GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark, Greece – Crete   (E.G.N.)

Year of inscription : 2015

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 3 staffs including 1 geoscientist

Number of Visitors: at Sitia UNESCO Geopark, the estimate of visitors who visited in 2016, amounts to 2500 - 3000. This results from the visitors of the Geopark Information Centre and the Natural history museum of Geopark

Number of Geopark events: at Sitia UNESCO Geopark ,carried 12 events of these four co-organized with local organizations, environmental associations and educators

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: The Sitia UNESCO Geopark in cooperation with the Center for Environmental Education Lasithi and the local primary and secondary schools participated in seven educational programs Sitia Geopark

Number of Geopark press release: 17 publications in regional media and Social Media aimed at informing of citizens

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2016 : As part of the events for the European Geoparks Week, the Sitia Geopark organized a series of events and activities have aimed at the promotion of the Geopark to residents and visitors in the region

1.1st Photography Contest Sitia Geopark ,2.Natural History Museum, Multicenter Zakros. Informative soiree: Geopark Sitia World Geopark by UNESCO, 3.Training seminar. "Geopark Sitia. Global Geopark of UNESCO: the parallel course of man and earth, as an engine for growth of environmental consciousness of world citizenship "

4.´´The concert of the Earth´´ in the   Geosite "source "of Zakros, 5. Book presentation for Geotourism 6.   Geo - actions for everyone in the Sitia Geopark, 7.Feast of the earth: exchanging local seeds.

Also: organizes two-day thematic seminar on Sustainable Education: "Wetland of Crete.   Protecting and promoting them to sustainable education " and organize the

educational workshop: ”Caves of Sitia Geopark. Their utilization in sustainable education "

<u>Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation:</u> 1.Participation in 37th Coordination Committee MeetingBasque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark, 2. Participation in the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2016, 3. Attended by a representative of the Sitia Geopark in International Intensive Course on Geoparks "UNESCO Global Geoparks: An international programme for Geoconservation, Geoeducation and Sustainable Development". Lesvos June 2016

<u>Management and Financial status:</u> The Sitia Geopark is managed by the Social & Cultural Development Organization of Sitia Municipality (DOKAS) and the Management Committee. Revenue and expenditure of the Geopark was within the budget for 2016

<u>Geoconservation</u> 1. Cleaning and signage of new and old geo- routes with the voluntary support local Cultural Associations, 2.Recording and mapping of new geological points of interest and new geotrails inside the limits of the Geopark Sitia

<u>Sustainable tourism</u> (Geotourism) Forwarding with local agencies tourism plan for sustainable tourism, with the participation in exhibitions and promotion of the Geopark objective the promotion of Geotourism.

<u>New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction</u> 1.Organizing new educational programs in cooperation with the Center for Environmental Education for biodiversity and geology of the Geopark.

<u>Strategic Partnership</u>: the Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark is actively participates in all the actions and initiatives of the European and Global Geoparks Network, promoting the values and possibilities for development of local communities and geoconservation

<u>Promotional activities</u>: 1.Cooperation with tourist organizations for the promotion of Sitia's Geopark in international thematic tourism exhibitions. 2.Cooperation with local businesses in order to promote and financially support Sitia's Geopark

4. Contacts:

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