

Multi-Track Diplomacy of the Joint State Actor and Non-State Actor Proposed the Maros Pangkep Geopark to Become a UNESCO Global Geopark

Dwi Putro

Department of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Science, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Email: dwi.putro.psc20@mail.umy.ac.id

Tulus Warsito

Department of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Science, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

Email: tulusw@umy.ac.id

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18196/jiwp.v7i2.74>

Abstract

The Maros area has been initiated to be developed into a national geopark in 2015, then to maintain, protect, preserve and be recognized globally. The Maros area is proposed to become a UNESCO Global Geopark in 2021. This research aims to understand the process of the government, stakeholders, and the community around the geopark proposed that the Maros Geopark become a UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG). This research used a qualitative method with a descriptive narrative approach from various sources, articles, websites, and news. The findings from this research through multi-track diplomacy, which focuses on track one (state) and track two (non-state actors), showed that the relevant actors succeeded in turning the Maros Pangkep Geopark into a UGG. The announcement was made at a council meeting in Thailand on September 4, 2022, followed by an official announcement on May 24, 2023, based on decisions taken at the 216th UNESCO Executive Board Session in Paris.

Keywords: Multi-track diplomacy, UNESCO Global Geopark, Maros Pangkep Geopark

Abstrak

Kawasan Maros dikembangkan menjadi geopark nasional ditahun 2015, selanjutnya untuk menjaga, melindungi, serta melestarikan dan diakui secara global kawasan Maros diusulkan menjadi UNESCO Global Geopark di tahun 2021. Tujuan dari penelitian ini untuk mengetahui proses pemerintah beserta stakeholder juga masyarakat sekitaran geopark mengusulkan Geopark Maros menjadi UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG). Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan narasi deskriptif dari berbagai sumber artikel, website, berita dan yang lainnya. Temuan dari penelitian ini melalui konsep multitrack diplomasi yang berfokus pada track one (negara) dan track two (actor non negara) para aktor terkait berhasil menjadikan Geopark Maros Pangkep menjadi UGG. Pengumuman tersebut disampaikan pada rapat dewan council di Thailand 4 september 2022. Disusul dengan pengumuman resmi pada 24 mei 2023 berdasarkan keputusan yang diambil pada Sidang Dewan Eksekutif UNESCO ke-216 di kota Paris.

Kata Kunci: Multitrack diplomasi, UNESCO Global Geopark, Geopark Maros Pangkep.

Introduction

UNESCO Global Geopark is a geographical area that holistically manages geologically significant sites and landscapes, including protection, education, and sustainable

development (Ansori et al., 2022). Approaches that combine conservation with sustainable development and involve local communities are increasingly popular (Maruli, 2023). Geoparks contain geological, biological, and cultural

diversity, with the ultimate goal of protecting the diversity of the Earth, preserving the environment, and expanding earth science education (Alexandrowicz, 2006;

Alexandrowicz & Wimbledon, 1999; Dingwall, 2000; Farsani et al., 2014; Newsome & Dowling, 2005).



Graph 1: Distribution of Geoparks in Indonesia

Source: (<http://tides.big.go.id/DEMNAS/Andhttp://basemap.big.go.id/rbi/>) (Ansori et al., 2022).

In Indonesia, Geoparks are an option for sustainable development to optimize natural resources, including geological diversity, as tourism assets (Kevin, 2014). Geopark development in Indonesia has made a positive contribution to regional development, increasing community resilience from disasters, respecting diverse cultures, empowering women, creating job opportunities through Geopark tourism, and encouraging cooperation between regions and countries in utilizing geological, biological, cultural, and environment sustainably (Aditiasari, 2018).

Maros Pangkep Geopark is one of the Geoparks in Indonesia that is proposed to gain recognition from UNESCO as a UNESCO Global Geopark (Bidang Komunikasi dan Informasi Publik, 2018). This effort aligns with the government's goal of sustainable development and natural and cultural wealth for economic and social welfare while maintaining environmental preservation factors (Luhut et al. for Maritime Affairs and Investment) (Jabbar, 2018).

This research on the Maros Pangkep Geopark reflects the importance of gaining recognition

from UNESCO and how the process involves negotiations and steps from the government and the community (Balai Kawasan Konservasi Perairan Nasional Kupang, 2020). This recognition can also be seen from the local community's involvement in sustainable conservation efforts at the Maros Pangkep Geopark and its positive impact on local communities.

This study aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the Maros Pangkep Geopark and its significance for sustainable development in Indonesia. Furthermore, how the negotiations and recognition process carried out by state and non-state actors in proposing the Maros Pangkep Geopark as a UNESCO Global Geopark and the role of the community in protecting and preserving this area for global benefits will be discussed.

Research Methods

This study used a qualitative method with a narrative research approach. The narrative research method allows researchers to understand a person's identity and worldview through the stories (narratives) they hear or tell daily (Darmanita & Yusri, 2020). This narrative research involves analyzing interviews on Channel Maros TV's YouTube channel entitled "Geopark Maros Pangkep Towards UNESCO Global Geopark." The interview featured Deddy Irfan, General Manager of Geopark Maros, who discussed the efforts of the government and related stakeholders in proposing the Maros Geopark as a UNESCO Global Geopark and the benefits that would be obtained if the Maros Geopark succeeded in getting the nomination.

Besides interview analysis, this study will use various other references such as news, articles, and other relevant sources to provide comprehensive information regarding the case studies discussed. This research process has reduced and narrated the data collected so that it is easy to understand. The data will include narratives from interviews and information from other relevant references.

The focus of the research is the Maros Pangkep Geopark and the efforts of the government and related stakeholders in proposing the Maros Geopark as a UNESCO

Global Geopark. Data was collected by collecting interviews and other relevant references on this topic. Furthermore, the data collected was analyzed and interpreted qualitatively. This analysis includes an in-depth understanding of the government and community's efforts to maintain and preserve the Maros Pangkep Geopark and the benefits that will be generated if the Maros Geopark succeeds in gaining recognition from UNESCO.

This research will also pay attention to validity and reliability by ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the data used. In addition, the limitations of the methodology will be explained so that readers understand. With a narrative research approach and various relevant references, this research is expected to provide an in-depth understanding of the efforts and benefits of the Maros Pangkep Geopark proposal as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

World Heritage in International Relations and its Relevance to The Geopark Maros Pangkep

World Heritage plays a significant role in the responsible natural and cultural resources. Therefore, World Heritage must be safeguarded and preserved so that future generations can enjoy the magnificence and diversity of the Earth as we know it today. World Heritage is not a luxury but essential for the well-being of the people in every nation and worldwide, especially for the local communities where it is situated, including the international community at large.

UNESCO's commitment to preserving the sustainability and richness of World Heritage is realized through implementing the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which safeguards cultural and natural treasures of exceptional universal value. This section further focuses on its contribution to global ethics and globalization's positive and negative impacts on World Heritage sites (Droste, 2012).

Furthermore, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is responsible for natural heritage. One of its crucial tasks includes evaluating and assessing locations nominated for the World Heritage List, monitoring the conservation status of World Heritage sites, reporting the results to the

committee, and conducting field missions to monitor World Heritage sites (Aprianto, 2019).

From the statements above, Geopark Maros Pangkep, a natural heritage site included in the UNESCO Global Geopark, must be preserved and protected. Inclusion on the World Heritage List catalyzes increasing domestic awareness of cultural heritage protection. It also brings prestige to the host country and supports tourism and economic development. The most significant benefit is that these sites have protection and monitoring mechanisms provided by UNESCO (Aprianto, 2019). IUCN, an organization established in France and now headquartered in Gland, Switzerland, is instrumental in discussing various global environmental issues and formulating possible solutions, involving relevant stakeholders, including governments."

Results and Discussion

This sub will discuss the process analysis and steps taken between the government and relevant stakeholders in proposing the Maros Pangkep Geopark to become a UNESCO Global Geopark from the initiation process, filling in the dossier, submitting the Maros Geopark to UNESCO to the inauguration of the Maros Geopark becoming UNESCO Geopark.

The Urgency of the Maros Geopark as an Achievement of Indonesia's National Interests

Indonesia's national goals are stated in the preamble of the 1945 Constitution. In general, there are 4 paragraphs in the preamble to the 1945 Constitution which state the national interest to protect the entire Indonesian nation and all of Indonesia's bloodshed and promote public welfare, including educating the life of the nation and participating in creating world order based on independence, lasting peace, and social justice. Indonesia also has national interests, specifically under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which refers to relations between nations. These national interests are:

1. Strengthening foreign policy and expanding international cooperation in the multilateral field,

2. Strengthening Indonesia's active role in achieving international peace and security, promoting and protecting human rights, strengthening humanitarian cooperation and economic development, socio-culture, finance, environment, trade, industry, investment, raw materials,
3. Protecting intellectual property rights by strengthening multilateral cooperation (Nanggala et al., 2018).

For the people, the geopark can help the community to meet the needs and welfare of the wider community, nation, and state. The vision above illustrates the commitment the Ministry of Foreign Affairs strives for and realizes, primarily to fulfil its duties and tasks (core competence) as a relational institution and foreign policy-oriented. "Diplomacy for the people, diplomacy down to earth" means that the public will feel the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Kemlu, 2019).

As mentioned above, the first step is proposing that the Maros Pangkep Geopark area become a UNESCO Global Geopark. If this area can have UGG status, it will indirectly improve the welfare of the surrounding community. In the Maros Pangkep Geopark area, efforts to increase the economic value of tourism and its multiplier effect are supported by various common tourist destinations and attractions; there are hilly, mountainous, and coastal areas. The importance of the Maros Geopark from an educational, scientific, and conservation perspective is needed by research as a means of geological observation from local to international levels. This interest can later advance the tourism industry in the Maros Pangkep Geopark (Ichsan and Zhiddiq, 2020).

Result and Explanation

The analysis will be divided into two sections. In the first section, the authors identified the roles the UN and its agencies demonstrated in strengthening the moral standards of women's rights in Mexico. The second section will elucidate how the present populist president, AMLO, continuously adheres to the multilateral frameworks and the protection of women's rights relevant to his foreign policies.

Maros Geopark Qualification to become UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG)

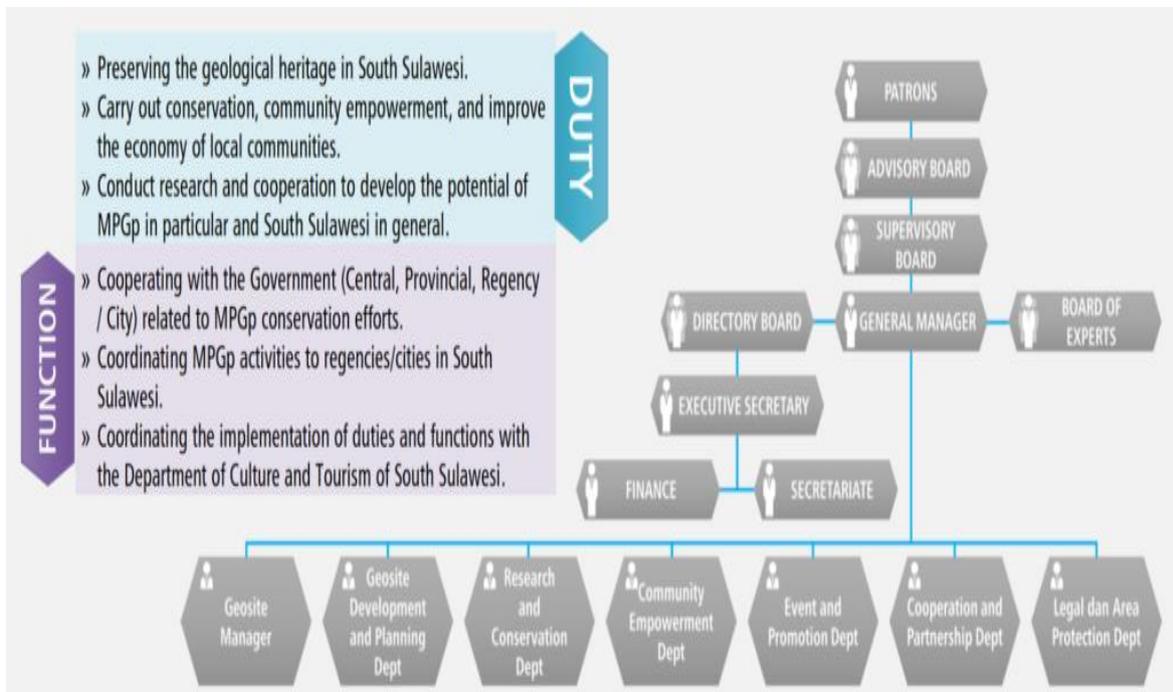
The area must have criteria predetermined by UNESCO to turn a national geopark into a UGG area. Among these criteria are a single geographic area and clear boundaries. It contains sites of international standard, whose management is carried out with a comprehensive concept involving the community and stakeholders, and has legal management of the geopark area. There is a wheel of the community's economy around the geopark to promote sustainable development, such as small-scale business centres, home industries as well as local economic development, through activities in support of tourism, educational aspects to support the development of geological science, such as museums and conservation laboratories (Setyadi, 2012).

Indonesia is one of the many countries in the world with much natural wealth, so it is feasible to propose an existing geopark with the hope that these parks can be crowned UGG status so that the benefits can be felt and last for future

generations so that they can continue to be maintained and preserved (Amelia, 2016). From the abovementioned conditions, the authors can conclude that several factors are behind the proposed Maros Pangkep Geopark becoming a UNESCO Global Geopark.

A. Proper Geographic Area Conditions and Legal Management

Indonesia has the potential for karst landscapes of around 154,000 km² or around 0.08% of Indonesia's land area. South Sulawesi has karst areas spread across several districts. However, the Karst area in Maros Regency and Pangkep Regency are the most famous. The Maros-Pangkep Karst Area (KKMP) is the second largest and most beautiful in the world after the karst area in China. The uniqueness of the Maros Pangkep karst area, which is not found in other karst areas in Indonesia, is because this area has a unique and distinctive landscape, commonly called a karst tower (tower karst). There are towering limestone hills with challenging cliffs (Ahmad and Hamzah, 2016).



Graph 2: Organization of the Maros Pangkep Geopark Management Agency (MPGp)
Source: (geoparkmarospangkep.id, 2021)

Apart from being a mandatory requirement or criterion for proposing a geopark, the Maros

Pangkep Geopark management body was formed to ensure and monitor the continuity and

preservation of nature in the Geopark area. The task is also assigned to the role of the surrounding community, government, stakeholders, and other parties.

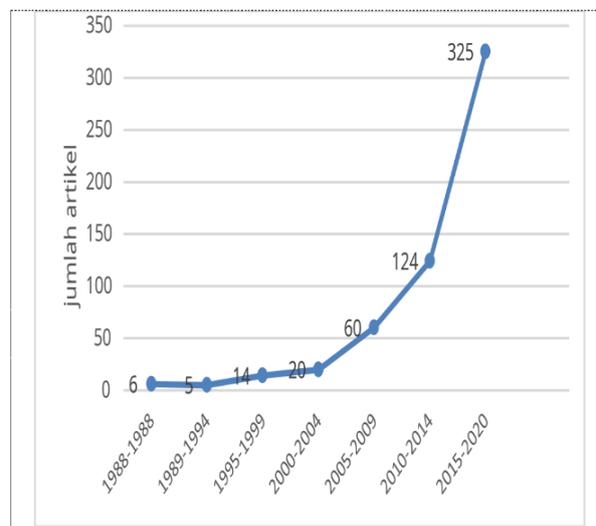
B. Welfare of the Community in Socio-Economy and Geotourism

Bearing in mind that Article 33 paragraph (3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which has given rights to local communities to utilize water, land, Earth, and natural resources for the prosperity of the surrounding community, is considered necessary for the state through its regional government to protect and fulfil the rights of local communities through strict actions such as written regulations. This mandate was further emphasized through Article 12 of the Regional Regulation of South Sulawesi Province No. 3 of 2019 concerning the Protection and Management of the Maros-Pangkep Karst Essential Ecosystem (Perda 3 of 2019) stating explicitly that the urgent target is collaborative community empowerment and capacity building (Maskun et al., 2021). The Maros-Pangkep Geopark area has been recognized locally, regionally, and internationally as having a wealth of geological heritage that must be adequately managed with a holistic concept, including education, protection, and sustainable development (Pribadi, 2022).

After years of struggle and local community initiatives to establish Rammang-Rammang as a popular tourist attraction in South Sulawesi, which has been proven since 2015, Rammang-Rammang has become the second most visited tourist area with 68% in the estimated value of ecotourism reaching 70 billion rupiahs every year (Maskun et al., 2021). Efforts in fighting for the Maros Pangkep Geopark show various support from various institutions. One of them is that in 2022, the local government will grant approximately 8 billion in funds for geopark management, requesting that management involve the local community. The government is aware that apart from being rich in natural beauty, this site destination will also become a tourist attraction and an investment asset for the long-term regional budget for the economy (Kadir, 2022).

C. Geoscience Areas with a Global Network of Partnerships and Cooperation

Education for sustainability is one of the three pillars of any geopark, along with conservation and geo-tourism (McKeever & Zouros, 2005; Zouros, 2004). All UGGps should develop and promote educational activities for people of all ages to increase awareness of geological heritage and its relationship to other aspects of natural, cultural, and intangible heritage (Catana & Brilha, 2020).



Graph 3: Graph of Research on Geoscience in Indonesia from 1980-2020

Source: (Sulistiyowati et al., 2021).

Graph 3 shows that researchers' interest in geopark research gradually increased from 1988 to 2020 and peaked around 2015 to 2020. This research aims to develop scientific insights, mainly about its geological, archaeological, and cultural heritage, to maintain the geopark's sustainability.

Laboratory learning has been developed by many researchers and teachers who teach sciences such as chemistry, physics, and biology to support contextual learning because almost all schools are equipped with adequate laboratory facilities. One example of the development of geoscience in the Maros Geopark Area is from (Ikhsan & Haris, 2022). The researchers are working with administrative authorities to develop a geographic laboratory that functions as an outdoor study, using the Rammang-Rammang

ecotourism area as a research site, which will later be used by schools in general in South Sulawesi province and Maros district in particular.

Indonesian Diplomacy in Making the Maros Pangkep Geopark a UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG)

After experiencing various stages of achievement, in the end, the Maros Geopark, which was still on a national scale, was proposed to become a UNESCO Global Geopark (UGG) immediately. The submission of Maros Geopark as UGG is not without reason. This submission has a positive impact on the sustainability of the geopark itself. As discussed in the previous chapter, there are many reasons why the Maros Pangkep Geopark was proposed as UGG. In addition to being recognized by the world, the Maros Pangkep Geopark has a wealth of biodiversity, geoscience, and geocultural, which are manifestations of other geopark criteria.

There are many actors involved in the proposal for the Maros Pangkep Geopark. The proposal for the Maros Pangkep Geopark uses a bottom-up concept, namely from the bottom up which is called Pentahelix, namely the stakeholders responsible for the geopark, from the government, academics, media, tourism associations, especially support from the local community. After forming the actors, they worked together to fill out the dossier forms provided by the UGG management from Paris. This collaboration illustrates the process of multi-track diplomacy. The Maros Geopark has tracks one (state actor) and two (non-state actor). Collaboration between actors who work hand in hand is the key to success so that the Maros Pangkep Geopark is officially designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Geopark development as a tourism destination is carried out based on planning that is realized in the form of a Geopark Master Plan and also through management efforts that refer to Development Goals (SDGs) and national and international standards. Geopark manifests in realizing Indonesia's national interests (Kemenparekraf, 2020).

After officially becoming a geopark at the national level, the Maros Geopark management

agency is accelerating the development of the Maros Pangkep Geopark, which was initially only recognized at the national level to become UGG, whose status is recognized by the world. Previously, there were six that were recognized as UGG, including Mount Rinjani Geopark, Sewu Mountains Geopark, Ciletuh Geopark, Toba Caldera Geopark, Belitung Geopark, Maros Pangkep Geopark (Suci, 2022).

In 2020, the central government self-assessment process came from 12 candidates for global geopark proposals to 2. They are Ijen, located in East Java, and Maros Pangkep, in South Sulawesi. Efforts done in proposing the Maros Geopark to become UGG are filling in a dossier designed by an expert from UNHAS, which contains an explanation of the Maros Pangkep Geopark, which has been adjusted to the criteria from UNESCO. The Maros Pangkep Geopark Dossier Compilation Team comprises the UNHAS Geological Engineering Department Head, Eng Asri Jaya, and Yadi Mulyadi from the UNHAS Archeology Department (sulsei, 2020). The UNESCO Indonesian National Committee (KNIU) has officially proposed the Maros-Pangkep National Geopark as a candidate for UGG Indonesia.

The representation was addressed to the UNESCO Secretariat in Paris as stated in Letter No. 66600/A6/KS/2020. Chief Executive of the Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO, Prof. Arief Rachman, officially signed the application letter for Geopark Maros Pangkep to be proposed to become UGG. UNESCO confirms that the dossier compiled has been approved without any revisions. This news would be encouraging if, in the previous case, the dossier were returned to the proposing team and revised again. By submitting to UNESCO as the general manager of Geopark, Maros said that the proposal to UNESCO was inseparable from the Maros Pangkep Geopark, which was previously designated as an Earth Park or a national-scale geopark in 2017. Then, the Governor also determined it through a Decree (SK) of the Maros Pangkep Geopark Management Agency (Aminah, 2020).

The following process is to welcome the arrival of the assessor from UNESCO to adjust the proposed dossier, which must be the same as

the facts on the ground. All Maros's geopark management bodies and Pentahelix stakeholders from government, academia, media, and tourism associations are involved. These actors collaboratively fully support the assessment process or assessment organized by the central UNESCO, especially the support from the Governor of South Sulawesi and the district heads of Maros and Pangkajene. Before the arrival of the assessor, identify the places that the assessor will visit and also check the route or route of the visit that will be passed, including trivial things such as graffiti in the cave, which will affect the assessment.

Dedi Irfan said UNESCO would assess the Maros-Pangkep Geopark. In connection with this assessment, two UNESCO assistants will visit the geopark area to take a closer look at it as a follow-up to the dossier sent to UNESCO. The more UGGs in Indonesia, the more recognition Indonesia will receive from the world. The Indonesian Geopark assessments began on June 8 and ended on June 18, 2022. The two UNESCO observers were Martina Paskova and Jakob Walløe Hansen. Martina Paskova is the head of the UNSECO central observer, and Jakob Walløe Hansen is the Director General of Odsherred Geopark in Denmark (Sulsel, 2021).

Three assessments will be held upon the arrival and visit of two assessors from UNESCO. First is an assessment of the Maros Pangkep Geopark and the Ijen Geopark. Second is revalidation after four years of ratification of the Rinjani Geopark and Batur Geopark. Third, at the end of the visit, two assessors revalidated at the Ratu Ciletuh Harbor geopark. The preparations for the Maros Pangkep Geopark to become UGG are carried out continuously, including coordinating with many parties and stakeholders, starting from the central government, provincial governments, and regional governments (Sulsel, 2021).

The Maros Geopark Management Agency formed a district and village-level preparatory committee to welcome assessors in June 2022. The geopark management agency conducts training for local MSMEs to improve products and restaurants around the area so that they can be verified according to UNESCO standards. The Management Body also forms pokdarwis

(tourism awareness groups) in villages to assist them in maintaining the sustainability of the geopark area.

While waiting for the results of the decision from the central UNESCO, the Maros Geopark management team continues to develop a website, conducts socialization activities regularly, forms the Maros Pangkep Youth Forum Geopark group, and certifies tour guides, which now has 50 tourist guides and 40 cave guides. Local and central governments continue to support accelerating the realization of the Maros Pangkep Geopark to become UGG. Sandiaga Uno, the Republic of Indonesia's Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy minister, fully supports the proposal for Maros Pangkep Geopark to become UGG.

Stakeholders and the community must implement conservation measures systematically to preserve the Earth's land heritage sites in a sustainable regional socio-economic and cultural development strategy. Through cooperation and responsible management, the karst area and its ecosystem will be preserved for the Earth Park or Geopark initiative as a pillar of tourism in South Sulawesi Province (Nuhung, 2016).

For information (Irfan, 2022), there are 200 site lists initiated by management bodies registered at the national stage. There are 50 sites. After selecting 50 sites on a national scale, the parties concerned selected only 31 sites selected. The results were selected through various considerations and benchmarks because the manager knew that 31 sites must comply with international standards. The other sites are still in development and will be standardized with international standards later (Tim CNN Indonesia, 2022).

After experiencing various stages, from charging the dossier to direct observation from the UNESCO Center. UNESCO has officially made the Maros Pengkep Geopark into UGG. This decision was based on holding a council meeting in Thailand on Monday, September 5 2022, via electronic mail. Dedy Irfan said this achievement was not spared from the cooperation of various parties, especially the people of South Sulawesi, stakeholders, and government support, who worked hand in hand

to fill out the dossier form according to the criteria set by UNESCO. Moreover, UNESCO has officially designated the Maros Pangkep Geopark as the UNESCO Global Geopark Pangkep based on a decision taken at the 216th UNESCO Executive Council Session in Paris, France, on May 24, 2023 (Muin, 2023).

With UNESCO Global Geopark status, the Maros Pangkep Geopark will be in the spotlight for local and world communities. The determination from UNESCO will impact the preservation and protection of the Geopark-Maros Pangkep so that the global community can maintain it. This legitimacy is a promotional platform for local and foreign tourists. The Maros-Pangkep Geopark area has geodiversity, cultural diversity, and biodiversity (Tim CNN Indonesia, 2022).

Conclusion

A UNESCO Global Geopark is a geographical area where internationally recognized geological sites and landscapes are managed with an integrated approach focused on conservation, education, and community empowerment.

Several factors underlie the proposal for Geopark Maros Pangkep to be designated as a UGG. Beyond seeking global recognition, Geopark Maros Pangkep boasts a wealth of geodiversity, geoscience, and geocultural richness, which align with the criteria of other geoparks.

The Maros region was initiated to develop a national geopark in 2015, aiming to preserve, protect and recognize it globally as a UNESCO Global Geopark in 2021. Using a combination of multi-track diplomacy, which includes track one (state actors) and track two (non-state actors), the Maros Geopark area succeeded in achieving UGG status. The announcement was made at the council meeting on September 4 2022, in Thailand and inaugurated on May 24 2023, based on the decision taken at the 216th UNESCO Executive Board Meeting in Paris.

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