



CRUZIANA

GEOPARK NATURTEJO DA MESETA MERIDIONAL-EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK - MONTHLY REPORT

In this issue: - Stonecutter Museum, in Alcains, celebrates 7 years old! – Participation in the International Tourism Trade Fair, in Madrid – Revealing memories together with the old miners from Oleiros – Educational tools in preparation...and more!



Olá/Hola/Ciao/Bonjour/Γειά σου/Hallo/God Dag/Salut/Zdravo/Hello/Ahoj/Helo/Helló/ Hei

The Decree nº 7/2012 from 17th January approves the organization and (the many!) competences of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ocean, Environmental and Planning. This super-ministry integrates responsibilities from the former Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fishery and the Ministry of Environment, Planning and Regional Development, and has received assignments from other ministries, such as the National Defence, Science, Technology and Higher Education and Public Works, Transports and Telecommunications. In this Reduction Plan and Improvement of the Central Administration, which revises the public administration with the alleged goal of becoming more efficient and rational (let it be said spared) in the utilization of the public resources to achieve the objectives of reducing public expenditure defined in the memorandum of Troika, the new Ministry is almost a government within the Government. So, is deemed possible to have "an integrated view of the territory and the natural resources which promote sustainable development through enhancing agricultural productive potential and foster the rural world, allowing carrying the potential value of Portuguese sea and find in the protection and valorisation of environment solid foundations for growth." It is a statement particularly nice. But how is it possible to have an integrated view and promote sustainable development with an increasingly centred, far away from rural areas where they are most needed, management and decisions, wills and funding? How to foster rural economy, transforming the farmer into a businessman, if the quotas set by the European Union prevented the diversification of agricultural production and continues to pay for the non-use of the lands and the non-production of crop? Also the same happened with the potential of the Portuguese sea, in which a traditional or aged fleet was shot down with European funds without programmed rehabilitation? How do you want to protect and enhance the environment, which admittedly can create sustainable growth opportunities, if the investment was proportional and substantially reduced in a sector that has never been a priority for the country? Where the nature rangers are "species at risk" as those who should monitor? Where the directors unfold through several protected areas that are in charge? Where the administrative staffs are clearly in larger numbers than those able to understand the reasons that led to protection and required a management of an area? Where the exploitation of natural resources and the need for enterprise development and job creation at all costs often put into question the management of ecological corridors or Natura 2000 habitats?

With the creation of the new Ministry whose name is so large that it becomes difficult to repeat in this short available space, only exceeded by its duties, it is wanted to give "a special emphasis between nature protection and forestry, between agriculture and sustainability in the use of resources." For the nature management was created the new Institute for Nature Conservation and Forestry.



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This replaces the Institute for Nature Conservation and Biodiversity. And in good time. The previous institution committed the mistake of separate the Biodiversity from Nature. At least the current divide the Nature from Forests, because, in reality, in Portugal the monocultures of exotic forests are the primarily production, with real and negative impacts for nature, such as the abandonment of cultivation lands and animal husbandry practices, the loss of soil quality and the erosion, and loss of biodiversity, among others.

On the assignments of the new Institute for Nature Conservation and Forestry we will find reference to the geological heritage, raised promising considerations for its management at the same level as the wild flora and fauna:

"b) To ensure nature conservation and sustainable management of species, natural habitats of wild flora and fauna and the geosites, promoting the elaboration and implementation of plans, programs and actions, such as in the areas of inventory, management, monitoring, surveillance and information systems;"

We now have to wait for the Law that can really define the criteria for the geological heritage management in Portugal, concerning of what already exists and can be set for the other heritage assets that appreciate the Nature in Portugal, with a view of sustainable and responsible growth.

The Editor

Carlos Neto de Carvalho
Scientific Coordinator
Geologist

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



January – Stonecutter Museum, in Alcains, celebrates 7 years old. The Stonecutter Museum of Alcains achieves 7 years of existence with a vitality that is measured by the scheduled program for this year. Currently included in the Guide of the Portuguese Geological and Mines Sites, where is also included the Geopark Naturtejo, the Stonecutter Museum is increasingly rooted in the geopark territory, with a new combined educational program. In a territory where the geodiversity intends to foster sustainable development, the Stonecutter Museum is a memory guardian of a secular activity, the granite exploitation and its transformation in stonework, but also an environmental education area and a resource and knowledge valorization with high potential for exportating.

"By the middle of the 20th century, a large number of stonecutters worked in the quarries, from all over the country. Only in Alcains were up to 500 stonecutters. Today, however, they remain few. The cost of labor, the emigration appeal and the industrialization among other reasons, led to the decline of the art.

The Stonecutter Museum in its genesis corresponds to a spontaneous initiative of the alcainense community, is now a municipal institution dedicated to the study, preservation and dissemination of the practices and experiences of stonework, in any space or time. Without historical or geographical boundaries, accentuating the awareness that the stonecutters from Alcains are an integral part of the civilizational adventure which is the man's relationship with the stone.

The choice of the Ulisses Pardal Solar to receive this Museum was not made randomly. The preparation of the stonework in this unusual building, in its external and internal composition, makes it a beautiful example of application of stone work.

This museum is also an example of the ambition to maintain operative the techniques and traditional knowledge for, through them, respond to the needs of conservation and restoration of the architectonic heritage. In this work, the manual skill, patience and sensitivity of the stonecutter regain all its value."



6th January - Children sing "as Janeiras" in the Geopark Naturtejo headquarters, at Castelo Branco.

The children from Castelo Branco revive the annual tradition of singing "as Janeiras" across the streets of the city. The desire for a good year was transmitted to those who work at the "Blue House", in particularly the administrative team of the Geopark Naturtejo.



9th January - Multimedia and Information Technologies students working in the field, at the Segura Mines.

Multimedia and Information Technologies students from the School of Technology of Castelo Branco are developing their final works in the development of multimedia tools for the interpretation of the mining areas of Segura. The annual project intends to create microsites about the Segura mines, a 3D images repository and audio format, which allows remaking, through the navigation in the interior of the mines, geological structures and mining techniques, machines and buildings. With the Professor Pedro Silva, the students Catarina Gaspar and Cátia Serrinha visited the mines, shafts and the ruins, where Joana Rodrigues and Sara Canilho made the introduction to the geological and mining history of Segura in the mid-20th century.

18th-22nd January – Naturtejo Geopark generates business in FITUR - Madrid. Once more the Geopark Naturtejo was in the International Tourism Trade Fair, in Madrid. In a period of strong financial restraint, Geopark Naturtejo is no longer, in what is one of the most famous tourism fairs in the world, with an own stand representing the European and Global Geoparks Network. In 2012, Naturtejo Geopark goes in search of new tourism markets in ITB Berlin – in partnership with other geoparks, such as Eisenwurzen (Austria), Vulkaneifel (Germany), Lesvos (Greece) and Arouca (Portugal). In Madrid, Armindo Jacinto and Jesus Alarcon met with several touristic operators, especially from Spain, to prepare for 2012 a schedule of visits to the Naturtejo Geopark territory, in the year of expected strong demand for Portugal by Spanish tourists, with particular insistence on the Easter period.



18th January – Old miners record their memories. It was a different day in Oleiros. Old miners and workers from the washery plant, geologists, anthropologist and a film producer joined there. It was a day of revived memories in the Fragas do Cavalo Mines. Gracinda Vicente, 84 years old, and Maria Martins, 87 years old, lived distinct periods of mining exploitation that penetrated the scarps of the Cavalo Riverside, it was developed and eventually closed, with the lucky dictated by macroeconomic conjectures that none of this two ladies, full of stories and lives, came to understand. José Maria, 92 years old, and António Dias Martins, 82 years old, former miner from the Panasqueira Mines, men who revolved the viscera of the earth looking for wolfram, are the last of many who saw a hard life being reduced by the silicosis scourge. They moved all, old miners and workers, scientist and camera, to the main spots that inflames the memory: Mosteiro, where many met after crossed kilometers through the cold of dawn, and heading for the mines, sometimes they danced; Seladinha, small village close to the mines, where young people, such as Adelina Barta, daily lived with the hard, but promising reality, which attracted people from many places. From the exchange of ideas, and having the mines area as the background, was recorded a little of what was the evolution of the mine exploitation. Precious memories to understand the “black gold rush” during the Second World War, in the region where were extracted wolfram to feed the war. A unique legacy that is expected to build for Oleiros.

28th January – Portela Walkers through the city of Castelo Branco. Tiago Oliveira accompanied the Group of Walkers, from Portela, in the discovery of the city of Castelo Branco. The number of touristic programs to this city has been growing, which is justified through the work done by the municipality along the years in the rehabilitation of the urban space and valorization of its architectural heritage, as well as the growing promotion of Castelo Branco, as a tourist destination, by Naturtejo.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

January (The Municipality of Vila Velha de Ródão) –Naturtejo Geopark – Inventory of Sites of Geological and Mining Interest highlights the potential of Vila Velha de Ródão

9th January (Newsletter NET@ESTCB) – Students from ESTCB develop projects related with the Naturtejo Geopark

9th January (Diário Digital) – Four Stars Hotel in Nisa opens in May

11th January (Gazeta do Interior) – 3,5 million invested

12th January (Reconquista) – Zêzere Route unite territories

12th January (Reconquista) – Trilobite promotes paintball formation

24th January (PressTur) – Casas Açorianas is theme in the 1st EXPO.Tur; Brazil is the international guest

27th January (Jornal de Nisa) – Documentary of Norbert Suchanek

“Urânio em Nisa Não” premiere in February

30th January (Turisver) – Centenary of Tourism organizes Gastronomic Journeys

TV

6th January (RTP1) – Program "Journey to the center of my homeland" dedicated to Idanha-a-Nova

12th January (RTP1) – Program “Portugal in the Heart” – Interview with Armindo Jacinto and Manuela Catana, about Penha Garcia



PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Until June 2012

QUANDO A GENTE ANDAVA AO "MENÉRIO".

MEMÓRIAS MINEIRAS DO CONCELHO DE IDANHA-A-NOVA - O CASO DE SEGURA.

CENTRO CULTURAL RAIANO
Julho de 2011 a Junho de 2012

Logos for various sponsors including the Portuguese Government, local municipalities, and environmental organizations like PROVERE.

100
CENTENÁRIO DO
TURISMO
em PORTUGAL
1911-2011

*Da Terra à Mesa,
às Mesas do Campo*
Jornadas de Reflexão em Gastronomia e Turismo

4 de Fevereiro de 2012
Centro Cultural Raiano | Idanha-a-Nova

Centro Cultural Raiano

Logos for various sponsors including the Portuguese Government, local municipalities, and environmental organizations like PROVERE.

Festival de Cinema
International Uranium Film Festival
<http://www.uraniumfilmfestival.org/>
Extensão do 7º Festival de filmes sobre energia nuclear a Portugal

Câmara Municipal
NISA
CINE-TEATRO NISA

Local:
Cine-Teatro de Nisa
Praça da República
6050-350 Nisa

Filmes e Debates:
12 de Fevereiro às 16h00
13 de Fevereiro às 15h00

Organização e coordenação:
António Eloy | ffuranio.portugal@gmail.com

Logos for sponsors including the Portuguese Government, local municipalities, and environmental organizations like PROVERE and the Uranium Energy Movement.



PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC



TURISMO DE NATUREZA 2012
Percurso Pedestres e Visitas Temáticas

5 de Fevereiro
ROTA DO IMPERADOR CARLOS V
Jarandilla de la Vera, ESPANHA

Informações e Inscrições
Tel.: 277 202 900
Web: www.turismodnatureza.com



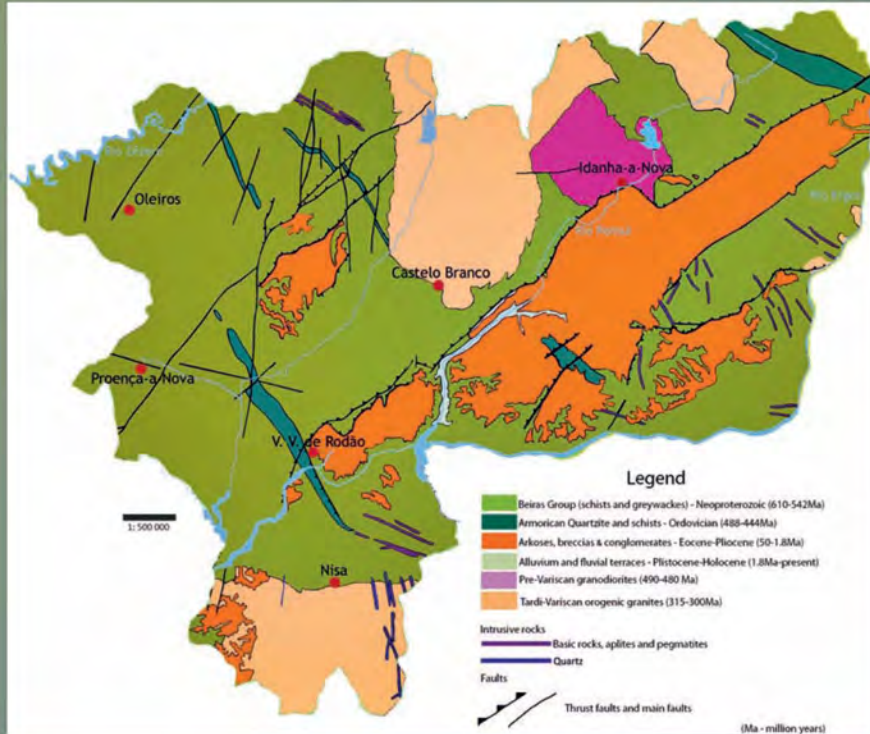
TURISMO DE NATUREZA 2012
Percurso Pedestres e Visitas Temáticas

19 de Fevereiro
Paladares e Tradições Raianas
Proença-a-Velha

Informações e Inscrições
Tel.: 277 202 900
Web: www.turismodnatureza.com



International Tourism Fair,
7th - 11th March in Berlin



Geoparks: Geology with a human face



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GEOPARK NATURAL DO ALGARVE REGIONAL EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK INNOVATE REPORT

www.geoparknaturtejo.com