



Anthony Manuel Tejada Ortiz, Dominican Republic Participant

As a participant of the Environment Course, I can confirm that this experience has taught me to see the life from another perspective. I have never been interested in how I could have a prosperous life without damaging the environment and now I can say that one of my priorities is to have a balance between the prosperous life I want to get and how to save the environment.

Since the beginning, all the countries belonging to the Environment Course had the opportunity to know the issues that are affecting the environment in their countries in these days. This was one of the most interesting parts of the discussion course, because we could learn about how they treat those problems, and find the solutions for them. The most important thing is to clearly understand the environmental situation around the world, and try to educate people around us. Now, we have means of communication in our country and we have to transmit all we have learned during the discussion and make actions to see the results.

At the end of the discussion we also had the chance to exchange ideas on necessary perspectives and possible approaches to make our society prosperous and sustainable. Besides working on these problems, we made an action plan with viable solutions for our countries. The main idea with all of this, is to make this actions possible and make great efforts to get the balance between economic

prosperity and sustainable society.

I would say that this discussion made me reflect about what human beings should do to have a better life, and how they prepare to get it. This thought makes me more motivated to educate people around me, specifically my country, and teach them all I've learned in this significant discussion to make them a prosperous society. I'm very sure, that the education is the first step to accomplish all of this, because if we don't educate people, then they will not know how to take right choices to get the sustainable society we want to see.

I can confirm that this kind of experience changes the way we see the life, because during the discussion I had the opportunity to know how another country treat the environment theme. It's really interesting to see the diversity and how each country looks for different solutions for this important issue in their society.

Definitely, I would never change this opportunity for anything. All of the things I've learned about 'sustainable' society are my motivation to go to Dominican Republic to apply the actions and solutions to make it an economically prosperous country. As a young leader, my main purpose is to share my knowledge and make the actions happend. As Jacqueline Novogratz said, "A sustainable world means working together to create prosperity for all."



Juliana Mary Lipahai Mohe, Papua New Guinean Participant

What an experience this journey has brought to me! Through participating in the Environment Course of the International Youth Conference held on September 23rd -25th 2015 in Tokyo, I became more acquainted with the theme of our course which was "approaches for a youth to create a sustainable society," and strongly motivated and inspired to make a difference in my own small way for my country, Papua New Guinea. This is what this

Journey and experience have brought to me.

The discussion enabled participating youths from Kingdom of Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Arab Republic of Egypt, Japan, Republic of Latvia, Republic of Mozambique and another male participant, Mr. Anthony Pryke from Independent State of Papua New Guinea to work together in groups and discuss three main questions which was the essence to our course theme. These questions

were; (1) what are the three conditions that you call your life prosperous? (2) what are the three conditions that you call your country economically prosperous? and (3) introduce an example from your country where the conservation of the natural resources and environment is endangered as a result of pursuing economic development.

We answered these questions individually as an assignment prior to our trip to Japan. When we met, we were able to share the answers with other members in our group and discuss to further refine our thoughts as well as perceptions on the question with respect to our own country. Our discussion was intensive and very informative. We were able to present our thoughts and distinctively identify the differences and similarities in the environmental sustainability and economic prosperity as an

individual, our society and country. Many questions were asked among us and comments were further supported by our facilitators. The underlying point in our discussion was each individual in our group had their own opinion and had their own environmental and economic issues in their countries. However, as a group we could work together to come up with a solution to the problems we face as individuals in our societies/communities and countries. And that was exactly what we did in our final presentation of our discussions.

We were able to share our ideas. We became interactive and listened to each other. We established a common bond. We became friends, more like family and solved our issues together so that we could come up with the respective solutions for the problems we faced.

