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## Next millennium vision for Geoparks in Japan

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To achieve sustainable society in mobile belt like Japanese islands, it is necessary to know about the earth system and its time cycle of activity. However, people in Japan do not know well about the earth due to lack of enough geo-scientific education. To make these situation better, the Japan Geoparks Network (JGN) has started "Next millenium vision of Geoparks in Japan" project. This project aims to;

- Understand geological and human history within and around each Geopark
  - Establish the next millennium vision of each Geopark area considering possible natural events in next thousand years in the region
  - Spread a message that a longer-term plan is necessary for the society to realize sustainable development considering natural desasters and global environmental problems
  - Foster children who can consider future of the reginal and global society with longer-term scientific framework
- To achieve these aim, we have started;
- To study regional history and geohistory of each Geopark area
  - To organize geo-scientist and local historian in geoparks to help those studies

Through these activities we expect that local people will notice the geological characteristic features of their own areas and utilize the features to develop their regions. Earth sciences will play a important role in the process of such activity and will be accepted more widely in the society.

Keywords: Geopark, Education of Earth Science, Regional development, Sustainable development