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CRUZIANA

NATURTEJO UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK - E-MAGAZINE

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES



February - "Let's lockdown now to travel later?" Promotion of Associates and Partners in the Social Networks of Naturtejo Geopark. Naturtejo Geopark promoted a campaign in the social networks dedicated to tourism sector' partners. After almost one year since the declaration of the pandemic situation worldwide, the private Partners of Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark have been facing great challenges caused by circulation restrictions, borders closure, reduction of area connections, lockdowns, among others. Despite the slight recovery during July and August 2020, in which the region benefited from the differentiating, more personalized and safer offer of low density territories, Naturtejo Geopark Partners registered relevant drops in their activity. 33 partners from the areas of restoration, accommodation and tourism animation joined the initiative promoted on Geopark's social networks such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter the campaign "Make plans for Naturtejo Geopark... for now".

At a time when general lockdown is mandatory in Portugal, the aim was to bring a message of hope and recognition to the Partners and a call for confidence in the tourism offer. It was intended to highlight the effort of all the Partners, day after day, to overcome all the challenges the situation imposed, reinventing themselves, adapting, ensuring the strengthening of safety conditions and working tirelessly to make the stay in the region unforgettable, in a true effort of resilience (#PartnersGeoparkNaturtejo #ResilienceinNaturtejoGeopark).

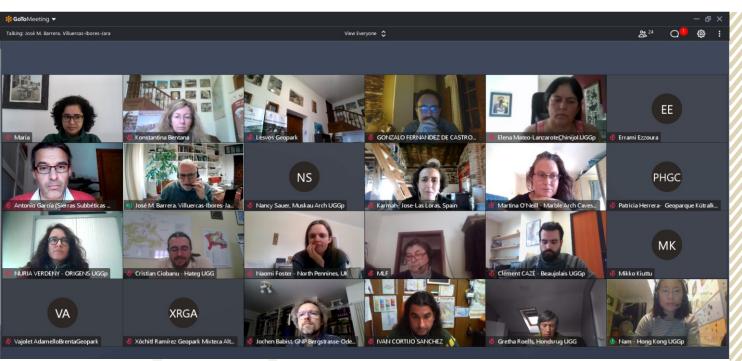
This initiative was also associated with the campaigns of confidence and call for a more sustainable and responsible take-back by Tourism of Portugal and Tourism of Centre Portugal (#MantenhaoEspírito, #CantSkipTomorrow, #Cleanandsafe).

Shall we lockdown now to travel later? Promotion was done on our Facebook (https://www.instagram.com/geopark_naturtejo/) and Twitter(https://twitter.com/Geo_Naturtejo)

February 4th, 9th, 18th, 25th and 27th - Online Accredited Training Course for Teachers "Geodiversity and **Biodiversity of Naturtejo Geopark.** The Natural Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark territory was the subject for the 25 hours training course for teachers developed by Naturtejo Geopark in partnership with the Living Science Forest Centre (Proenca-a-Nova). This course was accredited for teachers of the subject groups 230 (Mathematics and Nature Sciences), 420 (Geography) and 520 (Biology and Geology). The training course was initially planned to take place in a face-to-face setting and is now 100% online. The sessions are composed of synchronous and asynchronous parts (with autonomous work). In the first session the participants and the course structure were introduced and the topics "Introduction to Geodiversity and Biodiversity" were addressed. In the second session were explored "The UNESCO Global Geoparks", "Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark", and "Geodiversity and Geological Heritage of Naturtejo Geopark". The third session focused on "The Biodiversity of Naturtejo Geopark", "Relation between Biodiversity and Geodiversity" and the "Protected and Classified Areas in the Geopark". The fourth session was dedicated to "Environmental Education for Sustainability in the Geopark, Educational Programs and Educational Resources of the Geopark, and Educational potential of the Geosites and Geopark's Equipments". The fifth session was led by Marta Palhim, LSFC's monitor and simulated a visit to the Living Science Forest Centre, which included the presentation of activities, educational resources and a visit to the permanent exhibition. In the course 21 teachers participate and the trainers are Joana Rodrigues and Manuela Catana. The last two sessions of the course will take place in March.

February 10TH - Coordination meeting of EUROACE SPORT project. The first 2021 partners' coordination meeting of EUROACE SPORT cross-border cooperation project was held. The status of the project and the activity plan to be developed in 2021 were discussed. The project closure deadline was extended until December 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic which made impossible to develop activities in 2020. Naturtejo Geopark was represented by Carla Jacinto.

February 10th - Webinar Marketplace/E-Commerce Platform - Historical Villages of Portugal. The Historical Villages of Portugal association began the development of a Marketplace/E-Commerce Platform and a monitoring system of consumption that contribute to the ecological footprint. This platform aims to invest in online presence and providing tools that allow tourists to build their HVP experience, as well as to promote the accessibility of the territory through the planning and study of solutions to improve mobility conditions and the creation of support structures that improve the visitation experience, among others. Carla Jacinto represented Naturtejo Geopark.



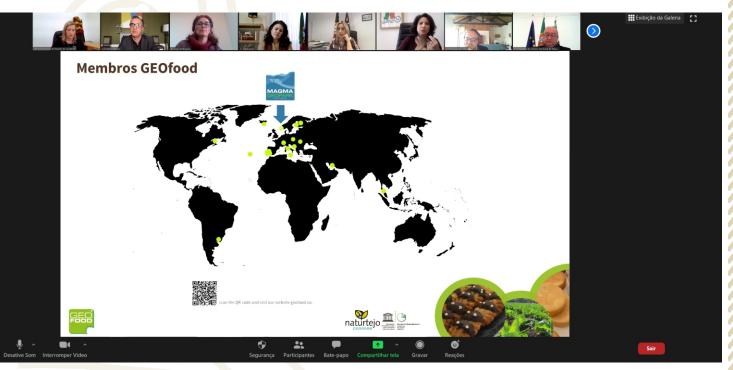
February 14th - Online meeting of the "Working Group - Education" of the European Geoparks Network (EGN). The goals of this meeting were to discuss the purposes of the "Working Group Education - EduWG", to address the latest news of ESD for 2030, to share experiences among the members, to define joint activities or future actions, to cooperate with the GGN regional networks. The UNESCO Global Geoparks Villuercas Ibores Jara and Naturtejo presented a joint proposal for the development of the Project "Urban Fossils", for the next school year, with students from 16 to 18 years old, in their territories. This meeting was attended by 24 representatives of European Geoparks that integrate the EGN Education Working Group (WG) including representatives of the other EGN regional networks. Manuela Catana represented Naturtejo Geopark in this meeting.



February 19th - Visit to the Interpretative Centre for Biodiversity "Lands of Idanha" and the viewpoint of the geomonument Erges Gorge in Segura. The Regional Director of the Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests of the Centre travelled to Idanha-a-Nova for a meeting in the Municipality with the President, Technicians and other entities. The meeting was followed by a visit to the Interpretative Centre for Biodiversity "Lands of Idanha" and the viewpoint of the Erges Gorge geomonument. The visit to the ICB was guided by Manuela Catana and attended by other participants of the meeting. During the visit the educational resources (scripts) used in the Field Trip K "Bio and Geodiversity of the Erges River Canyon - Segura" were presented, which is part of the Educational Program "School goes to the Geopark".

February 23rd and 24th - 2nd Digital Forum of Global Geoparks Network prepares the future. The UNESCO Global Geoparks met in a great Digital Forum under the motto "Learning from the Past, Preparing the Future". UNESCO presented the latest news concerning Geoparks and the Global Geoparks Network made a summary of the activities developed, which were more detailed in the presentations of the continental geoparks networks. The GGN Working Groups presented an interesting set of proposals.

The Tourism Working Group of GGN, led by Marie-Luise Frey and Carlos Neto de Carvalho, introduced initiatives that will be developed in the first half of this year, starting already with the participation in the virtual edition of the International Tourism Fair of Berlin - ITB Now. The aim is to extend the geographic range of participation of UNESCO Global Geoparks in major international tourism fairs, taking advantage of the virtual editions created in times of pandemic and reinforcing the Geopark brand as sustainable Nature destinations.



February 26th - Webinar 'Tourism, Agriculture and Development of Inland Regions', promoted by Macedo de Cavaleiros Municipality, in partnership with Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark. This Webinar discussed the impact of agriculture on the development of tourism in the hinterland and the local products as a destination attractiveness factor. The initiative counted with the participation of the Secretary of State for Tourism, Rita Marques, the Secretary of State for the Development of Inland Regions, Isabel Ferreira, the President of Tourism of Porto and North, Luís Pedro Martins and the Mayor of Macedo de Cavaleiros and the Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, Benjamim Rodrigues.

The debate also included the participation of representatives from the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Fisheries, FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and Naturtejo Geopark. Joana Rodrigues contributed to the discussion presenting the international brand GEOfood, implemented also in all the Portuguese geoparks and outlined the Geoproducts and GEOfood in Naturtejo Geopark. The webinar was moderated by the Executive Coordinator of Terras de Cavaleiros Geopark, Antónia Morais.



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February 26th to 28th - Naturtejo Geopark with Tourism Centre of Portugal in FIO - International Ornithological Tourism Fair. Naturtejo Geopark participated once again in FIO, International Ornithological Tourism Fair, in Extremadura (Spain). This fair dedicated to Nature Tourism and Birdwatching is organized annually in Monfragüe National Park, but given the restrictions imposed this year, the 16th edition took place entirely online.

As usual, Naturtejo Geopark participated in partnership with Tourism Centre of Portugal, for this event that gathered specialized companies, tourism destinations and specialized associations. Despite the virtual format, FIO included several activities for professionals, nature lovers and all the family, as conferences, webinars, workshops and even virtual tours!

Visiting the stand the General Director of Tourism of Junta de Extremadura, Francisco Martín Simón, highlighted the importance of the joint work between the border territories and the benefits of the construction of the road connection between the A23 and the Spanish border through Termas de Monfortinho, through the IC31.

Carla Jacinto and Joana Rodrigues represented Naturtejo Geopark in the promotion of the territory and the touristic offer.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

February 1st (Descla) - Award-winning documentary about Serra da Malcata February 3rd (O Setubalense) - 614 dinosaur footprints discovered in Cabo Espichel February 8th (PeriodistaDigital) – Jesús Salazar: "My experience in China established me as an international photographer".

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GEOPARK AND THE GEOSCIENCES

- NETO DE CARVALHO, C., BAUCON, A., BAYET-GOLL, A. & BELO, J. The Penha Garcia Ichnological Park at Naturtejo UNESCO Global Geopark (Portugal): a Geotourism Destination in the Footprint of the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event. Geoconservation Research, 4. http://dx.doi.org/10.30486/gcr.2021.1913338.1051.
- FIGUEIREDO, S., NETO DE CARVALHO, C., CUNHA, P. & CARVALHO, I.S. New Dinosaur Tracks from the Lower Barremian of Portugal (Areia do Mastro Formation, Cape Espichel). Journal of Geoscience and Environment Protection, 9, 84-96. doi: 10.4236/gep.2021.91007.

PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC











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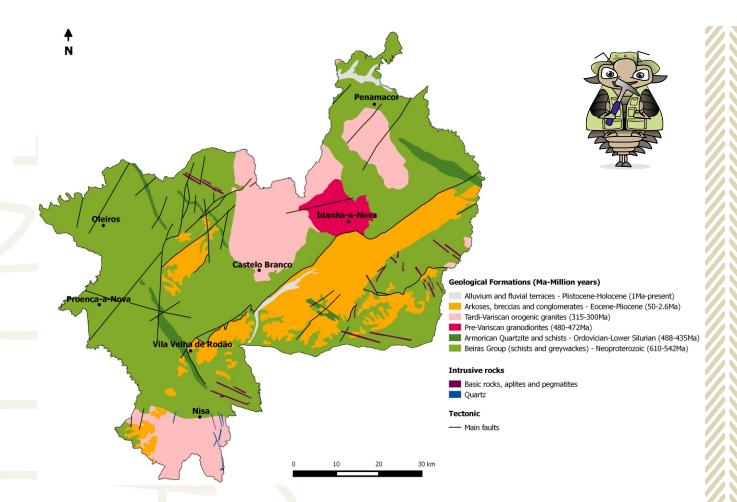
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Geoparks: Geology with human face

