

Natural disaster and disaster prevention efforts in Geoparks

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When the 5th International UNESCO conference on Geoparks was held in Shimabara in 2012, we accepted “The Shimabara Declaration”.

“Role of geoparks in natural disasters: Our Earth brings us blessing including natural resources and beautiful, inspiring landscapes. However it can also occasionally generate large disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and floods.

Education about our dynamic planet in geoparks is the most effective way to help our local communities to understand how to coexist with nature which occasionally generate geohazards.”

There was a huge Tsunami disaster in the Tohoku area which was caused by magnitude 9.0 earthquake on March 11, 2011. Our geopark network communities have to use effectively this experienced disaster to reduce the damage from future disasters, where education is one of the tools for this purpose for the people who lives in the geohazard area.

Even after the Tohoku disaster, natural disasters continuously happen around the geopark areas in Japan.

In this situation, we analyzed the multivariate statistics of action assignments and approach assault in Japan geoparks, on natural disasters and blessings. We used the data of workshop or of the questionnaire conference at Sanriku geopark in October 2014 and we considered solving this problem.