

GGN Long Term Strategy 2025-2035

4 strategic pillars, 12 key strategic key priorities organized in 52 strategic actions.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LONG-TERM STRATEGY 2025-2027

- VGGN meets at least twice a year during the annual mid-year and year-end meetings from now to 2027. It is planned to organize such activities as training courses, workshops, quizzes and contests, best practice awards etc. during these gatherings;
- VGGN coordinators/advisors meet each UGGp in addition at least two times more a year, not including during international conferences or symposiums, or prior/during revalidation missions.
- Each UGGp organizes, themselves, at least one workshop/training course quarterly + a campaign during international events.

Pillar 1: Preserving Our Earth, Environment and Resources				
Key 1. Climate Change Adaptation - Roadmap for Resilience				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Raising General Community Awareness on Climate Change	VGGN	One training course + workshop + quiz + best practice award/year		
2. Encouraging Population's Actions on Waste Management and Recycling Material Use - Introducing zero plastic policy				
3. Analyzing UGGps Energy Use		An analysis of Geopark's energy use to be presented during the workshop		
4. Evolving the Network's Operation		On-line meeting/chat once/month, face-to-face meeting quarterly		
5. Adoption of a GGN Carbon Offset Policy and Procedure				
6. Collecting and using of Carbon Offsetting				
7. Promoting Annual UGGp action plan on climate change				

adaptation				
Key 2. Protecting and Conserving Geoparks Heritage, Geodiversity, Biodiversity and Resources				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Raising General Community Awareness on Geopark Heritage and enhancing links between all types of heritage	VGGN	One training course + workshop + quiz + best practice award/year		
2. Protecting and Conserving Geological Heritage				
3. Collaborating on the management of Protected Natural Areas and Protecting Biodiversity				
4. Promoting Cultural Heritage and enhancing links between all types of heritage				
Key 3. Collaborating on the management of Water Resources				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Encouraging sustainable management of Water Resources in Geoparks	VGGN	One training course + workshop + quiz + best practice award/year		
2. Promoting conservation of existing water sources				
3. Sustaining rivers and healthy water-dependent ecosystems				
Key 4. Protecting Ocean and Marine Ecosystems (As there is no Vietnamese UGGp at present being in direct contact with ocean/marine ecosystem, VGGN has no 2025-2027 action plan on this key priority)				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Protecting coastal resources and combatting marine pollution in Geopark	VGGN			
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	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Continuation of the activity of the GGN SDGs working group at international, regional and national levels	VGGN	One training course + workshop + quiz + best practice award/year		
		Active participation of each UGGp in such events		
2. Reporting from each Geopark on its contribution to SDGs		Active reporting of each UGGp		
3. Creation of a GGN Report on the contribution of Geoparks to SDGs		Active participation of each UGGp		
Key 6. Empowering local communities and strengthening Geopark management (As all provinces having UGGp at present is under-taking administrative restructuring, it is imminent that each UGGp Management Board also undergo this administrative restructuring. A unified structure is being proposed that envisages direct participation in the Geopark management by all Geopark communes (e.g. an inter-communal agreement), provincial departments, under the direct supervision of the provincial authority)				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Ensuring the participation of Local Communities in Geoparks management	VGGN	Administrative restructuring of each UGGp's Management Board to involve all communes and departments under direct provincial supervision		
		Achieve a legal basis for this to be included in the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment's Circular		
2. Strengthening the Geopark management body staff and partners (increasing the number of staff, budget, number of partners)		Promoting each other UGGp's partners		

		<p>Promoting similar Geopark partners' selection criteria</p> <p>Dialogue with travel agencies + training course/workshope + quiz/contest + best practice award once/year</p> <p>Promotion of Geopark entrance fee collection</p>		
3. Ensuring gender equality as a basic framework in Geopark operation and communication				
4. Ensuring the involvement of the young generation in all levels of Geoparks is essential for the development and prosperity of these territories in the future				
5. Ensuring the recognition and representation of Indigenous communities in Geoparks				
6. Documenting and promoting local knowledge, traditions, and intangible heritage		Promotion of local knowledge, traditions and intangible heritage during VGGN's meetings		
7. Creating policies and tools to preserve and promote local languages		Organizing annual contests in each UGGps and within VGGN		
8. Working to confront demographic challenges in rural areas				
Key 7. Mitigating Natural Disasters				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Strengthening the activity of the GGN Geohazards working group activity at the international, regional networks and national and community levels	VGGN	One training course + workshop + quiz + best practice award/year		
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		Creating a common comic book (with specific illustrations of each UGGp) on geohazards		

possible landslides)				
3. UGGp action plan on geohazards and disaster mitigation		One common action plan for each UGGp on geohazards and disaster mitigation		
4. Preparation of an annual GGN report on geohazards and climate change		Active participation of each UGGp		

Pillar 3: Optimizing GGN, Building Capacity, Leadership, and Global Impact

Key 8. Building Capacity, Strengthening Skills and Expertise across GGN

ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	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	VGGN	Active participation of each UGGp in such activities		
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.				
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				
4. Capacity building activities for Geopark Managers: intensive courses for new managers of the GGN members				
5. Supporting capacity-building activities for GGN members at regional and national levels				
6. Developing GGN digital tools for its members (Geoparks Educational e-Library, Geoparks e-Learning Database)				

Key 9. Uplifting Leadership and Organizational Capacity of GGN

ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	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	VGGN	Active participation of each UGGp in such activities		
2. Strengthening networking among UGGps at regional and national levels				
3. Enhancing regional and national connections between UGGps with thematic targets to improve the quality and outcome of the GGN, emphasizing the use of GGN logo				
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				
5. Empowering national GGN Networks and strengthening their connection and collaboration with the National Commissions for UNESCO and the National Delegations at UNESCO				

Pillar 4: Strengthening Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Key 10. Ensuring Quality in the International Geo-sciences Geoparks Programme IGGP

ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Facilitating the GGN's tasks in relation to the IGGP	VGGN	Active participation of each UGGp in such activities		
2. Facilitating the roster of Evaluators in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat				
3. Organizing advisory missions in aspiring and yellow-card holding Geoparks				
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				

6. Strengthening collaboration with IGCP				
Key 11. Strengthening Collaboration with UNESCO Site Designations				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	INDICATORS	EXPECTED RESULTS
1. Developing a collaborative proposal for joint activities between site UNESCO designations	VGGN	Active participation of each UGGp in such activities		
2. Promoting the resources and the potential of the UGGps as sustainable developing territories				
Key 12. Enhancing International Cooperation				
ACTION	GGN BODY	2025-2027 PLAN	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 relevant international organizations (i.e. ICOMOS, IGU etc.)	GGN ExB			