

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2021

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark, Norway. Regional Network: EGN

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2006 / 2021



Celebrating The Norwegian National Day of Geology

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: Seven staff members including three geologists and two persons dedicated to cleaning ocean project.

Number of visitors: Entrance to all Geopark localities is free of charge and open all year around. Hence the visitors are not directly countable. Several geopark sites are in popular tourist destinations and have several 1000 visitors every year and geopark information and visibility give added value to these sites.

Participants on organised tours open for all: Due to covid-19 the number of open tours were reduced, but despite this we managed to have different activities for about 300 persons.

Number of Geopark events: 15 face to face events

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 29 classes, several of them over several days.

Number of Geopark press release: 3

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2021

- Opened four new geopark sites/places with geopark visibility
- Managed to have open guided tours and events despite the corona restrictions.
- “Geoscientist for a day” had even more participants (school classes) than before.
- Successful revalidation, number 4

- Won the bid for project for cleaning beaches in two of the geopark communities, this will be work for two persons for 1,5 years and many classes can participate in this important activity.
- Common projects with Estrela UGGp/Reykjanes UGGp and with Balaton-Bakony UGGp (visit postponed until 2022 because of Covid-19)

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- General manager is GGN treasurer and EGN coordinator and in regular contact with representatives from other Geoparks in the EGN-network.
- General manager attend the EGN-meeting in Croatia. No physical meeting happened in 2020 but delegates were present at all EGN and GGN digital forum meetings.

Management and Financial Status

- Gea Norvegica Geopark is an inter-municipal company. The Geopark is owned by seven municipalities and one county. The Geopark is financed by the owners, according to a legal agreement and have additional funding from projects and support from the national government. The Geopark have four full time positions, and one part-time position

Geoconservation

- According to Norwegian law and local regulations, the Geopark panels are equipped with intervention about how to behave and we cooperate with relevant authorities. Municipalities are maintaining their geosites. All natural heritage conservation is done in agreement with the relevant body (The County Governor).

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Participation with local tourism enterprises and small-scale partners. Focus on knowledge-based tourism.

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

- Geologist and scientist for a day is an educational program targeting 8th graders, where the main idea is to do field work in the school yard, instead of using recourses to travel far away. After ended field work, they use professional tools and methods to analyze their samples in the lab.
- Marin litter is a program for classes of all ages, where we travel to schools and talk about problems surrounding plastic pollution in the sea, before we bring them outside to clean beaches inside our geopark.

Strategic partnership

- Partnerships with local enterprises and hotels. Norwegian University of Life Sciences, University of Oslo, Natural history Museum. Friluftsrådet, University of South East Norway, Telemark museum, Århus Farm, DuVerden science centre and Jomfruland national park.

Promotional activities

- Digital guided tours, general leaflets, website, Facebook and Instagram

4. CONTACTS

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