

## What is a UNESCO Global Geopark?

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development.

A UNESCO Global Geopark uses its geological heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our earth's resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing natural disasters-related risks.

By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, UNESCO Global Geoparks give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area.

The creation of innovative local enterprises, new jobs and high quality training courses is stimulated as new sources of revenue are generated through geotourism, while the geological resources of the area are protected.

At present, there are 169 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 44 countries.

All the UNESCO Global Geoparks are institutional members of the Global Geoparks Network.

## UNESCO Global Geoparks

UNESCO's work with Geoparks began in 2001, when a collaboration agreement was signed between UNESCO Division of Earth Sciences and the European Geoparks Network.

In 2004, 17 European and 8 Chinese geoparks came together at UNESCO headquarters in Paris to form the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) where national geological heritage initiatives contribute to and benefit from their membership of a global network of exchange and cooperation.

On 17 November 2015, the 195 Member States of UNESCO ratified the creation of a new label, the UNESCO Global Geoparks, during the 38th General Conference of the Organisation. This expresses governmental recognition of the importance of managing outstanding geological sites and landscapes in a holistic manner.

UNESCO supports efforts in all countries to establish UNESCO Global Geoparks all around the world, in close collaboration with the Global Geoparks Network.



Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark, Canada



Dak Nong UNESCO Global Geopark, Viet Nam



Discovery UNESCO Global Geopark, Canada



Dordag UNESCO Global Geopark, Serbia



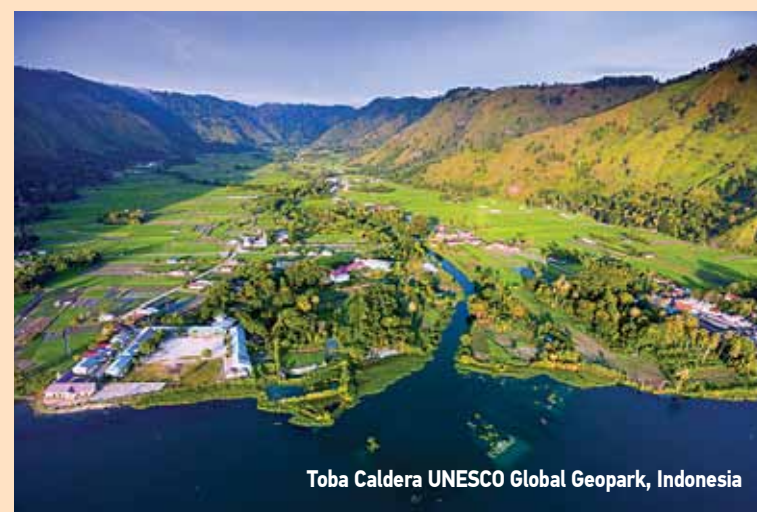
Fátima UNESCO Global Geopark, Portugal



Granada UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain

# UNESCO Global Geoparks

## 2021/2022



Toba Caldera UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia



Xiangzi UNESCO Global Geopark, China



Yangan-Yau UNESCO Global Geopark, Russian Federation



Zhangye UNESCO Global Geopark, China



Aspromonte UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy



Belling UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia

# Global Geoparks Network

2004-2021 17 years of collaboration for geo-conservation and sustainable development



# UNESCO Global Geoparks

## 2021/2022



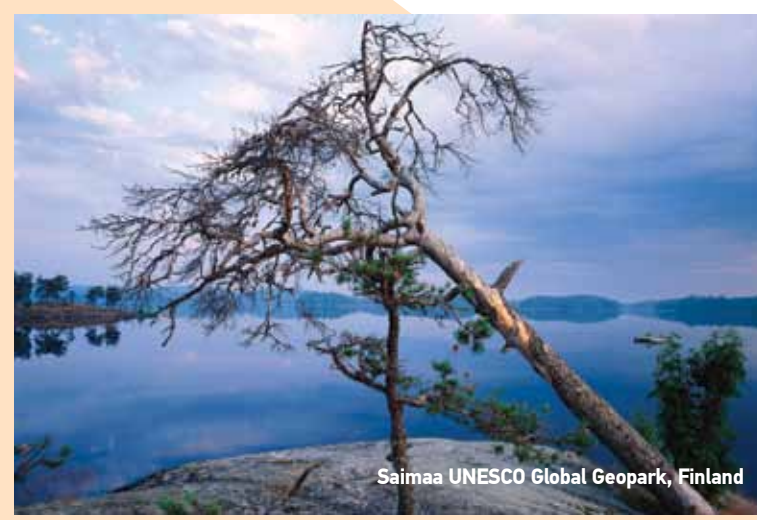
Grevena Kozani UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece



Hohj Cross Mountains UNESCO Global Geopark, Poland



Majella UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy



Saimesa UNESCO Global Geopark, Finland



Thuringia Insellberg-Drei Gleichen UNESCO Global Geopark, Germany



Vejrhøvd UNESCO Global Geopark, Denmark

# Global Geoparks Network

2004-2021 17 years of collaboration for geo-conservation and sustainable development



## Global Geoparks Network

The Global Geoparks Network (GGN) is a non-profit and a non-governmental organisation. It was initially founded in 2004 as an international partnership developed under the umbrella of UNESCO, and was officially registered as an association in 2014 subjecting to French law. The Global Geoparks Network is the official partner of UNESCO for the operation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

The Global Geoparks Network also promotes networking on a regional basis. The three regional Geoparks networks are in Asia - Pacific, Europe and Latin America and Caribbean.

The objectives of the Global Geoparks Network are:

- to promote the equitable geographical establishment, development and professional management of Global Geoparks,
- to advance knowledge and understanding of the nature, function and role of Global Geoparks;
- to assist local communities to value their natural and cultural heritage;
- to preserve Earth heritage for present and future generations;
- to educate and teach the broad public about issues in geosciences and their relation with environmental matters and natural hazards;
- to ensure sustainable socio-economic and cultural development based on the natural (or earth) system
- to foster multi-cultural links between heritage and conservation and the maintenance of geological and cultural diversity, using participatory schemes of partnership and management;
- to stimulate research when appropriate;
- to promote joint initiatives between Global Geoparks (e.g. communication, publications, exchange of information, twinning).

The Global Geoparks Network establishes ethical standards which must be adopted and respected by Global Geoparks and Global Geopark professionals.

The Global Geoparks Network organises co-operation and mutual assistance between Global Geoparks and between Global Geopark professionals.

The Global Geoparks Network initiates and co-ordinates thematic Working Groups which will foster international co-operation in a variety of issues related with Geopark operation and activities. The Global Geoparks Network represents, advances, and disseminates knowledge in Geodiversity management and other disciplines related to studies in Geo-conservation, Geo-tourism, Geo-education and/or the management and activities of Global Geoparks.



Haunggan UNESCO Global Geopark, Republic of Korea



Kula-Sakhi UNESCO Global Geopark, Turkey



Lauhanni-Hämenekangas UNESCO Global Geopark, Finland



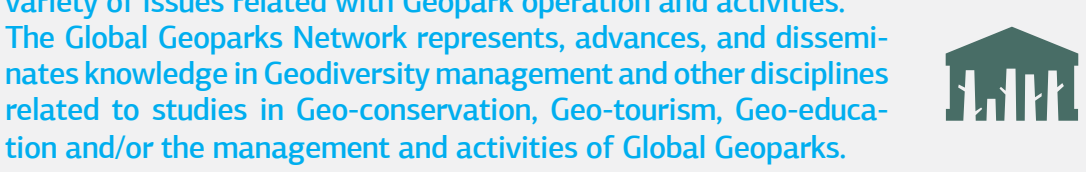
Meeritzago UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain



Rio Coco UNESCO Global Geopark, Nicaragua



The B&E Craters UNESCO Global Geopark, UK



Poster produced by the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest / Christos Paraskavidis based on brochure designed by Geological Survey of Northern Ireland, Globes by the Applied Geomorphology Laboratory / University of the Aegean, Greece. © Global Geoparks Network / Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece. Photos: Global Geoparks Network archive unless otherwise indicated

## UNESCO Global Geoparks

# Top 16 Focus Areas



Zhangye UNESCO Global Geopark, China



Central Catalunya UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain



San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark, Japan

## Biodiversity Protection

UNESCO Global Geoparks are areas where the analysis of specific interactions between the lithosphere and biosphere provides an integrated concept of the role of the geological environment in the evolution of the biosphere. Geopark activities and projects are important in order to raise awareness on the relationship between the geological environment and modern ecosystems and their rational management under a holistic concept.



Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece

## Cultural Heritage Enhancement

In many countries emblematic geosites are considered as sacred places. Since ancient times, sacred sites have had a mysterious allure for billions of people around the world. Legends and contemporary reports tell of extraordinary experiences people have had while visiting these places. Different sacred sites have the power to heal the body, enlighten the mind and inspire the heart. People built in such places temples and monasteries. UNESCO Global Geoparks host some important sacred places emphasizing the connection between specific landscapes and land-forms with mythology, archaeology and history. UNESCO Global Geoparks are fundamentally about people and about exploring and celebrating the links between our communities and the Earth. The Earth has shaped who we are. It has shaped our farming practices, the building materials and methods we have used for our homes, even our mythology, folklore and folk traditions.

## Capacity Building Activities

UNESCO Global Geoparks offer training courses and capacity building activities for local stakeholders and young unemployed people who can then, in turn, support Geopark activities and operation. The Global Geoparks Network in collaboration with UNESCO organizes International Training Courses on Geoparks supporting the development of Geoparks in many countries especially in Regions with not many UNESCO Global Geoparks.



## Education for Sustainability

UNESCO Global Geoparks develop and operate educational activities for all ages to spread awareness of our geological heritage and its links to other aspects of our natural, cultural and intangible heritages. UNESCO Global Geoparks offer educational programmes for schools or offer special activities for children through "Summer camps", "Kids Clubs" or special "Fossil Fun Activities". They also offer education, both formal and informal, for adults and retired people.



## Natural Resources Wise Use

The history of mankind and civilization is based on the resources exploited from Earth's crust. The development of modern societies is limited by the consequences of depleting of natural resources. UNESCO Global Geoparks inform people about the sustainable use and need for natural resources, while at the same time promoting respect for the environment and the integrity of the landscape.



Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark, Iceland

## Geological Hazards Risk Reduction

UNESCO Global Geoparks promote awareness of geological hazards, including volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. Through educational activities for the local people and visitors many UNESCO Global Geoparks give information on the source of geological hazards and ways to reduce their impact including disaster response strategies. These efforts build important capacity and contribute to building more resilient communities that have the knowledge and skills to effectively respond to potential geological hazards. The Global Geoparks Network working group on Geo-hazards coordinates common activities and helps prepare disaster mitigation strategies among Geoparks.



Haley UNESCO Global Geopark, Romania



## Sustainable Development

UNESCO Global Geoparks are engaging with local people and respecting their traditional way of life in a way that empowers them and respects their human rights and dignity. A UNESCO Global Geopark should have an active role in the economic development of its territory through enhancement of a general image linked to the geological heritage and the development of sustainable tourism. A Geopark has direct impact on the territory by influencing its inhabitants' living conditions and environment. The objective is to enable the inhabitants to re-appropriate the values of the territory's heritage and actively participate in the territory's cultural revitalization as a whole.



Jeju UNESCO Global Geopark, Republic of Korea



Ketilá Geopark UNESCO Global Geopark, Iceland



Apuan Alps UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy

## Sustainable Tourism

UNESCO Global Geoparks create infrastructure and activities to support visitor's access and interpretation of the Geological heritage as well as the development of sustainable tourism activities in the Geopark territory. UNESCO Global Geoparks promote themselves as sustainable tourism destinations offering a diversity of guided field walks and nature tourism activities, authentic experience and local gastronomy. The Global Geoparks Network became a gold partner of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in 2017 to support the celebration of the International Year of sustainable Tourism for development.



Shoshanban UNESCO Global Geopark, Canada



Imbabura UNESCO Global Geopark, Ecuador

## Employment

UNESCO Global Geoparks are a platform for the development, nurturing and promotion of local cottage industry and craft products. UNESCO Global Geoparks are contributing for the sustainable development of areas hosting significant geological heritage sites through the creation of new enterprises and the employment of young people in their territories.



Colaba YAN Geopark, Anauyoga UNESCO Global Geopark, Peru

## Women Empower

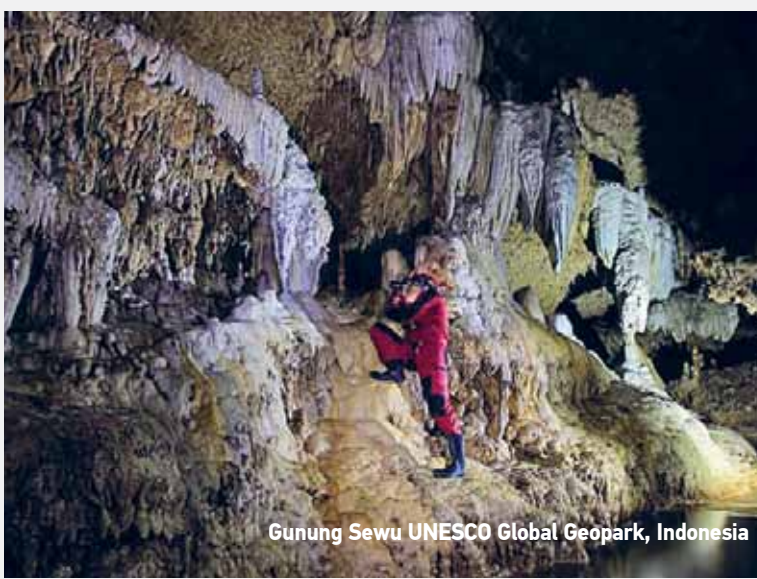
UNESCO Global Geoparks have a strong emphasis on empowering women whether through focused education programmes or through the development of women's cooperatives. In some UNESCO Global Geoparks women's cooperatives also provide an opportunity for women to obtain additional income in their own area and on their own terms.



Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark, Japan

## Science & Research

UNESCO Global Geoparks are special areas where the geological heritage, or geodiversity, is of international importance. Thus Geoparks are interesting to implement results of scientific research in the field of geo-conservation, tourism and sustainable local development. UNESCO Global Geoparks are encouraged to work with academic and research institutions to engage in active scientific research in the Earth Sciences, and other disciplines as appropriate, to advance our knowledge about the Earth and its processes. A UNESCO Global Geopark is an active laboratory where people can become engaged in science from the highest academic research level to the level of the curious visitor.



Gulang Sewu UNESCO Global Geopark, Indonesia



## Networking

Networking is one of the core principles of Geoparks. Networking strongly contributes to the success of the Geoparks movement and plays a valuable role in facilitating the sharing of experience, quality management, formation of joint initiatives and projects and capacity-building. The Global Geoparks Network and its Regional Geopark Networks offer a global platform of cooperation and exchange of best practice between UNESCO Global Geoparks.



Adamiya Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark, Iraq 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks



## Local and Indigenous Knowledge

UNESCO Global Geoparks actively involve local and indigenous peoples, preserving and celebrating their culture. By involving local and indigenous communities, UNESCO Global Geoparks recognize the importance of these communities, their culture and the link between these communities and their land. It is one of the criteria of UNESCO Global Geoparks that local and indigenous knowledge, practice and management systems, alongside science, are included in the planning and management of the area.



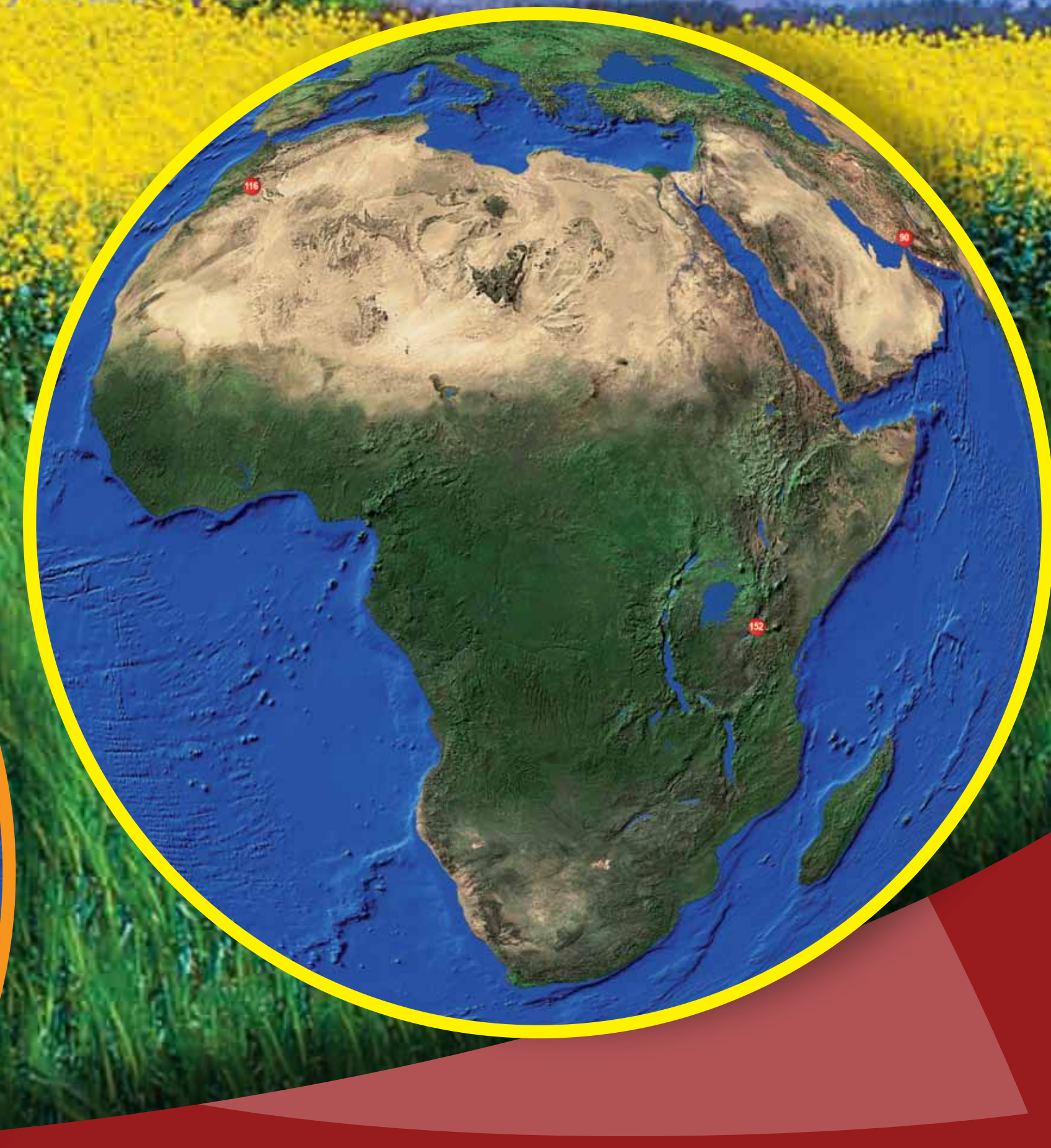
## Monitoring and Evaluation

In order to ensure the continuing high quality of UNESCO Global Geoparks, including the quality of the management of each UNESCO Global Geopark, the status of each UNESCO Global Geopark is subject to a thorough reevaluation every 4 years. The Global Geoparks Network is supporting the Geopark evaluation and reevaluation process by providing the experts for the evaluation missions and maintaining the roster of evaluators.



# UNESCO Global Geoparks

Celebrating Earth Heritage - Sustaining Local Communities



## 2021/2022

Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark - Republic of Korea

### List of UNESCO Global Geoparks

- |   |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Austria*</b></p> <p>1. Styrian Eisenwurzen UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>2. Ore of the Alps UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Belgium</b></p> <p>3. Famenne-Ardenne UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Brazil</b></p> <p>4. Araripe UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Canada</b></p> <p>5. Stonehammer UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>6. Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>7. Percé UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>8. Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>9. Discovery UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Chile</b></p> <p>10. Kutralkura UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>China</b></p> <p>11. Danxiashan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>12. Zhangjiajie UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>13. Yuntai Mountain UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>14. Wudalianchi UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>15. Songshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>16. Shilin UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>17. Huangshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>18. Lushan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>19. Hexigten UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>20. Taining UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>21. Xingwen UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>22. Xiangshui UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>23. Jingpo UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>24. Leiqiong UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>25. Taishan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>26. Wangwushan-Daimeshan UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>27. Fangshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>28. Funiu Mountains UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>29. Zigong UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>30. Longshun UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>31. Alxa Desert UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>32. Qilong Zhongnanshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>33. Ningde UNESCO Global Geopark</p> | <p>34. Leye Fengshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>35. Tianzhushan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>36. Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>37. Sanqingshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>38. Shennongjia UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>39. Yanqing UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>40. Mount Kunlun UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>41. Dali-Cangshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>42. Dunhuang UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>43. Zhijindong Cave UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>44. Arxan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>45. Keketuohai UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>46. Guangwushan-Nuoshuine UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>47. Huanggang Dabieshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>48. Jiuhuashan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>49. Yimengshan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>50. Xiangxi UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>51. Zhangye UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Croatia</b></p> <p>52. Papuk UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>53. Vis Archipelago UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Cyprus</b></p> <p>54. Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Czechia</b></p> <p>55. Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Denmark</b></p> <p>56. Odsherred UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>57. Vestjylland UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Ecuador</b></p> <p>58. Imbabura UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Finland</b></p> <p>59. Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>60. Lauhanvuori-Hämeen kangas UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>61. Saimaa UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>France</b></p> <p>62. Haute-Provence UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>63. Luberon UNESCO Global Geopark</p> | <p>64. Massif des Bauges UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>65. Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>66. Monts d'Ardèche UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>67. Causses du Quercy UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>68. Beaujolais UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Germany*</b></p> <p>69. Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>70. TERRA.vita UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>71. Bergstraße-Odenwald UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>72. Swabian Alb UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>73. Harz, Braunschweiger Land UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>74. Thuringia Inselberg-Drei Gleichen UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Greece</b></p> <p>75. Lesvos Island UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>76. Psiloritis UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>77. Chelmos Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>78. Vikos - Aoos UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>79. Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>80. Grevena Kozani UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Hungary*</b></p> <p>81. Bakony-Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Iceland</b></p> <p>82. Katla UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>83. Reykjanes UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Indonesia</b></p> <p>84. Batur UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>85. Gunung Sewu UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>86. Ciletuh - Palabuhanratu UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>87. Rinjani-Lombok UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>88. Toba Caldera UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>89. Belitong UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</b></p> <p>90. Qeshm Island UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Ireland*</b></p> <p>91. Copper Coast UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>92. Burren &amp; Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Italy</b></p> <p>93. Madonie UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>94. Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark</p> | <p>95. Rocca di Cerere UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>96. Adamello-Brenta UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>97. Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>98. Tuscan Mining Park UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>99. Alpi Apuani UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>100. Sesia Val Grande UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>101. Pollino UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>102. Aspromonte UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>103. Majella UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Japan</b></p> <p>104. Itoigawa UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>105. Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>106. Toya - Usu UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>107. San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>108. Muroto UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>109. Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>110. Aso UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>111. Mt. Aomi UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>112. Izu Peninsula UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Malaysia</b></p> <p>113. Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Mexico</b></p> <p>114. Comarca Minera, Hidalgo UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>115. Mixteca Alta, Oaxaca UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Morocco</b></p> <p>116. M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Netherlands</b></p> <p>117. De Hondsrug UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Nicaragua</b></p> <p>118. Rio Coco UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Norway</b></p> <p>119. Gea Norvegica UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>120. Magma UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>121. Trollfjell UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Peru</b></p> <p>122. Colca y Volcanes de Andagua UNESCO Global Geopark</p> | <p><b>Poland*</b></p> <p>123. Holy Cross Mountains UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Portugal</b></p> <p>124. Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>125. Arouca UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>126. Açores UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>127. Terras de Cavaleiros UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>128. Estrela UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Republic of Korea</b></p> <p>129. Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>130. Cheongsong UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>131. Mudeungsan Area UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>132. Hantangang UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Romania</b></p> <p>133. Hatég Country UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Russian Federation</b></p> <p>134. Yangan-Tau UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Serbia</b></p> <p>135. Djerdap UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Slovakia*</b></p> <p>136. Idríja UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Spain</b></p> <p>137. Cabo de Gata-Níjar UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>138. Sierras Subbéticas UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>139. Sobrarbe-Pirineos UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>140. Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>141. Sierra Norte de Sevilla UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>142. Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>143. Central Catalonia UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>144. Molina &amp; Alto Tajo UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>145. El Hierro UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>146. Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p>147. Las Loras UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>148. Origenes UNESCO Global Geopark</p> | <p>149. Courel Mountains UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>150. Granada UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>151. Maestrazgo UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Tanzania</b></p> <p>152. Ngorongoro Lengai UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Thailand</b></p> <p>153. Satun UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Turkey</b></p> <p>154. Kula - Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*</b></p> <p>155. North Pennines AONB UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>156. North-West Highlands UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>157. Forest Fawr UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>158. English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>159. GeoMón UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>160. Shetland UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>161. Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Uruguay</b></p> <p>162. Grutas del Palacio UNESCO Global Geopark</p> <p><b>Viet Nam</b></p> <p>163. Dong Van Karst Plateau UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>164. Non nuoc Cao Bang UNESCO Global Geopark<br/>165. Dak Nong UNESCO Global Geopark</p> |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|

\* List of transnational UNESCO Global Geoparks.

**Austria & Slovenia**

166. Karawanken / Karavanke UNESCO Global Geopark

**Germany & Poland**

167. Muskauer Faltenbogen / Łuk Mużakowa UNESCO Global Geopark

**Hungary & Slovakia**

168. Novohrad-Nógrád UNESCO Global Geopark

**Ireland & United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

169. Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark

# Global Geoparks Network

www.globalgeoparksnetwork.org

