

CARRY OUT AN INVENTORY, MAKE IT KNOWN, CONTINUE IT.

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Abstract. The national inventory of geological heritage has now reached a stage. The state of the art, its realization, its usefulness were the subject of the symposium in Chambéry in 2018. An inventory is not an end in itself, but a tool, a multifunctional tool even, a kind of Swiss Army knife. The National Inventory of Geological Heritage should allow to establish, in the long run, a strategy of conservation and enhancement of sites, whether for regional planning, for the development of geotourism, or for educational purposes.

This realization attests to a know-how at the national level, to a good collaboration between different State services and to the good will of the data providers. In order for this inventory to be used, apart from a few examples illustrated during the colloquium, it is necessary to make this inventory known to as many people as possible. For this purpose, a book has been produced, for which we have chosen to present one site per department, i.e. about one hundred for the national territory.

The book, like the symposium, is a milestone because the inventory is, like the ZNIEFF, a continuous inventory.

Résumé L'inventaire national du patrimoine géologique a aujourd'hui atteint une étape. L'état des lieux, sa réalisation, son utilité ont été l'objet du colloque de Chambéry en 2018. Un inventaire n'est pas une finalité, mais un outil, un outil multifonctions même, une sorte de couteau suisse. L'Inventaire National du Patrimoine Géologique devrait permettre d'établir, à terme, une stratégie de conservation et de valorisation des sites, que ce soit pour l'aménagement du territoire, pour le développement du géotourisme, ou à des fins pédagogiques.

Cette réalisation atteste d'un savoir faire au niveau national, d'une bonne collaboration entre différents services de l'État et la bonne volonté des fournisseurs de données. Pour que cet inventaire soit utilisé, en dehors de quelques exemples illustrés lors du colloque, il convient de faire connaître cet inventaire au plus grand nombre possible. Dans cette optique un livre a été réalisé, pour lequel nous avons choisi de présenter un site par département, soit une centaine pour le territoire national.

Le livre, comme le colloque, sont un point d'étape car l'inventaire est, comme les ZNIEFF, un inventaire continu.

In recent years, there has been a real explosion of geoheritage. However, the interest for geological heritage is relatively late, compared to the interest for living heritage in general. This notion of heritage is, in fact, very old but has long remained marginal. The increase in the number of views on this notion has been accompanied by a reflection on this meaning and by a multiplication of the number of laws to accommodate the situations and to be able to take into account the diversity of possible cases.

To take into account, it is necessary to know and make known. The geology is one of the components of nature but the geological heritage has long remained a matter for the initiated. In order to compensate for this lack of recognition, the State has imposed a census of geological sites of heritage interest. The law on local democracy, in 2002, instituted through Article L411-1A, amended in 2016, a national inventory of "geological, pedological, mineralogical and paleontological" wealth. The National Inventory of Geological Heritage (INPG) is a major program of knowledge of the geology of the territory that complements other projects such as the geological repository of France. It was officially launched in 2007 [1]. This program is

carried out in the regions by the regional commissions of geological heritage (CRPG), under the mandate of the regional directorates of the Ministry of the Environment. The Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle is the scientific guarantor of the inventory at the national level. Each geological site is informed and described through nearly seventy fields. They allow to detail the geological aspects and the patrimonial interest of each site. A precise location, illustrations, documents and references of scientific articles published on the site complete the data provided. Thus, each INPG sheet presents an important amount of information and a synthesis work on the geological object registered in the inventory.

The INPG celebrates its fifteenth anniversary in 2022. It is a young program compared to the inventory of natural areas of ecological, faunistic and floristic interest (ZNIEFF) which celebrates its fortieth anniversary in 2022, but its results are already important. In 2021, it lists nearly 5,000 geological sites, spread throughout the country. Approximately 65% of them are validated at the national level and disseminated on the platforms of knowledge on nature (@INPN, @Géoportail, @InfoTerre...)

Approximately 700 people worked on the project, representing more than 60 institutions or structures. As the project is national in scope, the first results are obviously important. More than 3,000 sites have been filled in and validated at the national level, and nearly 2,000 are being entered. The whole represents more than 30,000 typed pages and includes 15,000 photographs or associated documents. The total mapped surface of these sites represents about 13 000 km², on average a site covers a surface of 4 km². The processing and analysis of these data is in its infancy but is developing.

The inventory is in a continuous process (updates, new sites ...). The INPG serves as a support for international projects related to geodiversity and allows links with international databases.

The results of the inventory are analyzed through several themes. They are already being used in France for the construction of policies for the protection of geological heritage [2]. Thus the inventory serves as a reference for the establishment of departmental lists of sites of geological interest and prefectural orders for the protection of geotopes (APPG) according to Decree No. 2015-1787 of 28 December 2015. These two tools can be mobilized as part of the strategy for the creation of protected areas (SCAP). The inventory is a means of land use planning that is used by local authorities. The free access to the inventory data is used for the development of the territories, for teaching and dissemination of geological knowledge to students and the public. A "general public" book was published to mark the ten years of the national inventory [3] (De Wever et al. , 2018). It presents one site per department accompanied by a short text and an emblematic full-page photo.

The INPG opens up an immense potential for linking geological field data with collections, human history, architecture or cultural practices of the territories.

References : [1] De Wever P., Egoroff G., Cornée A., and Lalanne A. (eds.) (2014). *Mém. H. S. Soc. géol. Fr.*, 14, 180 p. & De Wever P., Cornée A., Egoroff G., Collin G., Duranthon F., Lalanne A., de Kermadec C. & Lucet S. (2019).- *Naturae*, vol. 1, pp. 1-58. [2] Rouget I., Egoroff G., Hobléa F. (eds.) (2022). 10 years of national geological heritage inventory: assessment, uses, perspectives, Chambéry, 15-17 October 2018. *Mem. H.S. Soc. Geol. Fr.*, 17, 208 p. [3] De Wever P., Egoroff G., Cornée A., Gravbiou P., Avoine J. & Baillet L. (2018). Éd. EDP-Sciences, Paris, 252 p.

OTHER ONLINE SOURCES

National Inventory of Natural Heritage (INPN):
<https://inpn.mnhn.fr/accueil/recherche-de-donnees/inpg> Accessed on 12/29/2021.