



APAY NEWS

Monthly e-Newsletter of the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs No. 04 / 10 ~ May 2010

1. APAY Youth Council (AYC) Moves to the Next Decade of Youth Leadership and Participation

About 60 youth leaders/volunteers and staff from 18 Movements in the region have already listed to the AYC 2010 happening this 14-16 July in Hong Kong. This 1st AYC will feature movement sharing on youth in the YMCA and youth realities, case studies on YMCA models of youth work focusing on good practices with challenges and lessons learnt and plenary discussions. Engaging more youth in the YMCA will be the main focus of National Movements' proposals and commitment. As we strengthen the bonds of relationship among youth leaders and staff, there will be a time for dialogue on youth and staff partnerships.

Moving on to the next decade, the key leaders meeting to be participated in by the YPLD Committee members and country representatives will deliberate future initiatives and strategies on the growth, leadership, participation and engagement of our youth. There will also be an evening of fellowship and community building. Our youth committee-working group is finalizing other programme details that will be shared to all participants.

Participating YMCAs include Bangladesh, Cambodia, East Timor, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. With the addition of Australia and New Zealand participants, there will be 20 Movements joining the International Youth Forum (IYF) that will take place after the AYC. There will be about 280+ youth from APAY (200 from both YMCAs in Hong Kong) and 50 will stay on until the World Council

This is indeed a very inspiring response for youth participation and development. We thank all our Movements for your encouraging support. Let us all move on to the next decade of YMCA youth leadership, participation and engagement. We also express our appreciation to the World Alliance, NCY Japan and some Y's Men's Club in Hong Kong for their financial support covering some travel and participation subsidies. All donations we received for our S2S campaign 2009 will be used to fund our AYC. *Details of the AYC programme are available on our website.*

2. Drinks for FUN(D) at the World Council 2010 ~ A Special Fund Raising...

The 17th World Council (WC) is fast approaching. In less than a month from now, nearly 1,000 staff, leaders and volunteers will attend the said gathering which includes a good number of youth participants from APAY.

To keep up with the challenges of times and the needs of the Youth from our region, we continue to find ways of providing them opportunities and platforms for youth participation and leadership. Engaging them into International interaction and immersion into the life of the community need funds. With this in mind, we will do a fund raising event during the World Council called "*Drinks for FUN(D)!*". Several Y's Men's Club here in Hong Kong District have already donated some amount for this fellowship and fun(d) nights in Wu Kwai Sha.

For those of you who wish to join and support our "*Drinks for FUN(D)*", you can buy our coupon worth 100HKD and exchange the same as a donation for a bottled drink/s at the designated APAY booth/store. We will be open after dinnertime only. Our volunteers mostly from the Y's Men's Clubs and some YMCA senior friends/supporters are expecting to raise about USD10,000 at the end of the program to provide for the projects of APAY in line with Youth Participation and Leadership Development.

ur sincerest appreciation for your support and participation in this special fund raising for the youth at the World Council

3. Macau Training Deepens Knowledge on GCE!

Ms. Kristina Velez, Youth Volunteer, NCY Philippines shares...



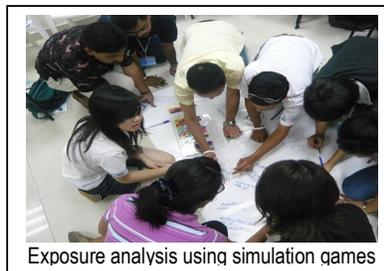
On 25-30 May 2010, the YMCA of Macau hosted us at the very first Global Citizenship Education (GCE) Training of Trainers (ToT) in Sao Jose Convention Center. National Movements from Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand have participated.

A pool of trainers and resource persons has provided with a series of lectures and interactive workshops to equip us with the knowledge and skills on different ways of educating people on Global Citizenship. Every session and workshop was so meaningful and participant-driven.

They were presented in a progressive manner that deepens one's knowledge about GCE.

Mr. Nam Boo Won, General Secretary of Gwangju YMCA, Korea has given a very practical understanding on Globalisation and Global Citizenship. He heightened the term "butterfly effect" which slowly moves but effects extensively and its interconnectedness as the very essence of being a global citizen. He shared also an input on the need for GCE on an APAY perspective. A very interactive session on "If the world were a village of 100 people..." which simply implies that as a global citizens we should be mindful beyond our reach was facilitated by Ms. Eno Nakamura, Executive Director of Development Education Association and Resource Center (DEAR), Japan. She provided a stimulating group discussion on the key elements of global citizenship.

Community exposures as part of our experiential learning also took place within the curriculum. We had the chance to interact with our own groups and exposures sites in: YMCA Lai Cheng Center for young offenders, Caritas Macau that works for family and child care services and UGAMM for newcomers/immigrants integrated services. Mr. Song Jin Ho, Senior Executive Director of NCY Korea assisted in the reflective analysis of the participants after the exposures using various GCE simulation games.



Our third day was filled with skills training workshops in parallel sessions. Different forms of methodologies and approaches were provided by the following YMCA staff who are experts on their own field: (1) Leadership Roles and Skills for Working with Group by Mr. Eric Au Yeung and Ms. Siu Law of the YMCA of Hong Kong; (2) Multicultural Learning and Social Inclusion by Mr. Cheuk Chin Kao of Macau YMCA; (3) Creative Ways of Promoting and Teaching GCE using drama and theater by Mr. Pablito Tabucol of the YMCA Philippines; (4) GCE Curriculum Development & Management by Ms. Yuria Yokoyama of NCY Japan, and (5) Advocacy and Campaign by Mr. James Tan of Asian Center for the Progress of Peoples (ACCP), Hong Kong. The APAY General Secretary, Mr. Kohei Yamada shared what are the ongoing programmes and actions on APAY Resource Mobilization.

At the end of the training, we shared our own action plan within our own context, which has a special focus on integrating GCE in YMCA youth works and community development programmes. Everyone was able to express his or her comments and suggestions after each country's presentation. Mr. Yamada in his closing words emphasized that GCE is a great tool to develop young people in the YMCA as the future of the Movement and its Mission.



The training turned out well. We all look forward to implement successfully our respective designed action plans with the support and assistance of our own Movements. As announced by APAY, the 18th APAY General Assembly in Penang, Malaysia on September 2011 will be a time for assessment and celebrations of our GCE programmes. Post course training may also happen as a follow-up and monitoring.

4. ICF-SOP Culminates for 2010

Nineteen young people from different parts of Asia and different religious backgrounds arrived last 1 February at the Visthar campus Bangalore, India to attend the School of Peace (SOP) conducted by Interfaith Cooperation Forum (ICF), a joint program of APAY and CCA. They did not know each other previously. At first, they tended to mingle only with people from their own faith. Coming from Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, the only thing that united them was that they were between the age of 20 and 30 and worked at the grassroots level in their country.



Over the course of the 14-week program though, change began to take place. They no longer viewed a participant as a Muslim from the Philippines or a Christian from Bangladesh, but they saw in each other as young people working in their societies to bring about peace with justice, to eradicate poverty, to promote and protect human rights. In short, working toward positive change in their country was a common goal they all shared, and they built bonds of friendship and concern for each other. The insights and spirit of SOP are perhaps best captured in the SOP 2010 blog at <http://sop2010.wordpress.com/> that contains the reflective essays of the participants, pictures of SOP for 2010 and other materials.

On May 1, the SOP participants played an active role in the Festival of JustPeace that brought an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 people together at the Visthar campus to celebrate the struggle of people for justice. The SOP participants and those attending the festival from India shared their different cultures through music, dance and food. Information about a variety of issues was imparted through numerous videos that were shown throughout the day. Some of the SOP participants conducted discussion groups about the problems they were confronting in their countries, such as the violence and human rights violations in Burma, Mindanao in the Philippines and southern Thailand.

With the completion of SOP on May 14, the ICF network now consists of 68 people in 12 Asian countries. As the participants departed Bangalore for home, the work of the SOP participants now begins. In the process of attending SOP, the participants transformed themselves. Now the task is to work toward a similar transformation of their societies (*Report by Bruce Van Voorhis, APAY-ICF Coordinator*)

5. 5th IYYC Protects the Environment towards Sustainability

As part of our continuing efforts to strengthen Anjuctil/YMCA Timor-Leste, movements are encouraged to send young members and staff to the 5th International YMCA Youth Camp (IYYC) on 1- 9 August 2010.

This year's IYYC (formerly known as International YMCA Youth Peace Camp in Timor Leste) is inspired by the QPP thrust on "Sustainability for Life". The ANJUCTIL members together with the international young volunteers from other YMCAs will have sharing sessions on how to protect and respect their own local environment towards sustainability. Emphasis will be on understanding local traditions and cultural differences as a way to reconciliation and peace. Community exposures, environmental programmes, recreational activities, building networks with Anjuctil members and local community will be part of the camp activities. Interested participants are requested to send their registration forms and e-mail to: adipinto.83@live.com, Mr. Admin V. Pinto of ANJUCTIL before 30 June 2010. *Please consult your YMCA/National Council for the programme information.*

6. Gender Workshop Focuses on Sustainable Development

On 24-28 September 2010, our Gender Committee will organise a workshop on economic justice towards sustainable development to be hosted by Pune YMCA with the assistance of the National Council of YMCAs of India. Based on the QPP and survey results, discussions on focus issues and responding the same make it more effective to stimulate actions on gender concerns. This year's workshop will then explore on micro-finance and enterprise development that leads to empowering women for self-reliance and self-help initiatives. One interesting focus discussions would be on "how is equality between women and men

relevant to micro-enterprise programmes?” The workshop will be a back-back training programme (ToT) for a group of select YMCA women/men leaders as we heighten our capacity building on gender awareness. *Details of the programme will be made available soon in your National Movements.*

7. Uni-Y Conference 2010 in Baguio City, Philippines

Anchored on the four pillars of personal discipline, service, social responsibility and leadership, **Bayanihan 2010 ~ 3rd Asia Pacific University YMCAs Regional Conference** is about bringing out the best leader in you. From 19-24 October 2010, come and join as we journey together to Youth Leadership. We will engage ourselves in community volunteer services as a *Bayani* (Hero), working together as one *Bayan* (Community). Take part in various socio-civic activities, meet and be friends with young people of different culture and backgrounds, be of help and support to one another practicing *Bayanihan* ~ All these and more happening at the 3rd Uni-Y Conference. See you there! *(by Host Committee)*

8. SOP for YMCA Staff and Ecumenical NGOs

The School of Peace for YMCA Staff and representatives from ICF and CCA would held from 22 October to 11 November 2010 at YMCA International Hotel , Katunayake , Sri Lanka . The SOP will provide a unique opportunity for the YMCA staff to get intensive training on peace and interfaith actions . *Details of the programme has been sent to National Movements .*

9. APAY Opens Application for the 28th Advanced Studies Programme 2010

We have circulated recently the programme information and tentative schedule of our 28th Advanced Studies Programme (ASP) scheduled from 14 November to 12 December in Wu Kwai Sha, Hong Kong. Invitations have also been extended to other Area alliances. This annual programme of our region focuses on developing professional leadership to strengthen movement for transformation. Four major components of study include Contemporary Theological Perspectives, Contextual Realities, Impact and Responses, YMCA Movement (YMCA Mission and Social Relevance in the 21st Century) and Contextual Programme Response. Special focus on movement strengthening, workshops, exposures and case studies will be part of the curriculum. We are expecting more than 15 YMCA staff to participate in this year's ASP.

The registration fee is 250USD and participation fee is 1,500USD. Closing date of application is on 15 August 2010. *Details of the programme can be downloaded from our website and from your YMCA/National Secretariat.*

10. Updates... Updates...

Action on Climate Change: YMCA Green Team

APAY Green Team: The first *skype* conference of the APAY Green Team held on 10th May developed guidelines for the functioning of the YMCA Green Team at National / local level. The Green Team is in process of developing an online carbon footprint calculator for assisting the YMCAs actions on reducing own carbon footprint.

Australia: The Y Service Club of Bendigo has contributed funds to the Bendigo Regional YMCA to allow purchase of 2kW PV (photo voltaic) solar electricity panel system. The system will save the YMCA about \$600 per annum in energy costs and reduce GHG emissions by about 100 tonnes over first 25 years of operation. The system was also partly funded by the Federal Government. The YMCA have partnered with the local sustainability group, which will provide educational seminars on the operation of the system and how staff and volunteers can help by switching off lights and appliances when not in use. Behaviour change should reduce consumption by a considerable percentage. The Y Service Clubs in Bendigo also contributed funds to the Bendigo Regional YMCA for the purchase of LED tubes to replace fluoro tubes

Hong Kong: Council of YMCAs of Hong Kong made a resolution to participate in the Green Team as a Council with their Youth representatives as main group on the team supported by a staff.

Sri Lanka: The Ecology and Disaster Management Committee of the Sri Lanka YMCA will take over the role of Green Team to work towards developing plans on reducing Carbon Emission, Ecological balance and Environmental issues. National YMCA also striving the formation of Green Teams at Member YMCAs

Thailand: Chiangmai YMCA initiated campaign on reducing electricity bill involving households, schools etc and instituted award for best performances. Chiangmai YMCA's approaches not only limiting to reducing YMCAs own carbon footprint but also rather connect with the community at large. It joins with the 'stop-warming network', 'car free day' campaign, organizing seminars, education programs etc. The YMCA hotel is in the process of becoming Green Hotel with green policies and practices.

Global Alternative Tourism Network (GATN)

Nepal : The Nepal YMCA is initiating Alternative Tourism Project in partnership with Japan YMCA under APAY Partnership Project. As part of the project, Nepal YMCA initiates campaign for Alternative Tourism, establish Alternative Tourism group in Nepal , develop alternative tourism packages , train 25 unemployed youths as alternative tour guides .

Reminder: *YMCAs that are interested to initiate Alternative Tourism projects in their YMCAs as part of YMCA Global Alternative Tourism Network may kindly contact the APAY Secretariat as early as possible .*

11. News from our Movements ~

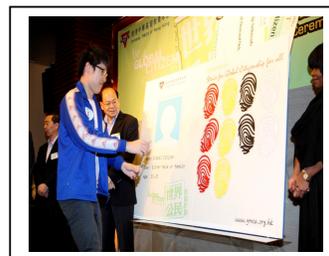
YMCA Philippines' RYLTI ~ capacity building for youth development



A 16-day leadership-training program, the Rizal Youth Leadership Training Institute (RYLTI) serves as an effective capacity building for youth development of YMCA Philippines. This year's RYLTI held last 15-31 May has gathered nineteen young university student leaders (College-Y Members) and some youth board members representing their various local YMCAs in the country. Anchored on the values of Integrity, Peace, Justice, Love of Country and Honesty; the said training program aimed to build young students to become transformational leaders. Study and discussions on Contemporary Youth Issues, Global Citizenship, Volunteerism, Community Development and on the life of the country's National Hero, Dr. Jose Rizal were given emphasis. At the end of the program, the scholars were tasked to make their action plans as an output that has to be implemented in their local YMCAs. Having stopped in 1995 due to governance crisis, the institute was revived in 2007 through the support of APAY~MAP (now APP). It has produced quite a number of prominent leaders and staff in YMCA community, government service, business entities and NGOs (*Report by Mr. Jude Miguelito De Lara, RYLTI 2009*)

Be A Global Citizen Kicks Off ~ Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong

In order to promote global citizenship, the Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong launched the "Be a Global Citizen" Campaign for young people aged 15 to 25. This campaign aims to equip participants with the knowledge of four major global issues: environment and sustainability, poverty, peace and cultural diversity. The ultimate winner or winning team of the campaign will be awarded a grand prize: a subsidy of up to HK\$100,000 for undertaking a 6-month plan for overseas exposure tour(s) to allow more in-depth exploration of global issues affecting target countries. After the exploration tour, the winner or winning team will share their experiences and help promote the concept of global citizenship to other local youths.



The kick-off ceremony and press conference for the said campaign was held on 15th May 2010. It was supported by the Steering Committee Chair, Mr. Andy Tsang (Deputy Commissioner for (Operations) of Hong Kong Police Force) together with the General Consulate of South Africa, South Korea, Germany and the United States of America in Hong Kong. Further detail can be found on <http://www.ymca.org.hk> (*Report by Mr. Eric Wong, International and Mainland Affairs Section, Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong*)

7th National Women's Assembly ~ India

The National Council of YMCAs of India with YMCA Aizawl as local host had organized the three-day 7th National Women's Assembly of the YMCAs of India last 6-10 May. The Chief Minister of Mizoram Mr.

Lal Thanhawla in his inaugural address emphasized on women holding many top posts in the country, which indicated a new era of women's empowerment in India. The theme of the Assembly, *'Ending Inequity: Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities – Progress for All'*, had three sub-themes addressed by experienced resource persons drawn from across the country. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Ann Thomas, Chairperson, Women's Empowerment & Gender Concerns Committee of the YMCAs of India. The National Assembly concluded with a five-point declaration which included among others, a call for the YMCA Women's Forum to aim at self-reliance in terms of finance and mission-oriented programmes besides, urging for initiating of e-network within the YMCA Women's Fora members. (Full text of news report by Mr. Anjan Mukherjee, Secretary, Media & Communication, NCY India can be downloaded from www.ymca.int)

2nd Japan YMCA Global Citizenship Project

Global Citizenship Education has been one of the national projects of the Japanese YMCA that started in 2009. This 20-26 August, participants coming from YMCA of China, Korea, Macau, Taiwan and Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong will gather in Tozanso to attend the "2nd Japan YMCA Global Citizenship Project". Input presentations, discussions, field study and workshops on development education will be part of the GC learning. Participants will present an action plan that will be implemented in a year-round programme.

Interested youth leaders from the North East Asian countries are invited to deliberate on issues and strategies to resolve things together on the aforementioned summer training as we all expand our fields of vision and move forward with the YMCA on a global scale. (Report by Ms. Maki Enokita, Youth Intern, NCY Japan)

12. Feature ~ Learning More About Tainan YMCA in Celebration of its 55 Years!

The YMCA of Tainan in Taiwan had been known as social educational organization for a long time, but now it is also known as a social welfare or social service organization. Let me share this learning and celebration of their 55 years last 1 May.

Tainan YMCA is about serving the youth and the elderly through their various programs. With the demanding needs of the elderly population, it has built a new model nursing home. Equipped with features that are safe and innovative at the same time, the plans are up for another nursing home or a day service center in the future. The issue on ageing population has been well recognized by the Taiwanese Government and they have been gradually providing more resources for the YMCA.

Involving the churches of the city is also one of the things that the Tainan YMCA has succeeded. Annually, 1,000 youth aging 13-18 comes together for a missionary camp. Over 60 churches are involved with this program wherein half of the participants are not Christians who later on get baptized to be one with Christ. These churches have been very supportive to the YMCA, understanding its mission and vision for the youth. It is expected that 1,200 to 1,500 youths will attend the next missionary camp.

Those who belong to a broken family and those youth at risk also gets support from the Tainan YMCA through counseling and other programs. Specialized and experience social workers were hired to deal with these adolescents experiencing a situational crisis.

The shift of the programs has invited more support both financially and in human resource aspects making more projects possible to happen to serve a larger number of people and a wider scale of community.

Volunteer activities, donations from community and individuals, board support and a stronger network between the churches in the city show the new trends of the YMCA in Tainan. With this, the devotion to Christianity and the voluntary spirits that the organization has, I feel, the Tainan YMCA has a long way to go. (Sharing by GS Kohei Yamada)

13. World Council Updates

"Striving for Global Citizenship for All" will serve as the focus of the 17th World Council of the YMCAs to be attended by YMCA leaders, staff and volunteers all over 124 countries this 19-24 July, 2010 in Hong Kong. As of the press time, 833 participants have already registered to attend the said meeting while 346 youth participants are expected to come to the International Youth Forum happening 3 days ahead before the

start of the said gathering.

Mr. Donald Tsang, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong SAR will officiate the Opening Ceremony of the World Council while Mr. Amir A. Dossal, the United Nations Executive Director for Partnerships will serve as the Keynote Speaker.

Preparations for the International Youth Forum (IYF) are also progressing. The Forum will explore global citizenship and what it means to respond the Millennium Development Goals as young people in different and creative ways. There will be a free music concert in Victoria Park on the evening of 18th July,

The final information bulletin for these two world events will be issued this June containing the detail information on the opening ceremony arrangement, protocols, dress code and other pertinent information.

14. Youth in Focus Column – YMCA Young Writers Needed!

Starting with our June issue this year, we will have a special column on “Youth in Focus” in celebration of the International Youth Year. We encourage YMCA young writers to send articles on youth in action programmes, on various issues and concerns impacting them and good practices on youth participation, engagement and leadership in their own YMCAs. Please send your articles on or before 25th day of each month and e-mail to: cristina@asiapacificymca.org

15. Erratum

We would like to correct a statement of our April eNews issue on story 15 – From the Desk of the GS. The venue of the NAYDO Conference should be “North Carolina” and not Canada as stated. Our apologies.

16. Forthcoming Events/Meetings

DATES	EVENTS	VENUE
14-16 July	APAY Youth Council	Hong Kong
16-19 July	(WAY) International Youth Forum	Hong Kong
19-24 July	World Council 2010	Hong Kong
1-9 August	5 th International YMCA Youth Camp	ANJUCTIL/Timor Leste
24-28 September	Gender Workshop	India
19-24 October	3 rd Asia-Pacific Uni-Y Regional Conference	Baguio City, Philippines
22 Oct – 11 Nov	School of Peace (SOP) for YMCA Staff/s/Ecumenical NGOs	Sri Lanka
14 Nov – 12 Dec	28 th Advanced Studies Programme	Hong Kong

17. From the Desk of the General Secretary...Global Citizenship Education

The World YMCA, during the 2006 World Council in South Africa, determined conscious engagement as global citizens as one of its priorities. We also prioritized global citizenship education as our primary goal of the next quadrennial term at the 2007 APAY General Assembly in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Three workshops for leaders and the youth have been conducted in 2008 to help prepare us for the role as global citizens. The Global Citizenship Education Curriculum was discussed in Tokyo last October while the WAY conducted a special workshop in Coventry, England in the fall of 2009.

However, APAY realized that Global Citizenship Education should be done in national and local levels and that it should provide the necessary materials and trainings of trainers of each movement. To make this a reality, the APAY Executive Committee decided in March to support the trainers’ training from the Golden Anniversary Trust Fund. A total of 21 participants from 9 movements took part in training at the Macau YMCA. I would like to mention herein my impressions.

First, the idea of the Global Citizenship Education is well received by 6-7 movements in the workshop and they are already moving forward. These are Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand, India, and Sri Lanka. Macau, Malaysia, and Bangladesh are at the starting point. Each movement had different approached according to their context. Therefore, this training provided a good background and shared the common goals together.

Second, I was very impressed with the abilities and attitudes of the participating young members. Half of our participants are in their 20s, five of which are college students. The Global Citizenship Education is not only for the youth but for all. The training has become a tool to develop awareness, knowledge, and confidence of young people in the YMCA. Eventually, this program will develop leaders in various communities.

Third, those who attended the training will need help from their national movements. The national movements should be responsible for creating a working team for concrete strategic planning to promote trainings in our local YMCA's. Without the organizational backup, it would be very difficult.

Last, Global Citizenship Education is and will be the great tool for leadership and program development to be able to meet the current needs in society. This may result to a renewed YMCA movement.

Kohei Yamada
General Secretary

Cristina A. Dalope & Jose Varghese
Executive Secretaries