

## **ANNUAL IGCP NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **PARTICIPANTS**

During 2017, Dr. Cecilia Mariel Spagnuolo, president of the Argentine Geological Association, continued as Authority of the National Committee of Argentina.

Since February 2017, Dr. Maria Julia Orgeira from Argentina has been appointed by the General Director of UNESCO as a member of the Council of the International Geosciences Program (IGCP) on the Global Change theme.

### **IGCP PROJECTS**

The Project presented and led by Dr. Bocanegra, No. 656: "Geoparks in Ibero-America", was rejected. However, we congratulate and encourage the presentation led by Argentine colleagues in the different topics.

Argentine colleagues participate in the following projects during 2017:

- IGCP 653: The Onset of the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event (Global Change and the Evolution of Life: Evidence from the geological record)
- IGCP 652: Reading geologic time in Paleozoic sedimentary rocks (Global Change and the Evolution of Life: Evidence from the geological record)
- IGCP 632: Continental Crises of the Jurassic (Global Change and the Evolution of Life: Evidence from the geological record)

### **UNESCO CHAIR**

The UNESCO Chair of Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles is the first in the world that links and takes as its object of work geoparks and human health.

The main objective of this Chair is to create an innovative network that is integrated by diverse areas including research and teaching. It also includes projects, active research and communication groups in order to increase society's awareness of geological issues, and mainly focused on the development of collective capacities.

Argentines that works in the Universidad Nacional de Tucumán are constituent members of the UNESCO Chair of Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles.

On December 1, 2017, the conference "Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles" by Dr. Abreu Sá \* (Portugal), as part of the Unesco Chair. It was held in the Geologist's House (Headquarters of the AGA), Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*\* Associate Professor of the University of Tras-os-Montes and Alto Duero (UTAD - Portugal). Dr. Sá developed his career studying the stratigraphy and Paleozoic paleontology of the SW of Europe and N of Africa, as well as the theme of Geological Heritage, Geoscience and Geoparks. He currently serves as the Director of the UNESCO Chair in "Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles", acting as Chairman of the National Committee for the International Geoscience Program for Portugal (IGCP - UNESCO), Consultant Member and Coordinator of the European Network of Geoparks, and Member of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Evaluator Core.*

## **GEOPARQUES**

*\* Important: It should be noted that the first two items mentioned are extracted exclusively from news stories, lacking any official information about it.*

### **• Binational Geopark of Protected Areas: Turbo State Park (Rio Grande Do Sul-Brazil) and Moconá Provincial Park (Misiones-Argentina).**

*The information available dates from March 2017.*

Project framework: A bilateral agreement between the province of Misiones (Argentina) and the state of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil (March 14, 2017).

Objective: Conformation of a Binational Geopark (the first in Latin America) to contribute to the construction of a geological, cultural and historical conservation area. The binational geopark will cover

14 thousand hectares, of which 13 thousand belong to the State Park of Turbo (Brazil) where the jumps of Yucuma and the remaining thousand to the Provincial Park Moconá - according to Verónica Derna Minister of Ecology and RNR of Misiones -.

- **Neuquén presented the first Geopark of the country to UNESCO**

*The information available dates from November 17, 2017*

Project framework: Presentation of the Pillán Mahuiza Park (Neuquén) during the National Tourism Forum in Salta, organized by the Ministry of Tourism of the Nation and the Federal Council of Tourism. According to the Minister of Production and Tourism of Neuquén, José Brillo, the application "has already been sent to UNESCO". The geopark would have an area of 4,847 kilometers and is almost entirely in the southwest of the province of Neuquén, from Villa Traful to Las Coloradas, and on the Andes mountain range between the Cardenal Samoré and Mamuil Malal

- **Association of Iberoamerican Geology and Mining Services**

Between 12 and 14 September, the XXIII Ordinary General Assembly of the Iberoamerican Geology and Mining Services Association was held in Havana, Cuba, with a focus on Geodiversity Geological Heritage and Geoparks. The Argentine Mining Geological Service participated.

- **Argentine Geological Congress**

Within the framework of the XX Argentine Geological Congress, held in August 2017 in the province of Tucumán, Argentina, the Symposium "Geological Heritage Symposium, Geoparks, Sustainable Development and Healthy Lifestyles" was developed.

\* Some sources:

<http://misionesonline.net/2017/03/16/se-encuentra-marcha-la-creacion-del-geoparque-binacional-areas-protegidas/>

<http://www.eltterritorio.com.ar/m/mnota.aspx?c=0185465719492825>

<http://www.noticiero12.com/index.php/games/locales-10/item/6443-ya-se-trabaja-en-la-creacion-del-geoparque-binacional>

<http://agencialegislativa.com/misiones-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-con-rio-grande-do-sul/>

<http://misionesadiario.com.ar/index.php/la-columna/12166-se-encuentra-en-marcha-la-creacion-del-geoparque-binacional-de-areas-protegidas>

<http://argentinasalvaje.com/news-posts/geoparque-se-encuentra-en-marcha-la-creacion-del-primero-en-la-argentina/>

<http://www.economis.com.ar/bonos-verdes-misiones-gestiona-fondos-de-la-onu-para-proteger-y-recuperar-la-selva/>

<http://www.radiotupambae.com.ar/noticia.php?n=15083>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3N6UfTB9cNk>

<http://www.sema.rs.gov.br/acordo-bilateral-consolida-integracao-entre-rs-e-misiones>

<http://www.revistacodigos.com/federalismo-ambiental-ejercer-activamente-el-misionerismo-para-un-desarrollo-sustentable/>

<http://www.neuqueninforma.gob.ar/neuquen-presento-el-primer-geoparque-postulante-del-pais-ante-la-unesco/>