

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2024

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network:

- Tabas UNESCO Global Geopark (Tabas UGGp), Iran, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network.

Year of inscription/Year of the last revalidation: 2023/-



Representative photos of Tabas UGGp activities.

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs

- 27 staffs (20 permanent and 7 part time) including 2 Geoscientist.
- Also, the management team of Tabas UGGp tries to participation all the voluntaries and partners of the Geopark in its activities.

Number of visitors

- 5350 visitors visited visitor center and museum of Tabas UGGp.
- Almost 155000 visitors for geosites of Kharv tourism zone (include: Kal-e-Sardar, Morteza Ali Hot

Spring, Shah Abbasi Ancient Arch, Gabr Houses, Meander and Shotori Mountains).

- Almost 29000 visitors for Kal-e-Jenni geosite (according to the statistics of private sector management).
- Almost 14000 visitors for geosite of Esfahk historical texture (according to the statistics of rural government).
- Almost 10000 visitors for geosite of Korit historical texture (according to the statistics of rural government).
- Almost 11000 visitors for geosites of Nayband historical texture, Nayband wildlife refuge and Nayband Mountain.
- Almost 5000 visitors for west geosites of Tabas UGGp territory.
- Almost 75000 visitors for geosite of Ezmighan Paddy Fields and Ezmighan village (according to the statistics of rural government).
- Accommodation for about 204000 visitors in hotels and eco-residences (according to the statistics of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts office of Tabas county).

Number of Geopark events

- Holding a Mountain Medicine Training Workshop.
- Training workshop and Gathering of Tabas UNESCO Global Geopark Partners Network members.
- 2 training workshops for local guides on the occasion of international tourist guide day.
- Planting trees together with other administrations on the occasion of natural resources week and tree planting day.
- Moonlight hiking in the mountains, in cooperation with Mountaineering and Sport Climbing department of Tabas County.
- training workshops on the art of pottery for childrens.
- Cooperation with Payam Noor University of Iran in holding a scientific webinar and a speech by the director of Tabas UGGp in the field of UNESCO Global Geoparks.
- Holding Desert walking event in the Rig-e-Shotoran geosite in cooperation with Mountaineering and Sport Climbing department and administrations of Tabas County.
- Tabas UGGp hosting the administrators and students of the Eastern Union of Islamic Azad University for visiting of geopark geosites and visitor center.
- Holding Mount climbing event on the occasion of girl day in cooperation with Mountaineering and Sport Climbing department of Tabas County.

- Hosting the 6th of Provincial Geo-Skyrunning Competitions.
- The gathering of Iranian climbers and climbing to Nayband Mountain Geosite.
- Holding 2th palm and paddy festival in cooperation with local community of Ezmighan village.
- Holding a Geopark Autumn Photo Competition.
- Holding a training workshop about fossils on the occasion of National Fossil Day.
- Gathering of Iranian tourism guides and holding a training workshop.
- Holding a training workshop on the foundations, concepts and goals of UNESCO Global Geoparks and introducing Tabas UGGp at the 8th National Symposium of the Iranian Sedimentological Society (Hormozgan University).
- Gathering of Tabas UGGp Partners Network members.
- Holding several scientific and educational field workshops for mountaineer and local communities.



Representative photos of events: (A: Desert walking event, B: training workshops on the art of pottery, C: training workshops for Fossil, and D: 2th palm and paddy festival)

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programs:

- 12 educational programs for local community and another groups.
- Educational programs for 33 schools and 1093 students.

Number of Geopark press release

- 1 international news agency and 10 National news agency introduced Tabas UGGp.
- 12 geosites introduced in the domestic publications.
- 176 news Published by Tabas UGGp website.
- introducing Tabas UGGp in the Magazine of Explore Iran and ITB Berlin International Exhibition.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2024

- 1 paper published in international geological journal (Marine and petroleum Geology) in cooperation with Esfahan University and Natural History Museum of Senckenberg (Germany).
- Geosite of Esfahk historical texture Recognized Best world tourism village in 2024 by United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Webinar on the occasion of International Geodiversity Day, 2024. Tabas UGGp hosted this webinar in partnership with Iranian Global Geoparks Network, Geological Survey of Iran, Lut Desert World Heritage Site, Geoheritage Institute of the Middle East and Iranian National Commission for UNESCO.
- Participation in 8th International Utad Summer University of Geoparks.
- Use of the 20th anniversary logo of GGN in all events and news.
- Publishing news and GGN promotional films on the occasion of the 20th anniversary in the local news agency and Geopark social media.
- Sending the 20th anniversary contest of GGN for Geopark schools, departments and local community.
- holding National Mountain climbing event on the occasion of International Mountain Day.
- registration and presentation 2 articles and participation in the fair of 8th APGN Symposium, Cao Bang UGGp (Vietnam).
- Holding a workshop and free museum visit on the occasion of International Museum Day.
- Holding an event on the occasion of World Tourism Day.
- Participation in the GGN and APGN online meetings.

Management and Financial Status

- There are no significant changes related to management and financial status.

Geoconservation

- Discovery and transfer of rare trace fossil (485 million years old) to Golshan garden geosite and near of museum building.
- National registration of Malvand fossil geosite in the list of Iran's national and natural heritage.
- Donation of more than 50 fossils to the Tabas UGGp museum by the local people.
- Several times to cleaning all geosites.
- Planting trees and visiting the green space development project at the Kal-e-Jenni geosite with county officials.
- Inquiries by government offices from Tabas UGGp in order to hand over national lands and not to interfere with the geoconservation zone of geosites (response to 10 inquiries in 2024).
- Cooperation of local communities in the geoconservation of geosites.
- Installing environmental protection boards and implementing various geosite cleanup programs.
- Also, the Geopark team has succeeded in identifying several geosites, some of which were suggested by the local community.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Tabas UGGp documentary in cooperation of Geological survey of Iran playing from the national documentary TV channel, another national channels and websites.
- Participation of Tabas UGGp volunteer in making a documentary about the Iranian cheetah.
- The participate of Tabas UNESCO Global Geopark in the unveiling ceremony of Iran's first geotourism map by Geological Survey of Iran.
- Training courses to national and local guides in the field of Tabas UGGp geotourism attractions.
- Installation of advertising billboards of geosites in Tabas city and advertising in social media and hosting geotourism tours.
- Celebration of International Geodiversity Day, 2024.
- Celebration of International Museum Day, 2024.
- Celebration of International Tourism Day, 2024 and holding an event.
- Celebration of International Mountain Day, 2024.

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

- Production of 3 new geoproducts.
- Preparation of guidelines for cooperation and creation of geopark schools.
- Planting trees and developing green spaces in geosites.

Strategic partnership

- Sister geoparks agreement with 2 Chinese Geoparks (Lushan UGGp and Yuntaishan UGGp).
- Support of 1 PhD thesis in geology and 5 M.sc theses in geology and geography.

Promotional activities

- Participation in the fair of 8th APGN Symposium, Cao Bang UGGp (Vietnam).
- Introducing Tabas UGGp in the Tehran International Tourism Exhibition.
- Participation of geopark partners in national exhibitions and local events.
- Donating gifts from Tabas UGGp to other UNESCO Global Geoparks, council members and executive board of GGN, 8th APGN Symposium, Cao Bang UGGp (Vietnam).
- Installation of billboards and strawboards in the city and the entrance routes to Tabas.
- Geopark participation in national conferences, national and provincial radio-television interviews.
- Participation in local and regional exhibitions and events.
- Urban advertising of geosites.
- Holding public celebrations on various occasions.
- Updated and printed of different brochures and posters of geosites.

4. CONTACTS

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