

NO. 13th National Geopark Convention in Kanto Region

The national competition is an opportunity for geoparks located all over Japan to play an active role in their unique ways. This year's conference, held from October 28th to 29th, was the first to be held in the Kanto region and distributed, and the opening ceremony and keynote speeches at the Chichibu venue could be viewed online.

We will introduce the details of the conference, focusing on the subcommittees.

28 (Sat) Subcommittee: "What activities does a geopark do?" Considering sales issues of geological materials from the basics (Choshi, Chiba prefecture)

Deputy Director Kobayashi of the Promotion Council served as one of the coordinators, and General Manager Nakase, Director Kanaoka, and Geologist Fujihara participated.

We explained our efforts such as: In the presentation, Specialist Fujihara gave an overview of the Geopark, based on the points raised during the global review, the "Selling of Geological Materials Countermeasures Task Force" to solve problems, and sharing the philosophy of the UNESCO Global Geopark with local residents.



Geologist Fujihara

28 (Sat) Subcommittee: River and sea trash issues considered from the perspective of geoparks (Choshi, Chiba prefecture)

The event was about sharing efforts to tackle the garbage problem, thinking about how to expand the activities, and how to spread the word to the children who will lead the next generation. The event included not only coastal areas but also mountainous areas.

At the presentation, Ms. Chiyoko Maruta of Kotohikihama Guide, which is active mainly in Kotohikihama Beach from Kyotango City, and Ino staff from the secretariat jointly introduced the "Barefoot Concert" and "Cleaning with a canoe."

28 (Sat) Subcommittee: How can we utilize diversity in geoparks? Sustainability that we want to achieve through Universal Design (Chichibu, Saitama prefecture)



Lecturer Matsubara of the University of Hyogo, an academic expert, served as one of the coordinators, and Shio staff from the secretariat participated.

He said, I was able to learn the idea that even if it is physically difficult to make barrier-free, it is possible to accommodate a diverse range of visitors by devising software aspects, and I think we need to actively work on this in our geopark.

← Expert Matsubara giving an explanation.

29 (Sun) Oral presentation (Choshi, Chiba prefecture)

Obase, a Geologist from the secretariat, gave a presentation titled "Adding a geo-perspective to historical walks - Tracing the traces of the Naval Kobe Air Base in Kyotango City". In addition, students from Kyoto Prefectural Tango Ryokufu High School gave presentations on their high school's initiatives and the current status of the San'in Kaigan Geopark.

Click here for details → <https://www.kyoto-be.ne.jp/tangoryokufuu-hs/mt/amino-campus/2023/11/in-6.html>

29 (Sun) Oral presentation (Chichibu, Saitama prefecture)

Kazuya Ando, deputy director of the San'in Kaigan Geopark Museum of the Earth and Sea, gave a presentation entitled "Eh! Theater and Geo? - Holding the San'in Kaigan Geopark Forum and its subsequent efforts", and spoke to the theater group "Bird Theater" in Shikano-cho, Tottori City." was announced about the collaborative efforts.

First participation in “Tourism EXPO”

At “Tourism EXPO 2023” held at INTEX Osaka from October 26th (Thursday) to October 29th (Sunday), we borrowed a corner of the booth from the Hyogo Tourism Headquarters booth in collaboration with the Hyogo Prefecture Regional Promotion Division to promote the San’in Kaigan Geopark. We carried out PR activities and activities to attract tourists.



Large number of visitors.

The booklet “A picturesque Journey” is published in its with the aim of making use of the San’in Kaigan Geopark.

We will bring experience maps and other materials to raise awareness for travel-related people on the 26th and 27th, and for the general public on the 28th and 29th.

We carried out PR aimed at improving the quality of our products, and information on tourist attractions and trail courses aimed at attracting tourists.

We will promote geopark activities by incorporating the method of creating pamphlets distributed by other exhibitor booths.

There were a lot of visitors in the booth, and we were able to distribute all of the pamphlets we brought with us except for the English version.

We also promoted Lesvos Geopark in Greece, which we have a sister partnership with, and it was introduced on the Lesvos Geopark website.



Part of the exhibition booth. The red one in the center is the Lesvos Geopark pamphlet.

Click here for details ↓

<https://www.lesvosmuseum.gr/news-and-events/tourism-expo-japan-2023-proboli-tis-lesvos-toy-apolithomenoy-dasoys-sti-megalyteri>

Birth of “Scoria Brownie”

A new “Geo Sweets” has been born at San’in Kaigan Geopark.

In cooperation with “Gorgeous☆Kazuyo”, who is active as a regional revitalization cooperation team and pastry chef in Toyooka City, we developed “Scoria Brownie” that imitates the volcanic rock “Scoria” of Kannabe Plateau.

This is a masterpiece created through trial and error, adjusting the ingredients in 1g increments.



Exhibition booth.

The second one from the left is gorgeous ☆ Kazuyo.

“Kannabe Negi Festival” held at “Michinoeki Kannabe Kogen”, and on the day, “Gorgeous☆Kazuyo” also participated. This was an opportunity for many people to learn about “Scoria Brownie”.



Scoria Brownie and scoria.

We are particular about using local ingredients, such as “birth salt” made from Takeno’s seawater and “Kannabe Black”, an edible charcoal made in Kannabe Plateau, resulting in extremely delicious dishes.

We hope that more people will become interested in rocks and geology through the impact of “I thought it was a rock, but it turned out to be candy.”

On November 12th (Sun), we set up a booth at the