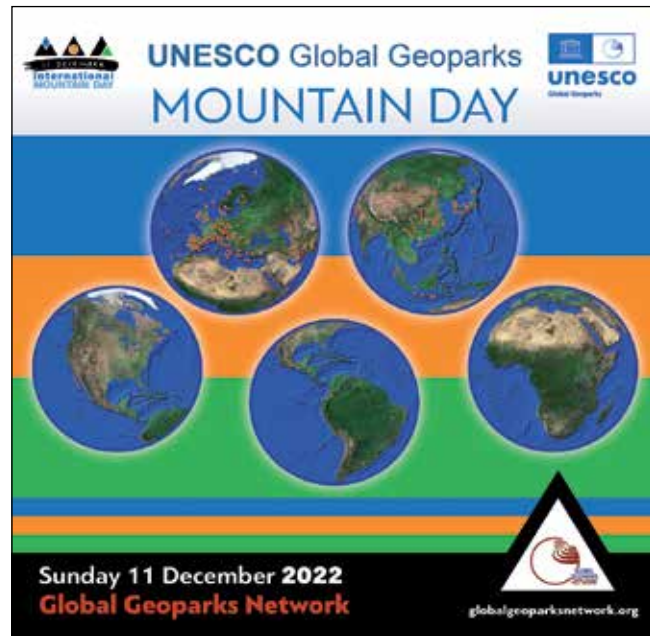
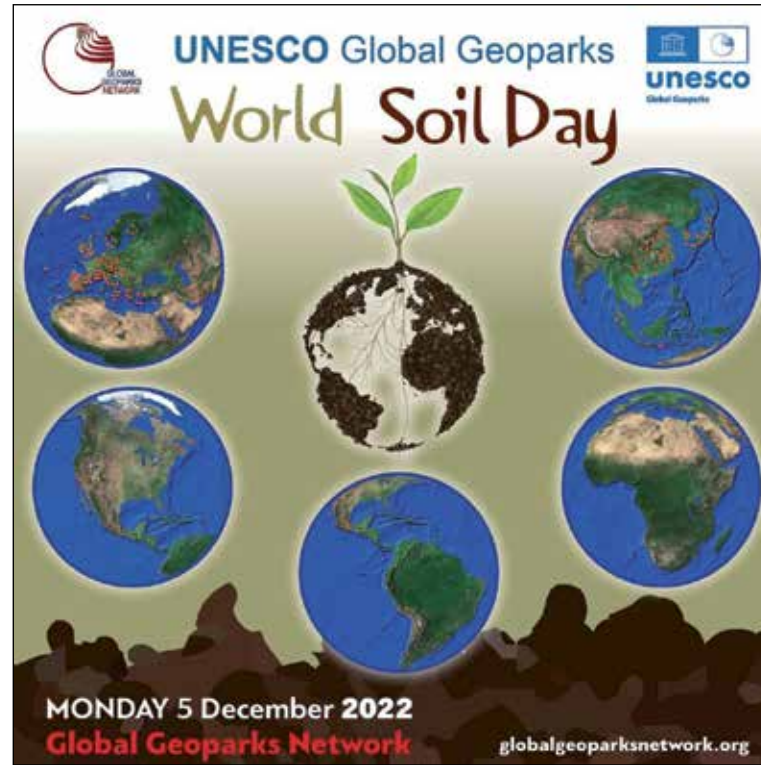


V.2.9. World Soil Day (5 December 2022)

The Global Geoparks celebrated on December 5th the World Soil Day 2022, with the aim of highlighting the importance of soil as a critical component of the natural system and its contribution to human well-being of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems.

The theme of 2022 celebration was “Soils: Where food begins” based, according to UN, to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, and encouraged social groups and especially farmers to improve soil health.

The Global Geoparks Network invited all Geoparks around the globe to participate in the celebration of the World Soil Day and organize field activities for its local people and visitors and raise awareness for the importance of Soil for the ecosystems and our life. Many UNESCO Global Geoparks had special thematic exhibitions and education activities on the value of soil preservation and protection, as UNESCO Global Geoparks provide unique places for the protection and wise use of the soil.



V.2.10. International Mountain Day (11 December 2022)

On December 11, 2022 the Geoparks celebrated the International Mountain Day.

The Global Geoparks Network encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks to join the celebration and promote their mountains, some of the most interesting geological features of UNESCO Global Geoparks, which create the conditions for a wide spectrum of life forms.

Mountains are home to 15% of the world’s population and they provide freshwater for everyday life to half of humanity. About half of the world’s biodiversity hotspots are concentrated in mountains and mountains support approximately one-quarter of terrestrial biological diversity. Mountains are today under threat from climate change and overexploitation as we tend to forget that the mountains are important territories of biodiversity and life.

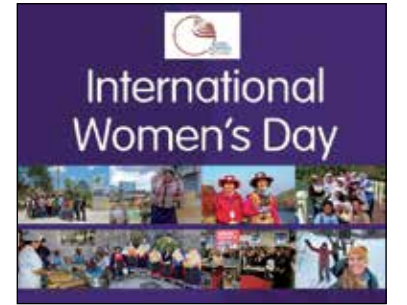
V.2.11. International Women’s Day (8 March 2023)

The Global Geoparks Network celebrated on 8th of March, the International Women’s Day 2023.

In Geoparks we work together every day on empowering women in Geoparks management and operation, in geoconservation, in education, in tourism, in sustainable development.

We imagine a gender equal world, work every day towards this goal, to embrace equality everywhere.

Gender equality and women empowerment is one of the focus areas of UNESCO Global Geoparks. UNESCO Global Geoparks have a strong emphasis on empowering women whether through focused education programmes or through the development of women’s cooperatives. UNESCO Global Geoparks are a platform for the development, nurturing and promotion of local cottage industry and craft products. In some UNESCO Global Geoparks women’s cooperatives also provide an opportunity for women to obtain additional income in their own area and on their own terms.



V.2.12. International Mother Earth Day (22 April 2023)

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section participated in the celebration of the International Mother Earth Day 2023 on 22nd of April and encouraged each of its members to “invest in our Planet” as it was theme of its 18 anniversary in 2023.

The 2023 theme - “Invest in our Planet” - highlighted the urgent need for global action to address climate change and its impact on our ecosystems and natural resources. It also underscored the importance of engaging governments, institutions, businesses, and people worldwide to play their part.

The Global Geopark Network encouraged all UNESCO Global Geoparks to participate in the following actions: Publication of a new magazine entitled ‘Geoparks Going Green’, which presents the contribution of the Geoparks to the climate change and green economy and the commitment of the Geoparks for ‘Going Green’ Geoparks and the organization of field activities and society engagement during the celebration.



V.2.13. International Museum Day 2023 (18 May 2023)

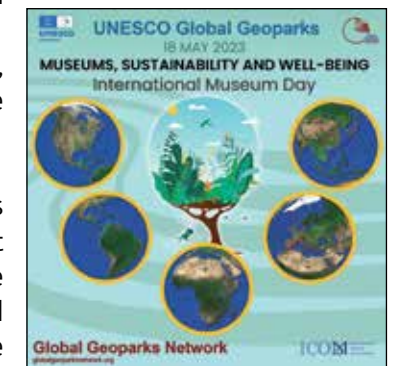
On 18th May 2023 UNESCO Global Geoparks celebrated the International Museum Day 2023.

Geopark Museums are the main infrastructure for the enhancement, protection, conservation, exhibition and promotion of Earth heritage elements and the communication of their value and importance.

Geoparks and their Museum narrating the story of the Earth!

The ICOM theme of the 2023 International Museum Day celebration was “Museums, sustainability and well-being” and aimed “to highlight the vital role that museums play in promoting sustainable development and well-being. As we face significant global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and social inequality, museums can help educate the public on these issues and encourage action towards positive change”.

The Global Geoparks Network promoted Geoparks museums through its social media as core structures in UNESCO Global Geoparks for geoheritage interpretation, conservation and promotion.



V.2.14. World Environment Day 2023 (5 June 2023)

On June 5th UNESCO Global Geoparks celebrate the World Environment Day.

The World Environment Day has been designated by the UN General Assembly to highlight the protection of the environment and raise awareness on the problems facing our environment such as air pollution, plastic pollution, illegal wildlife trade, sea-level increase, food security, among others.

The World Environment Day 2023 was dedicated to “Beat Plastic Pollution” and focused on solutions to plastic pollution and it was a reminder that people’s actions on plastic pollution matter.

Global Geoparks Network celebrated the World Environment Day and invited all to take actions and focus on solutions against plastic pollution, to change our habits, sensitize the Geopark visitors, educate local communities and work towards plastic pollution.

CHAPTER VI

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

VI.1 Contribution and participation in UNESCO Global Geoparks programme operation

The GGN is the partner of UNESCO for the “UNESCO Global Geoparks” with an important role in its operation:

1. GGN proposes 12 individuals members to the UNESCO Geoparks Council
2. Is an ex-officio member to the UNESCO Geoparks Council
3. Participates ex-officio to the UNESCO Geoparks Bureau
4. Forms a pool of Experts for Geopark Evaluations and Revalidations
5. Collaborates with UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section for the realization of the Geoparks’ Field Evaluations and Revalidations
6. Provides annual financial support to UNESCO by a donation of US\$ 1,000 per Geopark (for the current number of UGG’s) for Global Geopark activities
7. Facilitates networking and cooperation among all the recognized UNESCO Global Geoparks
8. Organizes meetings, capacity building and promotional activities.

The GGN facilitated the duties of the GGN according to the IGGP statutes, with a series of actions aiming the improvement of the effectiveness of the UNESCO Global Geoparks functioning as described below:

- The GGN President participated in the meetings of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council for the evaluation and revalidation report assessment. UNESCO Global Geoparks Council adopted the new UNESCO Global Geoparks documents regarding the evaluation and revalidation Doc A templates and self evaluation check list for aspiring Geoparks.
- The GGN President participated in the UNESCO Global Geoparks Bureau which is responsible for the nomination of the Evaluators for the Geoparks’ Evaluation and Revalidation missions. UNESCO Global Geoparks Bureau decisions regarding the function of the UNESCO Global Geoparks made through electronic communication.
- The GGN in collaboration with the UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section facilitated the organization of the Geoparks’ Evaluation and Revalidation missions.
- The GGN provided to UNESCO Global Geoparks special Account the financial support during 2022 and 2023 for Geopark activities.
- The GGN in collaboration with the UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section launched in 2022 the call for hosts of the 11th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks and 4 applications have been submitted.

VI.2. Roster of Evaluators

The Roster of evaluators is one of the duties of the Global Geoparks Network according to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Operational Guidelines.

VI.2.1. Contribution to the management of the Roster of Evaluators

The GGN in collaboration with the UNESCO Earth Science and Geoparks Section launched in 2022 a new call for the enrichment of the Roster of Geoparks’ evaluators. The received applications were assessed with the criteria and the Roster served for the Geopark Evaluation and Revalidation missions.

VI.2.2. Evaluation / Revalidation missions

Geopark evaluators coming from Green Card holding UNESCO Global Geoparks participated in Geoparks evaluation and revalidation missions supporting the operation of the programme on a volunteer basis during the years 2022 and 2023.

More specific, in the year 2022 were organized 69 evaluation and revalidation missions (25 evaluations and 44 revalidation missions) and in the year 2023 were organized 80 evaluation and revalidation missions (24 evaluations and 56 revalidation missions).

VI.3. UNESCO / GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK GRANT for Geoparks in Africa and the Arab States

UNESCO and Global Geoparks Network Grants supports the creation of Geoparks in Africa and the Arab States.

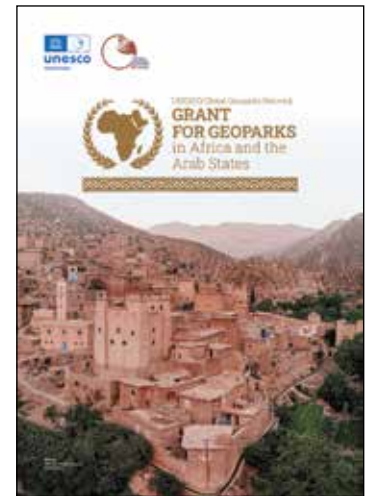
UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network launched a joint initiative to promote the Geopark concept in Africa and the Arab States, in April 2022.

The UNESCO/Global Geoparks Network Grant is a tailor-made consultancy service specifically designed to support local teams to develop a UNESCO Geopark project. The grant includes several steps and actions, like:

- Analysis of the territory
- Field missions.
- On-line assistance
- Training.

During 2022 the following two field missions were organized

- Field mission in Baringo Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark (Kenya)
- Field mission in Dahar Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark (Tunisia).



Field mission in Baringo Great Rift Valley Aspiring UNESCO Geopark (Kenya)

This first mission of the UNESCO/GGN grants was in Baringo Great Rift Valley territory (Kenya) and it was undertaken by the GGN Experts Kristin Rangnes (Norway) and Artur Sà (Portugal). The field mission took place between 23rd of May and 1st of June 2022. The aim was to advise the territory and to evaluate the state of development of the application to become UNESCO Global Geopark.

The Global Geoparks Network produced a “video travel diary” to follow them on the field. The videos have been uploaded on the GGN website at the following link:

<https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?p=6741>

Field mission in Dahar Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark (Tunisia)

This special advisory mission was organized in Dahar Aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark (Tunisia) as part of the UNESCO/GGN grants initiative in order to accelerate the development of UNESCO Global Geoparks on the African continent. The mission was undertaken by the GGN Experts Guerraz André (France) and Ibrahim Komoo (Malaysia). The field mission took place between August 23rd to September 1st, 2022.

The field mission to Tunisia lasted 10 days, including 7 days in the field surveying geosites, historical and cultural sites, and meeting with the local population, and 3 days in Tunis for discussions and meetings with several key ministries and stakeholders.

The Global Geoparks Network produced a video to follow them on the field. The video has been uploaded on the GGN facebook page:

<https://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?p=7821>

VI.4. UNESCO / GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK in Small Island Developing States

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) have launched a joint initiative to promote the Geopark concept in Small Island Developing States.

The UNESCO/Global Geoparks Network Grant is a tailor-made consultancy service specifically designed to support local teams to develop a Geopark project. The grant includes several steps and actions. GGN Experts advise and accompany the granted territory from the initial idea to the official application as UNESCO Global Geopark.

The UNESCO/Global Geoparks Network Grant is a tailor-made consultancy service specifically designed to support local teams to develop a UNESCO Geopark project. The grant includes several steps and actions, like:

- Analysis of the territory
- Field missions.
- On-line assistance
- Training.

VI.5. New UNESCO Global Geoparks

VI.5.1. New UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022

The UNESCO Executive Board during its 214 EX/9 on May 13th, 2022 unanimously endorsed the decisions made by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council during its fifth digital meeting in December 2022 and decided to nominate, as listed below, 8 new UNESCO Global Geoparks for the period 2022-2025:

- Ries (Germany)
- Platåbergen (Sweden)
- Méllerdall (Luxembourg)
- Buzău Land (Romania)
- Salpausselkä (Finland)
- Kefalonia-Ithaca (Greece)
- Caminhos dos Cânions do Sul (Brazil)
- Seridó (Brazil).

VI.5.2. New UNESCO Global Geoparks 2023

The UNESCO Executive Board during its 216 EX/7 on May 15th, 2023 unanimously endorsed the decisions of 18 new UNESCO Global Geoparks and the extension of one existing UNESCO Global Geopark (more than 10% of the existing area) for the period 2023-2026 made by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council during its 8th meeting held during the 7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium, in Satun UNESCO Global Geopark, Thailand, on 4 and 5 September 2022, and online from 7 to 9 December 2022:

- Caçapava (Brazil)
- Quarta Colônia (Brazil)
- Lavreotiki (Greece)
- Ijen (Indonesia)
- Maros Pangkep (Indonesia)
- Merangin Jambi (Indonesia)
- Raja Ampat (Indonesia)
- Aras (Iran)
- Tabas (Iran)
- Hakusan Tedorigawa (Japan)
- Kinabalu (Malaysia)
- Waitaki Whitestone (New Zealand)
- Sunnhordland (Norway)
- Bohol (Philippines)
- Jeonbuk West Coast (Republic of Korea)
- Cabo Ortegal (Spain)
- Khorat (Thailand)
- Mourne Gullion Strangford (United Kingdom)
- Kütralkura (Chile) (Extension)

Thus since 2023 there are 195 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 48 countries.

New UNESCO Global Geoparks



2022 2023



Buzău Land Unesco Global Geopark, Romania



Kefalonia-Ithaca Unesco Global Geopark, Greece



Méllerdall Unesco Global Geopark, Luxemburg



Platåbergens Unesco Global Geopark, Sweden



Ries Unesco Global Geopark, Germany



Salpausselkä Unesco Global Geopark, Finland



Seridó Unesco Global Geopark, Brazil



Southern Canyons Pathways Unesco Global Geopark, Brazil



Hakusan Tedorigawa Unesco Global Geopark, Japan



Waitaki Whitestone Unesco Global Geopark, New Zealand



Khora Unesco Global Geopark, Thailand



Ijen Unesco Global Geopark, Indonesia



Mares Pangkep Unesco Global Geopark, Indonesia



Kinabalu Unesco Global Geopark, Malaysia



Merangin Jambi Unesco Global Geopark, Indonesia



Jeonbuk West Coast Unesco Global Geopark, Republic Of Korea



Raja Ampat Unesco Global Geopark, Indonesia



Tabas Unesco Global Geopark, Iran



Bohol Unesco Global Geopark, Philippines



Aras Unesco Global Geopark, Iran



Sunnhordland Unesco Global Geopark, Norway



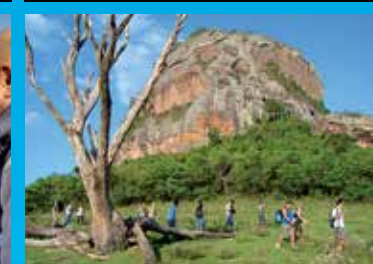
Cabo Ortegal Unesco Global Geopark, Spain



Lavreotiki Unesco Global Geopark, Greece



Mourne Gullion Strangford Unesco Global Geopark, UK & N.Ireland



Caçapava Unesco Global Geopark, Brazil



Quarta Colonia Unesco Global Geopark, Brazil

CHAPTER VII

GEOPARKS' CONFERENCES & FORUMS

VII.1. 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2023

According to the GGN Statutes "The GGN shall hold an International Geoparks Conference every two years".

The GGN Executive Board discussed issues related with the effective organization of the 10th International Conference which will be organized in M'goun UNESCO Global Geopark (Morocco) 7th to 11th September 2023. From 4th to 6th September 2023 will be organized the parallel meetings.

The International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks is the most important event of our Network. The GGN Executive Board encourages all colleagues to participate in this important International Conference. The Conference will give the opportunity to all Geoparks to connect, discuss best practices deriving from successful projects, immerse themselves in diverse cultures, network and build stronger and effective partnerships and collaborations.

Conference website: www.mgounngn2023.org



VII.2. 11th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2025

The GGN Executive Board in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat circulated the Call for Host of the 11th International Conference on Geoparks 2025.

The Host of the 11th International Conference on Geoparks 2025 will be announced during the Closing Ceremony of the 10th International Conference on Geoparks which will be held in M'goun UNESCO Global Geopark, Morocco.

VII.3. Regional Geoparks Conferences & meetings

After the end of the COVID-19 pandemic the GGN Regional Geoparks Networks restarted the organization of their conferences and meetings.

During September 2022 two important Geopark Conferences were successfully organized by the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (7th Asian Pacific Geoparks Network - APGN Symposium) and the European Geoparks Network (16th European Geoparks Conference).

A. European Geoparks Network

A.1. 16th EGN Conference (26 - 30 September 2022)

The 16th EUROPEAN GEOPARKS CONFERENCE was organized by Sesia - Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark in Verbania, Lago Maggiore, Piedmont - Italy, and was held from 26 to 30 September 2022. The slogan chosen for this conference was "Nature, culture and sustainability in the climate and environmental change", to share and exchange information, experience and knowledge among UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The Geopark's motto "Where stone becomes culture" was the recognition of the importance of the local stones in the cultural landscape and architectural achievements, such as the Milan Cathedral.



More than 420 participants attended the conference, coming from 44 countries, representatives of UNESCO Global Geoparks, representatives of local authorities, representatives of aspiring Geoparks, geo-scientists, researchers and students.

The 16th European Geoparks Conferences proved to be excellent opportunity for all Geopark representatives to meet and exchange ideas and information.

Parallel to the Conference a set of other relevant events and initiatives took place:

- The EGN Advisory Committee Meeting, on 26th September
- The EGN Working Groups
- The 46th meeting of the European Geoparks Network's Coordination Committee
- Geo-fairs exhibition.

A.2. Other EGN meetings

During the period 2022 - 2023 the following main events with physical presence took place:

- The 45th European Geoparks Spring Meeting took place on 26th to 30th April 2022 and was organized by De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark (Netherlands) in collaboration with TERRA.vita UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany).
- The 47th EGN Coordination Committee meeting took place from 27th to 31st of March 2023 in Hateg County UGp, Romania.

B. Asia Pacific Geoparks Network

B.1. 7th APGN Symposium (4-11 September 2022)

The 7th Asia Pacific Geopark Symposium took place in Satun UNESCO Global Geopark, Satun Province, Thailand.

The theme of the 7th APGN focused on "UNESCO Global Geoparks Building Sustainable Communities". More than 400 participants had the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas in person and even more through videoconference.

During the Symposium presented examples of best practice in the Geoparks' operation and management, in networking and collaboration among Geoparks and in building stronger and more effective partnerships and collaborations.

Parallel to the 7th APGN Symposium the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council discussed on the aspiring the Geoparks' applications and revalidation reports.

During the Symposium the APGN Coordination Committee elected the new Coordinators and the APGN Advisory Committee.



C. Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network

C.1. 6th Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network Conference

The 6th GeoLAC Conference took place from 9th to 11th November 2022 in hybrid format and was organized by Imbabura UNESCO Global Geopark (Ecuador).

The Conference gave the opportunity to representatives and Geopark professionals from the Latin America and Caribbean regions to discuss examples of best practices, to learn about advances, innovations, exchange experiences and discuss about opportunities for cooperation and strengthen capacities geared towards inclusive local development.

The conference included a field tour to the Cotacachi Volcanic Geosite Complex - Cuicocha, one of the 100 most attractive and important geosites in the world, located in Imbabura territory.



C.2. 2nd Regional Workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Latin America and Caribbean

The 2nd Regional Workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Latin America and Caribbean “Workshop for the strengthening of Geoparks Projects: Tools for sustainable development in the Southern Cone, Latin America” was successfully held from June 19th to June 22nd, 2022.

It was organized by the UNESCO Montevideo Office, the Congress of Mayors and the Municipalities of Cerro Largo and Rivera, with the support of the National Geoparks Committee of Uruguay, the Grutas del Palacio UGGp and the Geoparks Network for Latin America and the Caribbean (GeoLAC). During the workshop participated representatives of 11 Geopark projects who exchange experiences, discussed with the community and visit important geosites.

D. African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network

D.1. First Regional Geopark Capacity Building Workshop for Africa

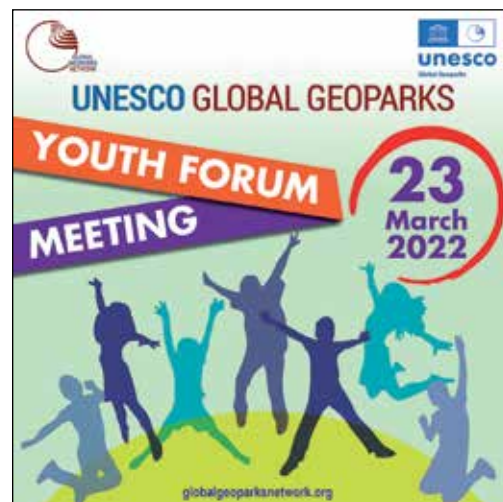
The first capacity-building workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Africa took place in Kenya on December 13-15, 2022 organized by UNESCO with the support of the GGN and AUGGN. Kristin Rangnes, GGN Treasure represented the GGN in the workshop.

VII.4. Youth Forum meetings

A. 2nd UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Forum (23 March 2022)

The GGN Executive Board in collaboration with the UNESCO Secretariat decided at its 63rd Meeting which took place in Beijing the establishment of the new initiative “UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM”. The main purpose of the Youth Forum is to offer young people an opportunity to engage more concretely in the preparation of the philosophy mandate and activities of the UNESCO Global Geoparks and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want.

The 2nd UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Forum took place on 23rd March 2022 virtually. During the 2nd UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Meeting were discussed the activities of the Geoparks Youth Forum worldwide to promote UNESCO Global Geoparks and initiatives on geoheritage conservation, promotion, education, geotourism and sustainable development.



B. 1st UNESCO Global Geopark Youth Forum Seminar and Camp

The 1st UNESCO Global Geopark Youth Forum Seminar and Camp was realized in hybrid form at Batur UNESCO Global Geopark, Bali (Indonesia) from 14th -17th of September 2022. Countries hosting UNESCO Global Geoparks were represented in the Forum with youth delegates engaged with UNESCO Global Geoparks that believe in their power of making changes and aim to become influential within their communities.

VII.5. Presentation and Promotion of Geoparks in International Tourism Market

The GGN Executive Board Members in collaboration with the Regional Geoparks Networks, and GGN members made special efforts to raise Geoparks visibility in the International Tourism Market and for the promotion of the UNESCO Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destination.



A. Expo 2020 Dubai

“The art of geological heritage conservation at UNESCO Arab-Regions” was the theme of the event that organized during the Expo 2020 Dubai presented the concept of UNESCO Global Geoparks. Dr. Nickolas Zouros, President of the Global Geoparks Network presented the Grant and the Mentorship programme which tools are aiming to support the aspiring UNESCO Global Geopark sites in Arab region. Dr. Driss Achbal, President of M’Goun Geopark Association in Morocco presented the activities undertaken each year in this pioneer site in the Arab region and talked about the challenges faced by M’Goun UNESCO Global Geopark. Dr. Elsa Sattout presented the concept of UNESCO Global Geopark and examples from UNESCO Global Geoparks from all over the world.

B. International Tourism fair Madrid – FITUR Madrid 2022 (January 2022)

With great success was organized the event of the Spanish Geoparks Forum in collaboration with the Global Geoparks Network in FITUR promoting the tourism offer of Geoparks. The event organized on 19th of January 2022 with the participation of all the Spanish UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The Geoparks’ event started with the presentation and greetings by the Maestrazgo and Sobrarbe UNESCO Global Geoparks Presidents and the Tourism Minister of Aragón. During the event Jose M. Barrera, Coordinator of the Spanish Geoparks Forum presented the new website and the Spanish Geoparks Forum activities. Geopark’s presentation in FITUR contributed significantly to our common efforts to raise the profile and visibility of the UNESCO Global Geoparks as quality brand in tourism and sustainable tourism destinations.



Activities in FITUR 2022

On the 3rd of November 2022 took place the annual meeting of the Spanish Geoparks at the Orígens UNESCO Global Geopark in the town of Tremp.

An extensive and intense agenda in which Geopark representatives reviewed the Forum Action Plan, discussed on the upcoming FITUR, the Open Days, joint publications, new webinars and joint projects to continue improving and learning from each other.

In addition, the Coordinating Board has been chosen for the next two years: Jose Maria Barrera, Karmah Shalma and Leire Barriuso will exercise coordination, vice coordinator and secretary.

The magazine “Discover the Geoparks of Spain” was a publication of about 100 full-color pages in which are presented the 15 UNESCO Spanish Geoparks. The presentation of 2022 edition had the support of El Hierro Geopark, the Cabildo del Hierro and the Government of the Canary Islands.

C. International Tourism fair Madrid – FITUR Madrid 2023 (January 2023)

The Spanish Geoparks Forum organized in FITUR 2023 with great success an event for the promotion of the tourism offer of Geoparks.

The event was organized on the 18th of January 2023 with the participation of the Spanish UNESCO Global Geoparks. During the event the Spanish Geoparks presented their activities and progress as well as the new edition of their magazine “Discover the Geoparks of Spain”.

The presentation lasted approximately 30 minutes with the participation of the

President of the Government of the Canary Islands Angel Victor Torres, the president of the Cabildo de El Hierro Alpidio Armas and the coordinator of the Spanish Geoparks Forum Jose Maria Barrera. Jose M. Barrera, Coordinator of the Spanish Geoparks Forum, presented the new website and the Spanish Geoparks Forum activities.

The magazine “Discover the geoparks of Spain” is a publication of about 100 full-color pages in which are presented the 15 UNESCO Spanish Geoparks. The presentation of the edition had the support of El Hierro Geopark, the Cabildo del Hierro and the Government of the Canary Islands. The Geopark’s presentation in FITUR contributed significantly to our common efforts to raise the profile and visibility of the UNESCO Global Geoparks as quality brand in tourism and sustainable tourism destinations.

Activities in FITUR 2023

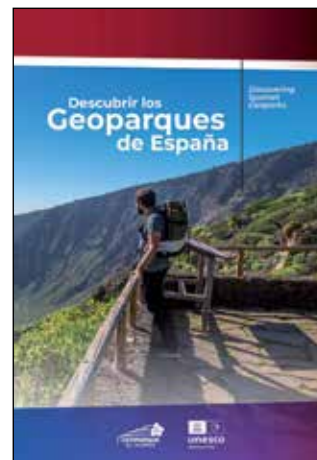
On January 23rd took place a Spanish Geoparks Promotional Event dedicated to the presentation of the Spanish UNESCO Global Geoparks magazine. The event took place for 5 days, with approximately 8,500 participants, 131 countries, 1100 media outlets, 755 starting exhibitors and an average of 80 to 90 thousand people visit.

An event for the presentation of the 15th European Geoparks Conference was held at the pavilion of Andalucía.

Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark presented the new tourist material of the geopark, with the presence of numerous mayors from their Mancomunidad Integral Villuercas Ibores Jara and companies from Geovilluercas and APRODERVI.

VII.6. GGN Presentation and Promotion in International Conferences and Meetings

The GGN Executive Board Members in collaboration with the Regional Geoparks Networks, National Fora/ Committees, and GGN members made special efforts for the presentation International Conferences and Meetings of GGN and the UNESCO Global Geoparks as well as the activities and achievements of the Global Geoparks in geoconservation, education, geotourism and sustainable development.



CHAPTER VIII

COLLABORATION WITH THE IUGS

The Global Geoparks Network has a very close collaboration with IUGS since 2004. IUGS played a vital role to the development of the Global Geoparks Network since its foundation, as an IUGS representative was member of the GGN Bureau since 2005. Since 2016 with the creation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, an IUGS representative is member of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council.

The Global Geoparks Network Executive Board members with the 3.1./122/08.02.2022 decided to invite as observer in the GGN Executive Board meetings Dr. Asier Hilario, IUGS International Commission on Geoheritage Chair.

6 experts from GGN participated in the IUGS desktop assessment for UGp proposals in 2023.

The IUGS and the GGN created a mixed working group to develop the new guidelines for the International significance desktop assessment. These guidelines will facilitate substantially the work of the applicants to create a well structured dossier and the work of the IUGS evaluators to make a clear desktop assessment.

The GGN was represented by Asier Hilario to the IUGS Executive Committee Meeting in Belfast in 2023.

In 2022 the IUGS reactivated a long demanded programme of recognition of Geological Heritage Sites of the highest scientific value. GGN is partner of the IUGS for this initiative which was realized with the important support of the IGCP-731 project.



The First 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites



The announcement of the First 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites and the IUGS Zumaia declaration signed in the Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark from 25 to 28 of October 2022 and open a new, collaborative and exciting program for the recognition of geological heritage and geological sciences.

Many UNESCO Global Geoparks participated in the assessment exercise which was carried out by a wide and collaborative group of more than 250 experts from all around the globe.

This recognition ratifies the selected geological heritage sites of the highest scientific value. They are the sites that served to develop the science of geology. They are the world’s best demonstration of geological features and processes.

The initiative to establish a list of the world’s top sites of geological interest was taken by the International Union of Geological Sciences in collaboration with UNESCO. In that context, the International Geological Heritage Committee (IUGS-IGC) undertook the implementation of an International Programme for the inventory and evaluation of the first 100 Geological Heritage Sites.

According to the Commission, an IUGS Geological Heritage Site is defined as a site that has geological features and/or geological processes of international scientific importance, that is used as a reference and/or has made a significant contribution to the development of the geosciences over time.

10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2023

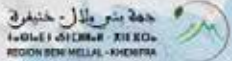
7 – 11 September 2023

4 – 6 September 2023 parallel meetings

M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark (Morocco)

تحت الرعاية الملكية السامية لصاحب الجلالة الملك محمد السادس
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Under The High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI

The Global Geoparks Network, the Beni Mellal-Khenifra Regional Council
and the M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark



ORGANIZE

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THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

THEME :

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS
DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES

FROM SEPTEMBER 7TH to 9TH 2023
IN MARRAKECH

FROM SEPTEMBER 10TH to 11TH 2023
IN M'GOUN GEOPARC

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