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GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks

CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE – SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

56 | May 17, 2021

NEWS FEED

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

celebrate

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2021

“The Future of Museums: Recover and Reimagine”

18 May 2021



UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

globalgeoparksnetwork.org



The year 2020 has been like no other for the world and thus also for Geoparks.

The COVID-19 crisis has swept the whole world abruptly, affecting every aspect of our lives, from the interactions with our loved ones, to the way we perceive our homes and cities, to our work and its organisation.

Museums are no exception to these changes, and the cultural sector is among the most affected. ICOM and other international organisations detect a dire situation for museums and their professionals, with serious economic, social and psychological repercussions in the short and long term alike. But this crisis also served as a catalyst for crucial innovations.

Geopark Museums and Visitors Centers are the main interpretation and exhibition space in UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Geopark Museums and Visitors Centers are using a variety of communication tools to communicate their message to the society at large and especially to youth and students.

Geopark Museums and Visitors Centers are an inherent part of their local communities, their cultural landscape and their natural environment.

Thanks to technology, Geopark Museums and Visitors Centers can now reach way beyond their core audience and find new publics when approaching their collections as well as Geopark's landform and landscape interpretation in a different way: it can be the digitalisation of their collections, adding multimedia elements to the exhibition, using augmented reality or something as simple as a hashtag that allows visitors to share their experience in social media.

This is a pivotal moment for our society, and we call our UNESCO Global Geoparks and their Museums and Visitor Centres to embrace it and lead the change.

The time is now to rethink our relationship with the communities we serve, to experiment with new and hybrid models of cultural fruition and to strongly reaffirm the essential value of our UNESCO Global Geoparks and their Museums and Visitor Centres for the construction of a just and sustainable future. We must advocate for the creative potential of culture as a driver for recovery and innovation in the post-COVID era.

To engage the Geopark communities and Geopark visitors and strengthen their connections with them, UNESCO Global Geopark Museums and Visitor centers must find new ways of interpreting and presenting their collections and their territorial heritage.

The Global Geoparks Network participates and supports the International Museum day and invites all UNESCO Global Geoparks and their Geopark museums around the world to join in this celebration.

With the theme "The Future of Museums: Recover and Reimagine", International Museum Day 2021 invites UNESCO Global Geoparks, through their Geopark Museums and Visitor Centers, to create, imagine and share new practices of (co) creation of value, new business models for cultural institutions and innovative solutions for the social, economic and environmental challenges of the present.

UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

Learn for our Planet. Act for Sustainability

17 - 19 May 2021

The UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development will be held as a virtual conference from 17 to 19 May 2021.

The conference is organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany, and with the German Commission for UNESCO as advisory partner.

You can join the Conference by livestreaming any of the sessions on UNESCO's YouTube.

For more information, the programme and information about on how to join please visit the conference website:

<https://en.unesco.org/events/ESDfor2030>

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

DIGITAL COURSE ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability

7 – 20 June 2021

New deadline for applications

31st May 2021

Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2021
UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability

**LESVOS ISLAND
GREECE
7-20 June 2021**

Registration:
<http://www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks2020/>

Information - Secretariat:
ml.faber@unesco.org | lesvospf@otenet.gr

**LESVOS
GEOPARK**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO Global Geoparks
GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK
UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF THE LESVOS PETRIFIED FOREST

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO Chair on Geoparks and sustainable development of insular and coastal areas
University of the Aegean, Greece
uniTwin
UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN

UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network are co-organising the second distance learning Course on Geoparks 2021 which will deal with the topic "UNESCO Global Geoparks and Sustainability".

The Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks will be held from 7th to 20th of June, 2021.

In the previous years the Course was hosted by Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece. In the time of the COVID-19 outbreak and as we are unable to travel, the course will be organised digitally for a second year.

The course provides an opportunity to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), how they can make a real impact in local communities and on society as a whole during COVID-19 pandemic but also provides conceptual issues on UNESCO Global Geoparks.

Geoparks staff members, PhD candidates, Master students and graduates can gain knowledge and experience on Geoparks.

If you are interested in participating please submit an application form accompanied by a short CV and an abstract (one page) of your country's geoparks project or your research project. During the course you will be invited to present your geopark's project or your research project.

New application deadline: May 31st, 2021

For registration and more information please visit www.petrifiedforest.gr/geoparks2020

GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

GGN Map 2021-2022

GGN publication



The “GGN Map 2021/2022” is the new publication of the Global Geoparks Network. The GGN publishes the annual GGN Map on the occasion of the UNESCO General Assembly and distributes it to all members, tourism fairs, GGN Meetings and Conferences etc. Main target of the GGN map is the common presentation of all UNESCO Global Geoparks. This new GGN Map for the years 2021/2022 has included the new UNESCO Global Geoparks and now presents all 169 UNESCO Global Geoparks from 44 countries.

You can find the new GGN Map 2021/2022 [here](#).

Annual Reports 2020

New deadline for submission of the Annual Reports 2020

31st May 2021

UNESCO Global Geoparks, GGN Regional Networks and National Fora/Committees all around the world worked very hard during 2020 and

implement various activities despite COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. All these activities will be communicated through the Annual Reports 2020.

The Global Geoparks Network invites all UNESCO Global Geoparks, GGN Regional Networks and National Fora/Committees to send their Annual Report 2020 until **April 30th, 2021**.

All Geoparks are invited to use the [Geopark Annual Report 2020 template \[doc\]](#) (right click-->save link as)

Annual Reports 2020 will be communicated through the GGN webpage [here](#).

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks

Jeju Island, Republic of Korea

Rescheduled to 11-17 December 2021



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



As the COVID-19 spread continues around the world, the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks is rescheduled for 11-17 December, 2021. The registration and abstract schedule are announced on the website of the conference.

The health, safety, and security of all our members and the communities they serve is our highest priority. We sincerely hope that everything will get back to normal as early as possible and meet you in good health on Jeju Island.

For more details about the conference, please view the website:
<https://www.jejuggn2020.org/>

1st UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM

Announcement of financial support

New deadline for nomination of the Youth Representatives

30th June 2021



UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network are pleased to announce the financial support for the one representative of each country that hosts at least one UNESCO Global Geopark to the 1st UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM which will be held in Jeju Island during the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in 15th of December 2021.

The financial support will cover the travel and accommodation expenses for the one representative of each country.

All 44 countries that are hosting at least one UNESCO Global Geopark are invited to nominate one Youth Representative.

The UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM is a new ongoing important initiative for the Geoparks and it is not only associated with the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks. During the conference will be held the first meeting of the youths. The main purpose of the UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM is to offer to young people an opportunity to get engaged more concretely in the preparation of the philosophy mandate and activities of the UNESCO Global Geoparks and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want and being actors of change in their territories. They will also elaborate their proposal for actions contributing to the UNESCO Global Geoparks strategic framework for action 2021-2025.

All youth representatives will be invited to participate in preparatory digital meetings of the UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM, with the participation of UNESCO, the GGN Executive Board.

The deadline for the submission of the Youth Representatives of each country in the UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM has been extended until **June 30th, 2021**.

Please select the youth representative of your county, fill in the [application](#) [right click-->save link as] and send it to until **June 30th, 2021**.

For further information please visit the [link](#).

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](#)

1st Global Geopark Network Film Festival

New application deadline

30th June 2021



The first edition of the GGN Film festival will be organized during the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark in from 12 to 14 September 2021 in Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark.

After the postponement of the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark the deadline for new applications is **30th of June 2021**.

For more information please visit the website:

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



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