



# Global Geoparks Network

*Celebrating Earth Heritage*  
**Sustaining Local Communities**

ISSUE 2

# UNESCO Global Geoparks

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. Their bottom-up approach of combining conservation with sustainable development while involving local communities is becoming increasingly popular. At present, there are 140 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 38 countries. They are all institutional members of the Global Geoparks Network.

## What is a UNESCO Global Geopark?

A UNESCO Global Geopark uses its geological heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our Earth's resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing natural disasters-related risks. By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, UNESCO Global Geoparks give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area. The creation of innovative local enterprises, new jobs and high quality training courses is stimulated as new sources of revenue are generated through geotourism, while the geological resources of the area are protected.

## A bottom-up approach

UNESCO Global Geoparks empower local communities and give them the opportunity to develop cohesive partnerships with the common goal of promoting the area's significant geological processes, features, periods of time, historical themes linked to geology, or outstanding geological beauty. UNESCO Global Geoparks are established through a bottom-up process involving all relevant local and regional stakeholders and authorities in the area (e.g. land owners, community groups, tourism providers, indigenous people, and local organizations). This process requires firm commitment by the local communities, a strong local multiple partnership with long-term public and political support, and the development of a comprehensive strategy that will meet all of the communities' goals while showcasing and protecting the area's geological heritage.



Rinjani Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia

# Global Geoparks Network



The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is a non-profit and a non-governmental organization. It was initially founded in 2004 as an international partnership developed under the umbrella of UNESCO, and was officially registered as an association in 2014 subject to French law. The Global Geoparks Network is the official partner of UNESCO for the operation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Networking and collaboration among Global Geoparks is an important component of the Global Geoparks Network.

The Global Geoparks Network also promotes networking on a regional basis.

The three regional Geoparks networks are the Asian Pacific Network, the European Network, the American and Caribbean Network.

The Global Geoparks Network establishes ethical standards which must be adopted and respected by Global Geoparks and Global Geopark professionals.

The Global Geoparks Network organizes co-operation and mutual assistance between Global Geoparks and between Global Geopark professionals.

The Global Geoparks Network initiates and co-ordinates thematic Working Groups which will foster international co-operation in a variety of issues related with Geopark operation and activities.

The Global Geoparks Network represents, advances, and disseminates knowledge in Geodiversity management and other disciplines related to studies in Geo-conservation, Geo-tourism, Geo-education and/or the management and activities of Global Geoparks.

## The objectives of the Global Geoparks Network are:

- to promote the equitable geographical establishment, development and professional management of Global Geoparks;
- to advance knowledge and understanding of the nature, function and role of Global Geoparks;
- to assist local communities to value their natural and cultural heritage;
- to preserve Earth heritage for present and future generations;
- to educate and teach the broad public about issues in geo-sciences and their relationship with environmental matters and natural hazards;
- to ensure sustainable socio-economic and cultural development based on the natural (or Earth) system;
- to foster multi-cultural links between heritage and conservation and the maintenance of geological and cultural diversity, using participatory schemes of partnership and management;
- to stimulate research when appropriate;
- to promote joint initiatives between Global Geoparks (e.g. communication, publications, exchange of information, twinning);



Photo: Kjell Bentsen, Magma UGG

Magma UNESCO Global Geopark, Norway

# Mission

The Global Geoparks Network is the international organisation of the Global Geoparks and Global Geopark professionals which is committed to the conservation, management and communication to society of the Earth's heritage as an integral part of the world's natural and cultural heritage, tangible and intangible.

Global Geoparks are tools to conserve and enhance the value of areas of geological significance in Earth history, including landscapes and geological formations, which are key witnesses to the evolution of our planet and determinants for our future and to promote sustainable development for example through geo-tourism and education.

Global Geoparks promote the links between geological heritage and all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, clearly demonstrating that geodiversity is the foundation of all ecosystems and the basis of human interaction with the landscape.



## GGN Structure

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is a democratic international organization and its operation is based on the decision of its members. The structure of the Global Geoparks Network includes the following bodies:

### General Assembly:

The General Assembly is the legislative body of the GGN.

The General Assembly holds an ordinary session at least once every two years on the same dates and in the same place as the International Conference on Geoparks.

### Executive Board:

The Executive Board is the decision making body of the GGN. It is elected by the General Assembly for a four (4)-year term of office.

It is composed of: the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, the General Secretary and eight Members.

### Advisory Committee:

The Advisory Committee is the advisory body of the GGN Executive Board and the General Assembly.

It consists of the Chairpersons of the National Geopark Fora / Committees, and the designated representatives of the Affiliated Organizations.

### National Geopark Fora / Committees:

A National Geopark Forum or Committee, includes all the members of the GGN resident in a State. The interests of the GGN and its Members organize activities in that State

### International Committees / Task Forces / Working Groups:

The GGN Executive Board appoints committees, task forces and working groups, and defines their duties.

The active Working Groups and Committees are presented in pages 10-11.

### International Conference on Geoparks:

The International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks takes place every two years organized by a UNESCO Global Geopark. The organization and financing of the conference shall be the responsibility of the host country or countries. However, the GGN Executive Board shall advise on the programme planned for the conference.

### Regional Geopark Networks:

Regional Geopark Networks include GGN members at a regional or continental level. Regional Geopark Networks serve takes GGN activities at a regional or continental level and as fora for the exchange of information and co-operation between UNESCO Global Geoparks and Global Geopark professionals in the region. Today three Regional Networks operate: the European Geoparks Network – EGN (since 2000), the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network - APGN (since 2007) and the Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network – LACGN (since 2017).

### Operational Secretariat:

The Operational Secretariat, consisting of the General Secretary and other staff members, is located in the Haute Provence UNESCO Global Geopark. This is the registered office of the GGN.



The GGN Executive board meets regularly to discuss the progress and to coordinate the operation of the Global Geoparks Network. The 32nd meeting of the Executive Board of the Global Geoparks Network took place at the University of the Aegean, Lesvos island, Greece. The partnership between the Global Geoparks Network and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) was discussed at the meeting with Mr Beka Jakeli, Head of the UNWTO Regional Programme for Europe.

## GGN Executive Board

### President

Zouros Nickolas, Greece

### Vice President

Jin Xiaochi, P.R. China

### Vice President

Komoo Ibrahim, Malaysia

### General Secretary

Martini Guy, France

### Treasurer

Rangnes Kristin, Norway

### Members

Border Melanie, United Kingdom

Bremner Gail, Canada (N. America)

Burlando Mauricio, Italy

Frey Marie-Luise, Germany

Melo Patricio, Brazil

Ouabbas Mustapha, Morocco

Watanabe Mahito, Japan

Zhang Jianping, P.R. China

### Observers

### UNESCO Secretariat

Patric McKeever, UNESCO

### GGN Advisory Committee Chair

Setsuya Nakada, Japan

# GGN Secretariat

Musée Promenade, Montée Bernard Dellacasagrande, 04000 Digne les Bains, France.  
[www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

## Advisory Committee

### Chair

**Setsuya Nakada**, Japan

### Vice Chair

**Elizabeth Silva**, Portugal

### Members

Austria	<b>Heinz Kollmann</b> , Austrian Geoparks Forum
Brazil	<b>Patricio Melo</b> , Representative of Araripe UGG
Canada	<b>Godfrey Nowlan</b> , Canadian Geoparks Committee
China	<b>Yuanyuan Zheng</b> , Chinese Geoparks Network
Croatia	<b>Goran Radonic</b> , Representative of Papuk UGG
Cyprus	<b>Efthimios Tsiolakis</b> , Representative of Troodos UGG
Czech Republic	<b>Martina Paskova</b> , Czech Republic Geoparks Council
Denmark	<b>Jacob Walløe</b> , Representative of Odsherred UGG
Finland	<b>Vesa Krökki</b> , Representative of Rokua UGG
France	<b>Jean-Luc Desbois</b> , French Geoparks Committee
Germany	<b>Hartmut Escher</b> , German Geoparks Forum
Greece	<b>Charalambos Fassoulas</b> , Hellenic Geoparks Forum
Hungary	<b>Barnabas Korbely</b> , Representative of Bakony-Balaton UGG
Iceland	<b>Sigurður Sigursveinsson</b> , Icelandic Geoparks Forum
Indonesia	<b>Hanang Samondra</b> , Indonesian Geoparks Committee
Iran	<b>Alireza Amrikazemi</b> , Qeshm island UNESCO Global Geopark, Iran
Ireland	<b>Kirstin Lemon</b> , Irish Geoparks Forum
Italy	<b>Aniello Aloia</b> , Italian Geoparks Committee
Japan	<b>Setsuya Nakada</b> , Japanese Geoparks Committee
Malaysia	<b>Ibrahim Komoo</b> , Malaysian Geoparks Committee
Mexico	<b>Carles Canet Miquel</b> , Representative of Comarca Minera Hidalgo UGG
Morocco	<b>Mustapha Ouabbas</b> , Representative of Mgoun UGG
Netherlands	<b>Gretha Roelfs</b> , Representative of Hondsrug UGG
Norway	<b>Pål Thjomøe</b> , Norwegian National Committee for Geoheritage and Geoparks
Poland	<b>Jacek Koźma</b> , Representative of Muskau Arch UGG
Portugal	<b>Elizabeth Silva</b> , Portuguese Geoparks Committee
Republic of Korea	<b>Soojae Lee</b> , Korean Geoparks Committee
Romania	<b>Alexandru Andrasanu</b> , Representative of Hateg UGG
Slovakia	<b>Ivona Cimermanová</b> , Representative of Novohrad-Nograd UGG
Slovenia	<b>Bojan Režun</b> , Slovenian Geoparks Forum
Spain	<b>Asier Hilario</b> , Spanish Geoparks Forum
Turkey	<b>Tuncer Demir</b> , Representative of Kula UGG
Vietnam	<b>Tran Tan Van</b> , Vietnam Geoparks Committee
United Kingdom	<b>Melanie Border</b> , UK Geoparks Committee
Uruguay	<b>Cesar Goso</b> , Representative of Grutas del Palacio UGG



## Regional Geopark Networks

Recognizing the very strong role networking has played in the success of the Global Geoparks movement and recognizing the valuable role it plays in facilitating the sharing of experience, formation of joint initiatives and projects and the highly significant role it plays in capacity-building, the GGN encourages the strengthening of Regional Geopark Networks.

Regional Geopark Networks include GGN members at a regional or continental level.

Regional Geopark Networks serve for the coordination of GGN activities at a regional or continental level and as fora for the exchange of information and co-operation between Global Geoparks and Global Geopark professionals in the region.

The activities of Regional Geopark Networks include the organization of Regional Geopark Conferences, workshops and seminars, capacity building activities, common projects, promotional activities and common publications.

Each Geoparks Network forms a Coordination Commission which is the governing body of the Regional Network and elects two Coordinators and an Advisory Committee according to the Regional Geoparks Network Rules of Operation.

All Regional Geoparks Networks submit an Annual Report of Activities to the GGN Executive Board.

### Regional Geopark Networks

- European Geoparks Network - EGN  
[www.europeangeoparks.org](http://www.europeangeoparks.org)
- Asian Pacific Geoparks Network - APGN  
[www.asiapacificgeoparks.org](http://www.asiapacificgeoparks.org)
- Geoparks in Latin America and the Caribbean - LACGN

### Regional Geopark Conferences

- Regional Geoparks organize Regional Conferences or Symposia every two years, not in the same year as the International Geoparks Conference.
- The European Geopark Network organized 14 European Geoparks Conferences since 2000. The next will be organized in Sierra Norte de Sevilla UNESCO Global Geopark, Andalucia, Spain in September 2019.
- The Asian Pacific Geoparks Network organized 5 Symposia since 2007. The next will be organized in Indonesia in September 2019.

# GGN Working Groups

GGN Working Groups, GGN Task Forces and GGN Committees have a maximum term of four (4) years.

The Chairperson of each Technical Committee submits its annual report to the GGN Executive Board who reports to the General Assembly.

A GGN WG consists of 9-10 GGN Members with proven experience of the subject.

GGN WG members have a broad geographical distribution.

The main goal of a GGN WG is the coordination of activities at the global level (on a specific subject), coordination of exchange of ideas and best practices, proposal of new regulations and concepts.

## A GGN WG:

- encourages the activities of similar working groups at the Regional level where broad participation is welcome;
- submits to the GGN ExB an annual report of activities;
- communicates to all GGN members the activities and results;
- disseminates information about their work to all GGN members via the GGN website.

### ● GGN Working Group on Volcanic Areas

Coordinator **Setsuya Nakada** (Japan)

Vice coordinator **Joao Carlos Nunes** (Portugal)

Members

**Andreas Schueller**, Franzen, Julia, Vulkaneifel, Germany

**Barnabas Korbely**, Bakony - Balaton, Hungary

**Qinfei Lu**, Yandangshan, China

**Yongchao Si**, Wudalianchi, China

**Yongmun Jeon**, Jeju, Korea

**Elena Mederos**, Lanzarote, Spain

**Hanang Samodra**, Indonesia

*Similar Regional Working Groups are established by the Regional Networks*

### ● GGN Working Group on Geo-Hazards

Coordinator **Mahito Watanabe** (Japan)

Vice coordinator in **Charalambos Fassoulas** (Greece)  
UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geo-hazards Risk Reduction  
Section Representative **Irina Pavlova**

Members

**Noritaka Matsubara**, Sanin Kaigan, Japan

**Alessia Amorfini**, Apuan Alps, Italy

**Brynja Davíðsdóttir**, Katla, Iceland

**Richard Watson**, Marble Arch Caves, Ireland

**Alisa Chen**, Huangshan, China

**Fang Chen**, Danxiashan UGG, China

*Similar Regional Working Groups are established by the Regional Networks*

### ● GGN Geological Heritage Assessment Working Group

**Prof. Ibrahim Komoo**, University Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Malaysia

**Prof. Xiaochi Jin**, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, P.R. China

**Dr. Kristin Rangnes**, Director of Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark, Norway

**Prof. Setsuya Nakada**, University of Tokyo, Japan

**Prof. Zhang Jianping**, University of Geosciences, China

**Dr. Mahito Watanabe**, Geological Survey of Japan

**Dr. Maurizio Burlando**, Director of Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy

**Dr. Marie-Luise Frey**, Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH

**Prof. Patricio Melo**, Universidade Regional do Cariri - URCA Reitor.

**Dr. Asier Hilario**, Scientific Coordinator of Basque Coast UGG

**Dr. Godfrey Nowlan**, Canadian Geological Survey, Canadian National Geopark Committee Chair

**Soo Jae Lee**, Chief Research Fellow, Korea Environment Institute (KEI) South Korea

**Prof. João Carlos Carreiro Nunes**, Azores University – Geosciences Department, Portugal

**Prof. Alexandrou Andrasanou**, University of Bucharest, Romania

**Dr. Guy Martini**, Director of Haute-Provence Geopark, France

**Prof. Nickolas Zouros**, University of Aegean, Greece

### ● GGN Sustainable Development Goals Working Group

Members

**Xiaochi Jin**, China

**Patricio Melo**, Brazil

**Jutta Weber**, Germany

**Elizabeth Silva**, Portugal

**Ibrahim Komoo**, Malaysia

**Mustapha Ouabbas**, Morocco

**Kristin Rangnes**, Norway

### ● GGN Tourism Working Group

Members

**Maurizio Burlando**, Italy

**Carlos Carvalho**, Portugal

**Ka Ming Yeung**, Hong Kong – China

**Marie-Luise Frey**, Germany

**Mustapha Ouabbas**, Morocco

**Jane Fullerton**, Canada

### ● GGN Educational Working Group

Members

**Marie-Luise Frey**, Germany

**Jianping Zhang**, China

**Jose Maria Barrera**, Spain

**Patricio Melo**, Brazil

### ● GGN Island Working Group

**Coordinator: Kazuhiro Nobe**, Japan

**GGN ExB: Nickolas Zouros**, Greece

**Ibrahim Komoo**, Malaysia

**Alireza Amrikazemi**, Iran

**Yongmun Jeon**, Korea

**Azmil Munif Mohd Bukhari**, Malaysia

**Giannis Spilanis**, Greece

**Rory Tallack**, UK

**João Carlos Nunes**, Portugal

**Sara Brito**, Spain



Adamello-Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy



Conca de Tremp Montsec  
UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain



Itoigawa UNESCO Global Geopark, Japan

## GGN Statutes & Bylaws

The Statutes of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is the basic document of the Organization. The internal Rules of the GGN, and the Code of Ethics define and complete these Statutes.

### ● GGN Statutes (September 2016)

The Statutes of the Global Geoparks Network adopted in September 2014 by the GGN General Assembly in Saint John, Stonehammer UNESCO Global Geopark, Canada, having as a model the statutes of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). The Statutes of the Global Geoparks Network define the structure, operation and membership of the Organization. The GGN statutes were modified in September 2016 by the GGN General Assembly in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK.

### Members (Article 4)

The GGN has the following categories of Membership:

1. Institutional Members — UNESCO Global Geoparks.
2. Individual Members – Global Geopark Professionals — Persons who have combined or proven professional experience in Global Geopark management (geological heritage, sustainable development, tourism development and promotion, and environmental issues).
3. Honorary Members — Persons who have rendered exceptional services to the international Global Geopark community or to the GGN.
4. Cooperating Members — International Organizations, institutions or persons providing substantial financial or other assistance to the GGN because of an interest in Global Geoparks and international co-operation between Global Geoparks.

<http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/GGN-Association-Statutes-FINAL-SEPTEMBER-2016.pdf>

### ● GGN Internal Rules & Regulations (September 2016)

The purpose of these Internal Rules and Regulations is to set out the rules governing the operation of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) pursuant to its Statutes.

[http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/GGN-RULES-AND-REGULATIONS-07-07-2016\\_.pdf](http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/GGN-RULES-AND-REGULATIONS-07-07-2016_.pdf)

### ● GGN Code of Ethics (September 2016)

The GGN Code of Ethics for GGN Members is a basic document for GGN operation following the provisions of GGN Statutes.

The GGN Code of Ethics provides a means of professional self-regulation and sets minimum standards of conduct and performance to which all GGN Members throughout the world may reasonably aspire as well as a providing a statement of reasonable community expectation from the Geopark profession.

<http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/GLOBAL-GEOPARKS-NETWORK-CODE-OF-ETHICS-final.pdf>

## GGN Best Practice Awards 2018

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

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

The GGN Best Practice Awards 2018 include three awards, granted by the GGN Association in partnership with the Organizing Committee of the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks hosted by the Adamello Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy.

The GGN Best Practice Awards 2018 are selected from a two year period of evaluation / revalidation missions (2016-2017) based on proposals submitted by the Geopark Evaluators till December 2017. Submissions for the award are only accepted from the evaluators who have observed the example of best practice during the evaluation/revalidation process in person and included details of the practice or project within the evaluation/revalidation reports.

The main selection criteria are based on:

- Suitability and replication capability in other UNESCO Global Geoparks;
- Effective contribution to an increasingly better functioning of UNESCO Global Geoparks;
- The innovative nature of the best practice example (relevant, original, unique approach, etc.)

The prizes awarded consist of a diploma recording the example of good practice and that their assignment has appropriate emphasis in all communication channels of the GGN.

The three winning cases are given the opportunity to will present their project in detail to the conference delegates during a special best practice session at the 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2018 in September 2018.

[www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

### THE NEW GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK AWARDS

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) establishes from 2018 the new GGN Awards which will recognise pioneering practices and initiatives that contribute to a more effective and dynamic network, set fantastic exemplars for others to follow and emulate, and to create greater public recognition of the UNESCO Global Geoparks for the period 2018-2019. The prize honours the management and / or a partner of a UNESCO Global Geopark for the pioneering nature and quality of the initiative, encouraging all the GGN members to work in the same way.

The GGN Awards 2018-2019 include six awards, granted by the Global Geoparks Network (GGN)

There will be 5 categories for the GGN Awards:

- Geological heritage conservation in Geoparks
- Education
- Tourism and Sustainable Development
- Networking
- Local participation

One Special Award for Aspiring Geoparks based on their participation in GGN activities which showed its commitment to the GGN.

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) Awards will be awarded during the International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks based on proposals submitted by either the Geopark Managers or the Geopark Evaluators.



7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks



1st International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks, Beijing, China

## International Conferences on UNESCO Global Geoparks

### ● International Geopark Conference

The GGN holds an International Geoparks Conference every two years. The International Geoparks Conference may propose resolutions arising from its discussions for consideration by the General Assembly. Fully detailed submissions from Global Geoparks to host the conference shall be addressed to the GGN Executive Board.

When a submission has been accepted, the organization and financing of the conference shall, subject to the other provisions, be the responsibility of the host country or countries. However, the GGN Executive Board shall advise on the programme planned for the conference.

It is the responsibility of the host country or countries that:

1. suitable facilities are provided for the meeting of the General Assembly;
2. provision shall be made for the meetings of the GGN Executive Board;
3. detailed bids to host the conference arrangements shall be submitted to the GGN Executive Board at least two years in advance of the date of the conference. The GGN Executive Board satisfies itself that the proposals are compatible with the statutes of the GGN.

A representative of the Organizing Committee of the next conference is normally invited to attend the meeting of the GGN Executive Board at which the proposals are considered, and the host country shall be asked to invite a member or members of the Executive Board for consultation.

**1st International Geoparks Conference**  
Beijing  
2004 (China)

**2nd International Geoparks Conference**  
Belfast  
2006 (Northern Ireland)

**3rd International Geoparks Conference**  
Osnabrück – TerraVita Global Geopark  
2008 (Germany)

**4th International Geoparks Conference**  
Langkawi Global Geopark  
2010 (Malaysia)

**5th International Geoparks Conference**  
Shimabara – Unzen Global Geopark  
2012 (Japan)

**6th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks**  
Saint John – Stonehammer Global Geopark  
2014 (Canada)

**7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks**  
Torquay – English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark  
2016 (UK)



6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks, Canada



5th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks, Shimabara, Japan



Regional Workshop of Geoparks and Geoheritage; fostering geoheritage in Latin America. UNAM Mexico City 2015



10th International Intensive Course on Geoparks 2018 Lesvos Island Greece

## Capacity building activities

The Global Geoparks Network supports a variety of capacity building activities aiming to distribute information and share best practice on creating and operating Geoparks, especially in underrepresented regions. The Global Geopark Network plays an active role in nurturing partnerships and the sharing of best practice between UNESCO Global Geoparks and aspiring Geoparks.

The main GGN capacity building activities include:

- **The International Intensive Course on Geoparks - Lesvos**

It takes place every June since 2007 on Lesvos island UNESCO Global Geopark. The Intensive Course on Geoparks is organized by the University of the Aegean with the contribution of top Geopark experts coming from all over the globe. It comprises creation and operation of a theoretical background together with extensive fieldwork. The Intensive Course on Geoparks aims to focus on the UNESCO Global Geoparks building and operation, on Geopark's contribution to shared and sustainable outcomes related to tourism and environmental education – combining sustainability with community pride and benefit, economic development and new employment as well as geological, natural and cultural heritage conservation and management. <http://www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks2018>

- **The International Intensive Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks - Beijing**

It takes place every year in Beijing, organized by the China University of Geosciences Beijing. The speakers are the top international geopark experts from the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council, Global Geopark Executive Board and other institutions. The Intensive Course on Geoparks Management aims to focus on the UNESCO Global Geoparks management and operation, geo-heritage protection and conservation, geo-tourism, geo-education and sustainable local development.

- **Workshops and Meetings**

The Global Geoparks Network supports the organization of special training courses and workshops on Geoparks in countries with few Geoparks to support the development and expansion of Geoparks in all continents.

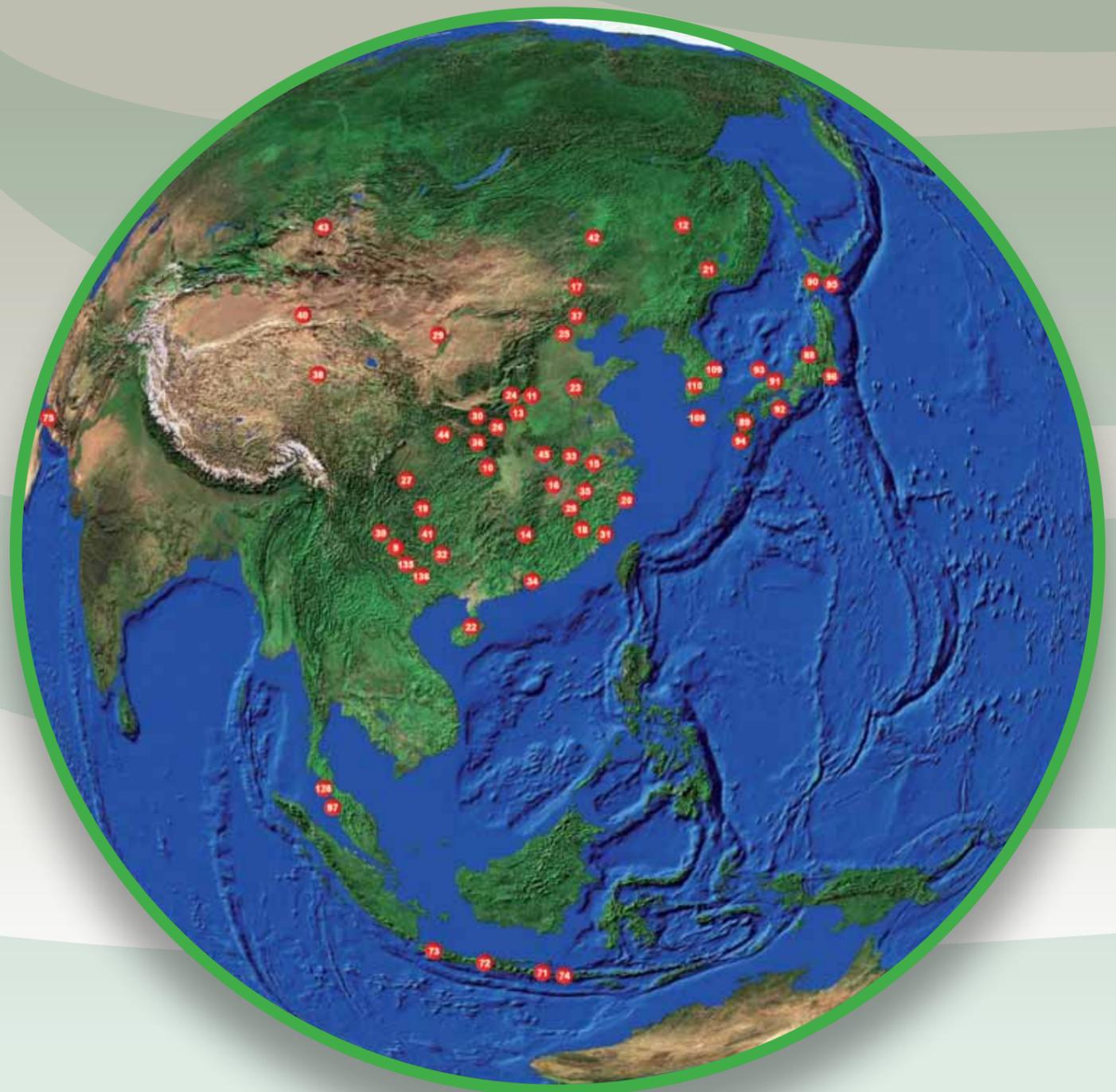


3rd International Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2017 Beijing, China

# UNESCO Global Geoparks



# Global Geoparks Network



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
Global  
Geoparks

## UNESCO Global Geoparks

140 UNESCO Global Geoparks  
in 38 countries

## Global Geoparks Network

The International Association  
of UNESCO Global Geoparks  
and Geopark Professionals



# UNESCO Global Geoparks



## UNESCO Global Geoparks

140 UNESCO Global Geoparks  
in 38 countries



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
Global  
Geoparks

- 73 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming the European Geoparks Network
- 58 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network.
- 4 UNESCO Global Geoparks are forming Geoparks in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 3 UNESCO Global Geoparks in North America.
- 2 UNESCO Global Geoparks in Africa.

# Global Geoparks Network



## Global Geoparks Network

The International Association  
of UNESCO Global Geoparks  
and Geopark Professionals



# UNESCO Global Geoparks

# Global Geoparks Network

## Austria\*

1. Styrian Eisenwurzen UNESCO Global Geopark
2. Carnic Alps UNESCO Global Geopark
3. Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark

## Belgium

4. Famenne-Ardenne UNESCO Global Geopark

## Brazil

5. Araripe UNESCO Global Geopark

## Canada

6. Stonehammer UNESCO Global Geopark
7. Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark
8. Percé UNESCO Global Geopark

## China

9. Danxiashan UNESCO Global Geopark
10. Zhangjiajie UNESCO Global Geopark
11. Yuntaishan UNESCO Global Geopark
12. Wudalianchi UNESCO Global Geopark
13. Songshan UNESCO Global Geopark
14. Shilin UNESCO Global Geopark
15. Huangshan UNESCO Global Geopark
16. Lushan UNESCO Global Geopark
17. Hexigten UNESCO Global Geopark
18. Taining UNESCO Global Geopark
19. Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark
20. Yandangshan UNESCO Global Geopark
21. Jingpohu UNESCO Global Geopark
22. Leiqiong UNESCO Global Geopark
23. Taishan UNESCO Global Geopark
24. Wangwushan-Daimeishan UNESCO Global Geopark
25. Fangshan UNESCO Global Geopark
26. Funiushan UNESCO Global Geopark
27. Zigong UNESCO Global Geopark
28. Longhushan UNESCO Global Geopark
29. Alxa Desert UNESCO Global Geopark
30. Qinling Zhongnanshan UNESCO Global Geopark
31. Ningde UNESCO Global Geopark
32. Leye Fengshan UNESCO Global Geopark
33. Tianzhushan UNESCO Global Geopark
34. Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark
35. Sanqingshan UNESCO Global Geopark
36. Shennongjia UNESCO Global Geopark
37. Yanqing UNESCO Global Geopark
38. Mount Kunlun UNESCO Global Geopark
39. Dali-Cangshan UNESCO Global Geopark
40. Dunhuang UNESCO Global Geopark
41. Zhijindong Cave UNESCO Global Geopark
42. Arxan UNESCO Global Geopark
43. Keketuohai UNESCO Global Geopark
44. Guangwushan-Nuoshuihe UNESCO Global Geopark
45. Huanggang Dabieshan UNESCO Global Geopark

## Croatia

46. Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark

## Cyprus

47. Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark

## Czechia

48. Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark

## Denmark

49. Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark

## Finland

50. Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark

## France

51. Haute-Provence UNESCO Global Geopark
52. Luberon UNESCO Global Geopark
53. Massif des Bauges UNESCO Global Geopark
54. Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark
55. Monts d'Ardèche UNESCO Global Geopark
56. Causses du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark
57. Beaujolais UNESCO Global Geopark

## Germany\*

58. Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark
59. TERRA.vita UNESCO Global Geopark
60. Bergstraße-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark
61. Swabian Alb UNESCO Global Geopark
62. Harz, Braunschweiger Land UNESCO Global Geopark

## Greece

63. Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark
64. Psiloritis UNESCO Global Geopark
65. Chelmos Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark
66. Vikos - Aaos UNESCO Global Geopark
67. Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark

## Hungary\*

68. Bakony-Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark

## Iceland

69. Katla UNESCO Global Geopark
70. Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark

## Indonesia

71. Batur UNESCO Global Geopark
72. Gunung Sewu UNESCO Global Geopark
73. Ciletuh - Palabuhanratu UNESCO Global Geopark
74. Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark

## Iran (Islamic Republic of)

75. Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark

## Ireland\*

76. Copper Coast UNESCO Global Geopark
77. Burren & Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark

## Italy

78. Madonie UNESCO Global Geopark
79. Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark
80. Parco Geominerario della Sardegna UNESCO Global Geopark

81. Rocca di Cerere UNESCO Global Geopark
82. Adamello-Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark
83. Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni UNESCO Global Geopark
84. Tuscan Mining Park UNESCO Global Geopark
85. Alpi Apuani UNESCO Global Geopark
86. Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark
87. Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark

## Japan

88. Itoigawa UNESCO Global Geopark
89. Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark
90. Toya - Usu UNESCO Global Geopark
91. San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark
92. Muroto UNESCO Global Geopark
93. Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark
94. Aso UNESCO Global Geopark
95. Mt. Apoi UNESCO Global Geopark
96. Izu Peninsula UNESCO Global Geopark

## Malaysia

97. Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark

## Mexico

98. Comarca Minera, Hidalgo UNESCO Global Geopark
99. Mixteca Alta, Oaxaca UNESCO Global Geopark

## Morocco

100. M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark

## Netherlands

101. De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark

## Norway

102. Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark
103. Magma UNESCO Global Geopark

## Poland\*

## Portugal

104. Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional UNESCO Global Geopark
105. Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark
106. Açores UNESCO Global Geopark
107. Terras de Cavaleiros UNESCO Global Geopark

## Republic of Korea

108. Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark
109. Cheongsong UNESCO Global Geopark
110. Mudeungsan Area UNESCO Global Geopark

## Romania

111. Hațeg UNESCO Global Geopark

## Slovakia\*

## Slovenia\*

112. Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark

## Spain

113. Cabo de Gata-Níjar UNESCO Global Geopark
114. Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark
115. Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark
116. Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark
117. Sierra Norte de Sevilla UNESCO Global Geopark
118. Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark
119. Central Catalonia UNESCO Global Geopark
120. Molina & Alto Tajo UNESCO Global Geopark
121. El Hierro UNESCO Global Geopark
122. Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark
123. Las Loras UNESCO Global Geopark
124. Conca de Tremp-Montsec UNESCO Global Geopark

## Tanzania

125. Ngorongoro Lengai UNESCO Global Geopark

## Thailand

126. Satun UNESCO Global Geopark

## Turkey

127. Kula Volcanic UNESCO Global Geopark

## United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland\*

128. North Pennines AONB UNESCO Global Geopark
129. North-West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark
130. Fforest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark
131. English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark
132. GeoMôn UNESCO Global Geopark
133. Shetland UNESCO Global Geopark

## Uruguay

134. Grutas del Palacio UNESCO Global Geopark

## Viet Nam

135. Dong Van Karst Plateau UNESCO Global Geopark
136. Cao Bang UNESCO Global Geopark

### \* List of transnational UNESCO Global Geoparks

#### Austria & Slovenia

137. Karawanken / Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark

#### Germany & Poland

138. Muskauer Faltenbogen / Łuk Mużakowa UNESCO Global Geopark

#### Hungary & Slovakia

139. Novohrad-Nógrád UNESCO Global Geopark

#### Ireland & United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

140. Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark

# Top 16 Focus Areas

## ● Geological Heritage Conservation



Yanqing UNESCO Global Geopark, China

UNESCO Global Geoparks are areas that use the concept of sustainability, value the heritage of Mother Earth and recognize the need to protect it.

The defining geological sites in UNESCO Global Geoparks are protected by indigenous, local, regional and/or national law and management authorities, in cooperation with the appropriate agencies, which allow for the necessary monitoring and maintenance of these sites.

A UNESCO Global Geopark develops, experiments and enhances methods for preserving the geological heritage.

The Global Geoparks Network is developing partnerships among UNESCO Global Geoparks for sharing best practice and know-how on the protection, conservation and rational management of the geological heritage sites.

## ● Geological Hazard Risk Reduction

UNESCO Global Geoparks promote awareness of geological hazards, including volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. Through educational activities for the local people and visitors many UNESCO Global Geoparks provide information on the source of geological hazards and ways to reduce their impact including disaster response strategies. These efforts build competence and contribute to developing more resilient communities that have the knowledge and skills to effectively respond to potential geological hazards.

The Global Geoparks Network Working Group on Geo-hazards coordinates common activities and helps preparing disaster mitigation strategies among Geoparks.



Katla UNESCO Global Geopark, Iceland

## ● Climate Change Understanding

UNESCO Global Geoparks hold records of past climate change and are educators on current climate change as well as adopting a best practice approach to utilising renewable energy and employing the best standards of "green tourism."

UNESCO Global Geoparks serve as outdoor museums on the effects of past and current climate change thus creating the opportunity to show visitors how climate change can affect our environment, and raise awareness on the potential impact of climate change on the region, and provide the local communities with the knowledge to mitigate and adapt to the potential effects of climate change.



Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark, Canada

## ● Natural Resources Wise Use



Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark, Denmark

The history of mankind and civilization is based on the resources exploited from Earth's crust. The development of modern societies is limited by the consequences of depleting the natural resources

UNESCO Global Geoparks inform people about the sustainable use and need for natural resources, while at the same time promoting respect for the environment and the integrity of the landscape.

## Biodiversity Protection



UNESCO Global Geoparks are areas where the analysis of specific interactions between the lithosphere and biosphere provides an integrated concept of the role of the geological environment in the evolution of the biosphere. Geopark activities and projects are important in order to raise awareness of the relationship between the geological environment and modern ecosystems and their rational management under a holistic concept.

Shetland UNESCO Global Geopark, UK

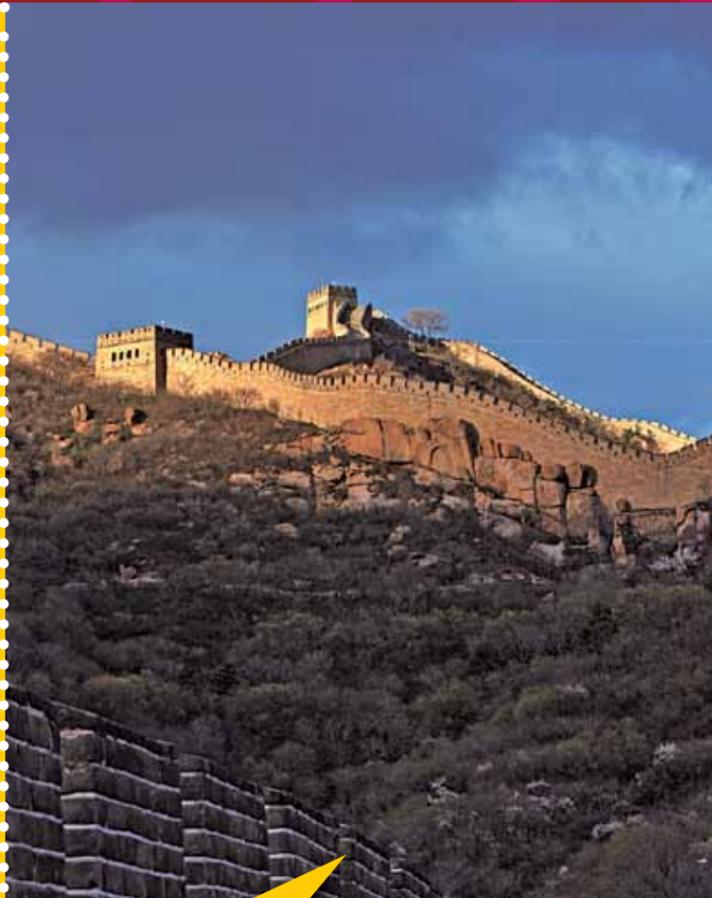
## Culture Heritage Enhancement

In many countries emblematic geosites are considered as sacred places. Since ancient times, sacred sites have had a mysterious allure for billions of people around the world. Legends and contemporary reports tell of extraordinary experiences people have had while visiting these places. Different sacred sites have the power to heal the body, enlighten the mind and inspire the heart. People built in such places temples and monasteries. UNESCO Global Geoparks host some important sacred places emphasizing the connection between specific landscapes and land-forms with mythology, archaeology and history.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are fundamentally about people and about exploring and celebrating the links between our communities and the Earth. The Earth has shaped who we are: it has shaped our farming practices, the building materials and methods we have used for our homes, even our mythology, folklore and folk traditions.

UNESCO Global Geoparks therefore engage in a range of activities to celebrate these links.

Many UNESCO Global Geoparks have strong links to the arts communities where the synergy released by bringing science and the arts together can yield surprising results.



Yanqing UNESCO Global Geopark, China

## Education for Sustainable Development

UNESCO Global Geoparks develop and operate educational activities for all ages to spread awareness of our geological heritage and its links to other aspects of our natural, cultural and intangible heritages.

UNESCO Global Geoparks offer educational programmes for schools or offer special activities for children through "Summer camps", "Kids Clubs" or special "Fossil Fun Activities".

UNESCO Global Geoparks also offer education, both formal and informal, for adults and retired people.



Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark, Slovenia

## Science & Research



Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark, Austria

UNESCO Global Geoparks are special areas where the geological heritage, or geodiversity, is of international importance. Thus Geoparks are interested in applying the results of scientific research in the fields of geo-conservation, tourism and sustainable local development.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are encouraged to work with academic and research institutions to engage in active scientific research in the Earth Sciences, and other disciplines as appropriate, to advance our knowledge about the Earth and its processes.

A UNESCO Global Geopark is an active laboratory where people can become engaged in science from the highest academic research level to the level of the curious visitor.

## Sustainable Tourism



Qeshm UNESCO Global Geopark, Iran

UNESCO Global Geoparks create infrastructures and activities to support visitors' access to the interpretation of the Geological heritage as well as the development of sustainable tourism activities in the Geopark's territory.

UNESCO Global Geoparks promote themselves as sustainable tourism destinations offering a diversity of guided field walks and nature tourism activities, authentic experiences and local gastronomy.

The Global Geoparks Network became a gold partner of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in 2017 to support the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development.

## Capacity Building Activities

UNESCO Global Geoparks also offer training courses and capacity building activities for local stakeholders and young unemployed people who can then, in turn, support Geopark activities and operation.

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO organizes International Training Courses on Geoparks for Geopark staff and young scientists, supporting the development of Geoparks in many countries especially in regions with fewer numbers of UNESCO Global Geoparks.



English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK

## Employment

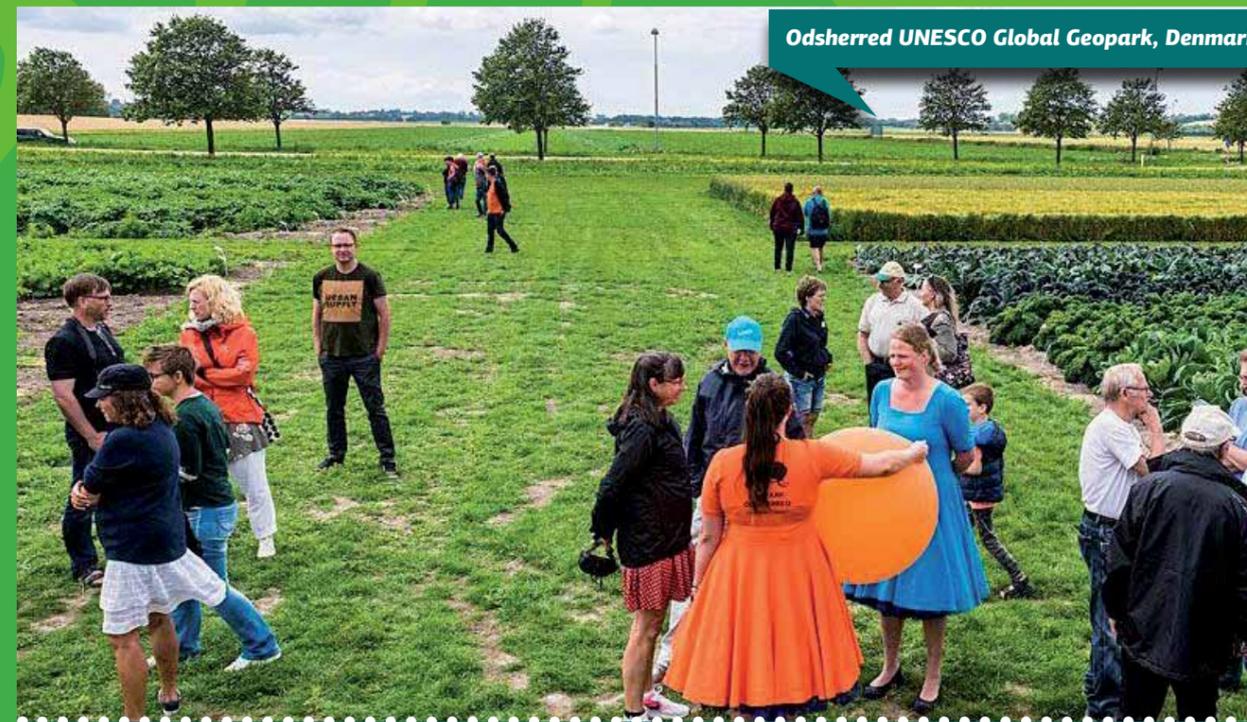


Bakony-Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark, Hungary

UNESCO Global Geoparks are a platform for the development, nurturing and promotion of local cottage industry and craft products.

UNESCO Global Geoparks contribute to the sustainable development of rural areas hosting significant geological heritage sites through the creation of new enterprises and the employment of young people in their territories.

## Sustainable Development



Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark, Denmark

UNESCO Global Geoparks engage with local people respecting their traditional way of life in a way that empowers them and values their human rights and dignity.

Unless a UNESCO Global Geopark has the support of local people it will not succeed.

A UNESCO Global Geopark should have an active role in the economic development of its territory through the enhancement of a general image linked to the geological heritage and the development of sustainable tourism. A Geopark has a direct impact on the territory by influencing its inhabitants' living conditions and environment. The objective is to enable the inhabitants to re-appropriate the values of the territory's heritage and actively participate in the territory's cultural revitalization as a whole.

UNESCO Global Geopark status does not imply restrictions on any economic activity inside a UNESCO Global Geopark where that activity complies with indigenous, local, regional and/or national legislation.

## Empower Women



Gunung Sewu UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia

UNESCO Global Geoparks have a strong emphasis on empowering women whether through focused education programmes or through the development of women's cooperatives.

In some UNESCO Global Geoparks women's cooperatives also provide an opportunity for women to obtain an additional income in their own area and on their own terms.

## Networking



Asian Pacific Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting in Sannin-Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark, Japan

Networking is one of the core principles of Geoparks. Networking strongly contributes to the success of the Geoparks movement and plays a valuable role in facilitating the sharing of experience, quality management, formation of joint initiatives and projects and capacity-building.

The Global Geopark Network and its Regional Geopark Networks offer a global platform of cooperation and exchange of best practice between UNESCO Global Geoparks.

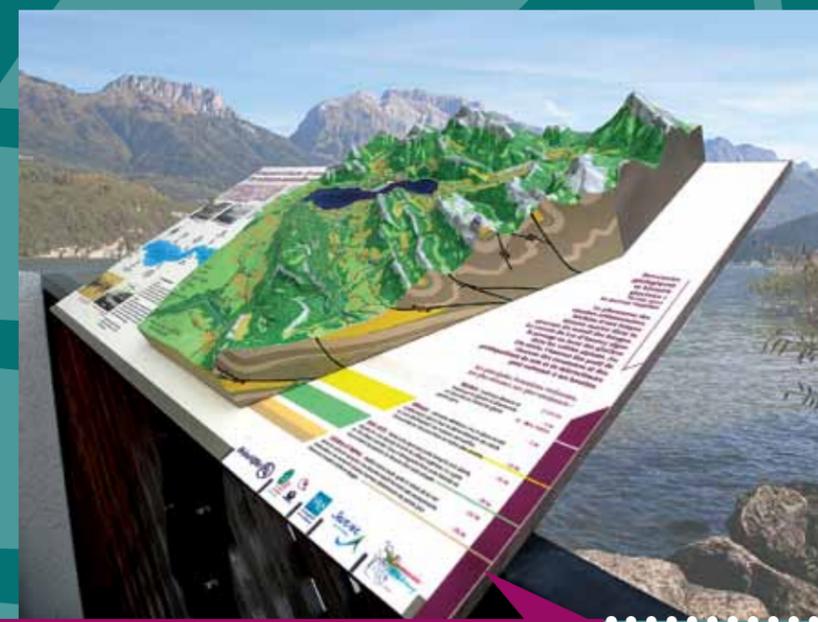
## Local and Indigenous Knowledge

UNESCO Global Geoparks actively involve local and indigenous peoples, preserving and celebrating their culture. By involving local and indigenous communities, UNESCO Global Geoparks recognize the importance of these communities, their culture and the link between these communities and their land. It is one of the criteria of UNESCO Global Geoparks that local and indigenous knowledge, practice and management systems, alongside science, are included in the planning and management of the area.



San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark, Japan

## Monitoring and Evaluation

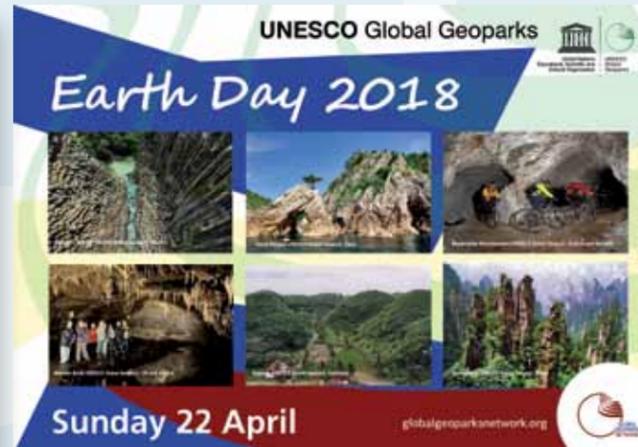


Massif des Bauges UNESCO Global Geopark, France

In order to ensure the continuing high quality of UNESCO Global Geoparks, including the quality of the management of each UNESCO Global Geopark, the status of each UNESCO Global Geopark is subject to a thorough revalidation every 4 years.

The Global Geoparks Network supports the Geopark evaluation and revalidation process by providing the experts for the evaluation missions and maintaining the roster of evaluators.

# Celebrating United Nations International Days in UNESCO Global Geoparks



In 2017 several UNESCO Global Geoparks organized events within the framework of a common campaign for the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. The variety of events coordinated by the GGN Geo-hazard Working Group included public talks, activities with schools or other groups, implementation of educational programmes, small exhibitions and other activities

On December 11, UNESCO Global Geoparks celebrated the International Mountain Day by a campaign through social media to promote their role in raising social interest on mountains and in revitalizing mountainous communities through geotourism activities. The majority of the 140 UNESCO Global Geoparks are in mountainous territories. Yet mountains are under threat from climate change, land degradation, over-exploitation and natural disasters, with potentially far-reaching and devastating consequences, both for mountain communities and the rest of the world.

The Global Geoparks Network encourages UNESCO Global Geoparks to celebrate by way of common campaigns the UN International Days in 2018 aiming to gain further support for their activities and to promote the values of Earth heritage protection and sustainable local development. The GGN will organize the common campaign for the promotion of the activities using the GGN promotional tools through the internet.

The International Days in which UNESCO Global Geoparks organize events coordinated by the Global Geoparks Network are as follows:

- **International Earth Day - 22 April 2018**
- **International Museum Day - 18 May 2018**
- **World Environment Day - 5 June 2018**
- **International Day for Disaster Reduction - 13 October 2018**
- **International Mountain Day - 11 December 2018**

UNESCO Global Geoparks, the youngest site designation of UNESCO, need visibility through communication activities to raise their profile as territories of excellence hosting geological heritage sites of international importance, as sustainable tourism destinations, as learning territories promoting sustainability in social and economic development, as hidden treasures to visit, explore, discover and live! At present, there are 140 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 38 countries. They are all institutional members of the Global Geoparks Network.

The Global Geoparks Network celebrates the UN International Days to promote UNESCO Global Geoparks and to underline their contribution in raising awareness for the environmental protection and care of our planet. More specifically of some critical issues of global importance such as geo-hazard risk reduction and climate change awareness.

# Geoparks and International Tourism

The Global Geoparks Network is developing a new marketing and communication strategy for UNESCO Global Geoparks to promote Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations and the Global Geoparks Network as a Network of excellence in quality services for nature tourism.

The Global Geoparks Network became a gold partner of the World Tourism Organization for the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017 (IY2017). The main goal of their partnership is to build new links with the tourism market, raise the profile and visibility of the UNESCO Global Geoparks among the main players in the tourism industry and to promote Geoparks collectively through this United Nation's initiative operated by the World Tourism Organization.



## Geoparks and International Tourism Fairs

The Global Geoparks Network participates every year in international tourism fairs, promoting Geoparks in the global tourism market.

This year major events were organized in **FITUR – Madrid (January 2018)**, in **ITB – Berlin (March 2018)** and in **ITB Hong Kong (June 2018)**.

The aim of the GGN's participation in international tourism fairs is to emphasize that the UNESCO Global Geoparks provide an international framework for cooperation and broad stakeholder engagement on shared and sustainable outcomes related to tourism, linking sustainability together with community pride and benefit, economic development and new employment as well as geological, natural and cultural heritage conservation.

Through the participation in the tourism fairs, the Global Geoparks Network comes in contact with thousands of businessmen working in the travel industry, tour operators, visitors, journalists and official missions from all over the world who participate in the exhibitions in order to discover the latest developments in the travel industry.

The participation of the Geoparks includes the presentation of individual exhibits, new brochures and local products in a special stand.

The Geoparks inform tourism professionals, tourists and visitors to the fair about the opportunities for visiting and the geotourism activities organized by the Geoparks.

At the same time, the Global Geoparks Network organizes and participates in press conferences as well as in special events organized and displaying Geoparks as unique tourist quality destinations.



**Geoparks International Press Conference Berlin 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International GGN Press Conference in the International Tourism Bourse in Berlin on March 6th, stimulated the interest of the tourism journalists.

The event was very successful and the more than 80 participating journalists showed great interest which we believe will bring publicity in many media, in Germany and also in internationally.

**FITUR Madrid, 17-21 January 2018**



The Global Geoparks Network stand and activities in FITUR Madrid, 17-21 January 2018, was very successful and contributed significantly to raise the profile and visibility of the UNESCO Global Geoparks as quality brand holders! Naturtejo, Villuercas - Ibores - Jara, Basque Coast, Sobrarbe, Lanzarote and Las Loras UNESCO Global Geoparks jointly organized the GGN stand in FITUR 2018. The GGN stand was visited by many professionals. Among the high profile visitors was the Minister of Economy of Portugal.

During the Fair a big media event hosted in the impressive pavilion of Andalucía was dedicated to the publication of the Spanish UNESCO Global Geoparks Book, presenting UNESCO Global Geoparks in Spain and their tourism offer. The event was honoured by the Ministers of Tourism Javier Fernández and the Environment Jose Fiscal who emphasized the importance of Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations.





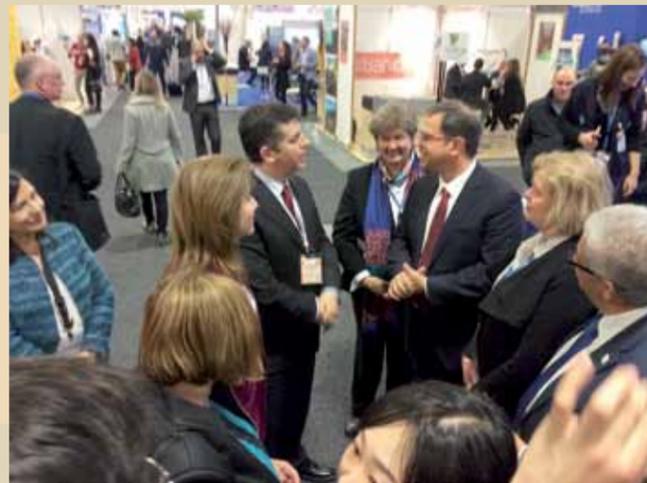
**ITB  
Berlin  
7-11 March  
2018**

The Global Geoparks Network booth at ITB Berlin (Hall 4.1b Adventure Travel - Responsible Tourism) presented the new UNESCO Global Geoparks label as well as the Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations and the activities of the Global Geoparks Network - GGN, APGN and EGN!

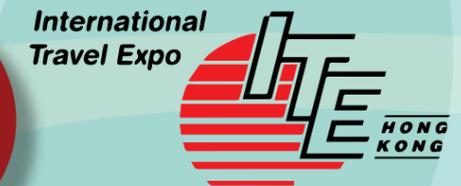
Twenty Geoparks were present at the GEOPARKS booth with staff and promotional material presenting their geotourism offer. For the first time Geoparks from China (Funiushan) and Iran (Qeshm) were present in ITB - Geoparks stand together with 17 Geoparks from Europe and Messel Pit World Heritage Site, Germany.

The GGN presentation on the Global Geoparks Network and its activities to promote ecotourism development and UNESCO Global Geoparks as sustainable tourism destinations" took place on Wednesday 7th, at the Main Stage, in ITB. Many tourism professionals from several international and national organizations were present and discussed with the GGN Representatives (World Tourism Organization, National Geographic, National Tourism Organizations, Regional Administrations, Local Authorities, Tourism Agencies).

The German UNESCO Global Geoparks organized a Press Conference on March 8th 2018 in ITB, with the presence of the President of the National UNESCO Commission of Germany and the representatives of the German UNESCO Global Geoparks.



**ITB  
Hong Kong  
14-17 June  
2018**



**香港國際旅遊展**

For the first time, the UNESCO Global Geoparks brand was promoted in one of Asia's leading travel exhibitions -ITE 2018 Hong Kong - from 14 to 17 June 2018.

UNESCO Global Geoparks staged a pavilion and held an international forum entitled 'UNESCO Global Geoparks-Sustainable Tourism Destinations' on trade days and a public seminar on public days. The event attracted over 100,000 people.

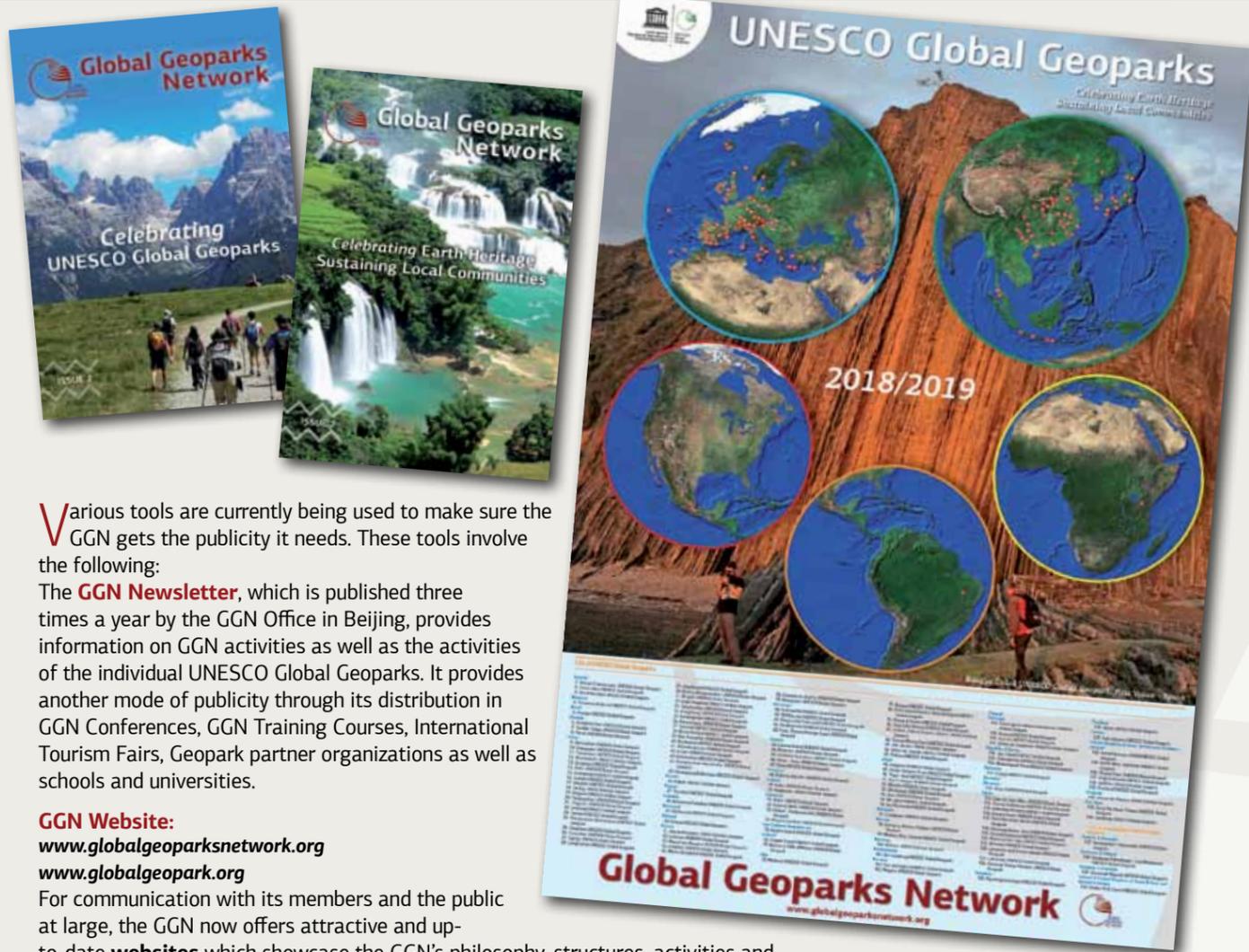
Representatives from the Global Geoparks Network, the Chinese and the Japanese Geoparks Network participated.

Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark, with the great support of the LIONS Nature Education Foundation and L'Hotel Management Company Limited, took the lead based on the decision of the Global Geoparks Network Executive Board in organizing the event and co-ordinating the participation of Geoparks in the region.

The Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark team and delegations from Arxan, Yanqing, Bergstrasse-Odenwald, Oki and Izu UNESCO Global Geoparks and Messel Pit World Heritage Site served throughout the entire expo.



# Communication Tools



Various tools are currently being used to make sure the GGN gets the publicity it needs. These tools involve the following:

The **GGN Newsletter**, which is published three times a year by the GGN Office in Beijing, provides information on GGN activities as well as the activities of the individual UNESCO Global Geoparks. It provides another mode of publicity through its distribution in GGN Conferences, GGN Training Courses, International Tourism Fairs, Geopark partner organizations as well as schools and universities.

#### GGN Website:

[www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

[www.globalgeopark.org](http://www.globalgeopark.org)

For communication with its members and the public at large, the GGN now offers attractive and up-to-date **websites** which showcase the GGN's philosophy, structures, activities and promotional tools as well as all the UNESCO Global Geoparks, their activities and facilities.

#### GGN Brochure

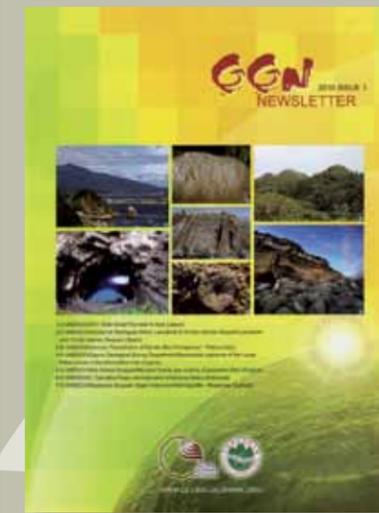
The brochure provides the GGN map and list of members and is distributed in GGN and UNESCO events and Tourism Fairs.

#### ● GGN Communication Committee

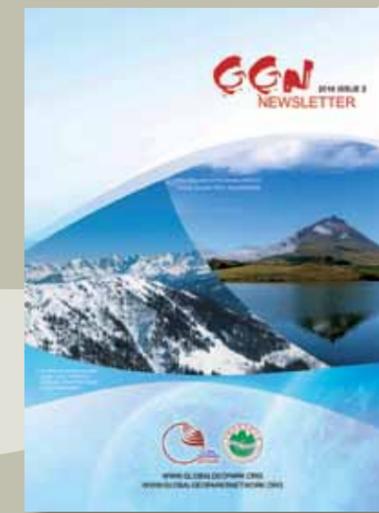
<b>Nickolas Zouros</b>	GGN President
<b>Guy Martini</b>	GGN General Secretary
<b>Burlando Maurizio</b> , Italy	GGN Calendar of Events
<b>Duarte Antonio</b> , Portugal	EGN Newsletter
<b>Furusawa Kana</b> , Japan	APGN Information Dissemination
<b>Irazabal Diego</b> , Uruguay	South America
<b>Korbely Barnabas</b> , Hungary	EGN Progress Reporting
<b>Lemon Kirstin</b> , Ireland	EGN Social Networks
<b>Mpsios Dimitris</b> , Greece	GGN Association Website
<b>Ramsay Tony</b> , UK	EGN Magazine
<b>Li Sun</b> , China	China Social Networks
<b>Watanabe Mahito</b> , Japan	GGN Annual Reports
<b>Waters Sara</b> , Canada	North America
<b>Weber Jutta</b> , Germany	EGN Newsletter
<b>Yuan Zheng</b> , China	GGN Website and GGN Newsletter

## GGN Newsletters

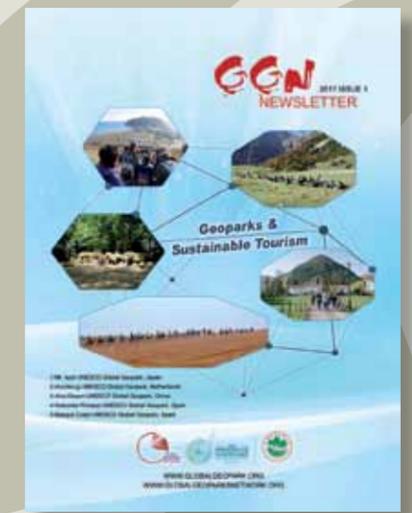
[http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page\\_id=1562](http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=1562)



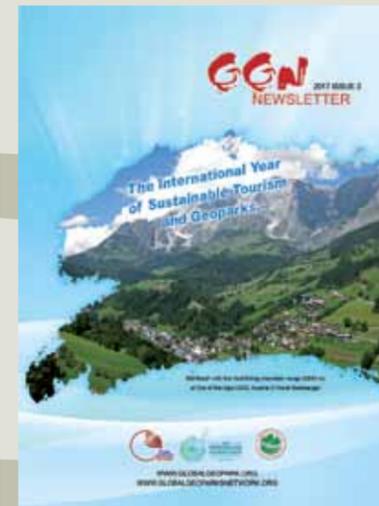
2016 - Issue 1



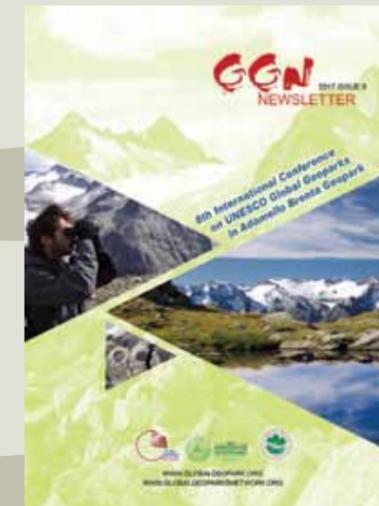
2016 - Issue 2



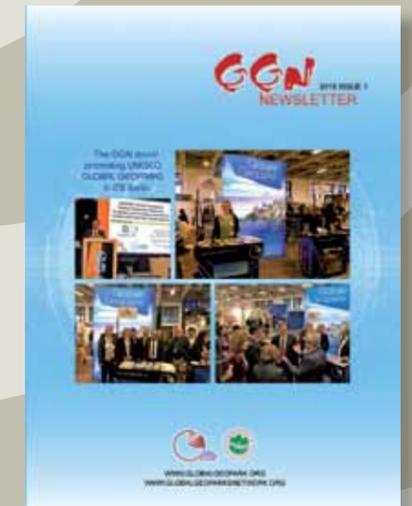
2017 - Issue 1



2017 - Issue 2



2017 - Issue 3



2018 - Issue 1

## GGN Conference Proceedings

2016 - 7th International Tourism Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks held in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, United Kingdom  
 2014 - 6th International Unesco Conference on Global Geoparks held in Saint John New Brunswick, Canada

[www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

This publication has been printed in 15.000 copies with resources provided by the Global Geoparks Network [www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

Publication team: **GGN Communication Committee**

Printed in Lesvos island UNESCO Global Geopark, GREECE by Epikoinonia S.A.

Photos: **Global Geoparks Network archive unless otherwise indicated**

Globe maps: **Erdal Gumus**

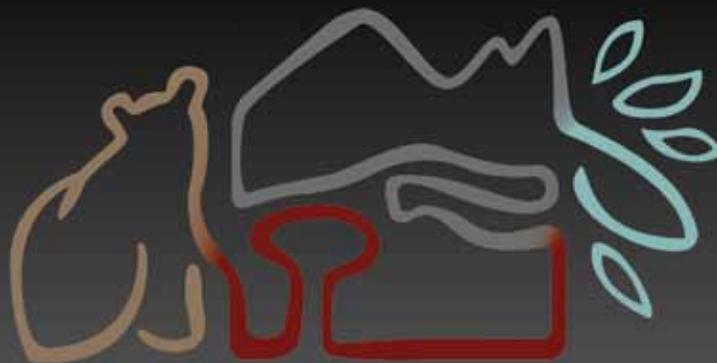
Editing: **Tony Ramsay**

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ADAMELLO BRENTA GEOPARK  
 Madonna di Campiglio - Italy

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