PROPOSALS FOR THE CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF GEOPARKS IN PERU

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INTRODUCTION

The Geological Mining and Metallurgical Institute of Peru (INGEMMET) carried out since 2006 the inventory and promotion of unique geological sites considered geological heritage. Its conservation and enhancement serves scientific research, didactic teaching and geotourism. Seven areas of the country have been evaluated: Marcahuasi, Lima (2006); Andagua Volcanoes Valley (2008) and Colca and Cotahuasi canyons in Arequipa (2011-2012); Protected Natural Areas (PNA) like Paracas (2007) in Ica region south of Lima and Huayllay (2009) located at the center of the country. An inventory of geological and mining heritage in Puno region, with emphasis in the Tinajani Canyon was made in 2013-2014.

























MARCAHUASI VOLCANIC PLATEAU



PARACAS NATIONAL RESERVE



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The promotion of this knowledge has been given with the publication of two geotouristic guides (two more in press), geology congress presentations, tourism institutions and PNA, regional and municipal governments, Peruvian Ministry of Culture, schools and school fairs, etc. Internationally presence in "Cities on Volcanoes, Cov 6" (Tenerife, 2010), "Regional Workshop on Geoparks" (Uruguay, 2011), II Brazilian Symposium of Geological Heritage and Geotourism (2013), as well as the recent Workshop in Mexico (2015), presenting the first Peruvian proposal of geopark to JNESCO experts.

DIFFUSION

Promotion, awareness-raising and training are necessary to keep this geo-heritage, enhance local capabilities for geotourism and assist in the management and consolidation of geoparks. Working in different socio-economic contexts, those with political decision to accept these proposals (communities, municipalities, associations, private owners, PNA), INGEMMET acts as technical-scientific advisory entity. The "First Symposium on Geoparks, Geotourism and Geological Heritage" organized by INGEMMET with Colca Autonomous Authority, the Regional Government of Arequipa and Caylloma and Castilla provincial municipalities, release new strategies of sustainable, economic and social development and the philosophy of geoparks with emphasis on the creation of "Colca Canyon and Andagua volcanoes Valley Geopark" and the need to train more specialists in geology, in relation to geo-heritage.

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