

TERRA.vita Geopark (Germany)



New interactive nature trail “Zwickimbachtal”

Major achievements in 2016

- Presentation of a new information concept for the recreational area of the Alfsee (also Natura 2000 designation), including guidance for hikers. The press conference was held together with the mayor and the tourist manager.
- The new interactive nature trail Zwickimbachtal has been opened, highlighting a cooperation between a school class, a local hiking organisation and TERRA.vita.
- The annual project planning initiative in the county of Gütersloh (representing the TERRA.vita communities) identified a new mining heritage project.
- New TERRA.tipps have been printed for the area of Borgholzhausen and the Black Chalk quarry (German/English).
- A new TERRA.natura brochure has been printed for the Grasmoor area
- TERRA.vita participated with our new stand twice at Piesberg festivities and in Ibbenbüren.
- An English version of the TERRA.map has been printed.

Contribution towards the work of the EGN

- Participation at GGN presentation at ITB in Berlin
- Participation in the 38th European Geoparks Network Coordination Committee meeting at Basque Geopark Spain in April 2016.
- Presentation of the German Forum of UNESCO Global Geoparks during the week of the Environment in the garden of Schloss Bellveue in Berlin, the seat of the German President. TERRA.vita organised an 1 hour discussion.

Participants: Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German UNESCO Commission, the German Environmental Foundation, Dr. Marie Luise Frey and our Forum, represented by Hartmut Escher.

- Revalidation mission to Vikos Aaos Geopark in Greece by Timo
- Submitting an article of a Project on Geothermal Energy for the EGN magazine
- Proposing a storytelling-format as a contribution for the EGN Fossil book

Management structure and financial status

- Stable situation and no major changes.

Strategic partnership

- Strengthening of Partnership between Global Geopark De Hondsrug in NL and TERRA.vita: Further meetings and development of a common communication plan for both parks.
- Presentation of TERRA.vita and UNESCO Global Geoparks in 5 ILEK groups (Integrated Rural Development Concepts, comparable to LEADER)

Marketing and promotional activities

- Continuous information of members of parliament and stakeholders on developments concerning the new UNESCO designation .
- Enlargement of the German/English series of leaflets on Geosites, erecting several new information panels in places of interest.

Sustainable economic development

- Broadened participation in regular meetings to promote regional products.

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