

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2021

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Styrian Eisenwurzen UNESCO Global Geopark, Austria, European Geoparks Network

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2004 / 2019



Celebration event in October 2021: Three new primary schools are now Geopark partner schools

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## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 4 staffs including 1 geoscientist(s)

**Number of visitors:** Visitors of the 3 major sites: Wasserloch gorge: 25.000 – GeoVillage Gams: 12.000 - Spring Water Museum Wildalpen: 2.500

**Number of Geopark events:** 40

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** 6

**Number of Geopark press release:** 37

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2021

- All primary and secondary schools are partner schools in the Geopark
- More budget from the region Styria and the responsible ministry

### Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation at all digital EGN and GGN meetings (spring and autumn)
- Participation in two IGCP projects: GeoFood Research and Present and future Geology – the global scale evidence of the Anthropocene

## **Management and Financial Status**

- The Nature- and Geopark is financed through contributions of the communities, the province of Styria, international projects and its own income

## **Geoconservation**

- Finalized: Introduction of new information panels and planning of the improvement of the existing GeoTrail in the GeoVillage Gams
- Introduction of new information panels at the Gallenstein castle in the municipality of Sankt Gallen for awareness rising
- Finalization: New Geopark library in the GeoVillage Gams to restore literature about the Geopark and Geology

## **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**

- New bookable offers established: Fieldtrips about biodiversity, climate change and geology

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

- New funding program started: KLAR! Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions for Austria  
The Pilot Program is funded by the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund and offers a process-oriented approach for municipalities to raise awareness for climate change adaptation and implement concrete actions on regional level

## **Strategic partnership**

- Frequent exchange with other Austrian UGGp, digital exchange with UNESCO Austria – small support funding from the ministry of education established
- New frequent scientific exchange and work with new partner Universities in the city of Graz, working on the application of two research project (application deadline 2022)

## **Promotional activities**

- 3 radio shows on a regional radio
- 160 Social media postings on facebook and Instagram
- Second Geopark forum (digitally and analog) in autumn – topic: Hydrology, Geology and sustainable tourism

## **4. CONTACTS**

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