

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2018

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: Aso UNESCO Global Geopark, JAPAN, APGN

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2014/2018

Representative Photo:



Partnership agreement signing ceremony with Cheongsong UGGp, Korea (2018/07/14)

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 6 including 2 geoscientist

Number of Visitors:

Main facilities of Aso UGGp area; Aso Volcano Museum 51,241 (148% y/y), Michinoeki Aso 1,253,040 (107% y/y), Minami-Aso Visitor Center 23,480 (138% y/y), Soyokaze park 115,032 (104% y/y).

Major geosite; Daikanbo 802,600 (111% y/y), Oshitoishi Geosite 24,000 (135% y/y), Nabegataki Fall 231,859 (115% y/y), Ikeyama Spring 359,382 (115%y/y), Shirakawa Spring 324,015 (134% y/y)

Number of Geopark events: 47

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 64

Number of Geopark press release: 11 and Web news 26

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2018:

▸Conducted geo-tours to visit some sites damaged from the Kumamoto Earthquakes in 2016 with the significant contribution geo-guide members (111%/y/y) ▸Enhancement of geopark operation (Built a sharing

system of public construction plan with government) ›Reorganize and built a story of grassland (Issued brochures for the promotion) ›Conducted seminars and field study tour for geoguide to deepen their knowledge and experience in cooperation with national government ›Prepared booklets tell the geoguides' experience of the earthquakes ›Preparation of the Ecotourism Overall Concept and Regional Licensed Guide-Interpreter Training Plan

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation:

›Participation in 8th International Conference on UGGp 2018 held at Adamello-Brenta UGGp, Italy

Management and Financial status:

›New geoscientist joined to the council office ›The labor costs and other office expenses are covered by an operational profit of the fund Aso Design Center has and budgets provided from the municipalities. The project expenses are covered by national subsidy

Geoconservation:

›Started building a geosite database based on geosite records ›Conducted information sharing meetings sharing public construction plan with national and prefectural government

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism):

›Conducted geo-tours to visit sites damaged from the earthquakes ›Preparation of the Ecotourism Overall Concept

New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction:

›Cooperation with prefectural office and municipalities regarding the Earthquake Museum Concept ›Development of new educational programs after the earthquakes

Strategic Partnership:

›Continuous partnership agreement with Hong Kong UGGp ›New partnership agreement concluded with Cheongsong UGGp ›Promotion through private companies such as installation of geopark signs and wrapping busses ›Cooperation projects and information sharing meetings with Kyushu regional geopark group

Promotional activities:

›Exhibit a geopark promotion booth at events held inside and outside of Aso ›Hosted lectures regarding calderas and earthquakes ›Provide information and write articles for various magazines ›PR through our website and SNS

4. Contacts

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