Geoparks: an innovative approach to raise public awareness about geohazard, climate change and the sustainable use of our natural resources

4-6 September 2013
Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark
Italy
Introduction

Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark has the honor of hosting the 12th European Geoparks Conference (fig. 1), when the global development strategies of the Earth Sciences assume an important role in the world. The geo-hazards and climate change hardly affect all human activities and can strongly condition the future of humanity. Infact, life, property, economic and financial losses due to natural hazards and the impact of disasters on society have both increased dramatically over the last couple of decades. Scientists - both physical and social-, policy makers, insurance companies, disaster managers, and the public themselves, have different ways for understanding natural geo-hazards and sustainable use of natural resources.

This conference aims to:
1. verify how Geoparks can direct the scientific knowledge of the academic community on these items;
2. understand how the Geoparks address these issues in the educational system;
3. disseminate the role of Geoparks on the public awareness and sustainable use of natural resources.
Fig. 1 European Geoparks Network Map

12th European Geoparks Conference site: Location

The 12th European Geoparks Conference will be held in Ascea-Velia-Elea, village located along the coast of the Cilento, Vallo Diano and Alburni National Park-Geopark, in the the Campania Region southern Italy (fig.2).

Figure 2: Location of Cilento, Vallo Diano and Alburni National Park-Geopark and Ascea-Velia-Elea
**12th European Geoparks Conference Motivation**

In present day, Ascea is a modern, touristic village surrounding the Archaeological Park of the ancient Greek city “Elea”, renamed as “Velia” by the Romans, one of the “cradle” of the western philosophy and civilization, by Parmenides and Zenone, recently named in UNESCO world heritage. The choice of the Conference location is not casually done.

The long and complex Ascea-Velia-Elea history represents both the first cultural, social and economics global “network” in the ancient world and testify an actual “paradigm” of cohabitation between human society and geo-hazards. In fact, Since its foundation, the town experienced natural disaster due to landslides, inundations, earthquakes, probably tsunami’s conditioning its social and economic development. Tradition tells us how Parmenide, as nature philosopher understood type and dynamics of local geohazards, as teacher raised public awareness and, finally, as politics maker suggested planning and design measures for natural risk mitigation.

Therefore, as stated by Coordination Committee of EGN held in Oruca (Portugal), in the September 2012, the aims of the 12th European Geoparks Conference is exactly to how Geoparks can allow “an innovative approaches for raise public awareness on geohazards, climate changes and sustainable uses of geo-resources”.

Therefore, starting from the great idea of the Conference “Raising of the Public Awarness”, the Program will comprise general sessions on the main topics: “Geohazards”, “Climate Change” and “Sustainable uses of geo-resources”, each with related thematic oral sessions with invited speakers as well as selected oral presentations and poster sessions on “Research”, “Education” and “Dissemination” experienced in or proposed for the Global and European Geopark Network.

**Place and dates**

The 12th European Geoparks Conference will be held at Alario Foundation in ASCEA MARINA, Province of Salerno - Campania Region - Italy

4. - 5. September 2013 EGN Conference, Alario Foundation
6. September 2013 Field trip in Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark
7. September 2313 Field trip post conference in Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark

There will be a daytrips to different geological attractions, outside geosciences laboratory, together with local history, culture and traditional food.

**Insurance and liabilities of participants in the 12th European Geoparks Conference field trips – neither the 12 EGN Conference organization, not the excursion leaders or their affiliations, shall assume any liability for possible accidents or any loss incurring the participants of the excursions.**
Organizers
The 12th European Geoparks Conference will be organized by National Park of the Cilento, Vallo di Diano Geopark in collaboration with European Geoparks Network and Global Geoparks Network. The Conference sessions will be credited for Italian teachers and Italian geologist. More information will be given in the 2° circular: April 1, 2012

Organizing Committee

Chairman
• Aniello Aloia – Geopark Manager of the National Park of Cilento and Vallo Diano Geopark

Members
• Angelo De Vita – Director of the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano, Italy.
• Domenico Guida – Geopark Scientific Committee Component, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Salerno, Italy;

Administrative Secretariat
National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano – European Geopark, Italy: Piazza S. Caterina 8 84078 Vallo della Lucania (SA) – Tel: +3909747199246 - Fax +3909747199217 - C.F. 9300799 0653 – info@egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it  a.aloia@cilentoediano.it

Scientific Committee
The Scientific Committee is under constitution and will be displayed in the 2nd Circular. Will be composed by international experts on the related topics.
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

GENERAL SESSIONS

Main Topics:

1. **Geoparks and Geo-hazards**: they are potential threats to humans that begin with and are transmitted through the Earth’s natural environment. Natural geohazards include earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, landslides and floods. The session will focus on the human role in geo-hazards, including political, social and economic factors. The financial losses and related impact on society of natural disasters have increased dramatically over the last decades.

   In this session will discusses the following themes:

   1.1 Geo-hazards in Geoparks: innovative research and reliable monitoring systems
   1.2 Geoparks as an educational instrument on geo-hazard consciousness
   1.3 Geoparks as references for strategies of rational territorial management

2. **Geopark and Climate Change**: climate change is no longer a scientific curiosity and one of the many regulatory concerns. It is the major, overriding environmental issue of our time, and the single greatest challenge facing environmental regulators. The shifting weather regimes threaten food production through change of rainfall patterns, the rising sea-level contaminates coastal freshwater reserves and increases the risk of catastrophic flooding, and so on. The session will discuss the following themes from the viewpoint of their effects on Geoparks:

   2.1. Frontier research and monitoring systems;
   2.2. Impact of climate change on Geoparks natural environment and mitigation strategies;
   2.3. Geosites as a natural laboratory for the educational challenge to climate change.
3. **Sustainable use of our natural resources in Geoparks**: the geological heritage is the key for the understanding of the environment and the sustainable use of water and other natural resources and is crucial for the responsible use of land. The session will discuss the following themes:

3.1. The conservation of geodiversity and biodiversity: a common role for the sustainable use of natural resources;
3.2. Best practices in geotourism and geoconservation: coupling promotion and protection of geosites, nature-tourism for the economic development of Geoparks;
3.3. Information and communication practices: info-boards, guided tours, virtual museums, publications, websites and webgis.
3.4 Geoparks and intangible heritage

4. **Education and communication in the geoparks**: organization of educational programmes on natural hazards and the limited nature of natural resources, communication strategies to support Geoparks and geosites, classification and organization of geosites.

5. **Geoparks and international cooperation**: agreements between Geoparks, interinstitutional cooperation

6. **Aspiring Geoparks**: presentation of geopark projects, guidelines for the establishment of Geoparks in the EGN

**Special Symposia**
1. Karst System Management in to the Geoparks and speleology
2. Coastal Geoparks
3. Volcanic Geoparks
4. Ice Age Geoparks
5. Geoparks and Mining Heritage
6. Geoparks and Paleontological heritage
7. Geoparks and intangible heritage
# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

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<tr>
<td>morning</td>
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<td>Open ceremony and key notes</td>
<td>Parallel sessions</td>
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<td>afternoon</td>
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<td>Parallel sessions</td>
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<td>Field Trip</td>
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<td>DINNER AND CULTURAL EVENTS</td>
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Conference registration & submission of papers

Colleagues wishing to attend the 12th European Geoparks conference must fill in and return the registration form via website. [http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it](http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it)

Abstracts and manuscripts preparation

Abstracts will be accepted for oral and poster presentation. Please indicate your preference as well as the conference theme in the abstract submission form. Abstracts are to be submitted in Word format by **May 1, 2013**.

Full manuscripts

Full manuscripts to be submitted by **June 20, 2013** will be peer-reviewed and published in the Proceedings of the 12th European Geopark Conference. All editorial details will be provided in the internet site [www.egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it](http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it).

The electronic format of the volume will be distributed at the conference.

Posters

Poster boards maximum dimensions are: width 84 cm and height 119 cm (A0 format). Each poster board will have a desk for placing personal laptops (EU-type power sockets) for supplementary PowerPoint or video presentations. The abstract and related submission form specifying the title of the poster must be submitted by **May 1, 2013**.

If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact the conference secretary (address below).

Title of the presentation and the abstract should be submitted via e-mail by **01st May, 2013**.

Full manuscripts must be submitted by **20st June 2013**.

The proceedings electronic volume will be compiled and distributed at the conference.

If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact the conference secretary (address below).

Conference Secretary

Submission of abstracts and papers should be addressed to:

e-Mail: [info@egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it](mailto:info@egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it)  a.aloia@cilentoediano.it

Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark

Piazza S. caterina 8- 84078 Vallo della Lucania (SA)

Tel +3909747199246  fax +3909747199217

ITALY
Registration Fee
The fee includes the Abstract and full manuscripts E-Book, promotional materials, coffee-break refreshments, ice breaker lunch-dinner, opening and closing ceremonies and social events organized at the conference.

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*Please enclose/show proof of status (e.g. University certificate of attendance, University card)

The registration fee for field trip is 50€ for day (see the options and the description of field trips) on the website [http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it](http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it).

Participants are required to pay registration fees by bank transfer before July 30, 2013 (see address below and the attached payment form). Refund will be charged by 25% deduction. No refund will be made after August 15, 2012.

The registration fees should be paid via bank transfer to Banco Posta in favour of “Ente Parco Nazionale del Cilento, Vallo di Diano e Alburni” (IBAN: IT92R0760115200000074328014 - Swift Code: BPPIITRRXXX) specifying: “EGN Conference 2013”. Banking fees have to be settled by the remitter.

Payment:
The payment must be made, in the registration moment, by bank transfer.

- Please note that all bank costs and money transfer costs must be prepaid by the registrant. So, be sure to pay all fees charged from your bank. We must receive your wire transfer amount in full.

- The order of payment should include your name as the issuer of the transference.

- After registration the participants must send proof of payment to the Conference Secretary by the e-mail info@egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it   a.aloia@cilentoediano.it
### Deadlines Summary and important dates

#### Authors deadlines

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<tr>
<td>May 1, 2013</td>
<td>Abstract submission</td>
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<td>May 20, 2013</td>
<td>Letter of acceptance of abstract and invitation to submit full manuscript</td>
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<td>June 20, 2013</td>
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<td>July 15, 2013</td>
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<td>July 30, 2013</td>
<td>Final Full manuscript submission</td>
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#### Registration deadlines

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<td>May 15, 2013</td>
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<td>After June 15, 2013</td>
<td>Late Registration</td>
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<td>July 30, 2013</td>
<td>Closed registration</td>
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<td>September 4-6, 2013</td>
<td>EGN 2013 Conference</td>
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Accommodation
The Organizing Committee will provide in the second circular a list of hotels in Ascea and in the nearby (maximum up to 5 min. away). During the Conference will be available a permanent transfer service from place of conference (Alario foundation) to the hotels of the participants. A special rate for accommodation will be negotiated by the Organizing Committee to participants of 12 EGN Conference. The list of accommodation will be available in the 2° circular: April 1, 2012

How to Reach Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark

Closest airport to the Geopark is Naples Capodichino, only 1 hour and 30 minutes drive to the Geopark.

From Rome Fiumicino Airport:
bus or train (Leonardo Express) to Roma Termini Railway Station (Rome Central Station); then Eurostar or Intercity train to Ascea.

From Naples Capodichino Airport:
bus to Napoli Centrale Railway Station; Eurostar or Intercity train to Ascea.

Climate:
In September, higher values of temperatures varies around 25-30° C and the lower around 21 ° C.

Letters of invitation/Visa help
Those participants requiring an official invitation letter for visa purposes, or requests for funding to the appropriate bodies, must write to the organizers indicating their name, passport number, title, sex, length of stay in Portugal, nationality, affiliation and current postal address. The letter will be mailed once registration and abstract acceptance have been confirmed.

Please see the website http://egnconference2013.cilentoediano.it