

KOREAN GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

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	KGGN & Individual Geoparks	Collect simple climate-related activities from member UGGps and share them during KGGN annual coordination meeting	Number of activities collected	Shared understanding of climate initiatives among Korean UGGps
2. Encouraging Population's Actions on Waste Management and Recycling Material Use - Introducing zero plastic policy.		Encourage community-level clean-up activities (e.g., beaches, riversides, villages) and share outcomes within KGGN	Number of member activities reported	Basic data gathered for future cooperation
3. Analyzing UGGps Energy Use		Postpone detailed energy-use data collection at this stage	N/A	N/A (To be developed later)
4. Evolving the Network's Operation		Participate actively in GGN working groups and international discussions	Participation confirmed	Strengthened linkage with GGN system

5. Adoption of a GGN Carbon Offset Policy and Procedure		Share information and attend discussions at GGN level	Participation confirmed	Familiarity with GGN carbon offset discussions
6. Collecting and using of Carbon Offsetting		No collective carbon offsetting activities planned for this phase	N/A	N/A
7. Promoting Annual UGGp action plan on climate change adaptation		Encourage each UGGp to include basic climate adaptation reference in its local plan	Number of UGGps mentioning climate topics	Establishment of initial climate sections in park plans
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		Each UGGp promotes interpretation programs and visitor education activities to raise awareness of geopark heritage and its connections with natural and cultural values	Number of education activities reported	Improved public awareness
3. Protecting and Conserving Geological Heritage		Continue national-level geological site conservation under existing legal framework	N/A	Continuous heritage protection maintained

4. Collaborating on the management of Protected Natural Areas and Protecting Biodiversity		Share examples of joint management with protected area authorities	Number of examples shared	Mutual learning among parks
5. Promoting Cultural Heritage and enhancing links between all types of heritage		Each UGGp highlights local culture during tours, festivals, events	Number of cultural events reported	Local community engagement strengthened
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		Share basic hydrology-related education materials among member UGGps	Number of education sessions reported	Public awareness raised
2. Promoting conservation of existing water sources		Identify vulnerable water sources (springs, wells, groundwater) and share protection strategies	Number of protection strategies shared	Enhanced conservation efforts of local water resources
6. Sustaining rivers and healthy water-dependent ecosystems		Encourage collaborative initiatives for river habitat restoration and monitoring	Number of joint ecosystem-related activities	Strengthened resilience of riverine ecosystems and community stewardship

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	Jeju, Jeonbuk West Coast, Gyeongbuk Donghaean UGGp	Encourage voluntary clean-up efforts at coastal areas	Number of clean-up activities	Increased awareness on marine pollution
2. Reducing plastic pollution in the oceans and coasts		Share good practices and promote campaigns on reducing single-use plastics	Number of practices shared or campaigns conducted	Decreased reliance on plastic and improved community behavior
3. Supporting Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)		Facilitate information exchange between UGGps and adjacent MPAs	Number of coordination activities or case studies	Improved integration of Geoparks and MPA conservation efforts

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		Participate in the SDG Working Group through GGN representation	Participation confirmed	Korea contributes to global SDG dialogue
2. Reporting from each Geopark on its contribution to SDGs		Each UGGp submits annual simple SDG activity report (list format)	Number of reports submitted	Accumulation of national SDG data
7. Creation of a GGN Report on the contribution of Geoparks to SDGs		KGGN Secretariat compiles simple national summary every 2 years	Reports produced	National input into GGN reporting

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		Encourage community involvement in geopark activities and events	Number of community events held	Basic community engagement started

2. Strengthening the Geopark management body staff and partners (increasing of the number of staff, budget, number of partners)		Facilitate information sharing on staffing and structural organization among UGGps	Number of info-sharing meetings	Mutual understanding of park structures
3. Ensuring the gender equality as a basic framework in the Geopark operation and communication of Geopark		Promote awareness of gender balance in UGGp activities (informal level)	Discussion topics included	Awareness improved
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		Encourage youth program development within each UGGp	Number of youth activities reported	Young generation's exposure to geopark work
5. Ensuring the recognition and representation of Indigenous communities in Geoparks		Not applicable (No indigenous peoples context in Korea)	N/A	N/A
6. Documenting and promoting local knowledge, traditions, and intangible heritage		Support documentation of regional traditions, festivals, crafts	Number of local traditions documented	Strengthening regional identity

7. Creating policies and tools to preserve and promote local languages		N/A for KGGN (no urgent language preservation issues identified)	N/A	N/A
8. Working to confront demographic challenges in rural areas		Share good practices related to rural tourism, eco-education, etc.	Examples collected	Informal knowledge exchange
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		Encourage regular meetings, active participation, and knowledge sharing at all levels	Number of meetings and contributions	Improved coordination and shared strategies for disaster risk reduction
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)		Develop and distribute audience-specific materials (e.g. comic books for youth in vulnerable areas)	Number of tools created and distributed	Increased risk awareness and preparedness in local communities

3. UGGp action plan on geohazards and disaster mitigation		Encourage each UGGp to include a basic section on geohazards in their management plans	Number of UGGps with geohazard content in plans	Integrated disaster mitigation efforts at local level
4. Preparation of an annual GGN report on geohazards and climate change		Collect simple updates from UGGps and compile into annual GGN thematic summary	Reports compiled and submitted	GGN visibility in global disaster and climate discussions enhanced

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		Create an annual capacity-building calendar with UNESCO, covering aspiring geoparks, evaluators, and managers	Participation confirmed	KGGN managers and staff exposed to international training
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.		Share information with domestic aspiring geoparks (internal sharing)	Number of aspiring parks involved	Preparation for future expansion

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		Encourage future training of evaluators in Korea (limited initial stage)	Number of trained evaluators	Building initial national evaluation capacity
4. Capacity building activities for Geopark Managers: intensive courses for new managers of the GGN members		Promote participation in GGN Lesvos Course or APGN workshops	Number of participants	Managerial skills improved
5. Supporting capacity-building activities for GGN members at regional and national levels		Organize 1 national KGGN coordination meeting annually	Meetings held	Stable national coordination
6. Developing GGN digital tools for its members (Geoparks Educational e- Library, Geoparks e-Learning Database)		Participate in global platform discussions and share basic national education materials	Participation confirmed	Visibility within GGN e-library system

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		Participate in GGN governance through AC representation	Active membership maintained	KGGN contributes to global discussions
2. Strengthening networking among UGGps at regional and national levels		Organize KGGN annual meeting and informal exchanges among members	Meetings held	Stronger internal network
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		Encourage proper use of GGN logo on official websites and visitor centers	GGN logo correctly displayed	Strengthened public recognition

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		Share materials explaining geopark concepts with local governments and stakeholders	Number of outreach events	Wider public understanding developed
5. Empowering national GGN Networks and strengthen their connection and collaboration with the National Commissions for UNESCO and the National Delegations at UNESCO		Develop contact channel with Korean National Commission	Communication channel established	National-level integration improved

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		Cooperate with GGN evaluator pool as experience builds	Number of Korean evaluators trained	Korea contributes to evaluation system
2. Facilitating the roster of Evaluators in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat		No advisory missions planned at this stage	N/A	N/A
3. Organizing advisory missions in aspiring and yellow-card holding Geoparks		No applicable cases in Korea	N/A	N/A
4. Supporting activities co-organized in conjunction with UNESCO / IGGP Secretariat		Maintain stable relationship through UNESCO Korea Commission	Participation confirmed	Korean representation secured
5. Strengthening the position of the IGGP in member states in relation to other UNESCO programmes		Exchange information with Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites in Korea	Number of coordination contacts	Foundations for joint activities
6. Strengthening collaboration with IGCP		Encourage joint workshops, research exchanges, or case study sharing between IGCP and UGGps	Number of joint actions or exchanges	Integration of geoscience and geopark activities enhanced

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 between site UNESCO designations		Participate in international APGN, GGN and training programs	Number of participations	Global visibility and cooperation built
2. Promoting the resources and the potential of the UGGps as sustainable developing territories		Maintain current exchanges (e.g. Aso, San'in Kaigan, Jiuhuashan, Hong Kong, others)	Number of exchanges reported	Active bilateral partnerships maintained

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.)		Promote joint projects, mutual participation in global forums, and information exchange with relevant bodies	Number of collaborative initiatives and participations	Stronger global alliances and broader integration of geopark values in international agendas