

## 40 Years of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP)

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Based on the UNESCO General Conference in 2015, the existing IGCP and Geoparks Programmes both supported by UNESCO were decided to establish a profound connection as a new international initiative, the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP). In some ways, this reformation has been considered to solve the long pending issues between the parties concerned.

The International Geoscience Programme, formerly the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), was officially launched in 1972 as an outstanding and unique cooperative enterprise between UNESCO and the International Union of Geological Science (IUGS), and the Programme celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

The speaker was concerned with IGCP for 21 years since 1991 as a member of the Japanese National Committee for IGCP, Leader and Co-Leader of three IGCP Projects.

In the talk of the session entitled "IGGP of the future", a brief history, the growth, and light and shadow to see in the development of the IGGP will be discussed.

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