

Management Framework of Chinese Geoparks

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China started to set up national geopark system in the year of 2000, since then, the geoparks have been rapidly developed across the county. By now, China has the largest number of GGN members (31) in the world, besides, there are more than 200 national geoparks and much more provincial geoparks in China.

The geoparks in China are dominated by governments, because the geoheritage protection is one of governmental duties. At the first beginning, China paid much attention to the establishment of an effective geopark management system. The highest geopark management organization in China is the Ministry of Land and Resources, with a leading group and expert committee of geopark (geoheritage) evaluation, which are responsible for assessing national geopark application, policy-making, geopark development plan, financial support and daily geopark management at the national level, and also for the global geopark candidate selection and recommendation. The departments of land and resources at different government levels are responsible for their own geoparks. The Chinese Geopark Network is in charge of coordination, organization of national geopark activities.