

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network:

Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2013 / 2018



Presentation of the 15th EGN Conference, on 2021 in the Sesia Val Grande Geopark (ph.N.Zouros)

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 41 staffs including: 1 geoscientist(s), 23 rangers

Number of visitors: The only integrated figures is the total number of touristic presence in the area: around 350.000 tourists (single arrive).

GeoLab: 20 group/school classes, total 400 students; other visitors ca. 140

Number of Geopark events: 13 geotouristic fieldtrips, 1 market of local artisans, 1 geological exposition, 3 conferences

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 15 classes about 70

Number of Geopark press release: about 24 (fieldtrips and events, Erasmus + activities)

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- Man and the Biosphere, MAB Unesco “Ticino Val Grande Verbano”: delivery of diplomas to 37 municipalities part of territory of the Sesia Val Grande Geopark
- Training and designation of the Guides of the Sesia Val Grande Geopark



Lake Maggiore (boat), Man and the Biosphere, delivery of MAB's diplomas (15 march)

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Natural Parc Sierra Norte de Siville, Unesco Global Geopark, European Geopark Network, 44st Coordination Committee Meeting EGN; (September 2019, Sevilla, Spain)
- Seville, 25-27 September 2019: Participation at the 15th European Geopark Conference
- Swabian Alb Unesco Global Geopark, European Geopark Network, 43st Coordination Committee Meeting EGN; (March 2019)

- ERASMUS + Education project with Rokua and Chablais Geoparks: "GEOHERITAGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE" (continue)



GeoClimHome Erasmus project: presentation 4-6 november

Management and Financial Status

- The management of Sesia Val Grande Geopark does't change during 2019. It is managed directly by three partners (Val Grande National Park, the Regional Parks of Sesia valley and the Geoturistic no profit association) that collaborate through an official agreement recognized by the Italian Government (Ministry of the Environment). The official headquarter as well the operative leader is the National Park. The Operative team is coordinated by the director of the National Park with the support of the director of the Regional park. The personnel employed by all the three entities as well as the financial availability is used to support the geopark project with a full synergy strategy.
- Financial status is stable and do not show particular criticalities.

Geoconservation

- Georesources & Geotourism, the GeoAlpine path of the Sesia Val Grande Unesco GG, National meeting, june 11, 2019

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Implementation of "GeoAlpine trekking"
- Valle Loana, new geo-tourism itinerary
- Action plan of European Charter for Sustainable Tourism
- "Sentiero Chiovini", XXIth trekking (15-16 of june)
- Alpine Italian Club (CAI), "XXIth Hiking national week", june 8-16,
- Many guided tours (13 geotouristic fieldtrips proposed to the public or requested by private), cultural activities, local products tasting and markets with the involvement of local stakeholders
- Opening of the Mosso Institute (Monte Rosa area, 2.901 about sea level) on july and august with guided tours
- Conclusion of works "Via GeoAlpina, Val Cannobina-Valle Strona section, and Geological thematic trails "La Serie dei laghi", and "La Linea di Pogallo" Piedmont Region PSR 2016-2020
- Granit Ecomuseum, Mergozzo Baveno: The stone tells. Stone on stage 2019. Quarries&archives, documents, quarrying, recycling, stonegameboard, engreavedstones, archaeostones.
- Granit Ecomuseum, Mergozzo. "8000 years of history", visit three archeological museums (11 may, 20 october)



October 2019, inauguration of Valle Loana's geo-tourism itinerary

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

- Erasmus + Project GEOclimHOME-Pro, for three years, which aim is the education for the students of the secondary school, also providing professional perspectives; all the activities are related with the following UN SGDs: 4, quality of education; 6, clean water; 7, affordable and clean energy, 11, sustainable cities and communities; 13, climate action ; 15, life on land ; 17, partnerships (continue)
- 2 New education program on the knowledge of the Monte Fenera and its caves (geography, geology, archeology, history, nature and speleology)
- First course for the "Sesia Val Grande Geopark Guides", in agreement with Piemonte Region, Formont Valsesia organization and University of Torino (February and March 2019).
- Many educational activities on geological, topics with schools of different level and Torino university: laboratory activities and fieldtrips (orienteeing, cartography, rocks, minerals, volcanoes, tectonic, karst an their relationships with human beings, as risks or resources)

Strategic partnership

- ERASMUS + Education project with Rokua and Chablais Geoparks
- "Drilling the Ivrea-Verbano zone (DIVE)"

Promotional activities

- Several activities (scientific conferences, promotional conferences, protocol signing, parks and geopark promotions, etc)
- Development of a monthly program to increase the activities and visitor at the info center
- Museum Granum, Baveno. Exhibition "Quarries&archives", historical documents on quarries and mines of Baveno (9 giugno 2019- 30 aprile 2020)
- Museum Granum, Baveno. Conference, "Carrega's copper mines, a mining site to rediscover", October, 4.
- Montagna & dintorni, XIVth Mountains Festival, october,11-20.

4. CONTACTS

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