

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2018

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network:

- *Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Iran, Asia Pacific Geopark Network*

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: *2017 / ...*

Representative Photo (from the most important event this year)



Geopark Trail Running

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs:

- *33 fulltime staff including 2 geologists plus 23 volunteers*

Number of Visitors:

- *230000 (three Geosites+ museum)*

Number of Geopark events:

- *Qeshm Geopark Trail Running Competition in two categories (30 km and 70 km) 600 participants from all around country plus some international participants*
- *Cleaning Salt Cave on the occasion of the world cave day*
- *Celebrating International Children Day at Doulab Educational Center (mothers*

and children participation to handicraft training workshop)

- *Qeshm Island UGGp partners meeting (70 partners).*
- *Celebrating international Earth Day in Geosites (22 Apr 2018)*
- *Contribution in Junk jam 2018: live program from English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark with participating 10 UNESCO Global Geoparks.*

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programs

- *Two regional educational centers (Markazi & Shahab), 30 schools including 90 classes*

Number of Geopark press release

68 items in journals and newspapers, 3 items in National TV, Numerous items in social Medias

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2018

- *Serious Attempts to establish National Iranian Geoparks Network*
- *Guiding and advising Aras and Tabas Aspiring Geoparks*

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- *Joining to Island Geoparks working Group*
- *Attending at 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, Adamello Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark, 2018*
- *Contributing to holding Workshop on Geoparks in Khorat Aspiring Geopark, Thailand as a lecturer*
- *Undertaking the validation mission to Yangan Tao Aspiring Geopark, Russia*

Management and Financial status

- *Total budget is 700,000 USD that provided by QFZ (Mainly for infrastructure development)*
- *12 locals they were working as the volunteers before, have been employed as the fulltime personnel to work at geosites and information centers.*
- *Discussing and negotiating to utilize the capabilities of local communities for their contribution to geosites management*

Geoconservation

- *Setting up and completing new information centers (chahkooh and Tandis ha Geosites)*
- *Field investigations to introduce new geosites (Kalingi Geosite, Hengam Island)*
- *Weekly geological workshops for young students at geopark museum*
- *Workshops on geology basics for local communities*
- *Supporting students and their thesis which related to geopark subjects*
- *Establishing educational center in Dulab Village in western part of the Island (library and educational center with geology theme)*
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Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- *Encouraging local people to launch and contribute tourism activities such as homestay, local restaurant, craft shop*
- *Supporting and promoting Park-Museum of traditional boat building and sailing in Guran Village*
- *Qeshm Island UGGp is involved in Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) project on Qeshm Island: Community Based Sustainable Development Master Plan of Qeshm Island Toward "Eco Island"*
- *Training and empowering local communities of Qeshm Island UGGp villages through UNDP/SGP projects*

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

- *"Wise visiting" plan for the school students to visit geopark museum and receiving information about geopark and Qeshm Island*
- *Holding workshops for high school students of Tourism in Tabl and Doulab Village.*
- *Workshops for kindergarten teachers of geopark villages*
- *Literary workshop with the geopark themes in Doulab Village Educational Center*
- *First aids training course for the geosites staffs*
- *Supporting Mashgh Afarinesh institute to hold Geo-tourguide course*

Strategic Partnership

- *A memorandum of understanding between Qeshm Island UGGp and Idrija UGGp from Slovenia to exchange seasonal tourists and other cooperations*
- *The beginning of a joint collaboration between Qeshm Island UGGp and Japanese geoparks Network*
- *Collaborating with KASHEF institute to promote local communities in the context of sustainable livelihood*
- *Advising on the establishment rural cooperative companies to start sustainable development activities*

Promotional activities

- *Conducting local and rural festivals*
- *Introducing Qeshm Island UGGp in national media (TV)*
- *Promoting the Children and Teenagers Programmer Ambassador of Qeshm Island UGGp Program, designed more than 30 projects of games, animations and interactive stories on geopark concept in partnership with Farniya Young Programmers Institute*
- *Publishing Geopark maps and brochures for the Persian new year holidays*
- *Attending several national and provincial tourism fairs and festivals*

4. Contacts:

Manager: *Alireza Amrikazemi*

Scientific Responsible (Geologist): *Alireza Amrikazemi*