Year 1

Start With
Contact UNESCO Global Geoparks (UGGs) in your country (if there are any)
Contact National Geopark Committees (if there is)
Contact Regional Geopark Network and Global Geopark Network (GGN)
Contact UNESCO Representation in your country

Documents That Help
1. Statutes and Operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks
2. Application Process Frequently Asked Questions

Phase: Preparation
Events and Courses
Activities organized by UNESCO Global Geoparks.
Regular short courses, trainings, and mentorship and knowledge exchange programmes.
UNESCO and Regional Geopark Network Activities and Conferences.

Expression of Interest
Letter of interest should be sent from the National Commission for UNESCO or the government body in charge of relations with UNESCO to the Secretariat at the same year that the dossier is sent.

Before July
Application Dossier
1. Letter of Interest
2. Application Dossier (in English).
   2A General information.
   2B Document checklist.
   2C Location of the area.
   2D Main geological highlights and other elements.
   2E Verification of UNESCO Global Geoparks Criteria.
   2F Intent and Arguments for becoming a UNESCO Global Geopark.
3. List of Mandatory Annexes
   3.1 Self-evaluation document.
   3.2 An additional and separate copy of Section E1.1 "Geological heritage and Conservation”.
   3.3 An explicit endorsement of any relevant local and regional authorities and a letter of support from the National Commission for UNESCO or the government body in charge of relations with UNESCO.
   3.4 A large scale of map.
   3.5 One-page geological and geographic summary.
   3.6 Complete bibliography of the area in Earth Sciences highlighting international publications.

1st Oct.
30 Nov.
Dec.
Completeness check by the UNESCO Secretariat

Phase: Evaluation
First Part of the Year
New Applications formally presented to Member States at the International Geosciences Programme (IGCP).
Map & One-page Summary
Desktop reviews by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)

Second Part of the Year
Evaluation Missions
UNESCO uses a unique procedure of field evaluation and revalidation missions to ensure that areas fulfill or keep on fulfilling the criteria of UNESCO Global Geoparks.

UNESCO Global Geoparks Council
Based on the filed evaluation report, there are three possible outcomes:

- ACCEPT: Move on to the Nomination Phase the next year.
- DEFER: Need to improve the condition during the next 2 years. A report is required to identify the improvement. Doesn’t need to reapply or have another evaluation mission.
- REJECT: In case of non-compliance with the requirements. Need to start the application again.

UNESCO Global Geoparks Field Inspection Guidelines
For more information:

For more information:

Annual Revalidation Missions
A field mission will be undertaken by two evaluators to revalidate the quality of the UNESCO Global Geopark. On the basis of the field evaluation report, the UNESCO Global Geopark will be awarded with:

- Green Card
- Yellow Card
- Red Card

For more information:
5.6 Procedure of Revalidation (in the operational Guidelines for UNESCO Global Geoparks)