

# Environmental, urban, and individual regeneration in former mining landscapes of the Sulcis-Iglesiente area: the role of Geo-minerary Park in fostering a learning city

Third International Conference on Learning Cities  
Global goals, local actions: Towards lifelong learning for all in 2030

Cork, 19/09/2017



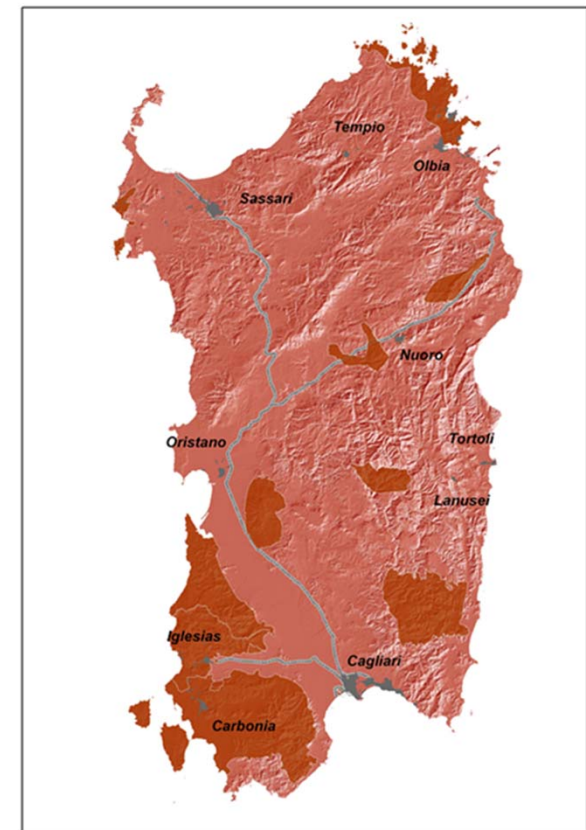
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# THE HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL GEOMINERARY PARK IN SARDEGNA

## Parco Geominerario Storico e Ambientale della Sardegna



- Institution of the Historic and Environmental Geominerary Park in Sardegna
- Result of the intuition of scholars and territory-lovers
- Recognition of the value and potential of the great technical, scientific and cultural heritage of the millennial mining feats of Sardegna.





# International recognition and the institution of the Park

- Autumn 1997 vain  recognition
- First park of the UNESCO global Geosites/Geoparks network > unfortunately the project was not institutionalised by UNESCO until much later.
- 1998 Carta di Cagliari (Cagliari Papers):  
UNESCO  
Italian Government  
Regione Sardegna  
Universities of Cagliari and Sassari  
EMSA
- ✓ Cornerstones on which establishing the Park and its finalities



## Official institution of the Park

- 2000/2001 > Law and Institutional Decree (DM 16 October 2001) establishing the Parco Geominerario Storico e Ambientale della Sardegna > finalities, activities and boards.
- 2004 > first official Charter of the Park Consortium.
- 2016 > reform of the Park (DM 8 September 2016) > classified into different sub-areas according to their historic and cultural relevance.



## The “Carta di Cagliari” goals for the Park development:

- ✓ Re-instate, reclaim and enhance abandoned mining sites
- ✓ Recover mining construction sites and structures of scientific interest
- ✓ Transform into museums the industrial archaeological heritage
- ✓ Protect and preserve animal and plant species
- ✓ Preserve archaeological sites and anthropic values of human activities
- ✓ Promote educational, recreational and cultural/artistic activities
- ✓ Promote training activities and scientific research
- ✓ Promote the settlement of compatible economic activities

These goals have been developed into the main activities of the Park, according to the Park Constitution.

## The Park

- 8 historic mining *core areas* > fundamental for the protection of the legal Sardinian heritage.
- All geological sites in Sardegna are under the Park's supervision > responsible for the protection and promotion of the geologic heritage of the whole island
- Extension: 3800 km<sup>2</sup>
- Covering 81 municipalities on a total of 377 within the island of Sardegna
- Delimitation criteria:
  - ✓ Records/evidences of mining activity
  - ✓ Archaeological emergences
  - ✓ Geologic-structural context
  - ✓ Naturalistic and environmental values

### *core areas*



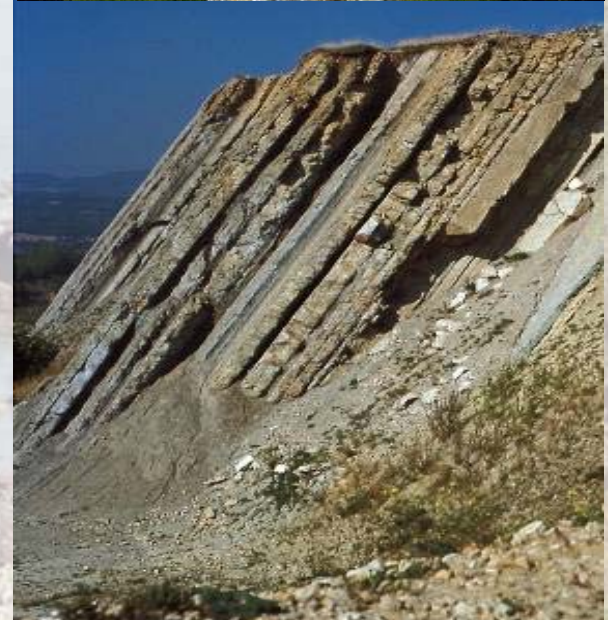


# The European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Network under UNESCO

## *social meaning and economic value*

New-born strategy for preserving the geologic heritage, operating both at a national and international level > **Geoparks**.

- Territories offering the opportunity of a diacronic path, going back through geologic eras and different life-forms inhabiting them.
- A trip to the discovery of fabulous landscapes, testifying the evolution of Earth.
- Wondrous preservation instruments, aiming to the enhancement of the geologic heritage, a formidable treasure chest recording marks and proofs of the past
- ✓ A precious and fragile patrimony.





## The Parco Geominerario Storico e Ambientale della Sardegna aims

- To protect and enhance historic and environmental heritage,
- To transmit it to future generations,
- To promote a new model for sustainable development.
- These aims, along with the intrinsic characteristics of the Park and of its administration, make the Park a possible candidate for Learning Cities



## What does a Geopark in a learning city perspective mean?

Sardinia Geopark sites and landscapes are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development.

A learning city perspective uses Geopark heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society.

By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, Geoparks in a learning city perspective give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area. The creation of innovative local enterprises, new jobs and high quality training courses is stimulated as new sources of revenue, generated through geotourism, while the geological resources of the area are protected.

## **Steps toward a learning city in the Sardinia Geopark area**

1. Empowering local communities and give them the opportunity to develop cohesive partnerships with the common goal of promoting the area's significant geological processes, features, periods of time, historical themes linked to geology, or outstanding geological beauty.
2. Bottom-up process involving all relevant local and regional stakeholders and authorities in the area (e.g. land owners, community groups, tourism providers, indigenous people, and local organizations).

This process requires firm commitment by the local communities, a strong local multiple partnership with long-term public and political support, and the development of a comprehensive strategy that will meet all of the communities' goals while showcasing and protecting the area's geological heritage.



## What does a Geopark in a learning city perspective mean?

The project builds upon an agreement stipulated the Department of Education and Geopark (Summer 2017).

Following activities by 2017:

1. Constitution of a scientific committee.
2. Constitution of a committee comprising representatives from different sectors, able to reach consensus on the principals for developing, implementing and financing the learning city project.



**Keywords:**

mining landscapes - deindustrialization - inclusion - employability -  
lifelong learning

Thank you for your attention

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