

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: **KARAVANKE/KARAWANKEN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK, SLOVENIA-AUSTRIA, European Geopark Network**

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

Representative Photo (from the most important event this year)



Press conference (20.09.2016) „**The Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark – an unique, crossborder model of success is growing further**“, with the presentation of the INTERREG EUfutuR project (Future Europe – Identity, internationalization and institutionalization – Geopark Karawanken-Karavanke). The press conference was attended by Ms. Alenka Smrekolj – Slovenian Minister responsible for Development, Strategic Projects and Cohesion, and Dr. Peter Kaiser, Carinthian State Governor (photo by: Uroš Grabner).

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 04 staffs, including 03 geoscientists

Number of Visitors: Infocenter “WORLD OF GEOLOGY” Bad Eisenkappel (5,000), Infocenter “Podzemlje Pece” Mežica (17,000), Obir Tropfsteinhöhlen (30,000), Petzen/Peca (80,000).

Number of Geopark events: 20

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 60

Number of Geopark press release: 35

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2016: Ongoing INTERREG EUfutuR and LEADER Geoparkforscherkids projects

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation: - Participation of Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives at 38th European Geoparks Meeting (English Riviera Geopark, UK, 26th of September 2016) and at 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks (English Riviera Geopark, UK, 27th-30th September 2016). Participation of Karavanke/Karawanken Geopark representatives at Slovenia and Austria Geopark Forum meetings. - Application for organization of 41st European Geoparks Meeting.

Management and Financial status: Geopark Association, 14 Municipalities (9 AT and 5 SLO) and 2 associated partners (Podzemlje Pece, d.o.o., Obir Tropfsteinhöhle); Financial status: Income: 300.000,00 €; Outcome: 300.000,00 €

Geoconservation: Informing and awareness of local people and visitors about importance of geoconservation.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism): Guided tours for schools, children, adults in both infocentres, guided hiking tours, workshops on various themes, guided snow-shoe tours, ...

New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction: New children's programme of the Geopark Karavanke/Karawanken (Geoparkforscherkids)

Strategic Partnership: Podzemlje Pece, d.o.o., Obir Tropfsteinhöhlen, RRA Koroška, IRSNC - Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation - Regional unit Maribor, Association "Društvo Kulturni dom Pliberk/Bleiburg, Petzen-Bergbahnen GmbH, ...

Promotional activities: Several presentations at various international and national fairs (Natour Alpe Adria in Ljubljana (SLO), FIETS EN WANDELBEURS in Belgium ...), lectures and presentations at different national and regional events (festivals, international days, ...), ...

4. Contacts:

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