

UNESCO and GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE



THE GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

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UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

A GEOPARK is an area with....

a particular geological heritage of international significance

but also with....

a sustainable development strategy or plan involving local communities.



Naturtejo, Portugal

A geopark must use its geological heritage as it's primary promotional tool but must also promote other aspects of it's natural and cultural heritage.



UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

A GEOPARK is not....

- an area of outstanding geological heritage alone
- a small, single site of geological interest
- a fenced off area just for scientists
- a geological theme park
- an area with no local community involvement
- an area with no sustainable economic development strategy

a formal, legislative designation and, as such, carries no legal obligations or restrictions.



Yandangshan, China



UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

Comprises all 37 members of the European Geoparks Network plus 22 members of the National Geoparks Network of PR of China, 3 in Japan plus one each in Iran, Brazil, Malaysia & Australia.

Regional Networks: For a European territory to become a member they must first become a member of the European Geoparks Network



Langkawi, Malaysia





UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

Geopark Development

Submission of application to Paris /
Digne-les-Bains (for Europe only)

Application is assessed by GGN
Bureau / EGN CC (for Europe only)

Possible request for further clarification

Evaluation mission & report

Assessment by GGN Bureau / EGN CC

Decision



Sierras Subbéticas, Spain

GEOPARKS: Building A Strong Brand

Our role is to work together to establish GEOPARKS as a global brand of quality in both geoheritage and sustainable tourism.

Geoparks are to be as accessible to as wide a sector of the population as possible

A key to this is effective communication

This effective communication is so important that it plays a key role during initial evaluation and the ongoing revalidation exercises



NW Highlands, UK

Poor and/or technical communication will mean a yellow card and may mean a red card.



UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

Geopark Development

On approval, a territory is only endorsed as a geopark for 4 years

A revalidation assessment is then performed

- *progress in geoconservation*
- *progress in education*
- *progress in sustainable tourism*
- *progress in community involvement*
- *progress in economy*
- *involvement in network*
- *continuing financial security*
- *visibility*



Hațeg, Romania

Green Card

Yellow Card

Red Card

GEPARKS: Communicating Geoscience

TRADITIONAL:

- Talks / lectures
- Guided walks / field trips
- Books, leaflets etc
- Interpretive Panels

Most of these things are exclusive

NON-TRADITIONAL:

- Geology & the Arts
- Geology & Culture
- Geology & Industry

These adopt a holistic approach



Lesvos Petrified Forest Workshop 2009, Hellas

GEPARKS: Communicating Geoscience

Local Ranger Training



Kid's Clubs



GEPARKS: Communicating Geoscience

...make it fun



Helping schools...



GEO PARKS: Communicating Geoscience



Art & Geology: Stop and Ponder



Walking routes to in-situ fossils

GEO PARKS: Communicating Geoscience

GEO-WOCHEN
27. MAI - 05. JUNI

WOCHE DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEOPARKS

GEO-WOCHEN 2006
Von 27. Mai bis zum 5. Juni 2006 steht das
Wort Geowissenschaften im Mittelpunkt. In allen 25
europäischen Geoparks finden besondere
Aktivitäten statt. In der Thematik Geologie und
Landschaft sind die Geoparks ein hervorragendes
Beispiel für die Verbindung von Natur und
Kultur. In der Woche der Europäischen Geoparks
finden von Donnerstag bis Sonntag im
Vollmaß von Veranstaltungen im Bereich
Geowissenschaften, Natur, Kultur und
Landschaft statt. Die Veranstaltungen sind
vielfältig und bieten eine hervorragende
Möglichkeit, die Geoparks zu besuchen und
die Natur und Kultur zu erleben. Es werden
Kurzvorträge, Workshops, Exkursionen,
Vandertouren, Konzerte und Ausstellungen
angeboten. Es werden Kurzvorträge, Workshops,
Exkursionen, Vandertouren, Konzerte und
Ausstellungen angeboten.

LANGER GEO-NACHT IN DER VULKANEIFEL
Am 2. Juni 2006 ab 17 Uhr laden wir Sie ein, an einer
langen Nacht in der Vulkanifel teilzunehmen. Am
Morgen des 3. Juni können Sie an einer
Exkursion teilnehmen. In der Nacht wird eine
Ausstellung über die Vulkanifel gezeigt.
Die Ausstellung wird im Naturhistorischen
Museum in der Vulkanifel gezeigt. Die
Ausstellung wird im Naturhistorischen
Museum in der Vulkanifel gezeigt. Die
Ausstellung wird im Naturhistorischen
Museum in der Vulkanifel gezeigt.

www.geopark-vulkanifel.de
www.geopark-europa.de

SIE SIND AKTIVER ALS SIE DENKEN!

NATUR- UND GEOPARK-VULKANIFEL TEL: 042 41 141-111 FAX: 042 41 141-111
www.geopark-vulkanifel.de

- Walks
- Talks
- Plays
- Kids projects
- Food Fairs
- Media Events
- Special Offers!
- Music
- Geopark Villages



European Geoparks Week

May 23 - June 6, 2010



GEPARKS: Communicating Geoscience



Agri-Tourism & Geoparks

Women's Cooperatives & Geoparks



GEO PARKS: Communicating Geoscience

Activity Providers & Geoparks



Local Crafts & Geoparks



UNESCO GLOBAL NETWORK OF NATIONAL GEOPARKS

Position within UNESCO

Geoparks is an official initiative of UNESCO within the Division of Ecological & Earth Sciences

Geoparks is not a programme within UNESCO

Geoparks is not subject to an international convention

Membership of the GGN / EGN is voluntary

There is a growing political movement among UNESCO member states to strengthen the position of Geoparks within the UN system.



Langkawi, Malaysia

UNESCO
GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK
A Tool In Holistic Nature Conservation



Using 4, 500 million years of Earth history to
promote sustainable development for all

www.petrifiedforest.gr
October 1 - 5, 2010