

SWY News

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THE SHIP FOR WORLD YOUTH LEADERS

WILL VOYAGE OUTSIDE JAPAN

ARTICLE FROM THE CABINET OFFICE, GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

After the launch of the Ship for World Youth Program (SWY) in 1989 as the re-organizing program of the Japanese Youth Goodwill Cruise Program, the SWY spirit has been handed down from generation to generation of participating youths (PY).

Following the Global Leaders Development Program (GLDP) in FY2013, a new program which took over the SWY spirit, "Global Youth Leaders Development Program – Ship for World Youth Leaders –" was implemented in FY2014. With this new program, the PYs visited Naha/Okinawa, southern islands with unique history and culture, and Ofunato, Rikuzentakata/Iwate, the disaster-stricken area of Great East Japan Earthquake. With a great support from SWY Alumni Association (SWYAA) of participating countries, the SWY program was a success. Many PYs commented that the cultural experiences, lectures on local community issues and exchanges with local youth during the program were memories they will treasure a lifetime.

This year, the "Next Generation Leaders Program – Ship for World Youth Leaders –" will be launched. The ship will voyage outside Japan and visit India and Sri Lanka. The 34 day voyage of the program will include more intensive discussion sessions, seminars and group activities. We are confident the enhanced program will provide youths with even greater opportunity to hone leadership, problem solving and cross-cultural communication skills.

The Cabinet Office has extensively reviewed the SWY program in the past 4 years. Based on the results of the reviews, including the survey on the impact of the Cabinet Office's international youth exchange programs on the growth of youth we have reconfirmed that a long-term onboard ship training is greatly effective in fostering strong bonds among youths from different countries. We are committed to continuously evaluate and improve the program. It is our hope that the program will continue to foster international understanding and peace as PYs become leaders in each of their countries or fields of expertise. We sincerely appreciate all the ex-PYs for their lasting support to the SWY program.

The Next Generation Global Leaders Program 2015

- Ship for World Youth Leaders - Jan. 14 to Mar. 1, 2016

Outline

The Japanese participating youth (JPY) and overseas participating youth (OPY) from 10 countries around the world shall partake in the following activities.

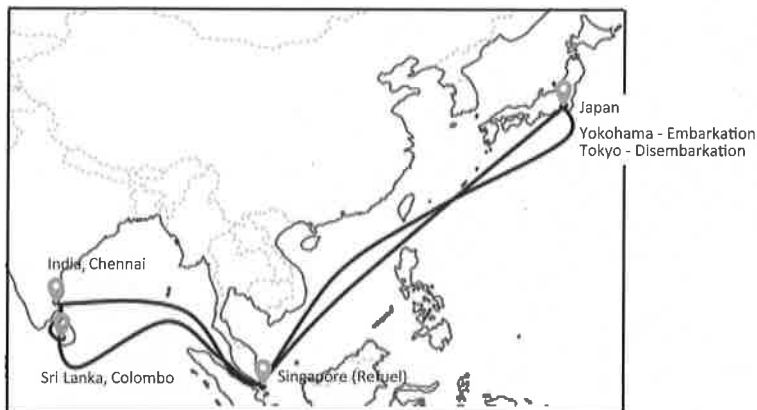
- A. Onshore and Onboard Training Sessions (7 days and 34 days respectively): Course Discussion, seminars, national presentation, cultural introduction activities, sports and recreation, group activities, voluntary activities and others.
- B. Activities in the visited countries for the ports of call: courtesy call, visit to various facilities, exchange with local youth etc.

Participating Countries

Australia, Kingdom of Bahrain, Republic of Chile, India, United Mexican States, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, United Arab Emirates, and Japan

120 JPYs and 120 OPYs (12 participants from each country)

Sailing Route



Schedule

- Arrival of the OPY and activities in Japan
Jan.14 (Thu) to Jan. 19 (Tue), 2016
- Pre-Departure Training Session (JPY only)
Jan. 18 (Mon) to Jan. 19 (Tue)
- Onshore Training Session
Jan. 20 (Wed) to Jan. 26 (Tue)
- Onboard Training Session
Jan. 27 (Wed) to Feb. 29 (Mon)
*Ports of call activities will be in India and Sri Lanka
- Post-Program Training Session (JPY only)
Feb. 29 (Mon) to Mar. 1 (Tue)



Report of the Global Youth Leaders Development Program 2014 - Ship for World Youth Leaders - - Ports of Call Activities in Japan Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture

The aim of the port of call in Okinawa was to learn distinctive features of Okinawa based on the institutional visit under the discussion theme: Okinawa Shogaku Senior High School (Cross-Cultural Understanding), Okinawa Christian University (Education), OKINAWA TIMES (Information and Media), Okinawa Girls Square (Social Entrepreneurship), Okinawa International University, Socialwork Studio (Volunteerism). PYs found a lot of difference in Okinawa culture compared to the typical culture of Japan. Even so, it was a surprise to know that people in Okinawa are thinking that their culture are dying out. PYs and the Local Youth had a good experience to visit the city and get to know the people of Okinawa.



Port of call organizing committee members of Okinawa IYEO and Local Youth



Introduce Oman culture at International Night EXPO



Exchange idea with the Local Youth in Okinawa

- Overseas Training Sessions New Zealand

Tēnā koutou katoa ngā tino hoa o SWY i ngā tōpito katoa o te ao - warm greetings to our SWY friends from all far reaches of the world. Most of our post programme activities related to selecting, training and supporting our newest delegates, for SWY27 this year and now the up and coming SWY28.

We were very excited to host a Japanese delegation, from SWY27, here in Aotearoa. The delegation visited Wellington and Rotorua, including a visit to the school of Leah Fitzpatrick's (SWY7) son, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rotoiti (a Māori Language Immersion school). The school worked hard to prepare for the visit and it made the local paper. The Rotorua Daily Post



Delegates from SWY27 meet Prime Minister John Key in Wellington, New Zealand

Ofunato and Rikuzentakata Cities, Iwate Prefecture

At the port of Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture, after the introduction of the PYs, Local Youth, and Iwate committee members, Mr. Naoyuki Takahashi (SWY22), President of Iwate IYEO, made a welcome speech "4 years ago the Great East Japan Earthquake hit Iwate Prefecture, the coast area of Tohoku region and Japan. Our land was heavily damaged, and we lost so many things such as people's lives, family and community. As we received a lot of support from all around the world, now we are stepping forward little by little for reconstruction. In fact many people visited the devastated area to support us, we always remember them as well as the people who send us the warm hearted support from overseas. Today many people from all over the world gathered in Iwate Prefecture. I feel that this is a precious opportunity to thank for all the support and encouragement given to Japan. Thank you very much for your continuous support to Iwate, Tohoku and Japan." PYs were listening to the speech seriously. From the PYs posture it was easy to tell that the message reached their heart.



Speech from Iwate IYEO President Mr. Naoyuki Takahashi



Mr. Takashi Kubota, by then Deputy Mayor of Rikuzentakata City, gives a lecture



A big sending off from the port of Ofunato

said, "One Japanese delegate, Takuya Azegami, 20 years old, said 'Here in NZ you celebrate your Māori culture and work to keep it...there are many things we have learned...to improve how we teach...and how we keep cultures alive.' " Our manuhiri (visitors) were generous, engaging with our tamariki (children) sharing laughs, questions and answers, food, candy, song and dance, it was a wonderful afternoon.

NZ delegate Arish Naresh (SWY27) wrote about his SWY experience for the Gisborne Newspaper, also speaking at local Polytechnic and high schools "to inform other young people about this program and hopefully encourage young people to apply."



Article by Arish Naresh (SWY27), Gisborne Newspaper

Report of the Global Youth Leaders Development Program 2014 - Ship for World Youth Leaders - - Overseas Training Sessions

Peru

Peru was designated as one of the five international destinations for the 'Japanese Missions Abroad' to travel as part of the SWY27 program. It was a great honor for SWYAA Peru to be appointed by the Cabinet Office and the Japanese Embassy as the official hosting organization in our country. The great experience of organizing the 7th SWYAA Global Assembly in 2013 was still fresh in our memories, and we accepted this new challenge with enthusiasm.

During around six months of work, we arranged a comprehensive one-week program for this Overseas Training Session, covering Information and Media Course contents, Peruvian culture, history and current issues, and the Nikkei heritage and Japanese influence. From February 13 to 19, 2015 we received 23 Japanese participating youth, accompanied by 3 staff members.

Although it was a very short visit, we made our best to include a wide selection of activities in order to provide a general idea of our country's richness and diversity. JPYs participated in cultural visits and workshops, academic lectures, official receptions, and social contribution activities; also having time to enjoy with homestay families, Peruvian kids, Nikkei youth, Japanese immigrants, and local ex-PYs.

None of this would have been possible without the

collaboration of several hosting institutions that generously opened their doors to the Japanese Mission: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Government Palace, the Japanese Peruvian Association, the Communications School of the Catholic University of Peru, the Institute of Radio and Television of Peru, the "Hermano Thomas Helm" Center, Leslie Patten Music Workshop, and of course the Japanese Embassy in Lima.

We are sure that this experience has strongly contributed to deepening the mutual understanding between our countries, and will be the starting point for future projects between Japanese and Peruvian youths.



Bahrain



At Reef Arabia, Japanese participating youth experience a process to put concrete into a framework which grows an artificial reef



Japanese participating youth receive scarves as a gift from the host family during the home visit



Japanese participating youth learn how to make a prayer in a mosque at Al Fateh mosque

Sri Lanka



Formal dinner hosted by H.E. Nobuhito Hobo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Sri Lanka at the Japanese Ambassador's official residence



Japanese participating youth communicate with host families while teaching Origami



Japanese participating youth visit National Volunteering Secretariat to receive a lecture

Turkey



Japanese participating youth pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu



Japanese participating youth pay a courtesy call on Minister Akif Cagatay Kilic, of the Ministry of Youth and Sports



Japanese participating youth enjoy the introduction of Turkish culture and ethnic costume at New World Foundation

SWYAA International Activity Reports

International Relief Activity to Support Vanuatu

First international activity as SWYAA International took place around March – May, 2015 after the massive cyclone Pam hit Vanuatu on March 14. Immediately after the news came in, Secretariat of the SWYAA International communicated with the President of SWYAA Vanuatu, Mr. Antonny Arnhambat and Vice President, Mr. David Merick to find out the situation in Vanuatu. Fortunately, no lives of the ex-PYs

were threatened, however, most of them had big damages in their houses or communities. SWYAA Vanuatu decided to launch relief activities for the victims of the cyclone, and SWYAA International supported their initiative. In addition to the donation from IYEO (total of 493,000 yen), SWYAA International raised a total of approximately US\$6,230 as donation.

Phase 1: US\$2,700 sent on March 19 (Canada, India: individual, Mexico: individuals, Sweden)

Phase 2: US\$1,360 sent in mid-April (Chile, Norway, Peru, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey)

Phase 3: US\$2,170 sent in mid-May (Australia, Bahrain, New Zealand)



SWYAA Activity Reports by Countries - Report from September 2014 to August 2015

Egypt

- **Banding Together...Keeping Spirit of the SWY: Connecting To and Through the Arts** (Event to Show about SWY Program and Social Contribution Activities)

Joint event between the Egyptian Alumni Association for the Ship for World Youth (hereafter EASWY) and the Japanese Embassy in Cairo took place on September 11, 2014 inviting the guests from international SWYers. This is the joint efforts of ex-PYs from three different countries, EASWY, Real Sun (SWY24, Canada), Ramon Narayan (SWY24 & 16, New Zealand) and Tiren Ratema (SWY25, New Zealand) to talk in Cairo, Egypt, to show about what SWY program is and its post-program activities, especially social contribution activities. This event was attended by Egyptian audience and friends of the Japanese Embassy. Music and poetry were part of this important event. Press attended the event. The event was very successful and everybody enjoyed SWY spirit and sang SWY Song starting "We are living the dream, united for change, a global SWY Family..."

- World Scout Jamboree

On the occasion of EASWY and the Egyptian delegation from the Egyptian Federation for Scouts and Girl Guides participated 23rd World Scout Jamboree "A Spirit of Unity," July 28 to August 8, 2015, held in Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan.

Within the framework of EASWY post-program activities of promoting SWY program, introducing the Japanese culture to Egyptian youth and contributing into enhancement of bilateral relations between Egypt and Japan, EASWY cooperated with the Egyptian delegation and coordinated with the Japanese Embassy in Cairo. Orientation session also took place at the Japanese Embassy for the delegation. Two of EASWY members are participating in the Jamboree: Hany Abdel Monem (SWY14) and Ahmed Mamdouh (SWY21). EASWY would like to thank Ms. Tamae Saito for arranging a courtesy visit of the Egyptian delegation to the Cabinet Office of Japan.



Chile

- **From Japan to the End of the World (Annual Origami Workshop)**
Constanza Crespo (SWY25) our SWYAA Chile Secretariat, every year organizes an Origami Workshop for kids in her hometown, Punta Arenas, the southern city of the world. Kids learn about Japan and of course about SWY!! This time they were very lucky and enjoyed a nice sunny origami day. This activity

helps kids to learn about discipline and follow instructions, also it's a very good opportunity to have fun with classmates, and then, share what they have learned with their families and friends.



Fiji

- Preparation to Host the 9th GA

SWYAA Fiji is privileged to be given an opportunity by the IYEO to host the 9th SWYAA Global Assembly in Fiji from August 12 to 16, 2015 (optional tour from August 17 to 19). SWYAA Fiji Officials have been working around the clock to provide the participants a very enjoyable and memorable stay in Fiji.



- Oratory Contest

An Oratory Contest was organized in Naboutini Village on February 14, 2015. The main objective of the contest was to create awareness amongst the community on climate change issues. SWYAA Fiji had partnered with the organizers to provide prizes for the Oratory Contest.

India

- School Cleanliness Program ~Gakkō no seijō-do~ (SWYAA India Improves School Sanitation with Japanese Embassy)

Government of India has initiated the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' (Clean India Mission) program with people's participation. SWYAA India participated by launching the school cleanliness and sanitation program in February 2015 in government primary schools in New Delhi. This program was accomplished with the association and participation from the Embassy of Japan in India, Education Department of the local Government, Discover Japan Club (DJC) India and Discover India Club (DIC), Japan.

One hundred students of class 3rd, 4th and 5th grade took part in two groups. The activities included a film show on the classroom activities in the Japanese primary schools by Mr. Ravi Chopra (SWY6), interaction with students on "Tokubetsu Katsudou" by Mr. Satoshi Kubo and Mr. Tomoki Tazawa for one group accompanied by singing the song DORAEMON and teaching to count till ten in Japanese. Dr. Rabinder Malik (SWY10, 11 ADV) was very thrilled to interact with girl children who addressed him endearingly as "Dadaji" from Japan (Indian grandfather from Japan) and informed them to speak about the Japanese school children who clean their classrooms as part of their daily routine. Dr. Malik also sang "Enka" song for them which children love very much. Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna narrated her childhood incidences about the collective sanitation activities in Mahatma Gandhi's ashram, which the children enjoyed immensely.

To the second group of eager and happy girl students, Dr. Unita Sachindanand introduced Japanese script and drawing of figures along with a song in Japanese and in Hindi based on DORAEMON characters. Ms. Masayo Kaneko taught Japanese greetings and conducted a painting competition. On their part students presented a role play on sanitation and participated in cleaning of their classrooms as they got a hand on training in the Japanese way of meticulously cleaning the classrooms as demonstrated by Mr. Satoshi Kubo and Mr. Tomoki Tazawa.

The pure innocence, boundless energy and extreme happiness of the students from an underprivileged background studying in government schools, who rarely have such occasion of meeting the Japanese nationals, won everyone's hearts. Children's expressive faces, eagerness to perform and learn turned these two hours into a unique experience of serenity, joy and pleasure for the Japanese nationals and for all of us equally.



Japan

- IYEO 30th Anniversary ~Its Commemorative Projects~

IYEO marked its 30th year anniversary, since its establishment 1995 which is the International Youth Year by UN. In commemoration to this, we have organized various events such as; Visual IYEO Human resource map, selecting IYEO mascot character, publishing IYEO annual magazine "HUMANO," Visit Tohoku Tour, fund raising projects, etc.

RAN-NASU "Run Earth"

IYEO image character/icon which was selected among IYEO members etc. in commemoration with 30th Anniversary. It represents IYEO members who run around the world meeting the people from all walks of life by crossing the border for the gathering. It also shows IYEO members who are actively taking initiative in social contribution activities along with their occupation.



"Visit Tohoku Tour"

The tour visited Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture and the surrounding areas from July 24 to 26 with 40 participants aged 4 to 60s, from 5 different countries. This was aimed to provide an opportunity to visit the affected area of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami occurred in March 2011, in order to remember the disaster, to learn the current condition as well as challenges of the area, and to contribute to the society.



- 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 since 2010. As of 2015, 65 Japanese Foster Parents are supporting 73 students in the Buddha Jayanthi Primary School in Hakmana, Sri Lanka. We have supported a total of 125 students in six years, and the total number of the foster parents exceeded 100. From July 18 to 23, 2015, the second school visit tour was implemented. We donated ten laptop computers, an amp, and a speaker and the tour members introduced Japanese culture such as Origami to the students. The teachers and the students are grateful for us to visit and the continuous supports for the school. We've develop our mutual understanding between Japan and Sri Lanka. E-mail: onemorechild@iyeo.or.jp

Mexico

- A Thousand Names for Supporting Nepal from Mexico {Offering Cross-Cultural Experience to Support Nepal, written by Mazen Al-Maskati (SWY18, Bahrain)}



Everyone was saddened to hear all the earthquake news from Nepal. Being born volunteers from different SWYAA's we wanted to help even if it's little. Recently we've heard about the support that ex-PYs from all over the world managed to contribute

and help our friends in Vanuatu when natural disaster hit. After seeing the successful campaigns done for Vanuatu and with so many SWYers calling out for action, we decided to try and do something. We started looking into various options, events, sponsors and more. We really wanted to go further than sending messages for moral support.

Every year the government of Mexico organizes a cultural fair "Feria de las Culturas Amigas." Embassies are invited to represent themselves at the downtown center of the capital to show Mexican people their culture, tradition, dances, food and more. This really opened huge window of opportunity for us. Instead of doing a conventional fund raising we decided to give the people who wanted to donate something in exchange. Since the main objective of the fair is cultural exchange, we decided to present the visitors the different cultures that we came across during our SWY experience.