

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, Turkey (European Geoparks Network)

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 04/09/2013 / 10/06/2020

Representative photo with caption (from the most important event this year)



Adala trash collection activity, 10/07/2020.

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 14 staffs including 4 geoscientist (s)

**Number of visitors:** If total number of the visitors to the geopark is difficult to estimate, show the number of the visitors to the major geosite (s), museum or visitor center. 32.400 visitors.

**Number of Geopark events:** Clarify the events held by management body and cooperative organization: 27

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:**

4 different activities have been made for the high schools' students in the geopark. One of those activities are the support of the Erasmus projects for Private Mersinli Şehit Ahmet Uludağ Primary School, two of the other 3 trainings are about Global Climate Change and one is about World

Mountains Day organized as online Seminars for high school students.

### **Number of Geopark press release: 39**

Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark has been the topic of local press for 37 times and 2 times in the international press during 2020. In addition, 2 promotional brochures and 8 cycling route brochures were prepared. We attended a radio and a television program as a guest for the promotion of our Geopark.

## **3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES**

### **Major achievements in 2020**

- The project of the visitor center to be built in the Kula Divlit Volcanic Park was accepted by the Zafer Development Agency. (the budget is 2.659.800 Turkish Lira)
- It has been decided that Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark will host for The International Geomorphology Symposium in 2021. The first announcement of the symposium was made in 14-17 October 2021 and the second announcement will be made in March 2021.

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

- We participate in the online meeting with the EGN Geohazard risk reduction group.
- We participated in the online meeting of EGN Volcanic Geopark Group
- The geopark staff participated in the online education programe (UNESCO Global Geoparks: Territories of resilience) that was held by Petrified forest UGGp (Lesvos) and European Geoparks Network in 10-26 July 2021.
- The geopark members participated in the online meeting of GGN cc member (17 December)
- Prof. Dr. Tuncer Demir and Dr. A. Serdar Aytaç, the coordinators of Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, attend the second EGN meeting held in 5 June 2020 and 15 September 2020.

### **Management and Financial Status**

- The annual budget of Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark has been double by The Union of Geopark Municipalities (From 1 million to 2 million Turkish Lira).

### **Geoconservation**

- Two rangers have been employed for the security of the geopark
- Damaged infrastructures in the Geopark were repaired and existing ones were maintained.
- In order to increase the awareness of the geopark a garbage collection activity was organized with collaboration of some non-governmental organizations.

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

- The geopark children's magazine has been made for the advertise of the geopark and increasing the awareness of the children

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

- A two-day Online seminar was organised on Climate Change within the context of 13 October International Natural Hazard Risk Reduction Day.
- A seminar was given about the formation and importance of the mountains within the context of 11 December World Mountains Day.

### **Strategic partnership**

- Cooperation was made regarding the Geomorphology Symposium to be organized together with Turkey Geomorphology Association.
- Cooperation was made with Manisa Provincial Directorate of Culture to identify new geological sites within the Geopark.
- A online meeting has been made with Assoc. prof. dr. Bülent ARIKAN in ITU Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences about an european union project for Global Climate Change
- A cooperation meeting was held for the TÜBİTAK project of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Özgür Karaoğlu at Eskişehir University, entitled "The determination of the magma reservoirs feeding the Kula Volcanism with geophysical methods and the investigation of the eruption risks with numerical modeling"
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### **Promotional activities**

- A new website has been designed for the Geopark (Both Turkish and English).
- A virtual picture gallery was produced in the new website for encouragement of the online participants.
- Some new bicycle and trekking routes were defined in the geopark area.
- An online geopark seminar was held with collaboration of TMMOB (The Chamber of Geological Engineers of Turkey).
- The geopark's coordinators participated in Oxford Geoheritage Virtual Conferanse (25-29 May 2021).
- An article titled "Early Pleistocene Underwater Volcanism in Gediz Valley: Kavtepe - Kula Volcanic Region" was published in the Journal of Geomorphological Researches related to the geopark.
- Geopark coordinator Prof Demir gave an radio interview about the Geopark
- A new brochures has been produced about geopark.
- As Chairman and advisor of Geopark Municipalities Union Mr. Azmi Açıkdil participated in a TV programe and gave an introductory talk gabout Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global

Geopark in Manisa.

- As representatives of the Geopark Municipalities Union and Kula – Salihli UGGp, all geopark members participated in Online UNESCO Grand Meeting Conference, which is organized every two years by UTMK (UNESCO Turkey National Commission) and lasted four days.
- By representing the Kula-Salihli Geopark, the coordinators of Kula-Salihli UGGp Prof. Dr. Tuncer Demir and Dr. A. Serdar Aytaç participated in geoparks panels organized both in Şanlıurfa and Kapadokya. They gave two separate presentations on Geoparks and Kula Salihli Geopark.
- Within the scope of TÜBİTAK Nature Education Activity (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey), the geopark was introduced to the teachers who visited the Geopark.
- An open field fashion show on dressing was organized in Kula Divlit Volcanic Park

#### **4. CONTACTS**

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