

[View online](#)

GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks

CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE – SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

40 | March 12, 2020

NEWS FEED

Dear colleagues and friends of the Global Geoparks Network,

The GGN Executive Board at its 68th meeting on March 10th 2020, discussed in detail the situation at the global scale regarding the Corona Virus (COVID-19) epidemic which is causing serious problems to our societies and our economy but also to the operation of our Geoparks.

On March 11th, the **World Health Organization** who has been assessing this outbreak around the clock are deeply concerned both by the alarming levels of spread and severity and by the alarming levels of inaction. The WHO announced more than 118.000 cases in 114 countries and has therefore made the assessment that **# COVID-19** can be characterized as **pandemic**. !

According to the World Health Organization "It would be the first pandemic in history that could be controlled. The great advantage we have is that the decisions we all make – as governments, businesses, communities, families and individuals – can influence the trajectory of this epidemic."

Taking into account the fact that more and more countries are affected the GGN ExB decided to strengthen the communication between the Network members. We will use frequently the GGN News Feed to spread information to all. The GGN encourages the use of electronic communication and video conferences to keep communication alive. The Geopark websites and social media are best tools to spread information.

The GGN Executive Board will keep on-line meetings every 2 weeks to examine the situation and support its members and the operation of the Network. **Please note that there are NEW INITIATIVES and CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS in this edition!**

The GGN community collectively will find the proper ways to support each one of our members to overpass the consequences of the epidemic. Geoparks will continue as always working together and expressing solidarity, through networking, acting in a smart, inclusive and innovative way to promote Geoparks for the benefit of our local communities!

The GGN Executive Board

GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK NEW INITIATIVES

1st Global Geopark Network Film Festival

<https://filmfreeway.com/filmfestivalGGN>



To energize the necessary creation of quality video inside UNESCO Global Geoparks, a first edition of the GGN Film festival will be organized during the GGN Conference in September in Jeju. This festival is an opportunity to mobilize the documentary Directors and all filmmakers in each one of our Geoparks.

The festival, for its first year, concern only short videos (3 to 5 minutes). All propositions needs to be submitted by the UGGp or Aspiring UGGp Management. Each Geopark can only present one video.

3 awards will be given during this first edition and the submission deadline for submissions is the 30th June.

You will find all Festival details and rules in the festival [website](#).

GGN promotional website

As part of the GGN communication plan we have developed a transitory GGN site for the Global Geoparks promotion to the broader society and the

tourism industry allowing visitors to easily understand, feel and live our territories.

This site is connected, by links, with the existing administrative sites of the GGN to transmit all kind of information as well to our members than to visitors.

It is well adapted for use on computer, phone and tablets. We wanted it ready quickly and operative for ITB. Thus to have for our Jeju Conference a website totally checked and operative.

The choice of website design was to make the UNESCO Geoparks attractive and alive and so that visitors could experience the fantastic realizations of our territories all around the world.

For this, the use of video was a fundamental choice in the website design .

Through the Geopark's video, visitors can have a direct contact with our Geoparks, listening directly the words of their team, guides or population. Feeling the difference and regional specificities and by that having a different experience, through the planet, where they can feel, listen, see our achievements and actions.

www.visitgeoparks.org

This website, in the next months, will evolve and complete. For that we need your cooperation. If you want to add a video in one of the categories, please participate and send your data inside the pop up window which will appear in this link:

<https://www.visitgeoparks.org/geopark-our-network/>

We hope that you will like our new promotional tool!

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

2020 Call for applications for UNESCO Global Geoparks Evaluators

In order to carry out field missions in UNESCO Global Geoparks candidates as well as revalidation missions, UNESCO and the Global Geopark Network (GGN) are launching a call for evaluators.

Application deadline: 05 April 2020

These evaluators will have combined and proven professional experience relevant for UNESCO Global Geopark development (geological heritage,

conservation, sustainable development, tourism development and promotion, and environmental issues).

Documents allowing new evaluators to apply and carry out field evaluation for new aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks and revalidation missions are available online:

In accordance with the Statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (Article 5) and the Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks (Article 4), UNESCO in conjunction with the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) will establish and maintain a roster of evaluators.

The UNESCO Global Geopark Bureau will assign evaluators, who are on this roster, to carry out field evaluations of new applications for aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks and revalidation missions of established UNESCO Global Geoparks. These evaluators will have combined and proven professional experience relevant for UNESCO Global Geopark development (geological heritage, conservation, sustainable development, tourism development and promotion, and environmental issues).

Evaluators will serve in their personal capacity, not as representatives of their respective States or any other affiliated entities. The UNESCO Secretariat Evaluators should ensure no conflict of interest regarding new UNESCO Global Geopark applications or those requiring revalidation. Evaluators will not seek or accept instructions from governments or other authorities and will not conduct missions in their own country. The UNESCO Global Geoparks Bureau will assign two evaluators from the roster of evaluators per field evaluation / revalidation mission.

Evaluation Teams shall independently:

1. Evaluate applications, extensions and revalidations for UNESCO Global Geoparks on the basis of the strict guidelines provided by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council;
2. Prepare a report to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council on the applications, extensions and revalidations evaluated.

Procedure for inscription in the roster of evaluators

Each individual wishing to become an evaluator for UNESCO Global Geoparks should fill in the application form for evaluators for UNESCO Global Geoparks and send it to the UNESCO Global Geopark Secretariat (Kristof Vandenberghe, k.vandenberghe@unesco.org(link sends e-mail)), and the President of the GGN Association (Nikolaos Zouros, nzour@aegean.gr(link sends e-mail)), accompanied by their CV, including the necessary documentation and references.

Criteria for inscription

The evaluators must have taken note and respect the Statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP), the Operational

Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks, the Terms of Reference, as well as the Guidelines for Field Inspection Missions for UNESCO Global Geoparks. They must be ready to dedicate time to carry out the evaluation/revalidation missions and study a number of documents related to the UNESCO Global Geopark applications and revalidations. A good knowledge of and ability to speak fluently and understand the English language is required.

Each evaluator should fulfil at least two of the criteria below:

- To be/have been a manager or representing geoscientist in a “green card” holding UNESCO Global Geopark for at least four years;
- To be/have been a member of the scientific committee of a “green card” holding UNESCO Global Geopark for at least four years;
- Must have proven combined professional experience relevant to UNESCO Global Geopark development and backed by a corresponding recognized higher education degree in at least three of the following areas:
 - geological heritage,
 - geological conservation,
 - sustainable development, tourism development and promotion,
 - environmental issues,
 - community engagement, and
 - public communication of geoscience for at least five years;

Those individuals, who were part of the Roster of Evaluators in the past, do not have to reapply.

Documents:

[Complete Call for Evaluators documents](#) (.pdf)

[Call UNESCO Global Geoparks Evaluators Form](#) (.pdf)

[Guidelines for Field Inspections Missions](#) (.pdf)

[Terms of Reference of UNESCO Global Geoparks Evaluators](#) (.pdf)

MENTORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Dear colleagues we would like to inform you that UNESCO's International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) has just issued the call for aspiring and established geopark representatives to participate to the 2020 session of the Mentorships and Knowledge Exchange Programme with the financial and operational support of

UNESCO's two partner organizations, the Jeju Province Development Corporation (JPDC) of the Republic of Korea and the Global Geoparks Network association (GGN).

[CALL FOR MENTORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME APPLICATIONS \[pdf\]](#)

2020 Call for applications Councils of the International Geoscience and Geopark Programme

UNESCO Global Geoparks Council

Dear colleagues we would like to inform you that UNESCO External Relations Sector has just issued the call for the IGCP and UGGp Councils.

There are 6 places to renew in the UGGp Council and three in the IGCP.

[LINK for the 2020 Call for applications - Councils of the International Geoscience and Geopark Programme \[link\]](#)

[LINK For the UNESCO Geoparks Council \[link\]](#)

GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

1st UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM

Jeju island UGGp, Rep. Of Korea - 18 September 2020

The GGN Executive Board in collaboration with the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat decided the establishment of a new activity the UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM.

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 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want, being actors of change in their territories. They will elaborate their proposal for actions contributing to the UNESCO Global Geoparks strategic framework for action 2020-2024, to address heritage protection, natural hazards mitigation, climate change and sustainable development in general.

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

The 1st Assembly of the YOUTH FORUM will take place in parallel with the 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks which will take place in Jeju island, Republic of Korea in September 2020.

Participants need to be aged from 18 to 24 years (according to UN/UNESCO Youth designation), showing their engagement with UNESCO Global Geoparks:

- in their respective living/working contexts - territories and communities already included in the UNESCO Global Geoparks
- on issues related to Geological Heritage conservation, climate change adaptation, natural disaster mitigation, geo-tourism and sustainable territorial development.

Participants can be Geopark staff, Geopark partners, University researchers, phd candidates, university students or school students with clear engagement through their research or educational activity. Observers may include Youths from Countries hosting aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks.

GGN - National Geopark Fora or Committees are responsible to nominate the representative of each country in the UNESCO Global Geoparks YOUTH FORUM and shall cover the expenses for their participation in the UNESCO Global Geoparks YOUTH FORUM meetings.

If a country wishes to nominate more representatives for the UNESCO Global Geopark YOUTH FORUM then the youth representatives of a country consist a country team with one vote at the UNESCO Global Geopark YOUTH FORUM meetings.

In case that a country (especially those with one Geopark) has difficulty to cover the expenses of the youth participation in the GGN YOUTH FORUM, can use the grant policy of the Conference or ask for support from GGN.

The Operational Guidelines of the 1st YOUTH FORUM have been agreed at the 64th GGN ExB meeting on December 10th, 2019.

[YOUTH FORUM OPERATION GUIDELINES \[pdf\]](#)

We are looking forward to receive your youth participations.

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

8th March - International Women's Day!

The Global Geoparks Network celebrates this special day as women had always a vital role and responsibilities in the creation and development of the Global Geoparks.

Women took responsibility to strengthen the contribution of Geoparks to the local communities. They are pioneers in utilizing heritage (geological, natural and cultural) as a tool for the re-vitalization of rural areas.

Through women cooperatives they promoted a new model for new quality services and local -products to boost geotourism development!

In Geoparks everyday we celebrate women's and men's contribution in a heritage driven sustainable local development!

REGIONAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

European Geoparks Network

45th European Geoparks Meeting - Papuk UGGp

POSTPONING the 45th European Geoparks Meeting

Dear EGN Coordination Committee members, Advisory Committee members, Individual members, Honorary members and Observers.

Almost all our voting members have now given their opinion and feedback about the postponing of the upcoming EGN CC meeting and the huge majority is supporting the AC proposal.

We can therefore conclude that the scheduled meeting of CC at Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark in Croatia on the 22 -26 of March 2020 will be postponed, due to the outbreak of COVID 19 that has affected Europe and large part of the World.

Only three geoparks didn't respond and of those that voted three were against the proposal of AC, two abstained and the rest were in favour (list is available if needed). Thus the CC decision is to postpone the Papuk meeting for the 12-15 of May 2020.

The dates for the Meetings will be:

12th May: EGN AC

13th - 14th May EGN CC

15th May: Field trips

Many of you have expressed certain concerns about the future situation on the COVID 19 outbreak and of course AC share those concerns and discussed this issue before proposing the new dates. However, the decision taken appears to be only option at present, as a physical meeting has to be organized before June. Nobody knows what the situation will be in May but we will follow this closely. If the spread is not controlled and things have not improved by the beginning of April, we will come back with further recommendations if necessary.

In the meantime we advise those participants who have the possibility to change their flight tickets for the new dates of Papuk meeting. Soon organisers will provide us with updated information regarding registration and accommodation issues.

We hope that all of us will stay safe and healthy and the situation will become better - and that we all will meet at Papuk in May!

We express once again our thanks to our friends from Papuk geopark for making the best to overpass this difficult situation.

Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network

GEOVIVÊNCIAS MAGAZINE

The magazine of Latin America and the Caribbean Geoparks Network

The Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network already has its own publication for communication: the GeoVivencias magazine.

This magazine aims to be a means for publishing specialized and scientific works (of Earth and environmental sciences, social sciences, history, ethnography and any other discipline that contributes to the knowledge and development of geoparks), as well as news of UNESCO Global Geoparks and aspiring geoparks.

The deadline for receiving articles and news for the first issue of GeoVivencias is April 25, 2020.

The articles will be assessed by two reviewers under the strict parameters of the scientific evaluation; and in the case of the news, they will only have a style review and a selection by the Editorial Committee.

The editorial norms for the preparation of manuscripts are available online in Spanish (Normas de Publicación:

<http://www.redgeolac.org/misc/normasEspanol.pdf>

The works must be sent by email to: geovivenciasgeolac@gmail.com

GEO PARKS EVENTS

9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks

Jeju island, Rep of Korea,

17-20 September 2020

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

GGN Executive Board is encouraging all UNESCO Global Geoparks colleagues to register to the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

We would like to encourage them also to prepare and submit abstracts on their Geoparks activities for the conference sessions.

Please visit the Conference website <https://www.jejuggn2020.org/> and register NOW with the low registrations fees.

[Promotional Video for the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Jeju](#)

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

16/9/2020	08.00-10.00	UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Meeting
16/9/2020	10.00-12.00	

		APGN – EGN – GEOLAG Regional Meetings AC Meetings North America – African Geopark Meetings
16/9/2020	13.00-16.00	APGN – EGN – GEOLAG CC Meetings CC Meetings
16/9/2020	16.00-18.00	GGN Executive Board Meeting Presentations of 2022 Hosts applications
16/9/2020	18.00-20.00	Conference Ice Break Dinner
17/9/2020	08.00-12.00	Opening of the Conference Key Note Lectures
17/9/2020	13.00-15.00	Conference Sessions
17/9/2020	15.00-18.00	Conference Sessions GGN AC Meeting
17/9/2020	18.00-20.00	Conference Welcome Dinner
18/9/2020	08.00-12.00	Conference Sessions GGN YOUTH FORUM
18/9/2020	13.00-18.00	Geotrail Field Trip (For Participants)
18/9/2020	13.00-18.00	GGN General Assembly
19/9/2020	08.00-18.00	Mid-Conference Field Trip
19/9/2020	18.00-20.00	Gala Dinner – Award & Certificates Ceremony
20/9/2020	08.00-17.00	Sessions Geoparks Evaluator's Seminar
20/9/2020	17.00-18.30	Closing Ceremony
20/9/2020	18.30-20.00	Work Dinner of the Elected GGN Executive Board
21-22/9/2020		Post Congress Field Trips

Celebration of the International Earth Day 2020 22 April 2020

"Mother Earth: Education and Climate Change"

The Global Geoparks Network, the international organization of the **147 UNESCO Global Geoparks** celebrate the International **Mother Earth Day 2020** and asks all Geopark management bodies, partners and stakeholders to join the campaign and promote the role of **Earth** for our planet and our communities.

Mother Earth Day will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2020 and it has relevance to all Geoparks.

According to the United Nations "Mother Earth is a common expression for the planet earth in a number of countries and regions, which reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species and the planet we all inhabit. The Earth and its ecosystems are our home. In order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social, and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth. International Mother Earth Day is celebrated to remind each of us that the Earth and its ecosystems provide us with life and sustenance. This Day also recognizes a collective responsibility, as called for in the 1992 Rio Declaration, to promote harmony with nature and the Earth to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations of humanity." (<https://www.un.org/en/events/motherearthday/>)

The Global Geoparks Network encourages everyone and especially Youth to Join the conversation on social media Celebrating Earth Heritage.

The Global Geoparks Network, the international organization of the **147 UNESCO Global Geoparks** is joining the global campaign, through a social media communication and events around the world, to celebrating Earth and its geological heritage, ecological and cultural value for our planet and the generations to come!

Shetland UNESCO Global Geopark, as a member of the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group, will be collating a schedule of events for International Mother Earth Day.

We request that you send your events/projects and the SDGs they support to Shetland UNESCO Global Geopark **Rory Tallack**, E-mail: Rory.Tallack@shetlandamenity.org.

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

GGN OPEN CALLS

**CALL FOR HOSTS OF THE
10th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS – 2022**

[Please Download the call](#)

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL INTENSIVE COURSE ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

Lesvos 1-10 June 2020

[Please download the 1st Circular](#)

INTERNATIONAL GEOPARKS WORKSHOP IN YANGAN TAU

GEOPARK - RUSSIA

On November 25-29, Yangan-Tau Geopark hosted representatives of 14 countries and several subjects of the Russian Federation at the international seminar-meeting "Global Network of UNESCO Geoparks".

The workshop consisted of two days of presentations and one day out in the Yangan Tau area.

[Please Download the Report.](#)

GGN Calendar of Meetings and Events

(updated February 2020)

2020

22 April 2019: International Earth Day, Geopark Activities

22-28 April 2019: 1st APGN Geoparks Week 2020

26-29 April 2020: Geoparks Conference – Viet Nam

12-15 May 2020: 45th European Geoparks Network Meeting - Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark, Croatia

17-22 May 2020: 1st Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Africa - Tanzania

24 May - 7 June 2020: European Geoparks Week

1-10 June 2020: International Intensive Course on Geoparks "UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability" - Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece

24-26 June 2020: 3rd Geoparks Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Greece and Cyprus "Geoparks-Protected areas Biodiversity and Geodiversity Conservation and Management" – Vikos Aios UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece

14-22 September 2020: 9th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOPARKS, Jeju island, Republic of Korea

5-10 October 2020: Regional Course on UNESCO Global Geopark 2020 - Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark, Malaysia

13 October 2020: International Day for Disaster Reduction, Geopark Activities

25-30 October 2020: 6th International Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks - China University of Geosciences Beijing, China

9-15 November 2020: 36th International Geological Congress, Delhi, India

11 December 2020: International Mountain Day, Geopark Activities

2021

March 2021: 47th European Geoparks Network Meeting - Katla UNESCO Global Geopark, Iceland

September 2021: Asian Pacific Geoparks Network Coordination Committee Meeting - Satun UNESCO Global Geopark, Thailand

September 2021: 7th Asian Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium - Satun UNESCO Global Geopark, Thailand

September 2021: 48th European Geoparks Network Meeting - Sesia - Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy

September 2021: 16th European Geoparks Conference - Sesia - Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy

2022

March 2022: 49th European Geoparks Network Meeting - Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark, Netherlands in collaboration with TerraVita UNESCO Global Geopark, Germany

September 2022: 10th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOPARKS

2023

March 2023: 51st European Geoparks Network Meeting, Hateg UNESCO Global Geopark, Romania

September 2023: 8th Asian Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium

September 2023: 17th European Geoparks Conference



[Facebook](#)

[Manage your subscription](#)

Copyright Globalgeoparksnetwork.org | All Rights Reserved