

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2000 & 2012/2021



Integration of Lesvos Petrified Forest into the first 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites.

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 63 staffs (5 Permanent, 58 Temporary contract) including 12 geoscientists (3 Permanent, 9 Temporary contract)

Number of visitors: 34.072 people visited Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark facilities

Number of Geopark events: 83 events held by management body and cooperative organisations

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 53 school classes realised educational programmes

Number of Geopark press releases: 181 press release and articles

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- Impressive new findings of fossil tree trunks come into light during the realisation of the excavation and conservation programme in the new Kalloni - Sigri road.
- Integration of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos in the first 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites.
- Successfully completed the conservation programme “Conservation and promotion of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos – “Kyria Apolithomeni”, “NSRF 2014-2020”
- Implementation of the programme «Completion of Museum’s storage for the retention of petrified findings through implementation of major public activities in Petrified Forest site”, “NSRF 2014-2020”
- Implementation of the “Promotion and utilization of petrified trunks position, through implementation of major public activities in Petrified Forest site”, “NSRF 2014-2020”

- Implementation of digital programmes for the promotion of Lesvos Geopark geosites, Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest and Lemnos Island geosites.
- Implementation of the “Awareness activities for NATURA 2000 SITES, with emphasis at Lesvos wetlands”, “NSRF 2014-2020”
- Financing of the programme “Study for the completion of the Visiting Center at Sigri”
- Implementation of the programme “The Olive tree in Lesvos| Representation of timeless olive oil production techniques using Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality technologies”
- Implementation of the Erasmus+ programme “Geology for Impaired Visually people And Disabled”
- Implementation of the «RURITAGE – Rural regeneration through systemic heritage-led strategies» Horizon 2020.
- Implementation of various digital educational programmes for school students and organisation of webinars for schoolteachers

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Printing of the poster “UNESCO Global Geoparks – Global Geoparks Network”
- Printing of the European Geoparks Network Magazine – Issue 19/2022
- Supporting organization and participation in the digital event “Welcome event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks” (21 April 2022)
- Participating in the European Geoparks Spring Meeting (26-30 April 2022), at De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark
- Participating in the 45th Session of EGN (26-30 April 2022), Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark
- Participating in the 7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium (4-11 September 2022), at Satun UNESCO Global Geopark
- Participating in the «European Geoparks Week» (26-30 September 2022)
- Participating in the 46th EGN Committee Meeting (26-30 September 2022)
- Supporting organization and participation in the of the INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL COURSE OF UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS 2022 «UNESCO Global Geoparks: Territories of resilience » (10 – 25 November 2022)

Management and Financial Status

No remarkable changes related to management and financial status.

Geoconservation

- Promotion of conservation activities
- Realisation of the conservation programme “Conservation and promotion of the Petrified Forest of Lesvos – “Kyria Apolithomeni”, “NSRF 2014-2020”
- Realisation of the conservation programme “Construction of the new road Kalloni - Sigri” in collaboration with Hellenic Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation
- Realisation of the “Promotion and utilization of petrified trunks position, through implementation of major public activities in Petrified Forest site”, “NSRF 2014-2020”
- Realisation of the annual conservation programme at Sigri Park, Plaka Park and Nissiopi Marine Petrified Forest Park

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Implementation of summer events and activities with title “Earth’s festivities”
- Implementation of the geotouristic activity: Daily guided boat tours with a glass bottom boat at Marine Nissiopi Petrified Forest Parks
- Implementation in collaboration with the Geopark partners of the various alternative tourism activities (birdwatching, cycling, hiking, running etc)

Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- Organising digital educational events for students and teachers.
- Organising educational programmes for 37 school units

- Organising daily educational programmes at summer period
- Organising field activities for undergraduate and postgraduate students from 6 different universities
- Organising educational programmes for Impaired Visually people And Disabled
- Organising of digital event “Greece-Cyprus UNESCO Global Geoparks: Educational fields for sustainability”
- Organising of hybrid event “Lesvos UNESCO Global Geopark and others UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece” with collaboration of UNESCO Associated Schools Network of Greece (ASPnet)
- Organising of educational activities for the international day for disaster risk reduction
- Implementation in collaboration with the Environmental Education Centre of Evergetoulas the National Thematic School Network “UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece” (under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Education).

Strategic partnership

- Collaboration with Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency (N.E.C.C.A.) and of Greece.
- Collaboration with UNESCO Global Geopark Karawanken/Karavanke of Austria/Slovenia, within the exhibition “Understanding Climate Change through Lesvos petrified Forest”.
- Collaboration with UNESCO Global Geopark Bergstrasse-Odenwald of Germany, within the opening ceremony of exhibition «Exploring new home with my eyes» at Lichtenberg’s castle.
- Collaboration with China University of Geosciences Beijing.
- Collaboration with University of Patras

Promotional activities

- Implementation of a programme for the digital promotion of Lesvos Geopark
- Promotion of Lesvos Geopark in Greece and abroad
- Promotion of Lesvos Geopark in Greece through a postage stamp printed by Greece’s mail.
- Numerous radio-TV and newspapers interviews and articles on the Geopark’s activities in the national, regional and local media – also in TV shows.
- Organisation of various athletics activities and cultural events

4. CONTACTS

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