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[Volcanology][Disaster Prevention][International Cooperation] NSC Plans to Build Da-tun Volcano Observatory, Integrating Research Dynamics and Promoting Popular Science Education

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CNA, RTI & China Times E-paper (2011/02/07) In order to unite the dynamics and competences of the fields involved with volcano investigation in Taiwan, to invite the opportunities of international cooperations and to promote volcano popular science education, National Science Council (NSC) plans to build a volcano observatory in Datunshan (Da-tun Mountain) together with Yangmingshan National Park Headquarters in this year.

NSC Deputy Minister Cheng-Hong CHEN said, the normal status observation of a volcano yields its basic contrast, and up to now no volcano observatory has ever been established in Taiwan, so NSC decides to cooperate with Yangmingshan National Park Headquarters on the promotion of the establishment of Da-tun Volcano Observatory in the Yangmingshan area in this year. The project will also involve Central Weather Bureau and Central Geological Survey of MoEA, aiming at constructing a multi-functional observatory of research, monitoring and education. The observatory will be equipped with a volcano monitoring system, a database collecting the observed statistics and a presentation platform of the research achievements for popular access.

CHEN said, the volcano observation will be conducted from three perspectives, including the volcanic gas changes, volcanic natural vibration and the terrain changes.

Cheng-Hong CHEN said, the volcano observation project is also a project of international cooperation. The present international partner is Philippine, and the budget for the first year is about ten million NT dollars. The goal of the first year will be completed in the first half of the year.

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