

# GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**TERRA.vita UNESCO Global Geopark, Germany, European Geoparks Network**

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2001 /2019**



Event for the opening of 41 new high standard hiking trails called TERRA.tracks

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 9 (minijobs not included)

**Number of visitors:** about 3 Mio

**Number of Geopark events:** 170 events in the printed program, 300 events on our website

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** none by us

**Number of Geopark press release:** about 100

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2019

- We secured a new annual funding of 250.000 € by state of Lower Saxony
- 5<sup>th</sup> successful revalidation as UGG
- TERRA.vita partner Museum am Schölerberg successfully applied for a 6 Mio. budget with

our major support for a complete remodeling of the museum (Titel:Trace of Life), serving as our infocenter

- TERRA.vita partner outdoor school Barkhausen successfully applied for a 5 Mio € budget to double its capacity with a major support of TERRA.vita

### **Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation**

- Participation at 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> CC Meeting of the EGN
- Participation in the working groups EU Relations, Ecological footprint of Geoparks and Fossils
- Hartmut Escher speaker of UGG`s in Germany and member of NatCom for Geoparks

### **Management and Financial Status**

- Annual Budget 1,5 Mio. EUR
  - Additional 320.000 EUR by Sparkassenfoundation
  - New professional accounting system and controlling implemented
- State of Lower Saxony provides 750.000,00 EUR (2019-2023) for Geopark development

### **Geoconservation**

- Study report on valuable landscapes and landscape elements in the geopark area to point out their significance for geosciences, geotourism and environmental education as well as their need for protection; addressed to municipalities and authorities
- Participation in the research project of the University of Osnabrück on the topic Ecological relevance of quarries
- 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on climate change and its impact on forests; information measures conference for forestry offices and forest farmers to increase disaster risk reduction
- Conference on revitalization of rivers and streams

### **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**

- Opening of 41 new TERRA.tracks (high standard hiking trails)
- Opening hiking track "Venner Bog" and track "Königstannen Culture Trail"
- Opening of project "Healthy Hour", promotion of families to go outside and hiking together
- New Audio Guide TERRA.vista (Views to listen to) and renewal of information panels at the juniper grove Merzen-Plaggenschale
- Renewal of information panels and dinosaur model at the dinosaur tracks Barkhausen
- Renewal of information panels and geologic wall element in TERRA.park Osnabrück
- printed event program with 170 events (edition of 15,000)
- 4 new bilingual TERRA.tips (brochures about our highlights)
- 80 volunteers equipped with new TERRA.vita vests and new name plates

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

- Advanced trainings in geology and mycology for certificated nature and landscape guides

### **Strategic partnership**

- We extended our formal partnership with additional outdoor educational actors
- First two cooperations signed, called “Rent a Ranger” with two big local companies
- INTERREG Va project together with De Hondsrug (NL) running in time

### **Promotional activities**

- Promotion of EGN, GGN and IGGP during a visit to the Altai Region in Russia
- Contribution to ITB Berlin
- Participation in national (Tour Natur) and several regional fairs
- Participation at the German/Dutch Stammtisch (group of regulars), promoting the INTERREG VA Geoparks project
- An aspiring Geopark from New Zealand visited TERRA.vita

## **4. CONTACTS**

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