

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2023

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network:

Causses du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark
(France, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2021

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 26 staffs including 4 geoscientists

Number of visitors: total for major geosites in 2023 = 211 000

Number of Geopark events: Géoparks Week with 9 events organized by Géopark

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 15 school classes, 380 participants (*My pebble is a treasure, Paleontologist's seed, Causse's underground water*).

Number of Geopark press release: 28



"Resonances rupestres" (rock resonance)

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2023

- Installation of Geopark totem poles (interpretation panel) at 3 partner geosites.
- Resonances rupestres (rock resonance), a project at the crossroads of the arts and sciences, based on research and artists' residencies.
- Creation of a new website with a version in English and Occitan (regional language).

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation in the 47th EGN CC meeting in Hateg UGG
- Participation in the autumn EGN CC online meeting.
- Participation in the 10th international Geoparks conference in M'GOUN UGG Maroc
- Participation in the general assembly of French Géoparks network
- Contribution EGN Newsletter 22 and 24 and European geoparks Magazine 20

Management and Financial Status

- Budget 2023 : 2 300 000 €

Geoconservation

- Participatory workshop (inhabitants) to clean-up old and unauthorized landfills in

Caoussadou phosphorite cave (a partnership with the local speleology committee).

- Modelling of the hydrological system of the Ouyse river
- Study of the hydrological system of the Célé river
- Paleontological excavation in the phosphorite caves of Quercy and paleobotany.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- In the frame of requalification on the Cloup d'Aural geosite, redaction of the permanent exhibition scenography
- Restoration of the old worker's hut on the phosphorite caves of Tempories geosite and installation of interpretation panels

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

- Study and monitoring of the underground water in the karstic system of the river Ouyse.
- New study "How is the Célé river fed by the springs of the Causse?"
- Training sessions for partners (Geoparc) and elected representatives (National nature reserve of geological interest)
- Winner of a UNESCO call for projects on water and sustainable development
- New Natura 2000 educational programme "Listening to the forest"

Strategic partnership

- Chamber of Trades and Crafts; National education; Architectural, urban planning and environmental consultancy, etc
- UGG Sobrabre (Spain) and UGG Famenne Ardenne on megalithic
- The local speleology committee (regional congress of speleology)

Promotional activities

- New exhibition on the Geopark
- New website
- Video on outdoor activities for disabled people

4. CONTACTS

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