

# ASEAN - Japan Youth Forum

Take Actions for Social Change 2025

## Program Guideline

### 1. Purpose

The Japan Foundation, in cooperation with the ASEAN University Network and Center for Southeast Asian Area Studies, Kyoto University, is organizing an exchange program to deepen mutual understanding between young people in ASEAN countries and Japan as part of the "Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0", a comprehensive people-to-people exchange initiative that aims to promote exchange among the next generation and develop human resources in ASEAN and Japan.

This project provides an opportunity for international exchange and idea sharing with young people of the same generation from diverse backgrounds, targeting university undergraduates who wish to take concrete actions to solve social issues under the common interest of "co-creating a peaceful and better world in 2050". Through the experience of meeting, studying together and working collaboratively toward the same goal with other students who have diverse values and different cultural backgrounds, participants can expand perspectives, increase acceptance and tolerance of different cultural environments and acquire the desire and skills to take action leading to social change.

The theme for 2025 is "Plastic Waste". Each team of participants will develop their own questions and explore the theme through online programs, field trips to the Philippines and Japan, and other activities. Then, through dialogue with other team members, participants will create action plans to co-create a better world, and each team will present a report on the outcome.

The program is expected to build human connections between young people in ASEAN countries and Japan that may last long, and participants are expected to play an active role in the future as global leaders who can help bring about meaningful social change.

### 2. Overview

#### ◆Organizations:

Organizer: The Japan Foundation

Co-organizer: ASEAN University Network

Center for Southeast Asian Area Studies, Kyoto University

#### ◆Vision of the Program: "Envisioning a peaceful and better world in 2050"

#### ◆Theme for 2025: "Plastic Waste"

#### ◆Participants: Approx. 36 persons (university undergraduates from ASEAN countries and Japan)

#### ◆Language: English

#### ◆Program Schedule: The program will consist of the following programs (attendance at all is mandatory)

\*Schedule is subject to change due to circumstances.

Online Program		
Orientation / Online Seminar	August 16(Sat), 2025	Explanation of program schedule Ice breaking and team building
Field Trip to the Philippines (5 nights 6 days)		
Excursion	August 31(Sun) – September 5(Fri), 2025 (Tentative)	For details, please refer to section 3.
Online Program		
Online Seminar	November 15(Sat), 2025	ASEAN Field Trip reflections Interim presentation of action plans
Japan Visits (7 nights 8 days)		
Excursion / Presentation	November 30(Sun) – December 7(Sun), 2025 (Tentative)	For details, please refer to section 4.

### 3. Field Trip to the Philippines

#### ◆Dates: August 31(Sun) – September 5(Fri), 2025 (5 nights / 6 days)

#### ◆Target:

➢ To deepen understanding of issues and develop the theme by listening to the stories of practitioners and observing them on site.

➢ To deepen bonds among participants through dialogues and activities.

#### ◆Venue: The Philippines- Manila and a regional city (TBD)

\*During the field trip, participants are requested to bring their own PCs to work and make a presentation. If you don't have a PC that you can bring, please consult with the program secretariat when you are selected to participate.

## 4. Japan Visits

◆Dates: November 30(Sun) – December 7(Sun), 2025 (7 nights / 8 days)

◆Target:

- Based on the lessons learned in the ASEAN field trip, further deepen the exploration of the theme by listening to the stories of practitioners in Japan and visiting sites where issues are being tackled.
- To present action plans for creating a better world, based on the experience gained through the program.
- To review the program as a whole and prepare to apply the experience to future action.

◆Venue: Tokyo and Kyoto (TBD)

## 5. Application Condition

◆Requirements:

- Full-time students enrolled in the invited \*university's undergraduate degree programs.  
\*For details, please refer to the Appendix 1 attached hereto  
\* Please note that final-year students are eligible to apply, provided their student status remains valid by the end of this program.
- Those who hold the nationality of an ASEAN member country
- Those who have not lived abroad (including study abroad) for more than one year after the age of 12
- Those who do not plan to leave the country where their university is located for study, internship, employment, training, etc. during the full duration of the program
- Those who are physically and mentally healthy
- Those who have no problems participating in the full duration of the program, including the Online Program. Participation in only part of the time or part of the program is not allowed.
- Those who are taking some action on their own to solve common global and national social issues, or those who have a strong interest in such issues or have a strong interest in solving common global and national social issues
- Those who are interested in international exchange and cross-cultural understanding
- Sufficient English-language skills and positive attitude to have a global communication
- Ability to understand the purpose of the program and to actively participate in the program. Ability to submit all the assignments given by the organizer on time
- Those who are able to prepare the necessary equipment for online exchange (computer [not smart phones], internet connection environment, etc.)
- Those who agree to allow the photographs and videos taken during the program to be posted on the organizer's and co-organizers' websites and social media etc., for PR purposes (For details, see Appendix2).

◆Participation fee:

Basically free (The organizers will cover \*international travel expenses including necessary visa acquisition fee, meals and accommodation, and related transportation fee during the program in the Philippines and Japan).

\*The round-trip transportation fee is only from the airport nearest to your home to the venue.

◆Documents to be submitted

1) Application Form (Form 1)

2) Essay (Form 2)

3) A letter of recommendation from a professor or advising teacher at the university attended by the applicant

All the documents should be written in English.

◆Submission Method:

Please submit the application via this [Google Form](#).

◆Schedule of Selection:

<b>Application Open</b>	March 17(Mon), 2025
<b>Deadline for Application Submission</b>	May 2(Fri), 2025
<b>1st-Round Selection Result Announcement</b>	May 23(Fri) (Tentative)
<b>2nd-Round Selection</b>	June 2(Mon) – June 20 (Fri) *20 minutes on any day (online)
<b>2nd-Round Selection Result Announcement</b>	June 27 (Fri) (Tentative)

◆Announcement of the results:

Those selected in the final results will be notified by e-mail.

Details of the 2nd-round of selection will be sent by e-mail to successful applicants of the 1st-round selection.

◆Acceptance for the participation:

The participants will be required to sign the participation agreement. Details will be provided to successful applicants in the 2nd-round selection.

◆Others

- As a general rule, submitted application documents will not be returned.
- The personal information of applicants will not be used for any purpose other than this selection process.  
\*For details, please refer to Appendix 2 attached hereto.
- Please check your e-mail frequently during the period between the submission of application documents and the notification of results.

## 6. Inquiry

For any information or inquiries, please contact the AUN Secretariat.

To: [tasc@aunsec.org](mailto:tasc@aunsec.org)

Cc: The Japan Foundation HQ, TASC Secretariat: [jfqp2@jpf.go.jp](mailto:jfqp2@jpf.go.jp)

