

[View online](#)

# GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

International Association on Geoparks

CELEBRATING EARTH HERITAGE – SUSTAINING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

52 | January 23, 2021

## NEWS FEED

### **A message to the UNESCO Global Geoparks managers and staff**

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We want to thank each one of you personally for your support to the activities and networking of the UNESCO Global Geoparks family during 2020!

What a year it has been!

At this time last year, none of us could have predicted the challenges and losses our planet, our societies and our Geoparks would face in 2020.

We know that this year has made many of us despair, but at times when we felt the weight of the crisis around us, we could look around and see our colleagues in the Geopark's family, trying to invent new ways to maintain the difficulties and support our local communities around the globe. All of us we took strength and courage from all those working to make the world a better place.

The global pandemic, extreme weather events such as floods, heatwaves, droughts and storms, unprecedented wildfires, a record-breaking hurricane season and high temperatures in the Arctic have all reinforced one thing: the health of the planet and the health of humanity are inextricably linked.

The geological heritage provides the tools to understand the consequences of the past climate changes to the habitats and ecosystems, providing the adequate interpretation framework for the consequences of the current anthropogenic crisis to the nature and the human communities around the globe. Climate change and habitat destruction are threats that we must address now. Geoparks are the ideal

field to educate the society at large on climate change mitigation and adaptation!

Thus we share with you through this first for the 2021 GGN News Feed positive news and activities! First of all that 8 new territories are now waiting for the approval of their applications from the UNESCO ExB to become UNESCO Global Geoparks!

The GGN also starts a **new initiative** asking UNESCO Global Geoparks to share positive Geopark stories and activities with all the Geopark family helping to prepare the day after.... (see below)

We should all act now, learning from the past we can prepare better our common future!

Let's try together!

The GGN Executive Board

---

## UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

### 5th UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Meeting

**8-9 December 2020**

The 5th session of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council was held online on 8 and 9 December 2020. During the meeting, the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council assessed 9 applications for UNESCO Global Geoparks, deferred from previous Council sessions in 2018 and 2019. The following sites were proposed for endorsement to the UNESCO Executive Board during the 2021 spring session:

1. Vestjylland, DENMARK
2. Saimaa, FINLAND
3. Thuringia Inselberg-Drei Gleichen, GERMANY
4. Grevena Kozani, GREECE
5. Belitong, INDONESIA
6. Aspromonte, ITALY
7. Majella, ITALY
8. Holy Cross Mountains, POLAND

For more information, please view the UNESCO's announcement at the following [link](#).

---

## GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

UNESCO  
United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

UNESCO  
Global  
Geoparks

# 2<sup>nd</sup> GGN DIGITAL FORUM

23-24 FEBRUARY 2021  
12:00 - 14:00 GMT

GLOBAL  
GEOPARKS  
NETWORK

## 2nd GGN DIGITAL FORUM

**Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th February 2021**

Due to the interest of the participants and the success of the 1st GGN Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2020, GGN Executive Board in close collaboration with UNESCO Earth Science and Geo-Hazard Risk Reduction Section decided to organise the 2nd GGN Digital Course.

GGN Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks is a global initiative with the aim of networking and exchanging of information and ideas regarding UNESCO Global Geoparks' activities and initiatives.

The 2nd GGN Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2021 will be held on Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 12:00 – 14:00 GMT.

The 1st session of the GGN Digital Forum on Tuesday 23rd will deal with GGN issues and it is open to GGN Members. The 2nd session of the Forum will deal with issues related to networking and the vision of the UNESCO Global Geoparks for the future in "The World After", their priorities and their future plans. During the 2nd session UNESCO Global Geoparks will also present their good examples during COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to participate in the 2nd GGN Digital Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks 2021 please visit the link:

<https://www.gotomeet.me/PetrifiedForest/2nd-ggn-forum-23-24-february>

## **GGN NEW INITIATIVE: Preparing our Common Future....**

GGN Executive Board in close collaboration with UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat during the first GGN Executive Board meeting for the year 2021 discussed the situation and in relation with the UNESCO Global Geoparks.

There is no doubt that COVID-19 pandemic will not be over during the next months as many countries around the world are facing a really difficult period.

This is the time for good news and positive stories.

Many UNESCO Global Geoparks despite the pandemic are continuously working and producing various positive stories. We can promote these Geopark stories and news through our communication platforms and tools, to encourage our colleagues around the Globe and inspire our communities to overpass the crisis!

The GGN Executive Board and the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat encourages all UNESCO Global Geoparks to pull together their favorite videos, poems, inspirational quotes with their dreams for the future in order to provide hope to all other UNESCO Global Geoparks members and their local people during this time.





New initiative



## UNESCO Global Geoparks:

Our thoughts and vision

for the FUTURE



**Share your positive stories,  
your dreams and thoughts  
for the future** [globalgeoparksnetwork.org](http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org)

Youths are the future of the Geopark. Contact and communicate with them and ask them to describe their illusion for the future.

We hope while reading these messages of hope, take some time to quietly reflect on these images or words as well as the emotions they bring out in all of us and our local communities.

We are looking forward to your stories and news!

### **GEOPARK TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

## **6th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development**

Yimengshan UNESCO Global Geopark, Shandong Province, China

7 - 12 December 2020



## 第六届联合国教科文组织世界地质公园管理和发展国际培训班 The 6<sup>th</sup> International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development

The 6th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development was held from 7th to 12th December 2020. The Course was organised by the China University of Geosciences, the Yimengshan UNESCO Global Geopark, the Office of Chinese Geoparks Network, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences with the contribution of the Aegean University, Greece with the support of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Secretariat, the Global Geoparks Network (GGN), the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN), the Department of Protected Area Management, National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China and the Secretariat of Chinese Commission for UNESCO.

The course was attracted by more than 100 delegates from UNESCO Global Geoparks, Aspiring Geoparks, technical institutions and related companies.



*The photo of the training course participants*

During the Course was announced the organization of the 7th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development which will be held from **7th to 12th December 2021**.

**GEOPARK DIGITAL EVENTS**



# International Mountain Day

11 December 2020



UNESCO Global Geoparks on 11th of December 2020 celebrated the International Mountain Day 2020.

As half of the world's biodiversity hotspots are found in mountains, the 2020's theme was "Mountain biodiversity". Mountains are facing threats in every way like climate change and global warming, bad farming practices, logging, commercial mining etc.

UNESCO Global Geoparks participated in this celebration and organised many activities all around the globe in order to celebrate their mountains rich biodiversity and raise awareness of the need to protect mountains and the threats their biodiversity faces.

## GEOPARK'S EVENTS

Celebrating in China

## Celebrating International Mountain Day at the 6th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development, China

On 11th December, 2020, the participants of the 6th International Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks Management and Development celebrated the International Mountain Day during the geopark visit in Yimengshan UGGp, Shandong Province, China. The attendances are from nearly 30 Chinese UNESCO Global Geoparks, Aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks, academic institutions and presses. Following photos show the activity on the top of Mount Mengshan in the Yimengshan UGGp.



Celebrating in Japan





*The Japanese UNESCO Global Geoparks's poster for the celebration of the International Mountain Day*

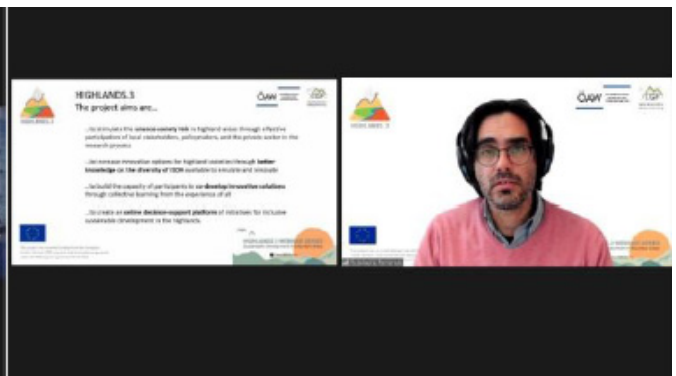
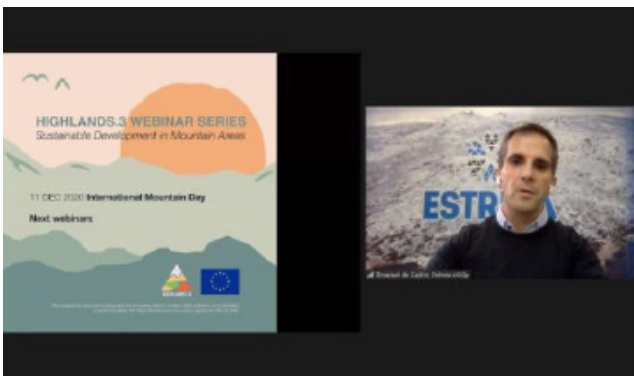
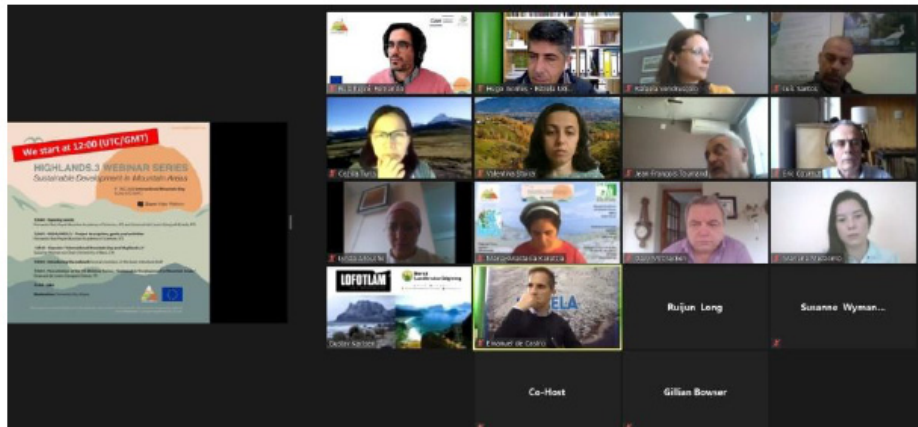
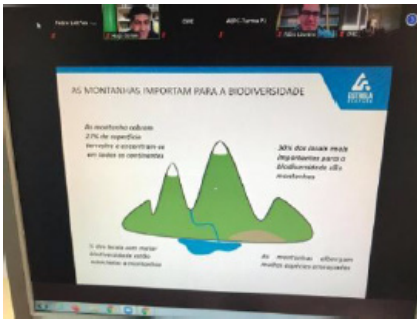
## Celebrating in Europe

### **ESTRELA UGGp (Portugal)**

On December 11th, the Estrela UGGp and its communities celebrated the International Mountain Day and organised the following actions:

- An online open class with about 1200 students, where the knowledge about the highest mountain in mainland Portugal - Serra da Estrela - was promoted.
- A Presentation and distribution of the "Estrela's Game - A way to learn how to play on our Mountain".
- An International Webinar.

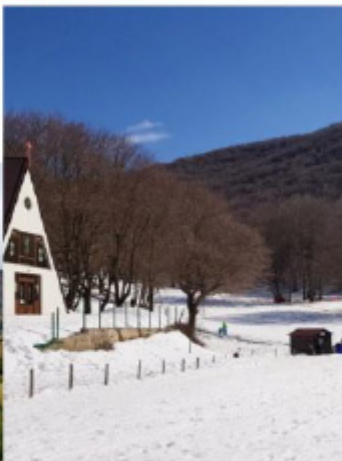
[Report on the activities of Estrela UNESCO Global Geopark \[pdf\]](#)





### Modonie UGGp (Italy)

Modonie UNESCO Global Geopark celebrated the International Mountain Day and is sharing the following poster with photos of its rich of geodiversity and biodiversity mountains:

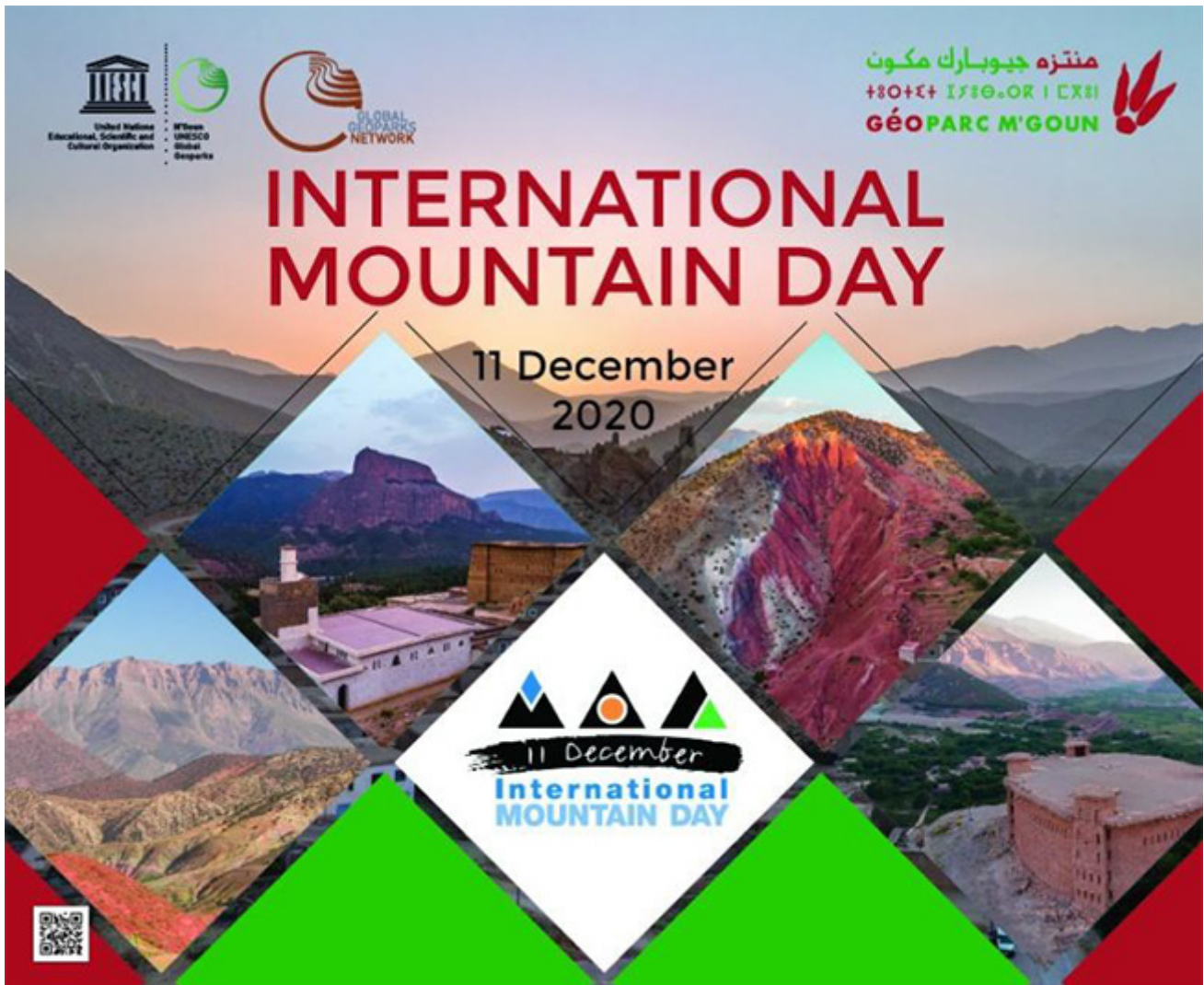




## Celebrating in Africa

### M'Goun UGGp (Morocco)

M'Goun UNESCO Global Geopark celebrated the International Mountain Day. A great performance organized by the Geopark M'goun Association, with the participation of members of the AGM association, the Herro Azilal Association and the Green and Clean club of the ENCG engineering school of Beni Mellal. A day full of reforestation, raising of awareness and geo-education activities. At the same time, the geo-partner associations of the AGM celebrated the day at the sites of ouzoud, imi n'ifri, ait Bougamaze, and zaouit Ahnsal.









## **GEOPARK REPORTS**

### **Geopark Annual Reports 2020**

UNESCO Global Geoparks, GGN Regional Networks and National Fora/Committees all around the world worked very hard during 2020 and implement various activities despite COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. All these activities will be communicated through the Annual Reports 2020.



The Global Geoparks Network invites all UNESCO Global Geoparks, GGN Regional Networks and National Fora/Committees to send their Annual Report 2020.

All Geoparks are invited to use the [Geopark Annual Report 2020 template \[doc\]](#).

Annual Reports 2020 will be communicated through the GGN webpage:

[http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page\\_id=4095](http://globalgeoparksnetwork.org/?page_id=4095)

**YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED**

## **National Fora/Committee Annual Reports 2019**

The GGN Executive Board congratulates the Czech National Geoparks Council for their activities during 2019.

You can read the [Czech National Geoparks Council Annual Report 2019 here](#)

---

### **REGIONAL GEOPARKS NETWORKS**

### **European Geoparks Network (EGN)**

### **3rd EGN Digital Forum**

**Tuesday, 26 January 2021**



On January 26th, 2021 the European Geoparks Network (EGN) will organise the 3rd EGN Digital Forum at 9:00 GMT.

The third EGN Forum will also be organised digitally due to restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main purpose of the meeting is networking, sharing good practices and experiences in relation to the EGN ongoing activities. The meeting will also include invited specialists on specific themes.

## **Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network (GeoLAC)**

### MOOC on Nature-based solutions for disaster and climate resilience

Latin America and Caribbean Geoparks Network (GeoLAC) is sharing the information about the organisation of the MOOC on Nature-based solutions for disaster and climate resilience. The course was launched on Friday 22nd of January 2021.

It is offered in 7 languages: English, French, Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish, Arabic, Hindi, and Indonesian


For more information please visit the link <https://pedrr.org/mooc>

## CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

### UNESCO Lecture Series

# “Earth Materials for a Sustainable and Thriving Society”

January - March 2021



UNESCO Lecture Series: Earth Materials for a Sustainable and Thriving Society — Organised in collaboration with IUGS and ICRA

## Earth Materials: The Foundation for Development

26 January 2021  
 05.00 (Vancouver) • 08.00 (Toronto, Lima) • 13.00 (London) • 14.00 (Paris, Lagos) • 15.00 (Johannesburg) • 16.00 (Nairobi) • 18.30 (Mumbai) • 19.00 (Dhaka) • 21.00 (Beijing) • 22.00 (Tokyo) • 00.00+1 (Sydney)

Review of historical and present-day mineral demand and its connections to the economy, technology, and society.

Dr. Larry Meinert, Meinert Consulting LLC, Delaware, USA.  
 and  
 Dr. Nellie Mutemeri, Mining Practice Lead, Mutemeri Consulting and Associate Professor, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa.

<https://bit.ly/UNESCOlectures>

A live question and answer session will follow the lecture presentation.

All sessions will be conducted in English with live captioning in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Swahili, and Hindi.

Images clockwise from top left: ©Shutterstock/Abdulkarim Hassan; ©Shutterstock/Talal Deid; ©Shutterstock/ing6; ©Shutterstock/yunusai

UNESCO Lecture Series will be organized under the remit of International Geoscience programme and in collaboration with UNESCO’s partner organizations, International Union of geosciences (IUGS) and iCRA.

The lecture series will commence on 26 January 2021 with the thematic “Earth Materials: The Foundation for Development” and will be followed by:

- Climate Neutrality, The Circular Economy, and Earth Materials (2 February 2021)
- The Neglected Minerals and Materials of Development (9 February 2021)
- Mineral extraction and Communities (16 February 2021)
- Suppliers, Consumers and the Global Minerals Supply Chain (2 March 2021)
- Earth Materials and a Sustainable Future (9 March 2021)

To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/UNESCOlectures>

Please find below the information flyers promoting UNESCO Lecture Series:



[UNESCO lecture series\\_English](#)

[UNESCO lecture series\\_French](#)

[UNESCO lecture series\\_Spanish](#)

[UNESCO lecture series\\_Portuguese](#)

## **9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks**

**September 9-15, 2021**  
**Jeju Island, Republic of Korea**

## **1st Global Geopark Network Film Festival**

**Application deadline: 31 May 2021**

The first edition of the GGN Film festival will be organized during the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark in from 12 to 14 September 2021 in Jeju Island UNESCO Global Geopark.

After the postponement of the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark the deadline for new applications is **31st of May 2021**.

For more information please visit the website:

<https://filmfest.globalgeoparksnetwork.org/>

## **1st UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM**

**September 2021**

The 1st UNESCO Global Geoparks Youth Forum will be organized during the 9th Conference on UNESCO Global Geopark in **September 2021**.

The main purpose of the UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS YOUTH FORUM is to offer young people an opportunity to engage more concretely in the preparation of the philosophy mandate and activities of the UNESCO Global Geoparks, elaborate their contribution to the debates of the 9th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks and foster their commitment to the realization of the future they want, being actors of change in their territories. They will elaborate their proposal for actions contributing to the UNESCO Global Geoparks strategic framework for action 2021-2025, to address heritage protection, natural hazards mitigation, climate change and sustainable development in general.

For further information please visit the [link](#).

The Operational Guidelines of the 1st YOUTH FORUM have been agreed at the 64th GGN ExB meeting on December 10th, 2019.

## **YOUTH FORUM OPERATION GUIDELINES**

We are looking forward to receive your youth participations.

# **EXAMPLES OF GEOPARK'S ACTIVITIES**

Leiqiong UNESCO Global Geopark (China)

Scientific Publicity Volunteer Training Camp of 2020



From December 7 to 11, the Scientific Publicity Volunteer Training Camp of 2020 was successfully conducted in Hainan and Guangdong province. It's held by Leiqiong Global Geopark management committee, conducted by Geoparker. Under the guidance of science teachers, 17 volunteers took part in a five-day of boot camps and researching field trips in Leiqiong UNESCO Global Geopark. They are from academic institutions such as Academy of Forestry Sciences of Jilin province, Hydropower Survey and Design Institute of Yunnan, University of Hainan, CUHK, University College London, Natural school of Mount Danxia, etc.

You can read the report of the "Scientific Publicity Volunteer Training Camp of 2020" in [English](#) and [Chinese](#) language.





## Yandangshan UNESCO Global Geopark (China)

### Forum of Volcanic Rocks and Geoparks in Volcanic Area

Yandangshan UNESCO Global Geopark organised the "2020 Forum on Volcanic Rocks and Geoparks in Volcanic Areas". The Forum was held from 17th to 20th November, 2020. Over 60 delegates attended the Forum from Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Nanjing University, Zhejiang University, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chang'an University, Capital Normal University, Nanjing and Wuhan Branches of China Geological Survey, Leiqiong UGGp, Wudalianchi UGGp, Ningde UGGp, Jingpohu UGGp, Hexigten UGGp, Taining UGGp, Leye-Fengshan UGGp, and Jiuhuashan UGGp.

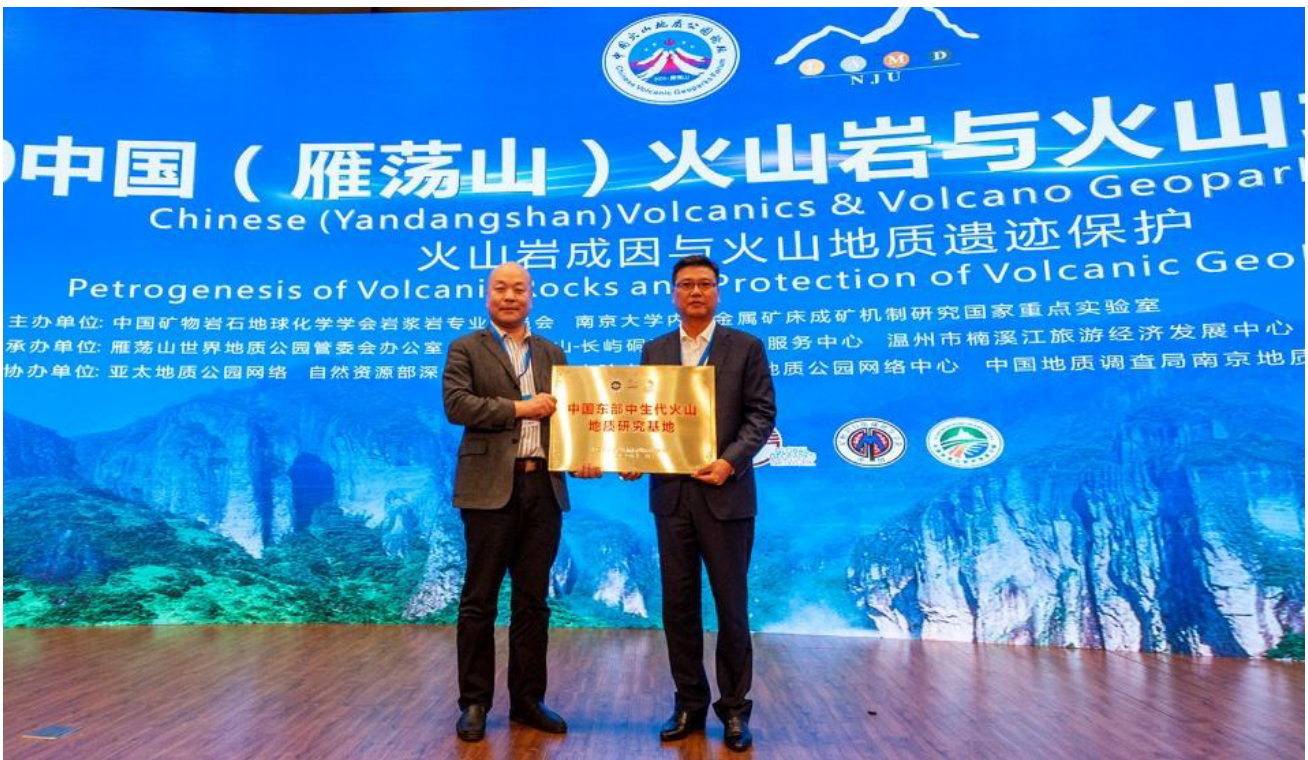


APGN was one of the supporters of the Forum, and APGN Coordinator Prof. JIN Xiaochi, amongst others, addressed the opening ceremony.

**[Report of the "2020 Forum on Volcanic Rocks and Geoparks in Volcanic Areas" \[pdf\]](#)**



*Prof. Jin Xiaochi speech during the opening ceremony*



*Plaque awarding during the Forum*





*Activities during the first excursion*



*Activities during the second excursion*



[Facebook](#)

[Manage your subscription](#)

Copyright Globalgeoparksnetwork.org | All Rights Reserved