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”100 Active fault-scape in Japan” movement and its implication in reduction of disaster risk

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The Active fault 100 selection subcommittee of Japanese Society for Active Fault Studies will present our activities of ”100 views of active faults in Japan” movement and its implication in reduction of disaster risk.

We run the 2011 photo-contest of active faults in Japan as an activity of aiming the popularization of active fault. In addition, we carried out one day excursion to 3 of 100 views of active faults in Japan, in order to promote further understanding of active fault.

1. Result of the 2011 active fault photo-contest

-Number of applicants and photos; 20 and 61 respectively

-Types of photos; surface earthquake fault, view from sky, outcrop of active fault or tectonic geomorphology, views including trench

-Prize winner: Mr. H. Kurosawa (outstanding performance award), Mr. Y. Kohriya, Dr. H. Goto, Mr. J. Tamura, Dr. M. Watanabe

The photographs are uploaded in the homepage of the society.

2. Excursion of the active faults

We carried out one day excursion of Neodani fault just after the 120th memorial symposium of the 1891 October 28th Nobi earthquake, Miura-Hanto fault group on November 27th after the annual autumnal academic meeting and Tachikawa fault 28 January next day of its lecture. The followings are a few more details.

-Types of excursion; one day trip for mainly professionals by bus to Neodani fault and Miura-Hanto fault group, and one day on-site explanation for non-professional visitors or citizens of Tachikawa city.

-Participants of three excursion; 35, 25, and 190. ratios of member to non-member, 1:2 for the former two and 1:10 for the third.

-Positions of non-member participants: prefectural and city assembly members, disaster-prevention division’s staffs of local governments, disaster-prevention leader and volunteers, teachers, meteorological observatory staff, university students, geotechnical engineers, media reporters or TV crews.

3. The implication of photo-contest and excursions for reduction of earthquake disaster risk and its expectation

In diffusion of information of active fault and tectonic geomorphology, it will be very important for not only professionals but also non-professionals to participate such events.

As for photo-contest, many of photos of surface earthquake faults of Idosawa and Yunodake fault formed during the Fukusima Hamadori earthquake(Mjma 7.1) on 11 April 2011 were applied by non-member citizens, where not a few non-professional as well as many professionals were told to visit the areas of the surface faults. Four of seven prize winners’photos were selected from non-member non-professional. Both results seem to be a favorable tendency to lead citizens to understand non-divisible relationship between active fault and earthquake, especially under the present special circumstances after the great 2011 Tohoku earthquake. It may be suggested that both the applicants and winners will be expected to become good promoters of understanding or storyteller of active fault. Field excursions of such surface earthquake faults must be one of suitable events for citizens as well as professionals to understand the importance of active fault triggering earthquakes and reduce the risk of earthquake disaster.

Based on the results of the two excursions and on-site explanation of active faults, there were characterized by participants of peoples who were responsible for preparations for disaster-prevention measures or were presumed to be deeply involved in reduction of disaster risk. We will present some suggestive facts for reducing the risks of earthquake disaster, which are drawn from analyses of on-site questions and the questionnaire of excursion.

Keywords: active fault, active geomorphology, active fault 100, 100 views of active faults, earthquake disaster risk, Science and disaster education