



Asia & Pacific Alliance of YMCAs

23, Waterloo Road, 6/F
Kowloon, Hong Kong



3rd APAY Green Ambassadors Training

26th March – 1st April, 2015,

(including Days of Arrival and Departure)

YMCA Training Center, Savar, Dhaka,
Bangladesh

Introduction :

Preservation of the nature & environment has become the biggest challenge for us in the post-modern era. In the name of development we have plundered the earth with the dawn of industrialization, but the degree of destruction of our natural resources has exceeded all records since the last century. Carbon emission has reached new heights. Global warming has resulted in climate change which has poised much negative impacts in human lives. Concerted efforts of all quarters are required to reverse the situation in order to save the earth from the threat of imminent danger.

The APAY had always been a proponent to bring awareness amongst the people for the conservation of the nature. One of the flagship programs of APAY Green Team is the Green Ambassadors Training Program. The APAY Green Team initiated this program to educate young people to bring behavioral changes in order to reduce carbon footprints and also advocate for eco-justice, with an emphasis on the YMCAs operation also. The APAY has initiated a four year process of Recruiting, Training and Accompanying YMCA Green Ambassadors from various YMCAs in our region of Asia & Pacific. These Green Ambassadors shall take the initiative for Green Programs in their respective YMCAs, to reduce the carbon footprints of their YMCAs and eventually lead the YMCA to a carbon 'zero' organization.

The first Green Ambassadors Training took place in May 2012 in Chiangmai, Thailand. The second Green Ambassadors Training took place in May 2013 in Hong Kong.

As a part of the curriculum, the participants were made acquainted with scientific consensus about climate change, greenhouse gases, global warming, impact of the climate change and also the social economic, cultural and political dimensions of environmental issues. They were exposed to various endeavors in their field trip where efforts were being made to reduce carbon footprints through various energy saving devices and utilizing renewable energy sources and like solar energy, biogas plant, etc. The participants committed themselves to work for carbon footprint reduction in their own YMCAs. It is a matter of pride that we could see that most of the participants have started green activities in their own YMCAs after the training program.

During the year 2014 we had given focus on National Green Ambassadors Training and we had successfully completed National Green Ambassadors Training in three national movements, these are Taiwan, India and Malaysia. Now in the year 2015 the last year of our present APAY quadrennial we do plan to organize the 3rd Green Ambassadors Training, APAY during 26 March - 1 April 2015, (inclusive the days of arrival and departure) at YMCA Training Center, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh. We envisage that about 25 participants from various National Movement of our region shall participate at the program.

During the training special focus shall be given on APAY's program on Alternative Tourism the Global Alternative Tourism Network. It has been observed that there is a very close relation between Tourism and Climate Change. Tourism related activities, especially the air travel and shipping accounts to about 10% of the total carbon emissions. As such if responsible and climate friendly tourism could be introduced, this would help to eliminate substantial amount of carbon emissions.

Goal of the Training

The YMCAs of Asia & Pacific Region be more

- Sensitive towards the ecology,
- Responsive towards preservation of the environment,
- Reduce respective carbon footprints &
- Work towards climate justice.

Objectives of the Training Program is to

- Impart climate education to the participants in order to
- Comprehend the impact of carbon emissions
- Learn the methodology of offsetting carbon footprints
- Share the best environmental practices of the YMCAs
- Learn about the usage of renewable energy
- Learn about energy saving appliance
- Learn the use of carbon calculators

Training Methodology

- Participatory Workshop with Competent Resource Persons as facilitators.
- Exposure trips to various environment preservation initiatives, renewable energy, organic farm, etc.
- Group Discussions & experience sharing
- Share good practices of the YMCAs in the region.

Expected Participants of the Green Ambassadors Training

YMCA Staff, Volunteers and Board Members of our Region of Asia & Pacific

... who care for the environment and are committed to work towards restoration of the environment

... who has the capacity to train YMCA staff, members and volunteers.

... who has the capacity to organize the campaigns and environmental advocacy programs.

... who are ready to volunteer their time and energy for the YMCA.

Overview of the Program

Day 1 : March 26, Thursday,	Arrival, Registration
Day 2 : March 27, Friday,	Inauguration & Introduction to Global Alternative Tourism Network & Climate Change,
Day 3 : March 28, Saturday	Global Alternative Tourism Network & Climate Change, (Cont'd)
Day 4 : March 29, Sunday	Activities to promote environmental awareness amongst the participants, carbon calculator, saving money using energy efficiency and renewable energy
Day 5 : March 30, Monday	Environmental Advocacy, Mass Campaign Strategies, Role of Green Ambassadors Role of Green Team
Day 6 : March 31 Tuesday	Action Plan for implementation in respective YMCAs. Act of Commitment, Closing Dinner
Day 7 : April 1, Wednesday	Departure

Registration & Participation Fee :

National Movements are requested to select the most appropriate candidates for the Green Ambassadors as per the criteria laid down and submit the registrations to the **APAY Secretariat before 28th February 2015**. The registration form is attached.
Cost of participation US\$ 200 (accommodation 6 nights and meals, field trips),
Registration Fee: US\$ 50 dollars for Registration including US\$15 for Green Fund

Subsidies :

Limited travel and participation subsidies are available for YMCAs with financial constraints. Requests for subsidies should reach the office before 28th February 2015. Registration Fees are mandatory for all participants.

Visa :

Most of the countries require visa to visit Bangladesh. For Visa purpose, the Bangladesh YMCAs shall send an official letter of invitation for visa purpose. Please indicate your preference in the registration form. Participants are requested to avail tourist visa, which is easy to obtain.

Participants are requested to book their flights to Dhaka International Airport, arrival on 26th of March and departure on 1st April 2015. The host Bangladesh YMCA shall receive all the participants from Dhaka Airport and bring them to the training venue.

Venue:

The training shall be held at YMCA Training Center, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh. This is the national training center of the Bangladesh YMCAs, situated in the suburbs of Dhaka, about 26 kilometers from Dhaka City.

Weather:

The weather in Dhaka during March vary from 25 to 30 degree Celsius.

Contact Person :

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Training Venue

YMCA Training Center
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