

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Bergstrasse-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark, Germany, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2002 / 2021



RURITAGE Photo exhibition with Lesvos UGG



Celebration of award "Geotope 2022"

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 19 staffs including 3 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: Selection of Geopark sites: Sea of Rocks: 200.000 visitors, Buchen Showcave: 70.000 visitors, UNESCO WHS Messel Pit 36.000 visitors, Treasure Island Kühkopf 40.000 visitors.

Number of Geopark events: > 1000 events, half planned by management body and half by local partners

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 137

Number of Geopark press release: > 1000

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- Numerous new Geopoint infopanel, trails (e.g. trail of history, trail of springs)
- Continuation of EU RURITAGE project with numerous activities (Photo exhibition, troubadour book, Ranger videos, final UNESCO conference) with termination 31/8/2022
- Awards "Geotope of the year 2022" and "Fruit tree of the year 2022"
- Cooperation "Young Forest Art", "International Forest Art Trail 2022" and UNESCO WHS Messel Pit (new art pieces at WHS Messel Pit)
- Vocational trainings for Rangers, Geopark on site teams and stakeholders
- Climate Heroes: citizen science project "climate & forest", "climate and nutrition"
- 20th anniversary "European Geopark" with celebration
- Extension of ESD station in Mömlingen & temporary bats exhibition

- Cooperation with UNESCO City of Heidelberg & UNESCO WHS Messel Pit: Author's lectures & writing workshops (also in cooperation with University of Applied Sciences, Darmstadt)

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Catalyst of the SDG working group and compilation for Mother Earth Day 2022 activities
- EGN-Week 2022: 40 events dedicated to the 20th anniversary as European Geopark
- Catalyst of EGN Newsletters 21, 22 and 23
- Lesvos Digital Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022: Online Presentation on Global Agenda 2030 in UNESCO Global Geoparks
- EGN Spring meeting (De Hondsrug) & EGN Annual Conference (Sesia Val Grande): 2 oral presentations, SDG Postcard for Conference participants
- UNESCO Workshop on multi-designated Sites, Huangshan Geopark, China (online): Oral presentation
- International RURITAGE Summer School Finland: Oral presentation
- Several online exchanges with UGG Hongkong, Lesvos & aUGG Egypt
- International RURITAGE Photo exhibition with UGG Lesvos including cooperation contract
- Several meetings of National Forum of UGGps in Germany including Workshop

Management and Financial Status

- Management solid, financial situation sound, budget 2.195000 Euro, additional funds from Hesse, Bavaria & Baden Württemberg

Geoconservation

- Continuation of cooperation with Historical Mining Association, e.g. Grube Gnade Gottes, Marie in der Kohlbach (historical mines), Marbach mapping project
- Anniversary "20 years of award "Geotope of the year" and celebration of Geotope of the Year 2022" (Baryte Canyon)

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Cooperation with destination "Bergstrasse-Odenwald": lecturer participation in vocational training for guest guides, brochures, visitor guidance

New education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- 2 new Geo-Naturpark kindergardens, support of Geo-N schools & UNESCO Project School
- ESD Platform implemented, SDG Rollup & postcards, development of ESD programmes
- Educational Playing Card game (in cooperation with UNESCO WHS Messel Pit)
- Implementation of Geolab in Reichelsheim (e.g. thin section preparation & microscopy)
- Participation in Funding Project of the German Environment Foundation: ESD in German UNESCO Global Geoparks

Strategic partnership

- Cooperation contract with Klima Arena Sinsheim
- Cooperation contract with UNESCO WHS Messel Pit
- Cooperation contract with UGG Lesvos
- Cooperation contract with Naturepark Neckartal-Odenwald
- Preparation of cooperation with Schulz Foundation (ESD / MINT)
- Preparation of cooperation with Homo heidelbergensis Foundation
- Membership in "Protection Association of the German Forest"
- Membership in "Castle Landscape Association"

Promotional activities

- 2 Geopark Magazines, 6 Geopark Newsletters, several brochures, hiking and cycling maps, numerous media releases, advertorials, contributions to partner magazines and publications, new Geopark Rollups, videos, new Geopark website, new Geopark information terminals for Geopark facilities, social media.

4. CONTACTS

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