

SSEAYP NEWS

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THE 41st SSEAYP JOURNEY: ALL FOR ONE, ONE FOR ALL

Once again MS. Nippon Maru, in 2014, successfully brought all PYs, NLS, administrative staff, facilitators, and OBSC representatives on the always-amazing SSEAYP journey, which started at Harumi Port, Tokyo, Japan. It then continued on to 4 other welcoming port-of-calls; Muara, Sihanouk Province, Yangon and Surabaya before heading back to the Land of the Rising Sun.

On 13 November 2014 in Muara, Brunei, which was the first port-of-call, PYs were already showing their excitement and enthusiasm for the program. Upon completing the local program in Brunei on 16 November 2014, the PYs' next stop was Sihanouk Province, Cambodia.

They reached Kompong Som Port on 19 November 2014, marking another milestone in SSEAYP's history – the program's very first time in Cambodia. Nevertheless, PYs had a memorable and meaningful experience in the local program in Cambodia. After Cambodia, there were 2 other milestones of sorts as SSEAYP visited Myanmar for the first time in 14 years and thereafter, Surabaya, Indonesia for the first time in 19 years. Even after all these years, PYs were still warmly welcomed at each port of call and they still brought away warm and fond memories of each country's local program.

Our beloved MS. Nippon Maru finally ended her journey on 17 December 2014 as she docked at Harumi Port, Tokyo, Japan. Nevertheless, this is not the end for the PYs. It is just the beginning of another chapter in their epic SSEAYP journey.



SSEAYP must-do:
catch the sunrise on the deck of Nippon Maru

INTERVIEW WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR: TOMOFUMI OKA

Mr. Tomofumi Oka, who's from Mie prefecture, has been working for the Japanese government for 23 years. He is currently Director for Policy of Suicide Prevention, Cabinet Office.

When Mr. Oka found out that he was selected to be the Administrator for the 41st SSEAYP, he was surprised at first. However, surprise turned into excitement as he looked forward to travelling to different ASEAN countries.

In terms of the program itself, Mr. Oka mentioned the main challenge faced in the 41st SSEAYP was the worry of how well the program can be implemented given the few firsts the program had - it was the first time the program came to Cambodia and the first time Myanmar hosted a homestay.

On a separate note, Mr. Oka hopes the program will contribute towards improving mutual understanding in the region. He feels that this can be achieved because PYs themselves gain more mutual understanding through their experience in the program. And as the PYs return to their respective countries, they will share their experiences with their fellow countrymen. This will in turn enhance mutual understanding between the diverse countries in the region.



INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN KEIJI KAN

For Captain Keiji Kan, 2014 is the second straight year he has captained the 41st SSEAYP. He has however been the Captain of Nippon Maru since 2010. In 18 years of sailing, the role he prefers most is being the chief officer because he gets to see the sunset while working since a chief officer is on duty from 4pm to 8pm. When asked what is his dream vessel to sail, he said a huge sailboat because it offers many technical challenges.

Captain Kan's favorite part of working on a ship is the travelling, where he gets to try different cuisines of different cultures. His favorite place so far is Thailand, where he loves to golf, eat Thai food and get massages. When it comes to SSEAYP, Captain Kan's favorite part of the program is the gangway or flag cheer during the send-off ceremony. He would also like to encourage PYs to establish many close relationships while in SSEAYP because they are lucky to be part of the program.



COUNTRYREPORTS

SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL BRUNEI

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Brunei Darussalam. BERSATU organized various activities that can deepen our bilateral ties in various fields.

23 Feb 2014 – BERSATU invited all Brunei-Japan related associations in the country to form a contingent named *'Brunei-Japan Friendship Contingent'* to take part in the 30th Brunei Darussalam National Day parade. The contingent comprised of members of BERSATU, Brunei-Japan Friendship Association, Brunei Association Japan Alumni and Japanese Association in Brunei.

13-16 Mar 2014 – BERSATU participated in the Japan Festival 2014 that was jointly organized by Japanese Embassy at a shopping center in Bandar Seri Begawan.

29 Mar 2014 – BERSATU organized the Earth Hour 2014 Campaign in collaboration with the Sungai Bunga Village Consultative Council.

16-21 Jun 2014 – BPY2013 conducted their main Post Program Activities (PPA) *'4D-Best Camp'*.

21 Jul 2014 – *'Made with love'*- the BPY2013 mini PPA, decorating the children's Pediatric ward at RIPAS Hospital.

24 Aug 2014 – BERSATU joined in the "Get-together Ceremony with His Majesty Sultan" in conjunction with His Majesty 68th Birthday Celebration.

30 Oct 2014 – Courtesy Call on incoming Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Japan in Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Madam Noriko Iki.

13-16 Nov 2014 – BERSATU was involved in the SSEAYP country program by coordinating Homestay Program, Liaison Officers and preparing program for National Leaders.

15 Nov 2014 – BERSATU received the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation Award at the Dolphin Hall of Nippon Maru during the 41st SSEAYP Country program in Brunei Darussalam.



Jan-Apr 2014 – SI Malaysia organized activities that were dedicated specifically to the organizing of the 26th SSEAYP International General Assembly (SIGA). As the alumni is focusing on revitalizing the internal network of members, several sessions were done to promote SIGA Langkawi as well as facilitate online registration for the event and participate with the online community of SI Malaysia. The 2013's batch conducted their official PPA, *'Bring the World to the Kids'* in February. The session was held at a primary school in Selangor, a small district of the state.

Apr-May 2014 – The 26th SIGA was successfully held in Langkawi from the 25th

to 28th of April 2014. A total of 1,500 participants were part of the event that includes series of environmental and conservation lectures, community service works and a record breaking tree planting session, which is also the International PPA of the 2013's batch.

Jun-Nov 2014 – SI Malaysia Main Committee had gone through minor reshuffling and portfolio changes with the aim of introducing the recent ex-pys into the main committee. Official session with the Ministry of Youth and Sports was scheduled to reaffirm SIM's commitment towards working together with the ministry for the future SSEAYP and other programs.

From the 17th to 28th October 2014, SI Malaysia had participated in the Pre-Departure Training (PDT) of the Malaysian 41st SSEAYP contingent. The PDT was done at the newly built Paralympic Center of Excellence in Kuala Lumpur, with ex-PYs as the facilitators.



Nov 2013 – The alumni raised a fund of USD1,330 to support for victims of the typhoon Haiyan.

Nov-Dec 2013 – The alumni was part of the Reception Committee for the 40th SSEAYP Country Program in Vietnam.

Jan-Apr 2014 – VACYF members held SSEAYP workshops in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city to help youths understand about SSEAYP's purpose and value, support them prepare themselves to apply for SSEAYP.

VIETNAM ALUMNI CLUB OF YOUTH FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMS

May 2014 – Alumni sat in the PY selection board for the 41st SSEAYP.

Jul 2014 – PYs 2013 implemented their PPA *'Healing the Gap'* (or 'Noi' in Vietnamese) in Ho Chi Minh city.

Jul-Oct 2014 – Alumni guided the 41st PYs 2014 through their PDT in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi.

Aug-Sept 2014 – PYs 2012 continued their PPA projects; *'Hand-in-Hand'* and *'Kitchen of Warmth and Love'*.

Nov-Dec 2014 – Alumni went to Myanmar, Cambodia and Indonesia for Reunion on Board during the 41st SSEAYP2014.



SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES, INC.

22 Jan 2014 – SIP Officials hold dinner for EVSU President Domingo Aguirre, PY 78 to discuss and turnover SI donation for Typhoon Haiyan victims in Tacloban City. SIP Officers deliver the SI donation to Typhoon Haiyan victims.

19 May 2014 – Implement the 40th SSEAYP 'Share and Care' Post Program Activity in



Tacloban City on 19 May 2014.

17-25 Jun 2014 – Support in the implementation of the World Islamic Economic Forum Foundation Young Leaders Fellowship at Asian Institute of Management, Manila.

16-25 July 2014 – Pre-Departure Training and organized the SSEAYP 'Share and Care' in Santa Rosa, Laguna to distribute foods to 400 urban poor fire victims.

21-23 Aug 2014 – Organized two SIP Regional Chapters in Iloilo City, Region 7 and in Region 8. At the same time, the distribution of SSEAYP International Relief donation and Children Psycho-Social

Training to Typhoon Haiyan victims was done in Marabut Western Samar and Tacloban City.

22 Oct 2014 – SSEAYP International Philippines inked MOA with National Youth Commission and other government agencies to strengthen SSEAYP coordination.

29 Sep-29 Oct 2014 – Support the 41st SSEAYP Pre-Departure Activity, including a courtesy call visit to the Japanese Ambassador.

18-20 Dec 2014 – The 41st SSEAYP Debriefing, SIP General Assembly, SIP Christmas Party and SWORN in 41st SSEAYP as SIP Official Member.

SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL SINGAPORE

Feb 2014 – Chinese New Year Celebration at SWAMI Home. Co-organized with Joo Chiat CC Club, the highlights of the program were performances, 'Lo Hei Yu Sheng', the distribution of mandarin oranges and Ang Pows give away.

Mar 2014 – SIS partnered grassroots leaders to treat 100 low-income residents to the 'Lightseeker' Musical at Resorts World



Sentosa. These families were part of two current projects by the local grassroots leaders (also ex-SPYs) - *Project 4650* and the *Yellow Ribbon Project*.

22 Mar 2014 – In a collaboration effort by Joo Chiat CC Youth Club, Resorts World Sentosa and SIS, 22 youths from MINDS (Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore) together with 20 SIS volunteers, enjoyed their 5-hour stay at the Universal Studios Singapore.

29 Mar 2014 – 'SSEAYP Goes Broadway Gala Dinner'. Held at the 'New York Street, Universal Studios Singapore', this event was the highlight of SIS' activities that started in 2013 in commemorating SSEAYP's 40th Anniversary. About 300 guests attended it, from the SI network countries diplomats, SCA beneficiaries, sponsor and invited guests.

16 Aug 2014 – SIS brought senior citizens (Pioneer Generation) from various constituencies in Singapore on a special tour of Singapore and lunch at the Singapore Flyer.

20 Sept 2014 – SIS together with Singapore national sailors brought beneficiaries from the Project 4650 and Yellow Ribbon Project on to experience sailing in the waters of Marina Bay, Singapore.

7 Oct 2014 – 'SSEAYP Day Happy Hour'. Held on 7 October 2014, many ex-SPYs from various batches convened at a local bar to celebrate SSEAYP Day while enjoying cocktails, food and prizes.

SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL CAMBODIA

2 Mar 2014 – CPYs 2013 conducted their PPA project of 'Youth for Community' in Kompong Speu Province. CPYs 2013 project mainly aimed to raise the awareness of the people on food and nutrition and family hygiene.



8 Mar 2014 – Second Cervical Cancer Awareness Campaign by CPYs 2013 the purpose of this campaign was to raise the awareness of cervical cancer.

9-17 Apr 2014 – 20 ex-CPYs volunteered as facilitators for a national event of Cambodia Second Angkor Sangkranta. It was conducted in Siem Reap province.

7 Sep 2014 – CPY 2014 conducted their Pre-Program Activity of "1, 2, 3" Project at Bak Ang Rut Primary School in Siem Reap Province. There were three main themes – School Education, Food and Nutrition, Environment.

28 Sep 2014 – CPY 2014 and TARAMANA Organization, conducted a charity night of "1, 2, 3 Gala Night, A Hand For All". The main purpose was to raise fund for underprivileged children".

19-23 Nov 2014 – Ms. Nippon Maru docked at Sihanouk Ville Port for Cambodia Country Program. It aims to improve the strong relationship and mutual understanding between Cambodia, Japan and other ASEAN countries.

SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL INDONESIA, INC.

21 Dec 2013 – 5 days after returning from The 40th SSEAYP 2013, the IPY conducted their short term PPA, 'My First Blood Donation', in a public high school in Jakarta, SMU Negeri 38. The project aims to raise the awareness of the importance of donating blood from the young age. IPYs also spread the information about HIV/AIDS as well as promoting Japan-ASEAN communities.

Feb-Jun 2014 – Selection process for the next batch of Indonesian Participating Youths of the 41st SSEAYP 2014 begin in their respective provinces.

Mar 2014 – On Going: The IPY 2013 began their long term PPA 'Gemintang 40' in their respective provinces.

25-28 Apr 2014 – SII members, members of Host Family Association, and government officials took part in the 26th SIGA in Langkawi, Malaysia.

Oct 2014 – SII members supports various events that promote ASEAN community on car-free days in Jakarta, such as ASEAN hand-holding and ASEAN to celebrate ASEAN Day.

7-27 Oct 2014 – SII partners with the Ministry of Youth and Sports for the Pre-Departure Training in Jakarta.

5-8 Dec 2014 – SII partners with the Ministry of Youth and Sports for Country Program in Surabaya. The preparation started as early as April this year and SII members worked as a volunteer for the preparation and execution.

**ASSOCIATION OF THE SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN YOUTH OF THAILAND**

22-24 Mar 2014 – "For Hopeful Children Project" is a jointly organized by Fund For Friends (FFF) and ASSEAY Thailand. This year, the program was successfully arranged at the Royal Thai Navy Base in Sattahip, Chonburi province. There were local and international volunteers to take care of underprivileged and disabled children. Participants enjoyed learning Japan-ASEAN cultures through activities.

29 May-2 Jun 2014 – ASSEAY Thailand-IYEO Fukushima Exchange Program has been conducted since 2007. This year, 10 participants who are Ex-TPYs visited Fukushima at the end of May. They attended discussion groups, Institutional

Visits and homestay together with local youths. It is expected that from 19 to 22 December, participants from Fukushima will visit Thailand. ASSEAY Thailand is responsible to organize the local program and host families for homestay.

The "Yellow Hat Project" is a sustainability collaborative project between IYEO Fukushima and ASSEAY Thailand since 2008. Yellow hats in good conditions were collected from primary schools students in Fukushima and delivered to Thailand when the Nippon Maru berthed at Bangkok Port. ASSEAY Thailand organized to distribute yellow hats to Thai students in rural areas in early on this year.

Jul 2014 – ASSEAY Thailand was responsible for the pre-departure training for 41st TPYs in July 2014.



Japan – International Project and Outreach Our Voice to Parliamentary Members: IYEO started FY2014 with new president Mr. Keiichi Sato together with new board members. In line with the IYEO aim for FY2014. 'To develop people who can exercise leadership in the society,' the IYEO has been tackling with diverse social activities, aims at strengthen organization to outreach and contribute society as well as reactivating internal activities. We are planning commemorative events to welcome 30 years anniversary since its establishment next year 2015.

One More Child Goes To School – Sri Lanka Educational Support Project: The project was officially started in 2008 and IYEO has been focusing on the scholarship project. Currently 62 Japanese Foster Parents are supporting 69 students in the Buddha Jayanthi

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE ORGANIZATION JAPAN

Primary School in Hakmana, Sri Lanka. From 2014 IYEO takes whole project initiatives and in July, we implemented the school visit tour with the cooperation of Deshamanya Abeysooriya, president of Sunshine Travels Sri Lanka. 7 participants spent enjoyable time at school. This year, we donated chairs and tables for 400 students, a photocopy machine and other educational materials during the school visit. It helped to deepen mutual understanding among students, teachers and foster parents so we would like to continue the tour following years.

Report session and Meeting on International on International Youth Exchange Programs: The session was hosted by Mr. Youhei Matsumoto, Youth Division Director of the Liberal

Democratic Party and 22 IYEO members including president, board members and editing and steering committee members attended. There are 15 parliamentary members including Mr. Akimasa Ishikawa, Youth Division Deputy-Director of the LDP who is a SWY12 ex-JPY joined in the event. It was a valuable experience for attended members as they could directly talk to the parliamentary members about the SSEAYP experiences etc. and how it is utilized to the society directly.



LAO SSEAYP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Sep 2013 – The LPY 2008 organized the campaign on ‘ASEAN Awareness Raising’ at Namsang Secondary School, outskirts of Vientiane. The campaign aimed at raising the awareness of ASEAN and its cooperation partners, Dengue fever prevention, and the important of environmental protection.



25-28 Apr 2014 – The president and vice president of LaoSAA attended the 26th SIGA in Langkawi, Malaysia and joined several of activities organized by the organizing committee of SIGA.

22-24 Aug 2014 – The LaoSAA together with former LPYs held the pre-departure session for the 41st LPYs in Vang Vieng. The aims of the session were creating readiness and raising awareness of related fields of discussion groups for LPYs.

2 Oct 2014 – Vannaseng Ounalom who is one of the LaoSAA Committee had awarded the ASEAN Youth Award 2014 in Brunei Darussalam. He joined

SSEAYP in 2008, participated in SEAGAMES 2009, ASEAN University Games in 2012, SIGA 2013 and his batch social contribution activities.

Feb 2015 – The LaoSAA is preparing the new committee election in February 2015, at the same time of annual meeting.

Apr 2015 – The Lao Youth Union (LYU) is preparing its 60th Anniversary in April 2015. The Alumni and former LPY will be included in the preparation for the celebration.

PY IMPRESSIONS

The 41st edition of SSEAYP successfully ended its journey in December 2014. PYs exchanged views and gained new perspectives after spending 52 days and going through various experiences together.

SSEAYP brings back the energetic, cheerful and sympathetic "me" of the days when I was younger.

– *Pham Thuy Tien, VPY* on SSEAYP in General.

DISCUSSION GROUP

I started out assuming that the discussion sessions would be academically in-depth. However, it soon unveiled to me that the main goal of the discussion program is to promote mutual understanding and call for youth actions. In the end, it turned out that what we have gained are not only confined in knowledge, but the friendship, the connection, and the network.

– *Nguyen Vu Nhat Anh, VPY*.

The DG sessions provided an avenue for deeper understanding, opinion exchange and interaction between PYs from ASEAN and Japan. I gave my best especially since I was elected as the Chairperson of the 41st DG Sub-Committee. It was quite challenging yet exciting time whenever I met the DG Sub Committee. It is not the prestige of being the sub-committee chairperson that matters to me, but the friendship and camaraderie that I shared with everyone that is more important. Honestly, the Discussion Group had so much fun.

– *Erika Nalliw, PPY*.

HOMESTAY PROGRAM

Regardless of difficulties in conversing, I did have a great time in Surabaya. I wanted to communicate with my host family so badly, I had to actually use Google Translate. Also I did enjoy the food, especially the traditional dishes. The most touching moment of the homestay experience was from Japan. At the end of the program, my Japanese host family tightly hugged me and I was asked not to say goodbye. I do hope that soon in future we could meet again.

– *Laing Puthe, CPY*.

I love the weather in Nagasaki prefecture, Japan and the flowers were blooming at that time. The maple tree leaves turned to red because of the changing season, from summer to fall. My favorite thing about it is the friendly people and the delicious food!

– *Gustiana Mettaningrum, IPY*.

It made me want to return favour to them not only after SSEAYP, but also forever.

– *Yoshiko Kuwabara, JPY* on Local Interaction.

SOLIDARITY GROUP

I came to realize that we share many similarities and I have become the person who would appreciate more about the uniqueness as well as the variety of cultures. Also, I learnt that we could connect our friendship and enhance the cooperation regardless of our differences through respect and listening to each other.

– *Naphasouk Sithpraxay, LPY*.

Our theme for SG-H was based on positive values such as happiness and honesty. Unfortunately, our flag was partially destroyed by paint and someone screamed ‘H for Horror!’. I would certainly remember this even after SSEAYP as fond memory. This trip is not about perfection but really about the friendships forged from the activities. I will certainly miss these days with my SG. – *Wei Jian, SPY*.

There are never enough slots for having fun and getting know more friends.

– *Pinhatai Chunharas, Phavitch Theerapong, Monrada Yamkasikom, TPY* on Voluntary Activity.

NATIONAL DAY PERFORMANCE

We and other PYs always look forward to attending National Day Presentations. It enhances our knowledge about other countries' cultures and teaches us to appreciate our culture and tradition. NDP also gave us the opportunity to learn about the history of our culture and other countries' culture. It is vital for us to be involved because we are the future and it is up to us to preserve our culture.

– *Khalisa & Asyikin, MaPY.*

The national presentation is one of the most interesting activities on board. It is not just a cultural performance, but it also shows the creativity and ability of the participating youths. For me, I really enjoy all the national presentations, cheering the friends who is performing, saying "congratulations" at the end of the NDPs and helping them clean up the stage. It is a presentation of mutual understanding, love and friendship between countries.

– *Tanisa Hanpinitsak, TPY.*



The real cross-cultural understanding happens here! Love it!

– *Lutfi Daud, MaPY* on Local Interaction.

CABIN LIFE

Cabin life eventually becomes a place where you form a bond with your cabin mates; where guards tend to be lowered down enough for a genuine relationship to be made; you find yourself dreading the days to be apart from brothers and sisters you had gotten to know. Despite the multitude of friends made, in your SGs, DGs, contingent or through any activities, your cabin mates will no doubt be the first people you look for on that first morning back in your respective country.

– *Siti Nur-azimah Mohd Alipah, BPY.*

My most favorite place on the ship is my cabin 351 because I have really amazing cabin mates, Ray and Hoa. Our cabin is always full of smile and laughter. Every night we have *chit-chat*

sessions about many things, including girl's talk until midnight. We had cabin noodle night, movie night, hijab night and even mango night. My cabin is a place where I can really feel at home and I can proudly say that I had the best cabin mates ever.

– *Haruka Matsuzaki, JPY.*

CLUB ACTIVITY

Through club activities (CA), we had a chance to know about each other more, deepen our friendships and widen our knowledge on different cultures and customs. In each CA, we met not only our old friends but also new friends. In this way, we could broaden our horizons of knowledge, love and care. CA also played as a platform to promote our team spirit although we were from different contingents with different backgrounds, experiences and talents. In this light, it also strengthened mutual respect among us which could also lead to more collaboration among the eleven countries.

After CA, we had got loads of fun, a barrel of laughs and a lot of gifts as well.

– *Linh Htet Aung, MyPY.*

Simple ideas can make a big social impact for someone in need.

– *Aiza Syahrani, IPY* on PPA Plenary Session.

SSEAYP IN GENERAL

It is the most amazing and most wonderful program for me. The preparation we had before the program started was very well organized. Day by day, I've experienced joy, happiness, fun, and sadness. I never thought that I have to say goodbye to each other to the friends that I have met, although it was just for a short time. SSEAYP is an excellent program with positive effects and could help with leadership skills for each participant. I'm going to love SSEAYP in my life, forever.

– *Dendy Primandi, IPY.*

RETURNING PY IMPRESSIONS

Coming back to SSEAYP voyage as OBSC is like retracing a nostalgic beautiful past that I can never return.

– *Baibon, PPY 1990*

Once a PY, Forever PY – after four decades and more than 20,000 Participating Youths, the memories of SSEAYP remain unique for every ex-PY. VT (CPY 2011) had a wonderful experience on Nippon Maru even though he was a PY on Fuji Maru. For Dyana (MaPY 2002), Puji (IPY 2008), Andy (SPY 2005) and Ai (JPY 2000), being back on the ship the second time, although with different roles, felt like going back home and sparked further SSEAYP memories. Mandy (VPY 2006) and Nazmo (BPY 2005) came on board to be surprised again, finding good new friends and even more fun time while contributing back to SSEAYP. Vannaseng (LPY 2008) is happy to meet *new family members*. The spirit of SSEAYP lives forever in our hearts.

Hopefully, this strengthened spirit will drive all of us to contribute back to our society.

– *Ploy, TPY 2006*