



# Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve



Murodo Visitor Center, just below the summit of Mt. Hakusan

## Background and Purpose of the Biosphere Reserve

The Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve extends across four prefectures and seven municipalities surrounding Mt. Hakusan. Residents of the seven municipalities have all looked up to Mt. Hakusan and lived with its blessings, but have lacked opportunities to work together until now.

The seven municipalities share the same resources and face the same issues, and are working towards sustainable development of the “Circum-Hakusan Area” through the biosphere reserve.

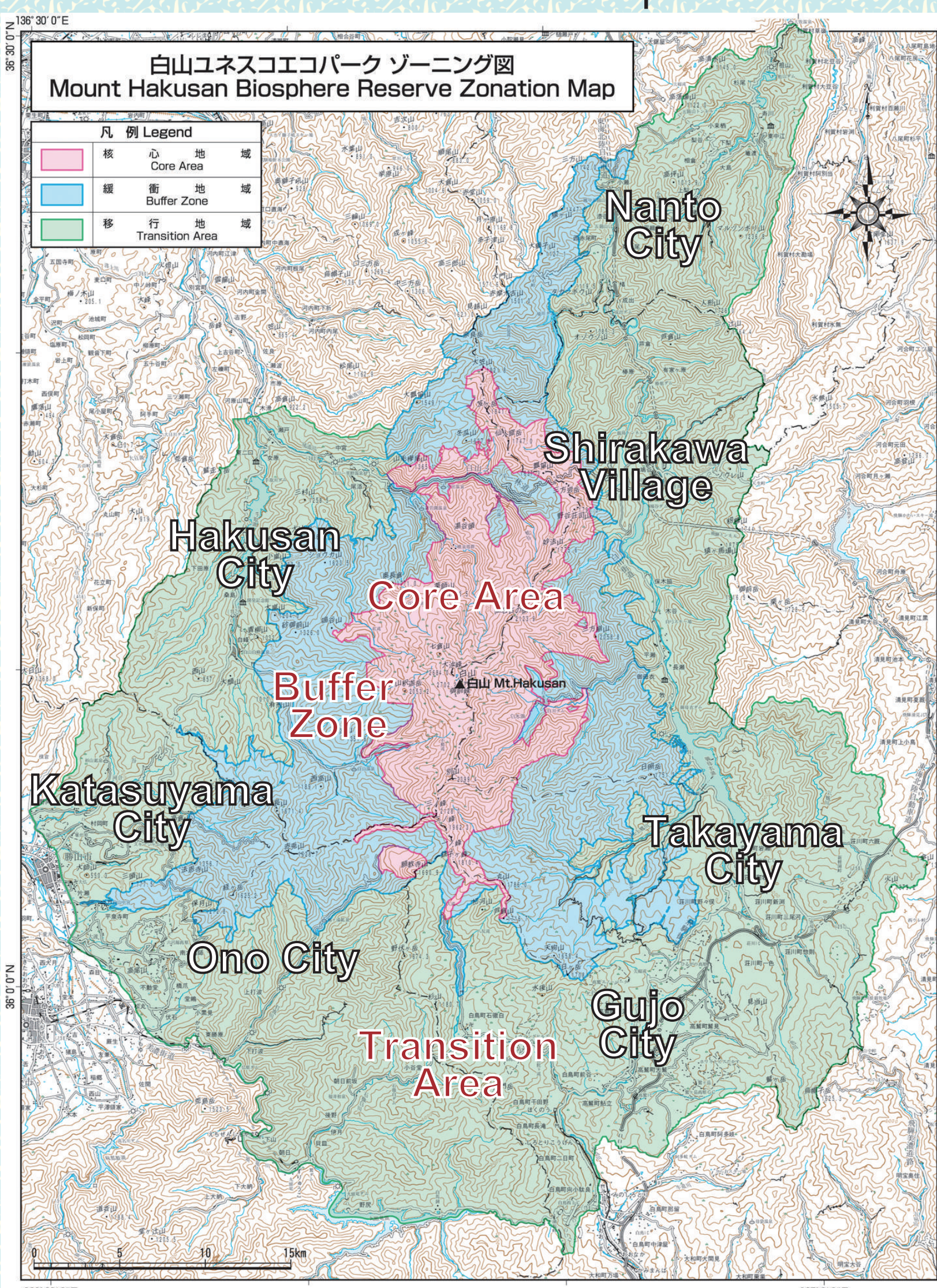
## Summary of the Biosphere Reserve

The Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve is one of the first biosphere reserves in Japan, and was designated in 1980. There was a low level of activity here until recently, but this has been changing little by little since the Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve Council was launched in January 2014.

The Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve extends across the following four prefectures and is composed of the following seven municipalities.

- Toyama Prefecture: Nanto City
- Ishikawa Prefecture: Hakusan City
- Fukui Prefecture: Ono City, Katsuyama City
- Gifu Prefecture: Takayama City, Gujo City, Shirakawa Village

### Zonation of Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve



Mt. Hakusan in the wintertime



Core area: Alpine meadow of Murododaira



Buffer zone: Karikomi Pond

### Area of Mt. Hakusan Biosphere Reserve

Total area.....	199,329ha
Core areas.....	22,120ha
Buffer zones.....	45,660ha
Transition areas.....	131,549ha



Transition area: Mt. Hakusan and buckwheat field

Since its designation in 1980, there have only been two zones, the core area and buffer zone. But then the transition area, where people lead lives based on the sustainable utilization of natural resources, became emphasized, and we applied for the extension of the Mount Hakusan Biosphere Reserve, including the transition area. In March 2016, UNESCO approved this extension and we have entered a new stage.