

2. CALL FOR MENTORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME APPLICATIONS

In 2019, UNESCO Secretariat launched the first pilot phase of the *Mentorship and Knowledge Exchange Programme*, which was successfully completed with the participation of 11 *Mentors* (established UNESCO Global Geoparks) and 13 *Aspiring geopark* representatives.

We are pleased to launch a new call for aspiring and established geopark representatives to participate to the 2020 session of the Mentorships and Knowledge Exchange Programme with the financial and operational support of UNESCO's two partner organizations, the Jeju Province Development Corporation (JPDC) of the Republic of Korea and the Global Geoparks Network association (GGN).

The objective of this programme is to further exchange knowledge and build capacity (SDG 4), with a view to developing new UNESCO Global Geoparks and creating new partnerships (SDG 17) between Member States by:

- supporting and training representatives of sites aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geoparks by enhancing their knowledge of the design, development and management of UNESCO Global Geoparks (SDG 4);
- supporting the development of new UNESCO Global Geoparks and broadening their geographical distribution among Member States (SDG 8).

The current call is addressed to both qualified representatives of sites aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geopark network ('Trainees') as well as experienced managers of UNESCO Global Geoparks ('Mentors') who will provide **Mentorship and Knowledge Exchange** opportunity to the Trainees.

The role of Mentors:

As **Mentors**, you will be an experienced UNESCO Global Geopark, willing to host **Trainees** from aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks around the world, for an average period between one and two weeks. During that period, you will immerse them in the day-to-day running of an existing UNESCO Global Geopark, share techniques and methods of Geopark development and management with them, including geological, educational, socio-economic and cultural aspects.

Please submit your expression of interest to the IGGP Secretariat by **23 March 2020** by indicating your preferred dates for hosting trainees in 2020. Once the UNESCO Secretariat receives your interest, we will contact you for further modalities for the financial support that UNESCO will provide to the Host Geopark.

Application Process for Trainees:

If you are a representative of a site aspiring to join the UNESCO Global Geopark network and wish to benefit from the trainee programme with financial support of UNESCO, please visit www.unesco.org/geoparks and send the following documents to the IGGP Secretariat before **23 March 2020**:

- A brief geological description of your Geopark project (max. 1500 words);
- A brief evaluation of the state of your Geopark project and its objectives, challenges and other relevant aspects (max. 1500 words);

- A cover letter explaining your expectations of the exchange programme and how it might help you set up and manage your own UNESCO Global Geopark (max. 1500 words);
- Your availability to visit an established UNESCO Global Geopark as a trainee (indicating your preferred dates for visiting the site in 2020 for a maximum of two weeks);
- Your CV.

The present call will prioritize Trainees from developing countries and UNESCO Member States that have no more than one designated UNESCO Global Geopark. Women and early career participants are especially encouraged to apply.

The IGGP secretariat of UNESCO will select Trainees eligible for this exchange programme, arrange convenient dates up to 10 days exchange and cover all travel and accommodation costs.

Should you have any further inquiries, please write to:

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