

Geoparks Niigata International Forum Program Details

<p>Wednesday, 27 July 14:00-17:00</p> <p>Workshop “Toward the Goal of ‘Network Revitalization’ in East Asia”</p> <p>An opinion exchange about how to revitalize networks in East Asia and how to improve capacity building in the region.</p> <p>In order to promote a more concrete and effective discussion, the actual state and issues facing each countries networks will be shared through example reports. Through this we plan to have a lively discussion among presenters, Geopark participants and all those interested in Geoparks.</p> <p>(Main participants will be invitees from over 10 countries in the Asia Pacific Region including Russia as well as UNESCO participants)</p>
<p>Wednesday, 27 July 13:30-16:30</p> <p>Experience & Activity Fair “Geopark Activity with Jumbo Dice Game!”</p> <p>Experience the majesty and story of the planet through a giant board game! Roll dice to decide which activity you will try while learning about the history of our planet in this fun event geared toward children ages 6 - 15. Learn about the Earth while playing a large board game and trying fun activities at booths.</p> <p>The venue will also feature posters and vendors from each region’s Geoparks.</p>
<p>Thursday, 28 July 9:30-15:00 (12:30-14:00 Lunch Break)</p> <p>Geoparks Niigata International Forum</p> <p>“Broadcasting from Niigata's Geoparks of Snow and the Earth”</p> <p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Keynote Speeches</p> <p>“Geological Story in East Asia – Networks of Water, Land and Human” Atsushi Matsuoka (Faculty of Science, Niigata University) An introduction to Geoparks for those new to the concept. Learn about Geoparks and the characteristics of Geoparks in Niigata Prefecture.</p> <p>“Geological Sightseeings in Southern Russian Far East” Eugenia V. Bugdaeva Institute of Biology and Soil Science, Far East Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences Nature and culture of the Southern Russian Far East. A researcher at an institute of soil science looks at the tourism potential in the Russian Far East’s soil.</p> <p>“UNESCO Global Geoparks: Celebrating Earth Heritage, Sustaining Local Communities” Patrick James McKeever Chief of Section, Sciences and Geohazard Risk Reduction / Secretary, IGCP, UNESCO</p>

Dr. McKeever has been with Global Geoparks since their inception. He will speak about the possibilities for regional community development now that Global Geoparks have become an official UNESCO program.

Example Report & Panel Discussion

A panel discussion and presentation of regional examples will be given regarding ways of thinking about Geoparks and the importance of networking.

An introduction to the Geoparks of East Asia's Japanese Archipelago will be given through their connection to mountains, snow, prehistoric Jomon Culture, earthquakes and other diversity with a backdrop of Niigata's land and history. In addition, a panel discussion will be held about the role of Geoparks within UNESCO and how to build upon each individual Geoparks' strengths and promote the development of sustainable regional societies through Geopark Networks.

Closing Ceremony

Thursday, 28 July 9:30-14:30

Experience & Activity Fair "Geopark Activity with Jumbo Dice Game!"

Same program as 27 July