

IGCP ANNUAL REPORT 2015

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Members of the Portuguese National Committee
http://www.igcp.org.pt/IGCP_Pt/Inicio.html during 2015

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IGCP PROJECTS WITH PORTUGUESE CO-LEADERSHIP OR PARTICIPATION

During the year 2015 Portuguese geoscientists participated in five projects. Projects with participants from Portugal include: 591, 597, 628, 637 and 648.

Support to the IGCP applicant Project “Magnetic susceptibility and cyclostratigraphy – improvement of Paleozoic time scales”.

ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Meetings and events:

- Participation in the 43rd session of the Coordination Council of the IGCP Committee of UNESCO, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris (February);
- Participation in the meetings of the Working Group created by the Director General of UNESCO for the establishment of the new “International Geoscience and Geoparks Program”, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris (January and February);
- Participation in the meetings of the Coordination Committee of the EGN/GGN, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris (January and March);
- Co-organization of the Conference “Our soil: what future?” in collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the University Nova of Lisbon, in partnership with the Portuguese Office of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - FAO, Lisbon, 7th April;
<http://www.spcs.pt/index.php?/Noticias-e-Eventos/Eventos/Eventos-da-SPCS/O-Nosso-Solo-Que-Futuro>
- Institutional support and participation in the Meeting “Rural World”, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils* in partnership with the Azores Global Geopark of UNESCO and the Municipality of Horta, Faial Island, Azores, 7th-9th May;
<https://www.viralagenda.com/pt/events/156087/encontro-do-mundo-rural-2015>
- Co-organization of the conference “Why soils have different colours?” in partnership with the Portuguese Geological Survey (LNEG) and the Polytechnic Institute of Beja, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils*, Beja, 13th June;
<http://www.bejadigital.pt/NoticiaDisplay.aspx?ID=8210>
- Institutional support to the hiking activity "For these fields away" organized by the Municipality of Beja, once a month throughout the year 2015, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils*;

- Institutional support to the cultural event (Opera) "The God of the Volcano", integrated in the 7th Edition of the International Festival "Ao Largo", organized by the Camões Theatre, Lisbon, 23rd-25th July;

<http://www.festivalaolargo.pt/concerto-opera-dialogo-com-o-oriente-o-deus-do-vulcao-festivalaolargo-2015/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fE4gls_drPg

- Institutional support and participation in the 9th Edition of the "Atlantic Conferences" under the theme "Discussing desertification in the framework of the International Year of Soils", organized by the Insular Association of Geography of Madeira Island, Câmara de Lobos, Madeira, 23rd-24th October. This event was entirely covered by the National Radio Station Antena 1 of the Public Television RTP (live transmission);

<http://www.aigmadeira.com/ix-conferencia-do-atlantico/>

- Institutional support to the cycle of talks about the importance of Soils, given by leading figures from political, economic and academia spheres, organized by the Non-Governmental Organization "Liga para a Proteção da Natureza" and the Caixa Geral de Depósitos Bank. Five conferences between 11th November and 16th December, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils*, Culturgest, Lisbon;

[http://www.lpn.pt/Homepage/O-que-fazemos/Iniciativas/A-](http://www.lpn.pt/Homepage/O-que-fazemos/Iniciativas/A-decorrer/Events.aspx?olderEvents=false&tabid=2462&code=pt&ItemID=2532)

[decorrer/Events.aspx?olderEvents=false&tabid=2462&code=pt&ItemID=2532](http://www.lpn.pt/Homepage/O-que-fazemos/Iniciativas/A-decorrer/Events.aspx?olderEvents=false&tabid=2462&code=pt&ItemID=2532)

- Active participation in the workshop "The soil and the sustainability of agriculture", organized by the Polytechnic Institute of Beja, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils*, Beja, 30th November;

https://www.ipbeja.pt/UnidadesOrganicas/ESA/Lists/Notcias/Attachments/418/dia_internacional_solos_folheto_2015.pdf

- Celebration of the "Soil International Day 2015" in partnership with the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro and with the support of the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO, the Portuguese National Forum of Geoparks and the Portuguese Society for the Soil Science, Vila Real, 4th December;

http://www.utad.pt/vPT/Area2/agenda/Paginas/eventos_novembro_2015/dia_mundial_solo.aspx?datestart=2015-11-24&lst=1

-Co-organization of the workshop "Soils in mineral prospecting" in cooperation with the Portuguese Geological Survey (LNEG), organized at Ciência Viva Center of Lousal, in the framework of the *International Year of Soils*; Lousal, 11th December;

[http://www.lneg.pt/download/10833/Workshop_Geoquimica_Solos_LOUSAL2015_PR](http://www.lneg.pt/download/10833/Workshop_Geoquimica_Solos_LOUSAL2015_PROGRAMA_v1.pdf)
[OGRAMA_v1.pdf](http://www.lneg.pt/download/10833/Workshop_Geoquimica_Solos_LOUSAL2015_PROGRAMA_v1.pdf)

- Institutional support to the Cycle of Conferences and Seminars at the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, in the framework of the International celebrations of the

International Year of Light and the International Year of Soils, once a month throughout the year;

- Participation in the Meeting of the Science Commission of UNESCO during the UNESCO General Conference (integrated in the official Portuguese Delegation), 9th-10th November;

- Participation and institutional support to the National Event “Celebrating the World Science Day for Peace and Development”. This event gathered all the National Scientific Committees of the UNESCO Programs (IGCP, MAB, IOC, IHP, UNESCO Chairs, UNESCO Centres Category II, Education for Sustainable Development, Basic and Fundamental Sciences), organized by the Science Sector of the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO and integrated in the framework of the 70th anniversary of UNESCO, Pavillion of Knowledge, Lisbon, 10th November; The event ended with the celebration of the approval by the Science Commission of the General Conference on the new “International Geoscience and Geoparks Program” and the new “Global Geoparks of UNESCO” label;

<https://www.unescoportugal.mne.pt/pt/noticias/329-2014-agricultura-familiar>

-Institutional support to the Cultural Event “Celebrating the World Science Day for Peace and Development”, organized by the National Theatre Camões, in the framework of the World Science Day for Peace and Development and integrated in the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of UNESCO, Lisbon, 10th of November;

<http://ticketline.sapo.pt/evento/GALA-UNESCO-12252>

Portuguese-Brazilian Cooperation

- Support to the 2nd edition of the Educational Program “GEA - Mother Earth”, coordinated by the Portuguese National Committee for IGCP and the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO, which had involved more than 100,000 students in the Ceará State, mainly in the territory of Araripe Global Geopark, through the theme "It's the soil that sustains life!", in the framework of the *International Year of Soils* (2015), with the support of the Government of Ceará State, the Regional University of Cariri and Araripe Global Geopark ;

Exhibitions

- Institutional support to the Itinerary Exhibition “Portuguese National Forum of Geoparks”. During 2015, this exhibition has been in several places around Portugal, including Naturtejo Global Geopark of UNESCO;

- Coordination of national itinerant exhibitions: "**Once upon a time Earth...**"; "**Chemistry between Us**" and "**Crystallography and Basic Sciences**". Due to the contents of the last exhibition, the Division of the Basic Sciences of UNESCO has given a financial support and so it was possible to produce a second version of the referred exhibition, so that the National Commission of Cape Verde could coordinate this exhibition throughout all the Cape Verde schools (including Associated Schools of UNESCO Network). The official launch of this exhibition took place at the National Parliament, where students from High School participated;
- The itinerant exhibition "The Pejão rainforest from 300 million years ago," was present in the Interpretation Centre of Culture Castelo de Paiva and in the Municipal Library of Arouca in the Arouca Global Geopark of UNESCO;
http://www.geoparquearouca.com/?p=eventos&sp=listagemeventos_arq&ano=&evento=660

Educational, training courses and capacity building activities

- Participation in the jury of the school contests "It's the soil that sustains life!" and "Chemistry between us", in the framework of the Educational Program "GEA - Earth Mother", promoted by the Portuguese National Committee for IGCP, in partnership with the Portuguese NatCom for UNESCO, Portuguese Global Geoparks for UNESCO, Portuguese Biosphere Reserves, Oporto Metropolitan Area and several Portuguese municipalities.
- Organization of three Training Courses entitled "GEA – Mother Earth: Information in Context", in partnership with the Portuguese NatCom for UNESCO and with the support of Bayer Portugal. It was organized for teachers, educators, librarians and municipality staff.
- Along 2015, promotion of the objectives of the *International Year of Soils* and the *International Year of Light* and also the objectives of the Action Plan for Sustainable Development of UNESCO with the promotion of several activities (conferences, workshops, exhibitions) and institutional support to events promoted by other national entities;
- In October 2015, official launch of the school competition "Natural disasters: how to minimize risks and how to live with them - which solutions?", in partnership with the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO and the National Forum of Geoparks. This competition will be held in the schools of the territories of the Portuguese Global Geoparks, Portuguese Biosphere Reserves, including Azores and Madeira Island, and municipalities from all over the country.

- Institutional support to the Educational Project that includes the theatrical play “Water Sources” for children from kinder garden until the 2nd cycle of basic education;
- Institutional support to the Educational Program “Ocean Alive”, regarding the protection and conservation of the Oceans;
<http://www.ocean-alive.org/>

Scientific activities

- SILVA, E., SÁ, A.A. & ROXO, M.J. (2015). From planet Earth to society: a new dynamic in Portugal concerning geoscience education and outreach activities. In: Peppoloni, S. & Di Capua, G. (eds) 2015. *Geoethics: the Role and Responsibility of Geoscientists*. Geological Society, London, Special Publications, 419, 141–147.

Literary editions

- Institutional support to the book "Zero waste", in the framework of the International Year of Soils;
- Institutional support to the pedagogical book “O Baguinho Simão” published by the Azores Geopark Association (Azores Global Geopark of UNESCO);
- Institutional support to the children book "Chocolate with a flavor of nonsense", by Prof. Maria José Moreno, Coimbra University;

UNESCO Network Cooperation

- Cooperation with the “UNESCO Club Oporto City” with the organization of a training course about the International Year of Soils, and also a guided visit to the geology of Bragança Region (NE Portugal);
- Lectures in several UNESCO Associated Schools (located in Oeiras Municipality and Cascais Municipality);
- Cooperation with the Portuguese Global Geoparks of UNESCO, with the promotion of several activities at a educational and scientific level;
- Cooperation with the Portuguese Biosphere Reserves, with the promotion of educational activities;

-Cooperation with the UNESCO Chair “Biodiversity and Sustainable Development” of the University of Coimbra, Portugal;

-Cooperation with the UNESCO Chair “Geoparks, Sustainable Regional Development and Healthy Lifestyles”, of the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal;

Outreach activities

- Press releases about the Earth Day (22nd of April); Geologist Day (30th May), the World Science Day (10th of November) and about the International Day of Soils (5th of December);

-Promotion of the Messages of the Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, in the IGCP National Committee website, in the occasion of the celebration of “World Water Day”, “World Environmental Day”, “World Science Day”, “World Philosophy Day”, etc.;

- Collaboration with the Portuguese Post Office for the creation of the official stamps for the celebration of the International Year of Light and the International Year of Soils.

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