

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2024

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** UNESCO Global Geopark Harz . Braunschweiger Land . Ostfalen, Germany, European Geoparks Network

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2004 / 2021

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 12 staffs including 2 geoscientist(s)

**Number of visitors:** approx. 1.32 Mio. Visitors

**Number of Geopark events:** Clarify the events held by management body and cooperative organization

Management body: 120

Cooperative organization: 260

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** 40

**Number of Geopark press release:** approx. 240

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2024

- First-time funding of a project dedicated to ESD which led to expansion to our ESD programme/repertoire
- Leader-financed 18 steles-Project

### Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Contribution to Magazine and Newsletter
- Participation in the 17<sup>th</sup> Conference on European UNESCO Global Geoparks in the Reykjanes UGGp. Iceland
- Events during EGN-week
- Spread of the GGN 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Contest
- Contribution to the UGGp Geotourism Guide

### Management and Financial Status

- Annual funding of the Geopark by the Federal State of Lower Saxony was extended
- Annual funding of the Geopark within the scope of Nature Park funding by the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt
- First-time funding of a project dedicated to ESD by the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt

- Funding of the Federal State of Thuringia
- Fees from members

### **Geoconservation**

- Maintenance of Geotopes (e. g. National Geotope Lange Wand, Heeseberg, Imperial Palace of Werla, Velpke)

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

- Participation in the initiative “Schattenspender” (shade provider) by the German Environment Agency: construction of resting places providing shade
- Maintenance of geopath and geopoints with regard to sustainable visitor guidance
- New NATURA-Tipp brochure (Nr. 26 Alter Stolberg)

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

- ESD holiday programme for children in Quedlinburg
- Actions in day care centres and primary schools with different ESD aspects (e. g. solar energy, local nutrition)
- ESD-hike “Water in our region”; developed as part of a study project in the Master Studies “Regional Management”
- Implementation of a Geopark-module in the educational programme of the Roman Battlefield Harzhorn Wiershausen

### **Strategic partnership**

- 2 new private supportive members
- 1 new member municipalities
- 2 new cooperative members

### **Promotional activities**

- Several new information panels
- 2 new Information points
- New Geopoint “Findlingswiese Neindorf”
- Restored Geopoint Brown-Coal Mining Schoeningen
- 2 Sustainability Days, focused on soil and geotope and biotope protection
- Completion of travelling exhibition “Keine Torte ohne Boden” (translated: No cake without soil)

- Guided tours and hikes
- Presence on fairs
- Calendar of events
- Reprint of flyers out of stock
- Different events on the National Day of Geotopes
- Spreading of the new UGGp logo
- Spreading of the GGN Anniversary Contest and the Anniversary Logo
- Renewal of information panels
- Event: “Geopark Day”
- Geopark Hiking Challenge “Wie weit gehst du?” (engl: How far do you go)
- Events on UN-days (e. g. opening of a Bee Trail on the World Day of the Bee; lecture series on top of the Brocken mountain on the International Day of Mountains)

#### 4. CONTACTS

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Geopark Steles project

