

Preface

This fiscal year 2015 is the second year from the launch of the Research Institute of Earthquake and Volcano Geology (IEVG), Geological Survey of Japan, AIST. Recent Japan's active volcanoes including the 2014 sudden eruption of Mount Ontake, cause increasing interest in mitigating risks of volcanoes. We also had the severe damage from the M6.7 Northern Nagano earthquake in November, 2014, which is considered to be a rupture of only a part of the Kamishiro active fault, central Japan. To mitigate such serious damage from geohazards, IEVG provides geological information and develops technologies to forecast earthquake occurrences, volcanic eruptions, and long-term geological phenomena up to 1 million years based on geological surveys and geophysical and geochemical observations.

The present volume contains nine reports based mainly on activities of the IEVG in 2014. Among them, the following studies are supported by external funds contracted by MEXT (the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan) for paleoearthquake and related studies on five areas: the Fukuchiyama fault (northern Kyushu), the Kikugawa fault (Yamaguchi Pref.), the coastal sea area of Sagami Bay (central Japan), the Kamogawa-teichi fault zone (central Japan), and the Miura-hanto fault group (central Japan). Paleoseismic studies of the Itozawa fault (Fukushima Pref.) and the Uemachi fault zone (Osaka Pref.), and seismological studies of southern Tokushima earthquake (2015, M_j5.1) and seismic observation in northern Yamanashi Pref. were conducted by internal funds of AIST.

We welcome comments from readers on the contents of this report, and the ways to publicize the results of our surveys and researches. Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to land owners, local communities and municipality that allowed us to work on private properties.

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