

GEOPARQUES

Spanish Forum



**THE 2022 ACTION PLAN OF THE SPANISH GEOPARKS FORUM
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GGN STRATEGY**

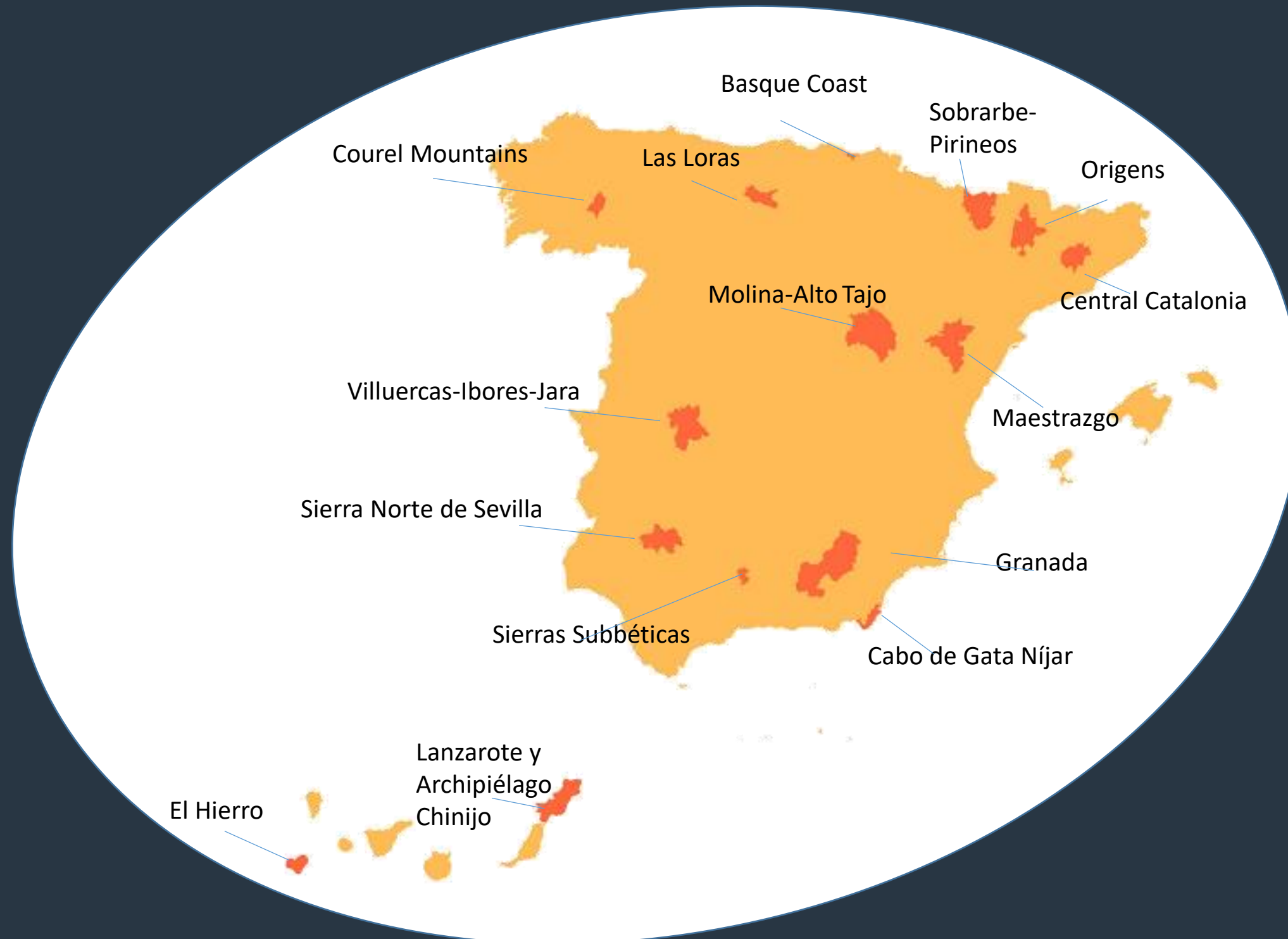
Geoparks of Spain

www.geoparques.es

GEOPARQUES
Spanish Forum



unesco
Global Geopark



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GEOPARQUES
Spanish Forum



The **Spanish Geoparks Forum** gathers the members of the GGN in Spain, the UGGps and the individual members.

Cooperation, as a hallmark of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, is a growing fact in Spain. Its progression and its ability to interact with the Spanish society and the public administrations facilitate the visibility, conservation and sustainable development of its territories.

That requires a higher level of organization and simplest and better procedures for contracting common external services. For those reasons and the aforementioned experience, the extraordinary session of the Spanish Geoparks Forum, held on December 9, 2021, decided to propose the creation of a national non-profit Association with the name of Spanish Geoparks Forum, within the framework of the Global Geoparks Network.

The **Spanish Geoparks Forum** coexist with the **Spanish Geoparks National Committee**. This last is a chartered body chaired by the **UNESCO Spanish National Commission** and includes the UGGps, representatives of the Spanish Government, the Governments of the Autonomous Communities with geoparks, and from the IGSP.

Different activities constitute the elements of cooperation in the Forum:

- Promote and disseminate the **activity of the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Spain**, in its cultural and scientific aspects, as well as its applications to territorial development, through common tools such as the web and social networks, open meetings and seminars, publications and others.
- Participate in **scientific, tourist, educational or sustainable development meetings** in which information or participation of the UNESCO Global Geoparks is required.
- Serve as a framework for the **coordination of common initiatives of the Spanish UNESCO Global Geoparks**, favoring their development and promoting relations between their members through the organization of common events and projects.
- Participate in the **activities of the GGN and the European Geoparks Network (EGN)** in accordance with their respective statutes and regulations.
- Participate in the Spanish National Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks, dependent on the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs) in order to **work into the Spanish contribution to the UNESCO International Geosciences and Geoparks Program**.

Geoparks of Spain

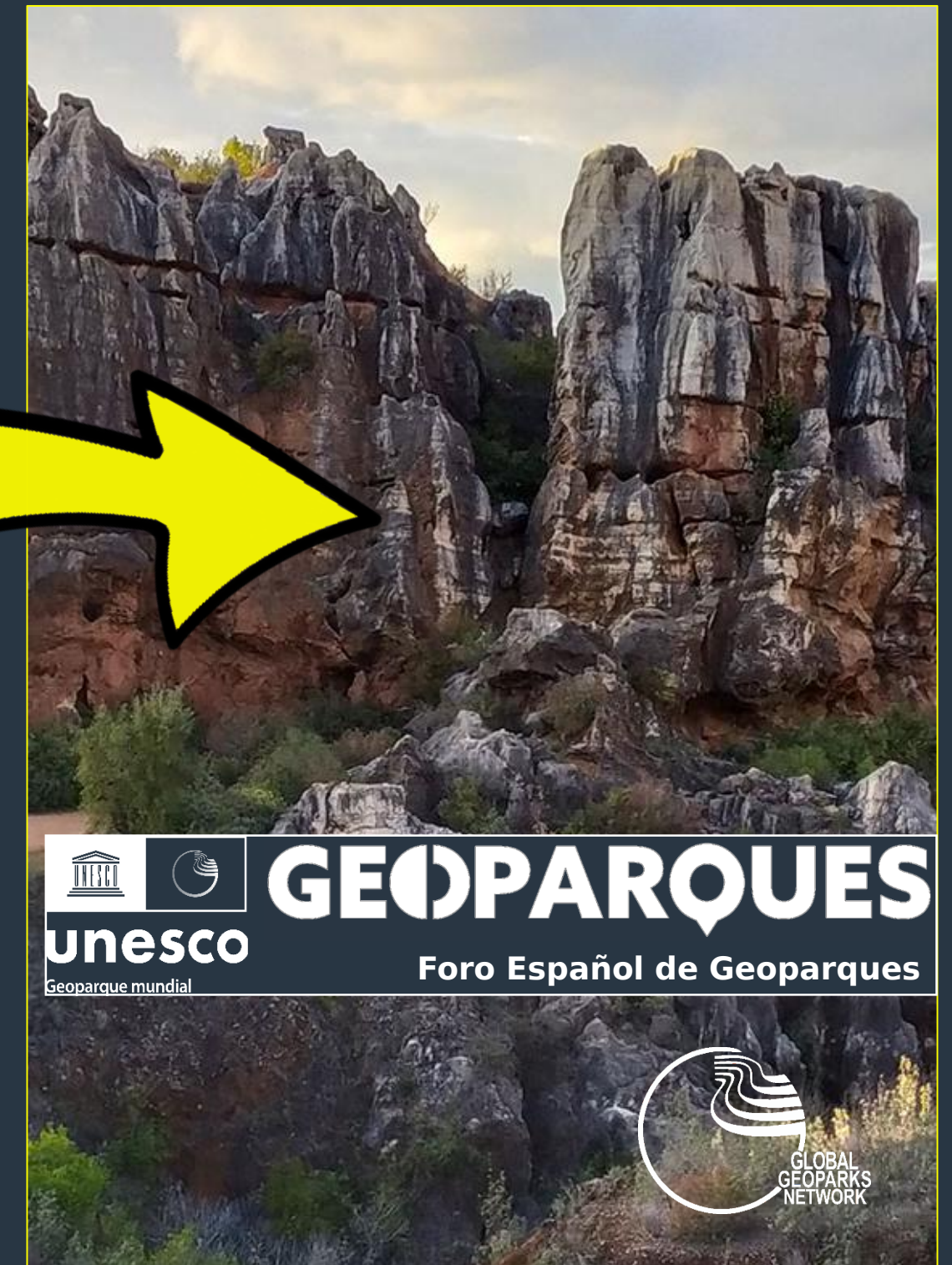
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GEOPARQUES
Spanish Forum



During the SGF meeting on May 5, this year, a document explaining the 2021 activities in the framework of the GGN Strategy 2022-2023 was analysed. Even if many of the GGN proposed strategic actions have elements in common, it was considered important to have a presentation about the concordance between the 2022 Action Plan of the Spanish Geoparks Forum and the GGN Strategy.

Hope this presentation help to visibilize the contribution of the Spanish Geoparks to the UNESCO Program and to the GGN development.



STRATEGIC ACTION 1

GGN Functioning and Communication with the GGN members

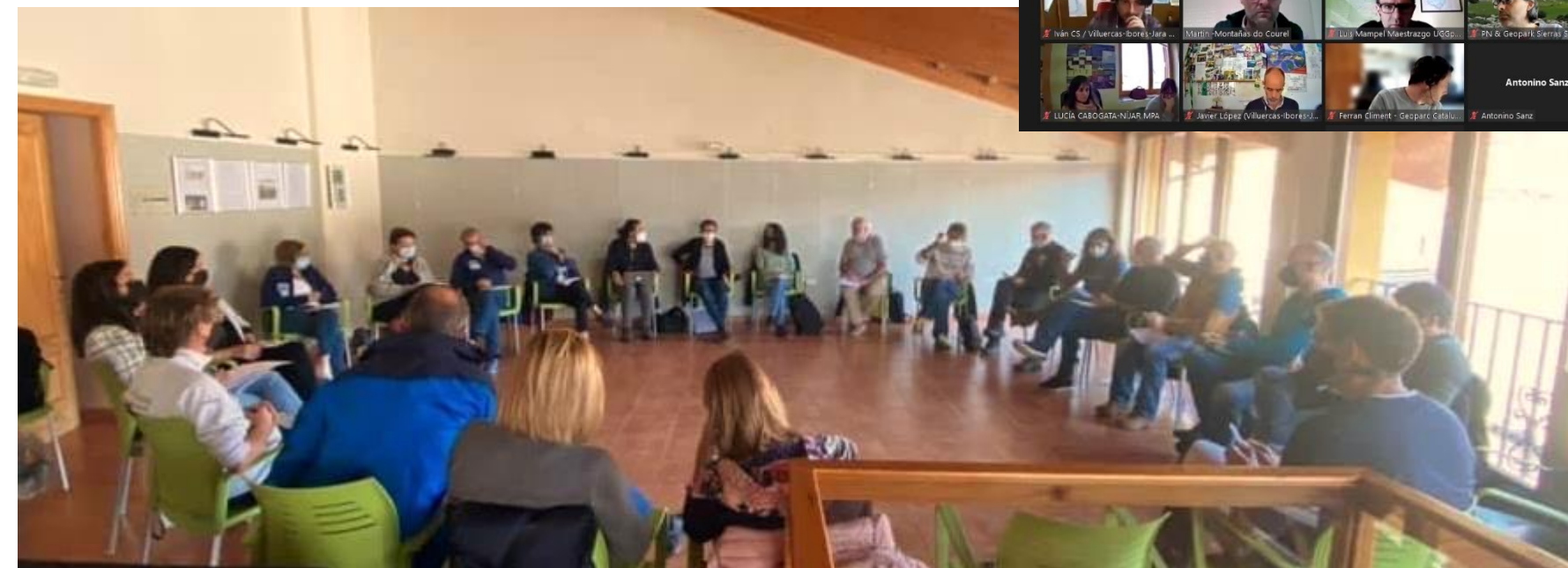
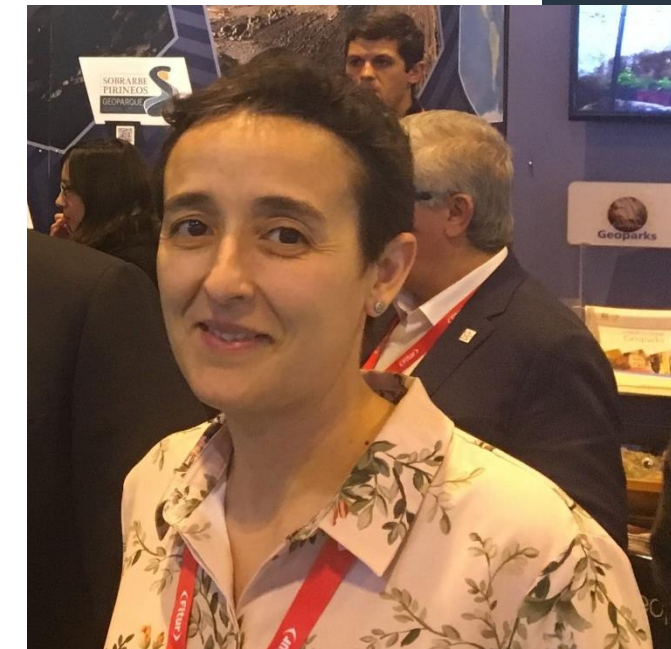
GGN operation and networking, information distribution and communication between members, implementation of the various new initiatives, establishment of new activities, coordination of the International Geoparks meetings capacity building activities and events.

STRATEGIC ACTION 1

Forum Functioning and Communication with the Forum members

For the general coordination and the communication among the SGF members, the current structures and tools are:

- **Coordination team:** Coordinator: **José M^a Barrera** (Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UGGp), Vice-coordinator: **Karmah Salman** (Las Loras UGGp); Secretary: **Antonio García** (Sierras Subbéticas UGGp). The coordination team have regular online meetings and whatsapp group to prepare the Forum meetings and the activities.
- Regular **Forum meetings**. All the Spanish Geoparks representatives and the individual members attend the meetings. (4 meetings in 2022 so far).
- Annual **Action Plan**.
- **SGF mailing list** [GEOPA] for formal communications.
- **Whatsapp group** for daily contacts.

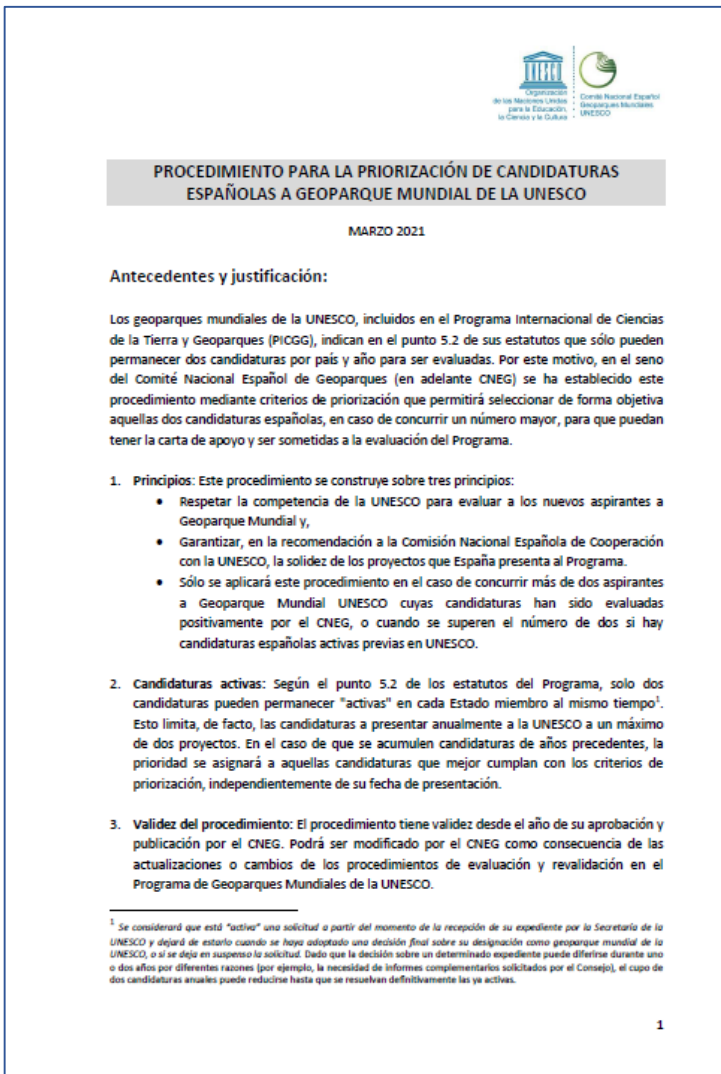


STRATEGIC ACTION 2

Spanish Geoparks Forum and UNESCO Global Geoparks

Activities 2021 / 2022

- Working Group on "Procedure for **the prioritization of Spanish candidatures** for UNESCO Global Geopark". It is based, for the most part, on criteria that assess the representativeness of Spanish geological diversity of international value.
- **Advising** actions in new aUGGp territories.
- Contribution to the GGN **Youth Forum**. Coordinated by Las Loras UGGp



STRATEGIC ACTION 2

Global Geoparks Network and UNESCO Global Geoparks

Collaboration with UNESCO for the operation of the UGGps. Support the development of territories; the capacity building; the professional competencies and the Young Forum.

GEOPARQUES
ESPAÑA JÓVENES

JÓVENES DE LOS GEOPARQUES

¿Tienes entre 18-30 años? Rellena esta encuesta, sólo te llevará un par de minutos. A los Geoparques de la UNESCO nos interesa tu opinión para:

- Crear grupos de jóvenes representantes a nivel local y de los 15 Geoparques españoles.
- Recoger y tener en cuenta vuestras inquietudes y propuestas cuando elaboramos los planes de acción.
- Planear actividades para vosotros.

La encuesta es ANÓNIMA, si quieres.



Educación y Geoparques:
El Grupo de trabajo sobre Educación
de la GGN/EGN
Iniciativas y Actividades

Jose Maria Barrera
Villuercas Ibores Jara UNESCO Global Geopark España
Coordinador del Foro de los Geoparques Españoles
Grupo de trabajo de GGN sobre educación



WEBINAR:

**PROMOVIENDO
GEOPARQUES MUNDIALES
DE LA UNESCO EN
COLOMBIA**

GGN Regional Networks and National Fora

Activities 2022

- Participation in the **GGN Advisory Committee**. Sharing the SGF activities.
- Strengthen the collaboration in the **EGN Framework**, Coordination committee, working groups, conferences and other activities.
- Strengthen the **collaboration with UGGp** from other Regional Networks by means of:
 - Open the participation in the SGF webinars and seminars to the LACGN when the language do not limit the understanding and communication.
 - Promoting sister agreements with other UGGp around the world.



STRATEGIC ACTION 4

Spanish Geoparks Forum members

Activities 2022

- Encouraging the improvement of the Spanish Geoparks **quality and their visibility** and importance in their territories.
- Sharing **best practices**. Exchange of knowledge and best practices by mean of seminars and webinars.
 - Virtual Conferences "**Let's talk about Geoparks**" (6 webinars in 2021 and 3 more in 2022) Geoparks, geological heritage, sustainable development, geotourism, education, science and research. Coordination and funding by Lanzarote and Chinijo Islands UGGp.
 - 2021 Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks Forum in Maestrazgo UGGp.
 - **2022 Open Seminar of the Spanish Geoparks Forum in Origenes UGGp. November, 4th.**
- Participation in **seminars and events** organized by the members.
 - **Volcanism Day in El Hierro UGGp. November, 10th.**



STRATEGIC ACTION 4

GGN Members

Encourage the members to work consistently throughout each 4 year period to constantly improve their quality and service. GGN working groups. Active participation and involvement of local residents and stakeholders. To share best practices.



Spanish Geoparks Forum working groups and initiatives

Activities 2022

- Participation in **Working Groups** to produce results for the Forum.
Currently:
 - Working Group on the **International Year of Cavities and Karst**.
 - Working Group on **Renewable Energy** Conflicts in Spanish Geoparks.
 - Working Group “**Youth Forum**”.
 - Working Group “**Communication**”
- Participation in **common projects**.
 - Document of Manifestations of Interest of the Spanish geoparks in the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Funds.
 - Project “**Experiences Geoparks Spain**” that gather all the Spanish Geoparks in a promotional tourism initiative to create common touristic experiences.



STRATEGIC ACTION 6

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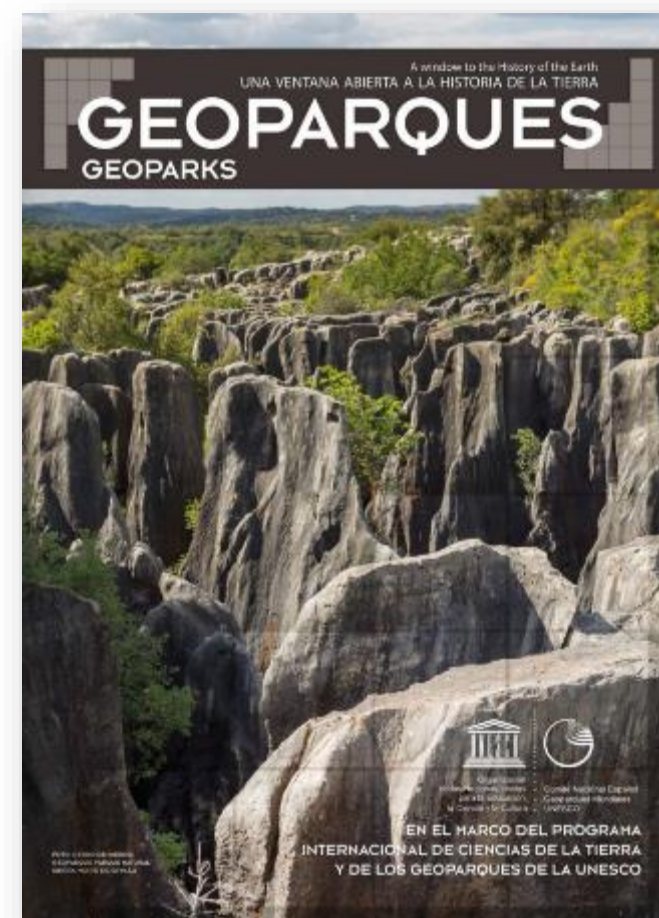
Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

Implementation of the Communication and Marketing Strategy to elevate global awareness of UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Global Geoparks communities.

Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

Activities 2022

- Participation in FITUR, BTL and other local fairs.
- Publication of the tourist magazine GEOPARQUES.



STRATEGIC ACTION 6

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Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

implementation of the Communication and Marketing Strategy to elevate global awareness of UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Global Geoparks communities.

Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

Activities 2022

- Website <https://geoparques.es>
- Campaign **#RespiraGeoparques** (#BreatheGeoparks) in social media.



STRATEGIC ACTION 6

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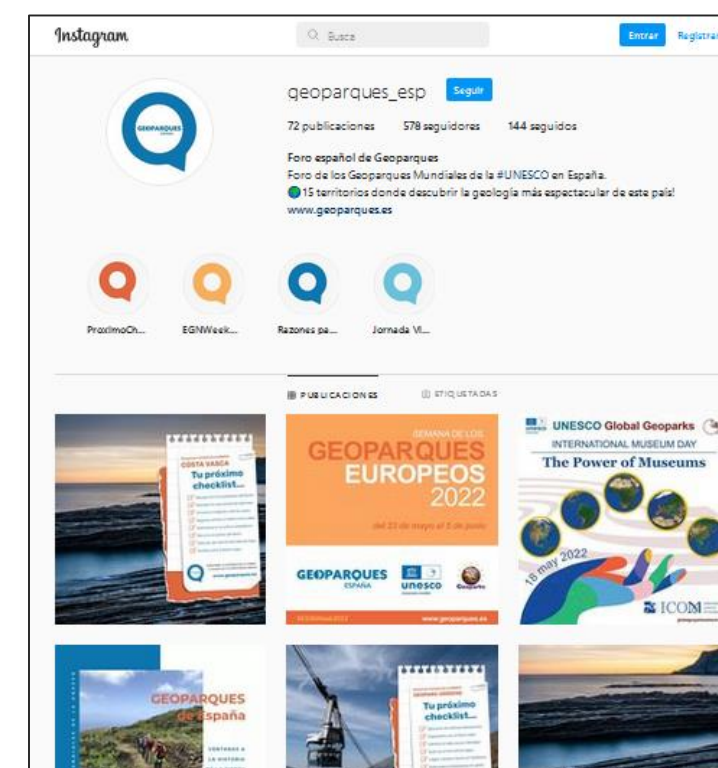
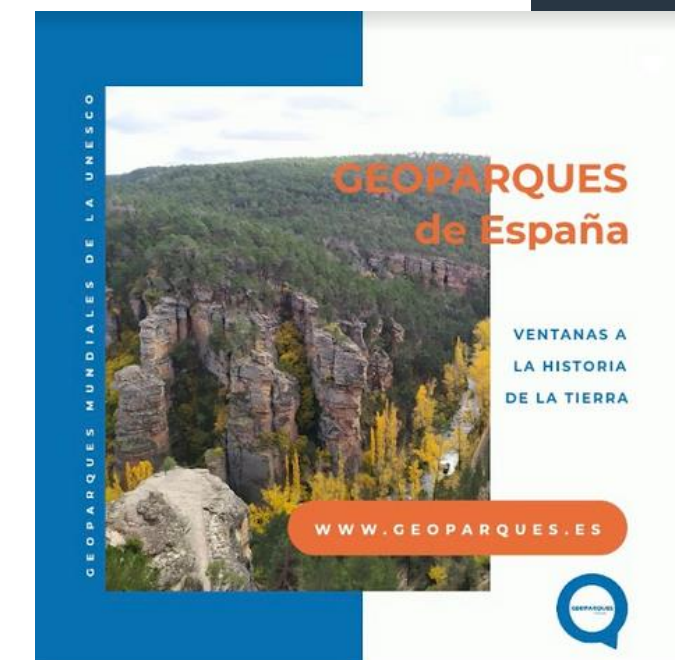
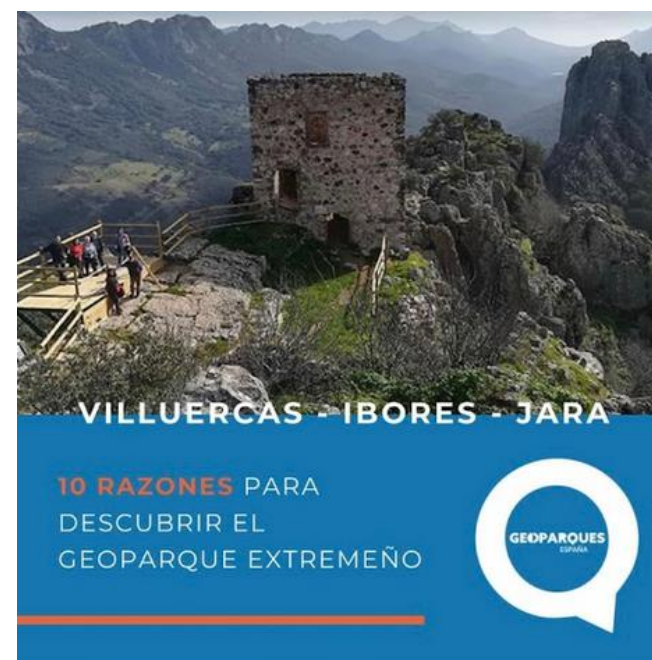
Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

implementation of the Communication and Marketing Strategy to elevate global awareness of UNESCO Global Geoparks and the Global Geoparks communities.

Geoparks Marketing and Communication Strategy

Activities 2022

- Marketing on line.
- Facebook fan page 6300 followers
- Twitter: 5589 followers @GeoparquesEsp.
- New Instagram page: 578 followers.
@geoparques_esp



STRATEGIC ACTION 7

Financial stability

Activities 2022

- All the expenses and costs of the common activities are shared among the members.
- There is not a common bank account, nor anual fees.
- Forum stability: The SGF is studying its own **statutes as Spanish association**.



STRATEGIC ACTION 7

Financial stability

The GGN seeks financial stability, and is prepared to support big promotional activities which will support the image of Geoparks as territories of excellence in tourism and education.



STRATEGIC ACTION 8

Capacity building activities

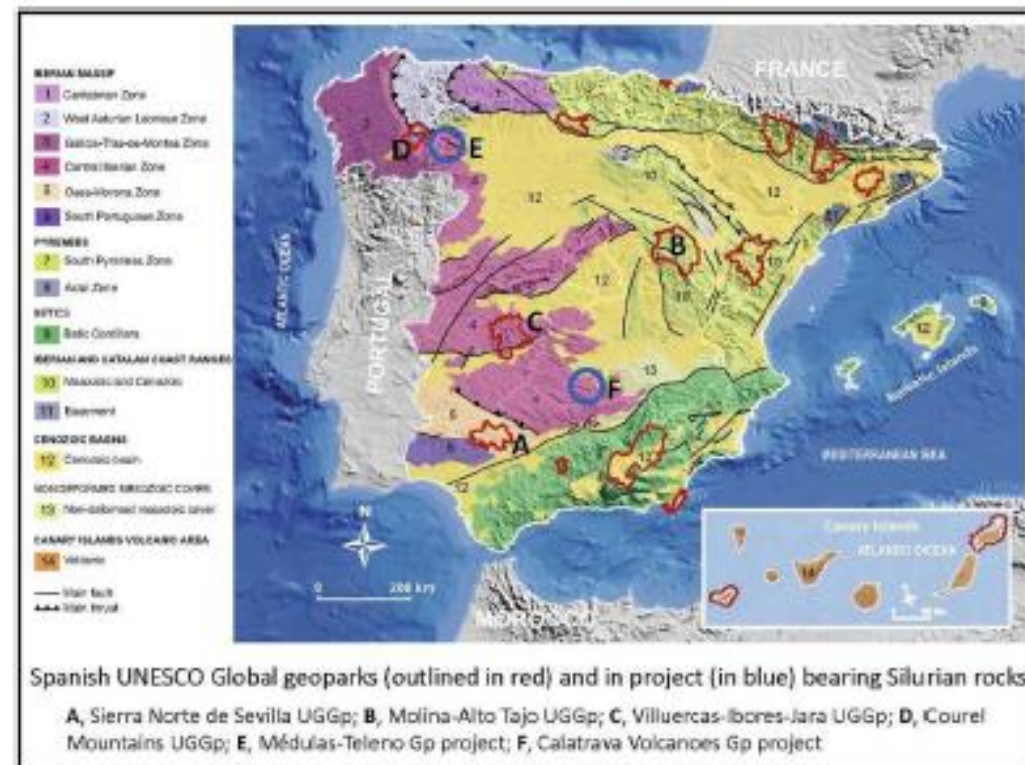
The GGN will continue to organize capacity building activities in close collaboration with UNESCO, which may include: Courses on Geoparks; Seminars; Workshops; Seminars in regions with no Geoparks; Collaboration with other UNESCO designations.

Capacity building activities

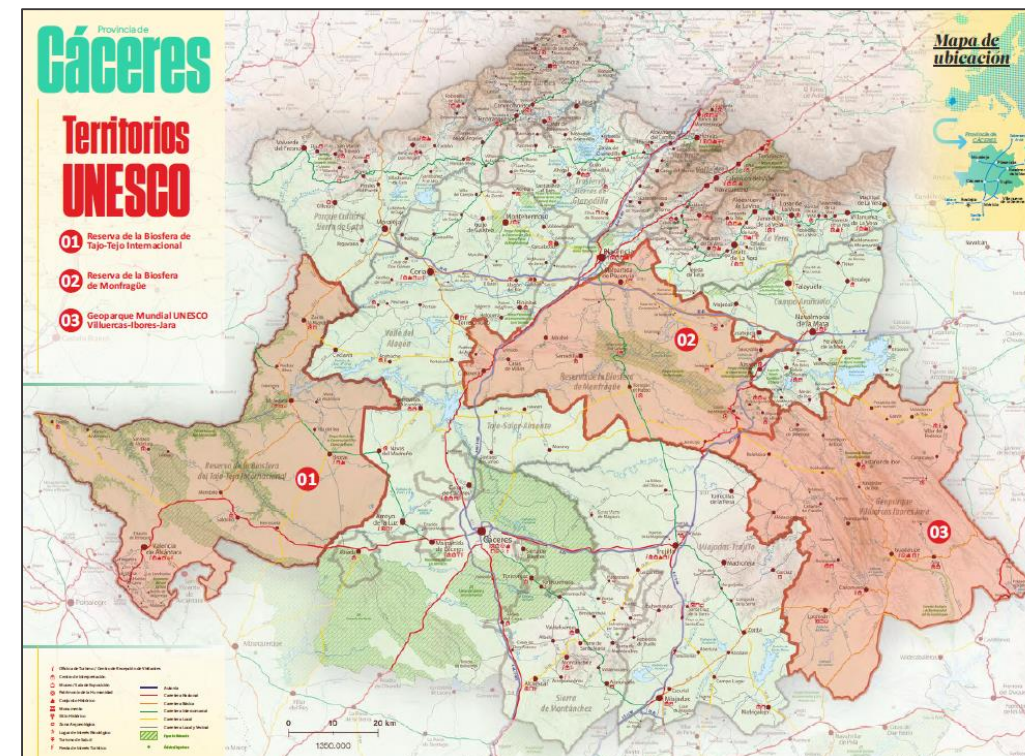
Activities 2022

The SGF organize capacity building activities:

- Geopark Workshops and seminars.
- Collaboration with other UNESCO designations (Biosphere Reserves and WHS).
- Advising of new aspiring geoparks.



SILURIAN TREASURES IN SPANISH UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS



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STRATEGIC ACTION 9

Promotion of the Geopark Brand

Activities 2022

Web www.geoparques.es (5 languages) and SGF social media.

Spanish Geoparks Experiences Project.

SGF Publication: Geoparques (ed. 2023 in preparation).

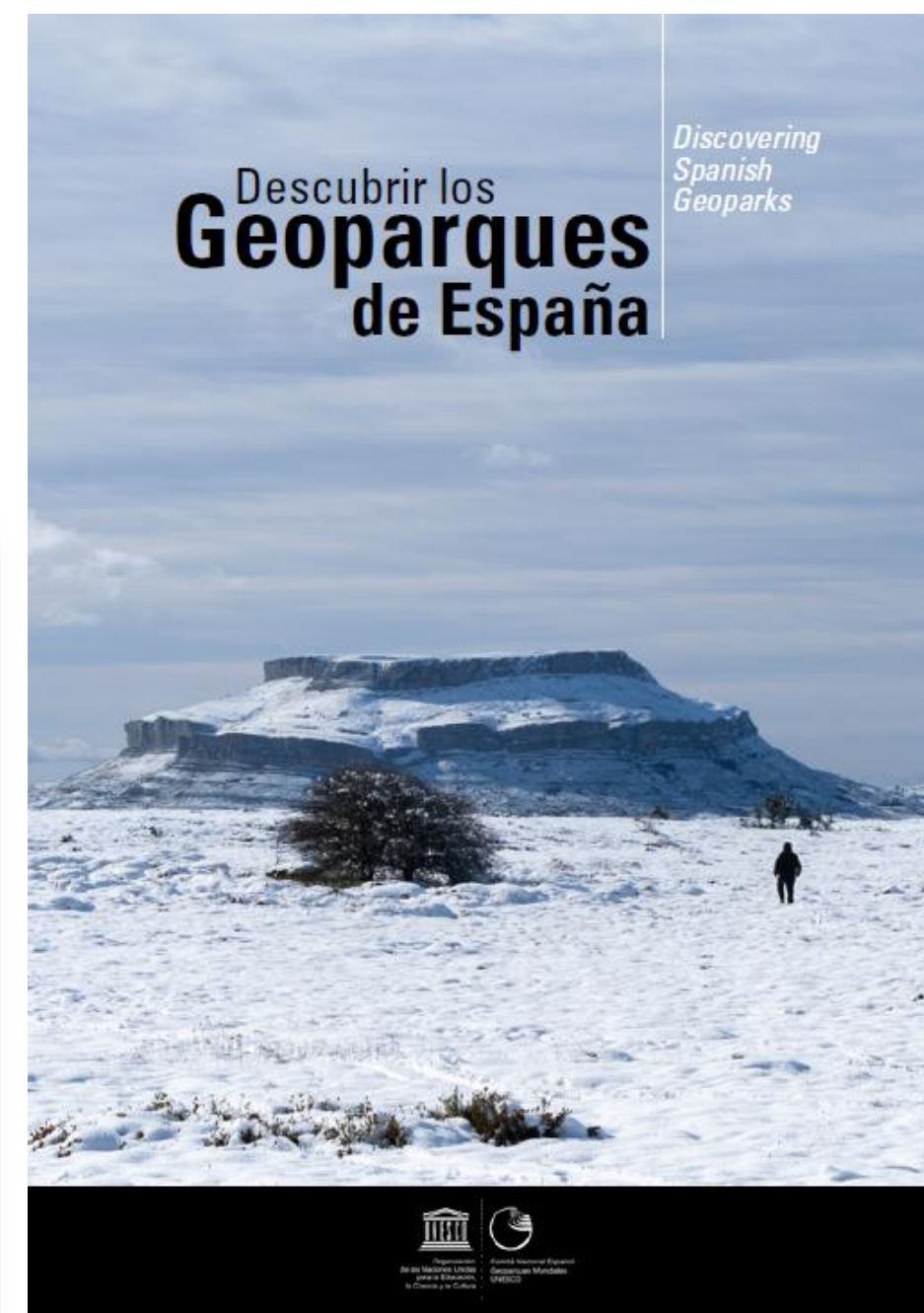
Participation in FITUR.



STRATEGIC ACTION 9

Promotion of the Geopark Brand

The GGN has special responsibility for the promotion of the Geopark brand world-wide through activities in collaboration with the Regional Networks, the National Geopark Fora/Committees, activities on International Days; campaigns through social media; International Tourism Fairs.



GGN and International Networking

The GGN and its Regional Networks are partners with UNESCO, IUGS and IUCN. the GGN attaches great importance to International networking and the collaboration of the GGN with IUCN and IUGS as well as the presence in International Conferences i.e IGC, IGU Conference, IAG, etc.

STRATEGIC ACTION 10

Networking

Activities 2022

All kind of Networking at national and international level are promoted and diffused by the SGF and its members.



In general, Networking is the main activity of the SGF as it can be seen in the **2022 Action Plan**:

The Action Plan is a living document that includes the common networking activities agreed in the meetings of the Spanish Geoparks Forum. It also constitutes the scheme for monitoring the results of these activities and the distribution of responsibilities among the members. Some of its actions may be multi-annual. Its relationship with the strategic objectives set globally by the GGN will be sought.

STRATEGIC ACTION 10

Networking

ACTION
Coordination Board
2022 webinars
Volcanism Day in El Hierro
Youth Forum. Survey and proposals
European Geoparks Week. - Geoparqueando. - Common promotion
Geoparks and SDGs: initiatives and geoparks products.
Publication 2023 of the Spanish Geoparks
VII FEG Open Days.
Coordination with the GGN strategy.
Spain Experiences Project
Book on Karst and Cavities in the Spanish Geoparks
Digital marketing strategy
EGN website translation
Support for revalidations 2022 El Hierro, Courel, Molina Alto Tajo and Basque Coast.
Advice to aspiring geoparks Sierra de Aracena in Huelva Calatrava Volcanoes Ciudad Real South of Salamanca.

2022 Action Plan:

Work issues with the Spanish National Committee and NatCom UNESCO

- Decree of the SNCG.
- State aid to geoparks.
- Youth Forum expenses
- Financing of common actions, such as publications.
- Relations with Spanish Government
- Possible presence in revalidations

Coordination with Spanish Biosphere Reserves

Activities organized by third parties that require the participation of Spanish geoparks:

- Conference of the Academy of Sciences on Geological Heritage and Geoparks: contribution to the advancement of Earth Sciences
- Conference on Scientific Tourism. FUNDECYT - Extremadura Tourism
- Educational and dissemination webinar with Lang Son aUGGp from Vietnam
- 3rd Conference of UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece and Cyprus
- Geological heritage, geoparks, scientific research and tourist use. Organizes: Royal Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences
- XIV Geological Heritage Meeting (CPG) of the Geological Society of Spain
- XXXIII Meeting of UNESCO Associated Schools in Zumaia
- XXI Symposium on Teaching Geology. Grenade

PICG projects in Geoparks of Spain

731 Geological Heritage sites

730 Hydrogeological Significance of Mediterranean Geoparks

726 Geofood

714 Geoclimbing and geotrekking

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