

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

GGN Geopark Annual Report should be two pages

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: **Luberon UNESCO Global Geopark (France, European Geoparks Network)**

Year of inscription: 2004 / Year of the last revalidation: 2013



Cultural cooperation between a French local association, Luberon (France) and Hateg Country Dinosaurs (Romania) UNESCO Global Geoparks

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 49 staffs including 2 geoscientist(s)

Number of Visitors: nearly 1.6 million tourist stays generating 8.2 million tourist nights and 5 million excursionists (tourism survey 2012)

Number of Geopark events: more than 11 events held by management body (EGN week, Day of the night, month of the Parks, day of fruits and flavours, etc.) and some events held by partners (music festival, international meeting on climbing, book festival...)

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 234 school classes

Number of Geopark press release

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES (bulletize)

Major achievements in 2016

- Launch of the website "Chemins des Parcs": interactive maps to discover the Geopark area. 24 itineraries proposed with information on nature, geology, culture...
- European Geopark Week with many activities for different public in partnership with local associations through the "Souk des Sciences": free guided tours, mobile geology museum, workshop on microfossils, exhibition about earthquakes, movies...
- Educational activities about geology, cultural heritage, ecology, history... concerning 168 classes from nursery school to high school); "My secondary school in Luberon" (66 classes); Rencontres Luberon Jeunesse (Dating Luberon Youth 2016). A day of meetings and exchanges for youth from Luberon recreation centres. 300 young people gathered to participate in outdoor activities sharing their project driven during the year.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Participation to the 37th and 38th coordination committee meetings and participation to the 7th International Conferences on UNESCO Global Geoparks
- 2 presentations at the UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference (oral communication and a poster)
- Reception of a Romanian delegation from Hateg Country Dinosaurs UNESCO Global Geopark : photo and painting exhibitions in Geopark headquarter, field visits, artistic exhibition in a village (Chapelle St-Ferréol, Viens)
- EGN magazine "Cultural cooperation between two UNESCO global geoparks and a French local association - Luberon (France) and Hateg Country Dinosaurs (Romania) UNESCO Global Geoparks"
- Participation the French National Committee

Management and Financial status

- As a lead manager, mobilisation of municipalities, communities of municipalities and tourist offices of its territory to define and carry an "Espace Valléen" strategy project.

Geoconservation

- Management of geological protected sites (mammal footprints slab of Saignon, etc.)

- Management plan of a protected area in the Aptian layers (scientific interest for the description of Aptian stage, close to the historical stratotype).
- Scientific research (Eocene and Oligocene mammals of Luberon...)
- Scientific publications about mammal fossils
- Improvement of the new geosites data base
- Training on field for police agents

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- 2 meetings of the Luberon GeoPartners network (hosts, outdoor sports providers, visit sites) at the the Conservatory of ochre and color in Roussillon and at the former lime and sulphur factory of Biabaux. This network brings together professionals sharing activities and values around the heritage of the Earth.
- Inauguration of the Dolmen of Goult, Neolithic monument reconstructed near the former Train Station, on the edge of the Calavon river and cycle route.

New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- Mon collège en Luberon / My secondary school in Luberon: earthquake risk awareness

Strategic Partnership

- Engagement in the Territorial pole for economic cooperation "Materials and colours of Luberon"

Promotional activities

- Guided tours on aptian stratotype, on geology and culture...
- Thematic activities of Saturdays (Geoparks week (science festival, etc.), Honey and bees, Nature - Colours: ochres, clays and dye plants... Exhibition and workshops (vegetable ink, ochre pigments, mosaic workshop in terracotta tiles, made with traditional clays of the Luberon...)
- New mountain bike guidebook
- International Meeting of recreational climbing on the famous cliffs of Buoux. Escala'Buoux 2016 is a public event that welcomes both experienced climbers a family audience eager to discover a remarkable natural and cultural heritage.
- Raid Discovery Vaucluse 2016 in the heart of Parc Naturel Regional du Luberon, UNESCO Global Geopark.

Sustainable economic development

- Support for local farming products and education to respect for food and producers: actions against food waste.
- European charter on sustainable tourism in protected areas : strengthening the qualification process, structuring, tourism provides valuation

4. Contacts: (representatives)

Geologist: Stéphane LEGAL : stephane.legal@parcduluberon.fr

Gisèle MAGNE : magne93@hotmail.com