

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Orígens UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2018



Improving the Geopark visibility with new totems installed in museums and interpretation centres.

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staff members: 11 staff members including 7 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: 211.269

Number of Geopark events: 24. Events held by management body (17) and cooperative organization (7) plus 9 cancelled activities (5 by management body and 4 by cooperative organisations)

Number of school classes that realize Geopark educational programmes: 48

Number of Geopark press releases: Over 70 impacts in press release: digital, print, radio, TV

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2020

- Visibility: 15 new or renewed panels in the Geopark.
- Promotional Geopark videos campaign (total of 15 videos) culminated with the documentary 'Vides de Pedra' showcasing the testimony of five renowned geologists strongly involved with the territory.
- Completion of the campaign of visibility in Interpretation centres of the Geopark with the installation of 21 totems.

- Promotion, jointly with key partners, of an [online platform](#) for the direct sale of local agri-food products.
- Virtual activities like EGN Week on Youtube.
- Geopark webpage upgrade including a new version in French.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation at the two virtual meetings of the GGN in July and November.
- Participation at the two virtual meetings of the EGN in June and September.
- Participation at the virtual International Course on Geoparks in June.
- Participation at the EGN Working group of Education (virtual meeting in September).
- Providing advice to aspirant Geopark Mourne Gullion Strangford (Northern Ireland)
- Contribution to the Spanish UGGp booklet (FITUR)
- Participation in two virtual meetings of the Spanish Geoparks Forum and one virtual meeting of the Comité Nacional Español de Geoparques.

Management and Financial Status

- The management body is an Association formed by 19 municipalities and 2 county councils.
- We obtain funding throughout Association memberships, the Catalan Government, the Lleida regional Government and from European local development projects.
- New office for the Geopark direct staff. The office setting up will be implemented following refurbishment works carried out during 2021.

Geoconservation

- Mining heritage inventory including 81 sites have been reviewed and made available through a spatial database.
- Review and analysis of data from the 80 geosites inventoried in 2019. Data analysis provided data to inform the following geoconservation measures:
 - Installation of physical barriers to avoid access to outcrops in Orcau-2 (LIGOR081), Rivert (LIGOR065) and Mirador del Cretaci (LIGOR070).
 - Development of an online geoconservation viewer used by local authorities to assess and restrict planning permission affecting the Geopark Geosites.
 - Production of high-resolution 3D images of sites susceptible to degradation or with educational potential (e.g., Permian tetrapods tracks in Mola d'Amunt - LIGOR058).
 - Web portal presenting a virtual museum comprising over 2200 paleontological samples collected, since early 20th Century, from the Lower Cretaceous lithographic limestone quarries in the Montsec range (LIGOR095 and LIGOR096).

- 7 Geoconservation panels installed in highly educational geosites, including rules and regulations, health and safety advice and visitor's and sample collection forms.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Publication in digital format of the geopark Tourism and Ecotourism guides available in 4 languages from [our web page](#).
- Print publications, also available [online](#), of the Geopark leaflet and the Geopark tourist map.
- Visitor's surveys accessible through a QR Code in panels, interpretation centres and leaflets.
- Audio guides, available in 4 languages, accessible through a QR Code in 10 panels to complement the visit and help vision impaired visitors.

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

- Room scape for students 6-9 years old
- Investigaedu (2020/21): an innovative educational programme with the objective to bring research to schools

Strategic partnerships

- New partnership with universities: Universitat de Barcelona and Universitat Rovira i Virgili
- Renewal of the partnership agreement with ICGC (Catalan Geological survey).

Promotional activities

- Promotion of the Geopark through adds on metropolitan railways of the Barcelona region.
- Social Networks Followers: FB - 2364, TW - 1.667, IG - 2165, Youtube - 172, Geopark's Newsletter – 94.
- Local publications, monthly article in local magazine, 13 e-newsletter with activities.
- Promotional Geopark material: welcome gift package including a bag, a folder, a pencil, a notebook and a hat.
- Geopark staff clothing
- Mural graffiti promoting the Geopark values painted on a wall in Talarn Village

4. CONTACTS

Manager: Guillem Puras Castells – gpuras@geoparcorigens.cat

Geologist: Xavi Mir Pellicer – xmir@geoparcorigens.cat