

## Revision of "site" in Muroto UNESCO Global Geopark

\*Yugo Nakamura<sup>1</sup>, Yui Takahashi<sup>1</sup>, Azumi Sento<sup>1</sup>, Koji Wada<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Muroto Geopark Promotion Committee

Muroto UNESCO Global Geopark (Muroto UGG, hereafter) fundamentally revised its 22 geosites according to a recommendation given after a revalidation by Global Geoparks Network in 2015. There are mainly 5 points Muroto UGG needed to deal with; (1) increase inland site, (2) divide geosites into geological, ecological, and cultural sites, (3) utilize a facility to attract tourists, (4) designate geological sites featuring structural geology, and (5) remove a facility and road/path from the conventional geosites.

According to the above 5 recommendations, Muroto UGG reconsidered and redefined the criterion of "site." New sites aim to convey a main theme of Muroto UGG as "where the ocean and the land meet: the forefront for the birth of new habitant land" more clearly to both visitors and locals. We, therefore, set new sites as the following. The conventional 22 geosites are divided and classified into 4 categories; a geological site, an ecological site, a cultural site, and a base facility. There are conclusively 51 geological sites, 10 ecological sites, and 17 cultural sites. Furthermore, 10 spots which are not recognized as a "site" such as an exhibition facility and a lookout point are designated as a "base facility." New geological sites have typical outcrops of major geological bodies (formations and members) and geomorphological features associated with marine process and uplifting tectonics in Muroto UGG.

It has been 10 years since Muroto City was designated as Geopark by JGN. Now is the time to develop a new 10-year master plan, starts from 2018. The revised sites will be foundations for considering it.

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