

Global Geopark Network-The Annual Report 2021 of Leye-Fengshan

UNESCO Global Geopark

1. Identity

Name, County, Region

Leye-Fengshan UNESCO Global Geopark, China, APGN

Year of designated / Year of last revalidation: 2010, 2018

Representative pic:



The important annual activities --- On July 6th of 2021, Geological Society of China issued the "Announcement of the First Batch of Geological Cultural Villages (Towns)" (Dihuizi [2021] No. 67). Xiaya Geological Cultural Village in Fengshan County successfully passed the

evaluation of Geological Society of China, and became one of the three-star geological and cultural villages (towns) among the country. It is also the first and currently the only geological cultural village in Guangxi. The successful application of Xiaya Geological Cultural Village accelerated the integration between geology and culture, improved the protection and development of geological heritage, and promoted the sustainable development of global geoparks, which played a leading role in the poverty alleviation and rural revitalization of Fengshan.

2. Geopark's Data

Number of employee: 47 employees, 1 geologists included

Number of Tourists: 4,862,000

Number of activities: 6

1. Organizing activities to celebrate the World Wildlife Day on March, 3rd (with the theme of "Caring for wild animals and plants, building a community of life on earth") , and the 40th "Bird-Loving Week" in Guangxi from March 20th to March 26th (with the theme of "To love birds and protect birds with hand in hand, to build an ecological homeland with heart-to-heart"). All the staff of committee took part in these activities, and it greatly raised the public awareness of wildlife protection.

2. Working together with 20 sister geoparks to carry out "The 2nd APGN Geoparks Week & the 52nd Earth Day for Opening Ceremony of

Sister Geoparks Exchange Exhibition”. The Geopark organised activities by on-site publicity, online quizzes to win tickets, and organizing site visits for students. 10 panels of the science popularization were displayed, more than 500 brochures of the science popularization were given out, and 200 geopark tickets were distributed.

3. By setting up a booth for promotion on International Environment Day, staff of the geopark answered 12 questions from the public and gave out 300 geopark brochures.

4. On June 17th, the launching ceremony of research and practice activities for primary and middle school students of Baise city was successfully held in Leye. Leaders from education departments of Baise city and 29 representatives from the research and practice base for primary and middle school students attended this ceremony.

5. The " Science Caravan Enter Campus" activity was carried out in Leye on the National Science Popularization Day 2021. Many spacecraft models and popular science equipment were put on display for the students, it was a wonderful science feast for the children. These activities helped the teenagers to establish a correct concept about our nature and science, and have a better understanding about the idea of “Advocating science, cherish our living environment, and protect the geological heritage" and to make the concept of "A community of lives with mountains, rivers, forests, fields, lakes and grasses" deeply rooted in

the hearts of people. More than 200 brochures and cultural and creative products of the geopark were distributed during this period.

6. Activities of the "National Science Popularization Day 2021" was carried out in Fengshan from September 15th to September 17th, 2021. By carrying out science popularization and education activities in the campuses, scenic area and communities, the geopark enhanced its influence and popularity and helped people to learn more about the geopark.

Number of school classes for Geopark education: 1 classes, 180 people

Number of news/messages released:

3 pieces of news were released on GGN, 60 pieces of news were released on WeChat Official Accounts of the geopark and 45 pieces of news were released on Leye-Fengshan UGGp website www.lyfsgy.com.

3. Geopark's activities

Main achievements in 2021

(1) In March 2021, the geopark was nominated as the research and practice base for primary and secondary school students of Baise and the second batch of research and practice base for primary and secondary school students of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. In November 2021, the geopark was awarded as the science popularization base of ecological environment of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. These titles provided a broader platform for the geopark to carry out research

practice and educational activities of science popularization. It also improved the scientific literacy of the people and draw their attention for the environment and ecological protection.

(2) Establishing open lab for science research in 2021. The open fund was used for researches on the abrupt climate events recorded by oxygen isotope of the stalagmites in caves of the geopark, the human history research of the geopark, and the dyeing techniques of the Landianyao nationality. These researches were carried out in three directions, including geological relics investigation and evaluation research, humanities and history research, and ethnic folk culture, which greatly improved the science research level of the geopark.

Contribution to GGN--- Network activities & Participation

Firstly, we actively took part in the online meetings held by GGN and APGN, and exchanged idea with experts and our sister geoparks, and invited experts to give their advice on the 2022 reevaluation. Secondly, we actively communicated with international and domestic sister geoparks and carried out online and offline activities on the earth day. Thirdly, we discussed cooperation projects with our sister geopark-Massif Des Bauges UGGP, and we signed a cooperation agreement and made sure about the cooperation projects. Due to the inflence of COVID-19 pandemic, details and progress of the cooperation projects are still waiting for completing. Fourthly, the geopark actively attended the

Digital 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Finance status

The Geopark has independent finance budget and is responsible for preparing the annual budget. The fund mainly comes from tickets revenue and special fund from superior authorities, among which the scenic areas of the Geopark received 4.862 million visitors with the ticket revenue of 4.2 million yuan and special fund of 2.85 million yuan from superior authorities.

Geoheritages conversation

There are 138 geosites in the Geopark, among which there are 10 world-class geosites, 13 national-class geosites, and 115 geosites at province-level. Management committee of the geopark attaches great importance to the protection of geological relics. The geopark carried out 79 protection inspections, solving 47 problems, and stopped 5 illegal quarrying in the Geopark. There were 224 employees participating in these protection inspections. The geopark issued 18 rectification notices to the people who violated the *Regulations on Protection and Management of Geological Heritage*, and asked relevant people to deal with these illegal projects in a limited time.

Sustainable tourism (Geo-tourism)

Devoting into promotion of the geopark. Firstly, we Integrated tourism resources of surrounding counties, and constructed 4 tourist trails

based on the nature, humanities, red culture, characteristics of the geopark. Secondly, we established cooperative partnership with 25 enterprises in the counties, most of the them were related to the cultural and creative products and native products with local characteristics.

Strategic partners

Related government departments: Natural Resources Bureau, Agriculture Bureau, Education Bureau, Culture, Broadcast, News, Sports & Tourism Bureau, Development & Reform bureau, Animal Husbandry Bureau, Transportation Bureau, Housing & Construction Bureau, Environmental Protection Bureau, Water Conservancy Bureau; Tourism enterprises: tourism companies, travel agencies, hotels, agritainments and etc. Science research partners: Institute of Karst Geology of Chinese Science Academy, University of Geneva, University of Zurich, University of Lyon of France, University of Munich of Germany, China University of Geosciences (Wuhan), University of Guangxi, Normal University of Guangxi, Guilin Tourism College and etc. Other conservation areas: National forest park, Yachang orchid reservation area, planting base, breeding base and our sister geoparks.

Publicity & Promotion activities

Setting up advising boards and science popularization gallery for promotion. Besides, we updated the website in time and more than 80 pieces of news was published on relevant media, including Guangxi

News, Baise TV, Youjiang daily, Leye media, Hechi TV, Hechi new media, Wechat official account of the geopark, local TV station, etc. It greatly improve the visibility of Leye Fengshan UGGP.

Manager: Tang Chaojun

E-mail: lefgeopark@163.com

Science consultant (geologist): Zhang Yuanhai, Jean·Bottazzi

E-mail: 646509080@qq.com