



CRUZIANA

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

In this issue: - III Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark – Brazilian Boom: Geopark project in Campos Gerais – Japanese visitors from Fukushima in Summer Camp in the Geopark – Travelling Exhibition: When we went for Ore in S. Miguel d'Acha...and more!



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

During this calm period, when Portugal emerges in holidays and goes South to the beaches, while the days are lazy and people catch waves, eat, sleep or walk by the sea, the Naturtejo Geopark appears in the August edition of the National Geographic – Portugal magazine with an article which constitutes a turning point for geotourism in Portugal. The Naturtejo Geopark appears on the cover! Emerging from a (brilliant) idea from its editor Gonçalo Pereira, the Wide Angle of the Portuguese edition of this renowned magazine focuses on this region's rich heritage, having as its theme “The Earth in the rocks”. The challenge was not easy, given the various dimensions of the Naturtejo Geopark, but I think that Paulo Rolão, taking advantage of some of the great pictures taken by Pedro Martins, photographer and contributor to the geopark, manages to create an image of a different territory on the readers' minds, a territory generous by nature, made by people and facing great challenges. This eight pages long journey, does not let itself go by any settled traditions or prejudices. On the contrary, it features new proposals for local development which are based on an ancient and diversified culture in search for solutions and adjusted to the present days. In this same edition, there is also an additional map which will become a reference for the tourist image of the Naturtejo Geopark. With an infography by Anyforms design and based on 600 million years old geological histories, “the first Portuguese Geopark” is revealed with the National Geographic's seal of quality. Nature (conjugating a unique geology and several biodiversity icons) and constructed patrimony (where “schist villages” abound) emerge in communion, without forgetting the importance of scientists and its pioneers, such as Nery Delgado, to the knowledge of this vibrant territory. “From rocks came culture” unites in a single document the geological history of the Naturtejo Geopark through its geomonuments, the amazing past and present biodiversity, the traditions, handicrafts and geoproducts, without forgetting the environmental education of present and future generations. With the printing of 65.000 copies, the following year promises a different and better promotion of this territory, with a new map, a powerful tool to divulge our heritage and its valorization.

The Editor

Carlos Neto de Carvalho
Scientific Coordinator
Geologist

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



July – “Objective: Geopark” – 74 city parishes photographed by Nuno Dias. A new project to divulge the natural and building heritage is emerging. Nuno Dias, geologist and amateur photographer recently living in the village of Mata, within the municipality of Castelo Branco is collaborating to the patrimonial valorization of the Geopark Naturtejo da Meseta Meridional. “This was a region where I only knew the most tourist places; however, heritage here is so diverse that there is nothing better in order to acknowledge the singularity of such a vast territory than to portray its basic elements, which are its parish villages” says Nuno Dias, who intends to divulge, one by one, all the 74 parishes which constitute the six municipalities within the Geopark Naturtejo – Castelo Branco, Idanha-a-Nova, Nisa, Oleiros, Proença-a-Nova and Vila Velha de Ródão. After his first photographic contribution, which made images of the mines of Fragas da Ribeira do Caval public, in the catalogue “Wolfram Times in Oleiros”, Nuno Dias now dives into his first big challenge. “It’s a true marathon that I initiated in S. Miguel D’Acha, because of this village’s architectonic harmony and the surrounding landscape of the Taveiró river. Periodically, I’ll also make some of the images from other parish villages available”. Having as his main reference the heritage inventories from the Geopark, Nuno Dias aims to offer a complete vision from the entire region, as much as fences and walls, to the abandonment of some rural areas can let, thinking mainly about visitors who want to discover this region. Available at Naturtejo’s website, www.naturtejo.com, this initiative is another of the generous initiatives this intermunicipal organization welcomes for the promotion of its territory using global means of communication, in this case the internet. In addition, it is also important to remember the contribution of other amateur and professional photographers, who through their lenses have brought new points of interest to this region.



3rd of July – Trip to Portas do Almourão and the Forest Living Science Center . 19 students and 3 teachers from the School of Languages and Arts (Guarda and Oliveira do Hospital) came explore the Living Science Center in Proença-a-Nova. Accompanied by Manuela Catana, the students also visited the Portas do Almourão geomonument.



4th to 8th of July – Summer Course “Portuguese Language, Literature and Culture”, addressed to college students from California. During four days, 13 students participated in language and literature classes in the Superior School of Management, in Idanha-a-Nova, and in field classes promoted by Manuela Catana, in the Geopark's geomonuments. All the students had the opportunity to contact directly with the cultural and natural heritage of the Naturtejo Geopark and went through fulfilling experiences. Through the Fossils route they got to know the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and tried some local gastronomy in the Frágua Bar. They also visited the Museological Olive Oil Center in Proença-a-Velha, where they also enjoyed a typical Portuguese cod fish dish, heading after that to the relaxing waters of the Termas de Monfortinho bathhouses. In Idanha-a-Nova they went to a rehearsal of the group of Adufeiras from the Ethnographic Group of Idanha-a-Nova and participated in a beginner's class to this instrument.

In Monsanto, they went through the paths of the Boulders trail, visiting this historic village and the Inselberg of Monsanto, then heading to the historic village of Idanha-a-Velha. Later in the Tagus river, they went on a boat tour where they appreciated the imposing formation of the Portas de Ródão Natural Monument. Lastly, before heading North to Penhas Douradas, they also visited the schist village of Foz do Cobrão, where they tasted some regional delicacies in the “Vale Mourão” restaurant.



6th and 7th of July – Seminar on “Tourism, territory planning, biodiversity and energy in the context of climate changes”. This seminar that was realized under the patronage of His Excellence the President of the Portuguese Republic and with the support of the Minister of Agriculture, the Sea, the Environment and Territory Planning, of the Secretary of the State for Tourism, of the Secretary of the State for Energy and of the Tourism of Portugal, took place in the Culture House in Mira de Aire – Porto de Mós. Tiago Oliveira represented the Naturtejo Geopark in the round table and talked about the experience of Naturtejo.



13th of July – The Order of the Biologists' vice-president visits the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. Invited by NERCAB's president and Naturtejo's president, Armindo Jacinto, the Order of the Biologists' vice president, Professor José Matos, and the biologist Sara Duarte visited the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia. Armindo Jacinto and Manuela Catana accompanied the visitors through the Park.



17th of July – Closing of the exhibition “When we went for Ore” in the Raiano Cultural Center.

The exhibition dedicated to ancient mining and miners, as well as its many “catchers”, “gold panners” and “smugglers” from the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova, completed a year of existence. During this period in which it was present in the Raiano Cultural Center, the specially designed educative program counted on the participation of over 1.000 students and teachers. This exhibition now reaches its end in the Raiano Cultural Center, but moves on with its path of contact with people and local history. A small event filled with symbolism closed this exhibition's first stage, where Eddy Chambino and Carlos Neto de Carvalho moderated a debate for the general public about the theme of Mining Heritage. A cycle of mining films taking place in Idanha-a-Nova also was initiated in the Raiano Cultural Center, with the presentation of a documentary about Segura, specially prepared for this exhibition, followed by the documentary “Borralha Mines, realized in the scope of the Polytechnic Institute of Oporto - ESMAE.



18th of July – Solidary Fieldtrip.

A special day was prepared by the Naturtejo and the company of active tourism Incentivos Outdoor, addressed to 11 students with developing and special educative needs and 5 monitors from the Educating, Rehabilitating and Including Differences Association (ERID), from Castelo Branco, integrated according to the aims of summer activities. This visit was accompanied by Manuela Catana.

20th to 22nd of July – Families through the Geopark. The winner of the voucher attributed during the Qualifica fair, promoted by the Ensino Magazine, enjoyed of a weekend for two in the Naturtejo Geopark, visiting the Ichnological Park of Penha Garcia and the Inselberg of Monsanto. During this weekend, a couple and their son also visited the Living Science Forest Center, the Portas de Almourão geomonument, with a brief visit to the schist village of Foz do Cobrão, went on a boat tour through the Portas de Ródão Natural Monument and ended their weekend with a visit to the schist village of Àlvaro.



21st to 22nd of July – Watermelon Festival in Ladoeiro. The Watermelon Festival is already a must to the village of Ladoeiro. Thousands of visitors came here to discover and buy some of the juicy watermelons which grow in this area. This year producers were very pleased: 40 tons sold in just two days! Traditional music, fado and Spanish sounds, as well as fruity and watermelon drinks brought life to this festival. A pedestrian trail “Through watermelon fields” and a workshop “The culture of Watermelon as factor of development to the Idanha plains” were cultural approaches to one of this region's resources, which stands out for its quality.



21st of July – “When we went for Ore” – the S. Miguel D'Acha case. Initially focused on the historic and documental richness of the mines of tin, barium and wolfram of Segura, the exhibition “When we went for Ore” is now a traveller adjusting its contents to the mining places where it will be present. The first stop is in S. Miguel D'Acha. From a secular past of exploration of lead few is left but some pioneer documentation on geological studies in Portugal.

The mining times of wolfram and tin still last in a vibrant memory of stories and protagonists. The responsible for this exhibition gave it an innovative transdisciplinary character. Carlos Neto de Carvalho and Joana Rodrigues are in charge of the formal history of the mining past which can still be seen through the landscape and in documents, Eddy Chambino searches for memories of personal experiences of locals and Paulo Longo transfers all this into a museological context aiming to establish a dialogue with people to remember ancient practices and crafts now extinct by modern mining industry. And all this is going to be patent on public spaces of daily utility, where this exhibition is configured as a journey into the past, so familiar yet so unknown. The exhibition was already welcomed by the village hall, where last Saturday "When we went for Ore- the S. Miguel D'Acha case", by the interest of the president Maria Jesus Nogueira and the vice-president of Idanha-a-Nova Armindo Jacinto, opened its doors to the public. This exhibition can be seen until the 19th of August and it is a great pretext to get to know or to remember the harmonious granite architecture from the 18th century of S. Miguel D'Acha or to go on the trails suggested in the Route of D'Acha and an excellent opportunity to unveil the mysteries of the "Good Thief", the "Golden Bull" or the "Hill where men were killed".



23rd of July to 4th of August – Japanese children and youth from Fukushima participate on Summer Camp in the Naturtejo Geopark.

The summer camp "Psychological support for children from Fukushima" was organized by the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova in association with the French organization "Carrefour de L'Art de Vivre". The event also counted with the support of the Naturtejo Geopark. Other partners also contributed to the realization of this first camp, such as the Regional Department for Agriculture and Fishing of the Center, the CMRS (Citizens' Radioactivity Measuring Station), the parish village of Lourical do Campo, the Superior Schools of Management and Agriculture from the Polytechnical Institute of Castelo Branco, as well as some locals. Fukushima is a province from Japan that is located in the region of Tohoku, Honshu Island, where its capital Fukushima is located 250 km to the North of Tokyo. On the 11th of March of 2011 there was an earthquake rated 8,9 on the Richter scale followed by a tsunami which occurred in the Tohoku region, where 15.800 people died. Other consequence was the explosion of 4 reactors from the Nuclear Central of Fukushima, which caused the greatest nuclear incident since Chernobyl, in 1986. Children, most of them accompanied by their mothers, had to abandon their homes and fathers and were forced to move into other relatives' houses, in other provinces, or orphanages. It was in this context that emerged the cooperation established between the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova and the French association "Carrefour de L'Art de Vivre", in which the first step was promoting this summer camp which proposed a stay in full nature, in a safe and peaceful environment with environmental education activities, field trips to the local natural and cultural heritage, as well as workshops and dinners with local communities. In total participated 22 people, from which 5 were children with ages between 9 and 11 years old. The field trips in the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova were accompanied by Manuela Catana. Here they went on the Fossils Route, where they participated on the workshop "The cycle of bread", offered by the Community Oven, and went on a donkey ride on the "Rancho das Casinhas" horse riding club.

They also went through the Boulders route in Monsanto, got to know the historic village of Idanha-a-Velha, incarnated the spirit of smugglers during a full moon night in Salvaterra do Extremo, visited the Boom Festival and the Castle of Idanha-a-Nova's viewpoint. In Castelo Branco, they also visited the Superior School of Agriculture. Armindo Jacinto had the opportunity to reaffirm the availability of Idanha-a-Nova's Municipality and the Naturtejo Geopark to embrace new initiatives of cooperation, whether it is to welcome children and their mothers, young people to study (15-25 years old) in the schools of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco or in the EPRIN, families of farmers dedicated to biological agriculture, among other activities. There is the idea of promoting a new summer camp, in 2013.



25th to 28th of July – III Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark Meeting. The Foundation to the Development of Schools, Science and Technologies from Mato Grosso do Sul, with the support of the Foundation for Tourism of Mato Grosso do Sul, in the scope of the 13th Bonito Winter Festival, organized the III State Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark, under the theme “Geoparks: models of management and strategies of implementation”. Afranio Soares, José Rimolí, Marcelo Turine and Guilhermina Brites from this geopark's executive council were in the center of a well organized meeting of the Managing Council of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark, which combines all entities involved in the regional management of a vast territory established by the State's law, in the Bonito Convention Center. On the table were the recommendations made by evaluators of the Global Geoparks Network and the problem of the excessive territorial area this geopark possesses, which is a major weakness to development of sustainable strategies. The solution reached on this productive meeting will bring excellent opportunities, as well as new challenges to the geoparks movement which is developing in Mato Grosso do Sul. In order to clarify some aspects relative to management models, in this meeting participated Carlos Neto de Carvalho who introduced Naturtejo's model of management, Flávia Lima who approached the Brazilian reality in the context of the GGN and Jasmine Cardozo who brought examples of strategies of interpretation for the geological heritage of protected areas and geoparks from all over the world. In addition to the contact with local communities during the Bonito Winter Festival, with a large spectrum of events, participants also visited this region's main attraction, the Blue Lake Cave, a true wonder of great scenic impact, which however still needs some interpretation at the level of its geomorphological and biological elements. Another great experience was the memorable guided “fluctuation” through the Natural Aquarium, with private management, a model of good practices on ecotourism. This is an experience nobody should miss when visiting the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark. However, when emerged on those clean waters surrounded by luxurious vegetation, we do not understand the importance of the source which feeds all those water springs and its hydrological model, as well as the strategies of conservation of this important attraction which each year brings thousands of tourists to this region.

Accompanied by Joana Rodrigues, 20 participants started the day looking for gold on the Ocreza river, a tradition that dates back to Roman times. In the Living Science Center they observed, with the help of a magnifying glass, the flakes they found. These activities were followed by a goldsmith workshop by Paulo Dias, where participants had contact with several precious metals and jewelry and learned some of this art's tricks. Lastly, the center's monitors conducted the visitors on a visit through the Living Science Forest Center.



28th and 29th of July – Parishes of Castelo Branco visit the Geopark. The executive of the Parishes of Castelo Branco from Beira Baixa and Faial (Azores Geopark project) were met to sign an agreement and went on a visit through the Naturtejo Geopark. The program guided by Joana Rodrigues was initiated in the Fossils Route of Penha Garcia, in a relaxed environment. In spite of the high temperatures, the visit continued to the top of the castle of the historic village of Monsanto. The program ended in the historic village of Idanha-a-Velha, including a visit to the oil press and the museum, accompanied by one of the municipality's technicians. With this agreement the Naturtejo Geopark becomes connected to the parish of Castelo Branco and the Azores Geopark project, through this parish where it is located an important geosite.



30th of July to 1st of August – Visit to the Geopark project in Campos Gerais. By invitation of the Professor Jasmine Cardozo Moreira, responsible for the department of tourism of the State university of Ponta Grossa, Carlos Neto de Carvalho went on a three days visit to the region of Ponta Grossa, with the objective of analyzing this region's tourist potential, contributing for a strategy of territorial promotion and environmental education of the main geological sites of interest, aiming to implement measures to its valorization. During those three days, he was accompanied by the above mentioned professor, by Professor Gilson Burigo Guimarães and by local guides and technicians, who provided various explanations. The UEPG has been developing a significant work of analysis, which must be recognized in order to develop and establish strategies of tourist development and territory planning for this region. This was also an opportunity to get to know the departments of tourism and geology, as well as some of their staff.

A geomorphological phenomenon of dissolution of sandstone units of the Ponta Grossa Formation, the Park of Vila Velha is a truly impressive project of environmental conservation developed for the last few years. The Furnas are other geomorphological phenomenon of natural cavities dozens of meter deep. The Furna II, the most impressive cavity, features structures of visitation including an elevator built some decades ago, now deactivated, which contributes for the abandonment of the park. Some of these cavities, like the Furnas Gêmeas, are true oasis of biodiversity, with species of fauna and flora adapted to the soils and geomorphological characteristics of this region. However, the site does not have any signs, so it's only possible to discover with the aid of a guide, but it is worth it! A true attraction, the Buraco do Padre also associates the river's mechanics and unusual processes of dissolution, forming a waterfall of great beauty. Located on a private property, this site lacks signalization and proper means of access. The surroundings are of high landscape value.

The ichnological site of pedágio da Rodovia Curitiba – Ponta Grossa presents an important educative interest, being for now a zone of difficult access close to the highway. It is an enormous bedding surface belonging to the Furnas Formation and showing evidence of sea creatures who lived 430 million years ago. This site has been visited mainly by universities, but can also be prepared for school visits. An introductory panel helps on the interpretation of this paleontological heritage. Other site with poor signalization but with great tourist potential is the S. Jorge waterfalls. Located on private property, near de S. Jorge river offers almost no conditions for visitors, but excellent landscapes of canyon, with successive waterfalls, culminating with the impressive top of S. Jorge on a scarp from the Devonian. This site also features prehistoric art and perfect conditions to the practice of adventure sports and environmental education. The Mirante dos Alagados is another site which lacks recognition, with no infrastructures but great hydrological interpretation potential and natural landscape. This is another site of great interest for environmental education. The visit focused on a set of selected sites of geological interest. For its characteristics, almost every one of them adapt to tourist valorization, once its utilization, associated with infrastructures of visitation does not promote their degradation. In certain cases, tourist valorization of geosites can even contribute to the valorization of the landscape and conservation of local habitats, reinforcing this region's image and quality of life. This geological heritage has an outstanding importance and rarity, with sites of great potential to regional development, requiring however proper conservation and management. These are undoubtedly the main references of development for the tourist sector in the Ponta Grossa region.



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

July (Ensino Magazine – Cover) – Watermelon festival in July

July (Ensino Magazine) – Manchester welcomes Idanha

July (Ensino Magazine) – Investigation and Mobility

July (Jornal de Oleiros) – Geopark Naturtejo with the seal of UNESCO for another four years

July /August (Revista Jardins) – Gardens with history – Castelo Branco Bishop's Garden

July /August (Raiano) – University students from California study Portuguese language and culture in the Naturtejo Geopark

4 of July (Gazeta do Interior) – 2nd place in the Naturtejo Geopark contest

4 of July (Gazeta do Interior) – Route on the European Geoparks magazine

4 of July (Gazeta do Interior) – The Fossils Route – an adventure for youth

9 of July (www.diariodigitalcastelobranco.pt) – University students from California study Portuguese language and culture in the Naturtejo geopark

10 of July (Povo da Beira) – Naturtejo Geopark in Brazil as a model of management

10 of July (Povo da Beira) – Americans in the Geopark

13 of July (Jornal Pérola do Pantanal – Brasil) – III Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark on the 26th of July

15 of July (Domingo – Magazine of Correio da Manhã) – Students by the Saara Desert

16 of July (www.montartenda.com) – the 10 best camping parks in Portugal

16 of July (www.passear.com) – Naturtejo as a model of management

17 of July (Povo da Beira) – University students from California study Portuguese language

18 of July (Gazeta do Interior – cover) – Ladoeiro shows watermelon's quality

19 of July (Reconquista – cover) – Watermelon is the festival's queen

19 of July (Reconquista) – Students from California in the Geopark

24 of July (www.boasnoticias.pt) – Idanha-a-Nova is the star of exhibition in England

25 of July (Gazeta do Interior) – 6th Spring festival

25 of July (Gazeta do Interior) – 40 tons of watermelon sold in two days

25 of July (www.fundacaodecultura.ms.gov.br) – III Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark debates management and network tomorrow in Bonito



IMPACT OF GEOPARK IN MEDIA

Newspapers & www

26 of July (Reconquista) – Watermelon festival helping business

26 of July (Bonito Notícias – Brasil) – III Meeting of the Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark debates management and network today in Bonito

26 of July (www.anyformsdesign.blogspot.pt) – Through the Naturtejo Geopark

28 of July (www.terralentejana.blogspot.pt) – Naturtejo: Casa do Forno Gold Fest remembers golden days in the Erges

29 of July (www.diariodigitalcastelobranco.pt) – Castelo Branco: “Objective: Geopark” – photographing 74 parish villages

31 of July (Povo da Beira) – Photographer portraits 74 parish villages from the Naturtejo Geopark

31 of July (Povo da Beira) – “When we went for Ore” exhibition travels to S. Miguel D'Acha

31 of July (Povo da Beira) –Gold Fest remembering golden days in the Erges

TV

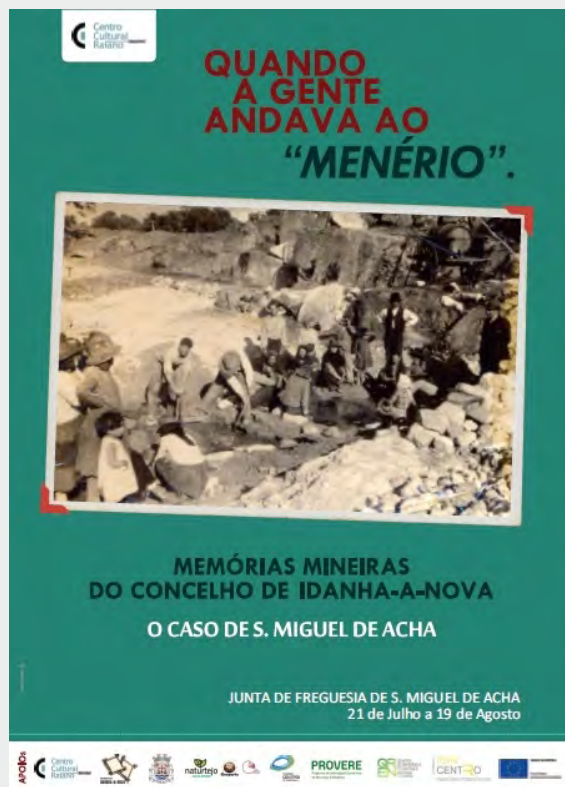
July (RTP 1 – Portugal em Directo news) – Summer in Oleiros



PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Map of the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova – Boom Festival

Map of the municipality of Idanha-a-Nova - ACANAC



- Flyer "When we went for Ore" – the S. Miguel D'Acha case - Idanha-a-Nova Municipality

- Flyer «From the gold of Portas de Almourão to the jewel» Naturtejo Geopark and Living Science Forest Centre





PROMOTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Primeira Circular

1.ªS JORNADAS SOBRE O VOLFRÂMIO EUROPEU

PAMPILHOSA DA SERRA, 14,15 E 16 DE SETEMBRO DE 2012

O volfrâmio constituiu e ainda constitui um dos aspectos económicos marcantes no concelho de Pampilhosa da Serra, devido à proximidade das Minas da Panasqueira, as quais marcaram toda a região.

Pretende-se com estas Jornadas abordar a temática da exploração do volfrâmio, nas suas vertentes cultural, etnográfica, económica, social, histórica e metalúrgica, no espaço europeu, com especial destaque para a Península Ibérica.

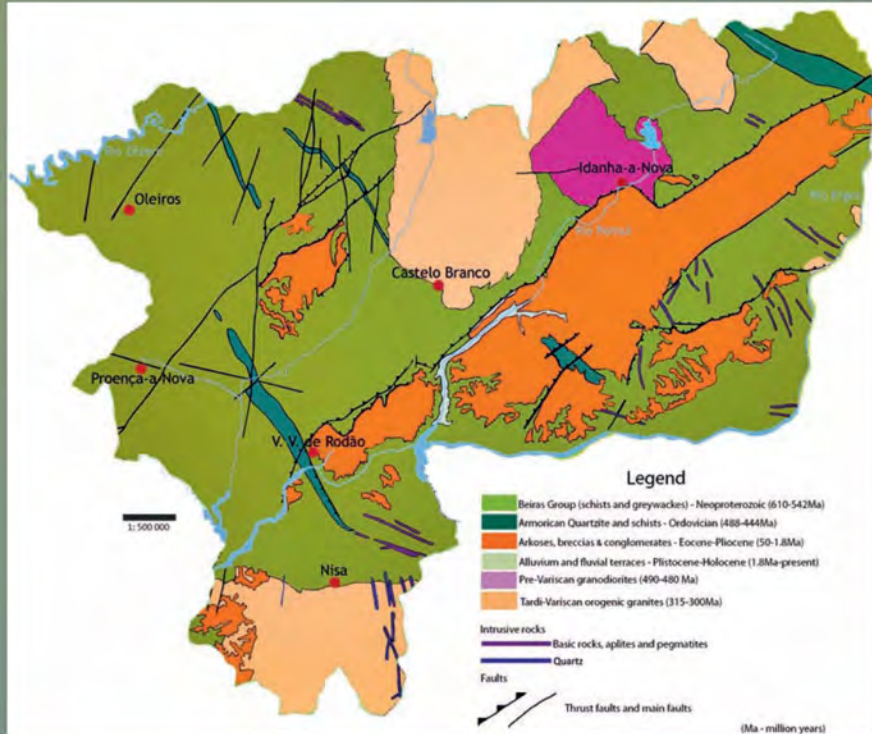
Entidades Apoiantes:

- naturtejo GEO.PARK
- GeoMin ALPS
- ADP
- ASSOCIAÇÃO CULTURAL DA SERRA (SERRA)
- FISDPGYM
- SIGMADOT

Entidades Organizadoras:

- GRACIAS
- Pampilhosa da Serra

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Geoparks: Geology with a human face



CRUZIANA

GEOPARK NATURAL DO ALGARVE REGIONAL EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL GEOPARK INNOVATE REPORT

www.geoparknaturtejo.com