

GGN - Geopark Annual Report of 2016

1. Geopark Identity: Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark, China, APGN

Year of inscription: 2005; Year of the last revalidation: 2013

Representative photos: Geological Popular Science Education Activities in Schools



2. Geopark Figures

Number of Geopark staffs: 273 staffs including one geoscientist; Number of visitors: 548,000 person-times

Number of Geopark events:3

We have completed the research subject - The Evaluation and Protection Research of the Karst Landform in Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark, in cooperation with Regional Geological Survey Team of the Sichuan Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources.

We have created the large popular science picture album *Xingwen, a Place of Marvels, Sights and Beauties -- Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark*, in cooperation with experts of the Sichuan Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources.

In collaboration with experts of China University of Geosciences (Beijing), we have finished the popular science reading *A Trip into Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark*.

Number of school classes realizing Geopark educational programme:2

We have held geological popular science itinerant exhibitions in 10 primary schools with 18,000 primary school students attended. Meanwhile, we have given away the popular science reading

A Trip into Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark to 44,200 primary school students for free.

Number of Geopark press release:

We have issued 14 press releases on the GGN website, and 33 (both in Chinese and English versions) on the official website of Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark, 8 at TV station and 21 in various newspapers, and also pushed more than 12,000 times on WeChat and other network media.

3. Geopark Activities

Main Achievements in 2016:

We have strengthened the geoconservation, expanded the channels for popular science publicity and education and actively participated in various network activities, to promote the continuous development of geotourism and sustained stability of financial revenue and expenditure.

Contribution towards GGN -- Networking and Participation:

We have attended the following meetings and conferences throughout the year: 2016 Annual Conference on Global Geoparks of China, held in Zhijindong Cave Global Geopark in April; the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, held in English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark in September; the 2nd International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks, held in Beijing in November and 2016 Application and Revalidation Symposium of Global Geoparks, held in Danxia UNESCO Global Geopark in December.

Management and Financial Status:

We established the Administration of Xingwen (UNESCO) Global Geopark in 2006. Our revenue and expenditure have reached RMB 53,658,700 and RMB 47,512,500 respectively, with surplus of RMB 6,146,200.

Geoconservation:

To strengthen the geoconservation, all the light sources in the karst cave have been replaced by LED cold light sources; tourism and sanitary facilities as well as signage system have been upgraded or rebuilt; slipways in the Tianquan Cave have been removed.

We have propagandized the concept of protecting the Earth, conserving resources and caring for ecological environment to the public in schools and communities.

Sustainable Tourism:

Xingwen County saw a year-on-year increase of 10.3% in tourist arrivals and 19.8% in total tourism revenue compared to the last year. The increase in tourist arrivals boosted employment and development of local enterprises, with many new jobs (permanent jobs accounting for 3% and temporary ones for 9%) created, and 22 new enterprises established.

New Education Programme on Geoconservation, Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk

Reduction:

In 2017, five geological publicity and education activities will be carried out in communities and schools, and a training is also planned to be held for community members, Geopark staffs and tourism workers.

Strategic Partnership:

We have established partnerships with many scientific institutions and colleges, including Regional Geological Survey Team of the Sichuan Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, Geophysical Exploration Brigade of the Sichuan Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, China University of Geosciences (Beijing), Sun Yat-sen University, Sichuan University of Science & Engineering, Sichuan Normal University and Impression Rock Sea Travel Agency Co., Ltd.

Promotional Activities:

We have held various forms of tourism festival activities, such as aerial photography contest, sorghum festival, red orange festival, bamboo-picking festival, Huashan festival, Gaozhuang festival, international festival of intangible cultural heritage. Furthermore, we have launched tourism promotion activities in Yunnan, Guizhou, Chongqing, Chengdu and other provinces and cities. Besides, we have conducted vigorous propaganda through various media, such as CCTV, Sichuan Television, Sichuan Daily, Western China Metropolis Daily, Tencent and Ctrip.

Popular Science Trainings:

We have trained rural tourism workers in June. We have also trained Geopark staffs in July and December, and one of them has also participated in the upgrading course for popular science ability sponsored by the Ministry of Land and Resources in October.

Popular Science Activities:3

We have organized geological popular science education trips for 2,400 primary and middle school students.

We have held geological popular science itinerant exhibitions in schools, with 62,200 students attended.

We have organized geological popular science education lecturers and activities in communities and schools on the World Earth Day, National Popular Science Day, National Science and Technology Week and other theme days. More than 12,000 copies of publicity materials have been distributed.

4. Contacts

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