

Overview



Day 1 : Ice breaking activity between the Nepali and Japanese youth

In December 2017, Japan IsraAID Support Program (JISP) plans on holding a Youth Leadership Project (YLP) to 10 youth committed to the recovery of their disaster-stricken community. The money raised will be used to fund the transportation, accommodation, meal and training expenses of 10 youth from Nepal and Japan, as well as the basic expenses of the program's staff.

Many countries and communities around the world experience disasters, with their long-term recovery highly dependent on the initiative and leadership of their youth. Think of it : young people are often technologically-savvy, well positioned in their community to take action,

physically strong and mentally resilient; Therefore, they are a crucial factor in facilitating disaster-recovery.

Since 2015, JISP'S Youth Leadership Project invites 5 Nepali students who have experienced the devastating earthquakes in Nepal to Tohoku, where they meet with 5 Japanese students who had experienced the triple disasters that hit Japan in March 11, 2011.

In order to offer the students an opportunity to identify their own future contribution, and share their own disaster experience, the 10 youth tour Tohoku and meet with young leaders who had taken initiative and made a change in the aftermath of 3/11.

The youth also undergo intensive trainings in disaster-prevention and Mental-Care.

This program aims to provide the students a chance to learn about each other's culture, broaden the horizons, and deepen their mutual understanding.

We would appreciate your cooperation in funding the next program through the Japan Giving campaign, and help us create an international network of youth dedicated to disaster-recovery!

You can donate, share this message with friends, or organize a small fund-raiser!

Program Outline

The YLP is a 6-day program. Based on feedback received from last year's participants, we have made several adjustments in the project's schedule.

Day 1 (Ishinomaki) : Kickoff (Ice-Breaking, Goal-setting work) and welcome party !

Day 2 (Ishinomaki) : "Mirai" Guest House, mental-care training - (1) Psychological First Aid and Stress-Management.

Day 3 (Ishinomaki) : Ishinomaki tour, Mental-care training and (2) disaster prevention training (Learning and Field Work).

Day 4 (Ishinomaki / Onagawa) : "The road to recovery" tour (day 1) - lecture by last year's graduate, and a visit to "Katariba", an NPO which



support young people in the Onagawa.

Day 5 (Kesenuma) : "The road to recovery" tour (day 2) - Guesthouse "Kakehashi", Karakuwa visitor center, Hotel Boyo.

Day 6 (Sendai) : Sharing what we learned : presentations by the participants and farewell party.

Day 2 : the participants train in Psychological First Aid, an important component of disaster recovery

YLP2016 Participants highly evaluated the mental-core component of the program.

Specifically, the participants mentioned the Psychological First Aid (PFA) training. Since aid is not limited to material support, but also to psychological one, the participants learned how to approach disaster-survivors, identify their needs, and link them to the right services.

In addition, the PFA training enabled the participants to experience how to approach people affected by everyday adversities and to reflect on the



treatment they received in the aftermath of the disasters.

For the Nepali high-school students, visiting the disaster area of Tohoku, seeing visual footage and hearing the locals' stories have all made an

impact. In addition, since 6 years had passed since the 2011, the participants were able to identify some of the challenges their communities may face in the future (such as shortage of volunteers).

Day 5: the participants meet with “Kakehashi” Representative, a young NPO leader, in order to learn about the design and implementation of disaster-recovery initiatives

Participant’s Voice

“Until now, I did not know how to think of foreign cultures and disasters. Through the program, I was able to learn about these things and also to rethink the recovery of my own community” (Miyagi Prefecture, 15 y/o participant).

“In the first day of the program, I set myself a goal to share the things I would learn from this program with as many people I could. But having reflected on the number of kids in my region who still struggle due to the disaster with mental challenges such as hikikomori, I decided to change my goal to supporting those kids with some of the skills I learned in this program, such as PFA.

While I feel that the recovery of the physical damage caused by the disasters in my area is well on its way, it is the damage which the eye can not see which needs our attention.”

After the project ends, the participants return to their communities, reflect on their experience, and take action.



In the photo : YLP alumni provide aid to children in risk in remote village in Nepal

YLP alumni engage in a wide-range activity, from developing a software for disaster-recovery purposes to providing warm clothes and other goods to children in a mountainous area which was heavily affected by the earthquakes. The provision of warm clothes was initiated by YLP2015 members, who responded to information about an impending humanitarian disaster in one of Nepal's remote areas. The alumni contacted IsraAID Nepal and in addition to the distribution of aid, held a PFA and disaster-prevention sessions for the kids.

Alumni of the YLP make a lasting impact over their communities and increase the circle of aid.

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