

GGN/EGN –Causses du Quercy UGG Annual Report 2019

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: 2017 /

Two anniversaries at the same time in July in Cajarc:

20 years for the Parc and 2 years for the Geopark



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 21 staffs (including 2 geoscientists).

Number of visitors: (total for majors geosites or linked sites in 2019) 197 492.

Number of Geopark events: **6 key events** held by **Causses du Quercy UGG**:; “The 24 hours for the Nature” (april); EGN weeks 2019 – conferences, workshops, exhibitions, concerts - (May); Summer Universities of the Natural regional Parks (July); “20 years of the Park / 2 years of the Geopark” (July), “The Day of the Night” (11th edition) (October); chocolate exhibition for the géodélices (October).

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: school year 2018-2019: 18 schools classes / school year 2019-2020: 19 schools classes.

Number of Geopark press release: 25.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- Organization of a public awareness campaign among residents and visitors of the Geopark,
- Creation of pages in english on the Geopark’s website www.causses-du-quercy.fr/geoparc
- Broadcasting of a monthly local radio programme on Antenne d’Oc for a better territorial anchorage of the UGGp
- Release of press articles, radio or video reports;
- Installation of entry panels (road signs) with UGGp logo
- Insertion of a Geopark information on existing Park totems
- Installation of interpretation panels and tables related to geology in different géosites
- Presenting in several villages of the exhibition “the disappeared worlds”:
- Implementation of a local lauze extraction micro-quarry and inauguration of the first restoration of a traditional architectural heritage element

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation to the EGN CC meeting (2 representatives) in Swabe (Germany - March) and Sevilla (Spain - September)
- Participating to the French Geoparks national Committee (CNGF) meetings and hosting an study meeting for the french Corbières-Fenouillèdes aspiring Geopark and with the Geoparc of Sobrabe to built a cooperation project

Management and Financial Status

- 2019 Budget: 2 200 000 €.

Geoconservation

- End of writing phase of the management plan for the Lot National Nature Reserve of geological interest and transmission to the national instances for valuation
- Second participatory workshop to clean-up an old and unauthorized landfill in “Lébratières” phosphorite cave (a partnership with the local speleology committee).
- Following of DEADENDER research; the Geopark is an associate partner.
- Carrying out a hydrogeological tracing operation on “Causse de Gramat” with the purpose of securing drinking water abstractions.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Inauguration of the first phase of requalification work on the Cloup d'Aural geosite.
- Publishing of a geological hiking guide – 12 trails (Omnisciences Publishing)
- Inauguration of 2 new hiking thematic trails: megaliths (St-Chels); pastoralism (Espédaillac)
- Final development of geosites: the Crégols karst trail
- Project of SuperCayrou, bivouac made of dry stones, on the Compostella Path

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

- 3 educational programmes (themes: "Géoparcours"; "Funny bats"; "Insights on the path")
- Training sessions for partners (Geopark issues) and inhabitants (geological heritage).

Strategic partnership

- Chamber of Trades and Crafts; National education; etc.

Promotional activities

- Various publications, including “Les phosphatières du Quercy” (in Découvrir” Geopark’s collection”), “Les Causses du Quercy” (in Omnisciences geological guides collection), Les Causseries” (the Geopark semestrial event calendar) and the annual discovery tourist guide

4. CONTACTS

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