

韶关市丹霞山管理委员会

2020 ANNUAL REPORT OF DANXIASHAN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Danxiashan UNESCO Global Geopark, China, CGN

Year of inscription: 2004

Year of the last revalidation: 2016

Representative works:

On the Earth Day in April 2020, Danxiashan UGGp initiated with Yandangshan UGGp the ‘Sister Geoparks Joint Exhibition and Interaction’ as a programme of the ‘1st APGN Geoparks Week’ with Yandangshan UGGp. A total of 12 Chinese global and inspiring geoparks including Danxiashan, Yandangshan, Huangshan, Lushan, Taishan, Zhangjiajie, Leye Fengshan, Sanqingshan, Leiqiong, Jiuhuashan, Longyan and Xiangxi had jointly organized a series of activities such as Geopark Photography Exhibition, Science Knowledge Award Q&A and Popular Science On Campus. Millions of people had participated in the events both online and offline. It was a post-pandemic inter-provincial interaction activity to celebrate the effective control of the COVID-19 pandemic and the reopening of geoparks in China. The brand of UGGp had received extensive coverage by local media and attention from the public.



‘Sister Geoparks Joint Exhibition and Interaction’ in Danxiashan during ‘The 1st APGN Geoparks Week’

Activities to commemorate the 10th anniversary of China Danxia’s inclusion in the World Natural Heritage list were held in August 2020. These activities included the 2020 Danxiashan Science Popularization Volunteers Training Camp, Nature Observation Contest, Summer Field Study Month and the 3rd ‘Danxiashan Cup’ of National Photography Exhibition. Other important activities such as le, the 2020 Danxiashan Wild Plant Identification Competition which had attracted 1,200 contestants from 300 teams, including representatives of forestry administrations of different cities, teachers and college students and families to experience the fun of acquiring knowledge in ecology and plants. The competition attracted tremendous attention of the public.

From October to December 2020, several sports events were held in Danxiashan. They included the 13th Hiking Through Danxiashan (15,000 participants), Danxiashan International Mountain Marathon (with 10,000 participants), Danxiashan Bike Race (nearly 10,000 participants), Finals of Guangdong Mountain Running Series and Danxia 100 Mountain Running Race (with 1,500

participants). The successful and safe organization of these events represent the high resilience of Danxiashan UGGp after the COVID pandemic. They have helped the promotion of the great potential of outdoor sports market and set an excellent example of enhancing the tourism of all geoparks in China.



Sports events in Danxiashan UGGp

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of geopark staff members: 372 staff members including 20 geoscientists

Number of visitors: 1,582,000 (dropped from the same period of last year due to the COVID-19)

Number of geopark events: A total of 200 science popularization events, 5 tourism and cultural events were solely organised by Danxiashan UGGp. Also, 10 theme activities had been organized jointly with other organizations and partners.

Number of schools / classes involving geopark educational program: In 2020, 400 primary and high school teachers in Shaoguan had been offered science popularisation training in Danxiashan UGGp. The outreach programme of ‘China Danxia on Campus’ entitled

Danxiashan: Spectacular Nature in the World in forms of book exhibition and science lectures were held in more than 50 universities and schools. In addition, 20 online science popularisation training courses were organized with a total of over 100,000 participants with hundreds and thousands of students carried out field study in the geopark.

Number of press release: A total of 7 news reports had been submitted and adopted by CGN.

There were also 6 news reports being submitted and accepted by the GGN.



Special training programmes organised for tutors and teachers of nature education and field study

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2020

- Continual promotion of Danxiashan as a mountain and geopark for science popularisation and research. Three iconic brands of science popularisation were strengthened which comprised Danxiashan Science Popularisation Volunteers, China Danxia on Campus and Danxiashan Nature Academy.

- Danxiashan UGGp had been selected as the Field Study Centre for Primary and High School Students on July 16, 2020. The centre served the purposes of providing venue, facilities and training to achieve science popularisation. Danxiashan UGGp had continued to be regarded as a model for natural education, field study and science popularisation in China.
- The geopark had also been selected as the National Forestry and Grassland's Long-term Scientific Research Centre on May 7, 2020.



Science Popularisation Volunteers Training Camp of Danxiashan UGGp in 2020

Contributions toward GGN

- Initiated the 1st APGN Geoparks Week by organising the Sister Geoparks Joint Exhibition and Interaction with other 11 Chinese global geoparks and aspiring geoparks on the Earth Day in April 2020.

- Invited staff of Zhangjiajie & Leye-Fengshan UGGps to participate the Science Popularisation Volunteers Training Camp in Danxiashan UGGp in August 2020.
- Attended the Annual Conference of Chinese UNESCO Global Geoparks in October 2020 and shared the experience of community engagement and supports.
- Attended the 1st GGN Digital Forum in November 2020.
- Received representatives from Wuhuangshan National Geopark of Pubei, Guangxi Province, Alxa UGGp of Inner Mongolia, etc.
- Visited Guangwushan-Nuoshuihe UGGp of Sichuan Province and Taining UGGp of Fujian Province and exchanged conservation and management experiences with their geopark representatives.
- Established sister park relationship with Xiangxi UGGp of Hunan Province in June 2020.

Management and Financial Status

- The efficient management was determined to impose strict protection measures in the geopark and had achieved targets of ‘zero tourist complaint’, ‘zero safety accident’, ‘zero geological disaster’, ‘zero geosites damage’ and ‘zero environmental pollution’ in 2020.
- Danxiashan UGGp had a well-balanced financial status and sound budget. Revenue was derived from ticket sale to tourists and financial allocation and support from Shaoguan City Government and Guangdong Province.

Geoconservation and Bioconservation

- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (drones) and wild-land firefighting aircrafts were used to monitor and conserve the geopark.
- Explored and monitored potential dangers caused by Nature and human activities in the core area of Danxiashan. Real-time monitoring of geological disasters at high risk area

such as at Eyupashan (Crocodile Climbing the Mountain).



Daily geological safety inspection

- Published *Comprehensive Field Practice Course of Ecological Environment*, reports on new species including *Primulina huangjiniana*, *Didymoplexis pallens* Griff/ *Odontochilus saprophyticus* (Aver.) Ormerod (new records). It also carried out researches on the resources of vertebrates, fungi and bamboo in the mountain.
- Installed forest fire prevention facilities including water storage, pipes and fire extinguishers. Routine forest patrol was conducted to preserve biodiversity and bio-security of the geopark.

Sustainable Development of Tourism (Geotourism)

- Upgraded the field study trails in Zhanglaofeng and Yangyuanshan Scenic Areas. New trails were built along riverside and roadside to divert visitors and separate them from vehicles for safety reasons. Apart from these, new themed trails and facilities for bird,

butterfly and glow worm were set up to serve the needs of special interests and science popularisation.



New Education Programs of Geoconservation, Sustainable Development and Reducing Geohazards

- Public and schools talks on prevention of forest fire, climate and geological disasters were organised to enhance the knowledge of the public and students. Early warning and emergency retreat plans were formulated for the protection of people.
- Completed the research projects on ‘Restrains of red basin deposition on the evolution of Danxia landscape-- taking Danxiashan as an example’ and the ‘Study on the uplifting

process of red bed in Danxiashan’. Another research on ‘Clarification of formation of Cretaceous red beds in Danxiashan and the definition of Danxia landscape’ had just started.

- Continued to develop the concept of Danxiashan Science Popularisation Town. Professional science popularisation tutors had been trained and 27 centres and classrooms were designed to serve such purpose. These included the over 60 free activities organised by Nanling Ecological Centre and Meteorological Science Museum. There were more than 300 science popularisation activities arranged in form of Danxiashan Nature Observation Series and had the participation of nearly 100,000 teenagers and public. Rural women were trained to develop courtyard economy in their villages around Danxiashan such as Xinlong Village. Rural fairs attracted more visitors to the countryside to help the development of rural economy and providing chances for villagers to integrate into the geopark development.

Strategic Partners

- Co-operated with universities and research institutes including China University of Geosciences (Wuhan), Sun Yat-sen University and East China University of Technology. More than 2,750 university students in form of 50 teams visited and studied in Danxiashan in 2020.

Promotional Activities

- Prominent advertisements of Danxiashan UGGp and World Natural Heritage can be sighted at major railway stations at Shaoguan, Guangzhou South, Shenzhen North, Beijing West Train Stations as well as at the Beijing International Airport. Danxiashan UGGp had worked with 10 leading travel agencies including Guangzhilv Co., Ltd. and China Travel of Hong Kong Co., Ltd., to publicise on newspapers, social media and buses. The geopark

representatives had also joined the Shaoguan Administration of Tourism in various tourism promotion activities of Shaoguan.

- Sixteen field study and nature education online lectures were organised. The most popular ones were the ‘National Treasure Danxia’ live streaming, and Science Popularization Video Contest on Tiktok.
- New science promotional videos, promotional materials such as science popularisation pamphlets and leaflets were produced and extensively distributed.
- Art and Photography Exhibitions with the theme of ‘Beautiful Scenery & Paintings of Danxiashan in Dongguan City’, Danxiashan Ancient Stone Rubbings Exhibition in Shaoguan City and Danxiashan were organised.

4. CONTACTS

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