

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

## 1. GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL

Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription 2006 / Year of the last revalidation 2015



## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 16 staffs including 4 geoscientists

Number of Visitors: about 250.000.

Number of Geopark events: events held by management body: 19; cooperative organization: 71

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 45

Number of Geopark press release: 175

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2016

- Celebration of the 10 years of the UNESCO recognition for Naturtejo Geopark in two events with the presence of ministers of the government of Portugal
- Recognition of the Malcata region in the European Charter for Sustainable

## Tourism

- Organization of the Ichnia 2016 – 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Ichnology
- Tejo Natural Park declared transborder Biosphere Reserve

## Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Participation in the EGN meetings
- Participation in the UNESCO Geoparks Conference
- Coordination of the UNESCO Geoparks booth in FITUR and ITB most important international tourism trade shows
- Translation to Portuguese of English Riviera Declaration
- Participation with articles for EGN communication media
- Participation on the celebration of the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the IGGP in Lisbon
- Evaluation of Mixteca Alta aspiring Geopark in Mexico

## Management and Financial status

- The management body is Naturtejo, EIM, a public-private partnership where the municipalities have the majority of the capital.
- The annual budget is balanced keeping the 175,000 euros from the municipalities and 125,000 euros from projects and gains from selling educational activities and tourism packages. This budget does not include the ESTEAM European Project.

## Geoconservation

- Study and valorization of the Fraga da Água d'Alta Geomonument
- Geoarchaeological study of Ponsul Roman gold mine geosite
- Development of the project for valorization of Barrocal geosite in the city of Castelo Branco with the expected investment of 1,9 million euro.

## Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Launching of the municipal network of footpaths of Penamacor
- Development of new geoproducts with local companies and actions to facilitate the selling
- Organization as partners of regional and international conferences such as Helix International Conference, Scientific Management and i-Danha Food Lab Accelerator Soft Launch Event
- Portugal O'Meeting with 1000 participants
- Organization of the Crossbow World Championship

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

- A Journey through the Rock Cycle of the Center of Portugal
- Training courses for tourism businesses and personnel on tourism resources and products of the Geopark
- Rios Project – adoption of Ponsul river sections by local school classes for ecological monitoring
- AHRESP Courses on technical English language for the tourism sector
- International Archaeological Working Camp of Proença-a-Nova
- Plant Portugal initiative with 200 participants

Strategic Partnership

- Participation in the Erasmus+ ESTEAM project as partner
- Participation in the Interreg Danube project Geotour as invited experts
- Scientific cooperation with Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark
- Scientific cooperation with English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark
- Partnership with the Society Abastena for the study and valorization of the Fraga da Água d'Alta geomonument
- Partnership with Grutas da Moeda for common educational and promotional activities
- Partnership with Bikotel national network of bike-friendly hotels

Promotional activities

- Coordination of the Global Geoparks participation in ITB Berlin – International Tourism Trade Fair
- Coordination of the Global Geoparks participation in FITUR Madrid – International Tourism Trade Fair
- Participation in the BTL Lisbon – International Tourism Trade Fair
- Participation in the Christmas of Strasbourg under the Portuguese delegation as invited country during 35 days
- Participation in Bike Portugal and Portugal Agro Festivals
- Participation in local festivals

4. Contacts:

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