

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2024

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark, France, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2024



“Chablais UGGp Revalidation and the Wide Participation of the Many Stakeholders”

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staff: 3 staff including 1 geoscientist.

Number of visitors: Total visitor numbers are difficult to estimate as most of the geopark is free to access. Example geosite: 50 000 visitors per year at the Geopark partner, the Gorges du Pont du Diable geosite.

Number of Geopark events: 40 Geopark events; 15 Geopark partner events.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: about 250 different classes participated in educational activities. Pupils were aged from 3 years to 18 years old.

Number of Geopark press release: 7. Regular newspaper, TV and radio interviews; Facebook and Instagram posts.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2024

- Detailed preparation of 3 Geopark discovery centers to be installed at major visitor sites;
- Organization of an important political meeting, “The Politicians Conference”, themed around the Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- 2 representatives present for the 2024 EGN Conference in Reykjanes UGGp Iceland. 2

Geopark representatives present at all EGN meetings, coordinator of EGN 2024. Participation in the French national committee technical workshop held in Monts d'Ardeche UGGp. Participation in national and European working groups.

Management and Financial Status

- Management and financial status continues to be strong and stable.

Geoconservation

- Important advance in geoconservation: With Geopark support, the scientific research to support understanding to document the national significance of the geosite to achieve highest level of protection for the “Cold Scree Slope” geosite.
- Installation of a longterm research project coordinated by Grenoble University at Bise geosite.

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

- Risk training: Seismic hazards in the Chablais for politicians and school children.
- New educational event, the school film festival “My Exceptional Home: Secrets, stories and knowledge from the Chablais UNESCO Global Geopark”.
- Training with the EGU for schoolteachers and our Geopark guides.
- Continuous professional training for official Geopark guides: Geodiversity and biodiversity in diverse wetland settings.
- Training of university students from HEPIA and Lausanne University, Switzerland.
- Ongoing research projects (Niffion geosite) with the Savoy University, France.

Strategic partnership

- 1 day partner seminar in December including workshops, exchanges and games (accommodation, visitor sites, local businesses, local farmers and local charities).

Promotional activities

- Theme 2024: The Five Senses
 - Spring sustainable development festival “Printemps des coquelicots”
 - EGN week >1000 participants, 17 events
 - National science festival, 3 events
- Summer events at 8 Chablais UGGp geosites, “Les Mardis du Géoparc”
- Continued collaboration with the 10 destination management organisations to promote the Chablais UGGp (21 information points).

4. CONTACTS

Manager: Sophie Justice. **Politician :** vice-president, Marie-Pierre Berthier

Geologist: Sophie Justice coordiantiongeoparc@siac-chablais.fr