

## Transition of relations among administrations, universities and museums in San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark.

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San' in Kaigan Geopark applied and passed over for recommendatory area of global geopark from Japan in 2008. It approved to member of Global geopark 2 years later and recognized again in 2014. I present transition of involvement of governments, universities and museums to the San' in Kaigan Geopark.

Keywords: geopark, San'in Kaigan, museum

## Effect and significance of conditional acceptance of Revalidation

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1. Dinosaur Valley Fukui Katsuyama Geopark Promotion Council

Dinosaur Valley Fukui Katsuyama Geopark was assessed as “Revalidated with Condition” in December 2013. I will report on the effect and significance of Revalidated with Condition on region.

Keywords: Revalidation with Condition, Region, Effect, Significance

## Positive effect of rejection of geopark judgment in case of the Mine-Akiyoshidai Karst Plateau Geopark

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### 1. Mine-Akiyoshidai Karst Plateau Geopark Promotion Council

Unfortunately, the Mine-Akiyoshidai Karst Plateau Geopark had taken the rejection for national geopark judgment in 2013. At that time, our geopark staffs were so disappointed, whereas people did not. They did not know a geopark at all. That was important turning point for our geopark. Sensational TV news and newspapers informing the rejection contributed to make known the geopark widely. After that many people joined us to make our own geopark. Two years later, the situation was changed completely. We celebrated with people to be the member of national geopark at 2015. The rejection of 2013 was good lesson for us. This lesson tells us that a communication is the key for geopark activity. Our staffs make effort for communication between people, researcher and visitors.

Keywords: geopark, Mine-Akiyoshidai Karst Plateau Geopark, karst plateau, limestone, rejection of geopark judgment

## Changes in Shimokita Geopark: REJECT inspired people

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### 1. Council for promotion of Shimokita Geopark

The reject in 2014 drove citizens get interested in geopark activities. The certification in 2016 is the result of enthusiastic social movements which is aroused by the reject and frequent coverages. We will show the change process and social movements, and seek future vision.

Keywords: Geopark, social movement, reject

# Is Geopark indispensable for Izu Oshima

## –How has geopark settled and transfused to communities of Izu Oshima–

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### 1. Izuoshima Geopark Promotion Committee

Izu Oshima Geopark was approved as a member of Japan Geopark Network in September 2010, but was assigned in 2014 as “pending approval with conditions” . This is primarily because weak support from Izu Oshima town in terms of organization, finance and man power precluded high credibility and sustainability for the next term geopark activity in 2014-2017.

Since this severe evaluation, our geopark organization made both intensive and extensive improvement for sustainability of a regional community through geopark activity in terms of employment of specialist personal, developing education and learning curriculum for skill up geotourism guide quality, implementing workshops and learning programs, formulating basic concept and plan of geopark, and so on. These efforts enabled us to have a formal approval for the third term of activity from 2017.

Keywords: Geopark, Revalidation, Human resources, Sustainability

## Necessary attitude to enforcement of Geopark activities

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### 1. Unzen Volcanic Area Geopark Promotion Office

Main purpose of Geopark activities is sustainable development of local communities because local heritages existing in the communities are conserved if the communities are maintained. Stable financial system is necessary to maintain the local communities and its stability is ensured by activation of economic activities with expansion of domestic demand and with geotourism activities in the territory. Guarantees of local (geological, biological, historical and cultural) “heritages” are carried out by the continuous researches by researchers and/or scientists and the values obtained by them are popularized to inhabitants through educational activities. These activities (conservation, researches, education, tourism and economic activities), therefore, should be enforced positively with relevance, necessity and systematically by organizations or stakeholders that join in the geopark activities. These Geopark’ s activities will bring construction of sustainable local communities and conservation of local heritages in the territory.

If local people who belong to organizations relating to geopark activities (inhabitants, administrative staff, researchers etc.) understand a perspective of geopark activities and recognize their position in the perspective, geopark activities would be performed in the territory with good mood. In order to keep mutual understandings among related organizations to geopark, it is necessary the system to keep motivations of inhabitants, administrative staff, and researchers etc through sharing information by regular meetings and network.

The remarks mentioned here is not special but a matter of course. If local people who are concerned geopark activities do not understand what geopark activities are clearly and find out their significances, it would be difficult to construct a sustainable local communities and conservation of local heritages using the system of Geopark. I would like to introduce the situation of Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark after receiving an Yellow Card from Japan Geopark Committee in the presentation.

Keywords: Unzen Volcanic Area UNESCO Global Geopark, Sustainable development, Local communities