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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Most of the countries all around the world are facing the second, and most difficult, wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNESCO Global Geoparks despite this very difficult situation have found creative ways to work, to connect and support local people. But also they work in order to build their resilience and their recovery. UNESCO Global Geoparks all around the world have also found ways to contact and networking through the organisation of various digital activities.

During the next weeks two very important common events will be organised by the Global Geopark Network in collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geo-hazard Risk Reduction Section:

- On Monday 2nd of November, 2020 at 13:00 – 15:00 GMT the 2nd DIGITAL FOLLOW UP COURSE will be organised for discussing with the participants of the of the Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2020 "UNESCO Global Geoparks: Territories of Resilience" and the Aspiring Geoparks.
- On 17th to 18th November, 2020 the 1st GGN Digital Forum will be organised for discussing and exchanging between all the UNESCO Global Geoparks members and the Aspiring Geoparks.

Various digital activities were also organised by the GGN Regional Networks, the European Geoparks Network, the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network and the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network giving the opportunity to their members to share good practices and exchange ideas.

Keep sending information and photos on Geopark activities, News and Good practice examples at [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com) and continue to find new creative ways to

work, to support local communities and collaborate with all the other UNESCO Global Geoparks around the globe!

## The GGN Executive Board

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### GEOPARKS CONFERENCES & EVENTS

## 1st GGN DIGITAL FORUM

**Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 12:00 GMT**



1st GGN DIGITAL FORUM is a global initiative with the aim of exchanging of information and ideas regarding UNESCO Global Geoparks activities and initiatives during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

The 1st GGN DIGITAL FORUM will be held on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th November 2020 from 12.00 GMT to 14.00 GMT.

The first day of the 1st GGN DIGITAL FORUM, on the 17th of November, will be discussed all the internal issues related with the GGN. On the 18th of November will be discussed all the informative issues regarding the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

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## **UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS INITIATIVES**

### **9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks**

**September 9-15, 2021**  
**Jeju Island, Republic of Korea**

## **NEW CALLS**

### **CALL FOR HOSTS OF THE 10th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS 2023**

**Deadline for application submission:  
31 December 2020**

The GGN Executive Board at its 78th meeting on 8th July 2020 and in close collaboration with UNESCO Section on Earth Sciences and Geo-Hazards Risk Reduction and taking into account the decision for shifting all the physical conferences and events for the period 2020-2022 to the period 2021-2023 decided that the 10th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks will take place in September 2023.

It also decided to extend the deadline for application submissions till the 31st of December 2020.

**[For Further Info click here](#)**

Please ensure that your full bid is submitted electronically by December 31, 2020 to: GGN ([ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com)) and UNESCO ([m.patzak@unesco.org](mailto:m.patzak@unesco.org))

The above list is not exhaustive and aims only to provide some first guidance.

Please note that we strive to rotate the hosting of the International Conference to different regions of the world.

Related websites:

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

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/unesco-global-geoparks>

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

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## REGIONAL GEOPARKS NETWORKS

### Asian Pasific Geoparks Network (APGN)

#### Digital Meetings of the Advisory and Coordination Committees

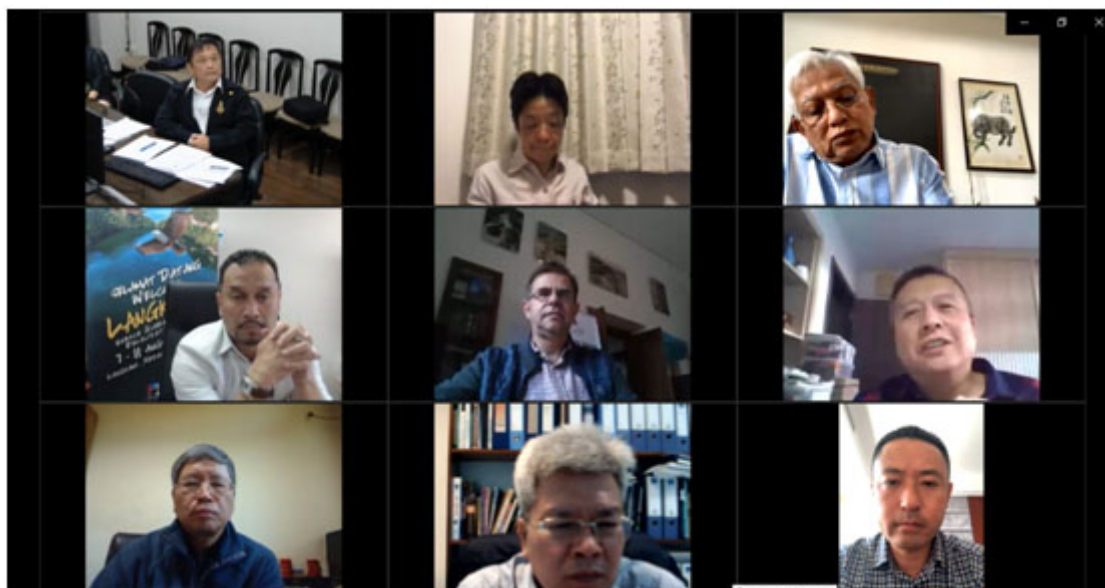
##### APGN AC & CC digital meetings

The Asian Pacific Geoparks Network during October 2020 organised important digital meetings.

On Monday 19th of October the APGN organised the APGN Advisory Committee meeting and on Tuesday 20th of October organised the APGN Coordination Committee meeting.

The main purpose of the meetings was to discuss the results and activities of the Asian Pacific Geoparks Network during the last year, share information and good practices and networking.

It was also discussed and agreed the postponement of the APGN Symposium which was planned for September 2021 to September 2022, due to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in Geoparks operation and the postponement of the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks which will take place in September 2021.



APGN AC meeting on October 19th





APGN AC meeting



APGN CC meeting



## European Geoparks Network (EGN)

### 2nd EGN Digital Forum



On September 15th, 2020 European Geoparks Network (EGN) organised the 2nd EGN Digital Forum.

The meeting brought together representatives from 79 UNESCO Global Geoparks all around Europe.

This was the second EGN Forum which was organised digitally due to travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main purpose of the meeting was to share experiences in relation to the EGN ongoing activities, EGN meeting calendar, future meetings during Covid-19, EGN National Fora reports, EGN communication tools (EGN Magazine and EGN Newsletter) and the Harassment Policy document.

Please find the report of 2nd EGN Digital Forum [here](#).

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## Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network (GEOLAC)

**Gender Equality Group of GeoLAC Network:  
education and egalitarian participation for women  
and men in geopark territories**



The Latin America and the Caribbean Geoparks Network (GeoLAC Network) accounts for a working group specifically dedicated to gender equality.

The Gender Equality working group has the main objective to undertake activities that foster awareness and promote equal opportunities among men and women in geopark territories, by socializing the fight for equality and to develop productive and educational projects.

Please find the report of Gender Equality Group of GeoLAC Network [here](#).





## Webinar "'UNESCO Transnational Geoparks Workshop - The Volcan Tacana transnational geopark project'"

The Latin American and Caribbean Geoparks Network organised on October 27 to 2020 the webinar 'UNESCO Transnational Geoparks Workshop - The Volcan Tacana transnational geopark project'.

**Taller Geoparques Transnacionales de la UNESCO: proyecto Geoparque transnacional Volcán Tacaná México - Guatemala**

**DIA 1 - 27 de octubre 2020**  
**12:00 UY (GMT-3)**  
**Zoom: <https://bit.ly/31unfN>**

Organiza:

**Taller Geoparques Transnacionales de la UNESCO: proyecto Geoparque transnacional Volcán Tacaná México - Guatemala**

**Fecha: 27, 28, 29 octubre Zoom**

El 17 de noviembre del año 2015, los 195 Estados Miembros de la UNESCO ratificaron la creación de los geoparques mundiales de la UNESCO durante la 38a reunión de la Conferencia General de la Organización. De esa forma se reconoció el reconocimiento gubernamental a la importancia de una gestión holística en paisajes y sitios geológicos de relevancia universal. Como la naturaleza está moldeada por fronteras geológicas, ecológicas y paisajísticas, ríos, cordilleras, océanos y desiertos, las fronteras de los Geoparques mundiales transnacionales de la UNESCO no siguen las trazadas artificialmente por las personas. Actualmente, cuatro Geoparques mundiales transnacionales de la UNESCO atraviesan naturalmente estas fronteras nacionales, conectando a personas de diferentes países, y abren múltiples posibilidades de promover las conexiones entre los países asociados mediante una sólida cooperación transfronteriza que fomente las conexiones y las actividades.

Los Geoparques Mundiales transnacionales de la UNESCO fortalecen la relación entre los países y contribuyen a los esfuerzos de consolidación de la paz en el verdadero espíritu del mandato de la UNESCO. Los activos vitales transfronterizos científicos, culturales, de desarrollo y educativos desempeñan un papel importante en este sentido, ya que acercan a las personas, permiten los intercambios entre las diferentes culturas y enriquecen la vida de los pueblos de hoy en día. La cooperación entre los municipios e instituciones de la región tiene por objeto mejorar la calidad de vida de las personas que viven a ambos lados de la frontera. Los Geoparques mundiales transnacionales de la UNESCO tienen por objeto la cooperación territorial y la asociación de los interesados a través de las fronteras, lo que tiene la ventaja de abrir nuevas oportunidades de cooperación e intercambio transfronterizos, al tiempo que puede impulsar el desarrollo de la región.

Los Geoparques poseen un patrimonio geológico de valor internacional que guarda una estrecha relación con la biodiversidad, con los elementos culturales del territorio y con las personas, sus densidades y particularmente con los pueblos originarios. Siendo estos pueblos fundamentales para recuperar y enriquecer los valores humanos y de la paz en el territorio.

Involucrando activamente a los pueblos originarios, preservando y celebrando su cultura. Reconociendo la importancia de estas comunidades, su cultura y su vínculo con sus temas. Uno de los criterios de los Geoparques Mundiales de la UNESCO es que los conocimientos, las prácticas y los sistemas de gestión locales, junto con la ciencia, se incluyan en la planificación y la administración del área.

Los Geoparques contribuyen con la Agenda 2030, puntualmente con los objetivos 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12, 13 y 17.

**TALLER GEOPARQUES MUNDIALES DE LA UNESCO: Proyecto Geoparque Volcán Tacaná**

**AGENDA PRELIMINAR**  
**27, 28 Y 29 DE OCTUBRE del 2020**  
**HORARIO:**  
 De 12h a 14h (UY)  
 De 9h a 11h (GT)  
 De 10h a 12h (MX, Chile)  
**Zoom DIA 1: <https://bit.ly/31unfN>**  
**Zoom DIA 2: <https://bit.ly/31unfN>**  
**Zoom DIA 3: <https://bit.ly/31unfN>**

**DIA 1**  
**27 de octubre de 2020**

Horario (UY)	Exposiciones	Expositores
12:00-12:30	Apertura	Kristof Vanderberghe Secretario del Programa Internacional de Geoparques y Geoparques, UNESCO París  Julio Carranza Director de la oficina de Representación de la UNESCO en Guatemala  Rosa Nostro Rodríguez Ejecutiva del Consejo del Estado de Chiapas
12:30 - 12:50	Programa Internacional de Geoparques mundiales de la UNESCO. ¿Qué es un Geoparque? ¿Cuáles son sus objetivos?	Dennis Gorfinkel Responsable Programa Internacional de Geoparques y Geoparques, UNESCO Montevideo
12:50 - 13:10	Geoparques Transnacionales mundiales de la UNESCO.	Margarita Patzak Ejecutiva del Programa Internacional de Geoparques, UNESCO París
13:10 - 13:30	Patrimonio geológico: identificación, clasificación y valoración de geositos en Geoparques.	Manuel Schilling Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Multidisciplinario
13:30 - 13:50	Geodivulgación: Actividades educativas en los Geoparques mundiales de la UNESCO.	Clara Soto Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Océano Pacífico
13:50 - 14:10	Geoparques, Geoturismo, y Desarrollo sostenible: Geoturismo como motor del desarrollo social, cultural y económico.	Mónica Busto Responsable Mundial de la UNESCO Río Urco
14:10 - 14:30	Preguntas y respuestas	

Moderación del taller a cargo de Jorge Bertrán.



DÍA 2 28 de octubre de 2020		
12:00 – 12:10	Apertura	Lidia Brito Directora de la Oficina Regional de Ciencias de la UNESCO para América Latina y el Caribe, Montevideo, Uruguay
12:10 – 12:30	¿Cómo desarrollar un Geoparque exitoso? Proceso de aplicación	Helga Chalegón Miembro del Consejo Mundial de Geoparques
12:30 – 12:50	Participación de las Oficinas de la UNESCO en el apoyo a Geoparques Aspirantes y Propuestos - Experiencia de México - Experiencia en Guatemala	Dorian Romeros Especialista de Programación en el sector de Ciencias Naturales de la Oficina de la UNESCO en México  Rodrigo Espinosa Consultor de Sector Ciencias Naturales, UNESCO Guatemala
12:50 – 13:10	Experiencia de Comercio Mineral Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO.	Carlos Canet Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Comercio Mineral
13:10 – 13:30	Estructura de gestión y planes de manejo. Su importancia. Experiencias.	Eugenio Bolondo Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO-Guinea del Norte  Diego Incahuat Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO-Guinea del Norte
13:30 – 14:00	Preguntas y respuestas	
DÍA 3 29 de octubre de 2020		
12:00 – 12:20	Importancia de los Geoparques Mundiales de UNESCO – La visión de los pueblos originarios.	Rigoberta Menchu
12:20 – 12:40	Desarrollo de alianzas dentro de los Geoparques. ¿Cómo hacer partícipes a las comunidades locales?	Patricia Herrera Póster Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Bolivia
13:00 – 13:20	Experiencia de Minería Artesanal Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO.	José Luis Palacios Geoparque Mundial de la UNESCO Bolivia
13:40 – 13:00	Networking: ¿Qué es la GeoLAC?	Patricio Mella Coordinador Red GeoLAC
13:20 – 14:00	Conversatorio con los participantes y exposiciones.	

Moderación del taller a cargo de Jorge Beltrán

## GEOPARKS ACTIVITIES

### International Day for the Disaster Risk Reduction 13 October 2020

# UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS



13 OCTOBER

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



UNESCO Global Geoparks participated in the International Day for the Disaster Risk Reduction on the 13th of October.

This year's theme was all about governance and it was based on Target E of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 "Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020".

Many activities were organized by UNESCO Global Geoparks all around the Globe. A collection of these events can be found in the UNESCO's website, at the link below:

<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/disasterreductionday>

### **EXAMPLES OF GEOPARKS' ACTIVITIES**

#### **Dong Van Karst Plateau UNESCO Global Geopark (Vietnam)**



Dong Van Karst Plateau UNESCO Global Geopark built a short video in order to promote the awareness on climate change and geohazards in the Geopark.

Please visit the following link in order to find the video:

<https://www.facebook.com/BQLCaonguyendaDongvan/posts/149322050229451>

## **Geoparks celebrated the World Tourism Day**

**17 September 2020**

### **EXAMPLES OF GEOPARKS' ACTIVITIES**

#### **Estrela UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal)**

Estrela UNESCO Global Geopark joined the celebration of World Tourism Day, marking it by emphasizing the importance of tourism in the development of each Geopark.

To celebrate such an important day, the Estrela Geopark promoted the Interpretative Route "Lagoas e Covões" (Lakes and Overdeepenings). The interpretative route was an opportunity to get to know the territory of the Estrela Mountain and discover the specifics of its landscape and a unique heritage.

Please read the message of Estrela UNESCO Global Geopark [here](#).



## UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS: TERITORIES OF RESELIENCE

### GEOPARKS SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES

#### EXAMPLES OF GEOPARK'S GOOD PRACTICES

##### M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark (Morocco)

##### Project planting saffron

M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark is implementing a very interesting project which focuses in planting 350 Hectares of Saffron (red gold) in its territory. Main objective of this project is to contribute to the alleviation of poverty, to the retention of populations, especially young people, in local areas and the strengthening of their commitment and dynamism in the service of inclusive local development.



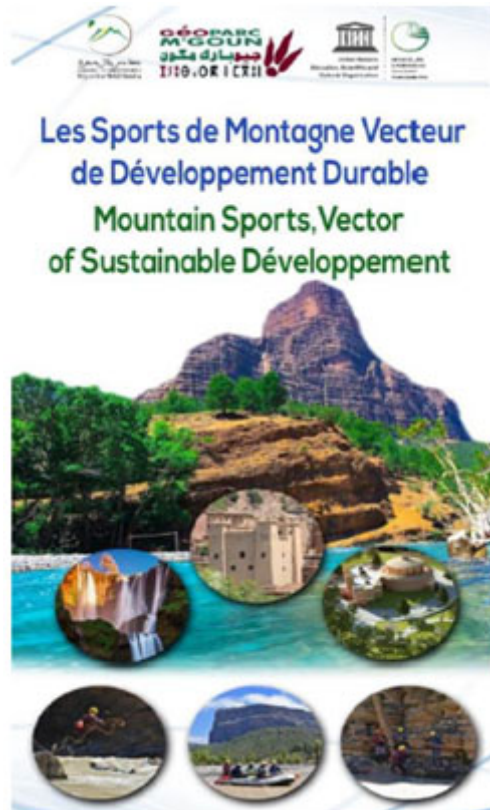
The M'goun UNESCO Global Geopark supports 3,000 farmers organised in 23 cooperatives to plant 400 tons of Saffron bulbs.



## Mountain Sports, Vector of Sustainable Development

M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark in collaboration with institutional partners and tourism stakeholders is working for the mapping of mountain sports as well for the organization of an international meeting focusing on the role of mountain sports. Main target of this initiative is the promotion of M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark as a sustainable tourism destination.

Please find the report of M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark on the initiative [here](#).



### New Geology Museum



A panoramic view of the Geology Museum of the M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark. Ready to be opened to the general public after restrictions imposed by Covid-19.

## GGN UPDATED CONTACT LIST

In order to improve our communication we prepared the updated UNESCO Global Geoparks contact list.

Please check your Geopark's e-mail address, the name of your Geopark's representative and your colleague's data as well.

These data will be used for our official communication. So it is very important that the list includes the correct e-mail address.

If there is any change, please send an e-mail with your updated data at [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com).

**[Please click here in order to check your contact information](#)**

Please note that the updated information is indicated in yellow.

### **YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED**

#### **GGN - Geoparks Annual Reports 2019**

The GGN Institutional Members who have not submitted yet their Annual Report 2019 are kind asked to submit it. Please download the **[GGN - Geopark Annual Report Model\[doc\]](#)** and fill in the form and send it back at [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com).

### **YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED**

#### **GGN National Fora / Commissions 2019 Annual Report of Activities**

The Coordinators of the National Fora/Committees who have not submitted yet their Annual Report 2019 are kind asked to submit it. Please send it at [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com).

### **YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED**

#### **GGN Working Group 2019 Annual Report of Activities**

The Coordinators of the GGN Working Group who have not submitted yet their Annual Report 2019 are kind asked to submit it. Please send it at [ggnassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnassociation@hotmail.com) and [ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com](mailto:ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com).

### **YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED**



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