

#### GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks

CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE - SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



Dear colleagues,

In the coming months, the Global Geoparks Network and UNESCO are launching diverse online events, capacity building activities and initiatives:

- On the 14th of May, 2022 we celebrate the World Migratory Day.
- On the **18th of May, 2022** we celebrate the **International Museum Day** and the Global Geoparks Network encourages everyone and especially the members of the Youth Forum to join the conversation on social media.
- **Geoparks and Oceans** Call for texts and photos for the new GGN publication
- the **Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022** will be organised between June 15th and June 25th, 2022. The course will deal with the topic "UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geotourism". Applications will be open until May 31st, 2022.

Various other digital activities will also be organised by the Global Geoparks Network and the UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section but also the GGN Regional Networks, the European Geoparks Network, the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network, the Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network and the African UNESCO Global Geoparks Network giving the opportunity to their members to share good practices and exchange ideas.

Please keep sharing your news, thoughts, activities and good practices with all of us through the GGN facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork

Please send all your promotional material to the ggnwebsite@hotmail.com

The GGN Executive Board

#### **GEOPARKS & OCEANS**

How Geoparks can contribute to the decade of the Ocean

Deadline: 25 May 2022

The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO is organizing a campaign for the promotion on how Geoparks can contribute to the decade of the Oceans and the importance of the marine environment of UNESCO Global Geoparks around the globe.

Global Geoparks Network encourages all UNESCO Global Geoparks to present initiatives on how they protect the ocean and its biodiversity based on their geodiversity heritage and current activities.

The publication "Geoparks & Ocean" will be distributed in June 2022.

For more information please read the **GGN call** [pdf]

Deadline: 25 May 2022

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

#### **WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY**

#### 14 May 2022

The Global Geoparks Network invites all its members to participate in the celebration of the World Migratory Day 2022.

This campaign is organized under the auspices of the United Nations and aims to raise public awareness of the importance of international cooperation for the protection of migratory birds, in the context of the implementation of the United Nations International Covenant on Migratory Birds and the Afro-European Migratory Bird Agreement.

The World Migratory Bird Day 2022 campaign is focusing on the 'Light Pollution'.

According to the UN 'Artificial light is increasing globally by at least 2 per cent per year and it is known to adversely affect many bird species. Light pollution is a significant threat to migratory birds, causing disorientation when they fly at night, leading to collisions with buildings, perturbing their internal clocks, or interfering with their ability to undertake long-distance migrations.

Solutions to light pollution are readily available. For instance, more and more cities in the world are taking measures to dim building lights during migration phases in spring and autumn. Best practice guidelines are also being developed under the Convention on Migratory Species to address this growing issue and ensure that action is taken globally to help birds migrate safely.' (https://www.unep.org/events/un-day/world-migratory-bird-day-2022? msclkid=f3491487ced511ec87b4f1628582e246)

About 1,800 of the 11,000 bird species in the world migrate, some over great distances. Migratory birds rely on a network of areas across national borders along paths to mate, feed, rest and overwinter, and, under these conditions, international action is necessary to protect them.

The World Migratory Bird Day is being celebrated (since 2006) twice every year, on the second Saturdays of May and October, when the spring and autumn migration, respectively, take place for the European Continent.

Please send your events for the celebration of the World Migratory Day 2022 to the ggnwebsite@hotmail.com. All the events will be published to the GGN

Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork

#### YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

#### INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

The Global Geoparks Network celebrates the

International Day of Museums!

18 May 2022



## **UNESCO** Global Geoparks



#### INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

# The Power of Museums



Geopark Museums are the main infrastructure for the enhancement, protection, conservation, exhibition and promotion of Earth heritage elements and the communication of their value and importance.

The Global Geoparks Network will celebrate the International Museum Day on May 18th 2022 and will promote all the Geopark Museums through its social

media campaign "Geopark Museum of the week".

The ICOM theme of the 2022 International Museum Day celebration is "The Power of Museums" and aims "to explore the potential of museums to bring about positive change in their communities through three lenses:

- The power of achieving sustainability: Museums are strategic partners in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. As key actors in their local communities, they contribute to a wide variety of Goals, which include fostering short-circuit and social economy and disseminating scientific information on environmental challenges.
- The power of innovating on digitalisation and accessibility: Museums have become innovative playing-grounds where new technologies can be developed and applied to everyday life. Digital innovation can make museums more accessible and engaging, helping audiences understand complex and nuanced concepts.
- The power of community building through education: Through its
  collections and programmes, museums thread a social fabric that is
  essential in community building. By upholding democratic values and
  providing life-long learning opportunities to all, they contribute to shaping
  an informed and engaged civil society." (https://icom.museum/en/)

Geopark Museum ask their audiences to share their own view on their Geoparks and their exhibits through their websites and social media channels!

The Global Geoparks Network encourages everyone and especially Youth to Join the conversation on social media for the International Museum Day 2022.

The Global Geoparks Network invites all its members to send their events/projects to the **ggnwebsite@hotmail.com**. All the events/projects will be published to the GGN Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork

YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

# INTERNATIONAL MOTHER EARTH DAY WELCOME DIGITAL EVENT FOR THE NEW UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

21 April 2022



UNESCO Global Geoparks all around the globe celebrated the International Mother Earth Day and various events organized on the 22nd April.

On 21st of April the Global Geoparks Network and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Section successfully organised a digital Welcome Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks with the participation of the representatives of the eight new UNESCO Global Geoparks and their local authorities, stakeholders and local people, the Permanent Delegations at UNESCO of the respective Member States, the National UNESCO Commissions of the respective Member States and the 169 UNESCO Global Geoparks representatives from 44 countries around the globe.

The new UNESCO Global Geoparks that were welcomed during the event are:

- Buzău Land (ROMANIA)
- Caminhos dos Cânions do Sul (BRAZIL)
- Kefalonia-Ithaca (GREECE)
- Mëllerdall (LUXEMBOURG)
- Platåbergen (SWEDEN)
- Ries (GERMANY)

- Salpausselkä (FINLAND)
- Sérido (BRAZIL)

At the beginning of the Welocme event, greetings were addressed by **Nikolaos Zouros**, President of the Global Geoparks Network and Ms **Shamila Nair Bedouelle**, UNESCO Assistant Director-General.

**Guy Martini**, UNESCO Geoparks Council Chair and **Kristof Vandenberghe**, Chief of UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section, UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat presented the basic principles served by the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

**Nickolas Zouros**, President of the Global Geoparks Network presented the basic principles served by the Geoparks with the aim of highlighting the natural and cultural heritage of rural areas and their use as sustainable development tools. He also referred to the commitment of the Geoparks and the adoption of actions to address climate change.

The representatives of the GGN Regional Geoparks Networks **Kristin Rangnes** (EGN), **Xiaochi Jin** (APGN), **Eugenio Bidondo** (GeoLAC) and **Driss Achbal** (AUGGN) but also **John Calder** from the North America welcomed the new members and the new UNESCO Global Geoparks presented their territories with rich audiovisual material followed by a cultural event with traditional songs, music and dancing:

• Răzvan-Gabriel Popa, Manager of Buzău Land Geopark and Petre Emanoil Neagu, President of the Buzău County Council presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Buzău Land (ROMANIA) and then presented a live traditional music event by Cristian Micu, a very special instrument player for Buzău Land UNESCO Global Geopark. Cristian Micu is one of the two remaining bagpipers of Buzău Land. He and his uncle are keeping the old tradition of crafting their own instruments and playing local tunes, such as the "Salt River" that have only been transmitted orally, from generation to generation. His uncle, who is now very old, has been designated as "Human Living Treasure" by UNESCO, and Cristian is his successor. Cristian was playing the bucium, the kaval and the bagpipe - assisted by his niece.





• Prof. Maria Papadopoulou, President of NECCA Organization, Mr. Stavros Travlos, Governor of Kefalonia and Ithaca islands and Dr. George Drakatos, Representative of the Advisory board of Kefalonia-Ithaca Geopark presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Kefalonia-Ithaca (GREECE) and a video presented the geosites, historical monuments, outdoor activities, "Mbalos" traditional dance, "Kantades" traditional music, local products like the famous "Mantoles" (sweet candy with almonds) and the "Robola" wine (a variety of white wine with a designation of origin of superior quality) of Kefalonia-Ithaca (GREECE).







• Dr. Claude Petit, Director, Chairman presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Mëllerdall (LUXEMBOURG) and a music performance by one of their music-association. Almost every municipality in the region of Mëllerdall UNESCO Global Geopark has such a music-association, where all generations play music together. In this video the music-association from the village of Born (called "Burer Musik") plays the traditional polka melody, to which thousands of pilgrims move every year on Whit Tuesday on the Hopping Procession of Echternach. In former times the motto of the movement used to be "three steps forward, two steps back". This Hopping Procession of Echternach has been a UNESCO Intangible World Heritage Site since 2010.



• Anna Bergengren, Geoscientist and Geopark Manager presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Platåbergen (SWEDEN) and then presented an amazing live music event by the local artist Gaeya. Gaeya using the sounds of the natural ancient world united stylistically with ambient analogue synth soundscapes. Of Swedish descent, she takes listeners on a journey of exploring the earth, inspiring sustainability and focus for a better world. Creating large atmospheric landscapes with walls of sound and powerful vocal expression, she draws listeners into a freshly woven web of intergalactic, deep-rooted nordic frequencies that navigate them to a brighter and greener future.



• **Heike Burkhardt**, Managing Director presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Ries (GERMANY). Then a live video was presented by the local school children.



• **Kati Komulainen**, Executive manager of Salpausselkä Geopark and **Raija Forsman**, CEO of Lahden seutu – Lahti Region Ltd presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Salpausselkä (FINLAND) and two videos presented the Geopark and its mayors.



• Odon Oliveira de Souza Júnior, President of the Intermunicipal Public Consortium Geoparque Seridó, Janaína Medeiros, Executive Director of the Intermunicipal Public Consortium Geoparque Seridó and Marcos Nascimento, Scientific Coordinator of Seridó Geopark presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Sérido (BRAZIL) and a live music and dance event- Forró.







• Carlos Souza, Geopark President and Fabiano Souza, Education Coordinator presented the new UNESCO Global Geopark Caminhos dos Cânions do Sul (BRAZIL) and presented a live music event. "Tatu com volta no meio", a traditional folk dance from southern Brazil, which is part of the popular culture. The musicians perform the song while the couples tap dance and do the sarandeios (wiggle one's hips), which are typical moves of the dance style known as fandango gaúcho.



At the next session of the event the Global Geoparks Network President **Nickolas Zouros** presented the Global Geoparks Network Film Festival.

The event closed with speeches given by the Global Geoparks Network President **Nickolas Zouros** and **Kristof Vandenberghe**, Chief of UNESCO Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section, UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat.





The Network now consists of 177 Geoparks in 46 countries.

You can watch the Welcome Event at the following YouTube link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUghhLY2we8YMUHoa6JGBbQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUghhLY2we8YMUHoa6JGBbQ</a>

#### **GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK**

**GGN Map 2022-2023** 

**New GGN publication** 



The "GGN Map 2022/2023" 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 2022/2023 has included the new UNESCO Global Geoparks and now presents all 177 UNESCO Global Geoparks from 46 countries.

You can find the new GGN Map 2022/2023 here.

# UNESCO Global Geoparks promotion through Global Geoparks Network website and social media

The Global Geoparks Network is inviting all UNESCO Global Geoparks to provide information regarding their activities and events to be promoted through GGN webpage and social media pages!

www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org

www.facebook.com/globalgeoparksnetwork

#### **Geopark Activities and Events**

Please send posters, photos and all relevant info by a short text not more than 150-200 words.

#### **Geopark Museums and Visitor Centers**

Please send a short description, 4-5 photos regarding the Museum building and its exhibitions by a short text not more than 250-300 words.

Please send all promotional material to: <a href="mailto:ggnwebsite@hotmail.com">ggnwebsite@hotmail.com</a>

#### **GGN OPEN CALLS - PROMOTION**

# CALL FOR HOSTS OF THE 11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS – 2025

Please find the call here

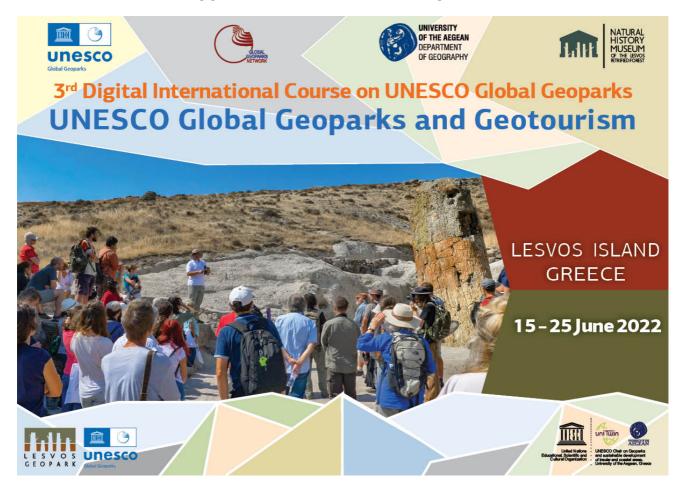
#### **CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES**

DIGITAL COURSE ON UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

**UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geotourism** 

#### 15-25 June 2022

Application deadline: 31 May 2022



UNESCO and the Global Geoparks Network are co-organising the third distance learning Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2022 which will deal with the topic "UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geotourism".

The Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks will be held from 15th to 25th of June, 2022.

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 third year.

Geotourism is a unique alternative form of tourism and motivated by the experience, knowledge and enjoyment of geodiversity and geo-heritage in UNESCO Global Geoparks all around the globe.

The course provides an opportunity to discover how UNESCO Global Geoparks contribute to Geotourism, how they can make a real impact in local communities and on society as a whole 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.

Application deadline: May 31st, 2022

#### **GEOPARKS' REPORTS**

#### **Annual reports 2021**

#### **Geoparks' Annual Reports 2021**

All GGN Institutional Members should submit to the GGN an Annual Report on their activities. Please download the <u>GGN - Geopark Annual Report Model[doc]</u> and fill in the form and send it back to the GGN (<u>ggnassociation@hotmail.com</u> and <u>ggnsecretariat@hotmail.com</u>).

## Preparation of the GGN National Fora / Committees 2021 Annual Report of Activities

The National Fora/ Commissions should submit to the GGN an Annual Report on their activities. Please download the <u>National Fora/Committes Annual Report Model[doc]</u> and fill in the form and send it back to the GGN.

## Preparation of the GGN Regional Networks 2021 Annual Report of Activities

The GGN Regional Networks should submit to the GGN an Annual Report on their activities. Please send the Annual Report to the GGN.

Annual Reports 2021 will be communicated through the GGN webpage **here**.

#### YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

30 April

#### **GGN Calendar of Events 2022**

(updated May 2022)

21 April	Welcome Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks
22 April	International Mother Earth Day
22-28 April	APGN WEEK
26-30 April	EGN Spring Meeting

De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark (Netherlands)

GGN Annual General Assembly for Accounts

14 May	World Migratory Bird Day
18 May	International Museum Day
22 May – 5 June	EGN WEEK
31 May	Evaluators' Seminar
5 June	World Environment Day
8 June	World Oceans Day
8-10 June	RURITAGE Conference - UNESCO (Paris)
17 June	World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought
15-25 June	Digital Course "UNESCO Global Geoparks: Geoparks and Geotourism"
July	Plastic Free July
13-15 July	6th International Summer University on 'Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'
13-15 July 9 August	
·	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
9 August 4-11 September	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
9 August 4-11 September	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples  7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Symposium  16th European Geoparks Conference, Sesia Val Grande
9 August 4-11 September 26-30 September	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples  7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Symposium  16th European Geoparks Conference, Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy
9 August 4-11 September 26-30 September 27 September	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples  7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Symposium  16th European Geoparks Conference, Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy  International Tourism Day
<ul><li>9 August</li><li>4-11 September</li><li>26-30 September</li><li>27 September</li><li>6 October</li></ul>	Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles'  International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples  7th Asia Pacific Geoparks Symposium  16th European Geoparks Conference, Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy  International Tourism Day  International Geodiversity Day

Workshop for African projects on UNESCO Global Geoparks

November

- 22-26 November 20th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology (ISV20) Dak Nong UNESCO Global Geopark (Vietnam)
- 11 December International Mountain Day



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