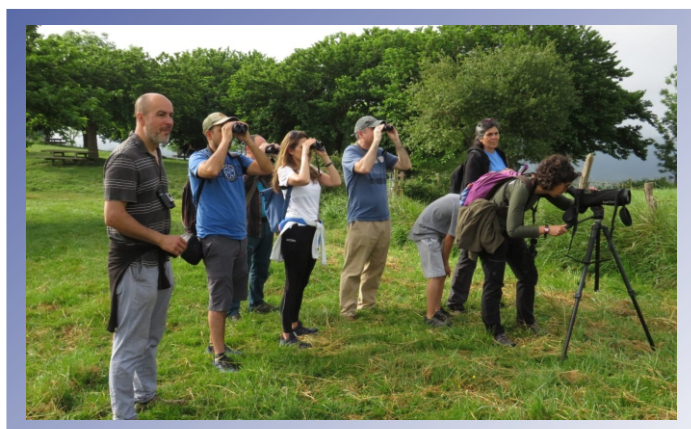


**“ Learning from the past, creating the present and serving for the future:  
How the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Europe integrate the Global Agenda 2030  
into their holistic approach ”**



### **Basque Coast Unesco Global Geopark (Spain) organized a biodiversity encounter called BIOTOP**

During the European Geoparks Week, the Basque Coast Geopark organized its BIOTOP activity to promote the biodiversity of the territory shared by the local population. This activity is guided by experts from the Aranzadi Science Society and the Geopark. The 2022 event was devoted to “birds and plants”. The participants were divided into groups which, in walks with the guidance of experts, were introduced to biotic community assemblages and analyzed the ecosystem. This activity contributes to the knowledge and awareness of the Geopark’s biodiversity and helps us to promote the UN’s SDG 15 –Life on Land.

### **Bergstrasse-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany): Our contribution to the “Day of Sustainability 2022” – SDG Activity Booth and “Forest Bathing”**

The Geopark contributes regularly to the bi-annual “Day of Sustainability”, which takes place on the 29th September. This year we will provide a Geopark Activity Booth in front of the Geopark’s Headquarters with information, actions and give-aways related to what everyone can do in their everyday life to support the SDGs. In addition, a guided Ranger tour into the forest invites the participants to taste “Forest Bathing” according to the Japanese “Shinrin Yoku”. These tours support physical and mental health, awareness and appreciation of our natural environment and are considered as a healing natural therapy. Our events are accompanied by intense information and media work and are also visible in the State-wide Activity Platform. More information: <https://geo-naturpark.net/en/inform/special-actions/>



### **Sheep parade of the Causse du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark (France)**

On the occasion of the 11th Espédaillac Sheep festival, the Causse du Quercy UGGp has proposed a new event: the Parade of the Causse du Quercy (sheep characteristic of the Causse du Quercy). Dancers dressed in costumes and masks made of ewe’s wool formed a tribal, musical and pagan procession that followed the herd of sheep as they left for their transhumance to the mountains of the Massif Central. The costumes were made by the inhabitants with materials from the Causse du Lot sheep industry during workshops making felted masks, ornaments and costumes.

Figure caption: the parade of the caussenarde, ©Causse du Quercy Geopark



### Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark (France): Evian presents its progress towards meeting the SDG's at the United Nations in New York

Within the Chablais UGGp, Evian and its local government area, the Pays d'Evian-Vallée d'Abondance (CCPEVA), are particularly committed to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. The town has worked for years on ambitious local projects and participated in the United Nations Forum of Mayors. As a result of its progress, Evian was invited to the main UN platform on sustainable development in New York this summer. The only municipality in the French delegation led by the Ministry for Ecological Transition, Josiane Lei (Mayor of Evian) and Nadine Wendling (Vice President of the CCPEVA, Sustainable Development) shared the important local achievements that have been made towards the SDG's.

### Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark (Ireland / Northern Ireland) – Place Making for past, present and future generations: Cuilcagh 2 Cleenish - A Great Place Project

For the last three years, Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark have been involved in an innovative, award-winning community heritage and access project. Working in partnership with four Geopark Communities, with the support of Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) and funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund, we have collaborated to deliver a truly unique and holistic project promoting, preserving and celebrating the heritage and culture of the area. This project has significantly enhanced rural communities and encouraged cohesion by connecting people to their built, natural, cultural and geological heritage and to each other. This has promoted the area as a sustainable cultural destination where people are attracted to visit and explore through the creation of new water and land based community trails, delivery of heritage events and the creation of a volunteer programme. The project created a significant social return on investment with every £1 invested a £12 return of social value was created locally gaining accolades nationally as a best practice example of a sustainable Community Heritage initiative. This project at its core had the principles of the SDGs of Sustainable Communities through engagement and stewardship, Good Health and Wellbeing through access to recreational assets and connection to cultural heritage, and finally Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through the cross border nature of this project. It has truly harnessed the past to shape the present and create a vision for the future for local Geopark communities.



From Golubac to Kladovo, many rivers in Djerdap Gorge flow into the Danube. This year, eutrophication is pronounced in most of them, and the coverage of water mirror varies up to 85%. For this reason, the experts of the Geopark started a preliminary analysis of the situation where, in addition to the hydrological and physical water characteristics, the determination of habitats and rare and endangered species is also carried out. The results of these researches will serve for the creation of an interdisciplinary project with the aim of improving nature and environment in the Geopark.



### Analysis of the watercourses condition in Djerdap UNESCO Global Geopark (Serbia)

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### Anniversary lectures on geology and climate change in the UNESCO Global Geopark Styrian Eisenwurzen (Austria)

In May 2022, a series of lectures on geology and climate change took place at "Forstauers Brauhaus" in the GeoVillage Gams, one of the main localities in UGGp Styrian Eisenwurzen, Austria. Interested people listened to lectures. Michael Wagreich, from the University of Vienna gave a talk on "The Anthropocene - Human global change is more than climate change". Lukas Plan, from the Natural History Museum gave a talk on "The formation of caves by sulphuric acid - the Kraushöhle in GeoVillage Gams". KLAR! Manager Martin Gebeshuber informed participants about the KLAR! (Climate Change Adaptation Model Region) Programme and the predicted regional effects of climate change. The talks were followed by a Pub-Quiz about geology and climate change. All participants were rewarded with a "Geofood Snack" and the winner received a special reward.





### El Hierro UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): Integrating the Agenda 2030

El Hierro Geopark integrates the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its activities, guaranteeing inclusive, equitable, quality education and promoting learning opportunities. In this way, El Hierro Geopark organises courses aimed at Diving Centres, Tourist Guides and Environmental Monitors. The last one was on the 5th and 6th of June, to interpret, from the sea, the fascinating Geological Heritage of the southwest coast of El Hierro. This activity included cetaceans and seabirds watching.

### Estrela & Portuguese UNESCO Global Geoparks: Climate Action

The five Portuguese UNESCO Global Geoparks promoted the project “Biennium for Climate Action” (2022-2023), based on the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13, Climate action, established by the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Given the emerging pace of climate changes and its effects, this project will contribute to sustainable local development, and to recognise and minimise the main problems of climate changes in different territorial contexts. In this sense, several actions will be realised with the civil and school community, through awareness-raising actions and society empowerment strategies to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate changes. Thus, the Geopark territories will function as “Ambassadors for Climate Action” and living laboratories for Education and Science.



### Famenne-Ardenne UNESCO Global Geopark (Belgium): The "Geopark Famenne-Ardenne Day"

In a desire to ensure that everyone has access to education, information and awareness, we will be organising the second edition of the "Geopark Famenne-Ardenne Day" on 13 November. This event will take place in the village of Sohier, a geosite characterised by its limestone buildings and part of the network of the Most Beautiful Villages of Wallonia. Open to all and free of charge, the aim is to raise awareness among local people and visitors of various themes such as the preservation and restoration of ecosystems, the fight against climate change, and sustainable means of consumption and production. These themes will be addressed through guided walks by the Geopark or testimonies from partners and experts.

### UNESCO Global Geopark Harz-Braunschweigerland-Ostfalen (Germany): More than just stones!

Regionality is the key to sustainable growth. Since last year, the UNESCO Global Geopark Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen (Germany) creates awareness for the goals of the Global Agenda 2030 through the distribution of printed paper bags to selected local bakeries. By using regional crops and flour, the bakeries show how well local economic cycles function. Together with the message to support local businesses, the paper bags find their way into households filled with all kinds of baked goods. In addition, they bear an all-over print with the words “delicious” and “oven-fresh” in all the different languages of the European Geoparks.





### The UNESCO Global Geopark of Haute-Provence (France) and the Global Agenda 2030

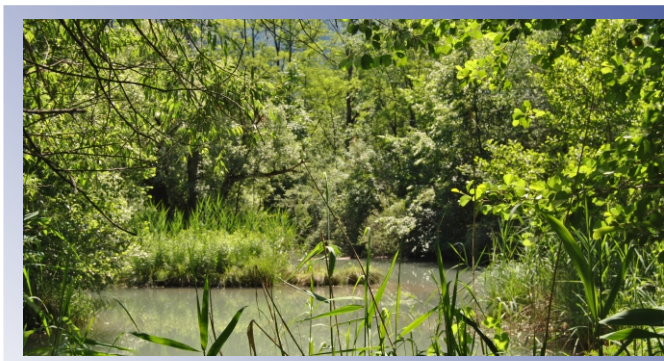
When writing its Management Plan in 2020, the UNESCO Geopark of Haute-Provence made the decision to integrate the 17 UN SDGs as a guideline for its action.

Several themes are and will be developed during the implementation period of this management plan. For instance :

- Sensitization of Geopartners by making the implementation of the SDGs a criterion for validating the partnership;
- Integration of environmental criteria in the specifications for the renovation of the centre of the Geopark, the Musée-Promenade;
- Initiation in partnership with private and public stakeholders of a policy to reduce night lighting to preserve biodiversity, improve public health, save energy and promote sustainable tourism.

### Holy Cross Mountains UNESCO Global Geopark (Poland): GeoEducation For Combatting Climate Change – from geoheritage of UNESCO Global Geoparks to understanding current climate change

In 2022, the Holy Cross Mountains UGGp (Poland) in partnership with institutions from Kula UGGp (Turkey), Novohrad-Nograd UGGp (Slovakia-Hungary) and Iron Mountains National Geopark (Czech Republic) has started the project "GeoEducation For Combatting Climate Change". The idea of the project is to exchange experiences and good practices related to environmental education and to increase the awareness of young people in the field of counteracting climate change. The possibility of using the geological heritage in this area was the leitmotif of the first in a series of project meetings that took place this year at Holy Cross Mountains Geopark.



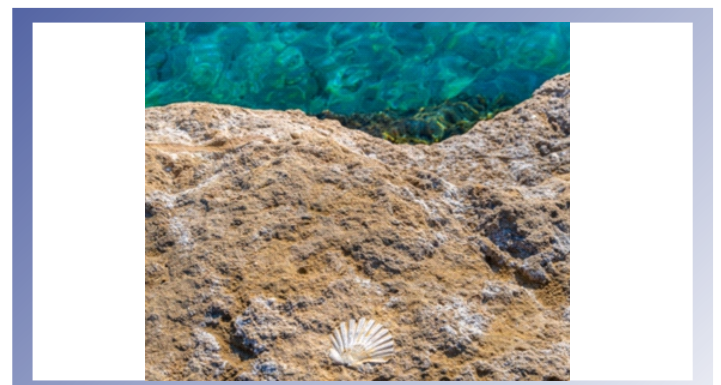
issue of conserving these sites, which are often not properly managed. With the involvement of stakeholders and their education about the advantages and opportunities provided by functional wetlands the long-term success of monitoring and restoration will be ensured.  
Photo: University of Padua

### Karawanken/Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark (Austria/Slowenia): I-SWAMP - Integrated small wetlands of the Alps monitoring and protection

Small Alpine Wetlands (e. g. ponds and small peatlands) are known to be of great conservation and ecological interest, as they are rich in biodiversity, contribute to the connectivity of the Alpine blue infrastructure and provide essential ecosystem services. In the frame of the new project, with the acronym I-SWAMP, a small scale project of the INTERREG ALPINE SPACE PROGRAMME, started on 1st of September 2022 with three project partners. These include the University of Padua (lead partner), crossborder Karawanken-Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark and the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation. They will address the

### Kefalonia-Ithaca UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece): Using fossils in order to learn explore and protect our rich geological heritage

There is no better opportunity to travel to the past and discover the history of a place than visiting a fossiliferous geosite. Thus, one of the main objectives of Kefalonia-Ithaca UNESCO Global Geopark is to promote the knowledge of the geological history of a place, by organizing educational activities in fossiliferous geosites. The Kefalonia-Ithaca Geopark (the present) aims to bring students (the future) closer to the place they are visiting, closer to our natural and cultural heritage (the past). In this way the students, which are our future, through different experiences embrace the duty and responsibility to respect and protect their home, our planet.





## Las Loras UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): Collaborating for the creation of new geoparks

In the month of July, we have received in Las Loras UGGp the visit of several university professors from Arab countries (Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia) who are working to develop Geoparks in their territories through the IGCP-730 Project. During two days they were able to learn about the management model of our geopark, we have visited collaborating organizations, places of geological and cultural interest, infrastructures and facilities and held work sessions to exchange knowledge and experiences. Collaborating in these types of projects, directly related to, at least 14 of the 17 SDGs, is really important for the development of Geoparks in more countries of the world.

## Maestrazgo UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): New educational material

The new educational material “Geology, Nature and Culture”, proposed by the Maestrazgo UGGp (Spain) and financed by the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage (Government of Aragon), is based on the available resources and the traditional use of its territory as a source of inspiration to carry out didactic experiences aimed mainly at students from local schools. Children play a fundamental role in this territory. They are an authentic treasure and through small to big actions, based on principles of Education for Sustainable Development, they hold the key to changing ways of thinking, skills and values for working towards a more sustainable society for all.



## Sustainability Goals in the Mëllerdall UNESCO Global Geopark (Luxembourg)

In the newly designed exhibition of the Mëllerdall Geopark, knowledge about the regional geological history and natural processes is conveyed. The human influence on the formation and change of the cultural landscape from the Stone Age through the metal ages and the Roman period to the Middle Ages and modern times is presented. Numerous interactive elements and models help visitors to understand geoscientific and ecosystem interrelationships. This provides inhabitants and visitors with background information on various sustainability goals, which the Mëllerdall Geopark also implements in regional projects, e. g. for drinking water protection, biodiversity conservation and climate protection.

Photo: NGPM, C. Martin

## North Pennines AONB and UNESCO Global Geopark (United Kingdom): Connecting young people with nature

Staff at the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and UNESCO Global Geopark are working with schools in disadvantaged communities to help young people connect with nature in the Geopark and their local area. This involves visiting new places, learning about the environment and simply enjoying being outdoors. One teacher said: “They now understand how the work we have done in school around climate change actually links to the area they live in and how this has an impact... The wellbeing and mental health benefits have been the biggest achievement of the whole project.”





### Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark (Croatia): Rupko's Geology School

Since 2019 we have started with the educational programme "Rupko's Geology School" with the aim to raise awareness of the rich geological heritage and unique character of the Geopark's territory. The programme is implemented by a joint effort between Papuk UGGp staff and local school teachers with a deep understanding of geopark activities. This year we improved the programme with the newly published booklet "Geo-guide for kids" which should give the students a good introduction before going in the field to visit some geosites equipped with special "Rupko's School" educational panels.

### UNESCO Global Geopark Ries (Germany): "Kirchheimer Alemannenschule becomes the first UGG Geopark Ries School"

The Alemannenschule (elementary school) in Kirchheim am Ries entered an important cooperation when it became the first UGGp Geopark Ries School. Under the motto "Learn where you come from", the partnership helps young people recognize and appreciate the past and present of their home region, with the intent to better shape its future.

Alemannenschule students learn about the formation of the Ries Crater through the meteorite impact as well as interconnected topics reaching back to the Stone Ages. An important emphasis of the collaboration is the preservation of special natural areas."



### Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark (Spain): II. Glaciers Festival

Sobrarbe-Pirineos Unesco Global Geopark organized, for the second year, "The Glaciers Festival", an activity that provides scientific information and environmental awareness about the Pyrenees glaciers and climate change. We have prepared a full programme, with two field trips guided by Dr. Ànchel Belmonte Ribas, the scientific coordinator of our Geopark, who will explain, at two different locations for different audiences, the effect of glaciers on the landscape, the nature of equipment currently used to study glaciers, and the effect of climate change on the Monte Perdido Glacier. One location is accessed by mountaineering, the other location is more easily accessible. There will also be a screening of the documentary "Al paso del hielo" followed by a discussion with researchers from the IPE-CSIC who have investigated

glacial retreat in the Natural Monument of the Pyrenees glaciers. Moreover, we will also engage in activities in the classroom and a field trip with schoolchildren from Sobrarbe. More information on our website [www.geoparquepireneos.com](http://www.geoparquepireneos.com) (<https://cutt.ly/TVS9yYt>)

### TERRA.vita UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany) and The Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark (Netherlands): The completion of the INTERREG Via cooperation between TERRA.vita and The Hondsrug UGGp

The Geoparks "The Hondsrug" in the Netherlands and "TERRA.vita" in Germany deepened their longstanding partnership by completing the INTERREG Va project "UNESCO Global Geopark Cooperation DE/NL". The objective of the close cooperation with a 1.65 million Euro budget was to improve the sustainable development and to refine the profile of both Geoparks as a result of cross-border cooperation. The improvement included measures in the development of the infrastructure, products, education, marketing, and structural models. However, completed results include professional geofilms, Geopark magazines, common regional maps, and hiking brochures. The latter relate to the Hunen Trail between Osnabrück (Germany) and Groningen (Netherlands), which was extended to 325 kilometers and connects megalithic tombs. Additionally, a museum cooperation included digital tables, 180° screen walls and VR applications. Further packages of the project have been a study on visitor monitoring, a study on the development of structural and financing models, an ESD cooperation, and the EGN spring meeting in 2022.



## Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark (Cyprus): Educational events for kids

The importance of the aims and objectives of the Global Agenda 2030 is paramount, especially nowadays that the socioeconomic, humanitarian, environmental and climate challenges that the world faces are unprecedented. Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark is at the forefront of the battle to promote sustainability, well-being, equal opportunity, peace and opportunity. During the year, we have organized numerous educational events for kids at the Troodos Geopark Visitors' Centre and at schools, in order to teach them the importance of cooperation, respect for the environment and to help them cultivate a deep appreciation for the environment, nature and the country's traditions. Moreover, our Geopark participates actively in local events and festivals and we try to inform people about our actions, urge them to visit the most important geological treasures of the Geopark and provide examples and ways of how the environment can be conserved and protected without compromising economic growth and prosperity. Lastly, for the autumn we have planned various seminars for college students in order to discuss and hear their views about how the Geopark can continue promoting and conserve Cyprus' natural heritage and promote sustainable development in the Geopark's area.



## Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany): Learning about wild bees in Vulkaneifel and their importance for mankind

The wild bee educational path was recently officially launched at the Vulkanhof in Gillenfeld. At four different sites, visitors can learn more about wild bees, including where they live and what they feed on. Wild flowers and the slope at the car park offer ideal conditions for wild bees, which as visitors can observe are especially lively on warm days. The project was realised by employees of the Vulkaneifel administrative district, the Vulkanhof and Vulkaneifel Nature and Geopark. As a partner of the Naturepark and UNESCO Global Geopark Vulkaneifel, the Vulkanhof in Gillenfeld provides information about sustainable farming and the connection between geology and biology with the soil. Therefore, it is only natural to broaden the educational horizon for the visitors to include wild bees.