GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Unzen Volcanic Area, Japan, APGN Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2009 / 2017



Members of 3 volcanic UGGps in Japan (Toya-Usu, Izu Peninsula and Unzen) shared their experimental techniques about volcanic eruptions to members of Hantangan GP, Republic of Korea (on December 15th 2019).

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 21 staffs including 5 scientific staffs

Number of visitors: 188,093, which is number of visitors of Mt. Unzen Volcano Museum in 2019.

Number of Geopark events:

- Lectures for local people (Geopark Seminar) : 11
- "Geo-Marche in Shimabara Peninsula": 2
- Photo-contest utilizing Instagram: 1

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes:

55 (20 classes for elementary schools, 11 classes for junior high schools and 24 classes for high schools)

Number of Geopark press release:

107 Press release (accumulate number published on the main local newspapers; Shimabara Press (69), Nagasaki Shinbun (31) and others (7) and 12 Radio program

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

• The action plan of Unzen UGGp was constructed by cooperating of various stakeholders;

scientists, school teachers, shop managers, administrative staffs etc.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- A scientific staff participated in the 5th APGN Capacity Building Workshop "Integrating Local Communities and Science Transfer" in April 11-16 2019 at Hong Kong UGGp.
- A scientific staff participated in the revalidation missions for 2 UGGps as an evaluator.
- A scientific staff participated in the "International Seminar and Workshop for Volcano Experiments" held in Hantangan GP, Republic of Korea (December 13th-16th) with 3 UGGps members in Japan.

Management and Financial Status

• The Council of Unzen Volcanic Area Geopark composes 31 members involving in administrative offices, conservation organizations, tourism associations, universities, local communities and so on. The fund has been provided from public funds of three cities within the Shimabara Peninsula.

Geoconservation

- "Site-Cleaning Project" has been continued by local people and geopark guides at several sites.
- Administrative offices, rangers, local communities and geopark staffs have carried out patrol of a mountain trail and checked its condition in every month.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Walking geotours for local people were held regularly.
- Two Youth Outdoor Learning Centers (Isahaya and Chijiwa) held "Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark Tour" for local elementary school students.

New education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

• N[o new educational program was developed in 2019, .

Strategic partnership

- Research groups of some universities carried out researches about insects, historical topics and installation situation of public facilities using universal design in the geopark area by using Subsidy for Academic Research of Unzen UGGp.
- "Geopark Supporter System" was enforced to involve local companies, organizations and local people in geopark activities.

Promotional activities

- Continuous enforcement of a monthly "Geopark Seminar" for local people.
- A monthly radio program "Geotour with Dr. Ohno" has been broadcasted by a local radio station "FM Shimabara". Scientific staffs introduce highlights of geopark's sites in the program.
- Promotion of activities of Unzen UGGp at scientific events held at Tokyo in August and November.

4. CONTACTS

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