GGN – National Fora/Committees Annual Report 2021

1. IDENTITY
Iceland Geopark Committee, www.geopark.is
Year of inscription: 2014

2. MEMBERS
Chair: Sigurður Sigursveinsson, Katla Geopark, sigurdur@hfsu.is, vonfoss@gmail.com
Members:
Association of Icelandic Geographers
Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland
Environmental Agency of Iceland
Geoscience Society of Iceland
Icelandic Association of Local Authorities
Icelandic Environment Association
Icelandic Institute of National History
Icelandic National Commission for UNESCO
Icelandic Tourist Board
Icelandic World Heritage Commission
Katla UNESCO Global Geopark
Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources
Network of Public Universities in Iceland
Promote Iceland
Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark
Thingvellir National Park
University Centre of South Iceland
University of Iceland Institute of Earth Sciences
Vatnajökull National Park

3. ACTIVE APPLICATIONS
Active application in your country: None.
Territories that you are advising: None.
4. ACTIVITIES

The Icelandic Geopark Committee held two formal meetings in 2021, in March and June. The March meeting was held via the Zoom software. Dr. Kirstin Lemon, Chair of the UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks gave a presentation at the meeting: The role of National UNESCO Global Geopark Committees: an example from the UK. The presentation was well received and very useful for our national committee. Among other issues discussed at the meeting was the newly established UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Forum.

At the June meeting, also via Zoom, it was decided that the two UGGp in Iceland, Katla and Reykjanes, would find candidates for the Youth Forum with the intention of sending two delegates, one from each geopark, to the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Jeju, Korea. As it turned out, the conference was changed to a digital format because of Covid-19.

The Geoscience Society of Iceland was planning to host the 35th Nordic Geological Winter Meeting but because of the pandemic it has been postponed to 2022. A session is planned on Geoheritage, geoparks and geotourism chaired by members of the Icelandic Geopark Committee.

Members of the Icelandic Geopark Committee took part in the UNESCO day, held in Reykjavík on 3 September 2021.