

# Zhangye UNESCO Global Geopark Annual Report 2023

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional network:** Zhangye UNESCO Global Geopark (Zhangye UGGp), China, Asian Pacific Geoparks Network

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2020 / 2023

## Representative Event of the Year:

The 7th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks

Man



## 2. GEOPARK FIGURE

Number of Geoparks

Number of visitors

Number of Geoparks

1. February 24-26, Zhangye UGGp invited geopark experts to conduct inspections on geoheritage protection and scientific popularization panels.
2. March 2-4, Zhangye UGGp team visited Kanbula Aspiring Geopark of Qinghai province to learn about the construction of Geological & Cultural Village, carried out field inspection in Lajishan Mountains and collected ophiolite samples under the guidance of experts.
3. March 5-7, Zhangye UGGp team visited Qingling-Zhongnanshan UGGp, established a sister geopark relationship and collected ophiolite samples.
4. March 8, Zhangye UGGp female staff visited the women's cooperative which is a partner of geopark to learn about the development of cultural innovative products.
5. March 8-10, Zhangye UGGp team visited Zigong UGGp, established sister geopark relationship and learned about the museum exhibition.
6. March 10, Xiangxi UGGp team visited Zhangye UGGp to conduct sister geopark activities.
7. March 14, Zhangye UGGp administration held a forum to help geopark catering and accommodation business owners solve relevant problems and resume work after the pandemic.
8. March 16-17, Linxia and Kanbula Aspiring UGGps visited Zhangye UGGp to learn about the field evaluation mission.
9. March 20, carried out an indigenous survey within Zhangye UGGp and submitted the report to GGN.
10. March 22, attended the video meeting on UGGp evaluation and revalidation 2023 which was held by Natural Reserve Management of National Forestry and Grassland Administration.
11. March 24, the spring training was held in Colorful Hills of Zhangye UGGp.
12. March 25, over 20 teachers and students from the School of Geoscience and Mineral Resources of Lanzhou University visited Zhangye UGGp for study excursions.
13. April 22-28, special scientific popularization activities were launched online and offline in celebration of the World Earth Day and APGN week.
14. April 25, held the press conference on the development and utilization of the Earth Forest landform in Zhangye UGGp, more than 100 media reporters from the Silk Road International Tourism Festival were invited to the conference.
15. May 4-12, Zhangye UGGp manager attended the 8<sup>th</sup> International Joint Scientific Investigation on Sinkhole of Hanzhong and exchanged UNESCO Global Geopark application of Zhangye.
16. May 8-10, Longyan Aspiring Geopark visited Zhangye UGGp and jointly carried out sister geopark activities.
17. May 18-19, Funiushan UGGp visited Zhangye UGGp and established a sister geopark relationship.

18. June 6, attended the GGN online welcome event.
19. June 6-9, held Tourism Service Quality and Scientific Popularization Improvement Course of Zhangye UGGp, more than 160 employees from the catering and accommodation industry attended the training course.
20. June 10-17, *Scientific Popularization on Danxia* live streaming competition was held in Colorful Hills and Binggou Danxia areas more than 100 contestants participated in.
21. June 29-30, Zhangye UGGp team attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Huangshan Dialogue on UNESCO-designated Sites and Sustainable Development.
22. July 2, the comprehensive emergency rescue drill was held in Binggou Danxia area.
23. July 7, "Oriental Selection: Viewing the World" live streaming activity visited Colorful Hills of Zhangye UGGp.
24. July 10-12, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural & Cultural Symposium of China University of Geosciences Beijing was held in Zhangye UGGp.
25. July 13, a special activity on the theme of "Learn about the Regulations and Be a Civilized Tourist" was held, more than 100 people learned about the tourism laws and regulations and over 500 brochures had been distributed.
26. July 27-31, Profession Mohd Shafeea Leman and Mr. Nire Kagaya conducted their revalidation mission in Zhangye UGGp.
27. August 2-5, Zhangye UGGp team visited Arxan UGGp and established a sister geopark relationship.
28. August 6-10, Zhangye UGGp team visited Hexigten UGGp and established a sister geopark relationship.
29. August 18, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Colorful Danxia Hot-air Balloon Carnival and the 4<sup>th</sup> Geosciences Tourism Conference were successfully held in Zhangye UGGp.
30. August 25, Zhangye UGGp carried out the training activity on natural and ecological education, an expert who is specialized in Qilian Mountains was invited to give the lectures on wild animals and plants in the Qilian Mountains.
31. September 4, the Yumuzhuang village of Kangle town which is a geopark community was approved to have the construction qualification of a geological and cultural village.
32. September 5-12, a representative of Zhangye UGGp attended the 10<sup>th</sup> GGN conference which was held in Morocco.
33. October 8-13, the 7<sup>th</sup> International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development was successfully held in Zhangye UGGp.
34. October 31 to November 1, representatives of Zhangye UGGp attended the 14<sup>th</sup> CGN Annual Conference in Yimengshan UGGp.
35. During mid November, the fire safety training and drills were carried out in Binggou Danxia

area.

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** Geopark education program was carried out in six classes within Kangle Mingde School (Zhangye UGGp School).

**Number of Geopark press release:** 186 news which has been released on national, provincial, and city media.

### **3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES**

#### **Major achievements in 2023**

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural & Cultural Symposium was successfully held.
2. The 7<sup>th</sup> Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development was successfully held.
3. Newly established sister geopark relationship with 5 UGGps.
4. Accomplished the Qilian Mountain Ecological Science Experience Project.
5. Improved and upgraded the functions of Jiugequan Scientific Investigation Station, designed rock samples display, meeting and accommodation areas which could meet the short-medium investigation needs of a research team of around 20 people in accordance with evaluation recommendations in 2020.
6. Newly built a laboratory for the study excursions.
7. 3 postgraduates from China University of Geosciences Beijing accomplished graduation theses in Zhangye UGGp.
8. Yumuzhuang village of Kangle town which is a geopark community was approved to have the construction qualification of geological and cultural village.

The management body of Zhangye UGGp received the Innovation and Development Award for Tourist Attractions.

#### **Contribution towards GGN - networking and participation**

1. Conducted the indigenous survey and submitted the report to GGN.
2. Visited Kanbula, Linxia aspiring geoparks as well as Zigong, Arxan, Hexigten, Qinling-Zhongnanshan UGGps and received geopark teams from Xiangxi, Linxia, Kanbula, Funiushan and Longyan for sister geoparks activities.
3. Attended the GGN online welcome event.
4. Attended the 10<sup>th</sup> GGN international conference.
5. Held the 7<sup>th</sup> Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development.
6. Attended the 14<sup>th</sup> CGN Annual Conference.

#### **Management and financial status**

The Administration for Zhangye National Geopark is the management body of Zhangye UGGp. In order to better fulfill the management responsibilities, the Administration for Zhangye National Geopark newly established a department of Communication and Education to further strengthen

the communication with GGN.

In 2023, Zhangye UGGp received 3.05 million visitors; Colorful Hills, Binggou Danxia, and Yugur Custom Corridor areas received 2.87 million, 50 thousand and 130 thousand visitors respectively. The total tourism revenue of 2023 is 0.42 billion Yuan. This year, Zhangye UGGp has received government funds of 21 million yuan and accomplished annual key work including improvement of the transportation and education panels system, geopark scientific popularization books compiling and printing, and construction of laboratory and geopark activities.

### **Geoconservation**

1. Conducted inspections for the protection of geoheritage.
2. Carried out laws popularization activities on *Regulations of Zhangye on Colorful Hills Protection*.
3. Maintained geoheritage protection infrastructure such as plunk roads, fences, and monitoring facilities;
4. Newly built 16 geodisaster warning boards.
5. Improved the management system and strengthened geoheritage protection.

### **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**

1. Newly built a laboratory for the study excursions.
2. *Scientific Popularization on Danxia* live streaming competition was held

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

1. Compiled and carried out geodisaster emergency rescue plan, and conducted drills before the summer flood season.
2. Compiled and carried out fire safety training plan, and held training courses and drills during winter.

### **Strategic partnership**

1. Deepened cooperation with China University of Geosciences Beijing and jointly held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural & Cultural Symposium.
2. Deepened cooperation with experts' teams and implemented several projects such as the comparative study on Jiugequan ophiolite and the study on the genesis of Danxia Landform in Binggou area.

### **Promotional activities**

1. Held press conference on the Development and Utilization of Zhangye Earth Forest.
2. "Oriental Selection: Viewing the World" live streaming activity promoted Colorful Hills of Zhangye UGGp.
3. Held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Colorful Danxia Hot-air Balloon Carnival and the 4<sup>th</sup> Geosciences Tourism

Conference.

#### **4. CONTACTS**

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