

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Causses du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark (France, European Geoparks Network)

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

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 24 staffs including 3 geoscientists

**Number of visitors:** total for major geosites in 2022 = 198 000

**Number of Geopark events:** Géoparks Week with 12 events organised.  
17 events by Géopark

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** 16 school classes, 580 participants (*My pebble is a treasure, Paleontologist's seed, The adventure of the soft pebble*).

**Number of Geopark press release:** 29



One of the seven sculptures "My village, my fossil"

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2022

- Creation of 7 sculptures of extinct animals "My village, my fossil".
- Citizen Observatory : participatory observatory to increase knowledge of natural and cultural heritage
- The new Geopark house with administrative offices

### Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation in the 45th EGN CC meeting in De Hondsrug UGG
- Participation in the 46th EGN CC meeting in Seisa Val Grande UGGp Italy
- Participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> european Geoparks conference in Seisa Val Grande UGGp Italy
- Participation in the general assembly of French Géoparks network
- Participation to the publication "geodiversity in Unesco Global Geoparks"
- Contribution EGN Newsletter 22 and European geoparks Magazine 19

## Management and Financial Status

- Budget 2022 : 2 300 000 €

### **Geoconservation**

- Participatory workshop (inhabitants) to clean-up old and unauthorized landfills in Couanac phosphorite cave (a partnership with the local speleology committee).
- Intrakarst observatory (end) : modelling of the hydrological system of the Ouyse
- Excavation of the dolmen of Pech Laglaire 1
- The night party : raise awareness of nocturnal biodiversity and light pollution

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

- Préparation of the second phase of requalification on the Cloup d'Aural geosite with a project for a house for the geological natural reserve and an permanent exhibition
- Design study of geopark furniture for visitor sites
- Pecten maximus, a shell shelter on the St James Way

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

- The eco-renovation caravan: a meeting place for renovation projects and local craftsmen and architects
- New scientific research project on phosphorite cave fossils.
- New study "Underground waters of the Causse de Saint Chels"
- Training sessions for partners (Geoparc) and elected representatives (National nature reserve of geological interest)
- Revival study for the wool industry

### **Strategic partnership**

- Chamber of Trades and Crafts; National education; Architectural, urban planning and environmental consultancy, etc
- UGG Sobrabre (Spain) and UGG Famenne Ardenne on megalithic
- The local speleology committee (regional congress of speleology)

### **Promotional activities**

- Ecological tale about phosphorite caves
- Photo book of Geopark

## **4. CONTACTS**

**Manager:** Catherine Marlas (President), [catherine.marlas@lot.fr](mailto:catherine.marlas@lot.fr)

**Geologist:** Vincent Biot (Coordinator), [vbiot@parc-causses-du-quercy.org](mailto:vbiot@parc-causses-du-quercy.org)