

Remote lectures by the connection of the Himalayas and Japanese classrooms via satellite communication system

KOMORI, Jiro^{1*}, NAIKI, Akihiko²

¹Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University, ²Tokyo Metropolitan Mita High School

On-the-field introduction and discussion with live view and sound from actual site have impacts for the geoscience and disaster prevention education. In order to contribute the education and outreach of the research outcomes from the researchers to societies, we implemented remote lectures between a high school in Tokyo and a NPO the laboratory for Global Dialogue, and the field sites in the Bhutan Himalayas. The sites are the shrinking mountain glacier areas which have been notably affected by global warming. As the communication lectures, we featured present condition and issues regarding glacier and glacial lakes as well as the geology and geography in the Himalayas. Since the general network line and signal were not available in the sites, we used Inmarsat satellite communication system. Most of students and participants could learn a lot and took a keen interest in the geoscience and natural disaster. In the presentation, we will introduce the connection system and related issues, efficiency of the implementation and future plans. This activity was involved in the project entitled "Study on Glacial Lake Outburst Floods in the Bhutan Himalayas" financed under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program, supported by JICA and JST.

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