



GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: *Grutas del Palacio UNESCO Global Geopark, Uruguay*

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: *2013*

Representative Photo (from the most important event this year)



Geology students and guides accompanying visitors during 1st Uruguayan Geotourism Week.

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: *18 technical and administrative staffs including 2 geoscientists.*

Number of Visitors in 2016:

14268 to Grutas del Palacio geosite; about 20000 people to Flora and fauna Reserve site; 781 visitors to “El Arenal” geosite; camping area with 5200 visitors in Bartolomé

Hidalgo geosite; about 40000 people assistance to Music Show in Bartolomé Hidalgo site during three days in January; 350 to Chamanga rock paintings geosite; 4700 visitors to the city Museum.

Number of Geopark events:

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes

2 rural and 9 urban schools visited by Professor José De León and Geopark lectures.

About 700 scholar students were achieved.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2016 - Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation 7th International Conference on UNESCO Geoparks. (Torquay, United Kindom)

Draft estatutes of Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network

Management and Financial status

During 2016 the income and outgoings amounts were U\$S 308000 and U\$S 226600 respectively. Positive balance: U\$S 81400

Geoconservation: *using a systematic approach during 2016 was done an inventory study to ensure strategies for conservation on several geosites. This work was done by two geologist students to obtain their degree in Geology.*

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism): *1st Geotourism National Week (March, 21st to 26th), during Esaster days almost 1000 visitors were reached in activities in different geosites.*

Strategic Partnership

An agreement was signed with the Flores Tourism Chamber to promote and organize touristic joint activities.

4. CONTACTS:

Manager: Lic. Diego Irazábal (diegoirazabal@gmail.com)

Scientific Coordinator: Dr. Geol. César Goso (cesar.goso@gmail.com)