

# GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2024

## 1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

**Geopark name, country, regional Network:** Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UNESCO Global Geopark, Spain (European Geoparks Network).

**Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation:** 2015 / 2023

Representative photo with caption (from the most important event this year)



*Wine and cheese pairing activity. With explanations from farmers and ranchers, in one of the geopark's villages.*

## 2. GEOPARK FIGURES

**Number of Geopark staffs:** 3, including 1 geoscientist

**Number of visitors:** The Geopark territory has recorded a total of 3.4 million visits, while the most visited geosite, Montañas del Fuego (Mountains of Fire) received around 800,000 visitors and is also a National Park.

**Number of Geopark events:** 25 events.

**Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:** 200

**Number of Geopark press release:** 10

## 3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

### Major achievements in 2024

- **Diverse Scientific Studies:** Conducting studies on ratites and the cultural history of Órzola, as well as environmental monitoring of submerged caves

**Formal Education Initiatives:** Developing educational projects for the GeoCenters and GeoCommunity, and producing books on volcanic eruptions for schoolchildren, plays a crucial role in engaging younger generations and fostering environmental awareness.

**Participation in Scientific Events:** Presenting at national and international seminars contributes to the global scientific community and positions the Geopark as a hub for research and learning.

**Increased Environmental Awareness:** Educating the public about the region's geological significance and the impacts of climate change promotes a greater sense of stewardship and responsibility.

- **Sustainable Development:** By combining science and education with activities like geotourism and local development, the Geopark ensures that its initiatives are both impactful and sustainable.
- **Community Engagement:** Involving the local population in research, education programs, and cultural events strengthens community ties and promotes a sense of pride in their heritage.
- **Knowledge Preservation:** Documenting and sharing the history and geology of Lanzarote

ensures that this valuable knowledge is preserved for future generations.

### **Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation**

- The Lanzarote and Chinijo UGGg actively contributes to the GGN by contributing articles to the newsletter and magazine. The UGGp also attended various meetings, workshops, and conferences organized by the REGM, EGN, and GGN, usually with two members. The UGGp actively participates in working groups such as Volcanic Areas and Tourism. It also supported El Hierro UGGp in activities within the framework of the twinning agreement.

### **Management and Financial Status**

- The Geopark had a budget of approximately €550,000 for 2024. A daily basis team of three people (administrator, activities manager, and geologist) was employed to manage the geopark. It is also part of a local government administrative organization where it receives support from various departments. The Geopark's management also includes the collaboration of the CACT.

### **Geoconservation**

- Monitoring and protection of geosites
- "In situ" conservation work in different areas (coasts, volcanic tubes)
- Studies on the state of conservation of the geosites
- Restoration and signage projects.
- Geological studies in submarine geosites about climate change

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

- Promote local culture: Support for folklore groups and cultural events.
- Promote sports and active tourism: Organization and collaboration in sports and hiking events.
- Enhance local crafts: Production of a book on crafts.
- Educate about geology and history: Storytelling and books for schoolchildren.
- Position the Geopark as a sustainable destination: Participation in tourism fairs.
- These actions not only attract visitors and generate income, but also ensure that tourism is developed responsibly, respecting the environment and local culture, and benefiting communities.

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

- The Geopark has a strong focus on sustainable education, with various activities that seek to disseminate scientific and cultural knowledge to both the local community and visitors.
- Sustainable development is addressed through support for local activities, the promotion of culture, and job creation.
- Natural hazards are taken into account through environmental studies and volcanic risk awareness events.

### **Strategic partnership**

- **PANGAEA Astronaut Training Course with ESA:** This is a high-profile activity that links your geological heritage with space exploration. It's innovative and educational and it elevates the Geopark's profile internationally.
- **Environmental Monitoring in La Corona Volcanic Tube:** Studying climate change effects and pollution (microplastics) in caves is crucial with the National University of Distance Education (UNED).
- **Studies of ratite colony,** an important paleontological site with the INCIP Institute of the CSIC.

### **Promotional activities**

- Geoparque Lanzarote promotes sustainability through "PANGAEA Astronaut Training," "Volcanic Risk Mitigation Conferences," and local events like "Wine Run." It educates via "200th Anniversary Storytelling" and a "GeoCommunity Educational Project." Promotional activities include "Fitur," "Worldcanic," and "Social Media" presence, enhancing visibility and networking

## **4. CONTACTS**

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