

Individual Plans by liaison participants discussed during IC18

During IC18, Yeosu, Korea August 9-12, 2018 interviewed by Kohei Yamada, ISD/ASD Liaison, August 30, 2018

Adam Rychlik (Y Europe Executive staff)

He thought YMI culture should be input to YMCA especially in Eastern Europe where new YMCA movements have been developed. Change the way of looking at YMCA: not only as a potential donor, but also as a place (organisational home), to come back after leaving YMCA youth activities.

- Y's Men are around YMCA – places without or no intention of having YMCA are out of our interest as they are losing the mission defined by the name.
- Work out common standards in relationships between: methodology of Y's men's Clubs (methodology).
- Common training for YMCA and Y's Men leaders.
- Design a common strategic plan for the international liaison group form at the Convention (Till the convention in Denmark).
- Setting effective communication between the members of the group – we need to stay in contact.
- Exchange of information on situation in countries (links to articles, copies of multi-media materials etc.).
- To establish an international Work Group for strengthening YMCA –Y's Men relationships. Groups based on the group, which were brought to Yeosu.
- Use the *Event 175 in London 2019* – a big opportunity of promotion Y's Men's (<https://ymca175.com/>)

For example, he pointed out Kosovo, Albania, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Malta, etc. The partnership meeting could be held with stronger YMI (such as Finland, Norway, Denmark) and Y Europe partnership for development of YMCA and YMI in those Eastern Europe areas.

Wesley Deepthi Peter (Sri Lanka, President of Moratuwa YMCA and YMI Liaison in SL region)

Will identify 3-4 YMI members who could represent YMI Sri Lanka and propose a partnership meeting with YMCA Sri Lanka including President and NGS (total of 3-4) liaised by Deepthi. We need to find out what is the reality of relationship in each YMCA area and plan to discuss for finding out one or two possible projects together.

Anthony Isaac (Bangalore YMCA GS and has two districts with 30 YMI clubs in Bangalore, India)

He would like to start partnership meeting with YMCA and representatives of YMI movement in Bangalore first. Isaac is YMCA GS and also liaison staff for the partnership building. He will form the partnership meeting with 3-4 YMCA core staff and 3 YMI members from each district, total of 9-10 will form the partnership meeting to discuss what could be done. In order to discuss with some length, the term of those representatives should be two years or more.

Andrea Praca (Staff member of Sao Paulo YMCA, Brazil) In charge of child care programs)

There are children age 7-15 from low income families in 12 units totally over 1,500 children. There are 12 branches in YMCA and 18 YMI clubs in the City. Another YMI is located in Port Allegro. Only one YMI outside Sao Paulo in Brazil. The situation of those childcare participants is varied and the YMCA runs these huge programs without fees from any of the families. Therefore YMI involvement would be very important. Andrea will organize a partnership meeting with 3-4 YMCA core staff and 3-4 YMI representatives liaised by Andrea. Term of the partnership members should be 2-3 years and held continuously 3-4 times a year. It was also discussed that existing 18 related secretaries from all 18 clubs could be gathered to understand more of their role and what is going on in the planned partnership meetings.

Tidarat Penvijit, (May) (Staff member of Chiang Mai YMCA, Thailand, dealing with YMCA youth development)

There are 4 YMI in Thailand. She would start the partnership meeting with two clubs in Chiang Mai and the YMCA in Chiang Mai. 3-4 representatives from both groups should be selected to discuss what could be done together in one to three years. The term office should be kept accordingly.

Jean Chai (Staff member of YMCA Singapore)

In Singapore, there are two independent YMCAs and two YMI clubs (Alpha and Beta clubs) The partnership meeting could be formed with those four sectors together. Maybe two representatives from YMCA and YMI club should be identified. Term of office should be two or three years continuously. Meeting could be held 3-4 times a year to find out what could be done together for the community. There are two ISD/ASD in Alpha club, David and Edward, and they know so much. It was recommended that those two could play an advisory role when necessary. Kohei talked to them during the IC18.

Marion Modra (Staff member of South Australia YMCA)

There is a YMI in Adelaide and a few in the nearby city of Bendigo. The suggestion was made to form partnership meeting with two YMCAs and several YMI clubs together among them. Marion can propose such meeting held by both YMCA and YMI leaders in two cities. Marion is a staff member conducting disability programs in all of Australia. Through this YMCA joint channel she is in the position to contact all YMCAs in Australia. First she could start with Adelaide and Bendigo area. The term of the partnership Meeting should be 2-3 years.

Across Australia there are 13 YMI and 22 YMCAs.

Marion's plan is to match the 13 YMI with their local YMCA (or YMCAs) and find a contact person at each to facilitate communication. Using the fortnightly newsletters from the YMCA national to showcase one local YMI/YMCA partnership per month we will raise the profile of YMI, and the benefits of these partnerships across Australia. Biannual YMCA national congress will be held in Melbourne this October and YMI members will be invited to participate. Side meeting between YMI and YMCA will be proposed to congress organisers.

The second action is to promote YMI international programs from TOF at each local YMCA to engage young people in the fundraising and broader program outcomes. Report from the conference will be provided at the South Australian AGM in August.

Shih-kai Chiang (Sky) (staff member of Taipei and in charge of YMI related staff group in Taiwan)

Sky and Gilbert have been active in relationship building between YMCA and YMI in Taiwan. We discussed to form two levels of partnership meetings. One is Taiwan Regional level meeting and another is Taipei YMCA and its YMI level. Both can be organized by Sky domestically but if the partnership project is relating with international field, Gilbert should be involved. James, NGS should be also informed well. The term of partnership meeting should be 2-3 years.

Takahiro Obata (Tokyo YMCA, Japan senior staff in charge of College of Hotel Management)

There are 17 YMI clubs in Tokyo and most of them identify themselves as a service club of particular branch or program of Tokyo YMCA and their CPs meet with Senior staff members regularly mainly for information exchange or common activities of whole Tokyo YMCA events. Tokyo YMCA focuses on importance of membership activities and YMI members were mostly active in various activities as volunteers. But YMCA staff may identify as volunteer group in Charity Run, Bazaar, or some natural disaster time. Obata identifies that regular staff members and especially assigned related secretaries should understand the history and mission of YMI in order to create productive and positive relationship for the common community work. On the other hand, YMCA could help extend the YMI in the areas lacking such activities.

Katsumi Jinbo (Kumamoto YMCA, Japan Deputy GS)

There are 11 YMI clubs in Kumamoto area and they are very active and many of the YMI leaders are YMCA board members and active volunteers. They showed strong partnership and leadership in dealing with the Kumamoto Great Earthquake in 2016. Jinbo suggested four senior members including GS Oka, DGS Jinbo, Ohkubo and Nakamura. They have regular activities jointly conducted for pony camp, visually handicapped, charity run, Disaster management, etc. There are still needs to be developed in the area for youth in socially handicapped, disaster prevention, community activities such as for elderly and handicapped. Also a highly needy area is fundraising for such activities. The leaders of both YMCA and YMI will form a partnership meeting (total of 8-10 max and term should be 2-3 years).

Debbie Redmond and Robert Stivers-Apiki (Bobby) (YMI members of retired YMCA staff of Y USA)

They are both willing to work for the stronger partnership with YMCA in various areas especially LA and Honolulu areas. They went to local YMCAs but the YMCA top leaders of those YMCAs as well as Y USA seem not interested in partnership building with YMI USA. 2022 would be YMI 100 anniversary year and the Centennial celebration would be held in USA (Long Beach or Honolulu). It would be good to have some partnership built between the YMI and YMCA in USA and in those active areas. Kohei would discuss this issue with Y USA and will open discussion with LA and Honolulu YMCAs. Besides, there are new YMI held by Indian and other national citizens in New Jersey and NY area. They would also like to connect with their local YMCAs but no communication has been made.

Korean members (there are 11 liaisons from 11 regions in Korea, and NGS Kim Kyung Min was attending the forum)

There are 64 local YMCAs and over 250 YMI clubs with 5500 members exist in Korea. It might be better to start such partnership meetings at first on Regional bases and only those that want to build the partnership could start. Once they get some progress, then they can decide to start some local YMCA level as well as National level beyond the 11 regions later. In each region, if they agree with the idea of forming such partnership meeting, they can invite 3-4 YMI leaders and 3-4 YMCA representatives for two -three year term, 3-4 times a year for discussion.