

## Amakusa Geopark plan

KUNITAKE, Yuko<sup>1\*</sup> ; KANAZAWA, Hiroyoshi<sup>1</sup> ; UGAI, Hiroaki<sup>1</sup> ; HASE, Yoshitaka<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Amakusa Geopark planning promotion committee

The Amakusa Islands, consisting of about 120 islands are located in the southwest area of Kumamoto Prefecture: a beautiful archipelago with geologic and geographic characteristic landscapes and a 100 million year history, not to mention a treasure of ancient fossils offering its visitors a fantastic glimpse into times gone by. A unique culture has been carved out of life on these islands by its inhabitants adding to the many breath-taking sightseeing opportunities. The plan of the Amakusa Geopark is to show off the diversity of geology, geography, history, culture, industry and ecology in Amakusa with a mind of ecologic conservation and economic growth.

Residents and officials alike collaborate to preserve the geologic inheritance of Amakusa with an educational perspective. Exposing the unique beauty of this inheritance as a tourist attraction in conjunction with the history and culture of the area, an attractive geo-tourism will be founded aimed at the promotion of the Amakusa area.

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