

Activities of the Respective SWYAA



Activities of the Respective SWYAA (FY2013)

<SWYAA International Full Members>

Australia

■ SWY Australia and Japan Australia Friendship Association Networking Dinner

SWY Australia organized the networking dinner in collaboration with the Japan Australia Friendship Association (JAFA). It provided an opportunity for SWY Australia to engage in a social setting with members of the wider Adelaide community who share common interests and values such as a love of Japan, an interest in international cooperation or enthusiasm for intercultural exchange. At the dinner, SWY Australia and JAFA provided the information. The attendees had the opportunity to network, meet members of the SWY Australia and JAFA Executive Committee, and ask questions. 5 ex-PYs and 20 beneficiaries in Adelaide attended the dinner.

■ SWY KIVA Project (Ongoing project)

Over 50 ex-PYs, majority of which are from Australia are members of the KIVA facebook group. Over A\$16,000 has been loaned by this group. Australian ex-PYs from SWY23 were passionate about micro-finance, and have organized a group and on the website KIVA. This website enables people from all over the world to give loans to people in the developing world to support their projects. Over time they will pay back their loans. Many Australians have gotten involved as well as some other ex-PYs from around the world.

http://www.kiva.org/team/ship_for_world_youth/members

(Refer to SWY KIVA Australia Statistics on p.63)



Bahrain

■ Fundraising for Kenyan Slum School Initiative

In December 2013, a fundraising initiative started in

Bahrain in support of an inspirational school project in the slums of Dandora, run by SWY22 Kenyan ex-PYs. This initiative started back in 2006 with the objective of providing basic education to the children of the slum as a means of bringing about grass root level change for the inhabitants of the Dandora slum.

Tupendane International is a cross-country organization established in the year 2012 by ex-PYs of SWY22 with the objective of supporting the children at this school (Eve's Day Junior School) by organizing fundraising activities, spreading awareness about the project, and developing links with other organizations and people. A business idea to support the school, a poultry project, was conceived some time ago but could not start due to lack of funding. Knowing about this poultry project to create self-sustaining businesses around the school, the fundraising campaign in Bahrain took place from December 2013 to March 2014, initiated by a member of SWYAAAB. Through this campaign, a total of US\$4,246 was raised to help start this project. The balance funding was contributed by supporters of the project in Kenya and Japan, successfully raising 100% of the funding required for the poultry project which is now up and running. The first cycle of production is expected to be completed within a few weeks time.

Brazil

2013 has become a very important year for SWYAA Brazil. The increasingly larger number of ex-PYs actively involved with the association has made it easier for SWYAA Brazil to reorganize itself and to become more actively involved in social contribution activities.

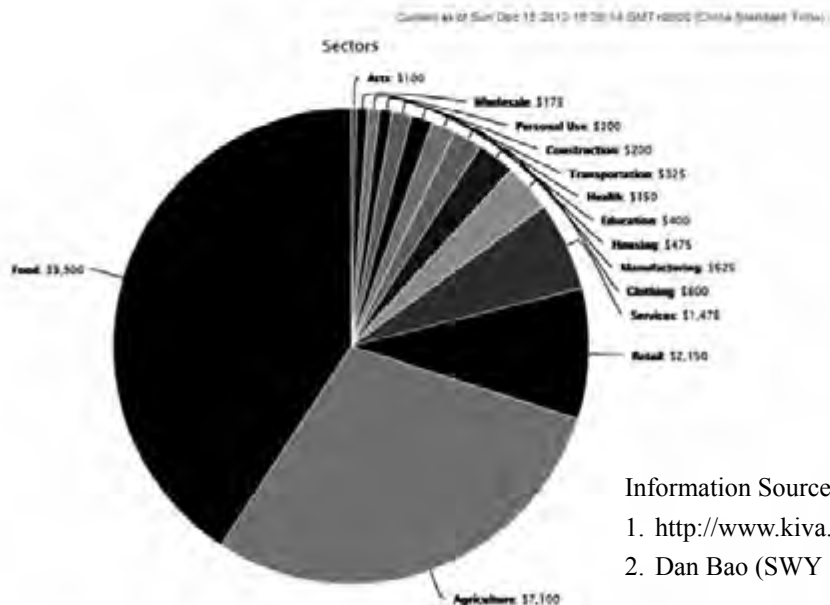
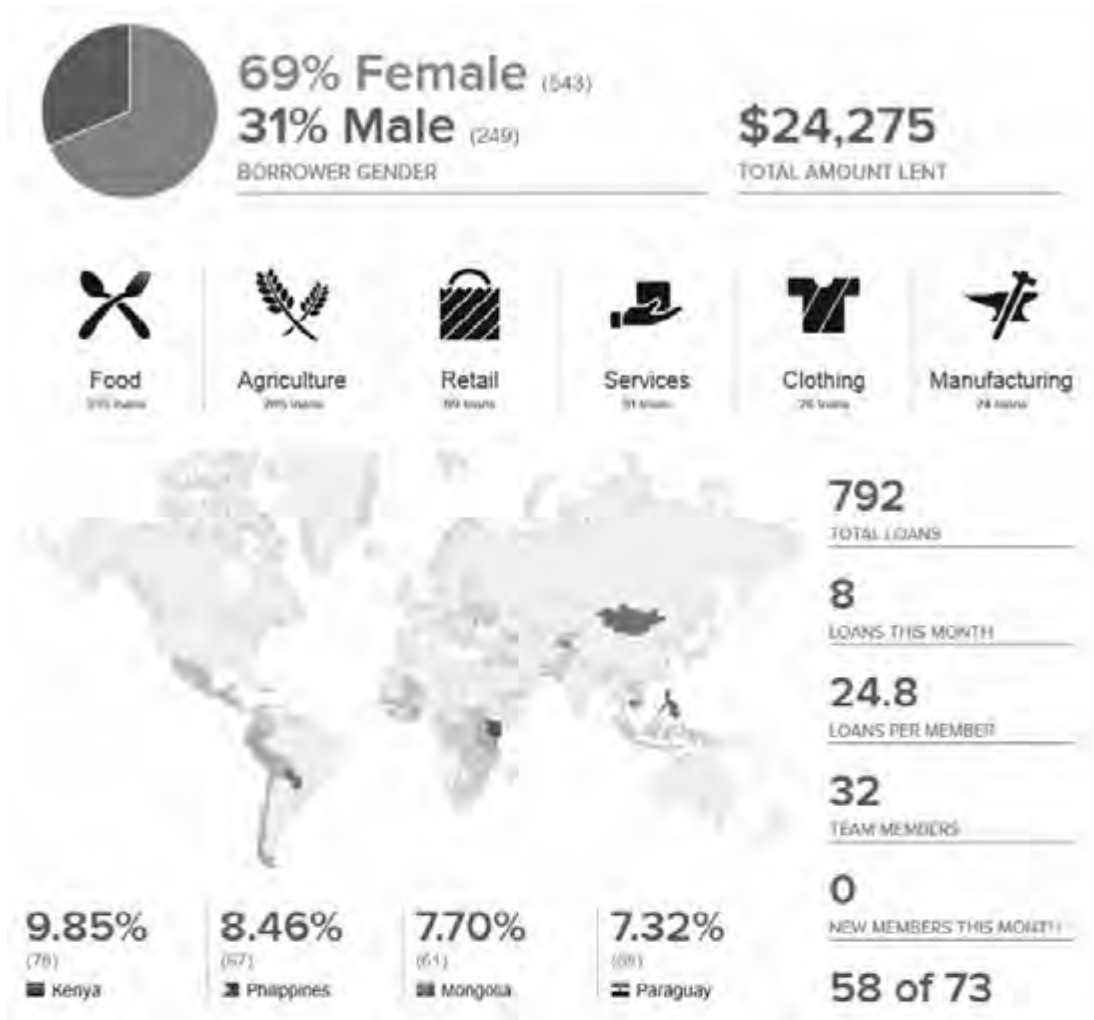
After joining the SWYAA Ex-PY Conference in Tokyo in March 2013, President Leonardo Kajioka Nardon established a close relationship with the Japanese Embassy's Cultural Department, explaining the outcomes and decisions of the conference and the activities performed by SWYAA Brazil members all over the country, and then the relationship with the Embassy has been improving by leaps and bounds.

As for the Global Leaders Development Program, SWYAA Brazil supported the selection of the participants and their pre-departure training, and it was the first time for ex-PY to be appointed as the National Delegation Leader.

SWY KIVA Australia Statistics

Statistics as of 15 December 2013 include:

- Total loan amount of \$24,275 provided
- 543 female (69%), 249 males (31%) received microfinance grants from SWY Kiva
- \$9,900 was spent on food and \$7,100 was spent on agriculture
- 33% of all loans went to borrowers from Kenya, Phillipines, Mongolia & Paraguay



Information Source

1. http://www.kiva.org/team/ship_for_world_youth/
2. Dan Bao (SWY 19, SWY24)

■ **SWYAA Letter Exchange Activity (Itiuba in Brazil, Tokyo in Japan, Santiago in Chile)**

The international activity was organized by SWY23 participants who work as teachers. The idea came up in an e-mail group that connects the participants from Brazil, and it was shared in the SWY23 Facebook group in early 2013. The three teachers, Eduardo Baraúna (Brazil), Mio Matsumura (Japan) and Manuela Rioseco Vargas (Chile), are interested in the idea and the first activity started the students among Brazil, Chile and Japan. The 50 Brazilian students wrote letters about their lives, personalities and dreams for the future in Portuguese and later translated into English by themselves. In November, the letters were sent to Chile and Japan, then the students in both countries will return the letters to the students in Brazil. More teachers are expected to join the activity shortly.



Canada

■ **Volunteer Activities**

Many SWY Canada Alumni Association members are actively involved in volunteer activities in their communities. The executive of the alumni association are investigating what types of voluntary activities they can best be involved in as a group and support many communities around Canada.

There are two particular voluntary activities that several ex-PYs participated together that deserve particular

mention:

- a) In the fall of 2013, several members of SWY Canada Alumni Association were involved in the organization of and facilitating of the Au Contraire Film Festival, whose aim was to change the way we view mental illness. The festival partnered with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and Concordia University, and sponsors included several large private foundations and local businesses. It was a three day event that brought together many different players in the mental health sector, and included a special youth program for local high school students. A large gala event was organized for the first night as a fundraising activity for a local mental health charity. The ex-PYs involved participated throughout the entire process of putting together this festival, and carried out various tasks. It was a very successful event that generated a lot of thoughtful discussions on mental illness.
- b) In December 2013 and January 2014, many Canadian ex-PYs were involved in raising money for Syrian refugees in Jordan, and also donated winter clothes which were distributed in the refugee camps.



Chile

■ **“One Christmas Present One Christmas Smile” in Santiago**

This activity consists in donation of Christmas presents for children from the “Patronato Nacional de la Infancia” organization. The mission is to protect the rights of children and adolescents. This includes the rights to health care, education, justice, work, culture and recreation, and the right to a safe and healthy family life. In order to protect these rights, a number of initiatives are involved. They operate shelters and help fund daycare center throughout the country, act as mediators between children and the justice system, remove children from abusive homes and place them in foster care or in shelters, and oversee adoptions. We gathered toys and took them to shopping

mall where the presents were collected on December 12, 2013. PYs that could not attend that day send their presents and made their contribution. A total of 10 ex-PYs were involved in the project.



Costa Rica

■ 2013 Japanese Week

The event was organized by the Japanese Embassy and it was hosted at the Universidad Nacional (UNA).

SWYAA Costa Rica was involved in the preparation and the actual activities.

Ecuador

■ SILVER PARTY

Dinner party on January 7, 2014 hosted by SWYAA Ecuador was held to celebrate the SWY 25th anniversary. This was an opportunity to share memories and compare the life on board of different generations. The most numerous batch was SWY1, and also ex-PY of SWY5, 7 and 22 were present. Also, the attendees had the opportunity to talk through Skype with Karla Cortés, President of SWYAA Chile with Jorge Chattin, Ecuadorian ex-PY from SWY9, who lives in Chile.



Egypt

■ Writing Encouragement Messages for People Affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

EASWY has been invited by the Japanese Embassy in Cairo to participate in Japan Egypt Network (JEN) initiative of sending Encouragement Message on a prepared banner placed at the Embassy of Japan in Cairo to people in Tohoku on the 3rd Anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. This was prepared from December 2013 to January 2014 to be submitted there by the Egyptian Sumo wrestler “Oosunaarashi” in the middle of February 2014. The Commemoration of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami is in March 2014 and the video of the visit to Tohoku region that has been striving for the reconstruction from this calamity which is still a top priority for the Japanese people and its government and the submission of the banner with encouraging message will be shown in a gathering to be held in the Japanese Embassy’s hall on March 10, 2014.



Fiji

■ Cyclone Evan Relief Project

A Cyclone Relief Project was organized to assist families affected in the Western Division during the Cyclone Evan hit in December 2012. The project was aimed at assisting school children in need of assistance with their back to school preparation for new school year. In this project, 13 ex-PYs are involved and 32 families are supported. The families to be assisted were identified

through the assessments carried out by Mr. Sitiveni Rokoro (SWY23) during his attachment with the Disaster Management Operations in the Western Division.

Assistance provided to recipients was in the form of :

- 1) Stationary Packs (20 primary school & 10 secondary students),
- 2) Food ration (21 packs)

The project was made possible through the generous support and donation SWYAA Fiji received from IYEO Japan.



Greece

■ Environmental Awareness Actions in the World Environment Day

Ship For World Youth Greece Alumni Association 15 members participated in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, the City of Athens authorities and the General Secretariat of Youth, in the environmental awareness campaign actions, organized in the World Environment Day 2013 on Sunday, June 9 from 18:00 to 21:30 at different points of Syntagma Square (the main square of Athens).



Visitors experienced a special event with: Environmental games, planting seeds workshop, paper recycling workshop, home composting workshop, vegetable garden, Origami workshop, inflatable recycling park, interactive recycling games.



India

■ Open School

Six hundred under privileged children in the age group of 4–14 years were educated in ten open schools using innovative pedagogy to enhance the quality of learning. In the open schools, children received educational inputs up to primary level as per the school syllabus. Children were provided with text books and learning materials free of cost. This project started from 2010 and after seeing the success, Canon India Private Limited extended the support in 2012–2013. Education on health and hygiene was imparted using the kit provided by the Sesame Workshop India and flash cards, flip chart and picture mats were used. Japanese nationals living in Delhi visited regularly to the schools, and they volunteered their time for interacting with these children.



■ Indo Japan Friendship Group Meeting

SWYAA-India formed the Indo-Japan Friendship Group (IJFG) with an aim to promote people to people contact, alliance, social and cultural interactions and cross

cultural exchange between India and Japan seven years ago. This year, two meetings were held with representatives from diverse fields such as social development, art, cultural, industries, commerce, religion, academics and students. Indians and Japanese people shared views and learned about each other's cultures which enhanced understanding and facilitated dialogue between our two great countries. In each of the meetings, guest speakers were invited for giving interactive presentations.



Japan

In line with the International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO)'s aim for FY2013, "To develop people who can exercise leadership in the society," annual schedule were planned and activities are initiated. Among those, three activities are to be introduced.

1. IYEO Challenge Fund scheme

Marking its third year since its introduction, the IYEO Challenge Fund aims to best utilize its manpower to contribute to the society and thereby make the organization more active. Applications are reviewed and selected by the board members two times a year, and each of the selected projects can receive up to 100,000 yen as a grant. For the FY2013, nine groups applied and have been selected, among which seven were implemented.

- Care and Community Rehabilitation Training Workshop under the theme of "To brighten the future of nursing care in Japan – seen from perspectives abroad" (organized by Kagoshima IYEO)

This workshop welcomed over 90 participants from various fields, and offered a keynote lecture, reports from former program participants and non-IYEO members, and did a group discussion. For the keynote lecture, an ex-participant of the Young Core Leaders of Civil Society Groups Development (YCL) Program and physical therapist in Fukui Prefecture, spoke about how

elderly people and people with disabilities can continue to live in communities, purposes of rehabilitation, how the care staff – the leading role in the field of nursing care – should be, and hopes and challenges for the super-aging society to come.



- JaM Youth Change (Japan Mexico Youth Conference)

JaM Youth Change was organized mainly by ex-PYs of the 25th Ship for World Youth program, commemorating the 400th anniversary of diplomatic relationship between Japan and Mexico, 20 students planned to set study meeting as well as discussion session as the student exchange program. Out of three study meetings/seminars open to the public, two of them utilized IYEO Challenge Fund Scheme under the title of "Learn about the history of Japan and Mexico," and "Network between Japan and Mexico in environmental perspective."

2. Donation for Disaster Relief

When the Super Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines at the beginning of November 2013, IYEO called on its members and related parties to make donations. The total amount donated was 902,805 Japanese Yen. The donation was handed over to the SSEAYP International Philippines(SIP), to be utilized for purchase the tent for temporary housing for the victims of the typhoon.

3. IYEO Sri Lanka Educational Support Project "One More Child Goes To School"

The project in Japan was officially started in 2008 in cooperation with SWYAA Sri Lanka. From 2010, IYEO has been focusing on the scholarship project, and by the year 2013, 62 Japanese Foster Parents are supporting 69 Sri Lankan students (ages 5-10) who are going to the Buddha Jayanthi Vidyalaya Primary School in Matara province, the southern part of Sri Lanka. Every year IYEO receives more foster parents

and the program is gradually growing.

From 2014, IYEO re-established the project structure, and the project has been re-started by IYEO initiative in collaboration with SWYAA Sri Lanka ex-PYs. Some of the Sri Lankan ex-PYs has been appointed as the project advisor, the coordinator, and the volunteers communicating with Sri Lankan children such as the letter translation from Sinhalese to English.

In November 2013, the project leader visited the school and donated a PC, projector, cleaning tools and school supplies, and also she taught the special class about Japanese culture and Japanese songs to the 4th graders during the visit.

In addition, we will organize an annual spring charity event in Japan to raise fund to purchase educational materials for Sri Lankan students at a Sri Lankan restaurant in April 2014, welcoming many guests.



Kenya

■ “Tupendane,” Support Kenya Project in Nairobi

The “Tupendane” project supports Eves Day Junior School, a school in the Dandora slums run by a SWY22 ex-PY, Jonathan Okwiri, currently hosting 190 children.

Various activities were held within the project. Ex-PYs from Japan donated laptop, writing materials and books, and the Turkish ex-PY also brought materials from local school children in their home county as a means of exchange with the Kenyan pupils. They also supported the project through cash donations to the school.



Mexico

■ Dignifica tu Vida, I.A.P. in Mexico City

The institution where we helped is an association that is dedicated to recover clothes, footwear, toys and

new appliances from industries and department stores to distribute them in communities with medium and high levels of marginalization in Mexico City, Estado de México, Puebla, Tlaxcala and institutions that serve vulnerable population. 15 Mexican ex-PYs are involved and we have done classifying all the donated material as well as to clean, accommodate, to paint the shelves to reorganize everything back into place on August 25, 2013.



New Zealand

■ Ngā Angitu o te Whānau / SWY Members Achievements

New Zealand’s SWY alumnus comprises many talented and successful members.

The following is just a brief summary of achievements of members over the past year:

- Sonya Clark (SWY25) was elected President of the Victoria University of Wellington Student’s Association (VUWSA).
- Dee O’Carroll (SWY25) was awarded the 2013 Harkness Fulbright New Zealand Fellowship and recently completed her PhD at Massey University.
- Marama Papau (SWY20) is the current front person for Tagata Pasifika (television programme promoting Pasifika people and success).
- Areti Metuamate (SWY21) is the Deputy Editor-in-

chief for Woroni (The Australian National University Student Newspaper).

- David Jones (SWY 20) completed his first Iron Man.

Oman

■ SWYAA-Oman Day

SWYAA Oman members organized the annual event (SWY Day) in three events. The organizing ex-PYs managed to collect donation from the members to fund the activities. The first event was “Breaking the fast” day during the holy month of Ramadan for about 200 expatriate, whom are away from their families, and provide them with a very good type of local food from a well known restaurant, fresh fruits and drinks. The second was the blood donation for anyone in need in the blood bank laboratory in one of the best hospitals in Oman.

This year and for the first time, SWY day event supported some lady volunteers to do some activities such as henna hand drawing and giving gifts for the orphanage house. They managed to do henna for 20 girls in the orphanage and the ex-PYs provided gifts for 120 orphanages there. We are also planning a bigger event for the orphanage house in the near future.



Peru

■ Social Contribution Activities: Christmas Activity in Lima

For Christmas we decided to organize a social contribution activity to share our SWY love and a sense of international understanding and friendship with local kids. So, on December 21, 2013, 68 kids aged 6 – 12 years celebrated the SWY spirit and Christmas with us in El Callao, an area located 45 minutes North West Lima.

El Callao is known for being Peru’s main port; our main international airport is located in the area as well. While some parts of El Callao are very beautiful, with beaches and a fortress, unfortunately there are areas with high rates of poverty and a lack of safe places for youth to play and spend their free time. That’s why we reached the Centro Hermano Thomas Helm, a Christian NGO that has a house

in el Callao old town that works as a day shelter for kids. Our social contribution activity consisted in a thematic Christmas day with the topic of “Christmas & New Year’s celebration around the world,” so the kids were able to “travel” to a far places like Japan, United States of America,



Lithuania and France, through videos and stories on how other SWY ex-PYs and International Development Exchange Program (INDEX) peers celebrated the holidays in their countries. The day was filled with games, videos, songs, smiles, candy, pop drinks, and some presents typically shared in Peruvian Christmas like chocolate and paneton (a type of sweet bread with raisins and fruits).

This activity was possible thanks to the generous donations of our friends from San Miguel industries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ workers, ‘Soy Autista y Que’ Association, Political Sciences Alumni – PUCP, and SWY and INDEX Peruvian former participants. In kind donations and money up to US\$500 were raised.



Spain

■ Minamisanriku Town, Tohoku Region “Treasure Box Project”

This is a fundraising activity for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake 2011 tsunami to which we are contributing with the help of Yuichiro Takahashi (SWY13), the link contact between the Japanese group involved in and us. We are selling a box of handcraft goods made by victims of the tsunami at Minami-sanriku. We prepared an explanatory leaflet of the project and are inviting people to buy these products and contribute to it. All the money raised goes to the victims of the tsunami.

Sri Lanka

■ SWYAA Night of SWY25

SWYAA Sri Lanka contributed their maximum efforts to the program which was held in Sri Lanka with the participants of SWY25. SWYAA Sri Lanka organized the SWYAA Night on behalf of the participants at the Light House Galley which was a very successful event. Many of the ex-PYs of SWYAA Sri Lanka supported this event.



Sweden

- Karl-Gunnar Eriksson (SWY23) together with SWYAA-Sweden president Åsa Danielsson visited the Japanese Embassy in April 2013 and gave a report about the Tokyo conference and the status of the SWYAA Sweden's work.
- SWYAA-Sweden decided to contribute with 10,000 Japanese Yen for the IYEO Sri Lanka Educational Support Project "One More Child Goes to School."
- SWYAA-Sweden decided to contribute with 10,000 Japanese Yen for the "Tupendane," Support Kenya Project.
- SWYAA-Sweden decided to contribute with US\$250 for the "Kiva" micro loan project.

Tanzania

■ Tree Planting at Mkata Village

SWYAA Tanzania in cooperation with Mkata villagers planted several trees at Mkata village located in Morogoro region. Almost 200 different types of trees were planted at the village. Apart from that SWYAA Tanzania members conducted a short seminar for the villagers at Mkata village concerning environment preservation whereas villagers were advised not to cut down trees for charcoal production because doing that can led to deforestation.

Tonga

The SWYAA Tonga welcomes many ex-PYs from different countries, especially Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. During their time in Tonga we arranged family home stay. This is good time for the SWYAA members to get together, have fun, sharing with visitors. A visit program arranged to historical places in Tonga, to cultural center to let the ex-PYs proved what they saw at National Presentation on board the ship, especially the Tongan dance. SWYAA Tonga look forward to welcoming more ex-PYs in the future.

Turkey

■ Japanese Charity Bazaar in Ankara

Turkish Japanese Women Friendship and Culture Association organized a charity fair to raise money for Turkish students studying in Japan and Japanese students studying in Turkey on April 21, 2013. At the fair, more than 300 participants attended and several activities took place. Some stands sold traditional Japanese food and drinks, costumes, jewelries, hand crafts, and china. SWYAA Turkey members, Nihan Oral (SWY25), Mustafa Sariyılmaz (SWY24), Didem Tanı (SWY22) and Gül Ekşi (SWY12), volunteered to work at the stand and they sold traditional Japanese hand crafts and china which had been



ordered from Japan. Everything was sold out in half an hour. Didem cooked Takoyaki and prepared Matcha latte to be sold. The Embassy gave full support to the activities and SWYAA Turkey also supported the stand hosted by Ambassador's wife. We did an excellent job and raised about US\$1,000. It was a remarkable activity to introduce Japanese culture and provide financial support for the students.

UAE

■ **Youth Festival in Abu Dhabi**

The festival targeted UAE youth from different cities was held on December 12-13, 2013. It was a chance to inspire them to exchange culture and engage with others and change their lives. 6 ex-PYs and approx. 80 people joined the festival.

UK

A member of SWYAA UK is working to establish a research project in collaboration with another ex-PY from Kenya to determine the education needs of young people in a Nairobi Informal Settlement: Dandora. The project aims to bring other members of SWYAA into collaboration with this project and to support the enhancement of this community.

Venezuela

■ **EUSA Project: Job Shadowing in Caracas, Venezuela**

In 2013 SWYAA Venezuela took part in a new volunteer international project together with five youth led organizations: 1. European Platform for Youth Development (Romania), 2. Aljaraque en Acción (Spain), 3. Cardiff Youth Council (UK), 4. ORPAS (Brazil) and 5. OAJNU (Argentina). This project, called "EUSA-Encouraging Sustainable Action Through Unity," is supported by the Youth in Action fund from European Union, and has as its main objective to create a comprehensive common action strategy that tackles the major global issue of stimulation of initiative and entrepreneurship amongst youth while spurring Latin America – European Union best practice



exchange learning and cooperation.

Three SWYAA volunteers, Andreína Soto, Carlos Reséndiz and Johalis Ramírez, along with other 15 volunteers from the above mentioned countries participated in a Capacity Building session in Romania. The event seek to strengthen the skills and abilities of all the participants and build interpersonal aptitudes.

Job Shadowings were conducted in Europe and South America. In June 2013, SWYAA Venezuela hosted two volunteers Lucía Gómez and Cristian Thoma coming from Spain (Aljaraque en Acción) and Romania (European Platform for Youth Development). During their stay they research the current situation on youth entrepreneurship in Venezuela. SWYAA Venezuela organized institutional visits to a series on NGOs among them: Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios de la Universidad Simón Bolívar (AJE USB), Asociación de las Naciones Unidas de Venezuela (ANUV), Superatec, Fundes, Grupo Social CESAP, Banauge and Opción Venezuela. The job shadowers also took part in SWYAA volunteering activities with Fundamusical (El Sistema), Doctor Yasso and SOS Aldeas Infantiles promoting cultural diversity and dialogue. A special visit was organized to elementary school EBE Luis Castro in Caraballeda, Vargas State. The volunteers prepared a series of activities for children ages 6 – 12 using non-formal education methods raising awareness on the importance of intercultural understanding.

The final outcomes of the project will be presented in an End of Year Conference that will take place in September in Wales UK where the results will be presented to the European authorities. The completed results from the EUSA Project will be published in an English and Spanish paper for dissemination in each of the participant countries.



<SWYAA International Associate Members>

Russia

■ **RUSWY Train**

SWYAA Russia has been organizing RUSWY Train. The mission of the program is to familiarize the SWY alumni with Russian culture and contribute to sustainable

society. Goals of the program are the followings;

- To familiarize participants with Russian way of life, historic and cultural traditions;
- To promote understanding and cooperation of the youth from SWY participating countries;
- Leadership development of the program participants;
- To implement volunteer projects in the cities of visit.

In the program, participants will be split into 5 teams and assigned a topic, and they will develop their topics writing a blog with photos, videos, texts and other ways to express their ideas. The outcome of the whole trip will be 5 fully completed projects presented in Vladivostok.

Date: June 23 – July 13, 2014 (21days)

Required participants: 30 participants max (organizers not included)

Places to be visited: Moscow, Kazan, Yekaterinburg, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Ulan, Ude, Vladivostok

Contact: <http://ruswyaa.org/>

South Africa

During 2013, our dormant alumni came alive. We started to engage in little discussions via “facebook” and “selected” our board members. We had persons volunteering to work on our charter as well as the newsletter. We still have a long way to go, but have already discussed a possible South African ex-PYs reunion to first get to know everyone in our country delegations.