

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark (BPUGG), Czech Republic, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2005 / 2016



Illustration photo – Day of the Geopark in Sedmihorky 26 July 2020 – stone jewelry making

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark's staff: 2 including 1 geoscientist paid by a partner, 1 part time contractor.

Number of visitors: The number of visitors of BPUGG was affected by government anti-pandemic measures in 2020.

Over 1 million visitors is an estimation based on these statistics: nearly 100 thousand of paying visitors at iconic geocultural site Trosky ruins (April to October), 151 thousand of paying visitors in the Prachov Rock Formations (April to October) and nearly 310 thousand visitors of 17 information centers in the BPUGG region.

The possibility of organizing Geopark events was influenced by anti-pandemic measures.

Number of Geopark events:

8 geoexcursions held by geopark management

5 lectures held by geopark management

9 geological workshops held by geopark management

1 geological seminar held by geopark management

1 traditional event - Bohemian Paradise Geopark Day held by geopark management in cooperation with partner

1 summer camp for children focused on local geology held by geopark partners

19 geoexcursions held by geopark partners

47 environmental programs held by geopark partners

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:

11 school excursions held by geopark management

19 school excursions held by partners

Number of Geopark press releases:

3 press releases

1 live report in national radio

11 press releases issued by the Bohemian Paradise Association (cooperating tourist destination company)

27 news on Geopark website, regular Facebook posts (at least once every 14 days), posts on Instagram

Articles in national and regional media and EGN Magazine.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2020

- Geopark Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Geopark (BPUGG) extension was approved by the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council held 8 to 9 December 2020 (3 areas, 73 km² in total). New area of BPUGG is now 833 km².
- In cooperation with partners BPUGG "Action plan" has been drawn up for the time period 2020-2022.
- Preparation of cross-border ERDF project "Popularization of geological phenomena of the Nisa Euroregion" together with the city of Turnov, Landscape of Extinct Volcanoes aspiring UNESCO Geopark (Poland), the city of Złotoryja (Poland). Partnership agreement signed. Within the project, a 2 geological outdoor exposition will be created in Turnov and Złotoryja, two seminars will be realised and promotional leaflets will be printed.
- Partnership in the GECON cross border project (Geological Cooperation Network) with Czech, German and

Polish Geoparks and geological institutions, participation in seminar, geoexcursions and workshops.

- Preparation of a project with the Czech Geological Survey to increase the visibility of the BPUGG.
- Creating of geotrail in cooperation with elementary school in Mnichovo Hradšit.ě
- Organization of traditional geological seminar “Klokočky”.
- Providing professional assistance in the processing of seminar works.
- The volunteer from the BPUGG helped in the Rinjani-Lombok UGG (Indonesia) within the foundation of “School in Paradise” (English and environmental education of local pupils and students).

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Cooperation on preparation of the project Active Citizens with Landscape of Extinct Volcanoes aspiring UNESCO Geopark (Poland) and Katla UNESCO Geopark (Iceland).
- Realization of cross border Czech-Saxon project with Muskauer Faltenbogen GGU (Germany) “Cooperation and promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks in Euroregion Nisa”, multilingual promotional leaflets and Geoguide preparation.
- Partnership in the GECON cross border project (Geological Cooperation Network) with Czech, German and Polish Geoparks and geological institutions.
- The volunteer from the BPUGG helped in the Rinjani-Lombok UGG (Indonesia) within the foundation of “School in Paradise” (English and environmental education of local pupils and students).

Management and Financial Status

- Management: Board of Directors (12 members, representatives of local municipalities, business and experts), Supervisory Board (3 members), Scientific Council (31 members).
- Financial status: multi-source financing, financial stability of the BPUGG financial stability was affected by cuts in subsidies from public entities due to the pandemic

Geoconservation

- Partnership in the project Reducing the Negative Impacts of on Ecosystems (University of Hradec Králové), tourist traffic monitoring.
- Cooperation with the Forests of the Czech Republic and the Administration of Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area on reducing the risks of negative impacts of tourism on selected geolocalities.
- An article on BPUGG in Geoconservation Research Magazine.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- 63 geological localities were selected for tourism in cooperation with the Administration of Bohemian Paradise Protected Landscape Area and promoted by BPUGG (mostly geosites outside congested areas and geosites where there is minimal risk of conflict with nature conservation.
- Guided tours in selected localities – mostly in less visited locations in order to reduce tourist traffic in most iconic and visited geosites.
- Promotion off season tourism.
- Participation in seminars and workshops on Interpretation of local heritage held by partners (especially within

the GECON project).

- Cooperation with the Bohemian Paradise Association (touristic destination).

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

- New educational excursions for schools focused on geology and ecology, cooperation with BPUGG Geoschool
- Cooperation with the Centre of Ecological Education Bohemian Paradise.
- Seminars on sustainable development and geoconservation, participation in seminars and projects on sustainable development held by partners (especially within the GECON project).
- Lectures for experts and for the public.

Strategic partnership

- Creating of Association of Czech national geoparks, BPUGG was founding member.
- New partnership agreement with Czech Geological Survey.
- Cooperation with school in Mnichovo Hradiště (realization of geological trail and geological sheets for children).

Promotional activities

- Distribution of promotional leaflets in Czech, English, German and Polish printed in the end of 2019 in 17 information centers in the region.
- Promotion of BPUGG in the Bohemian Paradise Tourist newspaper (20 000 prints).
- Two exhibitions on Czech national geoparks and BPUGG in regional department buildings.
- Preparing of new leaflets on BPUGG with Czech Ministry of Environment.
- Geolocalities on BPUGG website translated into English and German, regular publishing of the news.
- Regular Facebook posts about geosites and other BPUGG interesting places (2 times monthly), photos on Instagram.
- One National radio live broadcasting.
- Summer camp for children focused on local geology (in cooperation with partner).
- Day of the Geopark (26th July 2020) with 14 stands and different activities, about 300 participants (in cooperation with partner).
- Popularization of geoscience – 9 workshops on geological topics for children und public (summer).
- Article in EGN Magazine and Geoconservation Resarch Magazine.
- Installation of outdoor 2 mobile large format panels for promotion of BPUGG.

4. CONTACTS

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