

# Chapter 1 Outline of the Program

## 1. Purpose

Leaders of the next generation who are capable of leading and guiding people are required in this international society and local society. From this aspect, the Ship for World Youth Program (SWY) will focus on implementing programs where participating youth from various backgrounds will gain abilities to deal with different cultures, communication skills, leadership skills and management skills through having discussions, cultural exchanges and workshops that are organized by the participating youth (PY) themselves. In addition, SWY aims to establish

globally strong human network beyond national borders.

Considering the uncertain situation of COVID-19 which has happened pandemic in 2020 is still ongoing, we must make a decision that SWY should not be conducted in-person due to the difficulties to sufficiently secure the safety of the participants and the person involved. Therefore, web-based exchange program would be conducted as a safer alternative with discussion, workshop and so forth by taking advantages of SWY characteristics.

## 2. Contents

Japanese Participating Youth (hereinafter JPY) along with Overseas Participating Youth (hereinafter OPY) from 8 other countries participated in the Online Program for 4 days.

### (1) Keynote Lecture

Under the common theme of Sustainable Development Goals (hereinafter SDGs), the groups of Course Discussion (hereinafter CD) are divided into four different themes; Social issues (poverty, hunger, education, etc.), Gender issues, Economic issues (employment, economic disparity, etc.), Environment issues (climate change, marine affairs, bio-diversity, etc.). Guest speakers are invited to give a Keynote Lecture for PYs to deepen their knowledge in the respective theme.

### (2) Course Discussion Session

PYs are allocated into four courses based on their chosen themes, and have discussion under the guidance of facilitators.

### (3) Workshop Session

The Workshop provides the opportunities for PYs to experience different cultures for having a better cross-cultural understanding and an international perspective with other participants from different countries in workshop style.

### (4) Presentation of Results

PYs give presentations on the results of Discussion and Workshop which they obtain from the SWY Online.

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### 3. Schedule

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Item	Date
Online Selection of JPYs	Sun., August 22, Fri., August 27, Sat., August 28, Sun., August 29, 2021
Facilitators Meeting	Thu., November 4 and Mon., November 8, 2021 Sat., January 15, Sat., January 22, Sat., January 29 and Sat., February 12, 2022
Pre-Program Training for JPY	Sat., December 4 and Sat., December 11, 2021
SWY Online Program	Sat., January 15, Sat., January 22, Sat., January 29 and Sat., February 12, 2022
Debriefing Session by JPY	Sat., February 19 for Preparation and Sat., February 26, 2022 for Debriefing Session

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### 4. Participating Countries

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There were 9 participating countries in the program, and a total of 76 PYs (37 OPYs and 39 JPYs) joined the program.

Australia

Sultanate of Oman

Russian Federation

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Japan

New Zealand

Republic of Poland

Republic of South Africa

Kingdom of Sweden

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### 5. Participating Youths (PYs)

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#### (1) Number of PYs (Quota)

OPYs: 5 PYs per country (8 countries)

JPYs: 40 PYs

80 PYs in total from 9 countries

#### (2) Selection of Japanese Participants

After conducting the initial screening of the application materials, the Cabinet Office shortlisted the applicants and conducted the online interview.

- Must hold Japanese nationality and be mostly 18-30 years of age (as of April 1, 2021).
- Must be physically and mentally fit, able to act in harmony with others, able to follow a regimented program, and have the discipline to work together.

- Must possess considerable knowledge in areas such as Japanese society, culture, etc.
- Must have an interest in and understanding of the participating countries.
- Must possess a sufficient command of English to participate smoothly in activities during the program (e.g., discussion sessions).
- Must attend all the programs, consisting of Pre-Program Training for JPY, SWY Online program, and Debriefing Session by JPY.
- Must be actively involved in social activities based on the experiences of the program after completion.
- Must prepare the necessary equipment for online program at own expense (e.g., computer,

Internet access, etc.).

\*Participation in this program shall not hinder participation in any of the international youth exchange programs of the Cabinet Office, including the SWY program in the coming years. (Participants of this program are also eligible to participate in the international exchange youth programs of the Cabinet Office in the next and subsequent years.)

\*Applicants, who participated in the past international youth exchange programs of the Cabinet Office, including the online exchange program conducted by the Cabinet Office in 2020, are also eligible to apply.

### (3) Selection of Overseas Participants

The call for applicants and selection of OPYs were made by the governments of the participating countries, at the request of and in coordination with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japanese diplomatic establishment abroad. The basic qualifications for OPYs were as follows:

- a. Must be around 18-30 years of age (as of April 1, 2021).
- b. Must be a resident of the participating countries.
- c. Must be physically and mentally fit, able to act in harmony with others, able to follow a regimented program, and have the discipline to work together.
- d. Must have an interest in Japan and be willing to play a role of expanding relations and promoting friendship between Japan and his/her own country in the future.
- e. Must possess considerable knowledge in areas such as his/her own country's society, culture, etc.
- f. Must have an interest in and understanding of the participating countries.
- g. Must possess a sufficient command of English to participate smoothly in activities such as university-level discussions.
- h. Must attend all the programs of SWY together with JPY.
- i. Must prepare the necessary equipment for online program at own expense (e.g., computer, Internet access, etc.).

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## 6. Facilitators Meeting

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The Cabinet Office held the online Facilitators Meetings of the SWY Online with the attendance of four Facilitators and an Advisor for JPYs. The aim of the Meeting was to ensure the smooth and effective implementation of the SWY Online by sharing the common understanding on basic matters including purposes and by exchanging views and opinions about the program operation.

### [Agenda of Facilitators Meetings]

#### Meeting 1 (November 4, 2021)

- (1) Guideline and schedule of the SWY Online
- (2) Presentation and exchange of opinions regarding the assignment, discussion plan, and candidates for keynote lecture
- (3) Format of Presentation of discussion results
- (4) PYPs' Profile Introduction

#### Meeting 2 (November 8, 2021)

- (1) Presentation and exchange of opinions regarding the modified discussion plan
- (2) How to response to sensitive topics
- (3) Program contents of Pre-Program Training for JPY

#### Meeting 3 (January 15, 2022)

- (1) Review of CD I

#### Meeting 4 (January 22, 2022)

- (1) Review of CD II

#### Meeting 5 (January 29, 2022)

- (1) Review of CD III
- (2) Preparation for presentation of CD results

## Meeting 6 (February 12, 2022)

(1) Review of presentation of CD results and feedback

### [List of Facilitators]

Course Discussion	Name	Gender	Country
Social Issues	Ahmareen Farah	F	Canada
Gender Issues	Eugene Cubilla Sosing	M	Philippines
Economic Issues	Aida May Bergado-De Guzman	F	Philippines
Environment Issues	May Ali Khalfan	F	Bahrain

### [Advisor for JPYs]

Name	Gender	Country
NAKAZAWA Satoshi	M	Japan

\*Advisor for JPYs gives support and advice to JPYs throughout the program, from the Pre-Program Training to the Debriefing Session.



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## 7. Pre-Program Training for Japanese Participating Youth (JPY)

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The Pre-Program Training Session for JPY took place online on December 4 and December 11, 2021. The JPYs received guidance from Mr. NAKAZAWA Satoshi, Advisor for JPYs, and facilitators on necessary knowledge to deepen their understanding of the aims and objectives of the program, as well as basic information for discussion and preparation for the online exchange with OPYs. Under the leadership of the Advisor for JPYs, about 40 JPYs spent time to know each other by introducing themselves and sharing what they expected to achieve from this program. JPYs also had discussion sessions by each course with

respective facilitator. Mr. SATO Futoshi who has served as an advisor for 4 times in the previous SWY programs and is a graduate of the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona, was invited as a keynote lecturer and gave a lecture titled "SWY × SDGs; Integrated approach, Transformation, and Sustainability." These sessions deepened JPYs' knowledge of the discussion themes and the current state of SDGs.

International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO) also explained about its organization and introduced some post-program activities.

## 8. Debriefing Session by JPY

The Debriefing Session by JPY was held online on February 26, 2022. The preparation day was set on February 19, and the JPYs, in cooperation with the advisor, made preparations for the Debriefing Session with the goal of sharing and presenting their knowledge and experiences gained through the program. JPYs formed the steering committee and they prepared the presentation scripts and conducted online rehearsals. In the Debriefing Session, the JPYs looked back on the program, clarified their vision for the further activities, and

summarized the experiences and lessons accumulated through the program. Experience of discussion session, panel discussion and exchange of opinions with the participants (viewers) were held under the theme "Ship for World Youth Program: The Reality of Online International Exchange –Beyond Time zones, Oceans and Languages–". Explanation of the program next year and introduction of the post-program activities were also given. An audience of 71 people joined in the session.



Keynote lecture by Mr. SATO Futoshi



The Pre-Program Training Session



At the completion of the Debriefing Session