

The Role Of The Educational Activities Of Temporary Exhibitions: The Case Of The Temporary Exhibition Of The Natural History Museum Of The Lesvos Petrified Forest "Gaias' Memories: UNESCO Global Geoparks Of Greece - Cyprus"

K. Bentana¹, N. Zouros^{1,2}, I. Valiakos¹

(1) Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest, Sigri, Lesvos Island, Greece, lesvospf@otenet.gr (2) University of the Aegean, Department of Geography, University Hill, Mytilini, Greece

The educational role of a Museum, as well as its goals, are changing and differentiating both in time and in terms of the needs of the time that it is going through. The educational activities of the Museums are confronted with new facts and new challenges and are called upon to take on new roles. The Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest, by expanding its role, has designed and presented to the public a series of temporary exhibitions aiming at enhancing its contact with the public and especially students and young people, as well as its visibility and especially new findings and activities of.

In this context, the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest drew up the periodic exhibition "Gaias' Memories: UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece - Cyprus". The exhibition began its tour from Athens and the Eugenides Foundation and then is scheduled to travel to Cyprus, Crete and Lesvos. The exhibition is complemented by educational and informative activities aiming at acquainting visitors of all ages with the UNESCO Global Geoparks, the impressive geological and natural monuments that host the Geoparks of Greece and Cyprus, the geological and natural processes that created the landscapes in conjunction with time and shaped the background for the development of the variety of modern natural ecosystems and culture from prehistory to the present day.

The aim of the work is to investigate the role of the educational activities taking place at the temporary exhibition "Gaias' Memories: UNESCO Global Geoparks of Greece - Cyprus" of the Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest for the development of the contact with the public and the approach of new groups.

References

- Zouros, N., Pavlides, S., Soulakellis, N., Chatzipetros, A., Vasileiadou, K., Valiakos, I., Bentana, K. (2009). Using active faults for raising public awareness and sensitisation on seismic hazard: a case study from Lesvos Geopark, NE Aegean sea, Greece. Proceedings of the VIII European Geoparks Conference.
- Zouros, N., Valiakos, I., Bentana, K. (2017a). Alternative tourism activities in Lesvos island UNESCO Global Geopark, 14th EGN Conference, Abstracts Volume, Ponta Delgada, Azores, p. 42.
- Zouros, N., Valiakos, I., Bentana, K. (2017b). Lesvos island UNESCO Global Geopark: Raising visibility and promotion, 14th EGN Conference, Abstracts Volume, Ponta Delgada, Azores, p. 42.
- Zouros, N., Valiakos, I., Gribilakos, G., Plougarlis, A., Bentana, K., Rozakis, V., Agiasoti, M., Tsalkitzi, O. (2015). New fossil findings in the petrified forest of Lesvos along the new Kalloni - Sigri road. "The forest under the road" a new travelling exhibition of the Lesvos geopark, European Geoparks conference 3rd-6th September 2015, Abstracts volume, p. 123.