

Cooperation in multiple fields in geotour making: Kirishima geotour “journey of water”

*Toru Ishikawa¹

1. Kirishima Geopark Council

It is one of the real pleasures of Geopark activities that people and organizations in various fields cooperate with each other based on earth science and acquire new awareness while learning from each other. The "journey of water" geotour in the summer of 2016 sponsored by Kirishima City Tourism Association became a place of such practice. This tour was to explore with participants how rich rainfall that falls on the Kirishima Volcano Group flows through the ground and underground to the lives of the people living at the foot, and in addition to the Kirishima geo guides, students of Kirishima High School served as guide and staff of the day. The tourism association for the planning and operation of the tour and the concept of the theme, the high school for students' guidance from an educational point of view, the Geopark secretariat for the local lecture to the students at the preparatory stage, deepening mutual communication and making tours. As a result of the event, not only received high evaluation from participants, each member involved in the tour had a sense of fulfillment and was able to recognize the value of collaboration. In addition, it is considered that high school students experiencing the position of tour organizers side autonomously will also lead to the fostering of leaders for sustainable regional development.

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