

Volume 22 (September 2014)

SWY NEWS

Published by the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan



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The Future SWY Program – Inheriting the SWY Spirit

Article from the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

The Ship for World Youth Program (SWY) was launched in 1989, re-organizing the Japanese Youth Goodwill Cruise Program. In FY2013, a new program taking over the SWY spirit was implemented –the Global Leaders Development Program (GLDP). Although the navigation days of GLDP were 9 days, shorter than past SWY, our goal was to develop Global Leaders with leadership, management and cross-cultural communication skills. GLDP was successfully completed with the great support of SWYAA of participating countries.

This year (FY2014), we will implement “Global Youth Leader Development Program –Ship for World Youth Leaders–” which will also take over the SWY spirit with 12 days of navigation days. The PYs will visit two cities in Japan during the voyage; Naha/Okinawa, southern islands of Japan with unique history and culture, as well as Ofunato, Rikuzentakada/Iwate, the disaster-stricken area of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

As many ex-PYs know, the Cabinet Office has extensively reviewed the SWY Program for the past three years. For example, this year we conducted a survey of ex-PYs regarding the Cabinet Office’s international youth exchange programs and the participants of other programs. They indicated that the ex-PYs of the Cabinet Office’s programs have more experiences in showing leadership and participating in social contribution activities. In addition, we held a conference with the attendance of government officials and the representatives of SWYAA from eight countries. The attendants emphasized that the navigation days of SWY need to exceed 30 days in order to foster problem solving skills through conflicts of opinions arising from different values and cultures. They also emphasized the importance of callings at more than one foreign port.

Based on the results of those surveys, the Cabinet Office has made budget request for the “Next Generation Leaders Program –Ship for World Youth Leaders–” with 35 days of voyage including more intensified discussion sessions. The budget request will be scrutinized within the Japanese Government until December of this year, and then will be submitted to the Diet early next year. Not all the requests will be approved but the Cabinet Office will make best efforts to continue the SWY spirit. We sincerely appreciate all the ex-PYs for your lasting support to the SWY.

The Global Youth Leaders Development Program

–Ship for World Youth Leaders–, Jan. 21 – Feb. 23, 2015

A new program inheriting the Ship for World Youth Program, the Global Leaders Development Program, was successfully completed in March 2014. Next year, the Cabinet Office will implement the Global Youth Leaders Development Program –Ship for World Youth Leaders. Its main purposes are to develop the ability to deal with different cultures and communication skills, to improve leadership and management skills, and to strengthen the spirit of international cooperation.

Schedule

Arrival of the OPY, Local program

- Jan. 21 (Wed) to Jan. 25 (Sun) 2015

Preparatory training session (JPY only)

- Jan. 24 (Sat) to Jan. 25 (Sun)

Onshore training

- Jan. 26 (Mon) to Feb. 1 (Sun)

Onboard training

- Feb. 2 (Mon) to Feb. 13 (Fri)

*Port of call activities are to be held in Naha and Ofunato cities

Overseas training (JPY only)

- Feb. 14 (Sat) to Feb. 21 (Sat)

*JPYs will be divided into 5 groups and dispatched to Bahrain, New Zealand, Peru, Sri Lanka, or Turkey

Post-program training

- Feb. 22 (Sun) to Feb. 23 (Mon)

Participating Countries

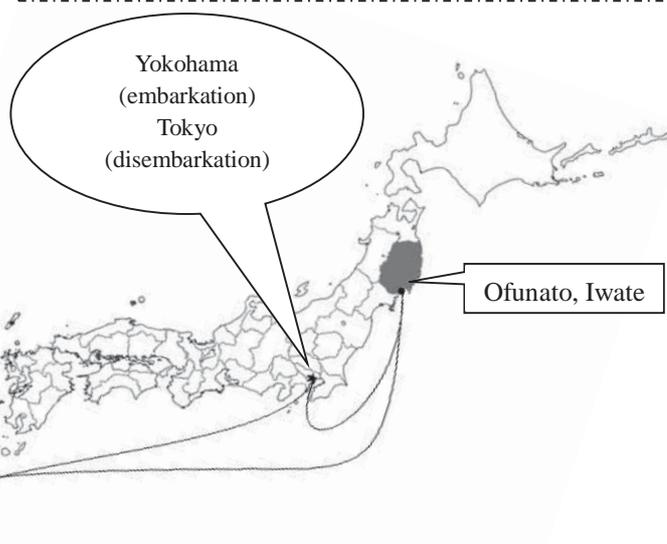
Kingdom of Bahrain, Federative Republic of Brazil, India, Republic of Kenya, New Zealand, Sultanate of Oman, Republic of Peru, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Republic of Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Japan

Participating Youth

100 Oversea participating youth

110 Japanese participating youth

★	Embarkation/disembarkation
●	Port of call
—	Sailing route



Global Leaders Development Program, Jan. 22 – Feb. 22, 2014

Overview of the Program

The Global Leaders Development Program (GLDP) was a new program conducted to meet the demand of developing young leaders who are capable of dealing with the issue in globalizing world. Japanese youths together with youths from eight countries participated in the Onshore Training for eight days and the Onboard Training for nine days including a domestic port of call. As for Overseas Training Sessions the

Japanese participants were divided into their Course Discussion groups and flew to four different countries for eight days. Activities including theme-related institutional visit, cultural experiences and homestay or home visit. The activities for the Overseas Training Sessions were planned by or supported by the SWYAA of the respective countries

Port of Call in Japan

The port of call activities in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, were aimed for participating youth (PYs) to learn and correctly understand the damage of the Great East Japan Earthquake and current situation of reconstruction by visiting the affected city, as well as to think on how assistance should be provided. Through the visit, PYs were expected to concretely identify the importance of youth contribution to society, and to connect them to their own social activities.

At the same time, the activities were aimed for the young people from eight different countries from the world and Japan to be able to publically express their opinions as to what would be needed for reconstruction through their experience and learning from interacting with the afflicted people. Furthermore, the visit was conducted with the wish to encourage people in the affected area, even a little.



Participating youth representatives pay floral tributes to the memorial site “Ganbaro Ishinomaki” where the largest damage was caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake.



Speech is made by Mayor Hiroshi Kameyama of Ishinomaki City at the Onboard Reception.



Participants present a song for the residents of a temporary housing complex in Mangoku.

Overseas Training Sessions

Bahrain, Youth Entrepreneurship Course

In February of this year, one of the groups from the GLDP took part in various activities in Bahrain related to the area of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship development is a core focus of the Kingdom of Bahrain, to give opportunities to innovative and motivated young entrepreneurs, and another option to a traditional career and job in a big organization or the government.

Many ex-PYs are now working in the field of Entrepreneurship development, and many of the sessions had ex-PYs in attendance. A reception was held to honor the JPYs on their arrival with the attendance of the Japanese Embassy, the Government of Bahrain and many ex-PYs. The General Organization for Youth & Sports (GOYS), which was managing the program, had an ex-PY, Layla Albalushi (SWY22, Bahrain) running the organization of the visit.



(SWY23, Bahrain) also works in this organization. He introduced the JPYs to some aspects of entrepreneurship and how to raise investment, as well as talked about his story after SWY. A group of JPYs then presented their project proposal to Hasan for feedback. The JPYs then visited with the Bahrain Development Bank, where Budoor Kamal (SWY23, Bahrain) introduced the activities of the bank and how they provide loans and advisory services to entrepreneurs. The JPYs learnt about the Bahrain Development Banks activities, including the Bahrain Business Incubator Centre that provides discounted office space to startup entrepreneurs.

JPYs also had a chance to experience Bahrain culture through home visits for traditional Friday Family Lunch, as well as a Bahrain Night held at a campsite in the desert. JPYs also had a chance to eat some of the great food we have here! The importance and activity level placed on entrepreneurship in Bahrain was witnessed firsthand by the JPYs and we hope that they enjoyed their visit!



Over the next days, members of the GLDP delegation met with many entrepreneurship development organization. The first was Tamkeen, a government fund set up to support Bahraini entrepreneurs and employees. At Tamkeen, Mohammed Ahmadi (SWY22, Bahrain NL), organized a session to

introduce the PYs to the organizations activities, as well and introducing some Bahraini entrepreneurs to interact with the JPYs.

The next day, the JPYs had a session run by Hasan Haider (SWY22, Bahrain), who currently runs Tenmou, a Business Angels Organization that invests in startup projects from entrepreneurs. Ali Mahmood

Fiji, Environment Course

The Government of the Republic of Fiji was considered by the Government of Japan to host the Overseas Training Session in Fiji. The Ministry of Youth and Sports as the coordinator of the program had invited SWYAA Fiji to be part of the main organizing committee for the Overseas Training Session. Apart from being represented in the main organizing committee, SWYAA Fiji members were also part of various other subcommittees. One of the major components of the local program was the homestay program. Other programs included institutional visits and villages visits to experience life in Fiji.

Homestay program has one of the major activities of SWYAA Fiji

members for this year. Nine members of SWYAA Fiji who were available in Suva at the time of the program had opened their homes to host a JPY each for a night. Other members of SWYAA Fiji had taken time out from their respective work places to assist during the local program as volunteers. We hope that the JPYs did enjoy the Fijian hospitality and would return to visit Fiji in future to their host families.



Mexico, Information and Media Course

As the GLDP visited Mexico we experienced what Japanese Government has done for us so many times: Prepare well in advance to receive our visitors in a well-planned and loving way. One of the things that I liked a lot as a SWYAA Mexico member was that the whole SWYAA



Mexico was actively involved and willing to cooperate in every possible way, even from a distance. So, the result was a wonderful collective work which was the platform for the JPYs to enjoy and learn from our country in the same way we have done so many times in Japan.

I would like to HIGHLIGHT just a few that I have in my mind to offer you a glimpse of this Overseas Training Session to Mexico:

- Official visits, encounters with personalities, lectures, world heritage tours
- Experience the big city life and also a small town daily chores

- Dance Soran along with elementary school kids as well as in the middle of the street
- Woke up half of the hotel guests as we sang along with Mariachi to gladly receive the JPYs coming from the airport
- Mexican party at a SWY1 (ONE!!) ex-PY's house prior to homestays

Since we are in Mexico you might assume that a time for party was always at hand and we did take advantage of that as well. An incredible experience overall!



Thank you very much Cabinet Office of Japan, for trusting us again with this amazing opportunity and allowing us to give back just a little bit of the so many wonderful experiences that we have received in the past 26 years of SWY! Muchisimas gracias!

Turkey, Cross-Cultural Understanding Course

Being chosen for the second time, which shows the success of the previous program, was a great honour and happiness for the SWYAA Turkey. Didem Tari (SWY22) from Ankara was assigned as coordinator and Gül Ekşi (SWY12) from Istanbul as sub-coordinator. In order to complete the duty successfully, the Alumni members had weekly meetings in different cities. Other than weekly alumni meetings, several preparation meetings were held with the the Ministry of Sports and Youth, the Japanese Embassy in Ankara, the Japanese Consulate in Istanbul, the institutions to be visited, the local municipalities, and representatives of the CENTERYE and Cabinet Office.

JPYs and TPYs (Turkish PYs) arrived in Ankara and transferred directly to experience the classical Turkish way of breakfast. In the afternoon, the JPYs and TPYs shared their experiences with regard to each other's culture, with the participation of the officials from the Ministry. Upon completion of the exchange program, PYs were transferred to the Residence of the Ambassador where JPYs had a briefing delivered by Mr. Shinji Yamada, the Cultural Attache of Japanese Embassy on Turkish-Japanese Relations and TPYs had an interview by the press. Thereafter, the courtesy call on Takahiko Katsumata, the Charge d' Affaires, and the reception dinner took place with the attendance of the officials from the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Embassy of Japan, and the alumni members.

JPYs visited Olgunlasma Enstitüsü, for the Cultural Workshop. Then they visited Ankara University, Japanese Language and Literature Department. There were a presentation by the students studying Japanese consisting of Turkish traditional dance, music, henna and was finished with the "Algorithm Koushin," a Japanese dance performed together with the JPYs and students. On the weekend JPYs spent together with their host families and explored Ankara.

After coming back from the homestay, the courtesy visit to Metin Yılmaz, the Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Youth and Sports took place. Mr. Yılmaz listened and cared the statements of all JPYs, one by one. It was a great opportunity for the JPYs to express their opinions directly to himself and to enjoy his sincere and warm speech.



On the last two days at Istanbul, Ayasofya and Sultan Ahmet area were visited as the second institutional visit. JPYs was also transferred to the



Balat Or-Ahayim Hospital for the last institutional visit conducted by the volunteers named as Pink Angels (Pembe Melekler). The hospital is owned by the Jewish minority society living in Istanbul. After the institutional visit they had lunch over Bosphorus and said goodbye to Istanbul just for now.

From GLDP Turkish PY - Büşra Karataş

I am sure that many SWYers thought that the experience of SWY/GLDP program will last only for a month or two. Well my dear friends I guess we were the ones who were wrong about that. When the program finished, after all those teary goodbyes, I realized that I have walked into something bigger, something that doesn't allow me to walk away from the SWY spirit. We are lucky to have social network, thanks to Facebook I have seen my friends smiley faces, I have been talking, sharing my life with my friends' all over the world and have even witnessed their weddings, graduations and so on...



Ship for World Youth Alumni Association International – Official Member Countries

The SWYAA representatives from 28 countries met for a conference in March 2013 and agreed to restructure the SWYAA as an international body (cf. SWY News vol. 21). Registration to become the full or associate members of the SWYAA International took place between August to December 2013, and the following countries completed their registration procedures. The first Voting Session for International Representatives (VSIR) took place in May 2014 to approve the member countries.

Full members of the SWYAA International:

1. SWY Australia
2. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Bahrain
3. SWYAA Brasil
4. SWY Canada
5. Chile-SWYAA
6. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Costa Rica
7. Ship for the World Youth Alumni Association Ecuador
8. The Egyptian Alumni Association for the Ship for World Youth - EASWY
9. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association of Fiji
10. SWY GREECE Alumni Association
11. SWYAA-INDIA
12. International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO)

13. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association of Kenya
14. SWYAA Mexico
15. The Ship for World Youth New Zealand Incorporated
16. SWYAA Oman
17. SWYAA PERU
18. Asociación de ex participantes del Barco de la Juventud Mundial
19. Ship For World Youth Alumni Association Of Sri Lanka
20. SWYAA-Sweden
21. Tonga Ship for World Youth Alumni Association
22. SWYAA TURKEY (Dünya Gençlik Gemisi Mezunlar Derneği)
23. SWYAA UAE
24. SWY UK Alumni Association
25. SWYAA Venezuela
26. Yemeni Ship for World Youth Alumni Association

Associate members of the SWYAA International:

1. SWYAA Norway
2. SWYAA Paraguay
3. SWYAA Russia
4. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Solomon Islands
5. SWYAA SOUTH AFRICA
6. SWYAA TANZANIA

Report of Meeting of the Representatives for the Continuation of the SWY

The Meeting of the Representatives for the Continuation of the SWY (June 25–27, 2014)

The aim of this conference was to gather the achievement of the SWY program, including the post-program activities that have taken place, and submit the voice to the Japanese government about how the program is beneficial and effecting the ex-PYs life, and how it is contributing to constructing good relationship between the

participating countries and Japan. This was the first time for the Cabinet Office to have a meeting of this kind. One government representative and one alumni representative each from the following nine countries were invited, namely: Australia, Bahrain, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Turkey.

Excerpt from the said meeting:

The following are related to selection of the PYs, how the governments are evaluating the SWY program, and how they would like to support the future SWY programs. **SWYAA Bahrain and SWYAA Peru** are actively participating in the selection process. This is one of the developments of both countries as a result of having good relationship with their government. **Government of India** mentioned that they always evaluate this program as a great platform in bringing positive transformation to the youth of India and in inspiring them to work for the country. The SWY program is so valuable and it should be continued. **Government of Mexico** is interested in hosting port of call or being a host country for the Japanese Mission of the future SWY. **Government of Sri Lanka** said what sets SWY apart is that it develops everyone to be a leader, it creates the best platform to connect minds and hearts in an isolated environment, it's more sustainable because of its promotion of post-program activities locally and internationally, and the program organization is nothing like others. **Government of New Zealand**

thanked the Japanese government for having the foresight to invest in young people while few governments have made such significant investment in young people. They are keen on working closely with the alumni and the Japanese government to make SWY2014 a great success. **Government of Turkey** hopes that the program continues in the coming years and they believe that it will contribute to world peace. On the other hand **SWY Australia** runs a global microcredit project called "KIVA" and now 35 members have released 910 loans amounting to \$27,875. **SWYAA India** has a project called "Open School" to educate underprivileged children implemented jointly with Canon India Private Ltd., which has benefited 1,020 children. **SWYAA Turkey** has hosted JPYs Overseas Missions for SWY25, GLDP, and in addition, became the host for the 8th Global Assembly. Talking about the past GA, **Government of Bahrain**, General Organization for Youth & Sports (GOYS) that is in charge of the youth programs and activities, works closely with SWYAA and when Bahrain hosted GA in 2012, to highlight the importance, H.H. Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa attended the Opening Ceremony.

SWYAA Meeting

Following the meeting at the Cabinet Office, the SWYAA representatives held a meeting at the IYEO office. During the meeting, the representative from SWYAA Turkey reported about the brief overview of the Global Assembly in Turkey, followed by an advice and suggestions from the SWYAA India representative about how to obtain sponsorship to run post-program activities. The delegates also exchanged ideas about SWYAA International on: a) How the membership fee for SWYAA International should be utilized; and b) Establishing a working committee within the SWYAA International.

a) Membership for SWYAA International

As stated in page 12 of the minutes from the Tokyo Conference 2013, the membership fee shall be used for website maintenance and effective promotion of SWYAA International, such as making a common brochure.

http://www.swyaa.org/conference/2013/Minutes-TokyoConference2013_E.pdf

b) Working committee

It was proposed to establish four committees in charge of different functions:

- Fundraising and grant management
- Communication (marketing, website, social media)
- Project management
- Administration and conflict management

These items will be proposed to the next VSIR in November 2014.



SWYAA Activity Reports

Multilateral Project “Tupendane” – Supporting Eve’s Day Junior School

Tupendane - Poultry Project

David Jonathan Okwiri (SWY22, Kenya)

After the SWY, I together with other JPYs and OPYs have been working towards developing the project that I had initiated prior to my participation in the program. “Eve’s Day Junior School,” which currently supports 175 children from the initial number which was 12 children in 2006 at its inception has seen the immense support of the SWY community.



the less privileged children in the society. This way, we shall be able to equip our children with the much required educational skills which shall prepare them for a better future since education is the key to the future. We are looking forward to use this project as a study example so that we can use the same method to create lights around the world especially in other parts of the world facing the same situation.

We call upon any individual, society, well-wisher or organization who wishes to get a chance to serve the society together with us, to get more information go to <http://tupendane-eng.jimdo.com>. We have also initiated a foster parent program and we encourage any individual who wishes to be a foster parent to any of our children please inform us through the contacts from the link above. I thank all SWYers who have brought this project this far both at heart, spirit, mind and hands. May you all live to achieve your dreams.

WHEN PEOPLE SAY PLANET EARTH, I SAY PLANET SWY



Currently, we are running a poultry project which keeps up to 1000 chicks in a span of every seven weeks. The proceeds from this project has been very helpful in generating short term costs of the school. Together with Tupendane International and other individuals that share the same dream of making this world a better place than we found it, we look forward to creating an educational center for

Tupendane Bahrain - Fund Raising for the Poultry Project

Elham Al Koohiji (SWY14, Bahrain)

December 2013, fate had it that I met some wonderful ex-PYs on a visit to Kenya that introduced me to an inspirational school project in the slums of Dandora - the second largest slum in Kenya. This amazing initiative started back in 2006, with the sheer will and power of a group of four volunteers, 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. Today, Eve’s Day Junior School hosts 175 children, but is heavily dependent on donations from supporters of the initiative inside and outside Kenya, which can vary significantly from month to month.

A number of initiatives have been devised over the years to bring attention to this project. 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 Eve’s Day Junior School by

organizing fund-raising 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. Profits earned through this business would go towards paying part of the monthly expenses of the school. I loved the idea of creating a self-sustaining business around the school, which can provide more stable and sustainable funding therefor.

I was so inspired by the school initiative and the wonderful people behind it that I brought the idea back with me to Bahrain, where we started a fundraising campaign for the poultry project. With the help of the project’s wonderful supporters in Kenya and Japan, I am happy to write that we successfully raised 100% of the funding required for the poultry project and that is now up and running! The third cycle of production is expected to be completed within a few weeks' time.

Tupendane Japan - Watoto Secondary Education Program

Takaaki Oshiro (SWY22, Japan)

In August 2014, we started a new program called “Watoto Secondary Education Program.” This program aims to fund all tuition-fee for our graduates to study at a secondary school in Kenya by finding foster parents.

2013 we celebrated our first 8 graduates, but they didn’t have enough resource and haven’t got a chance to get the higher education. If they don’t study at a school, they were to work at farm or commit a crime as they might not have any means to survive other than those. We’re

concerning the kids growing up without acquiring any skills and knowledge to get out of poverty.

By getting fund through this program, we can send the kids to a boarding school located far from the slum, and they would learn how to enrich their lives and consequently change their future. If you are interested in being a parent or willing to help us, please inquire details. Thank you for your understanding and supports. For more information, please contact: tupendane01.taka@gmail.com

Tupendane UK - Amplify Dandora

George Butler (SWY14, United Kingdom)

My interest in participatory video inspired my visit to Kenya in December 2013. I travelled with Carolyne Okello (SWY22, Kenya) and David Jonathan Okwiri (SWY22, Kenya) to Kakuma UNHCR refugee camp to visit Film Aid International. During the visit we watched a video about FGM law in Kenya (The practice is outlawed) followed by a feature film, Dr. Doolittle. The feature is the real draw for the crowds.



Back in Nairobi I went with Carolyne and Okwiri to visit Eve’s Day Junior School project supported by Tupendane which was very inspiring. I also went to meet Christine Akoko from (SWY14, Kenya) at the SIDERIC Project (Slums

Information and Development Resource Centre) where she works.

On the way to Kakuma I had given Okwiri a Participatory Video Handbook published by Insight Share. We got talking and this is where the idea for Amplify Dandora started. I discussed this at the Tokyo Conference and I announced the establishment of a crowd funding campaign to purchase camera equipment and run a series of participatory video workshops to enable the young people of Dandora to make videos about daily life in the slum, specifically looking at education provision. Unfortunately we did not realise our target to buy the equipment through the crowd funding campaign. In the meantime I have delivered a workshop using “Vine” with ex homeless young people in the UK, “Vine” enables you to make 6 second videos which can then be instantly uploaded to Facebook and Twitter (with good internet). I am now in discussions with Okwiri to modify our project and use “Vine” to “Amplify Dandora” We hope to get “Twitter” and “Vine” involved. If anyone is interested in this project and would like more information please email, video@amplifydandora.org