

MAKE A GREAT IMPACT

Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL ASIA PACIFIC AREA



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4TH NEWSLETTER

FEB 2025

AREA PRESIDENT MESSAGE



Dear all Y's Men fellows,

My hearty and warmest greeting to you all.

Spring, a season that marks rebirth and growth, from cold to warm, the earth will blossom again. Similarly, we already completed half year of our term 2024/25 and made a review and conclusion in mid-year Area Council Meeting on February 22, 2025 by virtual. We were delighted that we had made progress and look to the future in pro-active and positive ways.

In the past six months, four clubs have been chartered in Hong Kong, Thailand and Japan East respectively, bringing a total of 67 new members to the Area family. Although sadly, due to old age, illness and inactivity, we lost some clubs and members. However, we could maintain our membership overall and expected it to have 1 % growth by end of February 2025. I sincerely thank all regions for their unwavering commitment and hard work to maintain the membership growth and conservation all the way.

Together is stronger. Teamwork makes things happen. We are also delighted to see the Southeast Asia region successfully raised USD13,000 for the restoration of Sao Hin YMCA after an unprecedented flooding. It showcased the spirit of unity of the Y's Men's and highlighted the impact it had on the community. This also demonstrated the value of the existence of Y's Men's Clubs.

Y's movement is still going on. The 31st Area Convention now open for registration. The promotion of Area Youth Convocation will also be coming soon. I highly encourage every Y's Men do join this joyful event and let's show our passion and solidary in Kumamoto.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

God bless you all richly.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Wong
Area President



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

One's journey with Y's dom does not at the end of Community services life as this travel takes you to your passionate career path and transforms you to be the best one for the community services world.

"Splendid " the fourth issue is a glance at who we are, how did we get here, and the pieces of our shared stories, projects, Area news .

Even though there was a huge organizational transformation in the term of the shift to the virtual world, the achievements, the relationships we built up throughout the year are not any less the other years.

The Area President Joan Wong, my sincere goes to you for your always encouraging and inspiring us for innovative initiations. Unsolicited thanks to Kayoko Maeda who makes it true without your help it doesn't easier.

As always our members of ASP being the biggest wealth are valued and congratulates for the contribution given to the ASP, and to the news Bulletin content which is another enthusiastic step in our news Bulletin.

ASP News Bulletin will continue to cover more winning stories. Stay tuned to the Future.



ASD - BE
Ranjith Dayarathna

FEBRUARY EMPHASIS - TIME OF FAST

As you know well, TOF funds have been raised by club members for going a meal or two and donating the corresponding price of that meal to the program. AP targets 2024-25 is 45,000CHF.

With the coordination with the World Alliance of YMCAs and its National branches, educated and self-help projects have been funded in many countries.

During the term of 2024-25, there are 8 projects were approved as 2024-25 TOF projects including 'Dealing with Students who cannot attend school for long period (CHF15,000) applied by Japan East Region. Recent years, there are few applications from ASP Area.

TOF initiatives must align with at least one of 17 SDGs of the United Nations. 5,000CHF can be made available per event with a maximum of 15,000CHF.



ASD-TOF Kayoko Maeda

Application deadline is 15 March 2025. Please apply through the YMI website.

TIME OF FAST PROJECT (2024-2027) FOR “FUTOHKO” IN JAPAN



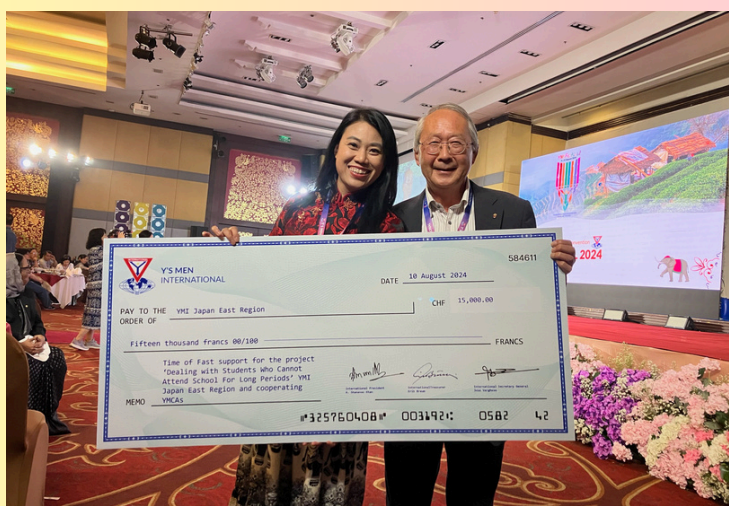
RD Kohei Yamada
Japan East Region

Project Background

There are over 340,000 students in grade and middle schools who do not attend their schools for more than a month for various reasons. It is said that one or two in every class in grade schools and 2 to 3 in every middle school class are not attending their schools presently in Japan. The number of those Futohko students has been increasing gradually in most of the areas in Japan. This is unique trend in Japan and it happens regardless of their family status, physical or mental disorders, or intelligence levels. Many psychologists found that this is not categorized in any disease but there could be a cultural or social trend behind the phenomena. This is a growing concern and therefore it draws attention among many parents and school teachers. This TOF project will be done in the region of Japan East by forming special teams in three YMCAs with the cooperation of Y's Men clubs of the same area. We may have different approaches to deal with Futohko cases and we encourage many Y's Men to be involved with other volunteers.

Project Activities

We need to organize various seminars and visit on-going programs in order to help those students to find themselves through encouragement. We must learn how to deal with those Futohko students and their sensitive issues by studying various cases. This project will take three years. The first year is to find interested people from colleges or volunteers through various lectures and discussions. We would offer many kinds of opportunities to several YMCAs in cooperation with their Y's Men's Clubs. The second year is to start some projects and events on small scale and expand these trials in three YMCAs and involving some other local organizations. Meanwhile we provide various opportunities to learn and visit those successful approaches toward Futohko cases. By the end of the third year, we expect good understanding of Futohko situations and hope to have good cooperative relationship with the Futohko supporting groups. We would hope these challenges and experiences would encourage the understandings of Y's Men's Club movement in Japan.



MY VISITING NEPAL AS BF DELEGATE

Terutada Tamegai
YMC Tokyo-Tama-Smile
Japan East Region

Visiting Nepal has been my strong wish for a long time. My earnest desire to visit Nepal came to realise at last. From 20 November to 10 December 2024, I visited Nepal as a BF Cultural Exchange delegate from Japan. It was an exciting and enjoyable experience to visit Nepal, an enchanting country.

I flew from Narita, Japan, to Kathmandu, Nepal by the direct flight of Nepal Airlines on 20 November and arrived at the airport late in the evening. I stayed one night at a hotel in Kathmandu, and next morning, I started to leave for Pokhara by bus. I arrived at Pokhara after ten hours of riding on the bus, which was exhausting and hard I had never experienced.

IPRD Deepak Bhandari, a leader of Y Service of Club of Lumbini, came to meet me at Pokhara Bus Station. For a few days, I stayed with him in Pokhara, and he took me to several interesting places such as two Hindu temples, a Buddhist temple and Phewa Lake.

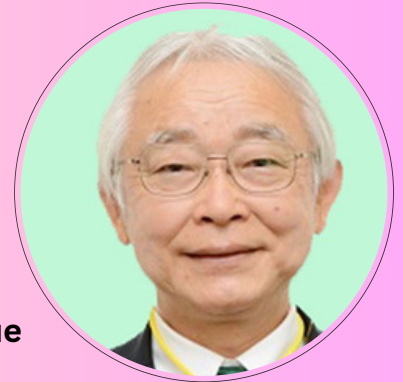
The next visit was to Lumbini, a famous Buddhist site, and IPRD Deepak held a meeting of the Y Service Club to welcome me at New Gyan Boarding School. It was a great meeting. Many Y's members, guests and teachers attended the meeting. Students also welcome me. This was a memorable encounter for me. I have never imagined how they manage their service. For one week, I had classes at this school every day. I taught two kinds of classes: an origami class and an understanding-Japan class. They enjoyed my classes very much. I wish I could visit again.

In Lumbini, IPRD Deepak took me to two wedding ceremonies, a Hindi pilgrimage site, his relatives' houses and local food restaurants. Everything was a fresh and wonderful experience for me. Finally, I returned to Kathmandu and stayed there for a few days.

Kathmandu is a huge cosmopolitan city. After three weeks, I came back to Japan. I appreciate the Y Service Club members and every Nepali person for what they have done for me.



RDE SUMMIT IN INDIA FEBRUARY 11 TO 13, 2025



APE Tadashi Tanoue

On 11 Feb. morning, IPE Edward Ong gave a passionate explanation of his policies for his term. The participants were divided into groups and conducted SWOT analyses of each Area and Region. After the meeting, we enjoyed watching Indian dance performances and a cocktail and dinner provided by PAP Anand Jacob Verghese.

ICR Chair V.S.Bashir and ISG Jose Varghese lectured on introducing of the International Constitution and the responsibilities of the Regions. LTOD Tibor gave a lecture on team building, and this lecture is being refined every time. ISG also lectured on the roles and responsibilities of RDs and what IHQ expects of them. There were presentations on the successes of each Region, with Extension from the South West India District. IBC Action by the JWR, and Promotion of Youth Involvement by the Caribbean. After that, there was a group discussion. After the intensive training, we all enjoyed a river cruise and relaxed at the beach.



ISG Jose gave a commentary on Strategy 2032 and a report on the current situation, and Tracy introduced the latest International Programmes and Awards. The three days passed in a blur, and it was significant to exchange opinions about the ASP Area with the RDE-JER, RDE-JWR, RDE-SEA, and IPE. I would like to thank IHQ and the South West Region of India for their preparation and hospitality.



Regional News

Southeast Asia Region

Hong Kong District Chartered Y's Men's Club of Kowloon East with 23 members on February 16, 2025 before the annual Spring Dinner. Congratulation to Charter President Teresa Ip and YMC Bauhinia as a sponsor club.



Hong Kong District Spring Dinner was held on February 16, 2025. The feature of event was Chinese Costume. A total of 175 Y's Men and guests attended this annual event.



Japan East Region

BF Delegate visited Japan East Region in January 2025. On 31 January, 2025, YMC Kawageo Club held a welcome party for Mr. Krishnan Venkatesh and his wife.

Mr. Hariharan, who came from India as BF representative. Every member was excited and happy.



Sri Lanka Region

Y's Mens Club of Mahanuwara and Lions club of Penguin Excellence together donated a Junior School Band Instruments to the very Rural Area in Mahiyangana today.



Regional News (con't..)

Taiwan Region

North District organized TOF Day in the morning of February 22, 2025. The purpose of the event was to arouse the awareness on hungry and call Fasting for fundraising.



YMC Tai Chung offered a caring & aid programme with the support from other Y's Men's clubs in Tai Chung for underprivileged children who were living in remote village in Tai Tung.

Japan West Region

The Kumamoto Jane's Club (31 members, CP Machiko Uemura) has supported international students for many years. The students at the Japanese language School at the Kumamoto YMCA come from various countries. They are very diligent, working part-time jobs while also facing financial difficulties in their daily lives. The club supports the students' lives by giving scholarships to outstanding students and distributing daily necessities. It hopes that their dreams for the future will come true.



Booster Member Award

Deadline of Application : March 31, 2025

Criteria for Booster Member Awards:

- Given to club members who have sponsored three or more new members in the club within the past year (1 February 2024 - 1 February 2025).
- Applications must be submitted by the Club President (or designated representative) no later than 31 March 2025.

Submit your nominations using the following link: <https://www.ysmen.org/booster-awards/>

Short Video Contest
Extension of
Submission Deadline to
May 31, 2025

Southeast Asia Region
is Open for
Registration Now !

Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL
ASIA PACIFIC AREA
SHORT VIDEO
CONTEST
2024-2025



THEME
 MAKE A
 GREAT IMPACT

CATEGORY
 1) COMMUNITY PROJECT
 2) FREE CREATION

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES
EXTENSION OF
DEADLINE TO
MAY 31, 2025
PRIZES & AWARDS
 UP TO
USD400 CASH PRIZE





Details
&
Enrollment

The 91st Southeast Asia
Regional Conference
Ipoh
Malaysia

May 23 to 25, 2025

Hosted by
Silver State
Y Service Club



Venue
Travelodge
Hotel, Ipoh

Theme : Leap With Faith

Programme

May 23	6:00 pm	Welcome Dinner
	8:00 am	Registration
May 24	9:00 am	Regional Conference
	6:30 pm	Dinner & Cultural Night
May 25	9:00 am	Excursion & Lunch
	2:00 pm	Community Service at Salvation Army Girls Home
	4:00 pm	End of Programme

Registration Fee
RM 550
 (Early Bird on or Before 1st April)
RM650
 (After 1st April)

Registration fee includes conference, 2 lunches & 2 dinners, excursion and community service excluding hotel. The hotel rate per room per night at Travelodge Hotel is from RM195 onwards.

