

TRANSNATIONAL UGGP Working Group

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LONG TERM STRATEGY 2025-2027

Pillar 1: Preserving Our Earth, Environment and Resources				
Key 1. Climate Change Adaptation– Roadmap for Resilience				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Raising General Community Awareness on Climate Change	Individual Geoparks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promotion of exchange of collected / sharing of climate data between countries - transnational Geoparks as a platform for the exchange of interdisciplinary and cross-regional science: (low-threshold) lectures with scientists in combination with workshops, tastings, etc. - exchange of reports on regionally adapted and tested methods in the field of regional climate adaptation strategies (e.g. agriculture, forestry, pond farming) across borders 	<p>joint lists of (bilingual) specialists and experts for specific topics</p> <p>list of local products related to geopark themes yearly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -shared experience and ideas -raised awareness among communities and decision makers -increased support for sustainable 'green' initiatives
2. Encouraging Population's Actions on Waste Management and Recycling Material Use - Introducing zero plastic policy.	Individual Geoparks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support of / creation of bilingual information and communication media - promoting a more sustainable way of life 		integrating important topics into people's everyday lives
3. Analyzing UGGps Energy Use	GGN			

4.Evolving the Network's Operation	GGN/Individual Geoparks			
5. Adoption of a GGN Carbon Offset Policy and Procedure				
6. Collecting and using of Carbon Offsetting	Individual Geoparks			
7. Promoting Annual UGGp action plan on climate change adaptation	Individual Geoparks			
Key 2. Protecting and Conserving Geoparks Heritage, Geodiversity, Biodiversity and Resources				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Raising General Community Awareness on Geopark Heritage and enhancing links between all types of heritage	Individual Geoparks	- regular dialogue at management level to identify overlaps and pool measures, intellectual and technical capacities, personnel capacities, etc. on both sides of the border - community events and activities to integrate cross-border communities	number of events with UNESCO visibility	-building on the unique societal attributes of transnational geoparks. -raising awareness of the value of UNESCO in society.
2. Protecting and Conserving Geological Heritage	Individual Geoparks	- collection of best practices that take cross-border cooperation into account	collection of examples/ projects	shared experience and ideas
3. Collaborating on the management of Protected Natural Areas and Protecting Biodiversity	Individual Geoparks	- annual meetings with neighbouring parks and administrative organisations also in neighbouring countries	nr. of projects	

4. Promoting Cultural Heritage and enhancing links between all types of heritage	Individual Geoparks	- promotion of transnational data exchange to support research		
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Key 3. Collaborating on the management of Water Resources

ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Encouraging sustainable management of Water Resources in Geoparks	Individual Geoparks	- raising awareness that water resources, river systems and water-dependent ecosystems do not stop at national borders: Promotion of co-operation and transnational research and projects as well as environmental education measures - supporting water management initiatives		improving understanding of the concept of water as being of international and cross-border and local importance
2. Promoting conservation of existing water sources				
3. Sustaining rivers and healthy water-dependent ecosystems				

Key 4. Protecting Ocean and Marine Ecosystems

ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Protecting coastal resources and combat marine pollution in Geopark		-transnational geoparks in coastal regions are uniquely placed to influence and support cross-border initiatives and to help raise community awareness		-raised awareness and an increase in joined-up thinking
2. Reducing plastic pollution in the oceans and coasts				
3. Supporting Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)				

Pillar 2: Strengthening Communities: Fostering Inclusion and Resilience				
Key 5. Promoting Geoparks as implementation fields for the SDGs and their extended programme beyond 2030				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Continuation of the activity of the GGN SDGs working group at international, regional and national levels	GGN / SDG WG			
2. Reporting from each Geopark on its contribution to SDGs	Individual Geoparks			
4. Creation of a GGN Report on the contribution of Geoparks to SDGs	GGN/ SDG WG			
Key 6. Empowering local communities and strengthening Geopark management				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Ensuring the participation of Local Communities in Geoparks management	Individual Geoparks	- promotion and acceptance of the diversity of opportunities for cooperation depending on local characteristics and on a cross-border basis		visibility of social benefit of UGGps for territories
2. Strengthening the Geopark management body staff and partners (increasing of the number of staff, budget, number of partners)	Individual Geoparks			

3. Ensuring the gender equality as a basic framework in the Geopark operation and communication of Geopark	Individual Geoparks			
4. Ensuring the involvement of the young generation in all levels of Geoparks is essential to for the development and prosperity of these territories in the future	Individual Geoparks	- uncomplicated recognition of school / training and study qualifications / internships to facilitate transnational practical cooperation	nr. of supported students / volunteers	
5. Ensuring the recognition and representation of both Indigenous and Immigrant communities in Geoparks		- sensitisation of local/regional administrations across borders to create equal living conditions for minorities - events and activities to celebrate diversity among communities		-increase in awareness and appreciation of minorities - better integration of Indigenous and Immigrant communities
6. Documenting and promoting local knowledge, traditions, and intangible heritage	Individual Geoparks	- assistance / support in the creation of cross-border mapping of heritage areas - documentation of first-hand traditional knowledge or customs of (older) people in the region under the umbrella of the Geopark - support for international / transnational intergenerational dialogue		-promoting a sense of place as well as civic pride for local and regional culture
7. Creating policies and tools to preserve and promote local languages	Individual Geoparks	- promoting / facilitating communication by integrating neighbouring languages / providing several language versions of websites and print products etc. in your own country		
8. Working to confront demographic challenges in rural areas	Individual Geoparks	-encouraging small scale start up businesses, community enterprises and other job creation initiatives -supporting initiatives to encourage people who have moved away from rural areas to return		-enhanced opportunities and better social conditions for rural communities -sustainable rural populations

		-providing social opportunities for rural people who may feel isolated -helping to ensure that public transport and other essential services are maintained and enhanced -working with communities, farming organizations and others		
Key 7. Mitigating Natural Disasters				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Strengthening the activity of the GGN Geohazards working group activity at the international, regional networks and national and community levels	Individual Geoparks	- identification of geo-risks and hazards in the joint territory in cooperation with regional and local authorities and municipalities on both sides of the border		raising awareness of the need for geohazards and raising the population's awareness of geohazards
2. Creating specific tools designed for the population as well as for schools to help them detect risks and respond effectively (e.g., Creating a comic book designed to help local populations in poor rural areas detect signs of possible landslides, fire risk, floods, etc)				raised awareness, mitigation measures, increased safety
3. UGGp action plan on geohazards and disaster mitigation	GGN / Geohazards WG	forward planning through working with communities, local authorities and others to help identify risks, prepare contingency plans and undertake mitigation measures		

4. Preparation of an annual GGN report on geohazards and climate change	GGN /Geohazards WG			
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Pillar 3: Optimizing GGN, Building Capacity, Leadership, and Global Impact				
Key 8. Building Capacity, Strengthening Skills and Expertise across GGN				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Comprehensive and coordinated planning of the capacity building activities. Creation of an annual calendar by GGN in collaboration with UNESCO Secretariat for capacity building: aspiring Geoparks, Geopark evaluators, Geopark managers, decision makers, etc.		-identifying and raising awareness of the special challenges faced by transnational geoparks along with the benefits and opportunities they create -using transnational geopark status to lobby and inform decision makers across international borders		raised awareness, good use of best practice, increased capacity
2. Capacity building activities for aspiring Geoparks: address the uneven distribution of UGGps and expand the GGN, in particular in African, Middle East, Central Asian countries, small islands developing states (SIDS), etc.	UNESCO /GGN	- provision of experienced senior partners for special challenges in transnational areas		preparation of a forecast on transnational initiatives or future applications for UGGp transfer of knowledge to new GGN members
3. Capacity building activities for Geopark evaluators: proving and maintaining the quality of evaluators as well as recruiting qualified volunteers who want to contribute to maintaining the quality of the IGGP	GGN/UNESCO	- specialized training for the challenges of transnational sites - information packs, advisory assistance and other help for aspiring trans-national geoparks		

4. Capacity building activities for Geopark Managers: intensive courses for new managers of the GGN members,	GGN/UNESCO	-support groups, FAQ's, mentoring, on-line support -exchange of best practice		
5. Supporting capacity-building activities for GGN members at regional and national levels	GGN			
6. Developing GGN digital tools for its members (Geoparks Educational e-Library, Geoparks e-Learning Database)	GGN / GGN WGs	-discussion/support groups, FAQ's, mentoring, information and training sessions		
Key 9. Uplifting Leadership and Organizational Capacity of GGN				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Strengthening GGN's management structure and statutory bodies operation to ensure its long-term partnership with UNESCO. Strengthen functionality of the GGN, building on the achievements of the GGN over the past 20 years	GGN	-transnational geoparks hold a unique position within GGN which can be used to advise, inform and inspire colleagues, senior officials and decision makers in UNESCO and in other international bodies		
2. Strengthening networking among UGGps at regional and national levels	Regional Networks	- annual meetings within trans-national geoparks of state authorities, relevant NGO's and others from both sides of the border (geological surveys, nature conservation agencies, tourism bodies, funders, local government, national commissions to UNESCO, etc)		

3. Enhancing regional, national and international connections between UGGps with thematic targets to improve the quality and outcome of the GGN, emphasizing the use of GGN logo	National GGNs	-transnational geoparks have a unique capacity within GGN to foster good international relations between neighbouring countries		-raised awareness and understanding, creating opportunities, cross-border cooperation, etc
4. Communication and promotion of the UGGp concept. Developing user-friendly materials (e.g., comics, videos, publications) to clearly communicate the UGGp concept and language to local communities	GGN / Regional Networks / Individual geoparks			
5. Empowering national GGN Networks and strengthen their connection and collaboration with the National Commissions for UNESCO and the National Delegations at UNESCO	National GGNs	- annual exchange meetings and joint planning sessions between the neighbouring National Commissions of individual transnational geoparks -joint information and briefing sessions with the neighbouring National Delegations associated with individual transnational geoparks		

Pillar 4: Strengthening Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development				
Key 10. Ensuring Quality in the International Geo-sciences Geoparks Programme IGGP				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Facilitating the GGN's tasks in relation to the IGGP	GGN			
2. Facilitating the roster of Evaluators in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat	GGN			
3. Organizing advisory missions in aspiring and yellow-cardholding Geoparks	GGN/Roster of Evaluators	- enabling special counselling and support for transnational yellow card holders where aspects of bilateral relations are concerned (where necessary, support from UNESCO Paris?)		
4. Supporting activities co-organized in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat				
5. Strengthening the position of the IGGP in member states in relation to other UNESCO programmes	All bodies of GGN			
6. Strengthening collaboration with IGCP	IGGP/IGCP			
Key 11. Strengthening Collaboration with UNESCO Site Designations				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Developing a collaborative proposal for joint activities	GGN / UNESCO,	- support for cross-regional cooperation, especially in structurally weak regions		strengthening UNESCO label in general in society

between site UNESCO designations	individual Geoparks			
4. Promoting the resources and the potential of the UGGps as sustainable developing territories	GGN Communication WG			
Key 12. Enhancing International Cooperation				
ACTION	GGN BODY	ACTION PLAN 2025-2027	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Strengthening collaboration with UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization - UNWTO, the International Union of Geological Sciences - IUGS, the International Union for Nature Conservation - IUCN, with other international relevant organizations (i.e. ICOMOS, IGU etc.)	GGN ExB	-due to their unique status transnational geoparks should be used as special case studies to highlight the benefits of international collaboration		