

Definition of geosite and operation in Japan

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Geopark consists of geosites. In geopark activities in Japan, geosites have been described as "natural and cultural attractions on earth science", and thus precise definitions have not been made. There is no mistake in the meaning of geotourism, but it is a place with scientific value, which is the original purpose, and it is missing the meaning that it is subject to conservation. Since 2015, the Global geopark has become an official UNESCO programme, and social recognition has also improved. Under such circumstances, the situation that individual Geoparks designate geosites based on their own recognition must be revised. I will organize geosites of each geopark in Japan from conservation geoscientific point of view. Then deepen the discussion on the definition of geosite.

Keywords: geosite, conservation earth science, definition of terms