

Geopark Travelling: itinerant geosciences in Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark, Brazil

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The promotion of scientific knowledge is a basic assumption for development for any society or nation and presupposes cognitive skills from the person who teaches and from the person who learns. So the learning process will be more or less pleasant if there is from both (educator and learner) a major or minor “enchantment” about the theme. This is the challenge that the geoeducators constantly face in huge countries like Brazil that require more creativity to show that “rocks” can be so interesting such as animals or plants.

With this aim the Geoeducation Sector of Bodoquena-Pantanal Geopark (BPG) idealized the Geopark Travelling (= Geopark Móvel). It is a van equipped with didactical materials, laboratory and field tools, and projecting resources for open-air films and presentations. Geopark Travelling can bring geosciences to any city, village or indigenous settlement inside the BPG, promoting the recognition and the appreciation of their “place” through the knowledge of geological, social and cultural heritages. This strategy is extremely important for the building of sense of belonging to the territory of BPG with a very large area (39,000 km²) and with isolated traditional communities.

The Geopark Travelling has a portfolio of activities with talks, workshops, temporary exhibitions, scientific and didactical films. The activities are destined to schools, local communities and companies (specially related to tourism). The travelling team has two members; one of them is a geologist. Even with few time of existence, the Geopark Travelling has been showing an essential tool for integrate communities in BPG.

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