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Evaluation and publication of resources for tourism and risk factor of the disaster -a case study in Shirouma Daisekkei-

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Shirouma-daisekkei (hereinafter mentioned as "Daisekkei") which is one of the famous trekking route in Japan shows important resources for tourism, because as far as the lowest part can be approached by even ordinary tourists. The convenient transportation from the urban area to the base of the trail means the southern gateway of the Itoigawa Geopark. Furthermore, the alpine landscape in the Daisekkei; perennial snow patches, steep and bare rock cliffs and alpine plants feast the tourist eyes and excite the climber hearts. The background of such resources for tourism is formed by the tectonic activity around the Itoigawa-Shizuoka Tectonic Line, complicated glaciation in the glacial period and landslide activity and heavy snow/rain in the present time.

On the other hand, fatal and injury accidents occur frequently due to many rock fall and slope failure. These cases are also effected by above mentioned geographic condition and natural phenomenon as the risk factor, i.e. crowded climbers, fragile geology and steep slope and deep snow accumulation/dense fog as the obstacle to the rock fall observation.

Hence, natural phenomena in Daisekkei compose bilateral character, such as the resources for tourism and the risk factors. This relation is also identified in the other geoparks and its candidates. Since the initial planning of the geoparks, geoscience knowledge and experiences has been benefited for excavation, evaluation and propagation of the resources. However, the risk factors which seem as negative impact also have to be collected and disclosed by the knowledge and experiences, with the local side (i.e. government and industrial side). If the visitors understand the resources and risk factor has common background and geoscientific question "why this topography and geology is existed here?", they can enjoy safety geopark with diversified and essentially viewpoint.

In this presentation, we will introduce and discuss the resources for tourism and risk factor in Daisekkei as the case study.

Keywords: Itoigawa Geopark, snow patch, rock fall, climbing accident, information disclosure, self responsibility