

2023 Annual Report

(Hexigten Global Geopark)

1. Identity:

Geopark Name, Country, Regional Network :Hexigten UNESCO Global Geopark(China, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network)

Year of Acceptance/Last revalidation:2005/2017

Pictures of the year(The most important activities)



The new geological scientific research achievement—the founding of ancient ice wedge geoheritage

2. Geopark information

Staff: 175 (total), includes 7 geoscientists and 5 external staff.

No. of visitors: 5.48 million visits.

activities organized: 22 .

- (1) The environment matters, counts on me -popular science campaign in schools;
- (2) The environment matters, counts on me-volunteers united;
- (3) “Cherish the mother Earth” paper cutting workshop;
- (4) Lecture on Culture and Natural Heritage Day;
- (5) “The Nature and Me” theme activity;
- (6) The 4th Asia Pacific Geoparks Network Week & Mutual exhibition activities of twinning geoparks;
- (7) Popular science series videos broadcasting;
- (8) Popular science activities with pre-school kids;

(9) Popular science activities with school kids; (10) Science and Technology Week; (11) “Loving the hometown, Promoting geological culture” activities; (12) The Earth Day activities; (13) The World Reading Day activities; (14) The International Museum Day activities; (15) Care for the medical staff theme activities; (16) Inheriting geological and cultural knowledge activities; (17) The International Museum Day study-tour activity - The introduction of natural science, explore the beauty of Hexigten with the children and their families of Hexigten NO.2 kindergarten; (18) Exhibition of geological treasures in Hexigten - “Clear waters and green mountains are as valuable as gold and silver”; (19) Fire drill and training series activities - promoting the safety use of fire; (20) “International Soil Day” science popularization activities; (21) The campaign of junior geopark guide; (22) Community activities

Number of classes in schools carrying out geological park education programs: 40 classes.

Number of press releases published by geological parks: 64 articles.

3. Geopark Activities

Major achievements in 2023:

Infrastructure upgraded or added (11 items): (1) Made 12 interpretation panels at the management site of the Qingshan and Dalinur; (2) Made a promotion gallery at Pingdingshan; (3) renovation of the main monument at the popular science square; (4) Update exhibits and signages of museum; (5) Maintenance of equipment, including glacier adventure gears, spa spray, projectors; (6) Newly adding visitor rest area with sofas, coffee tables, multi-functional water dispensers, cultural and creative products display cabinets, specimen display cabinets etc.; (7) Installation of over 20 new safety signs in museum; (8) New four kinds of granite geomorphological reliefs and ecological scene simulation modelling of stone forests, peak forests, rock mortars and stone eggs in the granite exhibition Hall of the museum.; (9) 241 new specimens in the museum; (10) Replace the main screen for hall.

◆ Filing works in accordance with the content of the revalidation, and complete

the production of a film in English language.

- ◆ Organized geopark guides participated in the Guide Competition and won the first prize on “the popular science education base lecture competition” of the region; the second prize on “the popular science education base lecture competition” of the city, and was awarded the title of " Hexigten Popular Science Education Base Dissemination Ambassador".
- ◆ The documentary *Protecting Nature: Hexigten Global Geopark* won the Outstanding Work Award at the Asian Short film Festival and the Best Documentary Award at the Little Goldenman International Film Festival.
- ◆ Conducting training courses on sustainable development for conservation and construction.

Contribution to GGN - Network activities and participation:

- ◆ Attending conferences and training 6 times: the 2nd China (Yandang Mountain) Volcanic Forum, the 3rd Nature and Culture Forum, the 2023 Annual Meeting of UNESCO Geoparks in China, and the 7th International Training Course on Management and Development of Global Geoparks of UNESCO.
- ◆ Carried out: field work and communication with Zhangye Global Geopark; Exchange and study activities with Ningcheng National Geopark; Exchange and study activities with Xilinhot Nature Reserve Management Centre; and carried out exchange and communication seminar activities with Taishan, Fangshan and Yanqing Global Geoparks. Carried out joint geoscience investigation with Alxa Desert Global Geopark, Axran Global Geopark and Yanqing Global Geopark.

The Hexigten Management and financial status:

Global Geopark Administration was established in 2007, with 27 employees, 5 functional sections equipped with appropriate management and staff, and a sound financial position. 5 new staff joined the team in 2023.

Conservation of Geological Heritages:

Strictly in accordance with the planning of the Hexigten Global Geopark and the regulations on the protection of geological heritages, it is prohibited to carry out any illegal activities in the geopark. Conduct joint regulatory inspections to comprehensively investigate whether there are any acts of damaging wetlands and their ecological functions. Inspection of three wetlands along the rivers, such as in Ulanbutong Yeya Lake Wetland, Beigouli Wetland and in Xilamulun.

Sustainable tourism (geotourism): The museum provides admission-free entry for tourists and institutions, and has received more than 20,000 visitors in 200 batches this year.

New educational programmes on conservation of geological heritages, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction:

- ◆ New geological heritage such as ancient ice wedge and diatomite were first time discovered in Dali Lake, and two academic papers *Characteristics of Important Geological Heritage in Dalinur of Hexigten Global Geopark and their Indications for Lake Evolution* and *Characteristics of the Late Quaternary Loess Sedimentation and its Paleoclimatic Significance in Hexigten Global Geopark* have been published in the core journal *Modern Geology*.
- ◆ Advocacy on World Earth Day, Cultural Heritage Day, International Day for Disaster Reduction, International Mountain Day.

Strategic partner

- ◆ Revised and reviewed the *Hexigten UNESCO Global Geopark Action Development Plan*, *Hexigten National Geopark Master Plan*, and compiled and completed two scientific research monographs, *Hexigten Global Geopark Guidebook for Scientific Expedition to Pindingshan* and *Hexigten Global Geopark Guidebook*.

- ◆ Signed the Agreement on Co-construction of Internship and Training Bases for Tertiary Students with Chifeng College, and established a social practice base with Jiangsu University of Science and Technology.

Advertising and Promotional Activities:

In co-operation with Inner Mongolia Radio Station, 3 short videos were created through live broadcasting and visiting by influencers; Short video *What's in Hexigten Global Geopark Museum* ; *Celebrating the New Year in the Museum* were filmed; and a promotion video *My Hometown* were also filmed.

4. Contact

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