

# Annual Report of Dunhuang Global Geopark in 2017

## 1. Geopark Identity

**Name, country and local area network of geopark:**

Dunhuang UNESCO Global Geopark of China  
(China/Asia-Pacific Geopark Network)

**Participation year:** 2015



**Key annual representative activity:** Dunhuang Global Geopark Museum is officially opened.

## 2. Geopark data

**Number of employees:** 280, including five geologists.

**Number of tourists:** Dunhuang Global Geopark received 9 million tourists (by person-time) in 2017.

**Times of activities: 9**

1. Held “April 22 World Earth Day” popularization week activity, and released geopark popular science readings.

2. Organized a training class for commentators of Dunhuang Global Geopark;

3. Conducted a training program for tour guides of Dunhuang Global Geopark;

4. conducted exchange learning activities with Fangshan Global Geopark;

5. Helped opening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Silk Road (Dunhuang) International Cultural Exposition;

6. Held Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot Protection And Development Forum;

7. Went to Beijing, Shanghai, Sichuan and Chongqing together with Dunhuang Municipal Tourist Administration Bureau to popularize tourism products, etc.

**Global Geopark in schools.**

Number of classes in schools carrying out education plan about geopark: 6

**Number of news releases published by the Geopark: 5**

### **3. Geopark activities**

**Main achievements in 2017:** 1) Organization structure: set up Large Dunhuang Scenic Spot Administration Committee, consisting of Dunhuang Global Geopark Administration and Joint Dunhuang Cultural Tourism Group, and fully sorted out the operation management system of enterprises+administration. 2) Geology conservation and infrastructure: in Yardang Scenic Spot, new tourist center, Geopark museum, ring-shaped parking lot, and commercial area having been totally completed and put into operation in the end of May; in Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot, expanded east and west secondary-level entrances and constructed linking road facilities, and completely finished Mingsha Mountain airway dredging; continuously transformed and improved infrastructure facilities within the Geopark, and made response to the Toilet Revolution initiated by National Tourism Administration. 3) Smart Scenic Spot construction: completed Yardang Scenic Spot Voice Tour Project; in Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot, additionally installed 45 star-level high-definition cameras, introduced self-service ticket machines and face recognition system, transformed wing gate machine, which allows tourists to re-enter the Geopark via collecting head portraits. 4) Increased Geopark

environment improvement, and promoted geological environmental protection and treatment; joined hands with surrounding residents, Agritainment and camps to protect resources and maintain travel orders, laws and regulations. 5) Strengthened the external publicity of Dunhuang Global Geopark, relying on the platform of Silk Road Dunhuang International Cultural Exposition, and fully displayed Dunhuang tourism resources.

**Contributions to GGN--Network activities and participation:** 1) Took part in the Fifth Asia-Pacific Geopark Network Seminar held in Zhijindong, Guizhou Province, and submitted papers and gave oral presentation. 2) Participated in 2017 China World Geopark Annual Meeting held in Ningde, Fujian Province. 3) Took part in the Third UNESCO Global Geopark International Training Class. 4) Conducted friendly exchange learning activities with Fangshan Global Geopark. 5) Paid GGN membership fees on schedule.

**Management and financial condition:** 1) Set up Large Dunhuang Scenic Spot Administration Committee, consisting of Dunhuang Global Geopark Administration Bureau, Granted profit-oriented projects within the Geopark to Dunhuang Cultural and Tourism Group to operate, fully sorted out

enterprises+administration committee management system. 2) Scenic spots within the Geopark are in good financial status.

**Protection for geological relics:** The Geopark performs cascade protection administration in strict accordance to relevant requirements in the *Dunhuang Global Geopark General Planning and Administration Measures for Geological relic Protection*, etc.

Currently, most of geological relics within the Geopark are basically in a primary state, and not destroyed by human activities, only with minor affected by natural weathering and bad weather.

1) Continued to take isolation protection measures on key geological relic points in Yardang Scenic Spot, constructed pedestrian wooden trestles, fences and warning signs, etc. 2) Improved the electronic monitoring system of Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot and implemented Mingsha Mountain Airway dredging work.

**Sustainable tourism (geosciences tourism):** in 2017, Dunhuang Global Geopark received 9 million tourists (by person-time), increasing by 36% compared to that of 2016. In combination with continuously proceeding of construction of Large Dunhuang Scenic Spot, Yardang Scenic Spot geosciences tourism stepped onto a new level, introduced Yardang General Aviation Flight Program, took helicopter, glider air travel entertainment projects as new highlights, to add new assistance

for the sustainable development of the scenic spot, and sped up declaration for 5A-level Scenic Spot and World Natural relic .In Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot, extended a 8 km sightseeing vehicle feeder road along inner Mingsha Mountain, dredged Mingsha Mountain NE airway in the scenic spot, standardized operation of camping and expedition projects along Mingsha Mountain desert, fully launched folk museum transforming and upgrading program and Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot protection and service facilities construction project, which are included in the Gansu relic resources list of the Special Project titled 13rd Five-Year Plan National Cultural and Natural Relic Protection and Utilization Facilities Construction. The implemented Mingsha Mountain-Crescent Spring Scenic Spot “Toilet Revolution” is well received by CCTV. Sustainable development of the Geopark tourism extended source of customers for more than 2600 star-level hotels in the city, provided employment chance for more than 10000 tourism service people and greatly promoted sustainable development of Dunhuang economy.

**Related new education plans for geological relic protection, sustainable development and hazard risk reduction:** 1 ) Formulated and implemented 2017 Science Popularization Education Activity Program/Proposal Of

Dunhuang Global Geopark. 2) Conducted publicity activities of April 22 World Earth Day, June 5 Environment Day and "Cultural and Natural Relics Day". 3) Conducted "2017 Summer Geosciences Camp" Program.

**Strategic partner:** 1)stimulated scientific research projects with China University of Geosciences, Dunhuang Research Station, Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Gansu Institute of Geological Environment Monitoring. 2) Granted Dunhuang Cultural&Tourism Group operation of profit-oriented projects within the park. 3) CUGB (Beijing) Scene Tourism Landscape Planning&Design Co., Ltd. compiled *Landscape Quality* for upgrading Yardang Scenic Spot into a 5A-class scenic spot, and other reports. 4) Upgraded the quality of farm inns, camps and special crafts workshops surrounding the Geopark.

**Publicity and promotion activities:**1)Performed "Five-Entering" publicity campaigns on "Earth Day", "Environment Day" and "World relic Day"; 2)Together with Dunhuang Municipal Tourism Administration and Municipal Cultural and Tourism Group, performed product introduction meetings to extend tourists of scenic spots. 3) Displayed Geopark landscape resources via annual Silk Road Dunhuang International

Cultural Exposition and Geopark network activities. 4) Positively advertised the tourism image of Dunhuang on CCTV, provincial-level media, newspapers, magazines and Dunhuang Global Geopark Website.

**4. Contact person:**

Manager: Guo Shihong [dhgeopark@163.com](mailto:dhgeopark@163.com)

Geologist: Wu Fadong [wufd@cugb.edu.cn](mailto:wufd@cugb.edu.cn)