



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
Global  
Geoparks



# **WELCOME GUIDE**

## **for UNESCO**

## **Global Geoparks**

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### **How to Get Started & Useful Information**

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**GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK**  
**WELCOME GUIDE**  
**for UNESCO Global Geoparks**  
**How to Get Started & Useful Information**

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**CONTACT GGN**

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**GGN Secretariat:** [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com)

**Welcome**

It is great to be able to welcome your territory as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Your territory is now one of the UNESCO Global Geoparks worldwide which are members of the Global Geoparks Network.

Now as a UNESCO Global Geopark, you are invited to become the institutional member of the Global Geoparks Network.

This guide will provide you with step-by-step descriptions of how to get started, how to continue and how to stay informed and connected with all the members of the Global Geoparks Network.

We hope this guide will help ensure that your introduction to the Global Geoparks family will be an enjoyable and rewarding one!

The GGN Executive Board







**1st GGN Ordinary General Assembly 2016, English Riviera UGGp, United Kingdom**



**2nd GGN Ordinary General Assembly 2018, Adamello Brenta UGGp, Italy**

# I. How to become a member of the Global Geoparks Network

Once UNESCO has awarded your territory as a UNESCO Global Geopark, there are some administrative actions that your Geopark has to fulfil.

Below, there is a checklist of basic administrative actions that you have to complete and which will ensure that you have taken all the necessary steps to get started.

Please make sure that you complete the following checklist no later than the 31st of December of the year that your territory has been awarded as a UNESCO Global Geopark:

1. Apply for GGN Membership (Institutional member)	
2. Inform the GGN of the contact details of your Geopark's contact person(s)	
3. Inform the GGN of your Geopark Representative for the General Assembly of the GGN	
4. Contact your GGN Regional Geoparks Network	
5. Pay your Annual GGN Membership Fee	
6. Get informed about the basic documents regarding the operation of the Global Geoparks Network	
7. Use the Global Geoparks Network logo for your communication activities	

Below you can find detailed information on how a new UNESCO Global Geopark can fulfill the above basic administrative actions:

## 1. Apply for GGN Membership (Institutional member)

Membership of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is obligatory for all UNESCO Global Geoparks, according to the operational guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks.

*Application procedure:*

- After your Geopark has been recognised as a UNESCO Global Geopark, you will receive a welcome letter from the GGN with useful information accompanied by the following documents:
  - GGN Membership Application Form
  - **INVOICE FOR THE PAYMENT OF YOUR GEOPARK'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE**
  - Contact Details Form
  - GGN logo
- In order to officially become a member of the GGN, fill in the GGN Membership Application Form and send it back to the GGN.





## 2. Inform the GGN of the contact details of your Geopark's contact person(s)

Continuous communication and collaboration between the UNESCO Global Geoparks, the Global Geoparks Network (GGN), the UNESCO Secretariat and the Regional Networks is essential for all the Geoparks but also for the operation of the Network.

► Fill in the Contact Details Form and submit this form to the GGN.

**Don't forget to inform the GGN about any changes of your Geopark's contact details.**

## 3. Inform the GGN of your Representative at the General Assembly of the GGN

Each UNESCO Global Geopark should appoint one representative for the General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Network.

► Inform the GGN of your Representative for the General Assembly of the Global Geoparks Network and submit their name and contact details to the GGN.

## 4. Contact your GGN Regional Geoparks Network

The Global Geoparks Network members located within a region or continent form Regional Geoparks Networks. The GGN promotes networking on a regional basis.

A new UNESCO Global Geopark, by becoming a member of the Global Geoparks Network is automatically a member of the Regional Geoparks Network in their region or continent.

The GGN Regional Geoparks Networks serve to coordinate GGN activities at a regional or continental level and to exchange information and co-operation between UNESCO Global Geoparks and Global Geoparks professionals at a regional or continental level.

At present a new UNESCO Global Geopark can participate in one of the following GGN Regional Geoparks Networks:

- ✓ Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN)
- ✓ European Geoparks Network (EGN)
- ✓ Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network (GeoLAC)
- ✓ African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network (AUGGN).

The activities of Regional Geoparks Networks include:

- Regional Geoparks Conferences,
- Regional workshops and seminars,
- Capacity building activities,
- Common projects,
- Promotional activities,
- Common publications,
- Common communication tools.

Procedure:

1. Contact the Coordinator of your Regional Networks (see page 25 for contact details)	
2. Inform the Regional Network of the contact details of your Geopark's contact person(s)	
3. Inform the Regional Network of your representatives for the Coordination Committee of your Regional Geoparks Network	
4. Stay connected with your Regional Network	
5. Be aware of the basic documents regarding the operation of the Regional Geoparks Network and use the Regional Geoparks Network logo for your communication activities	



## 5. Pay your annual GGN Membership Fee

Each UNESCO Global Geopark must pay an annual GGN Membership Fee.

In accordance with the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) statutes (Article 04, Section 4): "Membership of the GGN will be discontinued due to non-payment of fees after the formal notice of payment and the Geopark **will be delisted from the UNESCO Global Geoparks**".

The annual GGN Membership Fee covers the calendar year in question.

The GGN Executive Board announces the amount of the annual GGN Membership Fee for the following year, approved by the GGN General Assembly.

The current annual GGN Membership fee is €1,500.

This fee is divided as follows:

1. \$1,000 is financial support for UNESCO (managed by UNESCO Secretariat)
2. The remaining amount is for facilitating the operation and common activities of the GGN.

All UNESCO Global Geoparks are informed of the expenses connected with annual Membership Fees managed by the GGN. A Report on the GGN Annual Accounts is approved by the GGN Executive Board. The report is sent to all UNESCO Global Geoparks during the first months of the following fiscal year and is approved by the GGN members during the Annual General Assembly for Accounts (see next point).

Please be sure to pay your Geopark annual Membership Fee when you receive the invoice from the GGN.

In case you have any problem with your membership fee payment, please contact the GGN President and the GGN Treasurer.

Fee payment procedure:

- ▶ GGN sends an invoice for the payment of its annual GGN Membership Fee to each new UNESCO Global Geopark.  
On the invoice is the annual GGN Membership Fee that has to be paid, information about the transfer procedure, the bank account and all the details about the payment.
- ▶ New UNESCO Global Geoparks have to pay their annual Membership Fee no later than **31<sup>st</sup> of December** after receiving the invoice from the GGN.
- ▶ The name of the Geopark needs to appear clearly on the bank transfer document.
- ▶ After payment, send a copy of the bank receipt to the GGN President and GGN Treasurer.

**6. Be informed of the basic documents regarding the operation of the Global Geoparks Network**

Please find below the LINKS for the Global Geoparks Network documents:

**1. The Global Geopark Network (GGN) Statutes.**

<http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/>

**2. The Global Geopark Network (GGN) Internal Rules and Regulations.**

<https://www.visitgeoparks.org/>

**3. The Global Geoparks Network - Code of Ethics**

<https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org/f>

**4. GLOBAL GEOPARK NETWORK in Facebook**

# II. Your responsibilities as a member of the Global Geoparks Network

**(Networking and annual administrative actions)**

Networking plays a very strong role in the success of the UNESCO Global Geoparks operation and development worldwide.

Thus active networking with the other UNESCO Global Geoparks and the active participation in networking at the global, regional, national and local level is a key responsibility of a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Networking plays a fundamental role in facilitating the sharing of experience, formation of joint initiatives and projects and a highly significant role it plays in capacity-building.

A UNESCO Global Geopark should actively participate in the following activities:

1. The General Assembly of the GGN
  - Annual General Assembly for Accounts (by digital communication)
  - Ordinary General Assembly (parallel to the International Geoparks Conference)
2. The Coordination Committee Meetings of the Regional Geopark Networks
3. The International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks (every 2 years)
4. The Regional Geopark Conferences or Symposia (every 2 years)
5. The National Geoparks Forum or Committee
6. Digital information meetings (Digital Fora, Seminars etc.)
7. Capacity building activities (courses, exchange of staff, knowledge exchange activities)
8. Geopark thematic Working Groups
9. Common promotional activities

A UNESCO Global Geopark should communicate its activities to the other Geoparks through the GGN Secretariat, using the common communication tools (GGN websites, GGN Newsfeed, GGN Newsletter and Regional Geoparks Networks communication tools – website, newsletter, magazine).

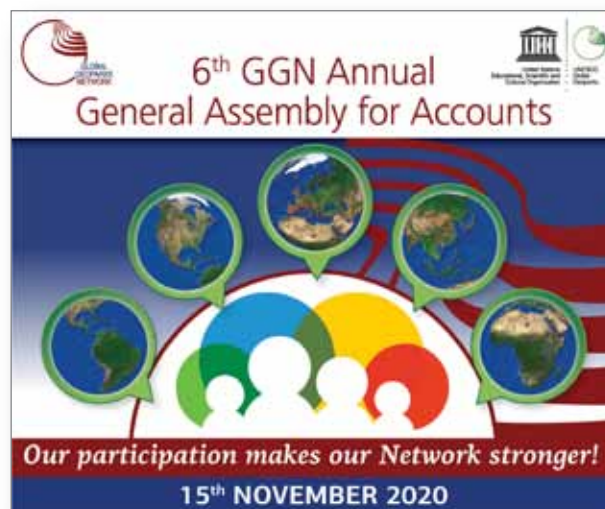
At a minimum, all UNESCO Global Geoparks are expected to complete certain annual administrative actions in order to contribute to the positive operation of the Network.

Below there is a list of the basics administrative actions that all UNESCO Global Geoparks have to fulfill every year.

Please make sure the following checklist is completed by the corresponding deadline:

1. Prepare your Geopark’s Annual Report and submit it to the GGN		
2. Pay your annual GGN Membership Fee		
3. Send your written opinion on the GGN Annual Accounts and Budget	(You will be informed about this deadline)	





Below you will find detailed information on how a UNESCO Global Geopark can fulfill the above annual basic administrative actions:

### 1. Prepare your Geopark's Annual Report of activities and send it to the GGN

Every year all UNESCO Global Geoparks are invited to report on their activities by the submission of an activity Annual Report. These reports are published at the GGN website ([www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)).

*Annual Report submission procedure:*

- ▶ The call to all UNESCO Global Geoparks to prepare their annual report is issued via the GGN Newsfeed. Please note that these reports always relate to the activities of the previous year.
- ▶ UNESCO Global Geoparks have to fill in the Geopark Activity Annual Report template.
- ▶ UNESCO Global Geoparks have to submit their Annual Report to the GGN by no later than the 28th of February, in every year.

### 2. Pay your annual GGN Membership Fee

Each UNESCO Global Geopark shall pay an annual membership fee (dues) at a rate of €1,500.

For more details about the annual GGM Membership Fee and the Fee payment procedure please see page 7.

### 3. Send your agreement on the GGN Annual Accounts and Budget

Members approve the GGN Accounts of the previous fiscal year and the GGN Budget for the coming year at the Annual General Assembly on Accounts held each year in March.

*Agreement procedure:*

- ▶ Each year the report on the GGN Annual Accounts and the budget is distributed to all UNESCO Global Geoparks via the GGN Newsfeed in advance of the General Assembly.
- ▶ Then UNESCO Global Geoparks have to send a written statement to the GGN Executive Board within one month after receiving the Report on the GGN Annual Accounts of the previous year and the GGN Budget for the next year (You will be informed about the deadline).

### 4. Participation in Geopark thematic Working Groups

The main goals of the Geopark Working Groups is the coordination of activities (on a specific subject), coordination of exchange of ideas and best practices, proposal of new regulations and concepts. They serve as a channel of communication between the GGN members with similar scientific and professional interests.

Working Groups are formed at the Regional level, giving the opportunity to all interested Geoparks to participate. The new UNESCO Global Geoparks can participate in one or more of the thematic Working Groups formed after a decision of the Coordination Committee.



APGN CC Meeting 2019, Rinjani-Lombok UGGp, Indonesia

GGN Working Groups are formed after a decision of the GGN Executive Board, have geographical representation, a maximum term of four (4) years and consist of 9-10 GGN Members with proven experience of the subject.

#### GGN Working Groups:

- ✓ GGN Working Group on Geo-Hazards
- ✓ GGN Working Group on Volcanic Areas
- ✓ GGN Working Group on Geological Heritage Assessment
- ✓ GGN Working group on Tourism
- ✓ GGN Working group on Education
- ✓ GGN Working group on Sustainable Development Goals
- ✓ GGN Working group on Island Geoparks



EGN CC Meeting 2018, Karawanken/Karavanke UGGp, Austria & Slovenia



# III. Stay Informed

A great challenge for the operation of the Network is the need for continuous communication and contact between the UNESCO, GGN and all GGN Members.

UNESCO Global Geoparks have a variety of common communication tools which facilitate their communication with UNESCO, GGN and all members. Through these communication tools UNESCO Global Geoparks also stay informed about common activities and events.

For this reason, the GGN strongly recommends all UNESCO Global Geoparks to:

- Check the latest news regularly
- Update the contact details of your Geopark and the contact person(s)
- Send your latest news and activities to the GGN in order to share these with the other members of the Network, through the GGN various communication tools.

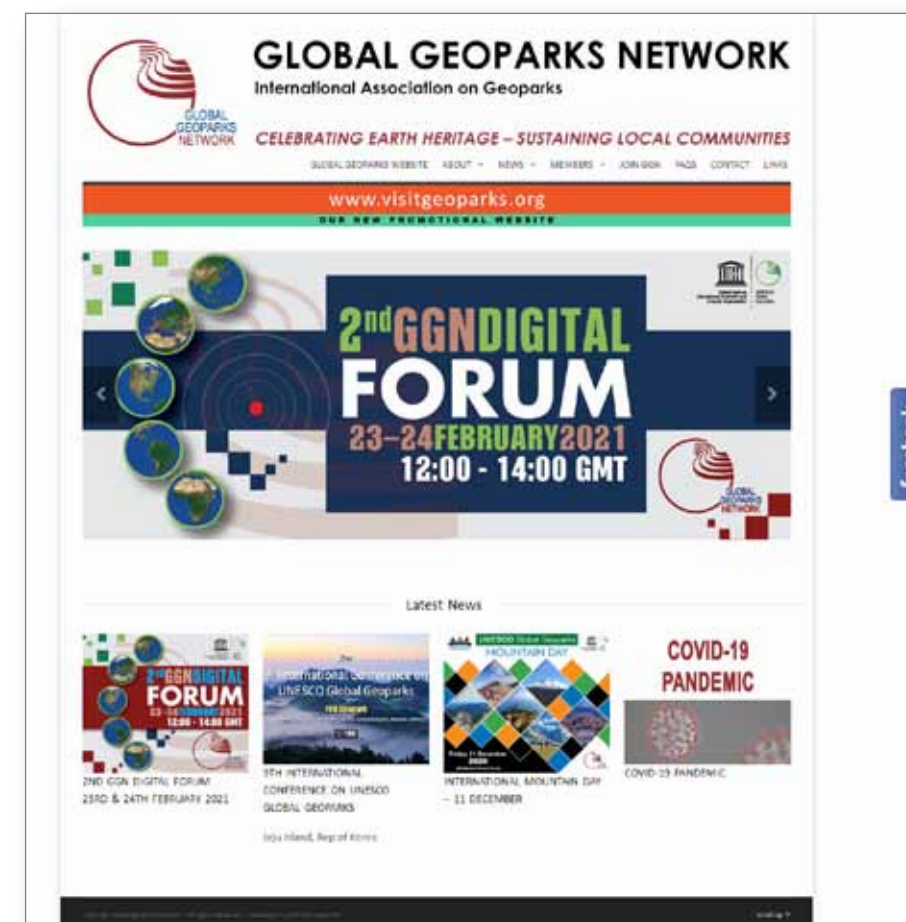
Below you can find information on how a UNESCO Global Geopark can stay informed about the latest news of the Global Geoparks Network and UNESCO Global Geoparks:

## GGN NewsFeed

The GGN Executive Board has established regular communication with GGN members through the GGN NewsFeed.

All UNESCO Global Geoparks receive the latest news of the Network directly in their email inbox.

There is a regular monthly edition of the GGN Newsfeed as well as Special Editions for important events.



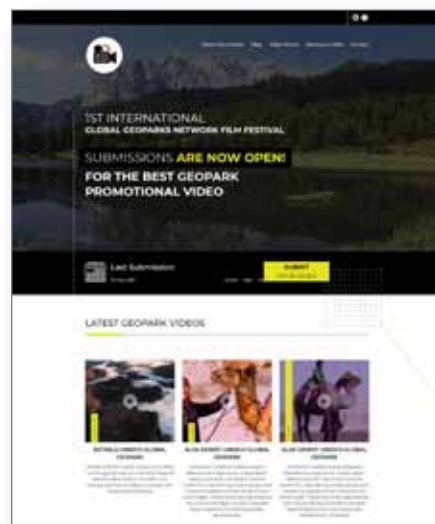
GGN website 'www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org'

## Websites

UNESCO Global Geoparks can find useful information and stay updated on the latest news through the following websites:

- <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/unesco-global-geoparks/>  
UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section website provides important announcements about UNESCO Global Geoparks and useful information about the revalidation and evaluation procedure and hosts information for the general public.
- [www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)  
The GGN Association website provides information and resources for the Network, the UNESCO Global Geoparks and the general public. The website has a public facing side with good news, stories, and announcements, highlighting the work of its members, along with information on the common activities, programmes and campaigns.
- [www.globalgeoparks.org](http://www.globalgeoparks.org)  
The website works in close relation with the CAGS – Beijing. It mainly GGN website ([www.global-geoparksnetwork.org](http://www.global-geoparksnetwork.org)) which is operated by the GGN office in CAGS – Beijing. It mainly presents the GGN activities organised by the APGN members.
- [www.visitgeoparks.org](http://www.visitgeoparks.org)  
The new GGN promotional website was launched in 2020. The main aim of target of this website is the promotion of Geoparks to society and to the tourism industry, allowing visitors to easily understand, feel and experience the territories. This site is also connected, by links, to the existing administrative sites of the GGN, in order to transmit all kinds of information to members and visitors. A promotional video (<https://youtu.be/YmWOUhRnad8>) has also been created for the promotion of this new GGN website.





GGN Film Festival promotional website



GGN promotional website 'www.visitgeoparks.org'

### ► <https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org>






This new GGN video platform was created in order to host the UNESCO Global Geoparks promotional videos for the 1st GGN Film festival. The first edition of the GGN Film festival will be organized during the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks which will be held in Jeju Island in 2021.

The GGN strongly suggests that all UNESCO Global Geoparks also regularly explore their Regional Networks websites:

- ✓ [www.asiapacificgeoparks.org](http://www.asiapacificgeoparks.org) (Asia Pacific Geoparks Network)
- ✓ [www.europeangeoparks.org](http://www.europeangeoparks.org) (European Geoparks Network)
- ✓ [www.redgeolac.org](http://www.redgeolac.org) (Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network)
- ✓ [www.visitgeoparks.org/african-geopark-network](http://www.visitgeoparks.org/african-geopark-network) (African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network)

### Social Media

You can also find the Global Geoparks Network and UNESCO Global Geoparks on social media where you can check out the latest news, various promotional materials and videos and useful announcements:

-  @globalgeoparksnetwork (GGN)
-  @unescoEARTH (UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section)
-  @GlobalGeoparks
-  @unescoEARTH (UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section)
-  unesco.earth (UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section)

### Calendar of Events

The Calendar of Events disseminates information on future Geopark meetings to support visibility of Network events and avoid overlapping among with other Network events.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are informed about the latest news of the Calendar of Events through the GGN NewsFeed which all GGN Members receive directly in their email inbox.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are encouraged to avoid overlapping with the dates of already planned events and to inform the GGN about any event of international interest by sending an e-mail to the GGN.

### GGN Newsletter

The GGN Newsletter is the official magazine on the GGN and is published by the GGN Office in Beijing. It includes articles providing information on the Geoparks' activities worldwide as well as the GGN activities.

The GGN will inform all UNESCO Global Geoparks, through the GGN Newsfeed, of the preparation of the upcoming GGN Newsletter, the deadline and all the details about how to prepare and send your articles.

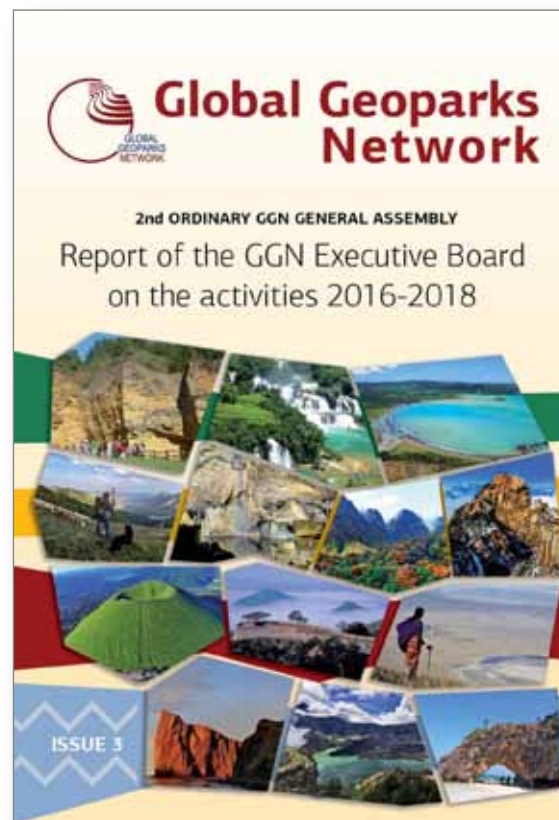
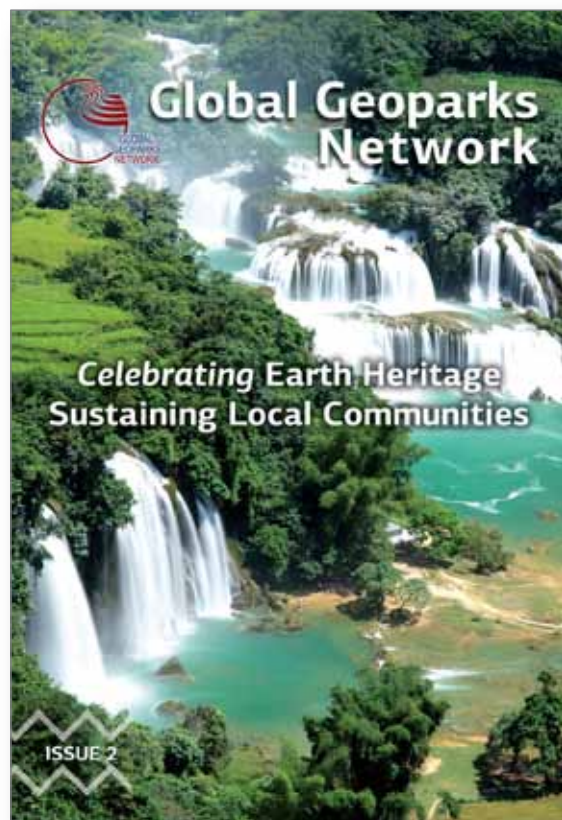


### GGN map

The GGN publishes the annual GGN Map on the occasion of the UNESCO General Assembly and distributes it to all the members, tourism fairs, GGN meetings and conferences etc. The main target of the GGN map is the common presentation of all UNESCO Global Geoparks.







#### GGN brochure

The GGN publishes the GGN Brochure which presents an overview of the GGN and its structure, describes its main tasks, operation and activities. It is distributed via International Tourism Fairs, Geopark partner organisations, International journalists, GGN Meetings and Conferences etc.

#### GGN Promotional Video was produced

The GGN Promotional Video was produced by Haute Provence UNESCO Global Geopark team to celebrate the International Year of Sustainable Tourism 'Geoparks-innovative destinations for sustainable tourism'.

Similar promotional videos have been created for the participation in the ITB 2017 and ITB 2018 as well as for the International Intensive Course 2018.

A special video message for UNESCO Global Geoparks has been prepared by the Global Geoparks Network Executive Board on April 22, 2020 for the celebration of the International Mother Earth Day in order to boost the GGN initiative "UNESCO Global Geoparks - Territories of Resilience" during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The GGN invites its members to explore all the promotional videos in the GGN Website [http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page\\_id=2934](http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=2934).

### Got a story or news?

Email to [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and share it with all the others UNESCO Global Geoparks.

## IV. Stay Connected

One of the great benefits of Geoparks is being able to network, to exchange ideas and connect to each other through various common events.

A variety of conferences and meetings, common activities and events are carried out by the Global Geoparks Network, the GGN Regional Networks, the GGN National Fora/Committees and UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Some of the highlights of the Geoparks' Calendar of events are:

- International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks
- Regional Geopark Conferences/Symposia
- National Geopark meetings and events
- Thematic seminars and workshops
- Capacity building activities,
- Participation in International Tourism Fairs and events
- Celebration of International Days

All GGN members are informed about the upcoming common events and capacity building activities through the GGN Newsfeed.

Stay connected with the following common activities and events:

### A. Geopark Conferences - Common biennial activities

#### 1. International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks

The International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks is the most important event of the Network. It is held biannually in collaboration with the Global Geoparks Network, UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section, the Regional Geoparks Networks, National Fora/Committees and GGN members.

UNESCO Global Geoparks representatives and Geopark professionals from all over the world can participate in the biennial International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks. Taking place in different UNESCO Global Geoparks and different continents, the Conference gives all Geoparks the opportunity to connect, discuss best practices derived from successful projects, be immersed in diverse cultures, network, build stronger and effective partnerships and collaborations and share unforgettable experiences at exhibits and events.

The International Geoparks Conference can be hosted by any organization or country where UNESCO Global Geoparks already exists, and whose contribution is essential for the success of the event.

The next 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks will be held in Jeju UNESCO Global Geopark (Republic of Korea).

The GGN Newsfeed shares all the latest news about the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks but also the announcements for the hosting of the next International Conferences on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

#### 2. Regional Geoparks Conferences

Every two years UNESCO Global Geoparks can participate in or organise a Regional Geoparks Conference.

Regional Geoparks Conferences are much like the International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, but are run at a regional level, allowing Geoparks of every Regional Network to meet, discuss and network and also plan for the year ahead and share progress on common projects.





**14th EGN Conference 2017, Azores UGGp, Portugal**

Regional Geoparks Conferences also take place every two years. They are organised by the Regional Geoparks Networks in a different place every time and should not be organized in the same year of the International Geoparks Conference.

The next Regional Conference that will be organised in 2022 are the

- ✓ 7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Network APGN Symposium, and the
- ✓ 15th European Geoparks Conference.

## B. Capacity Building Activities

The GGN and UNESCO Earth Sciences & Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section operate and support training courses and other capacity building activities relevant to the UNESCO Global Geoparks establishment, operation, management and activities.

The capacity building activities provide the opportunity to participants to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks can make a real impact on local communities and on society and also the chance to discuss conceptual issues of UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The main capacity building activities that a UNESCO Global Geopark can participate are:



**APGN Symposium 2019, Rinjani-Lombok UGGp, Indonesia**

### 1. International Intensive Course on Geoparks (Lesvos, Greece)

This has taken place in Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark every June, since 2007. It is organised by the University of the Aegean's – Department of Geography and the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest, with the contribution of Geopark experts from all over the globe. It comprises the creation and operation of a theoretical background together with extensive fieldwork. The Course aims to focus on the UNESCO Global Geoparks building and operation, on a Geopark's contribution to shared and sustainable outcomes related to tourism and education, combining sustainability with community pride and benefit, economic development as well as geological, natural and cultural conservation and management.



### 2. International Course on Geoparks Management and Development (Beijing, China)

This takes place in Beijing every year and is organised by the China University of Geosciences Beijing. During the course participants attend lectures by internationally renowned scientists and geoparks experts. The International Course on Geoparks Management and Development focuses on UNESCO Global Geoparks management and operation, heritage protection and conservation, tourism, education and sustainable tourism development.

### 3. Courses, Workshops and Meetings

The Global Geoparks Network supports the organisation of special training courses and workshops for Geoparks in countries with few territories recognised as UNESCO Global Geoparks to encourage the development and spreading of the ideas of the Network.



**International Course on UNESCO Global geoparks Management and Development Beijing 2020, Yimengshan UGGp, China**



## C. GGN Initiatives

### 1. UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM – New initiative

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM is a new initiative that is going to be held every two years together with the International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The main purpose of the UNESCO Global Geoparks YOUTH FORUM is to offer young people an opportunity to engage more concretely in the preparation of the philosophy mandate and activities of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, elaborate their contribution to the debates of the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want, as instigators of change in their territories. They can elaborate their proposals for action, contributing to the UNESCO Global Geoparks strategic framework for action 2021-2025, and address heritage protection, natural hazards mitigation, climate change and sustainable development.

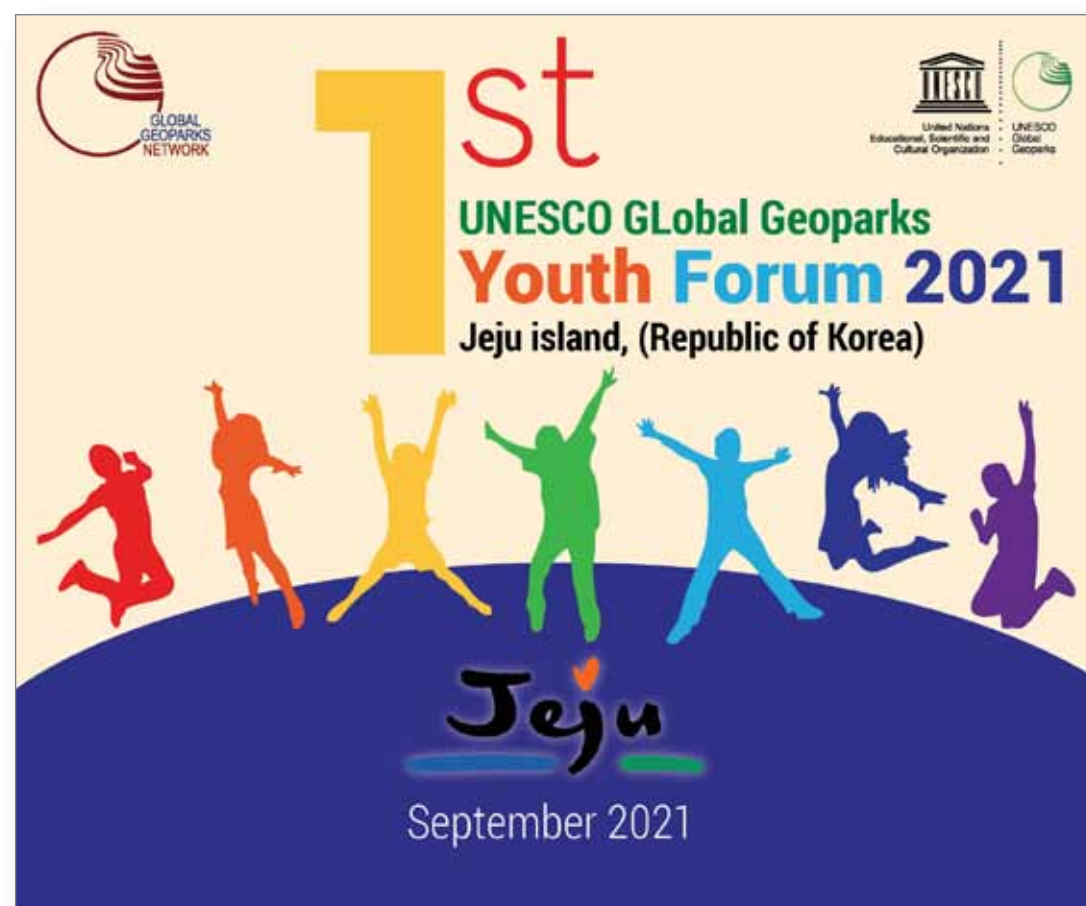
The 1st Assembly of the YOUTH FORUM will take place in parallel with the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, in Jeju which will take place in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea in 2021.

Each Country hosting UNESCO Global Geoparks will be represented in the GGN YOUTH FORUM with youth delegates engaged with UNESCO Global Geoparks that believe in their power to make changes and aim to become influential within their communities.

The Operational Guidelines of the YOUTH FORUM have been agreed at the 64th GGN Executive Board meeting on December 10th, 2019.

*Procedure for appointing representative(s) in the Youth Forum:*

- Each GGN National Geopark Fora or Committee will choose its Youth Forum representative(s).
- The GGN National Geoparks Fora or Committees will fill in the Youth Forum Representative form and will submit it to the GGN.



### 2. International Global Geoparks Network Film Festival – New initiative

On December 2019 the GGN Executive Board launched the new initiative International Global Geoparks Network Film Festival, an effort to promote Geoparks in a new dynamic way.

The first edition of the GGN Film festival will be organized during the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks which will be held in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea in 2021.

In order to host the UNESCO Global Geoparks promotional videos for the 1st International Global Geoparks Film Festival the Global Geoparks Network has created the new video platform: <https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org>

The 1st International Global Geoparks Network Film Festival is a unique opportunity to mobilize both Geopark directors and Documentary Directors - filmmakers to collaborate in order to create new documentary and promotional videos on Geoparks.

*Submission video procedure:*

- UNESCO Global Geoparks are encourage to explore the 1st International Global Geoparks Network Film Festival platform (<https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org>) and be informed about the Contest and Rules and Terms
- UNESCO Global Geoparks can submit their videos through the 1st International Global Geoparks Network Film Festival platform (<https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org>).

### 3. GGN Best Practice Awards

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) Best Practices Award aims to promote, enhance and encourage the development of innovative initiatives inside the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The award recognises pioneering practices and initiatives that contribute to a more effective and dynamic network, set worthy examples for others to emulate, and create greater public recognition of the UNESCO Global Geoparks. The prize honours the management and/or a partner of a UNESCO Global Geoparks for the pioneering nature and quality of the initiative, encouraging all UNESCO Global Geoparks to work in the same way.

The GGN Best Practice Awards are selected after a two year period of evaluation / revalidation missions based on proposal submitted by the Geoparks' Evaluators or by UNESCO Global Geoparks managers.

The next GGN Awards will be presented during the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2021 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.

*Submission procedure:*

- GGN through Newsfeed calls all evaluators and Geopark managers to submit their proposal for the GGN Best Practice Awards
- Geoparks' Evaluators or UNESCO Global Geoparks managers fill in the Application Form and submit it to the GGN.



**Awarded ceremony for Adamello-Brenta UGGp 2018**





## D. Common Promotional Activities

### 1. International Tourism Fairs

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with the Regional Geoparks Networks, National Fora/Committees, the GGN Working Group on Tourism and GGN members participates in International Tourism Fairs every year. The main goal is to promote Geoparks to the global tourist market, to build new links with the tourism market and raise the profile and visibility of the UNESCO Global Geoparks among the tourism industry.

Every year, the Global Geoparks Network and UNESCO Global Geoparks participate in the following two big international tourism fairs:

- ✓ **International Tourism fair Madrid – FITUR Madrid (every January)**
- ✓ **International Tourism Fair Berlin – ITB Berlin (every March)**

All UNESCO Global Geoparks and the activities of the Global Geoparks Network - GGN, APGN and EGN are presented under the same umbrella 'UNESCO Global Geoparks: sustainable tourism destinations'.

During these Tourism Fairs, Global Geoparks Network also organises various promotional activities like press conferences to promote UNESCO Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations, thematic events, gastronomy tastings, Geopark book publications etc.



### 2. Celebration of International Days

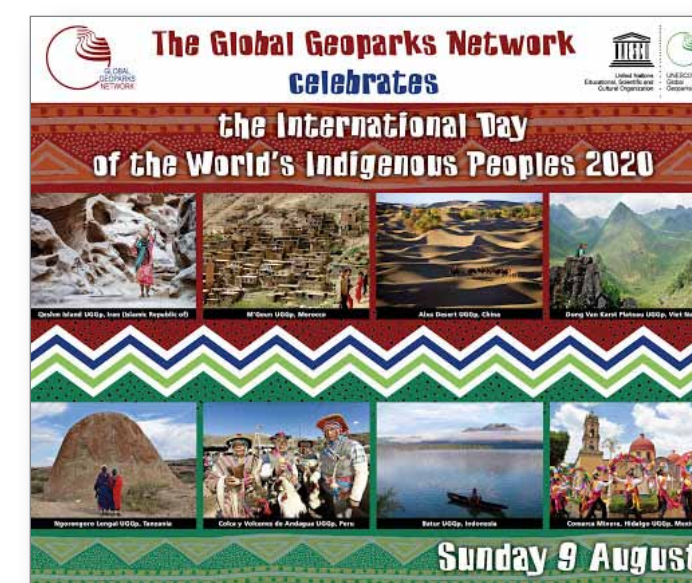
The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction Section participates in the celebration of the following International Days:

- ✓ **International Mother Earth Day - 22 April**
- ✓ **International Museum Day - 18 May**
- ✓ **World Environment Day - 5 June**
- ✓ **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples - 9 August**
- ✓ **World CleanUp Day - 18 September**
- ✓ **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction - 13 October**
- ✓ **International Mountain Day - 11 December**

International Days are occasions to emphasize the UNESCO Global Geoparks contribution to raising awareness of Earth's heritage protection and care of our planet, and also the need to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of UNESCO Global Geoparks on a global and national scale.

The GGN organizes the promotion of activities using the GGN promotional tools through the internet.

The Global Geoparks Network Executive Board encourages UNESCO Global Geoparks to celebrate International Days jointly by common campaigns.





# V. How to Contact

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## Global Geoparks Network (GGN)

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United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
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**195** UNESCO  
Global  
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**48** Countries

**1** Global  
Geoparks  
Network

