

# The case of One Geopark damaged by 2018 Japan floods -The 3 years for reconstruction of Seiyō City, Ehime Prefecture and the Shikoku Seiyō Geopark-

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## 1. Seiyō City

The Shikoku Seiyō Geopark located in the southwestern part of Ehime Prefecture, has many geological landscapes of the Chichibu Belts, contained the Kurosegawa Tectonic Zone, various landforms from the ria coast at 0m above sea level to the Shikoku Karst at an altitude of about 1,400m and climates and the traditional culture, within an area of about 50 km east to west. During 2018 Japan floods, a lot of houses and buildings were damaged by flooding of rivers and landslides in various places. Particularly, a large-scale flood damage occurred in a residential area in the Nomura district of Nomura Town. Six precious lives were lost in a series of disasters in Seiyō City. In addition, out of 23 sites, a total of 5 sites were damaged to prevent access in the Geopark. Four of them have been restored, but the Katsuragawa Valley is still restricted except near the entrance. Our secretariat of the Shikoku Seiyō Geopark Council had to be suspended for a while after the disaster. Fortunately, we were supported such as receiving donations from Japanese Geoparks Network (JGN) and related people based on the Disaster Response Guidelines of JGN. In addition, Japanese Geopark Officers and researchers conduct disaster surveys about once a year and provide advice the recovery and course of actions on future.

After the disaster, the inhabitants became more interested in disaster prevention and the landforms around them. Following his, we have carried out many disaster prevention and programs such as "Seiyō Nature and Culture College" consisted mainly field excursions, the lectures with hazard maps, geography map, "NIED Quake map!" for elementary and junior high schools, public halls, labor unions, and so on. In October 2020, Disaster Tradition Exhibition Room was opened in the room renovated Otoi Kaikan. The aim to pass down the records and memories of the disaster, and its exhibition is incorporated the perspectives of Geoparks, such as the history of the earth and the blessings of the earth. In addition, we have devised ways to make various uses, such as providing guidance by the "Disaster Storyteller" and preparing disaster VR / AR content. And these efforts have been disseminated at Bosai Kokutai sponsored the secretariat of disaster prevention promotion mass meeting Japan, the National Conference of JGN, and many other workshops and lectures.

Looking back on the three years since the disaster, the disaster prevention awareness of past in this area has focused on the measure to act in the event of a disaster such as disaster drills. I realized that people are not able to fully acquire the disaster risk they had due to the characteristics of the landforms. Creating and distributing hazard maps is not enough to foster that perspective, and it is important to bring awareness through field excursions that actually follow the formation of the earth. In fact, these activities are being actively promoted in Geoparks around the world, and their experience has been accumulated. Geopark are an international certification system that started with the purpose of conservating geological heritage, but I supposed that it will make a great contribution to society in terms of disaster prevention and reduction.

Keywords: Shikoku Seiyō Geopark, Seiyō City, 2018 Japan floods, Disaster Prevention and Reduction, Disaster Tradition