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From
the People
of Japan

Recap Day 4

Regional Training Course on UNESCO Global Geoparks

30 May 2018

Oki Islands UGGp, Japan

Dr Ai Sugiura, Programme Specialist Policy
Capacity Building

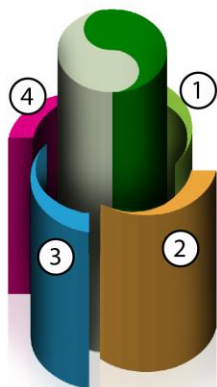
Regional Sciences Bureau for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO Office Jakarta





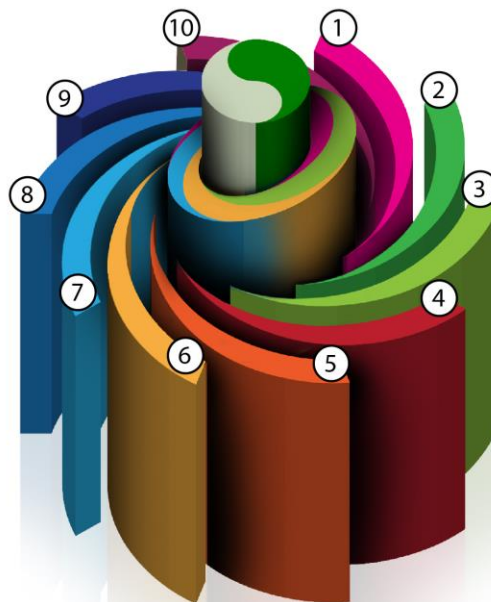
The Two Core Pillars

1. Celebrating Earth Heritage
2. Sustaining Local Communities



The Four Essentials

1. Geological Heritage of International Value
2. Management
3. Visibility
4. Involvement of Local Communities



The Ten Topics

1. Sustainable Development
2. Education
3. Science & Research
4. Culture
5. Networking
6. Women
7. Local & Indigenous Knowledge
8. Natural Hazards (incl. Climate Change)
9. Geoconservation
10. Natural Resources



The Concept of UNESCO Global Geoparks

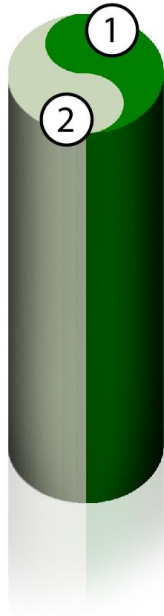


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The Core pillars

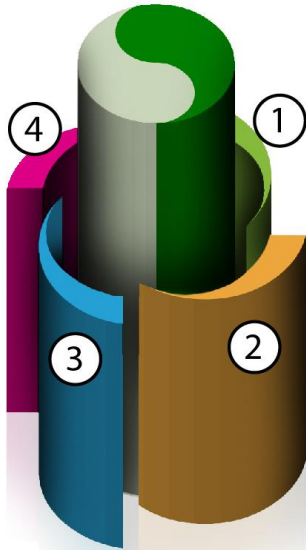


The Two Core Pillars

1. Celebrating Earth Heritage
2. Sustaining Local Communities

- 1) Prof Nikolaos Zouros (GGN) :
Background, History and Concept
of UNESCO Global Geoparks
 - Not only about geology
 - Model of collaboration and
coordination for local sustainable
development
 - The Working Groups

The Four Essentials



The Four Essentials

1. Geological Heritage of International Value
2. Management
3. Visibility
4. Involvement of Local Communities

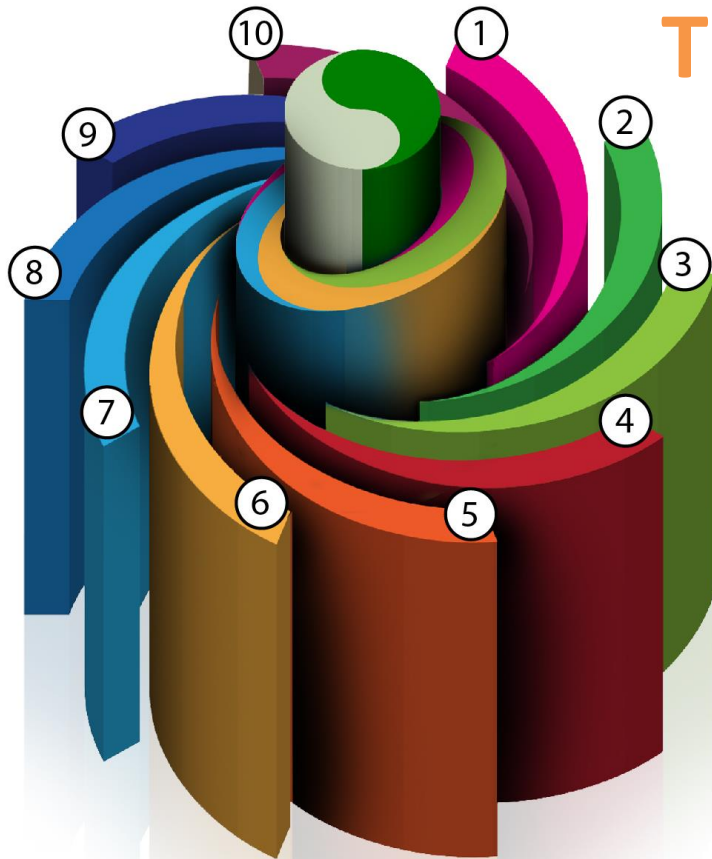
2) Prof Patrick Mc Keever (UNESCO) :
UNESCO Global Geoparks in
practice around the world /
application and revalidation
processes

- Networking
- Geopark people
- Communicating Science and GeoScience
- Conserving & Protecting our Geodiversity
- Support Local Enterprise and gender equality



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The 10 topics – Day 1-



The Ten Topics

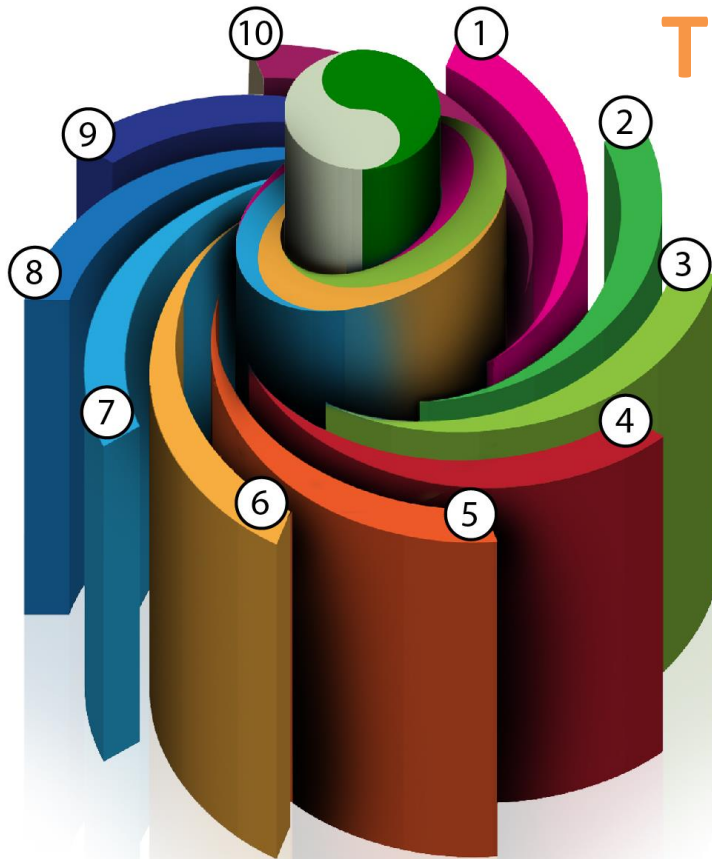
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Sustainable Development | 6. Women |
| 2. Education | 7. Local & Indigenous Knowledge |
| 3. <u>Science & Research</u> | 8. Natural Hazards |
| 4. Culture | (incl. Climate Change) |
| 5. <u>Networking</u> | 9. <u>Geoconservation</u> |
| | 10. Natural Resources |

- 1) Dr Yuang Zheng, CGN
 - UNESCO Global Geoparks in China → Networking (5)
- 3) Dr Mahito Watanabe, JGC
 - UNESCO Global Geoparks in Japan: journey from NGO to Network and Committee (5)
- 3) Prof Setsuya Nakada, JGC
 - National networking and institutional organisation in Japan
 - Geohazards (8)
- 3) Ms Devona Lauritzen, Mt Apio UGGp
 - Education, Research support (2&3)
- 4) Dr Ko Takenouchi, Itoigawa UGGp
 - Geoconservation (9)



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The 10 topics – Day 2-



The Ten Topics

1. Sustainable Development
2. Education
3. Science & Research
4. Culture
5. Networking
6. Women
7. Local & Indigenous Knowledge
8. Natural Hazards (incl. Climate Change)
9. Geoconservation
10. Natural Resources

- 5) Mr Yukihiro Matsuura, San'in Kaigan UGGp
 - Local Sustainable development and Management (1,4&10)
- 6) Dr Katsuhiko Asahi, Izu Peninsula UGGp
 - ESD, SDGs (2)
- 7) Ms Jagoda Woloszyn, Oki Islands UGGp
 - Island Geopark (WG)
- 8) Ms Kana Furusawa, JGN
 - Networking, Gender and Capacity Development activity (6&7)



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Day 2 and Day 4 Workshops



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No	Country	Technical/ geological	Funds	Communication/Aware ness/coordination	Community/ local development	Education
1	Myanmar	x	x	x	x	
2	Sri Lanka	x	x	x		
3	Malaysia			x	x	x
4	Kyrgyz Republic			x	x	
5	Thailand		x	x		x
6	Lao		x			x
7	Cambodia	x		x		
8	Philippines	x	x	x		
9	Nepal	x	x	x	x	
10	Indonesia	x	x	x		
11	Timor-Leste			x	x	
12	Mongolia	x		x	x	
13	Vietnam		x	x		

GROUP: Awareness, Coordination and Communication: Solutions



- Find **CHAMPIONS**
- to jumpstart/initiate/walk the talk!
- Establish **CHANNELS**:
 - Communities/Villages
 - Educational institutions
 - National Commissions
 - National Committees for Geopark (if established)
- UNESCO and Global Geoparks Network pool of advisers/experts/technical support providers
- Government and non-government organizations at national and local levels
- Media/Social Media
- Sustain the **MOTIVATION** :need to recognize the value of empowered communities and political support and their interplay with other stakeholders and continuously determine ways to keep them motivated or involved
- Adopt, implement and monitor a **STRATEGIC and INTEGRATED PLAN**
- plan for the sustainable management and promotion of the Geopark. A communication plan must be integral to this.
- Act as **GLOBAL GEOPARKS AMBASSADORS** (everybody involved!😊)

GROUP: Technical/Geological



- Challenges
 1. Networking to access technical expertise
 2. Lack of knowledge transfer among communities and technical experts
 3. Need to influence policy making

- Solutions
 1. **Match-making facility** (Problem vs Expertise)
 2. Creating opportunity for **dialogues**
 3. **Engagement with policy makers (strategic)**

GROUP: Funds



- Challenges

1. No guaranteed of support budget
2. Need for seed money to jump start the programme has to be allocated in advance
3. No budget for the first step
4. Lack of awareness of people
5. Lack of capacity (need for capacity building)
6. Slow budget from government
7. No proper system for budgeting.

- Solutions

1. Mobilise private sector ethically (CSR)
2. South-south cooperation
3. Convince local authorities and communities
4. Mobilise the international funds
5. Green campaign activities
6. Local fund raising
7. Mainstreaming into policy to secure funds from local and national government

GROUP: Education –Challenges-



CHALLENGES

- Engage the Locals
- National Public Education
- Connecting Local with Global
- Connecting with the Universities for Research
- The mindset of the people especially in developing countries (Development VS Conservation)
- Lack of Technical Capacity of the staffs
- To sell Geopark ideas in countries without Geopark
- To teach the locals about the spirit of UNESCO
- Council Education

GROUP: Education - Proposed Solutions-



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PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- Hear stories from the seniors (old people)
- Get the government and the NGOs involved
- Keep telling about Geopark through Lectures/Flyers and other promotional materials
- Share experiences: hands-on activities at the Geopark
- Regular meeting / town hall / discussions with the public and potential stakeholders to disseminate the idea
- Establish Social Network: To engage more people and to share news
- Encourage community activities
- Geopark Tour ; Mustn't be too technical or community will not understand
- Share good practices on Geopark Structure
- Utilize research to communicate effectively to connect with people
- Disseminate the information in fun manners; Festival/ explorace/ arts & crafts/ camps etc..

GROUP: Community



- ▶ **Major challenges: Community**

1. Way of communication with local communities
 2. Concept of Geopark is totally new to the society
 3. Community consciousness - Luck of coordination
- In most of the countries in our group, Geopark program is very new to the society.
 - Even the government's awareness is quite low in some countries.
 - To develop in bottom up style, we set our objectives to convincing local communities first as it is the major issue every countries have in the group.

- **Solution For convincing local communities: Community-How to convince local communities**

- Become friends with leaders/key persons of the community
- Interview the locals and understand difficulties and issue they have
- Try to solve the issue by using geopark program.
- We have a situation where local people are not welcoming people from university or government.
- We thought it was necessary to build a reliable relationship with the leaders or key persons of the communities as a first step.



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Day 4



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- Presentation from Japanese Natcom on the role of Natcom in the UGGp programme
- Q&A
- Workshops day 4
 - Group Discussion on the role of different institutions / stakeholders
 - Sharing in plenary
- **Outputs: (2 slides on Day 4- Wed)**
 - Understanding of the national challenges
 - Roadmap of the next steps **including stakeholders' involvement and role distribution**