

GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks

CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE – SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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8th GGN Advisory Committee Meeting

Main targets for the 2025-2035 Strategic Plan Discussion Paper

GGN's 20 years of experience and its biennial action plans are an important foundation and starting point for considering GGN's action strategy for the next 10 years. Here we propose, in concise and specific sentences, the main points that the GGN should strive to achieve in the next decade.

TARGET 1. Promoting Geoparks as implementation fields for the SDGs and their extended programme beyond 2030

- 1. Continuation of the GGN SDG's working group activity at the international, regional networks and national levels.
- 2. Annual Reporting from each Geoparks on it's contribution to SDG's
- 3. Creation of an annual GGN Report on Geoparks contribution to SDG's
- 4. Promoting Geodiversity and Biodiversity links

TARGET 2. Minimizing the impact of geohazards and climate change by empowering activities at the international, regional and national levels.

- Strengthening of the GGN Geo-hazards working groups activity at the international, regional networks and national levels.
- 2. Annual Geopark Action Plan on Geo-hazards and Disaster Mitigation.
- 3. Annual Geopark Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation
- 4. Creation of an annual GGN Report on Geohazards and Climate Change

TARGET 3. Capacity building for GGN members

- 1): Comprehensive and coordinated planning of the capacity building activities. Creation in n annual a calendar by GGN in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat for capacity building: aspiring Geoparks, Geopark evaluators, Geopark managers.
- 2): Capacity building activities for aspiring Geoparks: Address the uneven distribution of UNESCO Global Geoparks and expand the Global Geoparks Network, in particular in African, Arab and Central Asian countries, SIDS, etc.
- 3): Capacity building activities for Geopark evaluators: Proving and maintaining the quality of evaluators as well as recruiting qualified volunteers who want to contribute to maintaining the quality of the Geopark program.
- 4): Capacity building activities for Geopark Managers: Intensive courses for new mangers of the GGN members.
- 5): Support Capacity building activities for GGN members at Regional and National levels

TARGET 4: UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme

- 1. Facilitate the GGN duties in relation to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme.
- 2. Facilitate the Roster of Evaluators in conjunction with UNESCO Secretariat
- 3. Organize advisory missions in aspiring and yellow card holding Geoparks

TARGET 5: GGN operation and networking

- To ensure the long-term sustainability of the GGN as the main partner of the UNESCO-Global Geoparks programme, the management structure and functionality of the GGN should be estabilized and strengthened, building on the achievements of the GGN over the past 20 years.
- 2. Further strengthening the networking activities at regional and national levels for the enlargement of the Global Geoparks Network and the improvement of their quality.

TARGET 6. Geoparks Gender equality and Youth participation

- 1. Gender equality is the basic framework in the Geopark operation and communication.
- 2. To ensure the development and prosperity of future global geoparks, the involvement of the young generation in all levels of geoparks is essential.

TARGET 7. Strengthen collaboration with UNESCO site designations

Establishment of a collaboration proposal for common activities between UNESCO Designations

TARGET 8. International Cooperation

- 1. Strengthen cooperation with UNESCO,
- 2. Strengthen collaboration with World Tourism Organization UNWTO
- 3. Strengthen cooperation with IUGS,
- 4. Strengthen cooperation with IUCN,
- 5. Strengthen cooperation with International relevant organizations.