



Sesia Val Grande Unesco Global Geopark

DAILY DIARY



OF THE UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK REVALIDATION MISSION 2023




26 July, Wednesday (Day 1)



When	Where	What	How	Who	
15.45	Mergozzo	Arrival at the Hotel	Check in at La Quartina Hotel and accommodation		
17,00	Vogogna, GEOLAB	Talking about the Sesia Val Grande UGGp	SVUGGp Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Revalidation team and program • Geopark territory and accessibility • Geoheritage and geoconservation • Governance and Management • Visibility and Communication • Public Engagement and Education • Local Economy • International Projects • Scientific Research 	<i>Noemi Comola</i> (Director national park), <i>Cristina Movalli</i> (National Park) <i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park), <i>Carlo Riva Vercellotti</i> (Regional Councilor, proponent of the Regional Law on geosites and geoparks) <i>Irene Bollati</i> (University of Milan, Scientific partner)	 <p>Geolab, SVUGGp Presentation</p>
				<i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	More photos folder: Photo-Doc_26 July, Wednesday (Day 1)
18,00	Vogogna GEOLAB	Geolab "Luigi Burlini"	Visit to the Geolab "Luigi Burlini"	<i>Cristina Movalli</i>	



19,30	Colloro	Dinner at "Circolo di Colloro"	Dinner with local and regional administrators, scientific partners	<p><i>Luigi Spadone</i> (President of Val Grande National Park), <i>Alberto Preioni</i> (Regional council leader of the majority party) <i>Carlo Riva Vercellotti</i> (Regional Councilor, proponent of the Regional Law on geosites and geoparks) <i>Luca Chessa</i> (Premosello municipal councilor) <i>Alberto Zanetti</i> (National Research Center, CNR DIVE project)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Colloro: dinner with local and regional administrators</p> <p>More photos folder: Photo-Doc_26 July, Wednesday (Day 1)</p>
-------	---------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



27 July, Thursday (day 2)



When	Where	What	How	Who	Photo
8.10	Mergozzo	Day 2 start	Meeting at La Quartina Hotel and transfer	<i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	
8,30	Mergozzo	Short visit "Granite Ecomuseum"	Visit to the two locations of the Ecomuseum: the archaeological museum and the stonemason's museum in the former Cooperative Dairy. Presentation of the MUMAG (marble & granite) museum project of Albo of Mergozzo.	<i>Elena Poletti</i> (Ecomuseum curator) <i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	 <p>Granite Ecomuseum: the archaeological section</p>  <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>



9,30	Candoglia	Visit at the "Cava Madre" Quarry	Ascent to the "Cava Madre" geosite (Quarry of Candoglia Pink Marbles, since 1387 granting material for the Duomo, the Milan Cathedral)	<p><i>Marco Scolari</i>, quarry's director. <i>Alberto Zanetti</i> (National Research Center, CNR DIVE project)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Monument to the historic "Cava Madre".</p>  <p>The director of the quarry, Marco Scolari</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
11,00	Candoglia	The Marble Laboratory of the <i>Veneranda Fabbrica</i> of Duomo (Milan Cathedral)	Visit to the marble laboratory with a meeting of two stone working artisans.	<p><i>Marco Scolari</i>, quarry's director</p> <p><i>Alberto Zanetti</i> (National Research Center, CNR DIVE project)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	

					 <p>The marble laboratory of Duomo, the Milan Cathedral</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
11,15	Candoglia	Meeting of administrators of the Piedmont Region	Meeting with the Vice President of the Piedmont Region and the officials in charge of the environment, tourism and communication sector	<i>Fabio Carosso</i> (Vice President of the Piedmont Region) <i>Stefania Crotta</i> (Director of the Environment, Energy and Territory sector). <i>Alberto Preioni</i> (Regional council leader of the majority party) <i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	 <p>Regional's administrators</p>
12,00	Albo di Mergozzo	The MUMAG (marble & granite) museum project	In passing, external observation of the building and the construction site	<i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	 <p>Project table of museum exhibits (MuMaG)</p>



12,30	Ornavasso	The Ornavasso quarry educational project	Visit to the two galleries of the historic marble quarry and the natural limestone excavations. Illustration of the aims of the environmental education center of the Interreg UE project underway with the Marble Museum (MuMaG) of Albo (Mergozzo)	<p><i>Stefano Zucchi</i> (Quarry owner). <i>Alberto Zanetti</i> (National Research Center, CNR DIVE project). <i>Tancredi</i> (Graduating student in geography, University of Turin)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Ornavasso's pink marble quarry</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
13,30	Ornavasso (Forte di Bara)	- The DIVE project - IGCP UNESCO GEO_geoclimbing geotrekking	Illustration of the localization site of two research activities: a) DIVE deep drilling project (Alberto Zanetti); b) Unesco IGCP: GEO_geoclimbing geotrekking (Irene Bollati)	<p><i>Alberto Zanetti</i> (National Research Center, CNR DIVE project). Irene Bollati (Professor, University of Milan)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Forte of Bara, illustration of research activities</p>




					<p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
15.00	Field trip in Val Loana	Geological theme trail	Field illustration of the path and thematic panels of geological interest and human activities (ancient lime kilns).	<p><i>Irene Bollati</i> (leader, University of Milan)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Val Loana, Geological theme trail</p>  <p>Ancient lime kilns</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>

18:30	Museo di Malesco	Geological section Soapstone Ecomuseum	Visit and illustration of the two thematic sections of the National Park Museum: the archaeological and ethnographic section, and the geological section dedicated to the stone that becomes history.	<p><i>Laura Minacci</i> (Leader, Ecomuseum curator) <i>Irene Bollati</i> (University of Milan, Geopark's Scientific Board)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Mrs Laura Minacci, ecomuseum curator</p>  <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
-------	------------------	----------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

19.00	Malesco	Soapstone Ecomuseum	Greetings from the Authorities and meeting with local administrators		 <p>Malesco, meeting with local administrators</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>
19,30	Malesco	Dinner	Dinner with traditional local products with the "Donne del Parco" (Cultural Association in traditional dress) and the "Accademia dei Runditt" Association.	<p><i>Luigi Spadone</i> (National Park President) <i>Alberto Bergamaschi</i> (Administrator of the municipalities of Valle Cannobina), <i>Claudio Cottini</i> (mayor of Santa Maria Maggiore), <i>Elio Fovanna</i> (Mayor of Premosello), <i>Maddalena Manera</i> (Administrator of the municipalities of Premosello), <i>Irene Bollati</i> (University of Milan); <i>Stefano Zucchi</i> (Ornavasso Quarry owner).</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>The "Donne del Parco", Cultural Association in traditional dress</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_27 July, thursday (Day 2)</p>

28 July, Friday (day 3)

When	Where	What	How	Who	
8.30	Mergozzo	Day 3 start	Meeting at La Quartina Hotel and transfer	<i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	
9,15	Romagnano	Geosite stop of Supervolcano	Along the road to Romagnano: ignimbrite breccia of the Sesia Supervolcano	<i>Marco Giardino</i>	 <p>Ignimbrite breccia of the Sesia Supervolcano</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
9.30	Romagnano Sesia	MEV (Ethnographic Museum), exhibition centre of Villa Caccia. Stakeholder meeting. GEOfood presentation (viticulture)	<p>Visit to the ethnographic museum and the spaces of the Villa Caccia with the exhibitions of the Sesia Val Grande Geopark: a) exhibition on geosites and geodiversity; b) art exhibition "Il Bosco delle Rocce" ("Geodiversity forest").</p> <p>Meeting with local administrators, museum volunteers and the President of the Unesco Club "Terre del Boca", Mrs. Clio Pescetti.</p> <p>In conclusion, analysis of GeoFood's activities through an exhibition on the relationship between wine-growing activities and geodiversity of the geopark.</p>	<p><i>Alessandro Carini</i> (Mayor of Romagnano Sesia) <i>Alessandro Costanzo</i> (President of the Ethnographic museum) <i>Clio Pescetti</i> ("Terre del Boca" Club UNESCO) <i>Alessandra Cavanna</i> (Association "La nostra gente"; CeO di Cavanna S.p.A.) <i>Alice Freschi</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geotourist Association) <i>Francis Fogarty</i> (Winegrower, GEOfood)</p>	 <p>Romagnano, Villa Caccia</p>

				<p>Museum's volunteers</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Wine-growing activities and geodiversity of the geopark</p>  <p>The geodiversity forest ("Il bosco delle rocce")</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
11,30	From Romagnano to Val Mastallone	The Sesia Supervolcano trail Enhancing Geoheritage and Promoting Geotourism	<p>From the Supervolcano Trail to the "Miniera della Gula" Geosite, following the historical photoreportage (1887-88) by Ugolino Fadilla and using the contemporary multimedia tools:</p> <p>https://www.progeopiemonte.it/path/valesesia.html</p> <p>Meeting Geopark Guide at the Gula Mine, for Mineralp Interreg Project</p> <p>https://www.mineralp.net/</p>	<p><i>Enrico Zanoletti</i> (Mineralp Interreg project) <i>Riccardo Cerri</i> (Mineralp Interreg project)</p> <p><i>Alice Freschi</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geotourist Association)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>(Supervolcano) Ponte di Agnona geosite, granite outcrop</p>



Gula historical bridge









Work in progress at the Gula mine educational & tourism site



More photos, in folder: **Photo-Doc_28**
July, friday (Day 3)





Meeting with local administrators: local economy and geotourisme; Geopark governance and partnership with administrative bodies of Valsesia (Unione Montana, GAL, Varallo Alagna Municipality, EGAP)

					 <p>Gula historical bridge</p>  <p>Work in progress at the Gula mine educational & tourism site</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
14,00	Varallo Sesia	Arrival at Albergo Italia (Hotel)	Check in and Lunch		
15,00	Varallo Sesia		<p>Meeting with local administrators: local economy and geotourisme; Geopark governance and partnership with administrative bodies of Valsesia (Unione Montana, GAL, Varallo Alagna Municipality, EGAP)</p> <p>https://www.terredelsesia.it</p> <p>https://www.unionemontanavalsesia.it/it-it/home</p> <p>https://www.areeprotettevallesesia.it/en-us/home</p>	<p><i>Carlo Riva Vercellotti</i> (Regional Councilor, proponent of the Regional Law on geosites and geoparks)</p> <p><i>Franco Gilardi</i> (President of GAL, Gruppo di Azione Locale), <i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park-EGAP), <i>Pier Luigi Prino</i> (councilor of regional park-EGAP), <i>Attilio Ferla</i></p>	



				<p>(Unione Montana, Culture advisor), <i>Novello Luca</i> (GAL, Gruppo di Azione Locale). <i>Alice Freschi</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geoturist Association)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Varallo Sesia, meeting with local administrators</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
16.30		Sacro Monte di Varallo UNESCO WHS	<p>Visit to the Sacro Monte di Varallo. Ascent by cable car, meeting with park rangers of Natural Reserve of Sacro Monte, exploration of the cultural geodiversity.</p> <p>Visit to the Sacro Monte UNESCO WHS, recognition of the cultural geosystem services, https://www.sacrimonti.org/en/sacro-monte-di-varallo of local traditions and religious sense, https://www.sacromontedivarallo.org/wp/</p>	<p><i>Marco Zerbinatti</i> (University of Turin, architecture department). <i>Local tourist guide.</i> <i>Rita Regis</i> (Sacro Monte park ranger)</p> <p><i>Alice Freschi</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geoturist Association)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>Sacro Monte di Varallo UNESCO WHS</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
18.30		Nature and Art: Museo Calderini	<p>Descent by trail to Varallo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visit to the Santa Maria della Grazie Church - Art gallery and Calderini Museum 	<p><i>Paola Angeleri</i> (Pinacoteca Museum curator) <i>Claudio Francione</i> (President of Museum) <i>Marta Coloberti</i> (Calderini Natural History Museum)</p>	 <p>President and the staff of Calderini Museum</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - http://www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it/index.php/en/places-of-interest/museums - Video projection of MonterosaSki tourist company 	<p><i>Cristina Viani (geologist)</i></p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i> <i>Alice Freschi</i></p>	 <p>Natural history section</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_28 July, friday (Day 3)</p>
20,30		Dinner at Pianebelle Restaurant, Varallo	Dinner & Meeting with Valsesia stakeholders	<p><i>Franco Gilardi (President of GAL, Gruppo di Azione Locale), Lucia Pompilio (director of Regional Park-EGAP), Pier Luigi Prino (councilor of regional park-EGAP), Nadia Salvagno (director of Sacri Monti), Attilio Ferla (Unione Montana, Culture advisor),</i></p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i> <i>Alice Freschi</i></p>	

29 July, Saturday (day 4)

When	Where	What	How	WHO	
8.00	Varallo Sesia	Day 4 start	Meeting at Albergo Italia Hotel and transfer		
9.00	Bettolle di Borgosesia	Meeting point at the parking near railway	Meeting with Park rangers and director of Monte Fenera (EGAP) https://www.areeprotettevallesesia.it/en-us/aree-protette/servizi/monte-fenera	<i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park-EGAP), <i>Tito Princisvalle</i> (Park ranger) <i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	
9.30-11.00	Monte Fenera	The Helsa Bear Trail,	Walking from Fenera San Giulio to Ara, along the Helsa Bear educational trail: https://www.museocarloconti.it/habitat/itinerario-b/	<i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park-EGAP), <i>Tito Princisvalle</i> (Park ranger) <i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i>	

					 <p>"Helsa Bear" educational trail</p> <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_29 July, Saturday (Day 4)</p>
11.00-12.30	Ara	In situ geoheritage, Infrastructures and Geotourism	<p>The Ara geosite and the Giardino delle Grotte ("Garden of Caves") visitor centre Geotourism and guided tours http://www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it/index.php/en/events-and-activities/110-nuove-escursioni-con-le-guide-ufficiali-proposte-luglio-e-agosto-2023 https://trekking.invalsesia.it/grotte-di-ara/</p>	<p><i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park-EGAP), <i>Tito Princisvalle</i> (Park ranger), <i>Badino Samuele</i> (naturalist guide)</p> <p><i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i></p>	 <p>"Giardino delle Grotte" visitor centre</p>  <p>Ara geosite (Giardino delle Grotte)</p>

					More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_29 July, Saturday (Day 4)
13,00	Ara	Transfer and Lunch	Borgosesia (Claudio's Restaurant)		
14.00 - 15.00	Borgosesia	Ex-situ geoheritage and Museums	Guided visit to the Archeology , Paleontology and Geology Sections of the Museo di Archeologia e Paleontologia Carlo Conti http://www.sesiavalgrandegeopark.it/index.php/en/places-of-interest/museums	<i>Letizia Ceffa</i> (Assistant director of the museum) <i>Lucia Pompilio</i> <i>Marco Giardino</i> <i>Tullio Bagnati</i> <i>Alice Freschi</i>	 <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_29 July, Saturday (Day 4)</p>
15.30-18.30	Borgosesia		Final briefing of re-validators Questions to SVUGGP representatives Discussion and Conclusions	<i>Marco Giardino</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geoturist Association; Scientific Board of SVUGGp) <i>Carlo Riva Vercellotti</i> (Regional Councilor, proponent of the Regional Law on geosites and geoparks) <i>Lucia Pompilio</i> (director of Regional Park-EGAP), <i>Franco Gilardi</i> (President of GAL, Gruppo di Azione Locale), <i>Tullio Bagnati</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geoturist Association)	 <p>More photos, in folder: Photo-Doc_29 July, Saturday (Day 4)</p>

				<i>Alice Freschi</i> (Sesia Val Grande Geotourist Association)	
19.00	Borgosesia		Transfer by car to the Albergo Italia in Varallo		

