

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2022

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy, (European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2011 /2019



Tiro della forma ("Cheese wheel throw"): a traditional game of the Apuan Alps during the Geopark's re-enactment event "Bosa Medievale"

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 23 staffs including 3 geoscientists

Number of visitors: the 2021 data count about 25.000 visitors considering the number of individuals visiting the tourist caves and our museums or visitor centres (entry to the geoparks is not governed by ticket sales and entrances are so numerous that it is impossible to determine their exact number)

Number of Geopark events: 18 events held by Apuan Alps UGGp management body and 56 events held by partners

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: the total number school classes is 49, for a total of about 1000 students

Number of Geopark press release: 41 press releases

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2022

- Grants for maintenance and signs along the Apuan trails

- “24 non-human looks”: a Lorenzo Possenti exhibition on the respect for wild Nature in Seravezza Visitors Centre
- Opening of the third acrobatic high rope course in Equi Terme
- 8th “Maria Ansaldi” Conference at the Geopark Farm on "the unexpected charm of the Apuan landscapes"
- Medieval Bosa, event for the enhancement of tangible and intangible heritage of local communities, with their history, mythology, folklore and folk traditions
- Apuan Autumn, two days of celebrations and re-enactment in Bosa di Careggine
- Participatory process for the Management Plans of the “Natura 2000” Areas in the Apuan Alps
- ANCI Toscana conference on the mountain development at the Geopark Farm

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Participation at the EGN AC and CC meeting in De Honsdrug UGGp (Netherland)
- Participation at the EGN AC and CC meeting in Sesia Val Grande UGGp (Italy)
- Participation at the 16th EGN Conference in Sesia Val Grande UGGp (Italy) with poster presentations
- EGN magazine, issue 19, “Acta apuana, a scientific journal as an effective tool to provide knowledge of the Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy)”
- Participation in EGN Geohazards Working group
- Revalidation mission undertaken by Geopark representative

Management and Financial Status

- The management structure is made up of several offices and services for a total of 23 people and the operating budget for 2022 totals € 2,157.964,50 (increase of about € 318.480 since 2019)
- New financial status leads to an easier management of the dynamics of spending with costs and assets optimisation

Geoconservation

- Final drafting of the Integrated Park Master Plan and the management Plan of the Natura 2000 network sites

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Grants to support sustainable tourism and activities managed by Geopark’s stakeholders with a rich programme of hikes and activities

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

- The Geopark for school. Grants for promoting environmental education
- Summer camps for children ages 8-14 years
- Scholarship on the role of the wolf in the ecosystem of the Apuan Alps funded by the Geopark and Pisa University
- IDDRR 2022: training course and Mountain Safety on the pitfalls of the Apuan Alps in collaboration with the Alpine Rescue
- IDDRR 2022: educational activities with school about the landslides at the Geopark Farm

Strategic partnership

- Agreement for the Management of the Botanical Garden in Pian della Fioba with Massa Municipality and Pisa University
- Agreement between the Geopark and National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology to deepen the geological and seismic knowledge of the Apuan Alps
- Agreement between the Geopark and the National alpine and cave rescue service for the dissemination of knowledge and safety in the Geopark use
- Memorandum of understanding between the Geopark and ARCA Association to promoting the historical memory of the Gothic Line in the Carchio and Folgorito area
- Agreement between the Geopark and the Italian Alpine Club for the maintenance of the hiking paths and signs on the Apuan Alps

Promotional activities

- 2022 Calendar dedicated to the tourist discovery of the Apuan Alps through illustrated postcards
- "Along the Gothic Line...": on 2nd June 2022, the third edition at Mosceta di Stazzema
- Wild food foraging at Bosa Geopark Farm during the EGN week
- "The Stone Bridges of the Apuan Alps". Presentation of the book written and edited by the Geopark at Palazzo Rossetti and Botanical Garden of Lucca
- Reprinting and update of the promotional brochures
- "A bridge between nature and culture": a workshop on the heritage of the protected areas organized in collaboration with Tuscany Region
- "The faces of the forest", a video to celebrate the relationship between human beings and forests in Tuscany

4. CONTACTS

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