

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark, GREECE, European Geoparks Network

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2019

Representative photo with caption : A) 1st Summer School of Environmental Education of the SUGG B) European Geoparks Week «The Geo-cultural walk of Sitia»

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 4 staffs including 1 geoscientist

**Number of visitors:** 1500.

**Number of Geopark events:** 9 events held by management body and 3 cooperative organization

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** Only one school visited the Geopark. With the pandemic all student movements were banned.

**Number of Geopark press release:** More than 20 press releases were published and published announcements about the events of the Geopark, the educational actions, presentation and promotion of the SUGG, etc

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2020

- Despite the problems from the pandemic and the bans, we managed to organize many events with the participation of local organizations and voluntary organizations

### Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

The Sitia Geopark participated in all the digital meetings of the EGN and GGN ,and the Greek forum, due to the pandemic

Digital Meetings:

- 2nd EGN DIGITAL FORUM 15th September 2020
- 1st GGN DIGITAL FORUM Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th November 2020
- DIGITAL MEETING GEOPARKS OF GREECE – CYPRUS Wednesday 11 November 2020

### Management and Financial Status

- Expansion of the management committee of Sitia Geopark with the participation of more partners from the local community
- The Management and financial Status it was in line with the year's budget without any problem

### Geoconservation

- New placards interpreting information signs of the geo sites have been installed and

preserving the older ones

- Recording and mapping of new geological points of interest geotrails

### **Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)**

- Workshop for Geotourism in SUGG for tourism professionals and the unemployed 17-18-19 January 2020, under the program Interreg Greece-Cyprus 2014-2020 «GEOTOURISM IN INSULAR GEOPARKS»
- Organization of the 4th UNESCO World Championship Sitia Geopark Trail 18, October 2020
- Participation through digital meetings in the Greek Laboratory of Alternative Tourism, which included B2B meetings with tour operators and offices in Belgium on November 25, 26 and 27 and Poland on 8, 9 and 10 December 2020

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

- Placeholder text We collaborate on the National Thematic Network of the Center for Environmental Education of Anogeia entitled: Unravelling Earth's Memory through Geo-diversity, Geoparks and Anthropogenic Activities "
- Educational activities and training program in collaboration with primary and secondary schools
- e-GEOdiscover is an educational application for android mobile devices that aim to offer knowledge about the geology, culture and environment of the Sitia Geopark, as well as map reading, orientation and navigation skills
- The 1st Summer School of Environmental Education of the SUGG with the title: "Georuts in the footsteps of the Dinothyrio of Sitia!"
- Participation in the digital training day for teachers for the "Educational Value of Geoparks "

### **Strategic partnership**

- Participation in the "Joint Working Group" in the framework of the European project INTERREG ADRION "IMPRECO" – Common strategies and best practices to Improve the transnational Protection of Ecosystem integrity and services
- "Branding of UNESCO sites in Crete". The project is part of a network of actions of the Region of Crete for the UNESCO areas of the island (White Mountains-Samaria, Biosphere Reserve, Psiloritis and Sitia as a UG Geoparks)
- Cooperation with Sitia Archaeological Museum, Natural History Museum of Crete ,Historical and Religious Museum of Monastery Toplou
- University of Crete, University of Patras, Greek Mediterranean University
- Local outdoor travel agencies, Regional Travel office

## Promotional activities

- "We stay home" and learn about the Sitia Geopark through educational activities and games for young and old children. On the website of the Geopark.
- Publications in local media and promotion of the Geopark through social media.
- Organization of informative events in the context of the European Geoparks Week, initially digitally and in August 2020 with the participation of visitors and residents of the Geopark

## 4. CONTACTS

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*1st Summer School of Environmental Education of the SUGG*



*European Geoparks Week «The Geo-cultural walk of Sitia»*