

Synergy between geoparks and biosphere reserves through Hakusan as a focal point

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Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve Council
Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark Promotion Council

Mt. Hakusan (白山)

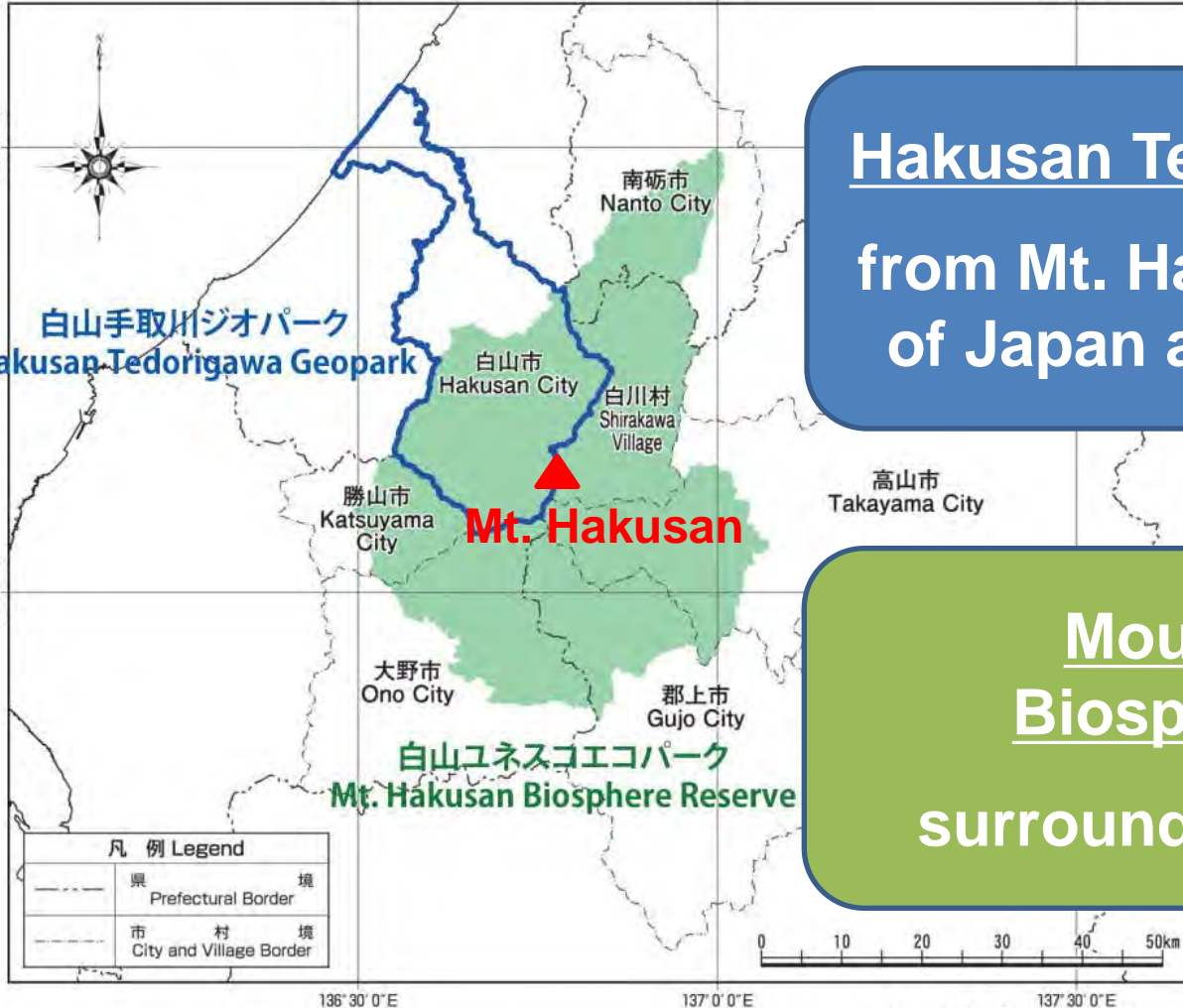
- A high mountain in central Japan
- Its elevation is 2,702m (alpine zone)

- **Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve** designated in 1980
- **Hakusan Todorigawa Geopark** designated in 2011 as a Japanese Geopark



Different areas of both programs

この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の2万5千分の1地形図を使用した。(承認番号 平25情使、第72-GISMAP32643号)



Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark
from Mt. Hakusan toward Sea
of Japan along Tadori River

Mount Hakusan
Biosphere Reserve
surrounding Mt. Hakusan

GEO PARKS

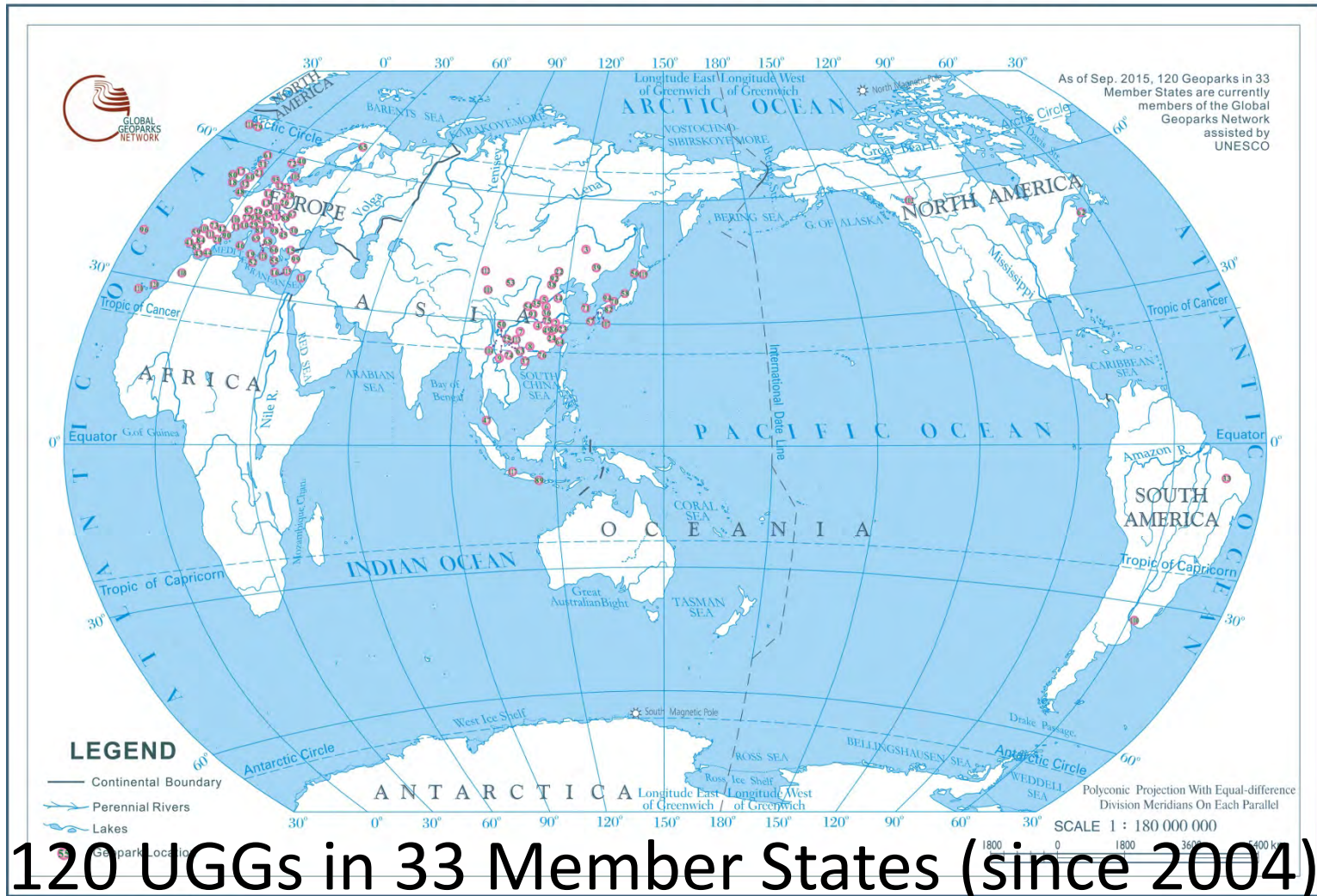
What is Geopark (GP) ?

- Single, unified geographical area
- Site of **international geological significance**
- Managed with a holistic concept of **protection, education, and sustainable development**



Geoparks among the world

Distribution of GGN Members



New label: UNESCO Global Geoparks



NATURAL SCIENCES

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UNESCO » Natural Sciences » About us



Who we are

Assistant Director-General

Who's who

Field Offices

How we work

Mission & Strategy

International Science Programmes

Institutes & Centres

UNESCO Chairs

Partnerships and Networks

Where we are

17.11.2015 - Natural Sciences Sector

UNESCO gives Global Geoparks a new label



The 195 Member States of UNESCO have ratified the creation of a new label, the UNESCO Global Geoparks, on 17 November 2015. This expresses governmental recognition of the importance of managing outstanding geological sites and landscapes in a holistic manner.

The decision was taken by Member States at UNESCO's General Conference, the governing body of the Organization, which met in Paris from 3 to 18 November.

UNESCO Global Geoparks tell the 4,600 million year story of Planet Earth and of the geological events that shaped it as well as the evolution of humanity itself. Not only do they show evidence of past climate changes, they also inform local communities of present day challenges and help them prepare for hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions.

UNESCO Global Geoparks strive to raise awareness of geodiversity and promote protection, education and tourism best practices. Together with World Heritage sites and Biosphere Reserves, UNESCO Global Geoparks form a complete range of sustainable development tools and make an invaluable contribution to the realisation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals by combining global and local perspectives.

RELATED INFORMATION

PAGES

▶ Earth Sciences

NATURAL SCIENCES SECTOR

- ▶ About the Natural Sciences Sector
- ▶ Organizational Chart
- ▶ Who's who

Official Documents

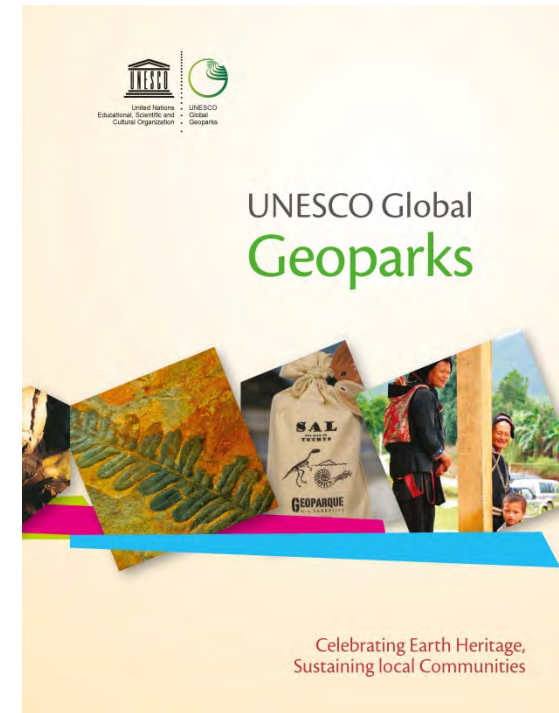
- ▶ 37 C/4 Medium-Term Strategy 2014-2021
- ▶ 37 C/5 Approved programme and budget 2014-2017

Resources

- ▶ UNESCO Science for Peace and Sustainable Development (pdf) Brochure, 2013
- ▶ A World of Science (Quarterly Journal)

Geopark Q&A

- Once the designation, is it forever geopark?
 - No, **revalidated every 4 years with a field mission**
- Is it only about geology?
 - No, GPs develop **links with natural & cultural heritages**
- Can it overlap with other designations?
 - Needs a **clear justification and evidence for synergy**



(UNESCO, 2016)

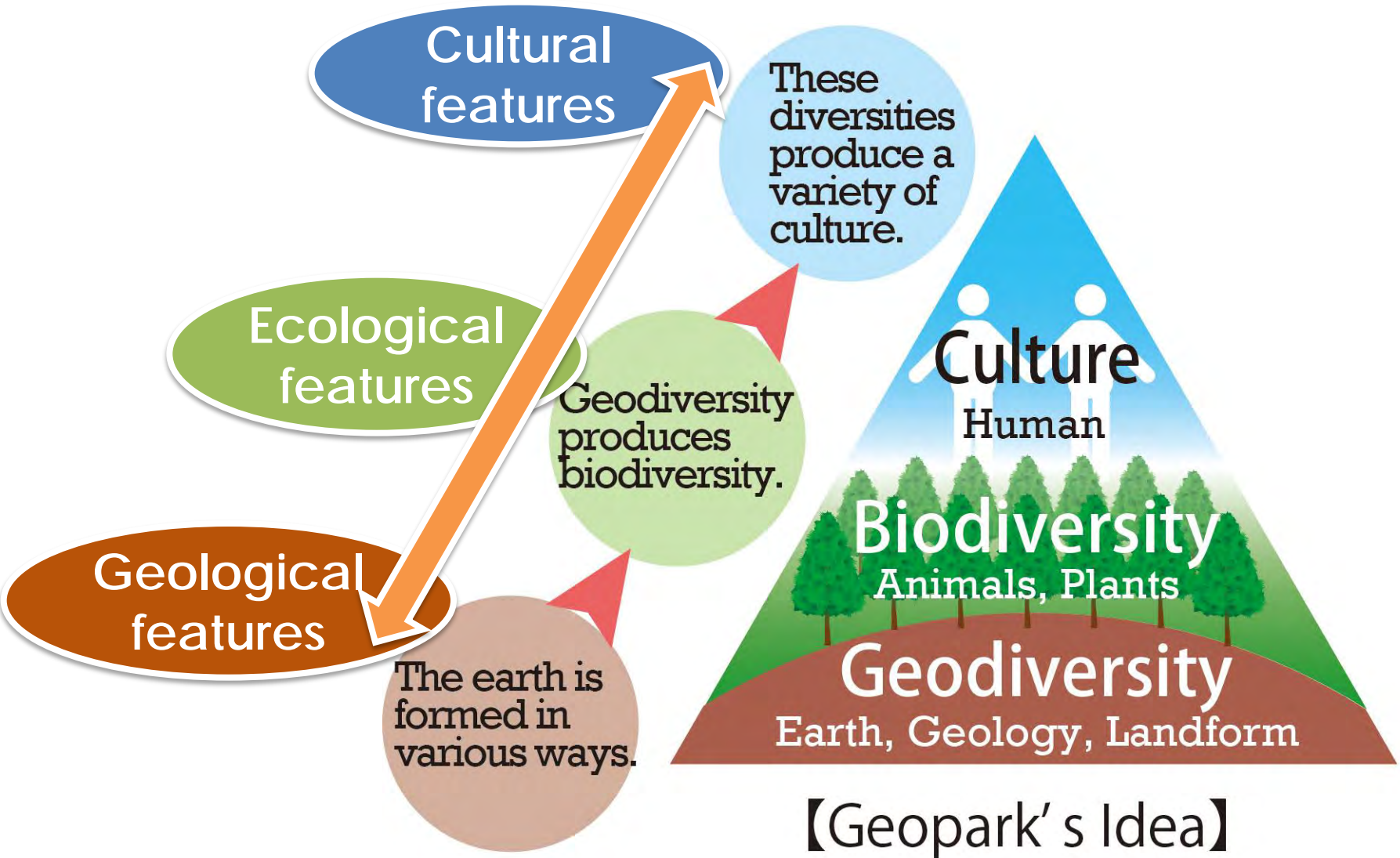
Difference between BRs & Geoparks

- For scientists
 - Ecology or Geology (earth science)
- For local people
 - ? ? ?.....What's different?
 - *Something forwarding sustainable development ?*
 - *Something to be proud of their own area ?*

SYNERGY AT

LOCAL SITE LEVEL

To strengthen stories: Linking 3 features

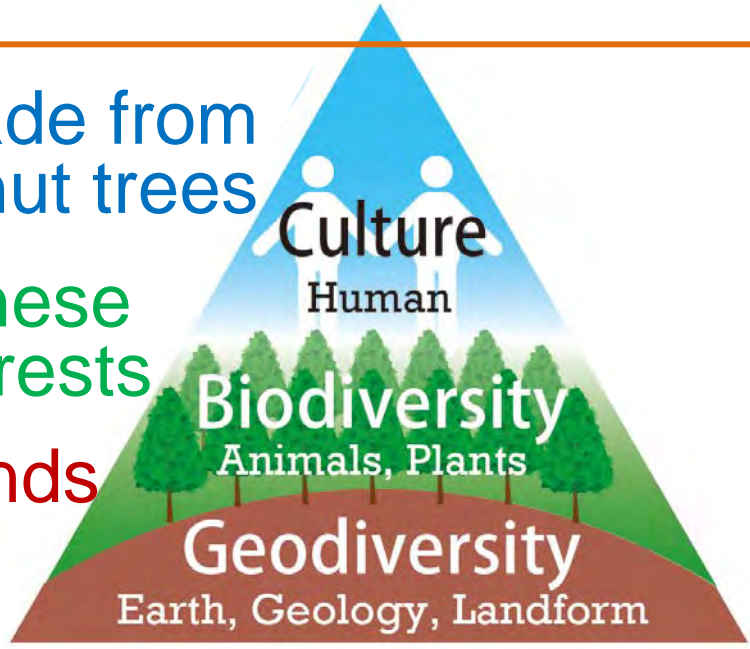


To strengthen stories: Case of chestnuts

Ricecakes made from
Japanese horse chestnut trees

Development of Japanese
horse chestnut tree forests

Existence of unstable lands



To weaken conflicts: Share the staffs

Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark Promotion Council

- Administrative Bodies (10)
- Universities, Institutes (5)
- Education & Culture Groups (2)
- Self-Governance Groups (4)
- Industries & Tourism Groups (7)
- Agriculture Groups (5)
- Transportation Group (1)

Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve Council

- Municipalities (7)
- Prefectures (4)
- Association for Cooperation (1)
- UNU (1)
- Shrines (3)
- Relevant Ministries (10)

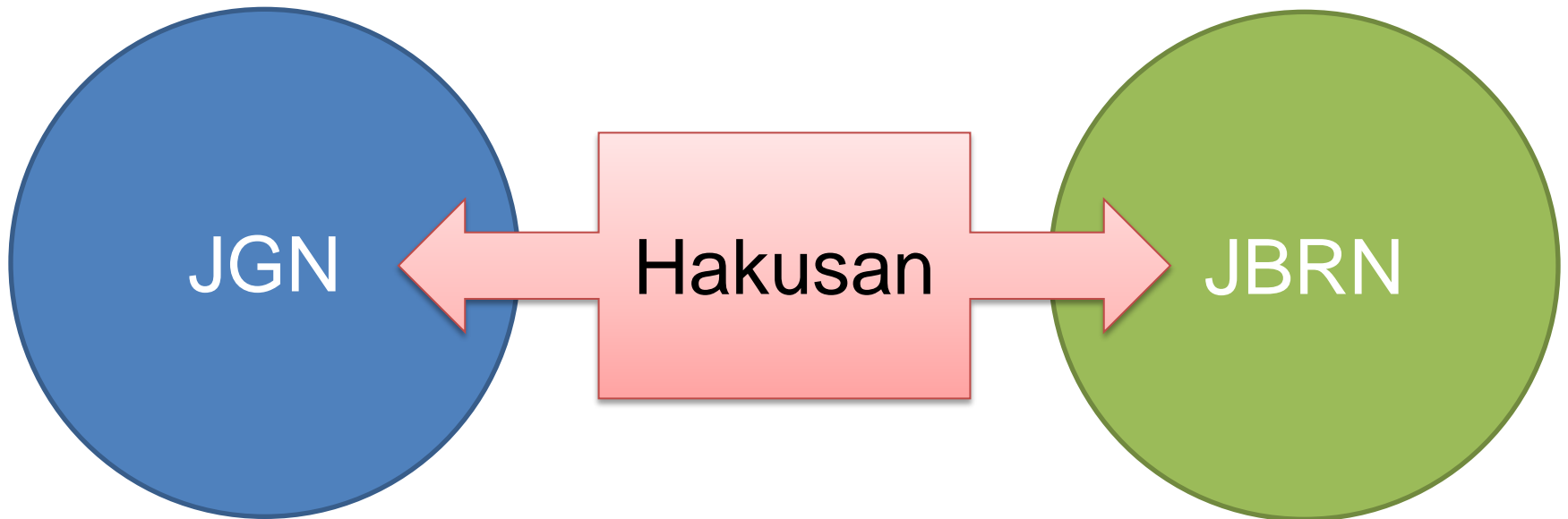
Secretariat
Geopark Promotion Division, Hakusan City

SYNERGY AT

NATIONAL NETWORK LEVEL

Hakusan belongs to two networks

- Japanese **Geoparks** Network (JGN)
- Japanese **Biosphere Reserves** Network (JBRN)



Two networks

JGN



8 UGGs, 31 Japanese GPS

JBRN

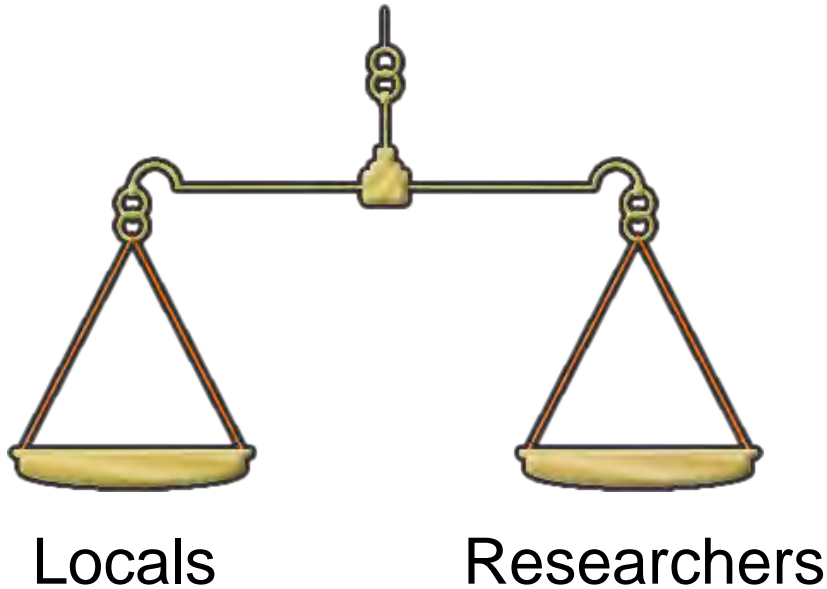


Reorganized in 2015

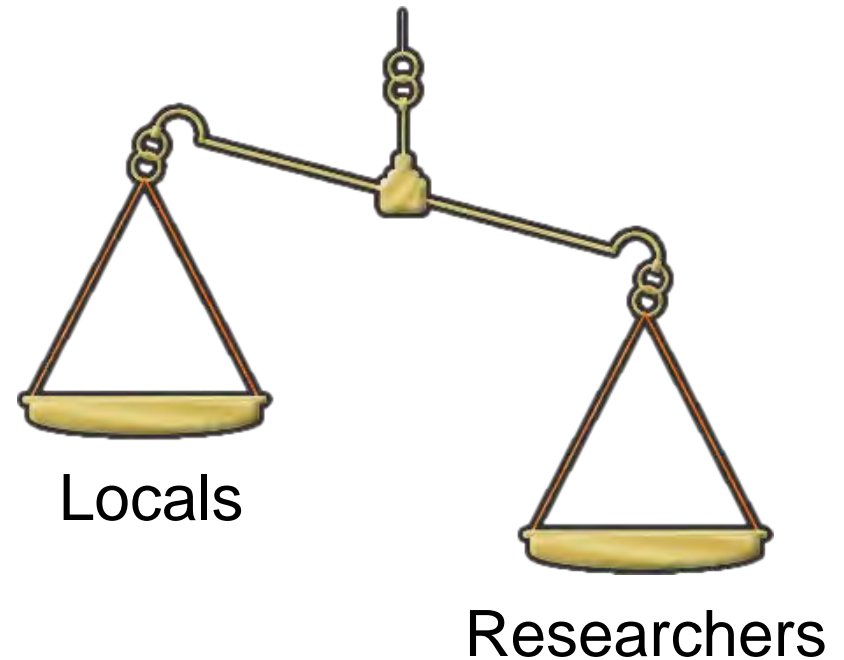
7BRs

Who takes the initiatives in the network?

JGN



JBRN



Reorganization of JBRN

Initiatives:

- From researchers to locals

Financial Management:

- Annual memberships fee

Networking:

- From mailing list to real meetings
(face-to-face relationship)



JBRN Meeting at Hakusan

Lessons from geoparks to BRs

UNESCO Global Geoparks Celebration Forum

- Held in Hakusan, with JGN & UNU-IAS-OUIK
- Messages from MAB&BR to Geoparks
 - MAB Strategy, in line with the SDGs
 - International cooperation lead by JICA

(From right)

Dr. Patrick McKeever

(expert on Geoparks, UNESCO)

Dr. Koichiro Matsuura

(former DG of UNESCO)

Dr. Hiroyuki Matsuda



Lessons from BRs to geoparks

Conclusion

- Confusion among local peoples
- Strengthening stories, sharing staffs
- Learn from each other between networks





霊峰白山 御前峰

Thank you for your kind attention!!