

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Kula - Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, Türkiye, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2013 / 2019

Representative photo with caption (from the most important event this year)



International Geomorphology Symposium 6 – 8 October 2022

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 14 staffs including 4 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: If total number of the visitors to the geopark is difficult to estimate, show the number of the visitors to the major geosite(s), museum or visitor center. 147.000 visitors.

Number of Geopark events: Clarify the events held by management body and cooperative organization: 63

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 19

During 2022, many educational activities were organized in the geopark, most of which were carried out in the form of online and only some were face to face. The main themes were about introducing geoparks, their concept, introducing Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, clean environment,

sustainable development etc during the trainings. Some educational activities were also carried out for important days and weeks, such as World Mountain Day, World Water Day, Mother Earth Day, International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, World Environment Day, Geoparks and sustainable Development, Environment and importance of geoparks.

Number of Geopark press release: 92

Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark has been the subject of the international press 8 times and 84 times in the national press during 2022. We have also participated in a radio program and give a speech about UNESCO geoparks' concept. Besides these, 3 different geopark brochures were published

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- International Geomorphology Symposium 2022 was held in Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark.
- A Cooperation protocol was signed between Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark and the District Directorate of National Education to give education about geopark to high school students in the geopark area. 4705 students at 8 schools were given education about geopark.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Our EGN CC members Prof. Demir and Dr. Aytaç participated in 46th European Geoparks Network Coordination Council Meeting in Milano.
- We attended in 45th Coordination Meeting in De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark in Holland.
- **Management and Financial Status**
- There was no change in Geopark's management body. Geopark budget was increased by 8 million 650 thousand TL.

Geoconservation

- Damaged signage and direction signs were replaced with new ones and some new information boards were introduced at the geopark.
- Regular maintenance and repairs of walkways and guardrails in the area were carried out.
- Some new walkways have been constructed for visitors to explore geosites better.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Students ranging in age from primary school to university were given training in the concept of sustainable development.
- The Geopark Municipalities Union provided financial support to partner organizations and cooperatives..
- Online trainings on sustainable development goals were given to some schools and public

sessions.

- Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark's Coordinator Dr. Serdar Aytaç gave a webinar speech entitled "Geoparks and the Place of Cultural Heritage in Geoparks"

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

- Four face-to-face trainings were given to primary and secondary school students about the importance of water and geo-protection.
- Online trainings were carried out about 11 December World Mountains Day, 13 October Disaster Risk Reduction Day and Environment and Geoparks during 22 May - 7 June Geoparks Week.

Strategic partnership

- Partnership agreements were signed with the representatives of tour companies, restaurants, hotels, associations and cooperatives located in and outside the borders of Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark..
- In cooperation with municipalities located within the geopark territory, geopark carried out some training about "what is geopark and the importance of geopark" to students at summer schools.
- The project named **VR@Geoparks** was organized with the participation of Poland, Portugal, Hungary, Croatia, Turkey, and Italy.
- The TÜBİTAK training, which was held within the scope of Earth Sciences Education 5 in the Çürüksu Basin and was also a partner of Geopark, took place. 40 teachers attended the training.
- The geopark was introduced to students from the Czech Republic and Italy by partnering with the Erasmus+ KA210 project named "Environment and Geoparks".
- Establishing a collaboration ensured participation in the Geology Festival (JEOFEST), which was organized for the first time in Turkey.
- The International Geomorphology Festival (IJES), organized jointly with the Geomorphology Association, took place at the Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark in 2022.
- In order to raise awareness of the geopark, a garbage collection event was organized with the cooperation of some non-governmental organizations.

Promotional activities

- Visitors of all ages visiting the geopark were informed about the geopark and some training activities were organized in the field.
- Several training activities were organized for many schools on different subjects.

- Representatives of the Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark attended the meetings held in Italy and the Netherlands.
- Geopark information training was given to the athletes studying at summer sports schools.
- Various online meetings were attended and training was given on geopark and sustainable development.
- By partnering with different projects, the geopark was promoted both at home and abroad.
- Geopark promotion activities took place on TV, radio, and in newspapers.
- Various promotional videos were shot and shared on social media.
- Promotions were made in digital areas such as social media and website.
- We open a painting stand and handed out brochures about our geopark to participants at the Para (Coin) congress in the Salihli district.
- Kula-Salihli Geopark involved in a tree-planting event and presented on nature conservation and global climate change.
- An introductory presentation made about Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark by participating in the Provincial coordination Board Meeting held in Manisa, at which many senior managers attended.
- An article about the volcanic areas of Kula-Salihli Geopark has been submitted to *Geoparks in Volcanic Areas in Europe* magazine.

- **4. CONTACTS**

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