

JENESYS2015 Outbound program (Malaysia, ASEAN Young Leaders Summit) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 6 young adults and one high school student of Japan visited Malaysia to participate in 2015 ASEAN Young Leaders Summit. The summit aims at utilizing the potential of youths which constitutes roughly 60% of the ASEAN population to revitalize and unify the ASEAN community. 120 Malaysians and 300 participants from other countries including other ASEAN Member States, Japan, China, Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, Canada, USA and EU participated in a 4 day program that lasted from November 17th to November 21st.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

Young Adults: 6 participants

High School Student: 1 participant

3. Country Visited

Malaysia

4. Program Schedule

November 17 (Tue)	Departure from Narita International Airport, Arrival in Malaysia
November 18 (Wed)	Opening Ceremony Talk session by a key note speaker representing ASEAN Networking Dinner
November 19 (Thu)	Group Session Community Project
November 20 (Fri)	Submission of AYLS Proposal Closing Ceremony Departure from Kuala Lumpur Airport
November 21 (Sat)	Arrival in Japan

5. Program Photos



11/18 Opening Ceremony



11/18 Talk Session



11/18 Networking Dinner



11/19 Group Session



11/19 Community Project



11/20 Closing Ceremony

6. Voice from Participants

Adult

I was deeply impressed by the Malaysian Sports Minister YB Khairy Jamaluddin's speech at the opening ceremony. Out of 600 million citizens of ASEAN, 60% is under the age of 35 – which makes us present leaders, not the future. His speech led to further understanding of ASEAN and its initiative to unify the economy, government, and the culture of its countries. Hypothetically speaking, if ASEAN is a single country, it would be number one globally in regards to oil production, rubber production, rice production, and will have the highest population of Muslims and Buddhists, which further puts emphasis on the importance of unity of ASEAN. I was the Japanese representative of the Education and Employment pillar, but I was able to network with other participants representing different pillars. I was also fortunate enough to be chosen to be part of the Youth Manifest team and able to present the Manifest at the end of the program. I truly feel that Japan must grow a stronger presence as ASEAN's dialogue partner.

Adult

I was extremely impressed by the ability of young leaders of ASEAN to wrap up workshops efficiently while simultaneously expressing their opinions. The leaders created specific activities (e.g., Teach for Malaysia), influenced by their experiences living in ASEAN, where education is still a luxury. I could see their determination to change this country by their own hands. While excluding countries such as Singapore, we discussed the issues that haunt secondary education and young researchers. As a way to strengthen the secondary education, many suggested an exchange programs between Japan, Korea and China. While Japanese Universities struggle obtaining new students due to declining population, recruiting students from ASEAN will become a necessity. Once this becomes a reality, the biggest obstacle is the language barrier. I strongly felt that Japanese Universities must adjust their admissions policy and enhance the English speaking aspect of the University to lure potential students. One of the effective tools to do this is MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), which allows improvement of online classes, promoting the high standards of Japanese Universities to ASEAN countries. There are criticisms to MOOCs such as low graduation rate and implementation/operation costs, but I believe that Universities must focus on adjustment of policies to promote itself and become more open in order to better the higher education of Japan.

Adult

In Malaysia, I saw the strong will of ASEAN young leaders to create a better future for their countries themselves. To have such a clear goal and work towards it is very rare in the younger generation of Japan, so it was very refreshing. I have been influenced by them and promise to keep working harder than ever after I go back to Japan.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

 <p>Kihoko Tokue added 2 new photos. November 18 · 🌐</p> <p>Opening ceremony at YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT started!</p> <p>Share</p> <p>9 people like this.</p>	<p>[現地レポート]リバネスマレーシア代表の徳江とリバネスの秋永がASEAN+ YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT 2015に派遣されました</p> <p>から 徳江 紀穂子 · 11月19, 2015 · 114 · 🗨️ 📷</p> 
<p>Facebook</p>	<p>Home Page (Leave a Nest)</p>
	 <p>Kihoko Tokue November 20 · 🌐</p> <p>#AYLS2015 #JENESYS2015</p> <p>Wow how time flies. I have had a fruitful 2.5 days here in KL. Wish I could stay longer to witness the handling of our policy recommendations to summit leaders. However it's time to fly back to home now. I don't have winter clothes and I'm scared to land on Japan.</p>
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