



### Engaging entrepreneurs from the tourism, agri-food and commercial sector in Rocca di Cerere UNESCO Global Geopark (Italy)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rocca di Cerere UGGp in cooperation with its local partner CNA Enna has organized a programme of free webinars coordinated by experts and engaging entrepreneurs from the tourism, agri-food and commercial sectors. The initiative, called "#prontialdomani", included a series of webinars on the themes of sustainability, marketing, digital communication and destination management. The initiative has supported local entrepreneurs to be equipped with key competences, orientation and views in order to face the current changing scenario.

### Mountain escorts: Supporters of Geotourism at Sitia UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece)

In Sitia UGGp, geotourism has in recent years shown a remarkable growth and is the tool for the developing tourism focused on the environment, the geo-heritage and the local traditions. However, the new specialty "Mountain Escort" operated by the Public Institute of Vocational Training in Sitia Geopark seeks to address the lack of specialized individuals that would be able to support this type of tourism. They are the professionals who will design and implement activities in the Geopark, such as hiking, climbing, descent, bird watching, geology, biodiversity and organizing outdoor activities and utilizing its existing infrastructure.



### Troodos UNESCO Global Geopark (Greece): New Programmes and initiatives 2020

2020 is destined to be a very significant and memorable year for the Troodos Geopark. New, exciting, and most importantly, informative and educational activities will take place under the new programme of the Greek – Cypriot Geopark's Network. Guests at the Geopark Visitor Centre will have the opportunity to learn about and experience the geological uniqueness of the Troodos area, the most complete fragment of oceanic crust on Earth. Promotion of Geopark products through new electronic platforms, geo-tourism and geo-educational exercises, cultural and sporting events as well as pioneering exhibitions and conferences are some examples of the activities that will take place within the year as part of the programme. Moreover, the audience will have a chance to discover

and appreciate the charming scenes that Troodos Geopark can offer as an alternative destination for tourists through hiking, traditional climbing, cycling and many other pursuits. These activities will take place mainly during the summer months and early autumn. The goal of this new initiative is to inform visitors and help them interpret the geological beauty of our planet as well as the secrets of the life that resides in our Geopark.

### Together with one aim - Implementation of LED street lighting in Vulkaneifel UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany)

Long before COVID-19, Vulkaneifel UGGp involved the villagers in the so called "Future Conferences" and in collecting their ideas for the future development of their communities aimed at generating and increasing the resilience of the communities. The ideas created a cluster of activities including social life, ecology and economy such as coexistence of the old and young, common gardening, supply services, mitigating climate change, biodiversity, flood risk assessment and many others. The Geopark and the County of Vulkaneifel recognized the heartfelt wish to install LED street lighting and convinced all the villages to cooperate. In the sense of "together we are strong", negotiations with the energy supplier were very successful. During the next 3 years, all street lighting will be renewed with LED. This reduces the demand for energy and CO<sub>2</sub> – emissions; furthermore LED lighting is much more insect-friendly. The villages will almost halve their energy costs and this money is now available for other activities. Up-to-date LED lighting reduces light pollution and results in the idea of implementing "Dark Sky Communities" within Vulkaneifel UGGp.

