



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



• UNESCO
• Global
• Geoparks

Evaluation Document B

Progress Evaluation

Updated: August 2017

1. Name of the Geopark

Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark

2. Date of revalidation

2017

Revalidation period

Four year

Two year

Revalidation Overview

	Section	Maximum Score	Self-Awarded Score (Jan-17)	Self-Awarded Score (revised, Aug-17)
I	Contribution towards the Work of the GGN	320	235	280
II.	Management Structure and Financial Status	160	160	160
III	Conservation and Geoconservation Strategy	100	70	70
IV	Strategic Partnerships	100	60	60
V	Marketing and Promotional Activities after the Official Designation as a UNESCO Global Geopark	200	180	190
VI	Sustainable Economic Development	120	90	90
	Total	1000	795	850

I. Contribution towards the Work of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN)

1.0	Participation in Geopark conferences and networking events (Award 10 points for each meeting attended)					
Meetings	Place	Date	Representatives	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate	
Regional Geopark Conferences (i.e. European Geoparks Conference, Asian Pacific Geoparks Conference; Latin American Conference, etc.)						
11th European Geoparks Conference	Arouca Geopark	19-21.09.2012	Kazuhiro Yamamoto	10		
12th European Geoparks Conference	Cilento and Vallo di Diano Geopark	04-06.09.2013	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
The 3rd Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network	Jeju Island Geopark	09-11.09.2013	Ken Masutani	10		
The 4th Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network	San'in Kaigan Geopark	16-20.09.2015	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
International Geoparks Conference						
6th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks	Stonehammer Geopark	19-22.09.2014	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks	English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark	27-30.09.2016	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
International Intensive Course on Geoparks						
International Geoparks Fair						
JGN Booth	English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark	27-30.09.2016	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
Network Internal Meetings (i.e. GGN General Assembly, EGN / APGN Coordination Meetings, etc.)						
6th International UNESCO Conference on Global Geoparks	Stonehammer Geopark	22.09.2014	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks	English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark	30.09.2016	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
The 4th Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network	San'in Kaigan Geopark	15.09.2015	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
APGN Coordinators' Meeting	English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark	27.09.2016	Kazuhiro Nobe	10		
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 100)				100	0	
Explanation for any meetings missed.						

1.1	Participation in common projects (Award 30 points for each project)			
Common Project	Position (leader, partner, observer)	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate	
Japanese UNESCO Global Geoparks Magazine - 2017	Leader	30		
Joint Publication: UNESCO Global Geoparks of Japan and China	Partner	30		
Projects utilizing Official Development Assistance for UNESCO Activities	Leader	30		
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 60)		60	0	

Comments - Details

Japanese UNESCO Global Geoparks Magazine - 2017: A magazine introducing the eight UNESCO Global Geoparks of Japan, which was developed and printed by the Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark. Joint Publication: UNESCO Global Geoparks of Japan and China: A publication jointly developed by Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark and Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark. Projects utilizing ODA for UNESCO Activities: helped lead projects with three target countries in South East Asia using the 2016 ODA for UNESCO Activities.

1.2 Participation in common activities (Award 15 points for each activity)			
Common Activity	Role	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
UNESCO Global Geoparks Celebration Forum	Leader	15	
APGN Experience Sharing Week (14-21.12.2016)	Leader of the Japanese delegation	15	
Visit and Exchange Program - Chinese Geoparks Network to Japanese	Partner	15	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 80)		45	0

Comments - Details

UNESCO Global Geoparks Celebration Forum: In November 2015, a new label 'UNESCO Global Geoparks' was officially created. To celebrate this, the 'UNESCO Global Geoparks Celebration Forum' was held alongside JGN country-wide workshops. APGN Experience Sharing Week: in order to encourage further international exchange within APGN region, an experience exchange took place in December 2016 between 7 Japanese Geoparks, including Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark and Hong Kong Geopark. Visit and Exchange Program - The first exchange visit between the CGN and JGN. Program took place over one week in three Japanese UNESCO Global Geoparks.

1.3 Participation in common communications (Award 15 points for each activity)			
Common Communication	Role	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
GGN Newsletter			
EGN Magazine No 9 (for EGN Members only)			
EGN Magazine No 10 (for EGN Members only)			
EGN Magazine No 11 (for EGN Members only)			
EGN Magazine No 12 (for EGN Members only)			
Contributed to an article for the GGN website	Submission of a manuscript	15	
Contributed to an article for the EGN website			
Common leaflets	Submission of a manuscript for the JGN leaflet	15	
Common website	Submission of a manuscript for the JGN website	15	
Other	Contribution to APGN	15	
Other	Contribution of an article to GEO ExPro Magazine	15	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 80)		75	0

Comments - Details

Total Score for Section I: Contribution towards the Work of the GGN (Score cannot exceed 320)	280	0
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II. Management Structure and Financial Status

2.0 Management structure

This section reviews the management structure and legal status of the Geopark. Please provide a brief summary of how the management structure has changed since designation or after the last revalidation event.

Description of management structure, organisation and legal status

The 'Oki Islands Geopark Promotion Committee' is composed of Shimane Prefecture, the four municipal governments of the Oki Islands, tourism associations, economic organizations, transport companies, etc. After designation as a global geopark, the name of the committee changed to 'Oki Islands Global Geopark Promotion Committee', and after Global Geoparks were formally ratified by UNESCO as 'UNESCO Global Geoparks' the committee was renamed 'Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark Promotion Committee'. The number of organizations participating in planning within the committee increased from 43 to 45.

Moreover, the number of staff working in the Head Office increased from 6 to 9 (as of December 2016).

In addition, while the committee is currently a private organization mainly consisting of administrative bodies, there are plans to obtain a legal personality in 2019.

2.1 Management structure staff

	2013	2014	2015	2016	Future prospects
Scientific Staff (permanent)					
" (by contract)	1	1	2	2	Plan to employ as permanent staff
Technical Staff (permanent)					
" (by contract)	1	1	1	2	
Administrative Staff (permanent)	4	4	3	4	
" (by contract)				1	Plan to employ as permanent staff
Ranger (permanent)					
" (by contract)					
TOTAL	6	6	6	9	0

2.2 Financial stability

This section reviews the financial situation of the Geopark and its long term financial viability. Please provide a brief summary of how the financial status of the Geopark has changed since designation or after the last revalidation event.

Description of financial status

The geopark manages its own finances and has an independent budget. The main sources of capital are funds contributed by Shimane Prefecture and local municipalities of the Oki Islands (Okinoshima Town, Nishinoshima Town, Ama Town and Chibu Village). The expenses of the committee include contributions to UNESCO Global Geoparks Network and Japanese Geoparks Network, as well as administrative work (human resource development, spreading information, planning and publicity, etc) and research studies. Infrastructure development such as the construction of walking trails, toilets, signboards, and so on is conducted using independent budgets of the Ministry of the Environment, Shimane Prefecture and the four municipalities of the Oki Islands.

BUDGET	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS
2013	¥53,791,760	¥53,768,726	¥23,034	
2014	¥60,439,147	¥60,400,465	¥38,682	
2015	¥88,772,155	¥88,753,602	¥18,553	
2016	¥118,641,000	¥118,641,000	¥0	

2.3	Management structure and financial status	Comments	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
	Geopark management structure (total score cannot exceed 50)	Number of the committee members and staff of the Head Office has increased. There are plans for the Geopark Promotion Committee to become a corporate body before April 2019.	50	
	Geopark financial status (total score cannot exceed 50)	The budget of the committee is steadily increasing and there is a guarantee that it will not drop below the 2013 budget.	50	
	Significant policy changes since designation/last revalidation (total score cannot exceed 20)	In order to ensure the sustainable management of the geopark, the Basic Plan and the Action Plan of the Geopark have been formulated.	20	
	Geopark staff – number of new jobs created (total score cannot exceed 20)	Three new staff members have been employed by the Head Office of the Promotion Committee. Moreover, there are 6 new corporate bodies which are partners of the Geopark.	20	
	Comments on the improvement of the financial stability of the Geopark since designation/last revalidation (total score cannot exceed 20)	After designation as a Global Geopark the budget more than doubled.	20	
	TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 160)		160	0
Total Score for Section II: Management Structure and Financial Status (Score cannot exceed 160)			160	0

III. Conservation and Geoconservation Strategy

This section measures the success of conservation and geoconservation initiatives undertaken by the Geopark since designation or after the last revalidation event.

3.0 Conservation and geoconservation strategy

Confirmation that geological material is not being sold by the Geopark partners	Yes	<input type="radio"/>	No	
	Details			
Has the Geopark experienced any significant successes with regard to conservation issues?	Geosites records are being created and geosites are being monitored.			
Has the Geopark experienced any significant problems with regard to conservation issues?	No.			
Number of sites conserved since designation/last revalidation				

3.1 Initiatives taken to improve the links between geodiversity and cultural, biological and other associated heritage

	Details
Organization of Geopark events at cultural sites	Organizing trial tours which include cultural sites.
Inclusion of cultural sites in geological trails	Inclusion of cultural sites, such as shrines where giant rocks and sacred trees are worshipped, as well as locations of festivals.
Inclusion of sites of ecological interest in geological trails	Interpretation boards with biological information and so on are being installed along the walking trails.
Organization of nature observation events at geological sites	Observation events take place every year e.g. near Yui Pond, which is a biologically diverse habitat.

3.2 Summary	Comments	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
Conservation and geoconservation Strategy (total score cannot exceed 50)	Conservation and geoconservation strategy is described in the Basic Plan, which was formulated in 2016. In 2017, a detailed plan is to be completed.	20	
Geological and cultural heritage (total score cannot exceed 50)	Geological and cultural heritages are managed as geopark resources and actively utilized in geotourism.	50	
	Total Score (Score cannot exceed 100)	70	0

Total Score for Section III: Conservation and Geoconservation Strategy (Score cannot exceed 100)	70	0
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IV. Strategic Partnerships

4.0 National partnerships (Award 10 points for each partnership)

Organisation	Details	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
Museums	The Shimane Nature Museum of Mt. Sanbe is a member of the committee working group.	10	
Geological survey			
Universities	University researchers are advisors to the committee.	10	
Tourism agencies	Local tourism agencies are members of the committee.	10	
Co-operative ventures	Collaboration with San'in Kaigan Geopark including stamp rally and sales of tourism products.	10	
Institutions	Shimane Prefecture and municipalities of the Oki Islands are members of the committee.	10	
Conservation organisations	Daisen-Oki National Park	10	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 60)		60	0

4.1 International partnerships (Award 20 points for each partnership (official partnership agreement required))

Organisation	Details	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
With other UNESCO Global Geoparks		0	
With international organisations (UNESCO, IUGS, Europarks, Eurosites etc...)		0	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 40)		0	0

**Total Score for Section VI: Strategic Partnerships
(Score cannot exceed 100)**

60

0

V. Marketing and Promotion of the Geopark after its Official Designation

5.0 Marketing and promotional activities

This section measures the success of marketing and promotional activities undertaken by the Geopark since it was awarded UNESCO Global Geopark status. Press releases and copies of promotional materials should be provided as supporting evidence.

Activity (Award 10 points for each activity)	Details	Participants	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
Conferences				
1.				
2.				
3.				
Seminars				
1. Oki Islands Global Geopark Seminar	A seminar organized in Tokyo aimed at visitors from the Tokyo metropolitan area	around 40	10	
2. Guest seminars at Shimane University	Seminars organized at Shimane University about the Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark		10	
3.				
Educational programmes				
1. 'Oki Adventure Islands Programme' conducted in 2016	Tour introducing the appeal of the geopark, aimed at children from elementary schools in Shimane Prefecture	around 100	10	
2.				
3.				
Events (cultural festivals)				
1. Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark Festival in 2016	Organized in Matsue, aimed at visitors from Shimane Prefecture	around 4,000	10	
2. Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark Festival in 2015	Organized in Matsue, aimed at visitors from Shimane Prefecture	around 4,000	10	
3. Montbell Friend Fair	Organized in Osaka and Yokohama, aimed at store members	around 10,000	10	
Participation in the development of tourism brochures				
1. Guides Bleus	Introduced as a three-star destination (the highest rank)		10	
2. Lonely Planet	Introduced as Oki Islands Global Geopark		10	
3. Oki Raku	A brochure published by Oki Tourism Association		10	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 60)			60	0

Please provide details on any successes or problems encountered with regard to the activities outlined above.

The logo mark of Oki UNESCO Global Geopark is utilized in sightseeing brochures and tourism products, etc. sold by travel agencies. Moreover, information about Oki Islands and the geopark has been published in foreign guidebooks such as Guides Bleus or Lonely Planet. Because of those reasons, there has been an increase in overall visitors' numbers by 7 thousand compared to the previous year, and an increase in foreign visitors' numbers by around 290. Furthermore, since 2015 the name of Oki Airport, which serves as one of the entrances to the Oki Geopark, is also called 'Oki Global Geopark Airport'.

5.1 Publications (Award 10 points for each publication)				
Papers (author, date, title, journal)		Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate	
1. Brenna. et. al., A Trachyte–Syenite Core within a Basaltic Nest: Filtering of Primitive Injections by a Stepwise Magma Plumbing System (Oki-Dōzen, South-West Japan), <i>Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology</i> , vol. 170 (Aug 2015), article id: 22,21.		10		
2. Matsubara et al., Miocene Mollusca from the Ichibu Formation on Nishinoshima Island, Oki Islands, Southwest Japan, <i>Paleontological Research</i> no. 18 (2014): 6-32.		10		
3. Kusano et al., Occurrence of Old Groundwater in a Volcanic Island on a Continental Shelf. An Example from Nakano-shima Island, Oki-Dozen, Japan, <i>Journal of Hydrology</i> , no. 511 (2014): 295-309.		10		
Publications (books, magazines, leaflets) (author, date, title, journal)				
1. Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark (a comic book, Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark Promotion Committee, 10.2016.)		10		
2. UNESCO Global Geoparks of Japan 2017 (a magazine to introduce Japanese Global Geoparks, 4.2016)		10		
3. Adventure Japan, Oki Islands Geopark (leaflet introducing the Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark in English, Japanese and Thai)		10		
Media presentation (CD, DVD, TV or radio programmes)				
1. Oki Global Geopark promotional DVD		10		
2. 'The story hidden in landscape. Geohistory of the coasts.' (DVD)		10		
3. BSS Radio		10		
Please do not send publications (these should be provided only to field evaluators)			40	0
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 40)			40	0

5.2 Infrastructure				
This section highlights improvements to the infrastructure of the Geopark since it was awarded UNESCO Global Geopark status or since the last revalidation exercise.				
Infrastructure (Award 10 points for each new or improved infrastructure)	New Infrastructure	Improvement of existing Infrastructure	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
Museum		New panels and displays	10	
Visitor centre		Improvement of exhibition materials	10	
Path or trails		Repairs of walking trails and maintenance of information signs	10	
Information panels		Improvement of contents, utilizing GGN and UGGN logo marks	10	
Other		Installing banners welcoming visitors to Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark in ferry terminals and airport	10	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 50)			50	0

5.3 Monitoring				
This section highlights the methods used for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of interpretation material and public awareness programmes implemented by the Geopark.				
Monitoring (Award 10 points for each type of monitoring adopted)		Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate	
Do you conduct visitor surveys in the Geopark ?		10		
Do you gather qualitative as well as quantitative data ?		10		
Do you evaluate users responses to new developments in the Geopark		10		
Do 75% or more, of your visitors regard your infrastructure and services as being "good or excellent"		0		

Do 75% or more, of your visitors regard your events or activities as being "good or excellent"	10	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 50)	40	0
Total Score for Section V: Marketing and Promotion of the Geopark after its Official Designation (Score cannot exceed 200)	190	0

VI. Sustainable Economic Development

This section highlights the both the positive and negative impacts of UNESCO Global Geopark status to the region and how UNESCO Global Geopark status has contributed towards sustainable economic development

Impact	Positive	Negative	Self-awarded Score	Evaluators' Estimate
1. Regional Economy				
Agriculture Livestock farming Forestry maximum cannot exceed 30	Agriculture: utilizing the geopark label in branding. Forestry: developing energy from woody biomass as a part of environmental conservation.		20	
2. Tourism Development				
62.Tourism Development Tourist agencies Restaurants Accommodation maximum cannot exceed 30	Tourist agencies: sales of tourism products utilizing geopark brand. Restaurants and accommodation: due to an increase in nonresident population and foreign visitor numbers, the numbers of customers in restaurants and accomodations have increased.		30	
3. Geotouristic Products				
Handicrafts Geological replicas Local products maximum cannot exceed 30	Production and sale of packages utilizing the geopark logo mark. The committee currently endeavours to raise the quality of these products by creating a geopark-product certification system.		10	
4. Employment				
New permanent positions New temporary positions New enterprises Others maximum cannot exceed 30	New temporary positions: 1 new staff member has been employed in the Head Office of the committee. New enterprises: in order to improve systems to accommodate tourists sustainably, a private organization providing geopark guide services has employed 4 new staff members. Others: in order to expand business related to the geopark, Oki Shizen Mura, N.P.O., an organization related to the committee, has employed 2 new staff.		30	
TOTAL SCORE (Score cannot exceed 120)			90	0
COMMENTS – DETAILS:				

Total Score for Section VI: Sustainable Economic Development (Score cannot exceed 120)	90	0
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