Gender Equality Issues in the Field of Geoscience - Based on the Reports of Large-Scale Survey of Actual Conditions of Gender Equality in Scientific and Technological Professions in Japan

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The JpGU conducted questionnaire surveys on affiliations to JpGU members over 5 years and reported preliminary results showing less than half of non-permanent researchers obtained permanent positions under 36 and 41 years old for male and female researchers, respectively. The EPMEWSE, Japan Inter-Society Liaison Association Committee for Promoting Equal Participation of Men and Women in Science and Engineering, surveys on gender equality condition of researchers belonging to academic scientific positions by questionnaires every four years. The 4th survey was carried out in November 2016 and the results were opened for public in 2017. By comparing both surveys, it is turned out that significant difference of age exists between male and female researchers who could obtain permanent positions, especially in basic scientific research fields such as biology and geoscience. This result indicates a serious situation with respect to the future of Japanese science and technology. Although it will take some time, improvement for employment situation on young scientists especially for female geoscientists is desired.

Keywords: gender equality, questionnaire survey, non-permanent researchers