

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2017

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Swabian Alb UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany)

2002 / 2017



Inauguration the first Geopark-School in Geopark Swabian Alb

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 3 staffs including 1 geoscientist

Number of Visitors: 4.4 Mio. (overnight stays)

Number of Geopark events: management body (35), and partner organizations (about 500)

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: about 50

Number of Geopark press release: 15 (management body)

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2017

- Inauguration of the new Geopark Info centers thermal bath, Beuren, and open air museum for rural culture, Beuren
- Eighth Geopark Festival in the Brenz castle, Sontheim/Brenz
- Celebration the European Geopark Week
- Celebration the “Day of the Geotop” in a historical ball mill in Neidlingen municipality and in a quarry in Sonnenbühl municipality

- UNESCO-Evaluation of the Geopark
- Recognition of six caves in Blau- and Lonevalley with its ice age art as a world heritage site within the Geopark boundaries
- Participation and representation at the German Geopark Congress in Tübingen university
- Participation at the International Day of Soil, education landscape guides about soil issues

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Participation in the EGN meetings in UNESCO Global Geopark Moher, Burren and Cliffs (Ireland) and in UNESCO Global Geopark Azores (Portugal)
- Participation at two workshops organized by the German UNESCO Committee

Management and Financial status

- Gaining a grant from the ministry of rural affair and consumer protection with an amount of 30.000 Euros

Geoconservation

- Release of the first geotop cadaster in the Geopark Swabian Alb

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Inauguration of several Geopoints in Esslingen county
- Reprint of the brochures Adventure Geopark (English) and Explorer Map

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

- Education of certified landscape guides jointly with the federal environmental education academy Baden-Württemberg
- Inauguration of the first Geopark-School, a primary school in Kolbingen municipality
- Planning the implementation of a permanent Learning Workshop "explorhinoGEO" at Aalen university in cooperation with an education foundation

Strategic Partnership

- Prolongation of the partnership with the building material association Baden-Württemberg for further three years

Promotional activities

- Presentation the Geopark on several regional markets and fairs like the tourism fair CMT (Caravan Motor Tourism)
- Several discussions with members of parliament about implementation the Geopark into a ministry administration of the federal state Baden-Württemberg
- Production of a touring exhibition about the Geopark Swabian Alb

4. Contacts:

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