

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2017

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Causses du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark (France, EGN)

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

Representative Photo

Participatory workshop with local speologist to clean-up a geosite.



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: **22 staffs** (including 2 geoscientists)

Number of Visitors: total for majors geosites or linked sites in 2017: **193 867 visitors**.

Number of Geopark events: **6 key events** held by Causses du Quercy UGG: Local seminar on Global climate change (March 2017); “Quercy in family” (annual event) (May 2017); Landscape garden event (annual event) (June 2017); Old trees in party (June 2017); The day of the night (annual event) (October 2017); Participatory workshop to clean-up an Geosite (Phosphorite cave) (November 2017) + **2 key events** held by partners with the active participation of the Geopark.

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 21 school classes including 14 classes engaged in “geoparcours” educational programme.

Number of Geopark press release: 47

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2017:

- 1st local seminar on climate change issues.
- Attribution to 24 local craftsmen of the Geopark brand to promote building heritage restoration crafts.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation:

- Participation in the 14th European Geoparks Conference on Azores Geopark, Portugal (1 oral and 2 poster presentations; 3 participants) and 1st participation to the 40th EGN CC meeting.

- Attendance to the official signature of the partnership agreement between French national commission for UNESCO and French Geoparks Forum.

Management and Financial status

- 2017 Budget: 2 000 000 €
- Training session (2 days) on local geological history for the Geopark staff.

Geoconservation:

- Beginning of three-year PhD thesis about "*Vulnerability of water transfers in karst environments*".
- Diagnosis of the Lot National Nature Reserve of geological interest.
- Contribution to the Departmental List for protection of Geotopes.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism):

- Official opening of the "Dolmen path" in Miers. September 2017.
- Study of the requalification of a "Cloup d'Aural" Phosphorite cave Geosite.

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

- Launch of creation of musical geo-tale "*The stairs of time*" with a group of local volunteers (inhabitants and students of a local music school). Project end: 2018.
- Publication of *Chemins de pierre* ("Stone paths"), a comic book created during an artist residency.
- Launch of the Geoparc new educational programme for schools (including training course for local educational partners) (school year 2017-2018).

Strategic Partnership

- Chamber of Trades and Crafts; National education; etc.

Promotional activities

- Various publications, including "Les Causseries" (the Geoparc semestrial event calendar) and the annual discovery guide of Causse du Quercy for tourists.
- "Geological delights" contest for the local bakers and chocolate makers.

4. Contacts:

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