

CONCEPT AND PRESENT ISSUE OF SANUKI GEOPARK PROJECT

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Sanuki region is the old name of Kagawa Prefecture, which is situated in the northeastern part of Shikoku, a large island in southwestern Japan. The Sanuki Plains stretch to the north, and the Seto Inland Sea beyond that is dotted with 116 islands of all sizes, to form an impressive archipelago. Dr. Shuichi Hasegawa, professor of Kagawa University, proposed a concept of Sanuki Geopark in 2010 and has continued activities on research, lectures, excursion and symposium for local citizens. Sanuki will serve as a unique geopark with the following unique points: 1) Unique Setouchi volcanism which produced sanukitoid and sanukite 2) Unique monadnocs, comprised of mesas and volcanic necks resulting from Setouchi volcanic activities 3) Unique stone cultures using diverse properties of volcanic rocks.

Understanding the strong points and weak points of the Kagawa Prefecture is essential for sustainable development. Sanuki Geopark Project will provide the base of sustainable development and re-creation of local society. Sanuki Geopark Project will be the ultimate disaster education. At present, the Sanuki Geopark Project is deadlocked. This paper summarize the concept and present issue of Sanuki Geopark Project.