

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2024

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Xiangxi UNESCO Global Geopark, China, Asian Pacific Geoparks Network

Year of inscription : 2023

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



Hosted the 8th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geopark Management and Development

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 960 staff including 2 geoscientist

Number of visitors: 5.42 million visitors

Number of Geopark events: 30 events, 16 held by management body, and 14 held by cooperative organizations.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 8 schools are geoscience schools of Xiangxi UGGp, including Aizhai Ethnic Primary School and Aizhai Middel shcool of Jishou, Jiandaoping Third Primary School of Fenghuang County, Paibi Nine-year Education School of Shuanglong Town of Huayuan County, Hangsha Nine-year Education School of Lvdong Town of Baojing County, Luota Nine-year Education School of Longshan County, Hongshilin Town Central Primary School of Guzhang County and Furong Town Central Primary School of Yongshun County, and 24 classes have been carried on geopark educational programs regularly in the whole year.

Number of Geopark press release: Over 110 news released on the national, provincial and prefectural media.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2024

- Academician and Expert Delegation from Chinese Academy of Sciences visited Xiangxi UNESCO Global Geopark and held seminar with managers of the geopark.
- Hosted a themed science popularization event, thematic photo exhibitions, partner product displays, science quizzes in Furong Town and online competitions to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the GGN as well as the 5th APGN Week and World Earth Day.
- The CCTV Discovery Journey Channel along with Hunan Economic TV Channel production team of "Beautiful China: Hunan" featured Xiangxi UGGp to explore its geological heritage, ethnic culture, and ecological resources
- Xiangxi UGGp successfully co-hosted the field investigation of the 6th International Conference on Palaeogeography
- Xiangxi UGGp was granted the "Green Card" successfully passing its first revalidation.
- Xiangxi UGGp was invited to deliver a keynote speech sharing our experiences and achievements at the 20th Anniversary of China's Global Geoparks Development.
- Xiangxi UGGp Museum became a member unit of the Chinese Museums Association, recognized as a Science Popularization Base by the Hunan Federation of Social Sciences and awarded the title of National 3rd Level Museum.
- Participated in the 8th Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium in Cao Bang, Vietnam.
- Hosted the 8th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geopark Management and Development.
- Established partnerships with 7 sister parks this year including: Enshi Grand Canyon-Tenglong Cave UGGp, Songshan UGGp, Dali Cangshan UGGp, Arxan UGGp, Zhijin Cave UGGp, Langkawi UGGp, Yunyang National Geopark.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

Xiangxi UGGp recognizes the important role and function of networking and partnership in geopark networks. To facilitate knowledge exchange and experience sharing, we organized and participated in a series of networking and promotional activities, including the following:

- Hosted a themed science popularization event in Furong Town to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Global Geoparks Network. The event also marked the 5th Asia-Pacific Geoparks Week and World Earth Day.
- Participated in the 8th Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network Symposium in Cao Bang, Vietnam
- Hosted the 8th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geopark Management and Development.

Management and Financial Status

- Geoparks Administration of Xiangxi Autonomous Prefecture is the management body of the Xiangxi

Global Geopark, in 2024, 12 staff were employed to the administration.

- The 2024 tourism revenue in Xiangxi UGGp is 36.1 billion yuan, 5.42 million tourists came to Xiangxi Global Geopark for visiting.

Geoconservation

- 12 regular inspections over geosites protection were carried out by Administration of Xiangxi UGGp Autonomous Prefecture.
- Carried out the inspections over forest protection and fire prevention together with surrounding communities, assessed the effect of protecting the important geosites, such as Paibian GSSP, Guzhangian GSSP and Red Stone Forest, as well as ensuring the rights and interests of community residents.
- Held publicity campaigns over geosite conservation in rural area of Xiangxi UGGp for 4 times.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Held an online promotion activity of local products with many domestic geoparks during the 5th Asia-Pacific UGGp Week.
- Xiangxi UGGp Museum became a member unit of the Chinese Museums Association, recognized as a Science Popularization Base by the Hunan Federation of Social Sciences and awarded the title of National Third-Class Museum.
- The CCTV's Discovery Journey Channel production team of "Beautiful China: Hunan", along with Hunan Economic TV, featured Xiangxi UGGp to explore its geological heritage, ethnic culture, and ecological resources.
- Launched the geotourism routes with local tourism department.

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

- Organized "Global Earth Day" themed a science popularization event competition.
- Organized the 3rd Junior Instructor of Xiangxi UGGp Museum Training Event.
- Held popular science education campaigns over geoconservation and disaster risk prevention in geoscience schools of Xiangxi UGGp.
- Held publicity campaigns over geoconservation in rural area of Xiangxi UGGp for 4 times.
- Held the training course for the geopark partner for 3 times.

Strategic partnership

- Established the strategic partnership with China University of Geosciences(Beijing), Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Karst Geology of China Geological Survey, Central South University, Central South University of Forestry and Technology, Jishou University, Geoparker Company, Xinhua News Agency, Rednet of Hunan Province.
- 40 new local partners have uploaded partnership agreements with the Xiangxi UGGp officially becoming its collaborative partners.
- Establishing new sister parks with 7 new agreements signed this year: Enshi Grand Canyon-Tenglong Cave UGGp, Songshan UGGp, Dali Cangshan UGGp, Arxan UGGp, Zhijin Cave UGGp, Langkawi UGGp, Yunyang

National Geopark.

Promotional activities

- Co-organized tour exhibition with 22 geoparks during the 5th APGN Week.
- Deliver a keynote speech sharing its experiences and achievements at the 20th Anniversary of China's GGN Development to promote Xiangxi UGGp.
- Deliver a keynote speech sharing its experiences and achievements at the 4th Forum on Natural and Cultural Heritage in Arxan UGGp to promote Xiangxi UGGp.
- Attended the 2024 Hunan International Culture Tourism Festival and Trip.com Group Global Partner Hunan (Zhangjiajie) Inbound Tourism Conference and deliver a promotional speech about Xiangxi UGGp.
- The CCTV Discovery Journey Channel along with Hunan Economic TV Channel production team of "Beautiful China: Hunan" featured Xiangxi UGGp to explore its geological heritage, ethnic culture, and ecological resources.
- 40 new local partners have uploaded partnership agreements with the Xiangxi UGGp officially becoming its collaborative partners.
- Participate in various meetings and activities of the GNN and APGN to promote Xiangxi UGGp.

4. CONTACTS

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