

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

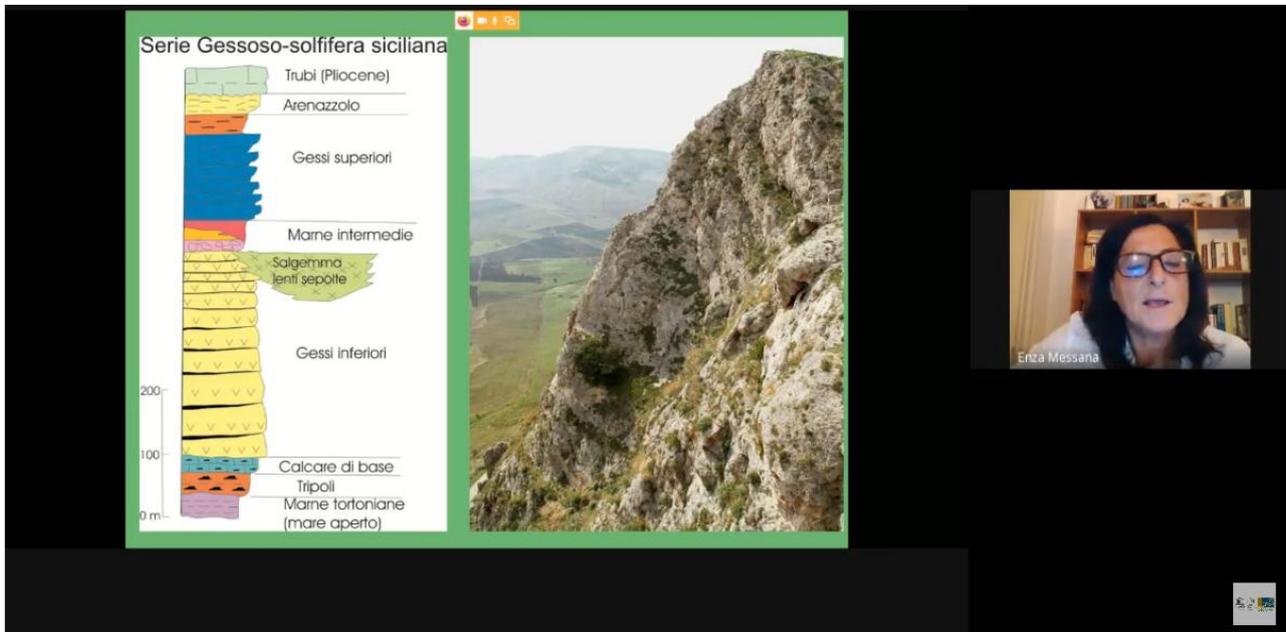
1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network:

Rocca di Cerere UNESCO Global Geopark, Italy, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2008/ 2016

Representative photo with caption (from the most important event this year)



Aree naturali protette con evaporiti messiniane in Sicilia

Frame of webinar: Natural protected areas with Messinian evaporites in Sicily

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staff: 6 internal staff including 1 geoscientist. The company relies on the collaboration of the partners' staff through the "Steering Committee" and the Geopark staff.

Number of visitors:

During 2020, due to the COVID epidemic, the majority of sites remained closed to the public. From June to September (18) the Pergusa Visitor Center received about 2,500 visitors. Likewise in the short summer opening it was possible to make use of the sites with free admission such as, for example, the Floristella Mining Park.

Number of Geopark events:

26/01 Old mines and mountain railways (Assoro)

February 2020: International wetlands day (organized with Legambiente);

02/02 Fundrò and the way of the mills. Excursion "Archeonatura"

08/03 Mountain of March and Lake Olivo.

March-June 2020 Restrictive lockdown;

June 2020 Opening of the Pergusa Visitor Center;

27/06 Sunset over the "Serieri" Canyon

04/10 R.N.O. "Monte Capodarso" and valley of southern Imera

13/12 Stories of Sulfur. Trekking in mine (Floristella)

July 2020 Environmental monitoring campaign "Goletta dei Laghi" (organized by Legambiente);

September 2020, health day in the natural environment, organized by the local health

authority in collaboration with the Geopark.

May / June 2020 (online) Geopark week.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:

In February 2020 the geopark had started its regular environmental education and geodiversity activities with the first guided visits to the Floristella Mining Park, unfortunately the lockdown has interrupted all activities and to date they are suspended in all schools due to the legislative measures of emergency.

Number of Geopark press release:

3

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2020

Creation of the three networks of geotourism operators of territorial marketing and traditional agricultural production

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- we took part in the social communication initiative of the Italian geoparks "Landscapes drawn by Water" Contributed during the European Geoparks Week 2020 #Egnweek2020 #Godigital: the joint initiative between the Italian Geoparks for the promotion of sustainable geotourism and proximity tourism.
- In October 2020 we joined the Geofood Initiative and also promoted production in Geoparks.

We participated in the:

- 1st MEETING OF THE EGN DIGITAL FORUM, 5 JUNE 2020
- 2nd EGN DIGITAL FORUM 15TH SEPTEMBER 2020
- we contributed with an article about "Rocca di Cerere" Geopark to EGN newsletter no 17

Management and Financial Status

➤ **Placeholder text**

Geoconservation

During 2020, the selection process for the identification of a thread with which to update the Development and Management Plan of "Rocca di Cerere " UNESCO Global Geopark and the area of the 8 municipalities falling within the area of the Local Action Plan financed with the EU fund-FEASR. The purpose of the action is to implement and update the Management Plan of "Rocca di Cerere" UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK connecting it functionally to the heritage of the LAG area outside the Geopark in collaboration with the University of Catania. The Plan aims to represent a contribution to the knowledge, enhancement and security of the heritage of "Rocca di Cerere" Geopark through perspectives, as interdisciplinary as possible, that highlight, on the one hand, the potential in terms of sustainable socio-economic development, and on the other, behaviours that may connote the relationship individual - community - environment in terms of precaution, safety and conservation.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Rocca di Cerere Geopark, as LAG LEADER UE, has selected no. 24 projects of public bodies and private companies to strengthen the geo-touristic services of "Rocca di Cerere" UNESCO Global Geopark geotouristic territorial use through the creation of new ecological b & b, guide services for the use of natural areas in slow mobility, new multimedia and interactive classrooms for educational and information services, for the reception and tourist information and the creation of new, innovating and identitary food products.
- Rocca di Cerere Geopark, as LAG LEADER UE, has selected no. 3 network: Geofood Group with 39 microenterprises for the enhancement of local products of excellence of the basket "Flavors of Demeter"(Sapori di Demetra). development of the territory (traceability certification) to attract consumers to the territory; the Geotourism Group 35 micro-enterprises for the creation of an integrated tourist offer: food experience oriented with hospitality packages, Gastronomy, slow mobility of the destination Rocca di Cerere Geopark; the Geomarket Group with 35 micro-companies for the promotion and sale of Geofood products ``Sapori di Demetra" on the regional market and abroad through the development of intangible infrastructure within forms of management associated with a focus on wellness and nutritional properties and nutraceutical for medicinal and aromatic herbal paths in the places of heritage and wellness.
- February 2020: The President of the Sicilian region has recognized "Rocca di Cerere" Geopark the title of "Eco-museum of Sicily" that is, a museum dedicated to the territory as a whole, or a museum form able to preserve, communicating and renewing the cultural identity of a geographically, socially and economically homogeneous territory which offers itself as an opportunity for discovery and promotion by offering routes and itineraries, educational and research activities that feed on the involvement of the population. An important element is the study of the landscape and how its "forms" and the processes that define them can interact/interfere with the development of the individual and the community, with social and cultural conditions and ethical, economic and aesthetics scale.
- 12th may #prontialdomani (ready for the future) WEBINAR During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rocca di Cerere Geopark in cooperation with its local partner CNA (National Confederation of Craft and Small Enterprises) in Enna has organized a programme of free webinars coordinated by experts and engaging entrepreneurs from the tourism, agri-food and commercial sector. The initiative, called "#prontialdomani", included a series of webinars on the themes of sustainability, marketing, digital communication and destination management. The initiative has supported local entrepreneurs to be equipped with key competences, orientation and views in order to face the current changing scenario.
- Rocca di Cerere Geopark took part in Bio in Sicily October 2020, Bagheria, Biodiversity Fair: SICILY 2030 BEYOND THE CRISIS. RETURN TO THE TERRITORIES.

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

The geological heritage of "ROCCA DI CERERE" UNESCO Global Geopark. European Geoparks Week 2020 and Natural protected areas with "evaporiti messiniane" in Sicily, webinar -30 June 2020 at 17.00

Natural protected areas with Messinian evaporites in Sicily
dr.ssa Vincenza Messina - director of RNO Rocca Di Entella
dott.ssa Giulia Casamento - director of RNO Grotta di Santa Ninfa
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m06dyz_A3uY

Strategic partnership

- November 2020 Signature of the collaboration agreement between the Regional Department of Cultural Heritage and "Rocca di Cerere" Geopark (in its role as LAG) to establish a "cultural network" able to ensure the enhancement of material and intangible heritage, and the promotion of cultural identity processes and social growth through the transmission of historical, artistic and literary memory, documentary and ethno-anthropological and to improve the attractiveness of the sites through the improvement of the quality of the facilities and services offered, the strengthening of an eco-environmental awareness, the promotion of cultural identity and social growth processes that start from the recovery and transmission to the younger generations of cultural awareness.
- Elaboration of the new partnership strategy with the Regional Archaeological Park competent for the Geopark territory for the activation of programs aimed at opening to the public and the creation of a single geo-itinerary for the minor archaeological sites of the area.
- A cooperation has been established also with "CREA DC Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of the Agricultural Economy Defense " to strengthen synergies and cooperation between researchers and SMEs in the nutraceutical field. In the frame of the PAL Rocca di Cerere Geopark as well as in the project «Valorisation des espèces végétales autochtones siciliennes et tunisiennes avec un intérêt nutritif et bon pour la santé" (Enhancement of native Sicilian and Tunisian plant species with a nutritious and healthy interest) co-financed by the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Italie-Tunisie.

Promotional activities

4. CONTACTS

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