



FEBRUARY 2021, VOLUME 1. ISSUE 4

# Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL ASIA PACIFIC AREA MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

THEME: MAKE A DIFFERENCE SLOGAN: INSPIRE



The preparation work of the opening for the season of the Kyoto YMCA Sabae Campsite by Y's Men and Women. *Full story turn to page 4*



(Top) Board Members of JWR 2020-2021.  
(Bottom) Wakayama YMCA Cleanup Campaign.  
*Full story turn to page 5*



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# MESSAGE FROM AREA PRESIDENT



Greetings to all Y's Men and Women in the Asia Pacific Area.

Being an Area that encompasses many countries, 15 for now, we are a cosmopolitan Area with many different ethnic groups and languages. We have the privilege of being able to enjoy festive celebrations of the different races in our midst.

For example, in Singapore, we celebrate four major New Years representing the four main ethnic groups in the country - the international New Year's Day on 1 Jan of the Gregorian Calendar, the Lunar or Chinese New Year which falls on 12 Feb this year, the Islamic New Year and the Indian New Year. There is no better way to promote greater understanding and peace among the different races and cultures than to celebrate with our fellow citizens and friends the main festivals.

Many of our friends in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and elsewhere will be celebrating the Chinese New Year. I take this opportunity to wish them, A Happy Lunar New Year, Good Health, and Blessings of Love, Peace, Joy and Prosperity.

恭贺社友们，牛年吉祥，富贵安康，阖家欢乐，主恩满满。

Following the US FDA approval of the vaccines to combat COVID-19, everyone was looking eagerly to the revival of international travels and the world economies. It shines a ray of hope for many moving into 2021, leaving behind the bleak and gloomy past of 2020. Until the relaxation of group physical gatherings, our clubs need to continue their engagement with members through virtual meetings and via social media and re-imagine new ways to provide community services to the less privileged.

In its effort to fulfill the YMI Mission "to make the world a better place" through impactful projects sponsored by local YMCAs working with Y Service Clubs, YMI has in 1972 adopted the Time of Fast Program to enable members and well-wishers to play a part in donating towards this International Fund. Among the TOF Projects approved were some from the Asia Pacific Area such as in the Philippines supporting the Philippines' YMCA Rizal Youth Leadership Training Institute; in Thailand for the "Smile, Love and Care: Empowered Disabled Youth Leadership"; and in Cambodia for "Empowering Youth for Youth" Members can play a meaningful part by strongly supporting this signature program through their generous donations and Club Presidents are urged to give it special publicity during the month of February.

One of the objectives of the Area Bulletin is to build a strong sense of identity of members in the Area by bringing the Regions closer together through information sharing. I hope you are now better acquainted with the Australian Region which was focused in the November 2020 Issue and the Japan East Region in the December 2020 Issue. This month, the focus is on Japan West Region. I thank Regional Director Hirokazu Furuta and the leaders in Japan West Region for their invaluable contributions to this Issue. There is much that we can learn from this Region in their effort to promote EMC among the many other inspiring activities.

The Area Bulletin Team under the leadership of ASD Colin Lambie is doing an excellent job in publishing this Bulletin. We owe it to them and the contributors, ASD James Kong and ASD Patricia Lim for making this Issue another interesting piece of work.

Enjoy reading.

Warmest Regards,

David Lua



# CURRENT STATUS OF THE JAPAN WEST REGION

BY: RD, JAPAN WEST REGION, HIROKAZU FURUTA



The Japan West Region was started on July 1, 1977, by dividing the Japan Region into the Japan East and Japan West Regions. The Japan West Region currently consists of 9 Districts, 80 Clubs, and 1,411 members (as of July 1, 2020).

The number of members in the Japan West Region has repeatedly increased and decreased, but it has been on a downward trend in the past few years. To significantly improve the number of members and the Clubs' quality in the Japan West Region, we decided to establish the "Y's Men's Clubs Future Vision Special Committee" to address the 100th anniversary of Y's Men International and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Japan East and West Regions in 2022.

To improve the number of members and the quality of the Clubs in the Japan West Region, we are working together with all the members as the 'Newborn Y's Movement' to boost the Japan West Region with a target of 2,022 members in 2022. (You can find the report from the "Y's Men's Clubs Future Vision Special Committee on page 7-8.)

Recently, there has been a great deal of attention and interest in the Japan West Region, where some Clubs have been using various methods to increase their members, which has never been done before.

The Kyoto Tops YMC holds a management class regularly and has created a system that helps them make use of it in their work while at the same time making contacts and increasing the number of potential Club members. In the same vein, young members of the Osaka-Ibaraki YMC have started to create the "Kansai Y's Men's Business Networking Group" to help them in their work and Club management. (The report on the Kansai Y's Men's Business Networking Group is also on page 8-9.)

To support these moves to strengthen the Japan West Region in terms of quality and quantity, we are also working on reforming our public relations activities. We encourage each Club and District to update their websites at a fast pace and research and implement PR activities using new tools such as SNS (Social Networking Service). We are also making efforts to get the mass media to cover each Club and District's activities as much as possible. This year, more than 10 Clubs have had their projects covered by newspapers and other media.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic currently raging, the Japan West Region has newly established a special committee to deal with it. The committee helps create a system to reduce the number of members withdrawing from Clubs due to COVID-19 as much as possible. For example, we provide support to Clubs with members who must quit or take a leave of absence due to COVID-19 and cover the expenses necessary to hold meetings online.

Besides, we waived the Japan West Regional dues for the first semester so that each Club could use the money for their revitalization.

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF EACH DISTRICT (AS OF JULY 1, 2020)

| District        | Number of Clubs | Number of Members |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Chubu           | 7               | 89                |
| Biwakobu        | 7               | 105               |
| Kyotobu         | 18              | 513               |
| Hanwabu         | 7               | 103               |
| Chuseibu        | 7               | 105               |
| Rokkoku         | 8               | 132               |
| Seto-San-inbu   | 4               | 47                |
| Nishi-chugokubu | 5               | 65                |
| Kyushubu        | 17              | 252               |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>80</b>       | <b>1,411</b>      |

The "Japan East and West Regions Exchange Meeting," which was conceived as a commemorative project for the 100th anniversary of the founding of YMI, has finally started to be realized.

An executive committee met recently, and the event will be held in January or February of 2023. The Japan West Region will take the lead in the planning and managing of the event.

We will work together to create a fantastic event suitable for the 100th anniversary, for the development of the Japan East and West Regions, and further action after the 100th anniversary.

We will make the 100th anniversary a great success, and after that, the Japan West Region will use the 100th anniversary as a springboard for its next goal.

# REPORTS FROM THE DISTRICTS

## CHUBU DISTRICT

Affected by COVID-19, each Club in the Chubu District is unable to perform its service projects. I have not been able to realize any plans I made. I am determined to make new plans for the remaining six months and move forward.

- DG Masato Hayakawa

## BIWAKOBU DISTRICT

This year, there have been a series of cancellations of major events in the Biwakobu District. As it is difficult for members to gather, we have been forced to reduce the number of meetings or cancel them.

Despite these times, in response to our goal of focusing on EMC, YM. Matsuoka, one of the leaders of the "Newborn Y's Movement", and others are preparing to hold an EMC symposium on Saturday, February 20, in the midst of the COVID-19 disaster. The Biwakobu District would also like to support each Club to carry out its scheduled events for the second half of the year.

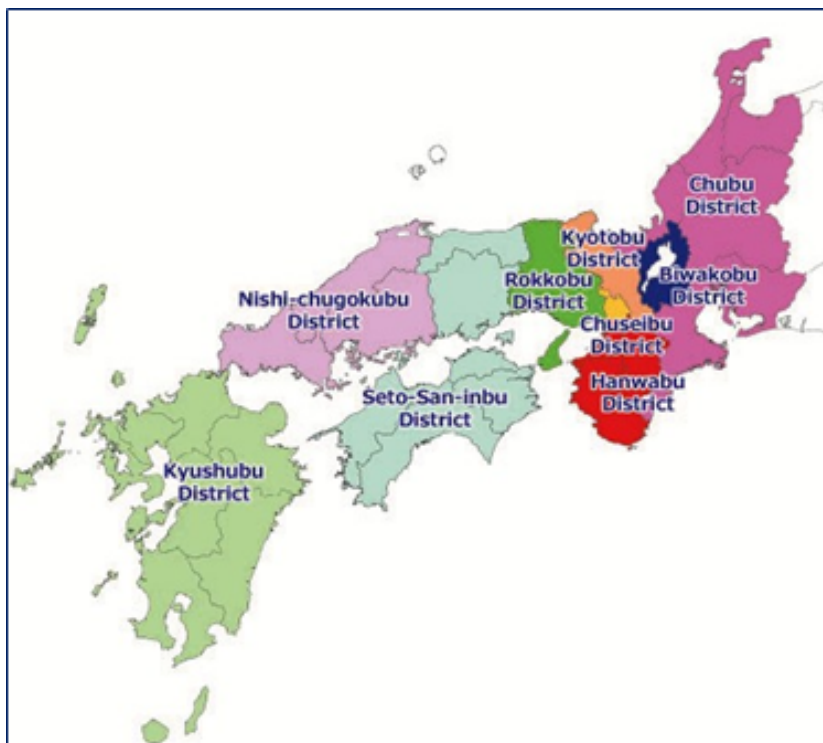
- DG Yusuke Nishikawa

## KYOTOBU DISTRICT

Hello, Y's Men and Women!

I would like to express my sympathy to those who have lost their lives and those who are suffering from the COVID-19' effects, and I would like to thank all the medical personnel and others who are working on the front lines.

Now, six months have passed, and the first half of this fiscal year has already come to an end. We started the fiscal year amid the COVID-19 scare. Since we could foresee the impact on our activities, we announced in advance that we would be cancelling or refraining from significant activities. Despite these circumstances, we could carry out most of the YMCA Service and Youth Project activities, mainly supporting the YMCA's projects, while keeping an eye out for infections.



As for the community service and environmental projects, the Y's Day event, usually held every year, was cancelled. However, each Club came up with its own ideas and actively supported orphanages, facilities for the disabled, support dogs and other animal-related facilities, school children's baseball games, clean-up activities, etc. As for EMC projects, despite the current social situation, each Club actively recruited new members, resulting in a net increase of 13 members.

Due to the COVID-19 disaster's effects, it was not easy to carry out projects related to international exchange, Y's Menettes, and PR activities. Still, we did the best we could despite the restrictions. When we were hoping that the second half of the year would be the best, Kyoto was recently declared in a state of emergency for the second time. I am anxious to see what will happen next.

- DG Ryuji Nakamura



THE PREPARATION WORK OF THE OPENING FOR THE SEASON OF THE KYOTO YMCA SABAE CAMPSITE BY Y'S MEN AND WOMEN.

## HANWABU DISTRICT

From the Hanwabu District, we bring you a wonderful report from Wakayama Prefecture, famous for oranges, pickled plums, and Mt. Koya.

In response to the "Week4Waste" campaign proposed by the International President, Wakayama YMCA, Wakayama YMC, and Kinokawa YMC co-organized the "Wakayama YMCA Cleanup Campaign" on Thursday, November 12, 2020 for about one hour for community service and social exchange. The area covered was from Japan Railway Wakayama Station to the area around the YMCA building.



WAKAYAMA YMCA CLEANUP CAMPAIGN

There were about 50 participants, from children to adults, including YMCA's children, students, youth volunteer leaders, staff, and Y's Men. In a short time, we were able to concentrate on cleaning up the area. It was fun and fulfilling to work together with people we had never met before. We also purchased 28 Waistcoats. We plan to wear them twice next year, in spring and fall.

- DG Nobukazu Nakai

## CHUSEIBU DISTRICT

The December meeting of the Osaka Centennial YMC of Chuseibu District held on December 19, 2020 was a splendid IBC meeting despite the cancellation of Christmas celebrations in many places due to the COVID-19 disaster.

In addition to the Club members, four members of the Backwoods Mountaineers Band led by Ym Mitsuo Shibata and four members of Y's Hula led by Yw. Yumiko Ishida graced the meeting held in the chapel on the 10th floor of the Tosabori YMCA.



HULA'S PERFORMANCE

followed by Hula's performance of "Silent Night," and the singing of "Jingle Bells," "We wish you a Merry Christmas," and "HAWAII ALOHA" (I love Hawaii, Hawaii's national anthem) by all the participants. We were able to enhance our love for Hawaii.

The YMI's International Convention celebrating the 100th anniversary of YMI will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, in 2022. Y's Women volunteers from all over the Japan West Region have been practicing since last spring to perform Hula at the Convention.

There were about 25 real participants, which was the maximum number by the regulation.

Furthermore, about 25 Y's Men and Women from IBC Nuuanu YMC of Hawaii, Chubu, Kyotobu, Hanwabu, Rokkoku, Seto-San-inbu, and Kyushubu Districts gathered by Zoom to enjoy the Christmas celebration across the Pacific Ocean.

The exchange of the current status of the Clubs between IBCs was conducted with simultaneous interpretation by Ym. Kan Tanikawa,

- DG Yumi Yoshida

## ROKKOBU DISTRICT

This year's projects as the District were practically cancelled due to the spread of COVID-19.

As a significant decision, we decided to waive the District fee, and together with each Club, we provided a total of over 4 million yen (approx. \$40,000) to support the ailing YMCA. Each Club is also continuing to support the YMCA. Besides, on Wednesday, October 28, the District held a charity golf competition at Sengari Country Club to raise funds for the YMCA.

In the second half of the year, we are looking for ways to hold the events in ordinary time.

- DG Eibun Yasuyuki

## NISHI-CHUGOKUBU DISTRICT

Let me make a brief report of a creative play on peace entitled "I PRAY 2020," which was performed by children on August 23, 2020, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Hiroshima's atomic bombing.

"I PRAY 2020" is a theatrical drama performed by dozens of children from Hiroshima to long for the world without war and pray for lasting peace. We observed the 75th memorial year of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima this year. Amid the possible spread of COVID-19, however, the play was performed with various countermeasures, such as asking spectators to sit far apart from each other at the hall and taking thorough measures to prevent infection.

As far as I know, the director had a tough hard time recruiting members for the play and practicing their performance, avoiding the so-called 3Cs; confined spaces, crowded places, and close contact.

During the day's performance, Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and a cosponsor of the play, unexpectedly came on stage to encourage the players and made a greeting. The performance of "I PRAY 2020" was distributed worldwide through YouTube for the first time.

Japan West Region of YMI granted a subsidy for the play this year too. The members of Hiroshima Club, Iwakuni-Minami Club, and Fukuyama Club of Nishi-chugokubu District provided various support for the play. Nishi-chugokubu District, as a district, also made a small contribution in supporting it. Nishi-chugokubu District intends to support "I PRAY" in the future continuously.

- DG Etsushi Watanabe

## KYUSHUBU DISTRICT

With COVID-19 raging, the District's kick-off meeting was held in July with the presidents of each Club.

The only difference from previous years was that the meeting was held online. It was the start of a situation that overturned the usual way of Y's Men's face-to-face meeting. It was a new start for each Club with a new style.

As for the Kyushubu District, the official annual visit of the DG was postponed. We had to cancel the District Convention. I am sure that the members feel confused and, financially, mentally, and physically anxious about how long this situation will last, but this is a good chance to reexamine our Clubs' current status and future. I sent a message that we should not give up and keep moving forward.

Even under these circumstances, the Clubs have been active in volunteer activities for disaster relief and various projects held throughout the year, led by the CPs and leaders. There was also a new attempt: IBC activities using Zoom. One of the Clubs is in the process of signing an IBC partnership. I hope this will have a positive impact on both Clubs.

We held a Menettes Meeting in November. The theme was "How the current situation of the COVID-19 disaster affects children". It is not only the adult world, but also children are greatly affected. We were given appropriate advice on being a good family and society once again with actual examples. Apart from the District Convention and District Council Meetings, we also decided to hold a Zoom meeting titled "Let's Talk Together about the Kyushubu District!" I would like to express my gratitude to all the Clubs in our District for the new initiatives.

- DG Teruaki Matsunaga

# ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE REVITALIZATION OF Y'SDOM IN JWR

BY: Y'S MEN'S CLUBS FUTURE VISION SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON KEIZO MORITA

Japan West Region came into existence in July 1997 with the membership of 1,952. However, 19 years later, the membership decreased by 458 to 1,494 (-23.5%) at the beginning of July 2016, which coincided with its members' aging.

Against the backdrop of the marked decline and aging of the members, Japan West Region established the "Y's Men's Clubs Future Vision Special Committee" in July, 2016 to cope with the critical situation. We decided in the firm belief that "something must be done" to rectify such a situation. Since then, we have implemented a plan, the "Newborn Y's Movement" toward 2022, in which we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the foundation of YMI. The Year 2022 also will be the 25th anniversary of the foundation of Japan West Region.

These two celebrations will be an excellent opportunity to regain its original membership in 2022, with the numerical target of 2,022 members.

After establishing the Special Committee on Y's Future Vision, we identified the challenges Japan West Region faced by taking a survey and collecting the data on the existing situation of each and every Club of JWR. Based on the collected information, we drafted **"The vision and fundamental plans to pursue the development of JWR."**

We distributed them to all the Districts and Clubs of JWR in RD letters and Regional bulletins with DVDs, which presented the charted image of the revitalization.

## THE VISION OF JAPAN WEST REGION (THE IDEAL IMAGE OF Y'SDOM IN THE FUTURE)

The Y's Man who positively and vigorously contributes to society with pride and passion based on the Y's spirit of love and service, we will act out in friendly rivalry with other members for personal enrichment, carry out enjoyable and valuable Club activities, contribute to society with pride and passion so that the Club we belong to will be recognized and appreciated by anyone.

### Basic Plans

1. Formulation of visions, targets, and plans for implementation by respective Districts and Clubs
2. Reformation of the organizational climate of JWR, Districts, and Clubs
3. Qualitative improvement and quantitative expansion of the membership
4. Functional reinforcement of public relations and informational dissemination
5. Betterment of partnership between Y's Men's Clubs and the YMCA
6. Qualitative improvement of Community Service projects

We have been trying to enlighten all the members of JWR, claiming each and every member must carry out projects in an earnest, courageous, energetic, persevering, and consistent manner in collaboration with the "Y's Men's Clubs Future Vision Special Committee" as well as working teams organized by respective Districts so that the "Newborn Y's Movement" can be promoted to materialize the vision of Japan West Region.

However, it is regrettable that we have failed to achieve any tangible result for the past four years owing to the situational differences between the districts of JWR.

Even after establishing the "Y's Men's Clubs Future Vision Special Committee", the membership has continued to decrease because withdrawals outnumbered admissions. All the members do not share a strong sense of urgency.

Regarding the Committee's policy from now, we will shift its emphasis from outward-oriented activities to inward-oriented activities. In doing so, we hope to facilitate the qualitative improvement of the Y's Men's Club. This factor is essential to curbing withdrawals and increasing admissions given the social ramifications of COVID-19 and its restraint on the committee's outward-oriented activities.

We are determined to build up a mutually beneficial and collaborative system to reinforce the bonds between local Y's Men's Clubs and local YMCAs, which are in a critical condition. For that purpose, we have established a "Partnership Review Committee" (provisional name), which functions as an intermediary between the YMCA and Y's Men's Clubs.

In conclusion, I believe that it is the mission of all the Y's Men of JWR to cooperate with each other in the ardent hope of restoring and revitalizing debilitating Y's Men's Clubs and local YMCAs.



BOARD MEMBERS OF JAPAN WEST REGION 2020-2021

## AFTER THE INAUGURAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KANSAI Y'S MEN'S BUSINESS NETWORKING GROUP

KYB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON TARO KAKEYA (OSAKA IBARAKI YMC)

On December 5, 2020, the Kansai Y's Men's Business Networking Group (hereinafter referred to as KYB) held its Inaugural General Assembly and a Grand Business Meeting (presentations of members' own companies) at the Osaka YMCA.

This meeting was conceived last year when I was the District Governor of the Chuseibu District and was funded by the Special Fund of the Newborn Y's Movement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. I would also like to express my gratitude for the participation of many people, including the Japan West Region's executive officers.

To understand this meeting, I would like to explain in the following order.

### BACKGROUND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF KYB

The Osaka Ibaraki YMC, to which I belong, has not been able to achieve decisive results in EMC for the past several years, and there is a concern that if this situation continues, the organization will become rigid and the burden will continue to fall only on a few people forever. I have invited acquaintances (people who are still working) as guest speakers to our regular meetings many times, but we have not made a breakthrough that would lead to their joining. Therefore, I felt that it was necessary for those who are busy running their businesses to acquaint themselves with the possibility of something useful for their business and themselves. I also thought that if there was a place where many people in the same situation could interact, it would lead to EMC, including existing Y's Men, and decided to establish KYB.



## ABOUT THE "GRAND BUSINESS MEETING" (PRESENTATIONS OF MEMBERS' BUSINESS)

We had one person from each of the five Districts give a presentation on their business. Although we know the type of business of the people we often meet, we learned about their specific work and what they focus on in their business, which was remarkably interesting to learn about the members' features different from those as Y's Men.

I believe that one of the purposes of KYB is to foster interaction among participants through these Grand Business Meetings and future projects, which will lead to the promotion of business.

### FUTURE PLANS

The Covid-19 pandemic made it difficult for us to carry out future projects. However, exchanges beyond Clubs and Districts, such as training sessions (including the Grand Business Meeting), golf tournaments, bowling tournaments, etc., will be useful for our business. Furthermore, if KYB becomes more active, it will also lead to EMC. We have just taken our first steps, and there are still many things that we are not sure about, but with cooperation, support and participation, we would like to make KYB more exciting from a different perspective than Y's Movement.

### LAUNCH OF OUR WEBSITE.

We have just launched our website, and it is still in the process of development, but we are planning to enhance its contents in the future. Video (YouTube) of KYB's Inaugural General Assembly and Grand Business Meeting <https://youtu.be/5JSkiwTL8cQ>

### KYB'S INAUGURAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GRAND BUSINESS MEETING



## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you all have had a good festive season break and spent time with family.

Last month the focus was on Japan East Region. This month the focus is on Japan West Region, hence some information about its history and current projects.

Next Area Bulletin (March 2021) the focus will be on the Philippine Region, so we invite the Region's leaders and clubs to provide articles and photos to highlight their activities.

March 2021 is emphasis month for Community Service (CS) and Y's Menette Activities. We ask that relevant leaders submit articles (300 words max) and photos by 20 Feb 2021.

Please check out the ASP Area Facebook page, it's another way we can share stories and photos about our activities.

**THIS BULLETIN CAN BE READ FROM THE SCREEN - NO NEED TO PRINT.**



- Colin Lambie, Bulletin Editor



## SHORT TERM EXCHANGE PROGRAM (STEP)

BY: PATRICIA LIM, ASD-STEP

STEP is a 3-11 weeks program for youths to spend time with a YMI family either in another country or region of a country. It is open to 18-25 year old children/grand-children of Y's Men, Y's Menettes/ YMCA Youth.

STEP is a fantastic program for youths to experience the cultures, customs and languages of the host country and the local lifestyle of the host family.

Clubs are encouraged to promote this program and the qualified Youths must apply through their Home club to International, who will help arrange suitable host families as well as travelling arrangements. Although no fee is payable for the application, the return air fare and pocket money should be borne by the parents of the applicant.

As this program entails travelling, and with the future of travel being suspended indefinitely due to the worldwide Covid19 pandemic, I do not see any possibility of any STEP program during my service term. Currently there are a couple of previous applicants on hold.

## TIME OF FAST ~ MONTH OF FEBRUARY



BY: JAMES KONG, ASD-TOF

### PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES, METHOD

Time of Fast is an annual fundraising program of Y's Men International (YMI). Contributions are used to fund sustainable, YMCA and YMI initiatives with local and global impact. Since 2016, projects must align with the United Nations agenda and address at least one of the Sustainable Development Goals.



Historically, our members agree to give up at least one meal, usually during the month of February, and donate the estimated cost(s) to the program. General cash contributions are welcome at any time. Most contributions, however, are received with other program donations in the month of May.

**TIME OF FAST CONTRIBUTION SAMPLE CARD**

**Time of Fast – “Give up some meals” program.**

The Ottawa International Y Service Club invites you to  
**GIVE UP SOME MEALS IN FEBRUARY**  
 CONTRIBUTE THE MONEY YOU SAVE for  
 YMCA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD.  
 Please read on for more information if you would like to help.

**Here is how the campaign works!**

During each week of February, we ask you to give up one breakfast, one lunch, one dinner and all between meal snacks.

Set aside the money you save from not eating and contribute that amount to the campaign.

Use the chart on the reverse to record your savings and calculate your contribution.

Give your cheque or cash to the Ottawa Y Service club.

Payment options: Mail or deliver to the Ottawa Y Service Club  
 c/o Taggart Family Y, 180 Argyle Ave, Ottawa K2P 1B7  
 Or contribute through PayPal to our Fair World Sports account  
 Or give your contribution to one of our members.

**Calculating your contribution**

| 7 day period       | Meal to skip. | Suggested value | Your contribution |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Feb 1-7            | LUNCH         | \$8.00          |                   |
| Feb 8-14           | BREAKFAST     | \$5.00          |                   |
| Feb 15-22          | ALL SNACKS    | \$7.00          |                   |
| Feb 23-28          | DINNER        | \$10.00         |                   |
| Contribution total |               |                 |                   |

The Time of Fast program is a project for all clubs in the Y Service International movement. Members and friends are encouraged to skip some meals and donate the money saved to YMCA community development projects around the world. Since its inception in 1974, well over \$5 million USD has been raised.

On behalf of the members of the Ottawa Y Service Club, thank you for your support of our campaign.

Set this card on your dining room table as a reminder.

**ASIA PACIFIC AREA : TOF GOALS AND CHALLENGES**

The Year 2020-2021 will be difficult year due to COVID-19. We may expect reduction in TOF Contribution. However, we may need to put more effort in providing medical assistance program for some countries. We therefore need your contribution and support for 2020-2021.

| Region                        | TOF Donation 2019-20 (CHF) | TOF 2020-21 Goals (CHF) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Australia                     | 1,282                      | 2,000                   |
| Japan East                    | 7,889                      | 9,000                   |
| Japan West                    | 13,965                     | 19,500                  |
| Philippines                   | 0                          | 300                     |
| South East Asia               | 215                        | 1,000                   |
| Sri Lanka                     | 226                        | 450                     |
| Taiwan                        | 2951                       | 3,000                   |
| Asia Pacific Area (Sub-total) | 26,528                     | 35,250                  |

**TIME OF FAST : PROJECT APPLICATION, GUIDELINES AND SELECTION OF PROJECTS**

**PROJECT ELIGIBILITY**

- Project applications are accepted from clubs within our organization considered by our international office to be in good standing, from YMCAs, or globally recognized YMCA affiliates.
- YMI clubs actively supporting TOF-funded YMCA projects must also be in good standing.
- Only one project application per club, YMCA or YMCA affiliate will be considered for funding each year.
- Applications from YMCAs must be endorsed by a YMI club, District, Region or Area in which the project is located.
- TOF projects must satisfy the following criteria:
  - Deal directly with needy people and/or those who provide for them
  - Be of the self-help variety
  - Have secured all other funds needed for successful project implementation
  - Must relate to at least one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Funds may not be used to purchase land or buildings.
- The maximum grant amount per application is capped at CHF 15,000. Ongoing projects may request additional money by applying again.



## GUIDELINES

- Cooperation between local YMCAs and YMI is to be encouraged on all projects, regardless of the coordinator.
- Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or similar arrangements are to be encouraged between project partners and associates with all parties demonstrating mutual understanding and in agreement on the scope of their related engagement.
- Not more than 20% of a project budget should be earmarked for administration or salaries.
- It is recommended that YMI's funding and participation can be accomplished within two years. Projects of longer duration should submit new applications.
- Applicants are to be discouraged from submitting multiple projects for consideration.

## SELECTION OF PROJECTS

- All project proposals are to be submitted in English using the online application form: TOF Application Form.
- Applications are received directly from the applicant and transmitted automatically to the TOF Committee members and to IHQ.
- IHQ advises Area and Regional Troikas of the applications from their jurisdiction.
- A project proposal which has not been approved for funding will not be considered again unless revisions to the original submission are made.

## CALENDAR:

- 15 September: Opening of online application form
- 15 March: Application deadline and application form deactivated
- 20 March: Areas and Regions advised of applications
- 31 March: Deadline for feedback from Area and Regional leaders
- 15 April: Initial control and assessment of applications by the TOF Committee completed
- 15 May: Deadline for the TOF Committee members to send their evaluations to TOF Committee Chair
- 15 June: Recommendations from TOF Committee Chair received at IHQ to be included in the Work Book for the International Council Meeting
- 30 August: Applicants informed of Council's decision by this date

## RECENT APPROVED TOF PROJECTS FOR ASIA PACIFIC AREA (FOR REFERENCE)

| TOF PROJECT ID | COUNTRY                         | PROJECT NAME  | PROJECT OVERVIEW   | ALLOCATION |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|--|------------|
| 18-02          | Thailand                        | Smile, Love and Care: Empowered Disabled Youth Leadership | To provide capacity and skill building for around 60 disabled students of Chiang Mai University. Training staff and others at the University to work with and help the differently abled.                                      | CHF15,610  |
| 19-02          | Cambodia                        | Empowering Youth for Youth                                | To expand the existing youth empowerment programme by creating an after-school programme, offering specific skills and leadership training, as well as health education and recreational activities for local, poor teenagers. | CHF15,027  |
| 19-09          | Korea/<br>Cambodia              | Korean Y's Men Medical Service                            | To partially subsidize the travel of the YMI medical team from Korea, about 22 persons, as they bring a variety of treatments to poor communities in Asia Pacific.   | CHF30,000  |
| 20-06          | Korea/<br>Laos Luang<br>Prabang | Laos School and Home Renovation Project                   | To supply the raw materials for dormitory, cafeteria, and school classroom renovations and helping to equip the upgraded spaces for the students.  | CHF30,000  |

## TIME OF FAST FUNDRAISING SAMPLE

The (your name) Region invites you to  
GIVE UP SOME MEALS IN FEBRUARY  
CONTRIBUTE THE MONEY YOU SAVE for  
YMCA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

Here is how the campaign works!

During each week of February, we ask you to give up one breakfast, one lunch, one dinner and all between meal snacks.  
Set aside the money you save from not eating and contribute that amount to the campaign.

Use the chart below to record  
your savings and calculate your contribution.  
Send your donation to your club treasurer.

| 7 DAY PERIOD          | MEAL TO SKIP | SUGGESTED VALUE | YOUR DONATION |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Feb 1-7               | LUNCH        | \$8             |               |
| Feb 8-14              | BREAKFAST    | \$5             |               |
| Feb 15-21             | ALL SNACKS   | \$7             |               |
| Feb 22-28             | DINNER       | \$10            |               |
| <b>TOTAL DONATION</b> |              |                 |               |

The Time of Fast program is a project for all clubs in the Y Service International movement. Members and friends are encouraged to skip some meals and donate the money saved to YMCA community development projects around the world.

Since its inception in 1974, well over \$5 million USD has been raised.  
Set this page on your dining room table as a reminder.

**ON BEHALF OF THE REGION,  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR CAMPAIGN.**



## GREEN ACTIVITIES & THE ENVIRONMENT

By: Colin Lambie ASD BE/Green Activities & Environment

### AREA GREEN TEAM

Still waiting on nominations of people for the Area Green Team from a couple of Regions. The object of this Green Team will be decided by the team, but is expected to include:

- Promotion of Green Activities in the Asia Pacific Area
- Enhance relationship with YMCA, given APAY Green Team aiming to have all YMCAs 'carbon neutral' by 2030
- Develop projects that enhances Asia Pacific Area of YMI as a leader in taking action on climate change
- Given Asia Pacific Area to levy participants at conventions a small fee to offset 'carbon footprint' of travelling to and attending conventions, the Area Green Team would be making recommendations what should be done with the funds from the 'green levy'.
- Encourage use of the YMI carbon offset fund, which is available each year to offset emissions of international YMI leaders, mostly from air travel to meetings.

### INCOME STREAM FOR AREA FROM CARBON FOOTPRINT OFFSET PROJECTS

Following on from the article in the November 2020 Area Bulletin, the Asia Pacific Area could create an ongoing income stream by funding a solar rooftop project on a YMCA building or other partner organization building. Ideally, the Area would conduct crowd funding (fundraising) to raise the funds for the solar rooftop project. The Area would share some of the benefit of the solar with the 'host', the building owner and/or occupant. An example with numbers (using generic \$);

- Solar rooftop project of 30kW will cost US\$30,000, hence this is the amount the Area would need to raise.
- The saving generated by the solar system would be about US\$5,000 per annum. If the saving or benefit is split between the Area and the host, say 80% / 20%, the Area would have an income of US\$4,000 per annum (at today's prices) for next 10 to 20 years.

30kW would be the smallest system worth considering, but systems up to 100kW (cost about US\$100,000) could be considered, which would result in a saving of about US\$15,000 per annum.



Photo beside is of a 30kW solar rooftop system on a table tennis & badminton stadium which was fully funded by crowd funding. The income is split 60% / 40% between host / Bendigo Sustainability Group. The term of the agreement is 10 years.

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST FOR IC 2022 IN HAWAII

Submit expression of interest to AP David Lua & AS Keiko Tonegawa

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.ysmenap.org/>  
**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/aspysmen>

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