



Geodiversity, Geoheritage and Sustainability

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Message from the Guest Editor

Geodiversity is the natural range of minerals, fossils, soils, rocks, landforms and their associated processes and values. Geodiversity serves as the foundation of healthy ecosystems and society, providing geosystem and ecosystem services from cultural appreciation and aesthetic beauty to nutritious foods, critical minerals, habitat and environments for biodiversity, and building stones. Geoheritage conservation and the thoughtful management and interpretation of geodiversity are integral components of sustainability theory and practice. Initiatives such as UNESCO Global Geoparks, which aim to safeguard geodiversity and landscape while promoting sustainable development through geotourism, are one such exemplar of the fusion of environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability. Such endeavors—and many more—underscore the interconnectedness of preserving geodiversity and geoheritage while fostering local economies and community engagement.





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