

Volcano meister's themes and our future. We have our own history and wisdom by living on changing earth.

Emiko KAWAMINAMI

Toya caldera and Usu volcano global Geopark Council < E-mail: emikokawanami@gmail.com >

Our main contribution to the society is not only nature guiding but also being the leader in disaster prevention, BOSAI. Volcano meisters teach in schools and universities, and we talk in local gatherings. We take people to the mountains in order to defend themselves against volcanic disasters. Going closer to the volcano is the good way to know about the danger of eruption and also the small change of the condition of mountain.

We tell them that the Volcano has both faces, good and bad sides. Knowing about the volcanic character of Mt.Usu is very important to live near the active volcano. Many earthquakes occurred before the eruption at Mt.Usu. The escalation of seismicity is the obvious sign from the mountain.

We experienced 4 eruptions in these 100 years. Through those experiences, many wisdoms and ideas are gotten to protect our business, lives and cultures.

Now we have 35 volcano meisters of 27 males and 8 females. All the members are living around Mt.Usu. They have their own history in which they coexisted with the volcano so that they can talk their original stories about it. We always collaborate with schools, universities, citizen and scientists. "Communication" is an important key word for every scenes in disaster prevention.

We volcano meisters are creating original culture in order to protect people. The scientists and volcano meisters meet and discuss frequently in workshops and together walk around the geosites, aiming at the sustainable development of Toya-Usu global geopark.