

生物圏保存地区における NPO に着目したステークホルダーの関係 - 白峰地区を事例に -

A Study on Stakeholder Relationships in Biosphere Reserves Focusing on NPO:
A Case Study of the Shiramine area

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1. Introduction

In Japan, a number of studies have shown that biosphere reserves face management disruptions that require attention from multiple agencies, and that efforts to promote conservation at the international level emphasize the need for stakeholder participation in decision-making and the equitable distribution of economic benefits. According to the IUCN classification of governance systems, biosphere reserves require a 'shared governance' approach. According to UNESCO's objectives, BRs should promote equitably distributed economic development at regional and local levels. Therefore, this study aims to generalize the stakeholder analysis methodology based on the protected area management structure, theory of coupled human-nature systems and social network analysis by analyzing the current relationships among the various stakeholders in the management of the Hakusan Biosphere Reserve. It also attempts to provide a new perspective on co-management by highlighting the significance of the NPO organization to the overall management network. This area has nurtured the life and culture of mountain villages, and NPO is expected to play an important role in the management of the biosphere reserve with any stakeholders. At the same time, when the local population is aging gradually, the income types of residents in mountain villages are single, and the COVID-19 has brought about a sharp decline in the tourism industry, it is important to investigate the role of NPO in management with any stakeholders. Although the Hakusan Biosphere Reserve is one of the first areas selected for the Japanese Biosphere Reserve Program, it has high ecological value and unique local culture, the village of Hakusan is facing the problem. This paper uses literature analysis, stakeholder analysis, social network analysis and social survey methods, studied the stakeholders in the human ecosystem in the Shiramine area, especially investigated the local activities of non-profit organizations, in order to establish a stakeholder-based joint management model of nature reserves and mitigation the problems existing in the management of nature reserves provide a theoretical basis.

This study aims to investigate the gap between plan

ned role of NPO in some policies and the actual quality of NPO's activities in the management of biosphere reserve area, and discussing effective government and NPO approaches to co-management of nature reserves and stakeholder participation.

2. Issues in the Shiramine Area

The authors' objectives in conducting the Non-Participant Observation were twofold. Firstly, to understand through personal experiences and conversations how the various agencies operate in the local area and to collect and organize the conflicts that arise in the management. The second is to clarify the real demands of local government agencies and active NPO managers by communicating with them. In conducting the Non-Participant Observation, the author has compiled some specific questions based on the analysis of the literature and has obtained some of the answers in the World Heritage Practice organized by the University of Tsukuba and conducted by Professor IIDA. By participating in the World Heritage Practice, the main local issues were compiled from the Hakusan National Park, the Hakusan Biosphere Reserve, and the local NPOs and concluded that the most immediate impact of a declining population is the loss of labor and the decline of industry, with fewer work opportunities, which leads to a reduction in consumption, the closure of shops, and the idleness of land and housing, thus exacerbating the rate of population decline and trapping it in a vicious circle. Even though there are a variety of researchers, and government personnel from research institutes, universities, and non-profit groups actively contributing to the conservation efforts in Mount Hakusan, many of these programs and activities will not achieve their intended results if the underlying issues of the population are not addressed. However, Mount Hakusan is blessed with a natural and cultural background that offers a wealth of opportunities for conservation and rural revitalization in both short-term and long term.

3. Stakeholder Analysis

(1) Defining Stakeholders

To gain a clearer understanding of the functioning of human ecosystems in nature reserves, it is necessary to analyze the actors that contribute to the changes in the

various components of the system - the stakeholders. The main and direct stakeholders involved in the complex operation of the system are natural resources, local residents, local enterprises and NPO organizations, and the indirect stakeholders are local government, higher management, local universities and researchers.

(2) Stakeholder Categorization

In order to analyze stakeholders in the human ecosystem in Shiramine, Hakusan Biosphere Reserve, this paper uses a "top-down" analytical classification. According to their potential level of cooperation and support for important objectives, or potential level of opposition, different stakeholder groups are categorized using this approach. Based on the analysis of the various stakeholders in section of this paper, and considering the top-down model of nature conservation decision-making in Japan, according to their potential to improve the conservation of natural resources and species as well as their potential to influence the decision-making process, the groups of stakeholders in the human ecosystem of this protected area were listed in this study in a two-dimensional matrix.

(3) Inter-relationship Analysis on Stakeholders

In order to clarify the relationships among stakeholders in the human ecosystem in Shiramine, it is necessary to sort out the interrelationships among the stakeholders before establishing the stakeholder social network analysis.

(4) Social Network Analysis on Stakeholders

In the Shiramine area stakeholder network, relationships between stakeholders are strong and linkages are easily created. Among the stakeholders, NPOs are shown to have relationships with all other stakeholders, and based on the results of Density Analysis (0.811), Degree centrality analysis (17.00) and Betweenness centrality analysis (2.117), it can be said that NPOs are expected to be the center of the stakeholder group.

4. Analysis of NPOs activities

At the institutional level, the establishment of a legal entity system for specific nonprofit activities and the reform of the public interest legal entity system have pro-

vided an external environment to support the active participation of nonprofit organizations in the Japanese public welfare arena, and have built an interactive and cooperative relationship between the government and nonprofit organizations from an institutional perspective; through the formulation of local government regulations and incentive policies to support nonprofit organizations, the government has provided a relaxed environment and In practice, the government has provided a relaxed environment and diversified channels for the development of nonprofit organizations through nurturing and supporting, and encouraging policies. At the practical level, a network of cooperative governance among the government, businesses, citizens, and nonprofit organizations has been formed through various forms of interaction, such as fostering support, administrative delegation, and collaborative provision.

5. Discussion and Conclusion

Local enterprises and NPOs are closely allied in the Shiramine area stakeholder network. On the contrary, NPOs have distant links with researchers, higher management, and local government, and few stakeholders anticipate working with them. Natural resources and local government have a close association, which suggests that local government is where natural resources are most interested in building relationships. It is challenging to attain full parity in the collaborative model since NPOs still use the commissioning model while having a significant weight in the social network of locally co-managed stakeholders. In order to encourage motivation, the government must in the future grant non-profit groups more autonomy and lessen its administrative authority over them.

Reference: Yoshihiko Iida ed. (2022) A course progress report on Project Practice in World Heritage 2021, Heritage Studies Degree Program, Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, and Certificate Programme on Nature Conservation, University of Tsukuba, 46pp+Appendix.

Abstract: Hakusan Biosphere Reserve, as one of the first batch of protected areas in Japan selected as UNESCO's MAB program, has extremely high ecological and humanistic values. Due to the top-down decision-making model of nature protection in Japan, there is little room for public participation, leading to the status quo of multi-agency co-management, and with the trend of population aging, these contradictions in management have brought great impact on the ecological environment. At the same time, local non-profit organizations seem to be an effective organization to resolve the contradictions in the co-management system. This paper uses literature analysis, stakeholder analysis, social network analysis and social survey methods, studied the stakeholders in the human ecosystem in the Shiramine area, especially investigated the local activities of non-profit organizations, in order to establish a stakeholder-based joint management model.