

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2023

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Karawanken-Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark, Austria-Slovenia, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2013 / 2021



Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Geopark Karawanken-Karavanke, 24. 2. 2023

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 05 staffs including 01 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: Information center Podzemlje Pece, Mežica: 13.000, Obir Dripstone Caves: 15.000, Petzen-Peca: 55.000, Guided hiking tours: 500, Olimpline: 3.000, Management center St. Philippen: 1.000

Number of Geopark events: 70

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 100

Number of Geopark press release: 60

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2023

- Successful start of new international projects with the acronyms **HUMANITA** in the frame of INTERREG Central Europe programme and **GreenTour** in the frame of INTERREG Slovenia-Austria programme

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation of the Geopark Karawanken-Karavanke representatives at national Geopark Forum meetings (SLO and AT), at the 47th EGN CC Meeting in Hateg UNESCO Global

Geopark (Romania), at the 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark (Morocco); participation at GGN online events, implementation of EGN Week 2023; contributions for EGN Magazine, EGN Newsletter and GGN publication *Geopark going green*

Management and Financial Status

- Crossborder Karawanken-Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark is managed by the organisation EVTZ (EGTC) Geopark Karawanken m.b.H; Financial status: multi-source financing, stable financial status.

Geoconservation

- Informing and awareness of local people and visitors about the importance of the geoconservation on guided tours, in infocentres, brochures, articles, events ...

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- New projects dealing with the sustainable development of the crossborder Geopark Karawanken-Karavanke area (HUMANITA, GreenTour); implementation a set of weekly programs under the title "Nature experience Geopark Karawanken" from May till October 2023 with different outdoor experiences, several guided hikes, guided visits, underground adventures, organization of European Future Dialogues 2023 - "Implementing Europe's Green Deal across borders" (30.6.2023).

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

- Organisation of final event of Geopark school topic (2022/2023) for teachers and educators with the title: Non-native species - friends or enemies?, organization of introductory seminar of Geopark school topic (2023/2024) for teachers and educators with the title: "Wetlands - into nature with boots",

Strategic partnership

- Podzemlje Pece, d.o.o., Obir Tropfsteinhöhlen, RRA Koroška, IRSNC - Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation - Regional unit Maribor, Petzen-Bergbahnen GmbH, KSL Tourismus Marketing GmbH - Tourismusregion Klopeiner See-Südkärnten-Lavanttal, F.S. Immobilienverwaltungs GmbH, A-max, Pirkdorfer See, Geological survey of Slovenia, Tourist board TVB Geopark Karawanken, The UNESCO Chair for the Sustainable Management of Conservation Areas

Promotional activities

- Several promotional activities at local, regional and national level, participation at local, regional, national events, fairs, radio and TV interviews, contributions for local and regional newspapers, ...

4. CONTACTS

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