



Connecting Earth, Shaping Tomorrow

2025-2035

Document B. Implementation.

This document B has two main purposes:

- To define, through participatory procedures, biennial Action Plans to develop the strategic priorities described in document A. In this way, the bottom-up approach within the GGN is protected and made visible.
- To help the UGGps for actively working on the proposed actions. In the same way, it must be a guide for the working groups and national and regional networks to decide and develop their own action plans whose expected results contribute to achieve both the GGN objectives and the strategic priorities and, consequently, to build our collective contribution to the Programme.

Both purposes should be easier to understand through graphic tables that, on the one hand, include the strategic priorities in relation with the GGN different bodies and work groups. On the other hand, they must incorporate the strategic actions whose activities and expected results must form part of the action plans.

To do this, we start from a general description of the GGN in a process map. The Process Map is useful to explain how the Network is structured to meet its objectives and priorities, even the members' proposals and demands and is able to schedule actions accordingly.

We will use three classic categories:

Strategic processes: they are the basis on which the GGN is structured: its statutes, priorities, strategies and action plans, analysis methodologies and proposals for continuous improvement.

Operational or key processes: Processes that define the GGN real actions to meet its objectives.

Key processes can be divided in two main processes:

- The first one, **internal**, encourages and promotes **networking** among members to support their progress in all the criteria indicated in the IGGP statutes.
- The second one is referred to **external relationships and visibility**: communication, general dissemination and relationships with other national and international organizations.

Support processes: Refer to the **governance** of the GGN and the structures necessary for its correct operation.

We could graphic them in a Process Map as follow:

Strategic processes	Updating. GGN Organisation: Statutes, objectives, strategies, monitoring and updating
Key processes	GGN Networking.
Support processes	GGN external relationships and visibility.
	GGN Governance

This process map intends to guarantee that all the aspects, in which the GGN works, including its objectives and actions, will be covered by this strategy. Even if some of them are valued very positively and do not require major changes. This will also serve to establish priorities although these may change over time. In addition, the goal is to drive advancements that support the growth and to discover innovations that indicate the evolution of the GGN.

As the priorities for the time agreed, 2025-2035, has been described in the previous chapters, we can integrated them in the Process Map and try to connect with their strategic actions and their expected results in Biannual Plans. This initial mapping should be the basis for the participatory procedure.

6. Translation into Action Plans.

We propose that the decision-making bodies, advisory bodies and task forces of the GGN, together with the working groups, participate in proposing activities in the strategic actions. The activities must be feasible and with achievable results in two-year action plans. The first of them, perhaps more experimental, will be the period between the International Conference of Kutralkura, Chile, in September 2025 and the one to be held in 2027.

To this end, and after the first supervision by the GGN AC, the bodies referred to in each table can open the participation to their members. The working groups and the task force will make very specific proposals, while the regional and national networks can hold broader debates in which their own action plans can be coordinated and complete that of the GGN.

Action Plans should be biannual. They may be linked with the agreed targets and be oriented to results, new documentation or products. Each action need to have a responsible GGN body which is in charge of proposing the actions and expected results in each period till 2035. The complete Action Plan in each period must be adopted by the GGN ExB and communicated to the General Assembly for approval.

The current GGN bodies are:

General Assembly_	GGN GA
Executive Board	GGN ExB
Advisory Committee	GGN AC
Working Groups	GGN WGs
• Geohazards	GGN GH WG
• Geological heritage & Geodiversity	GGN GHaG WG
• Geodiversity and Biodiversity	GGN GaB WG
• SDGs	GGN SDG WG
• Tourism	GGN TWG
• Education	GGN EDUWG
• Island and Coastal areas / Water / Ocean	GGN ICWO WG
• Indigenous people	GGN IP WGs
• Heritage	GGN HWGs
• International Networking	GGN IN WG
• Gastronomy	GGN Gast WGs
• Communication	GGN COMM WG
• Cooperating members	GGN CM WG
Youth Forum	GGN YF
Regional Networks	GGN RN
National Networks / Fora / Committees	GGN NN
Secretariat	GGN Sec
Task Force	GGN TF

In the tables below, the key priorities have a GGN body designated for being in charge of promoting the participation in building the Action Plan. This is only a proposal that can be modified by the GGN AC or the ExB. The National and Regional networks could have a more relevant role in this part.

Key priorities, GGN bodies, Actions and Expected Results.

Strategic processes	Updating. GGN Organisation: Statutes, objectives, strategies, monitoring and updating		
Long Term Strategy monitoring and updating.	GGN RESP.	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	EXPECTED RESULTS
Monitoring, progress and results. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This strategic plan will be implemented at the global, regional and national levels under the direction of the GGN Executive Committee. 	GGN AC GGN ITF	<i>Templates and indicators for annual reports, outlining progress, achievements, and new proposals allowing the plan to adapt to new developments and priorities.¹</i>	

¹ Paragraphs in red should be considered as examples of possible activities for the Strategic Actions or possible expected results.

Key processes

GGN Networking.

KEY PRIORITIES LTS35	GGN RESP.	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	EXPECTED RESULTS
<p>Key 1 Climate Change Adaptation– Roadmap for Resilience.</p> <p>The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) has made valuable contributions to addressing climate change, primarily through its role in preserving geological heritage. By studying past climate patterns, GGN helps to deepen our understanding of the long-term effects of climate change. However, there is much more that can be done, and GGN recognizes the need to enhance its efforts in this crucial area.</p>	GGN SDG WG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Key 1.1. Raising General Community Awareness on Climate Change. [Through knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, and focused actions, GGN will aim to enhance resilience at the local level, offering practical solutions and support to reduce the impacts of climate change on both natural and human systems]. 2.Encouraging Population’s Actions on Waste Management and Recycling Material Use - Introducing zero plastic policy. 3.Analyzing UGGps Energy Use 4.Evolving the Network’s Operation 5.Adoption of a GGN Carbon Offset Policy and Procedure 6.Collecting and using of Carbon Offsetting 7.Promoting Annual UGGp action plan on climate change adaptation 	<p>ER 1.7 Annual UGGp action plan on climate change adaptation. [Integrating the traditional knowledge of local communities for adapting to climate shifts].</p> <p>[Collaboration with local communities, scientists, and stakeholders to tackle climate change].</p> <p>[Communication on GGN network as proactive force in mitigating climate change effects and promoting sustainable adaptation strategies].</p>
<p>Key 2. Protecting and Conserving Geoparks Heritage and Resources.</p> <p>The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) encourages the holistic approach on territorial heritage and resources. Protection and conservation of the Geological heritage, protection and enhancement of the biodiversity and promotion of the cultural heritage lies within the conceptual definition of a Geopark.</p>	GGN GaB WG	<p>Key 2.1. Raising General Community Awareness on Geopark Heritage. [For example: Promoting exchanges of best practices for raising community heritage awareness].</p> <p>Key 2.2 Protecting and Conserving geological Heritage</p> <p>Key 2.3 Collaborating on the management of Protected Natural Areas and protecting geodiversity.</p> <p>Key 2.4 Promoting Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Key 2.5 Promoting the links between different types of heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffusion material (magazine, video,...) on GGN heritage awareness. (Example).

<p>Key 3: Collaborating on the management of Water Resources:</p> <p>Water resources are intrinsically linked to geology and are a vital component of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6: "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all." Water is a core focus within the mission of UNESCO Global Geoparks (UGGps), which aims to "promote awareness of the need for the sustainable use of Earth's natural resources" (UGGp guidelines, ii).</p>	GGN ICWO WG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encouraging sustainable management of Water Resources in Geoparks 2. Promoting conservation of existing water sources 3. Sustaining rivers and healthy water-dependent ecosystems <p>Collaboration with schools and local stakeholders to develop and implement educational initiatives on water resources.</p>	
<p>Key 4: Protect Marine Ecosystems.</p> <p>Promote that the UGGps situated in coastal regions recognize the value of their marine environment, incorporating it into their promotion and action plans to ensure its protection and sustainable management.</p>	GGN ICWO WG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protecting coastal resources and combat marine pollution in Geopark 2. Reducing plastic pollution in the oceans and coasts 3. Supporting Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) 	
<p>Key 5. Promoting Geoparks as implementation territories for the SDGs.</p> <p>GGN is committed to positioning Geoparks as dynamic platforms for sustainable development by leveraging their potential to address global challenges. Through continued collaboration at international, regional, and national levels, the GGN empowers Geoparks to act as living laboratories where geodiversity conservation, territorial heritage promotion, local innovation, and sustainable economic growth thrive.</p>	SDG'S WORKING GROUP	<p>Key 5.1. Continuation of the GGN SDG's working group activity at international, regional and national levels. [For example: Providing coordination tools, templates, guides and similar activities among the different levels of SDG WGs].</p> <p>Key 5.2. Reporting from each Geoparks on its contribution to SDGs.</p> <p>Key 5.3. Creation of a GGN Report on the contribution of Geoparks to SDGs.</p>	•
<p>Key 6. Empowering local communities and strengthening Geopark management.</p> <p>The Global Geoparks Network operates with a bottom-up</p>	GGN NN GGN IN WG	<p>Key 6.1 Ensuring the participation of Local Communities in Geoparks management</p> <p>Key 6.2 Strengthening the Geopark management body staff and partners (increasing</p>	

<p>approach, ensuring that local communities are central to the planning, management, and development of geoparks. This approach recognizes the value of local knowledge, culture, and practices, with a particular focus on integrating indigenous wisdom alongside modern scientific understanding.</p>		<p>of the number of staff, budget, number of partners). Key 6.3 Gender equality. Key 6.4 Young generation involvement. Key 6.5. Representation of Indigenous Communities. Key 6.6. Documenting and Promoting Local Knowledge, Traditions, and Intangible Heritage Key 6.7. Creating Policies and Tools to Preserve and Promote Local Languages. Key 6.8. Working to confront demographic challenges in rural areas.</p> <p>Key 8.4. Capacity building activities for Geopark Managers: Intensive courses for new managers of the GGN members.</p> <p>Key 8.5. Support Capacity building activities for GGN members at Regional and National levels. Key 8.6 Developing GGN digital tools for its members (Geoparks Educational e-Library, Geoparks e-Learning Database).</p>	
<p>Key 7. Mitigate Natural Disasters Over the next decade, the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) will strengthen its role in reducing the impacts of natural disasters, exacerbated by climate change, through a multi-faceted approach that combines scientific research, community engagement, and capacity-building.</p>	<p>GEOHAZARDS WG</p>	<p>Key 7.1. Strengthening the activity of the GGN Geohazards working groups activity at the international, regional networks and national and community levels. Key 7.2: Creating specific tools designed for the population to help them detect risks and respond effectively. Key 7.3 : UGGp action plan on geohazards and disaster mitigation. Key 7.4. Preparation of an annual GGN report on geohazards and climate change</p>	<p>(i.e Creating a comic book designed to help local populations in poor rural areas detect signs of possible landslides – Vietnam proposal)</p>

Key processes

GGN external relationships and visibility.

KEY PRIORITIES LTS35	GGN RESP.	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	EXPECTED RESULTS
<p>Key 8. Building Capacity, Strengthening Skills and Expertise Across GGN. In collaboration with the UNESCO Secretariat, GGN will coordinate annual capacity-building activities aimed at aspiring Geoparks, Geopark evaluators, and Geopark managers.</p>	GGN ExB	<p>Key 8.1 Comprehensive and coordinated planning of the capacity building activities.</p> <p>Key 8.2. 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.</p> <p>Key 8.3. 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an annual a calendar by GGN in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat for capacity building: aspiring Geoparks, Geopark evaluators, Geopark managers.
<p>Key 10: Ensuring Quality in the IGGP / UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme The quality and impact of the IGGP / UNESCO Global Geoparks rely on a robust framework of support, evaluation, and continuous improvement. The close collaboration between GGN and UNESCO Earth Science Section - IGGP Secretariat plays a critical role in facilitating this by assisting UNESCO in its tasks to maintain high standards of geological heritage protection, sustainable development, and community participation across the network. This includes working together for the success of GGN conferences and events, capacity building activities, promotional campaigns and facilitating the roster of qualified evaluators, ensuring that evaluations reflect</p>	GGN ExB	<p>Key 10.1. Facilitating the GGN's tasks in relation to the IGGP.</p> <p>Key 10.2. Facilitating the roster of Evaluators in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat.</p> <p>Key 10.3. Organizing advisory missions in aspiring and yellow-card holding Geoparks.</p> <p>Key 10.4. Supporting activities co-organized in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat.</p> <p>Key 10.5. Strengthening and equalizing the</p>	

<p>the UGGps philosophy and criteria. The GGN also supports aspiring Geoparks and those facing challenges by organizing advisory missions that provide expert guidance. To further strengthen the position of UGGps, the GGN advocates for a balanced recognition of the Programme alongside other UNESCO designations, ensuring that Geoparks' role in sustainable development is consistently reinforced. Collaboration with the IGCP / UNESCO Global Geoparks enhances the global scientific and conservation efforts, reinforcing Geoparks' capacity to contribute to the global community.</p>		<p>position of the IGGP in member states in relation to other UNESCO programmes.</p> <p>Key 10.6 Strengthen collaboration with IGCP.</p>	
<p>Key 11: Strengthening collaboration with other UNESCO Site designations GGN aims to deepen collaboration across various UNESCO site designations, including World Heritage Sites and Biosphere Reserves, to foster shared learning and integrated approaches to conservation and development. By identifying opportunities for joint activities, the GGN supports the creation of synergies that optimize resources and enhance the collective impact of UNESCO's conservation programmes. This collaborative approach not only strengthens the global efforts to address the SDGs but also ensures that UGGps are aligned with other UNESCO initiatives. Through these partnerships, the GGN amplifies the role of these territories in promoting sustainable development, climate action, and the protection of our shared natural heritage, creating a united front for a sustainable future.</p>	GGN IN WG	<p>Key 11.1. Develop a collaborative proposal for joint activities between site UNESCO designations</p> <p>Key 11.2. Promoting the resources and the potential of the UGGps as sustainable developing territories</p> <p>Key 11.3 Promoting joint activities with other UNESCO designations</p>	
<p>Key 12 Enhancing International Cooperation GGN recognizes that global cooperation is key to addressing complex challenges such as geodiversity loss, climate change, and socio-economic inequalities.</p>	GGN ExB	<p>Key 12.1 Strengthening collaboration with UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization - UNWTO, the International Union of Geological Sciences -</p>	

<p>By forging strong partnerships with international organizations like UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and other International Organizations (e.g., International Geographical Union, International Association of Engineering Geologists (IAEG), etc.), the GGN strengthens its capacity to advance its missions. These partnerships not only facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building but also foster joint initiatives aligned with the SDGs.</p> <p>Through coordinated efforts, the GGN demonstrates its leadership in promoting sustainable practices, while also contributing to the broader global agenda for environmental protection, community empowerment, and responsible tourism. The power of these international collaborations enhances the GGN's role as a global model for sustainable development.</p>		<p>IUGS, the International Union for Nature Conservation - IUCN, with other international relevant organizations.</p> <p>Key 12.3 Strengthening cooperation with IUGS, Key 12.4 Strengthening cooperation with IUCN, Key 12.5 Strengthening cooperation with other international relevant organizations.</p>	
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Support processes

GGN Governance

KEY PRIORITIES LTS35	GGN RESP.	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	EXPECTED RESULTS
<p>Key 9. Uplifting Leadership and Organizational Capacity of GGN</p> <p>GGN is focused on stabilizing and enhancing its management framework to support its mission effectively.</p> <p>Strengthening of the operation of the statutory bodies of the GGN and enforcing the operation and monitoring the outcomes of the GGN Working Groups (in organic contact with their regional Working Groups) will further strengthen the impact of the GGN activities.</p> <p>A reinforced operation unit within the GGN Secretariat will be established, equipped with optimized administrative systems, and comprehensive databases for archiving key materials such as documents, photos, and videos. These improvements will streamline operations and enhance communication across the network.</p> <p>Efforts to increase GGN’s visibility will focus on expanding its digital footprint through dynamic websites and social media platforms, showcasing the network’s activities and fostering engagement. Clear and consistent communication of foundational concepts and terminology will unify members and reinforce the shared identity of the GGN.</p> <p>Through strengthened networking activities at regional and national levels, GGN will foster collaboration, expand its influence, and support the development of a cohesive and vibrant global network of Geoparks. These initiatives position GGN as a robust and innovative coordinating structure that empowers its members and ensures the continued growth and impact of the network.</p>	<p>GGN ExB GGN AC GGN RN GGN NN</p>	<p>Key 9.1 Strengthen GGN’s management structure and statutory bodies operation to ensure its long-term partnership with UNESCO. Strengthen functionality of the GGN, building on the achievements of the GGN over the past 20 years.</p> <p>Key 9.2 Strengthen networking among UGGps at regional and national levels.</p> <p>Key 9.3 Enhance regional and national connections between UGGps with thematic targets to improve the quality and outcome of the GGN.</p> <p>Key 9.4 Communication and promotion of the UGGp concept. Developing user-friendly materials (e.g., comics, videos, publications) to clearly communicate the UGGp concept and language to local communities.</p> <p>Key 9.5 Empower national GGN Networks and strengthen their connection and collaboration with the National Commissions for UNESCO and the National Delegations at UNESCO.</p>	

ANNEX Article “Episode”