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International Geoscience
and Geoparks Programme

UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS MENTORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

PROGRAMME CALL FOR MENTOR AND TRAINEE APPLICATIONS

Within the United Nations, UNESCO alone has a mandate to support research and capacity building in Earth Sciences. The International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) is our flagship.

The IGGP of UNESCO is launching a Mentorship and Knowledge Exchange programme, which will contribute, in particular, to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 4, 8 and 17, with the financial and operational support of UNESCO's partner organisation, the Global Geoparks Network association (GGN).

The objective of this programme is to further knowledge exchange and capability-building (SDG 4), with a view to developing new UNESCO Global Geoparks and creating new partnerships (SDG 17) between Member States by:

- providing qualified representatives of sites aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geoparks network with financial assistance to enable them to enhance their knowledge of the design, development and management of UNESCO Global Geoparks (SDG 4);
- supporting the development of new UNESCO Global Geoparks and broadening their geographical distribution among Member States (SDG 8).

The IGGP of UNESCO is currently issuing a call for applications from both qualified representatives of sites aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geopark network ('Trainees') as well as experienced managers of UNESCO Global Geoparks ('Mentors') who will provide **Mentorship and Knowledge Exchange** opportunity to the representatives of aspiring sites to join the UNESCO Global Geopark network.

The role of Mentors:

As **Mentors**, you will be an experienced UNESCO Global Geopark, willing to be hosting **Trainees** from aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks. You will immerse them in the day-to-day running of an existing UNESCO Global Geopark, sharing techniques and methods of Geopark development and management with them, including geological, educational, socio-economic and cultural aspects. Please submit your expression of interest to the IGGP Secretariat by **31 May 2024**. Once the UNESCO Secretariat receives your interest, we will arrange further modalities for the financial support of UNESCO will give to the Host Geopark.

Application Process for Trainees:

If you are a representative of a site aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geopark network and wish to benefit from the trainee programme, please visit <https://www.unesco.org/en/iggp/geoparks> and send the following documents to the IGGP Secretariat before **31 May 2024**:

- A brief geological description of your Geopark (1500 words);
- A brief evaluation of the state of your Geopark and its objectives, challenges and other relevant aspects (1500 words);
- A cover letter explaining your expectations of the exchange programme and how it might help you set up and manage your own UNESCO Global Geopark (1500 words);
- Your availability to visit an established UNESCO Global Geopark as a trainee (indicating your preferred dates for visiting the site in 2019 for a maximum of three weeks);
- Your CV.

The present call will prioritize Trainees from developing countries and UNESCO Member States, which have no more than one designated UNESCO Global Geopark. Women and early career participants are especially encouraged to apply.

The IGGP will select Trainees eligible for this exchange programme, arrange convenient dates for the 2–3-week exchange and cover all travel and accommodation costs.

Should you have any further inquiries, please write to:

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