

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal, (European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2009 / 2017



Closing session of the Geonatura Conference

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 15 staffs including 3 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: Tourism office: 4.860; Birthing Stones House: 32.379; Meteorological Tower: 4.212; Trilobites Museum 15.000 visitors (Partner), Paiva Walkways 217.500 (Partner).

Number of Geopark events: about 100

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 163 school classes with 7188 participants

Number of Geopark press release: 65

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- Promotion of the «Geonatura Conference: nature destinations and healthy lifestyles», with the participation of more than 100 attendees (22nd to 24th of May)
- Conference «Visions of the Future» (DECO Proteste), with the thematic «Climate Change: a great challenge for Humanity», with the participation of 150 attendees (11st of October)

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Evaluation Mission to Zhinjindong UGGp – China
- Evaluation Mission to Vulkaneifel UGGp – Germany
- Evaluation Mission to Gunung Sewu UGGp
- Participation on UGGp mentorship and knowledge exchange programme hosting 2 trainees from Khorat Aspiring Global Geopark (Thailand) and Dak Nong Aspiring Global Geopark

(Vietnam).

Management and Financial Status

- Approval of Activity and Budget Plan for year 2020 about 639.500€

Geoconservation

- Monitorization of the 41 geosites (2019 Geosites Management Plan)
- Participation in the Journeys of Geological Heritage, held at the University of Minho
- Reforestation actions of the native forest
- Archaeological interventions at Malafaia Roman Farm - Archaeological Site

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Promotion of eight interpreted visits, with the participation of more than 150 attendees (2019 Annual Program of Geosites Interpreted Route)

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

- Promotion of two editions of the training course for geoscience teachers from the Portuguese Association of Geologists, with the participation of 120 attendees
- Promotion of the training course for teachers about «Invasive Plants»
- Scientific fieldtrip of the Munique University, with the participation of 20 attendees
- Scientific fieldtrip integrated in the XXXIII National Meeting of Geography Teachers, with the participation of more than 100 attendees (13rd of April)
- Scientific fieldtrip integrated in the III Luso-Brazilian Meeting on Geological Heritage and Geoconservation, with the participation of 20 attendees (1st of October)
- A new fieldtrip in the Educational Programs of Arouca Geopark 2019/2020 entitled «Climate change: reality & challenges at Arouca Geopark».

Strategic partnership

- Participation in the project Atlantic Geoparks of Interreg Atlantic Area
- Collaboration in the training offer on «Natural Heritage» of the Senior Academy of Arouca
- Collaboration on 3rd Summer Training Course with UTAD (UNIVERSITY) as UNESCO Chair on Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyle.

Promotional activities

- Production of new brochure of the Route of Geosites and placement of new road signs
- Presentation of new merchandising about the Arouca geological interest sites
- Participations International on tourism fairs – BTL, FITUR and ITB
- Organization and promotion of the European Geoparks Week 2019

4. CONTACTS

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