Student-led collaborative action with community stakeholders and SDGs

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COCOS, or Center of Community Operating System, is student group at Toyama Prefectural University, Japan, founded in April 2014 when TPU was appointed as COC by Japanese Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, Culture and Sports. COCOS serves as student-led project formulation and management for solving community problems and promoting attractiveness of Toyama prefecture. This presentation introduces the cases of student-led collaborative actions with community stakeholders. In doing so, we put ideas for JpGU community members regarding student-staff partnership and university-community collaboration in SDGs era. The case includes collaborative work with Nanto city, Toyama prefecture, one of the SDGs Future Cities appointed by the Japanese national government. We discuss the impacts of engaging collaborative action with local partners on university students. We argue that equal partnership between students and staffs (teachers and University Education Administrators) in community engagement would lead to better relationship development between local community and university.

Keywords: Community engagement, Local collaboration, Student-staff partnership, Project based learning