

# **The Global Youth Leaders Development Program 2014**

## **“The Ship for World Youth Leaders”**

### **Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs**

February 6 – February 10, 2015



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### Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs

## Outline

Three representatives from the International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO) gave explanations of SWY Alumni Association (SWYAA) post-program activities and about building domestic and international networks among the ex-participating youths (ex-PYs). They conducted the Post-Program Activities Session on February 8, 2015 on the way from Naha, Okinawa Prefecture to Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture.

Apart from the Post-Program Activities Session on February 8, they exchanged their ideas with the participants directly and provide them information about SWY/SWYAA post-program activities etc. at the information booth they set on the ship.

## Objectives

The Post-Program Activities Sessions and other voluntary activities were implemented with the following aims in mind:

- To enable the Participating Youth (PY) of the Global Youth Leaders Development Program 2014, the Ship for World Youth Leaders (SWY) to have deeper understanding of the international youth exchange program implemented by the Cabinet Office, the IYEO and the SWYAA.
- To introduce examples of post-program activities by ex-PYs (Japanese and overseas) in order for PY to understand how to take action of post-program activities through IYEO or SWYAA after attending the SWY.
- To stress the importance of utilization and cooperation with the network of SWYAA and organizations (NPOs etc.) which ex-PYs belong, to enrich post-program activities.
- To enable PYs to recognize ideas on their post-program activities, and develop clear plans to share them with other PYs by taking advantage of their learning throughout Onshore, Onboard and Overseas Training Sessions.
- To exchange post-program ideas through activities and give the participants advice as the ex-PY and the representative of IYEO.

## Schedule for the Representatives of the Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs

Date	Schedule
Fri., Feb. 6	The representatives assemble in Tokyo, head for Naha, Okinawa Prefecture, and join the SWY Departure from Naha, Okinawa Prefecture
Sat., Feb. 7	Preparation for the Post-Program Activities Session The representatives explain SWYAA and IYEO at the information booth
Sun., Feb. 8	Preparation for the Post-Program Activities Session The representatives explain SWYAA and IYEO at the information booth <b>Post-Program Activities Session (14:30-17:00)</b>
Mon., Feb. 9	Summary of the sessions The representatives explain SWYAA and IYEO at the information booth
Tue., Feb. 10	Arrival in Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture The representatives depart from Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture

## Dispatched Representatives

- Daisuke Kimura (center) Ex-PY of SWY16  
President, IYEO Aomori
- Saori Oda (right) Ex-PY of SWY14  
Secretary General, IYEO Niigata
- Naoko Yokotsuka (left) Ex-PY of SWY17  
Kanto Regional Director, IYEO



## Activities

### <February 8, Post-Program Activities Session>

The session was held aiming at the collaboration with the Project Management Seminar scheduled on the next day.

#### **Session 1 14:30–15:45**

##### **Objectives :**

- To enable participants to understand the whole picture of SWYAA and develop awareness towards post-program activities
- To enable participants to imagine their potential post-program activities through learning various cases in respective participating countries

##### **Contents :**

- Introduction of Post-Program Activities Session and SWYAA in general. Introduction of ex-PYs who are on-board, presentations by the three representatives about their post-program activities and motivation and reflection of participants' individual goals etc.



#### **Summary of the presentation by the three representatives:**

##### **Daisuke Kimura:**

Mr. Kimura has been working to provide opportunities to have dialogue with role-models for high school

students. The project is based on his experience of lacking opportunities to meet role-models at his high school student years. The project was two days intensive camp that promoted mindset of global citizenship and coaching session to visualize students' future goals and careers. The project was supported by ex-PYs and IYEO Aomori member who works at Aomori Minami High School. Students learned that “Common Sense” is different and there are conflicts around the world, living in peaceful country itself is privileged opportunity, the society in future needs people who can create new values with diversity. The role-models (ex-PYs) encouraged students to think with broader mindset, and let them think about importance of challenges by giving them time to deeply think about their future goals. Finally, students' career goals have changed in positive way, and that the number of students who are willing to challenge to their uncertain future has increased.

##### **Naoko Yokotsuka:**

After participating in SWY17, Ms. Yokotsuka had been a volunteer staff of Tokyo IYEO for 8 years, and how continuing her activities as Kanto Regional Director of IYEO. In her presentation, she talked about “The various career-pass seminar” conducted by IYEO Tokyo, which ex-PYs present both his/her career and impacts of the program on his/her life. She gave a message to the participants that “Post-program activities are not difficult. Projects often begin from one person's idea, so you should try whatever you want. Each person has unlimited possibilities.”

##### **Saori Oda:**

A presentation was made about the project “the First Tulip Mission in Fukushima and Niigata” which was organized by IYEO Niigata and Fune-to-Tsubasano-kai in Fukushima last year. “Niigata Hanae Project” (making a picture by Tulip flowers, which will be discarded to let the bulbs grow) is popular seasonal event in Niigata. One of the IYEO Niigata members came up with an idea that they would like to deliver it to Fukushima for children who were affected by Great East Japan Earthquake. She introduced the process how the project realized from the idea and its results. The presentation was mainly targeted at the participants who do not have clear image of post-program activities or are wondering what they could start. The message she delivered was that anyone can start a project from one idea with IYEO members using its network.

### Session 1 comments by the representatives of the ex-PYs

Participants were able to understand the framework of SWYAA that enables participants to continuously engage in various activities with world-wide alumni network. Additionally, through the presentations about the specific examples by the three representatives, the participants took hints about post-program activities in a variety of ways.



### Session 2 15:45–17:00

#### Objectives :

- To provide an opportunity for participants to exchange their potential project plans by forming a group of people whose interests are close. To make this discussion coherent, the sharing session would play a role of “start” of their discussion in connection with the Project Management Seminar which is held afterwards.
- To enable participants to imagine their post-program activities independently by giving them an opportunity to express their most interested activities plans.

#### Contents :

- The participants reflected on their lives, had deep thoughts about their interests, then made small groups with those who have common interests for further discussions.

- A total 10 groups (themes) were categorized and the participants discussed and planned activities and shared among themselves.



#### Activities plans proposed by each group

##### 1. Social Justice

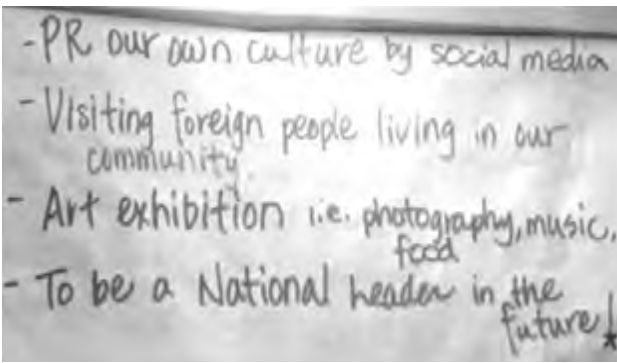
Implement the projects to tackle with social issues on the same day at many different places. Utilize social media to gain attention and for higher impact.

- LGBT rights
- Education gap
- Human rights education

##### 2. Education

Collaborate to implement following in-school projects to innovate educational system.

- Leadership development
- Promotion of cross-cultural understanding
- Nature, adventure, sports education
- Development of research skills
- Organize cultural introduction events
- Organize cultural introduction events in elementary schools when visiting overseas



### 3. Media/Communication with public

Promotion of country and SWYAA through social media

- Introduction of participating countries
- Photo/art exhibition event (rotating)
- Promotion of programs organized by Japanese Government such as the SWY etc.

### 4. Self-development

- Education through tourism
- Establishment of "Club Youth (a place for youths who have various backgrounds)" and implement self-development programs
- Leadership support for entrepreneur and entrepreneurial people



### 5. Environment

- Garbage reduction activities
- Tree planting activities
- Implementation of environment education
- Organization of environment campaign

### 6. Charity

- Social contribution activities for people in needs; friends, acquaintances, and family etc.
- Promotion of capacity development by explaining his/her experience in the SWY

### 7. Music/Art

- To organize SWY International Music Exchange Program (inviting artists/musician from all over the world to provide opportunities such as concerts and workshops to learn local/traditional music/art education promotion in various regions)

### 8. Family, friends, goodwill

- Enhancement of individual activities to support others through assisting personal capacity development
- Promotion of activities to support others that contributes to global society and the Japanese Government's international exchange program branding

### 9. Culture

- To organize workshops to introduce overseas culture
- To organize experience-based events to introduce Japanese culture and tradition
- To organize local cuisine cooking events
- Establishment of Photo Club to promote cultural introduction of the participating countries
- Research on global peer-to-peer learning

### 10. Others

- To organize regional cluster meeting with ex-PYs (to share its agenda), to connect persons, to plan the projects
- PR through websites
- Support SYWAA global projects through resource mobilization

## Comments from the representatives

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### Trying to Make Networks Among the Participants

Daisuke Kimura

It has been 11 years since I participated in the SWY16 program. The SWY gave me full of opportunities to develop myself. It is my privilege to come back as Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs representative to introduce my activities engaging in my hometown, Aomori Prefecture.

From a point of the Post-Program Activities Session implementation, we paid attention for the implementation that the participants can imagine how they would be “after” the program and what they want to be as an individual. Talking about big theme can be easy to talk about, but when it comes to implementation, it turns out to be difficult to try. Therefore, during my presentation, I talked about my activity which started from a person’s idea (supported by many ex-PYs) in high school to promote global education so that participants can imagine that they can be a role-model and have opportunities to introduce their challenges to high school students. At the whole picture of the session, we had sufficient time for participants to reflect their life; discover what he/she felt happy, what he/she has achieved and not achieved and its reasons. This is because we wanted to encourage each participant to find the most exciting thing for oneself. We also tried our best to make a networking session so that participants cooperate

together to achieve their individual goals. We asked participants to find friends whose interests are close and share their passion/dreams/goals among them. By doing so, participants can find new friends that have similar interests and goals, which contributes to their closer friendship and sustainable motivation.

I have discovered and was surprised that each participant has strong will to contribute to society in various ways. They are also passionate to introduce their own country (history, tradition and culture) to foreign people, and additionally they are keen to introduce foreign countries to their own country. This is exactly learning from this program that they realized being in a global society. Participants are motivationally learning other culture, society with full of interests.

Their positive attitude reminds me of the time I was a participant. The learning and opportunities I got from this program are uncountable, but one very important thing I got; friends who share my happiness, worries and challenges. I was able to learn from exchange with participants that having hope and goals are important, and more importantly, I myself, who is a little bit older than participants, could be one of their role models for them.

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### Starting Post-Program Activities with Familiar Topics

Saori Oda

After 13 years since I participated in the SWY program in 2001, I had an opportunity to join the SWY as one of representatives of IYEO for the Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs. The representatives’ mission is to encourage PYs to have ideas of the post-program activities. At the same time, I was encouraged to be active by them who were energetic in every program and activities on board.

In the first half of the Post-Program Activities Session, introduction of the Alumni Associations gave PYs general ideas and facts of the Alumni Associations. With Overseas ex-PYs we showed PYs some examples of post-program activities of our own. The second half of the session was a workshop which encouraged PYs to have as many as ideas for post-program activities something related to their

interests, looking back their original motive to participate in this program and to share the ideas with PYs who have similar interests. It seemed there were many keywords related to education and cross cultural understandings.

In my presentation, I introduced “the First Tulip Mission in Fukushima and Niigata,” which was held last year as the collaboration project between IYEO Niigata and Fune-to-Tsubasa-no-kai in Fukushima. I talked about a story how we started and managed the project and how affected to many people. I wanted to tell PYs that an idea of one member connected to other members and the network of IYEO, made the project happen, and would succeed in the next project. Most of the local areas except big cities such as Tokyo have only one or two new participants every year. So even though participants are highly motivated



and energetic during the program, once they go back their hometown, they might feel alone without batch mates nearby and lose their passion to start something new. I tried to give them a message that they don't have to start big projects and they can start from something familiar working with ex-PYs beyond the batch year and generation. I was very glad that one of the PYs asked me if she could join the project of the next season.

Through this five days experiences, I was impressed that the program has been improved and well-structured

with participants who were eager to understand cultural differences and their own culture, and were passionate to contribute to the society. And I realized the importance of keeping good relationship among the ex-PYs of all generations, and the possibilities we can start something new with them. With this post-program activities experiences I would like to welcome and support new ex-PYs more than before. I would like to appreciate what I could have this wonderful opportunity.

## SWY- Which Gives Us New Challenges

Naoko Yokotsuka

I received an opportunity to join the SWY as an ex-PY, 10 years after I participated in SWY17.

During the Post-Program Activities Session, after three representatives and two National Delegation Leaders introduced examples of their local post-program activities, the participants joined the workshop; “Looking back your life to educe your interests, then exchange your ideas in the small group discussion with the participants whose interests are close in order to develop the ideas into post-program activities.”

The presentation theme I chose was “the various career-pass seminar” conducted by IYEO Tokyo, where I was a volunteer staff member until last year. In this seminar, some ex-PYs make presentations on both 1. An outline of their career path, and 2. How the Japanese Government's international youth exchange program he/she participated had an impact on their life. In my presentation for the session, the message I wanted to stress was “Many things start off simply as someone's idea. If there is something you want to try, don't ever give up on it because if you ask around, someone may be able to help make it happen. The possibilities are unlimited for PYs.”

I had this grand mission for the session: “To support the enrichment of the participants' post-program activities,” but I wasn't sure if I was able to convey what I feel are the interesting points of post-program activities. But then, thanks to the session, I learned so many things. In order to

prepare for the presentation, I looked back on these last 10 years, and thought long and hard about the fundamental purpose; “Why have I been involved in activities at IYEO in the first place?” That was a good opportunity to think about what I would like to do, or what I should do from now on. Besides simply being on the ship, scenes of my life 10 years ago also crossed my mind, and by reflecting on my life back then I gained a fresh approach for the future. I have received countless things from the SWY program to date. I want to contribute to IYEO and to society much more in return for what I had the blessing to receive. And also I feel it necessary to improve my knowledge, presentation and English skills, etc.

This SWY contains the word “Leaders,” and accordingly there are many initiatives such as “Leadership Seminars” and “Project Management Seminars” included in the program. As such, many PYs already had high ambitions for leadership roles, and I can imagine them in the future collaborating together on a global scale, inspiring one another. I am really looking forward to how they create and explore their potential in the future, and this in turn inspires me.

Regardless of the year of participation, we can connect strongly as ex-PYs who can share similar experiences. I hope to utilize this experience to do what I can to promote worthwhile post-program activities that leverage the unique abilities of each generation.

