

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Toya-Usu UNESCO Global Geopark (Japan, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2009/2019



Workshop for All Hokkaido Geoparks' guides held at the Toya-Usu UGGp

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 5 staffs

Number of visitors: approximately 1.3 million (Number of guests during April 2018 - March 2019)

Number of Geopark events: 49

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programs: 34

Number of Geopark press release: 38

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- We hold workshop event for All Hokkaido Geoparks' guides to share skills and sense of purpose for guiding. We have also succeeded in network building between guides working in the 5 Geoparks (2 UGGps and 3 JGN members) of Hokkaido.
- We have published a new map in two languages as a part of the new Geopark Trail Map series.
- We have created a new design system for geopark's general information boards, interpretation panels and flyers. This includes proper and integrated geopark's name and area boundary.
- We have developed an effective Geopark Master Plan. This plan shows the various projects that Geopark should undertake.
- As a program that supports the intangible heritage of the region, we have completed the

composition of the picture book of Indigenous Ainu language place names. This book will be published in 2020.

- We installed interpretation panel about plate tectonics and volcanic activity of Hokkaido on Toyako visitor center.
- Two new Volcano Meisters certified. (53 people in total)
- 713 downloads of the Geopark Outdoor Learning Textbook series from the Geopark's Website.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- The 6th Asia Pacific Geoparks Network on Rinjani-Lombok UGGp: Gave one oral presentations.
- Introduce the Toya-Usu and GGN activities for 9 groups from UGGp or foreign and domestic UGGp aspiring regions, and a trainee group of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from many countries.

Management and Financial Status

- Approved about the 2019 Action Plan and the budget at the council general meeting.

Geoconservation

- We have developed the concept of conservation and utilization of disaster remains, and placed the information on the site and on the web.
- Weeding of the Nishiyama trail and other geo-sites annually with volunteers to conserve geosites continually.
- Exchange the opinions about site's conservation and sustainable using at the education promotion committee meeting.
- Discuss about conservation activities of geopark at the Residents/Guides Committee meeting.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- The event "Waku Waku Workshop" was held in collaboration with Shikotsu-Toya National Park. During this event, lectures and group discussions were held to provide hints for developing sustainable tourism.
- Geopark partner/Volcano Meister training programs (six times).

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

- Yuki Nishi (Geoscientist) performed four volcanological lectures to local people.

Strategic partnership

- Our Geopark will have a sister-geopark partnership with Leiqiong UGGp, China. The procedure is in progress.

Promotional activities

- We held a Geopark Festival in collaboration with the 5 Hokkaido Geoparks at the Hokkaido Museum (Sapporo city) for attracting visitors to the Geopark.
- Exchange the opinions about the promotion plans using new map with geotourism/administrative committee.
- Geopark have given promotion materials for disaster risk reduction education tour to schools and travel agencies, with a package of outdoor learning textbooks and Volcano Meisters' guided tours.

4. CONTACTS

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