

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2018

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Toya-Usu UNESCO Global Geopark (Japan, Asia Pacific Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2009 / 2019



Geopark educational programmes to local school students

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staff: 5 staffs including 1 geoscientist

Number of visitors: 7.3 million

Number of Geopark events: 35

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 30

Number of Geopark press release: 25 times

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2018

- The Council concluded that the Rusutsu Village and Makkari Village municipality-covered area would be excluded from the Geopark territory to reduce the whole area. The reasons are as follows: 1) The geologically-important site of Toya Pyroclastic Flow Deposit is not only located in Rusutus and Makkari village but also in Toyako Town. (2) There are no information centres or museums, no communal/business collaborations in Rusutsu or Makkari Village.
- A full-time geoscientist has been assigned from 1st April 2019.
- We have made Toya-Usu UGGp Master Plan to define the comprehensive activity.
- 1,587 downloads of the Geopark Outdoor Learning Textbook series from the Geopark's Website.

- We placed sign of Toya-Usu UGGp on main entrance roads, visitor centre, museum, and Geopark-related facilities.
- We Included information on plate tectonics and volcanic activity in Hokkaido in Toyako visitor centre.
- In order to link Toya-Usu UGGp with indenenous “Ainu” culture and the landscape, the Council organised a lecture on Ainu-origin place names and Ainu tradition in the Geopark by Mr. Yoshiyuki Uji, Chairperson of a local Ainu association In February 2018.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- The 8th International UNESCO Conference on Adamello Brenta UGGp: Gave one oral presentations and one poster presentation, as well as one presentation on the number of the downloaded Outdoor Learning Textbook and the strategy of promoting utilization.
- Introduce the Toya-Usu and GGN activities for five groups from foreign and domestic UGG aspiring regions and three trainees groups of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from many countries.

Management and financial status

- Council meetings to discuss the 2018 Action Plan.
- A meeting of municipal mayors to discuss a strategy for making a sustainable management body.

Geoconservation

- Cientific advisor meeting to discuss the geoconservation policy and the sustainable use of each site.
- Weeding of the former Toyako Kindergarten, Nishiyama Trail and other geo-sites annually to put heads together sharing the way to conserve geosites continually.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- A meeting with residents/guide committees to design a guide training program.
- Geopark partner/Volcano Meister training programmes (nine times).

New education programs on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- Geopark educational programmes for geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction are performing to local schools students.

Promotional activities

- A geotourism/administrative committee meeting to make a promotion plans.
- Geopark resource promotion for disaster risk reduction to schools and travel agencies, with a package of outdoor learning textbooks and Volcano Meisters’ guided tours.

4. Contacts:

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