

## IGCP ANNUAL REPORT 2016

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Members of the Portuguese National Committee  
[http://www.igcp.org.pt/IGCP\\_Pt/Inicio.html](http://www.igcp.org.pt/IGCP_Pt/Inicio.html) during 2016

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## **IGCP PROJECTS**

During the year 2016 the Portuguese National Committee for IGCP gave support to two new applications for IGCP Projects.  
Projects with participants from Portugal: 591, 624 and 653.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

### Meetings attended

- Participation in the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Coordination Council of the IGCP Committee of UNESCO, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris;
- Participation in the XI Congress of Young Geoscientists, Coimbra, Portugal, 8-9 April, 2016.
- Participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> SIBTUR - Symposium on Good Practices in Tourism, S. Pedro do Sul, Portugal, 4-5 May 2016.
- Participation in the Iberian Fair of Tourism (FIT), Guarda, Portugal, 5-8 May 2016.
- Participation in the IGCP Project 591 Closing Meeting: A combined data-model approach to understand the Early to Middle Paleozoic Revolution, Ghent, Belgium, 6-9 July 2016.
- Participation in the 35<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress, Cape Town, South Africa; 27 August - 4 September 2016.
- Participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks, Torbay, England, 27 - 30 September 2016.
- Co-organization and participation on the conference "World Science Day for Peace and Development", University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Vila Real, 10 November 2016.
- Participation in the closing ceremony of the International Year of Global Understanding, Sciences Academy of Lisbon, Lisbon, 17 November 2016.
- Participation and sponsorship of the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Atlantic "Competitiveness and Sustainability of insular areas", Ribeira Grande, S. Miguel Azores, 20-22 October and Câmara de Lobos, Madeira, 24-26 November 2016.
- Participation and support to the International Conference: "UNESCO Global Geoparks - Territories of Science", Nova University of Lisbon, Lisbon, 25 November, 2016.

### Exhibitions

- Coordination of national itinerant exhibitions: "Once upon a time Earth...", "Chemistry between Us" and "Crystallography".
- Official scientific support to the itinerant exhibition "The rainforest of Pejão of 300 million years ago".
- Support to the itinerant exhibition "Portuguese Forum of Geoparks".

### **Educational training courses and capacity building activities**

- Participation in the jury of the school contests "Water that unites us" and "Chemistry between us" in formal cooperation with Bayer Portugal S.A.;
- Implementation of the training Course "GEA – Mother Earth" in Madeira Island, with the support of the Regional Secretariat for the Environment and Natural Resources and a field trip to the Biosphere Reserve of Santana, 29-30 April 2016.
- Training course about the geodiversity of Serpa region (Beja, Portugal), in cooperation with the National Institute for Nature Conservation (ICNF) and the Portuguese Geological Survey (LNEG), 29 May 2016.
- Implementation of the training Course "GEA – Mother Earth" in Araripe UNESCO Global Geopark, with the support of the Araripe UNESCO Global Geopark, Crato, Ceará State, Brazil, 7 December 2016.
- Along 2016, promotion of the objectives of the *International Year of Global Understanding*, with the promotion of activities (documentaries, conferences, workshops, exhibitions) and institutional support to events promoted by other national entities. The Portuguese Committee was member of the Portuguese Commission for the celebrations, inside the regional Portugal-Spain regional section.

### **Candidatures to UNESCO Prizes**

Candidature of the educational Program "GEA – Mother Earth" to the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development.

### **Institutional and Community Support**

- Official support to the UNESCO Chair on "Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles" of the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro.
- Technical advice to the City Council of Bragança about the importance of the geosite "Tojal dos Pereiros Granulites" (the oldest rocks in Portugal, Mesoproterozoic, 1,2 Ga).
- Technical advice about the "Geological Park of Tourencinho" (Municipality of Vila Pouca de Aguiar) in order to establish a geological pedestrian trail.
- Support to the Program "Ocean Alive | Healthy Oceans protected by Local People" in order to transform behaviors for ocean protection through marine education and the involvement of local coastal communities.

- Follow-up of the field work and the community engagement process of the Aspiring Geopark Serra da Estrela
- Initial follow-up support to new geopark projects in Portugal (Lourinhã, Viana do Castelo and Figueira da Foz).

### **Outreach activities**

- Terras sem Sombra (= Land without shadows) Festival, interview about the geodiversity in Guadiana area (Beja, Portugal) in the Portuguese Television Chanel TVI, 5 June 2016.

### **Events and Celebrations**

- Participation in the “Media Lab Project” promoted by the Portuguese newspaper “Diário de Notícias” to celebrate the Earth International Day, 22 April 2016;
- Support to the Bajocian (Middle Jurassic) GSSP golden spike ceremony, Cabo Mondego, Figueira da Foz, 24 July 2016;
- Support to the Toarcian (Lower Jurassic) GSSP golden spike ceremony, Peniche, 25 July 2016;

### **Membership**

- The National Committee is observer member of the Portuguese Forum of UNESCO Global Geoparks;
- The National Committee is in charge give to the NatCom a non-binding opinion on national applications to UNESCO Global Geoparks.

### **Official initiatives**

- Signed a cooperation protocol for the promotion of the school contest "A Química entre nós ..." with Bayer Portugal, S.A.;
- Audience with the Secretary of State of Science, Technology and Higher Education to explain the Educational Program “GEA - Mother Earth”. The National Committee was in charge of creating a working group for the adaptation of the Portuguese legislation for the protection of the national geological mobile heritage;
- Meeting with national Civil Protection officials to develop and foster training initiatives to address natural hazards to the society.