

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark, Slovenia, European Geoparks Network)

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2013 / 2017



*Organizing a Hike along the Feldban narrow-gauge railway trail right after the 1<sup>st</sup> COVID-19 pandemic wave with more than 100 hikers was a challenge (Photo: Mojca G. Kavcic)*

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 9,5 staffs including 1 geoscientist(s)

**Number of visitors:** Tourist Information Centre – 2425; Idrija UGG Visitor Centre and exhibition Written in rocks – 892; Idrija Municipal Museum – 6188; Anthony's Main Road – 11524; Hg Smelting Plant – 4504; Idrija Lace School – 509

**Number of Geopark events:** public certification event, events within EGN Week, Idrje oŽivi!, Hike along the feldban railway, Idrijski Žlikrofi festival, Idrija Lace festival, animation workshop for the Days of European Cultural Heritage

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** 12

**Number of Geopark press release:** 10

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2020

- Adjustment of the operation of Idrija UGG according to the COVID-19 pandemic
- [Virtual tour through the exhibition Written in rocks](#)
- New call for tourism providers who want to obtain the Idrija selected certificate of excellence
- New [catalogue with the geo-products](#) awarded by the Idrija selected certificate of excellence

**Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation**

- 1<sup>st</sup> (5. 6. 2020) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (15. 9. 2020) EGN digital forum; 1<sup>st</sup> GGN digital forum (17. – 18. 2020)
- Article for EGN Magazine no. 18, EGN Newsletter no. 16 and 17, and for GGN Newsletter
- Organizing Digital EGN Week (VR tour through the exhibition, prize games, promotion of the tourism providers – receivers of the Idrija selected certificate of excellence)
- Article The ammonite *Tirolites idrianus* – a Paleontological Icon of the Idrija UNESCO Global Geopark for the Geoconservation research magazine

### **Management and Financial Status**

- Presenting the Idrija Geopark Report 2020 to a City Council of Idrija Municipality, Expert Group of Idrija UGG, Idrija Tourism Board Council and to Nat. Forum of Geoparks of Slovenia

### **Geoconservation**

- Completion of the exhibition *Written in rocks* (model with environments&rocks and the live stream from the Vojsko earthquake observatory)
- Performing the tasks of the manager of the Zgornja Idrijca landscape park

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

- Organizing several workshops and lectures for sustainable tourism development (improvements of the quality in the tourism offer, development of the 5\* experiences, culinary workshops, development of sustainable tourism products, communication in tourism, photo-fishing workshop, lace as a souvenir from Idrija, a basket of local goodies from Idrija, ...)

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

- Educational materials for tourism guides within the *Written in rocks* exhibition
- Implementing the educational programme for tourism guides
- Educational programmes for Elementary Schools, Summer workshops (3), Cultural day for Idrija Elementary School, guiding for schools through the exhibition, designing new educational programmes through the *Written in rocks* exhibition, animation workshop (DEKD)

### **Strategic partnership**

- Participating as a partner in various EU tenders, planning to apply new projects within the Danube Transnational and Erasmus+ programmes

### **Promotional activities**

- Digital campaign of Idrija UGG, co-financed with the IGGP funds
- Promotion of Idrija UGG and the tourism providers in various fairs on spot and virtual ones
- Organizing or participating various public events during the summer

- Promotional movies for Idrija UGG Visitors Centre ([Youngsters](#), [Fun for everyone](#))

#### **4. CONTACTS**

**Manager:** Valerija Božič, director

**Geologist:** Mojca Gorjup Kavčič, Head of Idrija Geopark, geologist