

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2021

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark, Slovenia-Austria, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2013 / 2021



12-16 October 2021: Revalidation process of the Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 7 staffs including 3 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: Information center World of Geology: 700; Information center Podzemlje Pece, Mežica: 16000; Obir carst caves: 21000; Petzen-Peca: 90000; Guided hiking tours: 3000; Olimpline: 3500; Management center St. Philippen: 1000; Center of sustainability Koprivna: 500

Number of Geopark events: 100

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 80

Number of Geopark press release: 50

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2021

- Press-conference at the Petzen Mountain – presentation of INTERREG NatureGame project and new Geopark Visitor Center Geo.DOM, 3. 9. 2021
- Press-conference at the St. Hema Mountain – re-opening of St. Rosalia cave, 7.9.2021
- New Geopark infrastructure

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation of the Geopark Karawanken/Karavanke in common projects (H2020 Ruritage); participation of the Geopark Karawanken/Karavanke representatives at national Geopark

Forum meetings (SLO and AT); active participation of the Geopark Karawanken/Karavanke representatives at DIGITAL 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks; participation of the Geopark Karawanken/Karavanke representatives at EGN Digital Forums; Implementation of EGN Week 2021

Management and Financial Status

- Crossborder Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark is managed by the organisation EVTZ (EGTC) Geopark Karawanken, m.b.H; Financial status: multi-source financing, stable financial status

Geoconservation

- Participation at the Geoconservation Journal thematic issue with the contribution entitled: Lower Cretaceous Fossil Site near Leše: First Heteromorphic Ammonoid Site in Slovenia and Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- On-going INTERREG projects of the Geopark Karavanke/Karawanken (NaKult, NatureGame, KaraWat) and H2020 project (Ruritage) are dealing with the sustainable development of the Geopark Karavanke area; Implementation a set of weekly programs under the title "Nature experience Geopark Karawanken" from May till October 2021 with different outdoor experiences, several guided hikes, guided visits, bike tours, underground adventures, etc.; Organisation of two excursions for tourist providers in order to visit new "Geopark Infrastructure"

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

- Organisation of several Geopark camps for children with different topics, on the both side of the border; organisation of final event of Geopark school topic (2020/2021) for teachers and educators with the title: Let's explore the world of grasslands; organization of introductory seminar of Geopark school topic (2021/2022) for teachers and educators with the title: Mountains - the world high above us.

Strategic partnership

- Podzemlje Pece, d.o.o., Obir Tropfsteinhöhlen, RRA Koroška, IRSNC - Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation - Regional unit Maribor, Association "Društvo Kulturni dom Pliberk/Bleiburg, Petzen-Bergbahnen GmbH, "Tourismus Region Klopeiner See - Südkärnten", Naturfreunde Österreich Ortsgruppe Petzen, F.S. Immobilienverwaltungs GmbH, A-max, Pirkdorfer See ...

Promotional activities

- Several promotional activities at local, regional and national level, participation at local, regional, national events, radio and TV interviews, contributions for local and regional

newspaper, ...

4. CONTACTS

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