

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: MADONIE UNESCO Global Geopark, ITALY, (European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2001/2023



Photo 1 Celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the GGN.



Photo2 Inauguration of the Pollina Adventure Park

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 9

Staffs including: 1 staff coordinator + 5 administratives + 2 geologist +1 addetto stampa

Number of visitors: park information points, around:75901

Number of Geopark events: about 50

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 400

Number of Geopark press release: about 120 events on social media, municipal

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2024

May -June: Art, culture, history, landscape and environment are the protagonists of the 19th edition of Egn Wek 2024, thanks to the precious collaboration of local associations and municipalities of the Madonie.

August: Kosmos event from the solar system to the heart of the earth by the Sottosale Association. A journey through science, art, geology, astrophysics and chemistry, literature and music, held at the Italkali Salt Mine in Petralia Soprana, a site of the Unesco Madonie World Geopark.

September: Inauguration of the Pollina Adventure Park. A new attraction of the Madonie territory to implement the tourist offer of the Madonie UGG.

October: Participation in the national conference entitled "At the sources of our history - The identity stones", promoted by Archeclub and the Municipality of Cefalù at the Sala della Capriate, aimed at enhancing the territories, through geology, to strengthen the Madonie UGG.

November: Celebration of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the Madonie Park Authority with the realization of guided tours and a conference entitled "New strategies for protected natural areas";

Participation in the "Flavors Without Borders" event which took place in Castelbuono, an event in the name of multiculturalism ;

Study and in-depth day, organized by the association "I Sud del Mondo" with the conference "Tourism, driving force for the economy and social development and on the great potential of the sector" in Mondello (Palermo);

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

March: 49th European Geoparks Meeting Kula Salihli UNESCO Global Geopark – Turkey.

December: Celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the GGN in the Madonie Geopark with a Workshop of the Italian UGGps.

Management and Financial Status

The main financial entrance is from Sicily which shall transfer amounts allocated to the budget to pay all expenses related to institutional activities, to the geopark activity management and to the staff. The annual balance is approved by the Park Board, and it is subjected to the region control. Other sums came from private associations.

Geoconservation

Research project of the University of Palermo-Museum System Service Center concerning the study of the monumental population of the Agrifogli Giganti of Piano Pomo.

May: Work on the arrangement and safety of the Scopalacqua geosite.

November: Participation in Florence at the final workshop of the Life4Fir project on conservation strategies of the Madonie fir (*Abies nebrodensis*).

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

"International Geodiversity Day" - The Madonie Geopark celebrated this international event by organizing guided tours with students to promote the identity of the Madonie Geopark, through geology, environment, culture and natural heritage.

Project "Let's color our future" promoted by the "Castellana Sicula-Polizzi Generosa"

Comprehensive Institute for the enhancement of the educational function of the Park School.

As part of the Life4fir project, the Madonie Geopark has organised informative meetings and guided visits to the indigenous area of *Abies nebrodensis* with school groups, associations and institutions.

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

Realization of the Climate Sentinels Project with schools with awareness-raising and training actions on issues relating to the knowledge and mitigation of climate change.

An Idea Competition has been set up for Italian schools on georisks: "Knowing georisks to best deal with them" in collaboration with the Maiella Geopark.

Participation in the Erasmus Project "REPAIR THE WORLD" aimed at teachers/educators to help them acquire knowledge, ecological skills and awareness on climate change, to transfer them to students (participating countries: Italy, Turkey, Poland and Spain).

As part of the Earth Planet Week 2024, several initiatives were organized:

The Maiella Geopark and the Madonie Geopark discussed the theme "Geodiversity and Georisks", together for the growth of new generations, in addition, a cultural and educational event was held regarding the study of the historical landslide of Petralia Sottana.

Participation in the working table "Training and territory" with the Pietro Domina State Institute of Petralia Sottana, the Madonie Geopark as a professionalizing resource in the training offer aimed at students.

Realization of the project "Discover nature" with the State Comprehensive Institute "Balsamo Pantolfini" of Termini Imerese;

Strategic partnership

Memorandum of Understanding between the Madonie Park Authority, the "Antonio Collisani" Civic Museum and the National Association of Natural Science Teachers of Palermo, for the implementation of educational and training courses for teachers, students and all citizens.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Madonie Park Authority and the CEA "il Camminaparco" for the implementation of tourist enjoyment, environmental education and scientific dissemination activities.

Agreement between the E.P.M. and the "Pietro Domina" institute of Petralia Sottana concerning the training of students to learn geological and scientific notions for a greater awareness of the value of the UNESCO Geopark in which they live.

Memorandum of Understanding between the EPM- GAL ISC, the municipality of Gangi and the "Francesco Paolo Polizzano" Comprehensive Institute of Gangi for the implementation of educational and training courses for teachers, students and all citizens.

Memorandum of Understanding between the E.P.M and the Fenice Association for the implementation of cultural, social, informative and scientific activities.

Agreement between the EPM and the Botanical Garden of the UNIPA of Palermo and the Municipality of Petralia Sottana for the creation, promotion and enhancement of a nature trail in the area of the Municipal Pine Forest.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Sicilian Region and the EPM aimed at enhancing geological teaching to make the student population understand the importance of good practices against climate change and the risks of hydrogeological instability.

Agreement between the E.P.M and the Department of Architecture UNIPA for experimental research activities in the field of recovery and regeneration of Urban Centers and the territory;

Promotional activities

March: Participation in the DIDACTA 2024 event (Florence) for innovative teaching.

April: Participation in the Agricultural Fair in Valledolmo.

September: Organization of the Prickly Pear Festival in Alimena.

October: Participation in the Funghi Fest event, a gastronomic and cultural journey in Castelbuono. Participation in the Sagra dei Saporì Madoniti in Petralia Sottana.

November: Participation in the "Colori d'Autunno" event and the 48th Olive Festival in Pollina and the XVI edition of the "Collesano Cheese and beyond" Cheese Festival.

4. CONTACTS

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