

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Bergstrasse-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark, Germany, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2002 / 2016



Geo-education and geo-communication for all target groups

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 17 staffs including 3 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: In visitor Centres about 500 000

Number of Geopark events: in total > 1000 events, about 700 by Geopark on site guides (Geopark volunteer programme) and Geopark Rangers, local communities and partners

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 83

Number of Geopark press release: > 1000

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- Biodiversity adventure day at Felsenmeer Information Centre
- Vocational training of the Geopark on site team Felsenmeer
- Mountainbiking event for girls in cooperation with the local community Mömlingen
- Cooperation with the Institute of Socioeconomic Studies Frankfurt: Citizen Science Project with the German Foundation for the Environment
- Global Nomadic Art 2019: Nature Art Fieldworks with 16 workshops in the Geopark territory
- Award “Geosite of the Year 2019” in the frame of the National Day of the Geosites
- Presentation of the “Fruit tree of the year 2019”
- European Geoparks Week 2019 with more than 70 events
- Participation in the Annual Conference “Geotop 2019” with presentation
- “Geopark on the Farm” with local farmers and Geopark Rangers related to the SDGs 2030

- Opening of new Geopark Information Centre Heppenheim
- Opening of new Geopark “Trail of Histor(ies)” in Fischbachtal
- Planting activity with the International Forest Art Association related to climate protection

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- International Tourism Fair in Berlin Global: UGG booth and 2 press conferences
- Editorial work for EGN Magazine No. 16 and Catalyst of EGN Newsletter 14, 15 and 16
- Workshops for UGG in Germany on ESD and SDG 2030 by the German UNESCO Commission and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- Participation in several Ruritage meetings in Bologna, Asti, Appignano (Italy), Psiloritis (Greece), several workshops, preparation of rural regeneration plan
- 15th Annual EGN Conference in Sevilla (Spain): SDG presentation, SDG workshop (catalyst), interactive SDG booth
- Delegation visits: Thailand, Korea, China (Shandong)

Management and Financial Status

- 1 additional staff (project leader), financial situation stable
- Final stage of new management plan for the time interval until 2030

Geoconservation

- Cooperation with Historical Mining Association, continued awarding “Geosite of the Year” 2019 and several ongoing historical mining conservation projects (visitor mine “Marie”)

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Cooperation with tourism: adventure day “Up to the Castle”, maps, brochures, workshops, events, common fairs (ITB Berlin, CMT Stuttgart, Maimarkt, Mannheim etc.)

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

- Ongoing Geoworkshops with UNESCO WHS Messel Pit
- Author’s reading workshops at UNESCO WHS Messel Pit in the frame of RURITAGE
- new educational equipment for Geopark Rangers (soil, castles ...)

Strategic partnership

- Partnership with the “Reiss-Engelhorn” Museums (Mannheim) including exhibition, presentations and activity days in the context of the “Ice Age Year”

Promotional activities

- Publication of 7 newsletters and 2 magazines including event programme (> 1000 events)

4. CONTACTS

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