

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Katla UNESCO Global Geopark (Iceland, EGN)

Year of inscription/ Year of the last revalidation 2011/2017

Representative photo from the revalidation mission in Vik in 2017



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staff: 4 staff including 3 geoscientists

Number of Visitors: > **1.500.000** annual visitors in 2017, growing at 37% per year.

Number of Geopark events: Geopark Week, Revalidation mission, Hosting University students, 3 Management plan workshops.

Number school classes = 4

Geopark educational programmes = 1 (2 Geo Schools)

Number of Geopark press release = 4 in local newspapers and 2 geopark newsletters.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2017

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Passed for green card after yellow card revalidation 2017
- EGN working groups: Volcanic Geoparks, Geo Education, Geohazards
- Cooperation with other UGGp through international funded projects:
 - Drifting Apart, GeoVR / GeoMuseum, Ruritage Horizon 2020

Management and Financial status

- Secured annual funding from municipalities for employing the geopark manager.
- Secured 5 years funding (till 2021) from Icelandic government for hiring of geologists and geopark activities
- Two geologists assumed to work for the Geopark as full-time staff

Geoconservation

- Protection action for geosites Fjaðrárgljúfur, Skógafoss, Seljalandsfoss, Skaftáreldahraun, as well as new UNESCO signage at geopark borders and geosites.
- Rangers in Dyrhólaey, Skógafoss and Fjaðrárgljúfur by UST.
- GeoSaga exhibition in Kötlusetur, Vík, Lava (partner) takes role in public geo-education with modern exhibition.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- (Spatial) Management plan made by Katla UNESCO Global Geopark in collaboration with locals and experts in the area: Zoning plan and geosite inventory. This is in the phase of translation and introduction before integration with master plans of the municipalities.

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

- Primary schools Hvolsskóli and Víkurskóli became GeoSchools of Katla UNESCO Global Geopark, progress has been made in the collaboration and increase of educational material.

Strategic Partnership

- Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, Icelandic Soil Conservation (Landgræðslan), Environmental agency (UST), Cultural Heritage Agency (Minjastofnun), Vatnajökull National park, Skógar Heritage museum, Kirkjubæjastofa and Kötlusetur.

Promotional activities

- Proud partner contracts with enterprises
 - Partnership with South Iceland Marketing Office, brochure and map

4. Contacts:

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