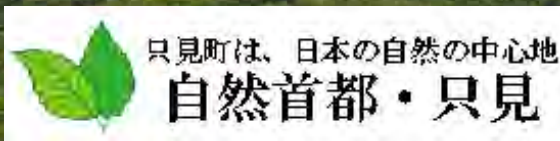


# Protecting and harnessing the lifestyles, culture and nature of snow country: Tadami Biosphere Reserve



**Wajiro SUZUKI**

(Tadami BR)

**Yosuke NAKANO**

(Tadami BR)

**Shinsuke NAKAMURA**

(JBRN)

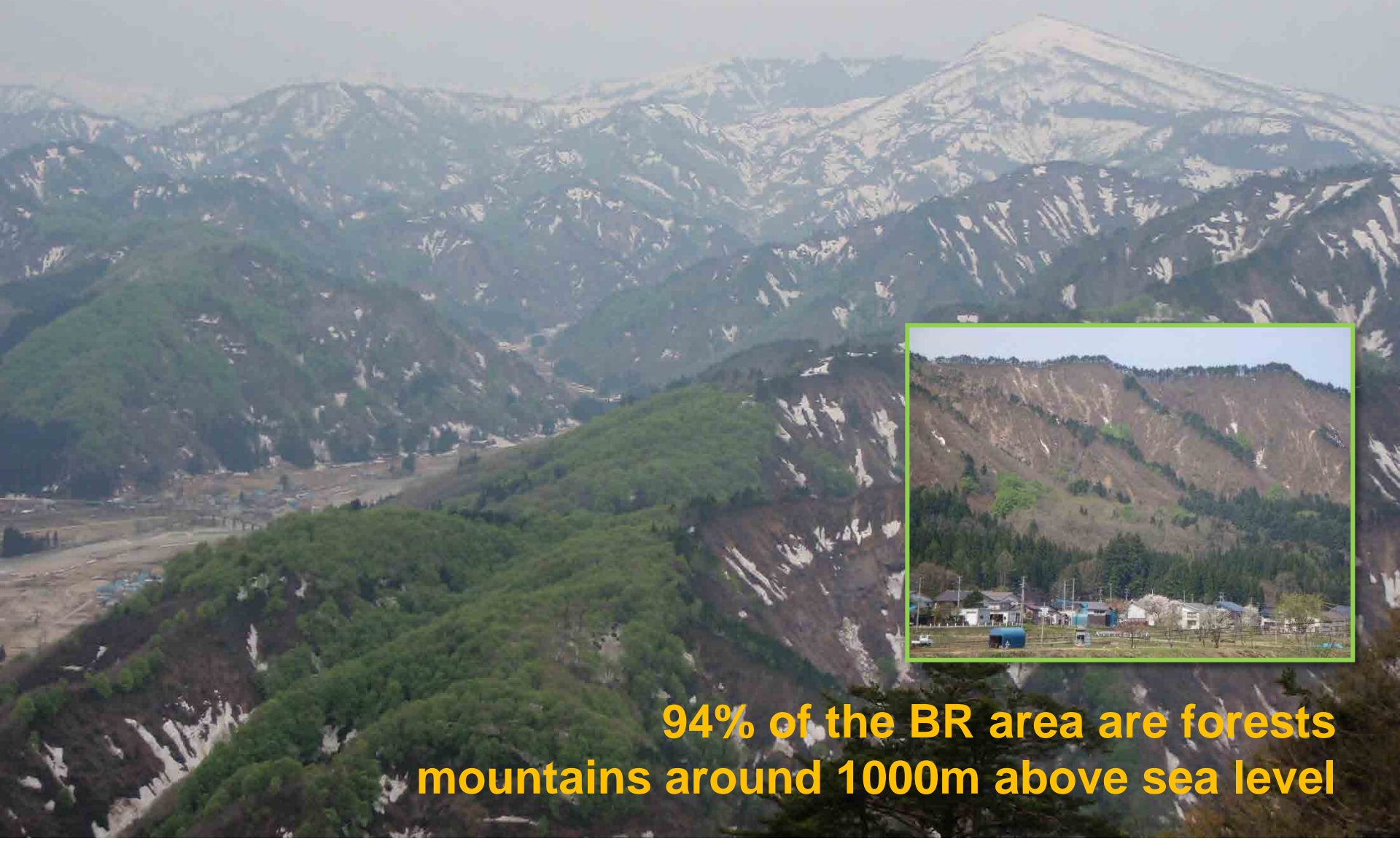
# 只見町の地理 Location of Tadami

Western end of Fukushima Pref.  
Total area : 74,753ha  
Population : about 4,500



# 只見ユネスコエコパークの自然環境

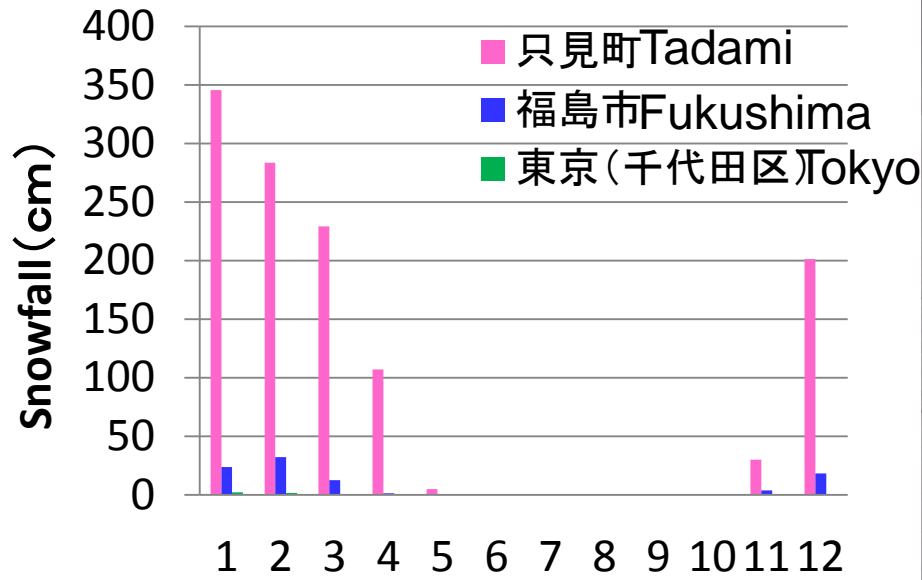
## Natural environment of the Wilderness Tadami



**94% of the BR area are forests  
mountains around 1000m above sea level**

# 日本有数の豪雪地帯

One of the great heavy snowfall areas in Japan, also throughout the world.

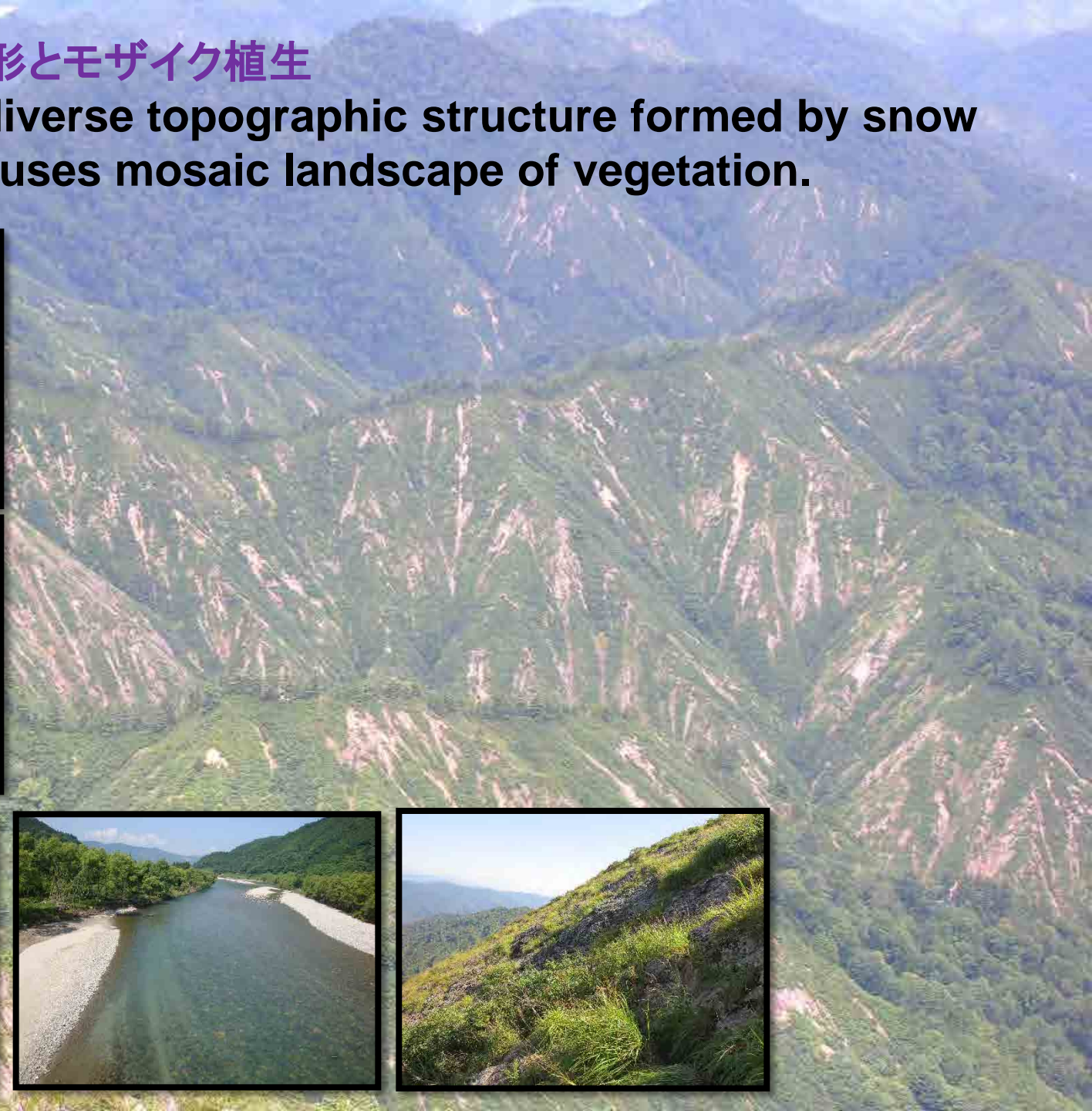


# Snow avalanches



## 卓越した雪食地形とモザイク植生

Complex and diverse topographic structure formed by snow avalanches, causes mosaic landscape of vegetation.



ブナ林に深く関わる生活(採取・狩猟・漁労)  
Gathering, hunting and fishing were main works,  
based on natural resources in the beech forests.



恵まれた自然環境を活かした農業  
かつては焼畑(カノ)

Agriculture, especially slash-and-burn field



Rice field



Millet



Buckwheat

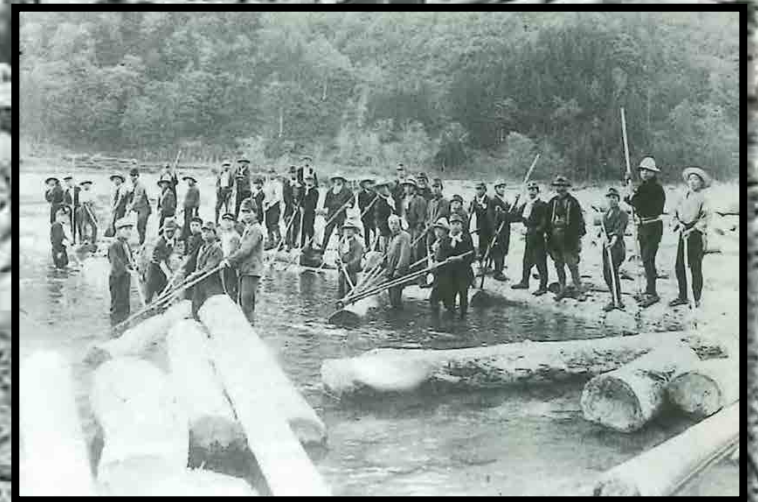


Buckwheat



# 森林伐採(林業)

Logging and rafting of logs on the river





戦後の只見川流域電源開発は地域の社会経済を一変させる！  
National project constructing the hydroelectric dams of the Tadami River basin  
just after the World War II, made a drastic change in the local society

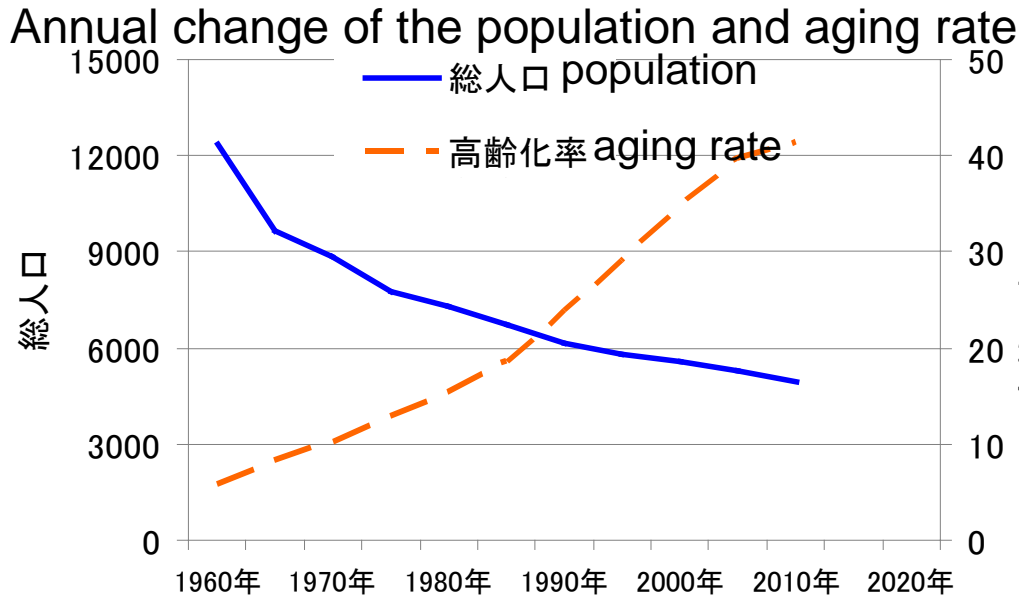
# 何故、只見町はユネスコエコパークに取り組むのか？

## Why do Tadami tried to be a Biosphere Reserve?

過疎・高齢化、そして産業の衰退、地域社会の崩壊への危機

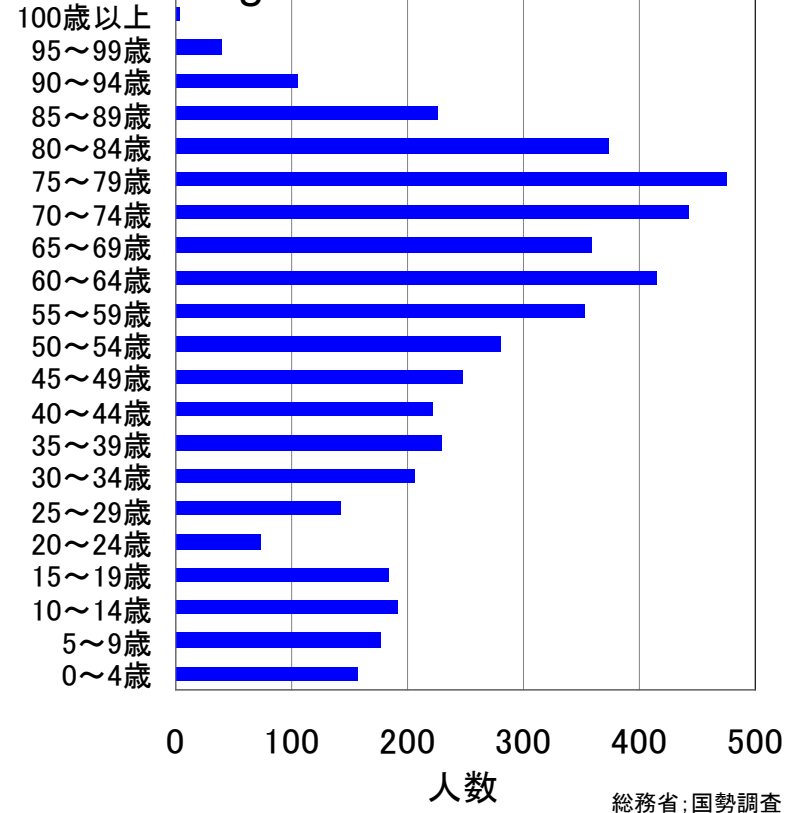
Depopulation and aging, causing declination of local economy and community

只見町の総人口と高齢化率の推移



只見町の年齢構造(5歳階級)

Age-class distribution



総務省; 国勢調査

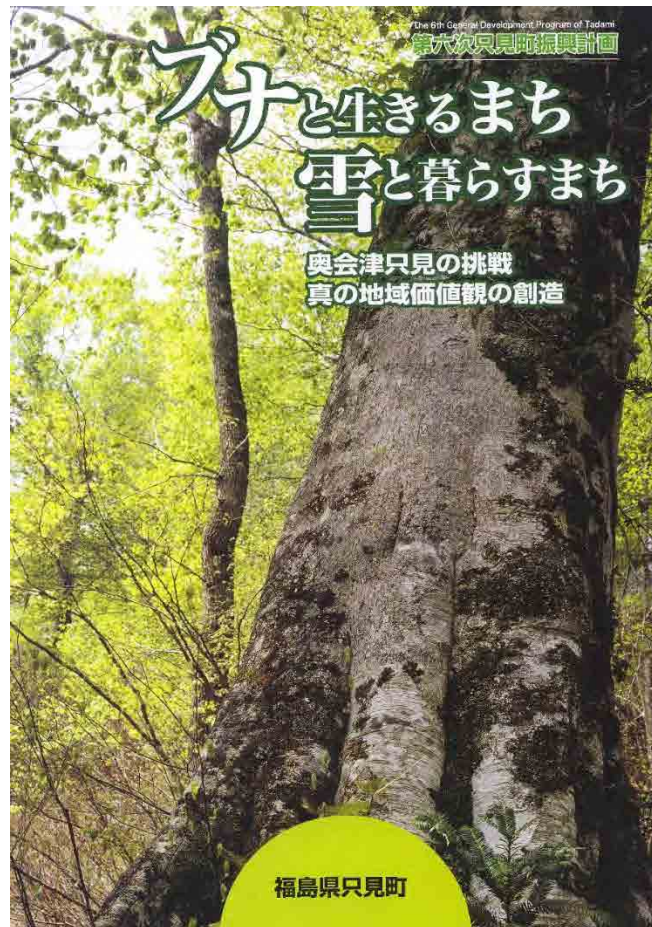


総務省; 国勢調査

課題は、いかに地域社会を維持し、発展させていくか？  
 The challenges are, how to maintain the local community and develop them sustainably.

# 町づくりの基本方針＝第六次只見町地域振興計画(2004年) 「合併せず！」只見の選択と挑戦

## The Sixth Tadami Town Local Promotion Plan (2004)



只見町は、日本の自然の中心地  
**自然首都・只見**  
Capital of Mother Nature, Tadami

To conserve the mother nature, and use them sustainably for local development.

—自然と人間活動の調和が概ね図られている地域—

結論、只見はそのままユネスコエコパーク！すなわちモデル地域

Tadami is the area where human activities are in harmony with nature.

Therefore, Tadami was already a *de facto* Biosphere Reserve.



只見ユネスコエコパーク登録決定！

ただし、手放しでは喜べない……………義務と責任（国際的約束）

Designation of Tadami BR in 2014!

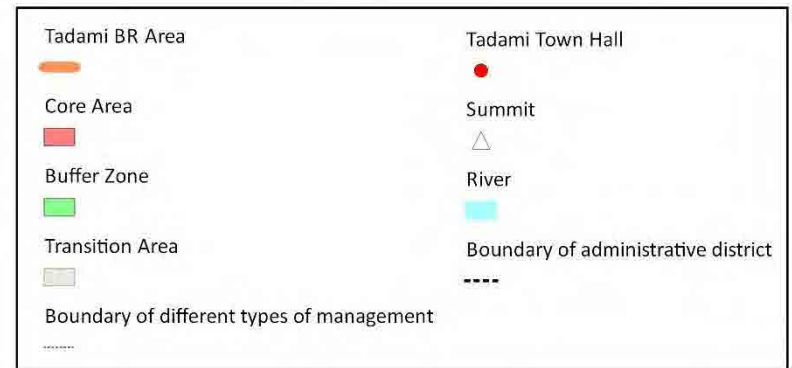
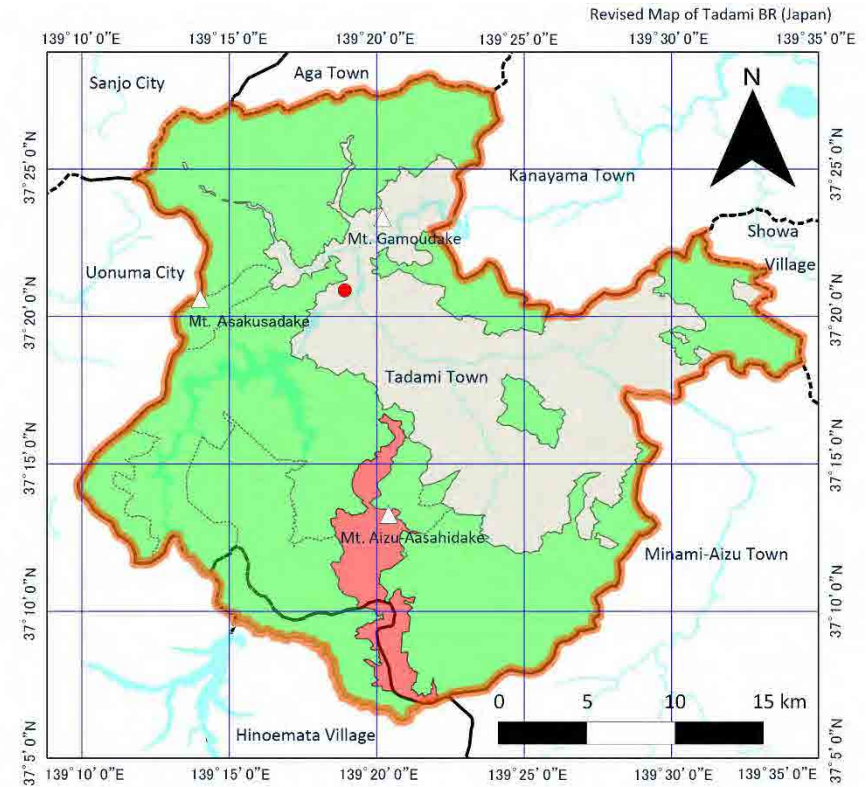
However, not only celebrating, but the international responsibility..



# 只見生物圏保存地域

## Tadami Biosphere Reserve

BR area	Whole Tadami Town and a part of Hinoemata Village
Core area (3,557 ha)	- Forest ecosystem reserve's "preservation zone" (includes part of the overlapping Echigosanzan-Tadami Quasi-national Park's "special protection zone" and some "special zones")
Buffer zone A (8,380 ha)	- Echigosanzan-Tadami Quasi-national Park's "special protection zone" (includes part of the overlapping forest ecosystem reserve's "conservation and utilization zone")
Buffer zone B (42,953 ha)	- National forest outside the Core Area and Buffer Zone A - Town forests and Community forests adjacent to the Core Area
Transition area (23,142 ha)	- Other area (Mountains, forests and wilderness outside the Core Area and Buffer Zones, cropland, and settlements)



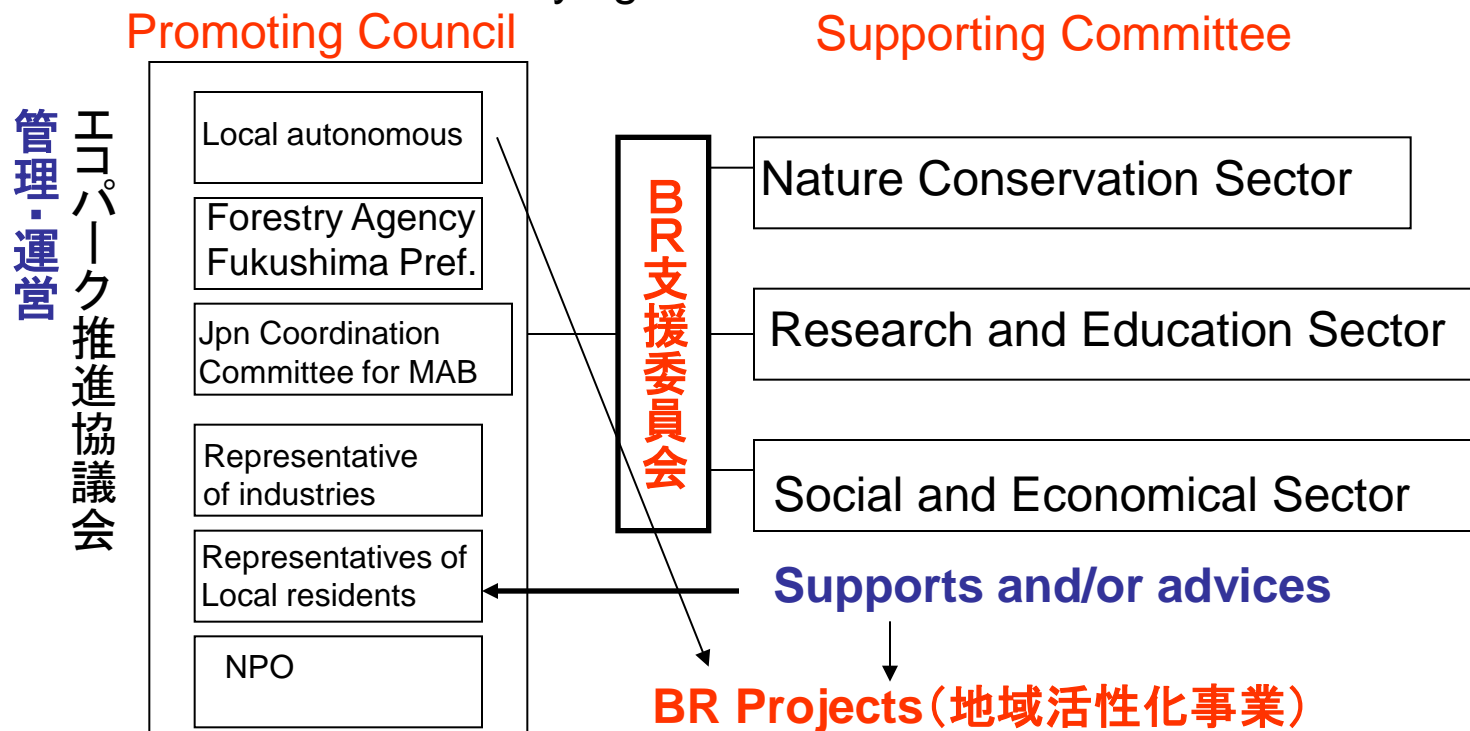
note:  
This revised map is submitted to UNESCO in response to the recommendation of the International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves (IACBR). In this map, buffer zone A and B have been merged into one categorization of buffer zone. In the Nomination Form, expressions of "buffer zone A" and "buffer zone B" remain, which indicate the different types of management in the buffer zone.  
(Pages 4,5,7,12,13,14,15,18,19,28,29,32,33,45,47,49,51,52,68,76,81,91,92,93,99,105,106,107,116,140 and 141)

# How should we develop the Tadami Biosphere Reserve ?

## Management system for TBR

**TBR Promoting Council**: An organization for management of TBR and adjustment of projects. Organized by the local autonomous bodies, Forest Agency, representatives of local industries and residents, Coordinating Committee for MAB. The chair of TBR Promoting Council is the mayor of the town, and each member have an equal right for vote. Takes round table discussion.

**TBR Supporting Committee** organized by scientists and experts, who can advise and support the TBR Promoting Council and also the BR projects which each member of the council are trying to do.





## 只見町が実施するユネスコエコパークの関連事業

Projects for BR which Tadami town are now working on, based on the TBR Management Plan and TBR Action Plan.

1. 自然環境および生物多様性の保護・保全  
Preservation and conservation of nature and biodiversity

2. 調査研究・人材育成  
Research, education, and human development

3. 地域振興(地場産業の育成)  
Sustainable local development



Clawed salamander

Preservation of the endangered species and its habitat



Basic investigation of nature



Creating and branding the local products

# Tadami hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Japanese Biosphere Reserves Network in 2013



- The first face-to-face meeting
- Lead to the movement for reorganization of JBRN as a local-lead network

高齢化社会を牽引する若者の存在が不可欠！

志のある若者は只見へ！

Young generation is essential to lead this aged community!



## Acknowledgement

Creation and Sustainable  
Governance of New Commons  
through Formation of  
Integrated Local  
Environmental Knowledge  
(**ILEK project**),  
Research Institute for  
Humanity and Nature (**RIHN**),  
JAPAN



Thank you