

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2006 / 2022

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



New stratigraphical column with real rocks at Santa Rita Visitors Center.

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: [1 manager (Geographer), 3 technicians (1Geologist), 9 Park Wardens, 3 advisors in Visitor Centres, 1 administrative assistant] = **17 staffs.**

Number of visitors: 23.429 (measured)

Number of Geopark events: activities organized by the Geopark: **83.**

activities organized by partners: **23**

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: **34 classes.**

Number of Geopark press release: **22 press releases.**

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- Constitution of the Scientific and Educational Working Group on Geodiversity, with 20 public and private specialists from different scientific and educational fields.
- Approval of the II Plan of Sustainable Development of Sierras Subbéticas.
- Progress of the project “Valorization of the Geological Elements in the Natural Park and Geopark Sierras Subbéticas”, with a construction of a stratigraphical column with real rocks.
- Approval of the new Climbing Plan by consensus among all the agents through a participatory process

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation in the 7th Open Days of the Spanish Geoparks Fora, 45th European Geoparks Network Meeting, 46th Coordination Committee of the European Geoparks Network, 16th European Geoparks Conference and two Spanish Geoparks National Committees.
- Participation in 8 Spanish Geoparks digital Forum and other common activities like the digital marketing strategy, youth survey, geotourism experience plan, International Tourism Fair (FITUR) and writing of the book "Caves and karst in Spanish geoparks".

Management and Financial Status

- No major changes have produced regarding financial status or management structure.

Geoconservation

- Restoration plans for fires affected farms have been approved, including the Santa Rita public forest. Forestall preventive works and educational activities have taken place to minimize futures fires.
- Census of bat populations in different caves.
- Support to universities in their research (Málaga University for geoecosystem study of the Sierras Subbéticas Geopark and for analysis of the superficial ecogeomorphological conditions of the soils and their degree of quality; Pablo Olavide University for drought in mediterranean forests and climate change; and Córdoba University for project MOVING-Mountain valorisation through interconnectedness and green growth).
- Construction project continues of a Waste Water Treatment Plant in Rute.
- Beginning of the monthly appraisal of 15 sources and springs of the Subbética for the management of hydrogeological masses in collaboration with the University of Granada.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Environmental advice to enterprises through the program AESENA.
- Renewal of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism phase II in Sierras Subbéticas and visit of ecotourism international tour operators.
- Participation in surveillance actions to control activities for public use on trails in Sierras Subbéticas.
- Facilities improvement of Santa Rita Visitors Center.
- Opening of Abrevia Peak trail and reopening of La Tiñosa geotrail.

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

- Finalization and publication of didactic unit about geological heritage and geodiversity of Sierras Subbéticas UGGp.
- Development of the Participation and Environmental Awareness Programme, with 8 activities.
- Representation of "Tethys Sea" on the floor of "Geopark Classroom", and participation in the National Day of Green ways through a fossil workshop in this place.

Strategic partnership

- Rural Schools "Blas Infante" (Rute) and "N^a S^a del Rosario" (Luque), in the frame of the educational project "I am a Geoparker" in the Sierras Subbéticas UGGp.
- Commonwealth of Subbética for the development of the Plan of Tourism Sustainability in Destination, with an investment of €3 M

Promotional activities

- 16th European Geoparks Week in Sierras Subbéticas.
- 13th Cordoba Geology Olympics, in Rute.
- 1st Congress Ecotourism of Subbética, in Doña Mencía.
- 1st Ecotourism Fair in Doña Mencía.
- 5th Meeting of Earth Science Entities.
- 1st HydroGeoDay of Subbética, in Carcabuey.
- 12th Priego Micológico: aimed to promote Mycology and the Mycological Garden, La Trufa.
- International Year of Caves and Karst (with 15 activities offered in Sierras Subbéticas, in collaboration with the municipalities and local speleological groups).
- International Day of Geodiversity, with a school workshop about fossils.
- International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, with a school workshop about forest fire prevention.
- International Mountain Day, with a trekking through Tiñosa geotrail.
- Geodiversity Day of UNESCO: collaboration in the development of a promotional video.
- I Meeting of Andalusian Geoparks
- Continuous update of website and social networks; participation in radio/TV programmes.

4. CONTACTS

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