

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Kula-Salihli Geopark, Turkey, EGN: Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark, Turkey, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2013 Kula UNESCO Global Geopark / Kula-Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark 2019



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 12 staffs including 4 geoscientist(s)

Number of visitors: approximately 90.000 visitors.

Number of Geopark events: 43 events

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 12

Number of Geopark press release: Totally 6 presses including 2 brochures, 1 map and 3 introduction books.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- The borders of the geopark have been expanded more than 10% (from 932 km² to 2300 km²), its name was changed from Kula Geopark to Kula-Salihli Geopark and a new application was made to UNESCO.Kula-Salihli Geopark for approval.
- Our geopark was promoted in several geomorphology symposiums both in turkey and abroad.
- The geopark was represented in 5th International Turkish World Tourism Congress in Kazakhstan
- Kula-Salihli Geopark was promoted in INQUA 2019 Congress in Dublin.
- 1 Kula-Salihli Geopark was promoted in 5. European Geoparks Conference in Spain with two presentations.
- A Bicycle tour festival, including 150 people, was practised In the geopark area for three days in September.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Placeholder text

Management and Financial Status

- The budget of the geopark has been increased from 1.5 million to 2.5 million by the Geopark Municipalities Union.

Geoconservation

- Three new rangers were employed to protect and patrol the geopark.
- Series of seminars were organized for primary schools students about how to keep geopark clean and preserve it for future generations during October 2019.
- **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**
- Fifty new local guides were trained in order to improve sustainable tourism.
- Some promotional seminars were organised about geo-tourism for students in the schools of Kula district during September-December.

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

- Two informative seminars were held on natural disaster types and prevention methods at two schools in Kula.
- **Strategic partnership**
- A sistership agreement was made with Qeshm Island Geopark from Iran.
- Geopark partnership agreements were made with 6 restaurants, 2 associations, 5 hotels and 2 souvenir shops.

Promotional activities

- The geopark was introduced in the Aegean Region Development Meeting organized in Ankara.
- Our new geopark was introduced at 43rd Europe Geoparks Network Coordination Meeting in Aalen in German.
- An android application program was put in the action of for the visitors of Kula-Salihli Geopark..
- In order to promote the geopark, four new documentaries were produced.
- Some new introductory and direction panels were put on the main roads crossing the geopark.
- Staffs of The Kula-Salihli Geopark participated at a Meeting on Geopark Potential of Munzur Region organized in Tunceli Province.
Kula-Salihli Geopark was introduced at Denizli Travertine Geopark and Geotourism Workshop in Pamukkale University in Denizli Province.

4. CONTACTS

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