

# JAPAN

International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO)



## ● “MORE ACTIVE AND MEANINGFUL ORGANIZATION”

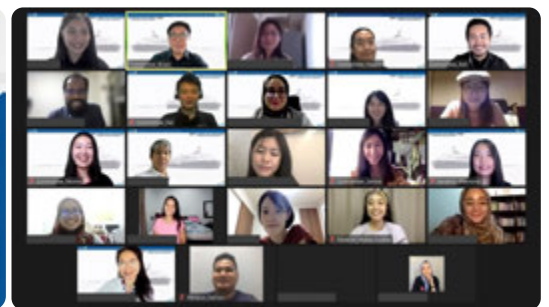


**Country Report:** International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO) launched a program called the “IYEO Future Creation Forum” in March 2021. 36 participants from all over Japan and abroad, together with 11 organizers and facilitators, discussed what kind of future IYEO would like to create in order to realize the ideal future from the following five perspectives:

1. Collaborating with people with international backgrounds; 2. Deepening and encouraging cross-cultural understanding; 3. Discovering and promoting the attractive aspects of regional communities in Japan; 4. Creating multi-generational career education opportunities; and, 5. Strengthening the foundations of IYEO activities. We finally proposed the “IYEO Future Creation Plan 2025” in August 2021. This initiative will energetically continue next year to make IYEO a more active and meaningful organization.

### Social Contribution Activities:

**The “SSEAYP Career Talk & Discussion: Working in International Organizations”** was held online in Sept. 2021. This event has gathered people all around Japan and ASEAN member states to exchange experiences, ideas, and insights.



This event has been implemented by six committee members who participated in SSEAYP Conference for Considering its Role and Significance of SSEAYP Future Youth Leaders Conference in Jan. - Feb. 2021. After the conference, we launched a LinkedIn page for SSEAYP ex-PYs and we planned this career event to leverage our professional networks. In the event, we invited three panelists who are working in the United Nations. Together, we were able to have such fruitful sharing moments and discussion time about career motivations and goals, self-branding, survival skills, and the working environment, especially during this pandemic, of the United Nations agencies. According to the result of the post-survey, more than 90% of participants were satisfied with the event and we will continue this initiative next year.



**Prominent Alumni: Ms. TATSUNO Madoka (PY2001)** was awakened to global education at the age of 17 when she attended an international peace conference; she later participated in the 28th SSEAYP. After working as a business coach, she obtained a Master's degree in Intercultural Service, Leadership and Management in the U.S. She also worked as an education coordinator at an NPO in the U.S. and for the Ship for World Youth program. At the end of 2012, she established GiFT (Global Incubation x Fostering Talents) to promote global citizenship (the mindset to make the world a better place). Based on GiFT's Global Citizenship process and Story-based Learning workshops, GiFT currently offers programs in seven different countries working with SSEAYP alumni. Currently, she is involved in the implementation of several global citizenship programs, working with the Government of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). She is the co-author of the book “Learning and Working in the World is a Way of Life” published by Shoshikankanbou. Ms. TATSUNO delivered a keynote speech at the opening of the SSEAYP Youth Conference 2021.



# MALAYSIA

## KABESA (SI Malaysia)



## "LIVING IN THE NEXT NORMAL"

**Country Report:** As we are living in the new era of the "Next Normal," everything has to be done not as usual. Been affected by COVID-19 pandemic with multi-variants, Malaysia via its alumni are ready to adapt. We will not miss the train. We organized several small and medium online program during the time as we have to abide the Standard Operation Procedure set by the Government of Malaysia.

In 2020 and 2021, we managed to facilitate the participants that involved in two SSEAYP-based programs called SSEAYP Future Youth Leaders Conference in Jan. to Feb. 2021, and SSEAYP Youth Conference 2021 in Nov. 2021 to Jan. 2022. Following the success of **SSEAYP International Conference (SICO)** in 2019, we held another series of the conference, **SICO 2.0** in Feb. 2021. We would like to thank everyone from SSEAYP Internationals (SI), the Alumni Associations of SSEAYP, that participated to make the event a successful one. We received a lot of praise and supports from so many parties including the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia. We also hold almost 60 series of online talk known as **MaPY Noodle Talk (MNT)**; we manage to invite prominent alumni from other countries like Mr. Rino Wicaksono (Indonesia), Ms. OKAWARA Tomoko (Japan), and Mr. Visit Dejkumtorn (Thailand). We share a lot of things which happened during their time joining SSEAYP. The latest, we hold another discussion program called **SSEAYP Roundtable Program (SRPro)**. We gather participants from all over Malaysia, ASEAN member countries, Japan and Korea to involve in that program.



**Social Contribution Activities:** In Aug. 2021, northern part of Malaysia had been affected by flood. A lot of damage occurred involving houses, lost of crops and properties. We managed to arrange a group of volunteers from KABESA (SSEAYP International Malaysia), through Misi Bantuan Pasca Banjir / Post-Flood Relief Mission to help our members that affected by the disaster. Moreover, due to the changing phase of COVID-19, if we still don't have Reunion on Board or the Port of Call, we plan to have Reunion on Land in 2022.



**Prominent Alumni: Che Muhamad Nordin Bin Ismail (PY1988)** is the current President for SSEAYP International Malaysia (KABESA) and serving for the second tenure after firstly elected in 2004. He holds the Bachelor Degree in Human Development (University Putra Malaysia) as his highest achievement in education. His talent in leadership had put him at multilevel position in youth organization and NGOs. During his presidential era, he made a lot of changes in KABESA. He played a significant roles to established KABESA as a partner to the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia. His philosophy of cadre and empowerment has open a huge opportunity for the members and the organization itself to develop skills and create network for the betterment. Under his surveillance there was a manuscript of study with the topic of "Exploring the Acceptance of Difference Culture during the Port of Calls Program among MaPY of the 46th SSEAYP 2019" had been published. And it was awarded as The Best Paper Presented during the National Conference on the Humanities and Social Sciences (NACOSS) VI. Now, KABESA is working on to publish a book that compile the experiences of participating youth since its first sail in 1974 until now.



# PHILIPPINES

SSEAYP International Philippines, Inc.



## "PROUD TO BE SIP"



**Country Report:** The SSEAYP International Philippines (SIP) conducted the **"Alive and Kicking: Delta Edition,"** a mental health related webinar held on November 13, 2021 at 4 p.m. (Manila Time). This webinar aimed to provide information on dealing with mental health as the entire global population was forced into isolation while dealing with overwhelming anxiety about the present and the future, due to the worldwide pandemic. SIP invited caliber resource speakers and experts including clinical psychologist and former guidance counselor **Dr. Merlo Calumpang Fuentes** (PY1977) on mental health, **Ms. Joana Regina Lontoc Alberto** on body health, and "The Feast" builder and educator **Bro. Alvin Barcelona** (PY1994) on spiritual health. The topics talk about the long-term ramifications of the pandemic and the role of holistic wellness in the journey to healing. The webinar had almost 200 online viewers in its onset and was moderated by **Ms. Miel Reyes** (PY1986, OBSC1991). This webinar is a follow through of the webinar conducted by the SIP in October 2020 titled **DG Talks: Life Hacks for the Youth**. Due to pandemic, the activities of SIP were limited and had to implore the use of virtual platforms. Both webinars may still be accessed through the SSEAYP Philippine Ambassadors of Goodwill Facebook Page.



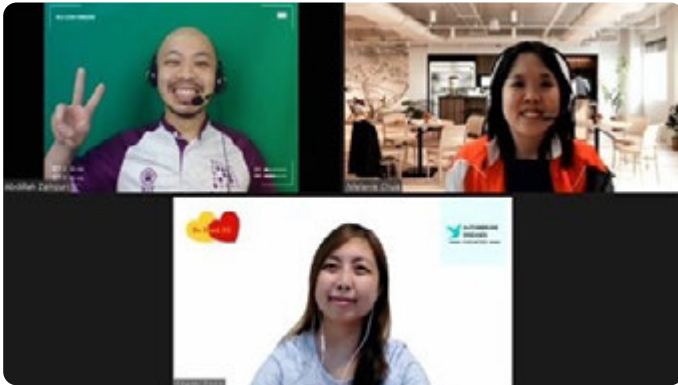
**Social Contribution Activities:** On October 10, 2021, the Philippine Contingent to the 46th SSEAYP in partnership with facilitators conducted another webinar titled **SSEAYP Talks on Grief: Processing Difficult Emotions** to commemorate World Mental Health Day via Zoom. **Fairuziana Humam S. Psi., M. A.**, Mental Health Educator and the facilitator of the 46th SSEAYP for Good Health and Well-being was invited as resource speaker. In her sharing, Fairuziana shared how we can understand grief as an emotion and culture for the loss of loved ones. The SSEAYP Talks short run almost 15 minutes. The video as of the time of writing reached more than 1,100 people and received 43 reactions, comments and shares with majority of viewers coming from Aceh, Indonesia, Metro Manila, and Bicol Region.



**Prominent Alumni:** **Mr. Vincent L. Soriano** (PY1996) has been public servant since he was 18 years old starting as a Municipal Councilor of Pakil, Laguna, Philippines. He was then elected as Vice Mayor of Pakil at the age of 21 and as Board Member for the Province of Laguna at 24. Outside the executive and legislative positions that Mayor Vince handled, he was also the Chief of Staff of Laguna Governor until he was elected as Mayor in 2016. In his incumbency as Mayor, Pakil was the first town to pass an FOI Ordinance in Calabarzon Region. This ensures a truly transparent and accountable public service. Despite his hectic schedule, Mayor Vince remains to be an active alumnus in good standing in SSEAYP International Philippines. He is a 1996 Philippine PY with a Lifetime Membership. He regularly attends Reunions on Board, General Membership Meetings and other activities.



## “SHARING INSPIRATIONAL STORIES”



**Country Report:** SI Singapore organised the **Sharing Inspirational Stories (SIS)** series with the objective of inviting former PYs to share their SSEAYP experiences and how SSEAYP had propelled them to do more for their communities. In the inaugural session on 26 April 2021, SI Singapore was glad to have **Sherry Soon** (PY2010) and **Melanie Chua** (PY2018), who were featured in the SSEAYP News No. 43, 2021 for their contributions to their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The session was hosted by **Abdillah Zamzuri** (PY2007), live on Facebook.



In the second installation of the SIS series on 31 July 2021, **Sharifah M. Yokoyama** (PY1989, NL2013) and **Koh Chin Chin** (PY2000, OBSC2002) shared about women's development work in Singapore and ASEAN. The theme tied in with the Year of Celebrating SG Women which was observed in Singapore in 2021. The session was hosted by **Parveen Banu** (PY2010).

About Webinar on COVID-19 in Singapore, in support of the nation's COVID-19 efforts, SSEAYP International Singapore invited Dr Carol Loi, a registered nurse, researcher and a long serving volunteer of the Singapore Red Cross, to share with former PYs on the studies about COVID-19 vaccines and her experience combating the COVID-19 pandemic at the frontline. The session was held on 10 April 2021.

**Social Contribution Activities:** SI Singapore, represented by Secretary-General Amos Lee and PYs Engagement and SCA Director Francis Goh, contributed 43 cartons of premium dates (215 kg in total) to the Migrant Workers' Centre (MWC) on 30 April 2021. The dates were distributed to migrant workers residing in the dormitories to share the Hari Raya festive joy. MWC is a non-government organisation which champions fair employment practices and the well-being of migrant workers in Singapore.



**Prominent Alumni:** **Lynn Wong Yuqing** (PY2018) is a Legacy Strategist and Heritage Curator. In 2016, she left her Ph.D. in marketing at a top business school to pursue her passion in revitalising clan associations and preserving Chinese heritage and culture. In 2018, she organised the Ho Yeah Festival, the first Cantonese and Hakka-themed festival to encourage the youth to connect with their roots. For her fervent advocacy and promotion of Chinese heritage and culture, she was nominated as The Straits Times Singaporean of the Year 2021.



# THAILAND

Association of the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth of Thailand



## “YOUTH EMPOWERMENT DURING COVID-19”



**Country Report:** The Department of Children and Youth (DCY), Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of Thailand conducted four regional and one national assembly for children and youth development (NACYD) through Zoom virtual meetings with major support from the Association of the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth of Thailand (ASSEAY). This year's assembly was focused on the NEXT Normal for the Development of Thai Children and Youth in four different dimensions:

Social Enterprise, socio-economics, soft skills, and political involvement. ASSEAY Thailand had taken a significant role in NACYD by providing professional aid, including one MC, 12 speakers, and one technical staff in all four regional assemblies: the North-Eastern assembly which took place on November 22, 2021, the Southern assembly which took place on November 23, 2021, the Central and Eastern assembly which took place on November 24, 2021, and the Northern assembly which took place on November 29, 2021. Furthermore, on December 9, 2021, ASSEAY supported the national assembly with one MC and four panel discussion speakers, using both ex-PYs and alumni network contacts. There was a total of over 600 participants from 100 different stakeholders with relevant work to children and youth attending. The valuable inputs from the participants during the assembly were proposed to the National Board of Children and Youth Development Promotion and the Thai government to act as the guideline for significant changes in children and youth development.

**Social Contribution Activities:** Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, post-program activities were suspended for the year. However, ASSEAY Thailand worked closely with the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) to support the empowerment of Thai youth, communities, and SSEAYP. ASSEAY organised a 3-day online Pre-Departure Training (PDT) for Thai PYs to prepare for discussions, peer learning, and networking through virtual interactions. The training's agenda were aligned with the theme 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),' consisting of informative session about SDGs, DG workshops, peer learning session organisation, as well as technical skills and soft-skills for virtual meetings. Most importantly, they were excitedly and readily prepared to build connections and mutual understanding with PYs from other countries. Ex-Thai PYs lent their helping hands to ensure that the current batch of Thai PYs would gain the most out of PDT. Despite the limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic necessitating online training, friendships flourished among Thai PYs and the ex-PYs who shared with them useful information and memorable SSEAYP experiences. We hope that one day they will get to have the authentic SSEAYP experience onboard the Nippon Maru.



**Prominent Alumni: Mr. Thanit Hlek Kongkaew** (PY2003) has been a coordinator in several local SSEAYP related activities including SIGA, SSEAYP pre-program and post-program activities. He served as a SSEAYP discussion facilitator in 2009 on the topic of the Environment, in 2011 on Corporate Social Contributions, and in 2013 on School Education. The experiences gained from SSEAYP has brought his attention to human resources development, community development and leadership. Mr. Hlek started his career at Thailand Productivity Institute aiming to improve productivity and efficiency for the Thai industrial sector. He then continued his career path in the social impact development sector. Currently, Mr. Hlek serves as a Director of Sustainability Unit at the Mae Fah Luang Foundation. His focus is to promote sustainability through developing social enterprises and providing consultancy to the private sector.



### “SHARING SUCCESSFUL STORIES”



**Country Report:** Lao Youth Union and Lao SSEAYP Alumni Association (LSAA) hosted a seminar; discussing the methods and procedures for applying for scholarships to study abroad of Lao youth to lay the foundation of understanding, strengthen the knowledge of youth members on the process of preparing for scholarships, exam to apply for scholarships to study abroad, as well as to inspire Lao people to study abroad. The seminar was conducted on March 4, 2022, from 13.30 to 16.00 at Sinxay Building, Lao Youth Union. At the event, there was the representative of Board President of LSAA, ex-Lao PYs from various batches to share their successful stories on how to apply for the international scholarship, as well as Lao Youth members of Lao Youth Union and the public.



**Social Contribution Activities:** Early March 2022, Lao Youth Union, LSAA, and Lao Youth Radio conducted a social contribution program to collect unused clothes, learning materials and sports types of equipment donated by the public. On 18-19 March 2022, the in-charge committee hand it over to Ban Naxay School, Longsan District, Xaysomboun Province, about 85 km from Pak Ngum District, Vientiane Capital. At the handover and receiving ceremony, local authorities of Longsan District, Ban Naxay Village authorities, board principal of Ban Naxay School, villagers, children’s guardians, and venerable youth and children of the district were attended – approximately 345 people.



**Prominent Alumni:** Dr. Bounheng Southichak (PY2000), Vice President of LSAA, got a scholarship to study in Japan three years after his participation in SSEAYP. SSEAYP has shaped and changed his life in many ways. First and foremost, he become more open to diversity, cultures and community services. He is now running a Lao Youth Radio Station and Social Media to support youth and provide them with useful information and opportunities. At the same time, he loves creating activities to support Lao youth, such as Global Citizenship Program between Lao and Japanese University Students, the Toyota Incubation Program for Lao Youth, Lao Youth Media Start-Up Event, Children Communication on Earth (CCE) between children from Lao P.D.R. and Miyagi Prefecture, Japan, and other community services such as donation and volunteer activities. He said, “I don’t know why I commit a lot to youth and community services, but when I think about SSEAYP and Japan provided me with many opportunities, there is no excuse not to give something back to my beloved country and be a good agent to bridge the friendship between Lao P.D.R., Japan and ASEAN. I Love SSEAYP!”