

International Youth Exchange Programme



National Youth and Sports Department
Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia

THE SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN & JAPANESE YOUTH PROGRAMME (SSEAYP)

The Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Programme (SSEAYP) is an annual program organized by the Cabinet Office of Japan. The program is based on the Joint Statement issued in January 1974 between Japan and Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Brunei Darussalam joined in 1985, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in 1996, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar in 1998, and the Kingdom of Cambodia in 2000. The program is carried out by the Government of Japan (through the Office for International Youth Exchange of the Cabinet Office) with the active participation and cooperation of these ten Southeast Asian countries.

The program aims to promote friendship and mutual understanding among the youths of Japan and the ten Southeast Asian countries, broaden their global perspective, and strengthen their spirit of international cooperation along with practical skills for collaboration. It is expected to cultivate youth capable of developing leadership skills in various fields and contributing to society, particularly in youth development. These objectives are achieved through sharing daily life onboard the ship, introducing each other's countries, and participating in discussions and various exchange activities both onboard and in the countries visited.

The uniqueness of SSEAYP lies in its onboard and Port-of-Call activities. Participants experience sharing life onboard, presenting their countries (e.g., through National Presentations), engaging in discussions and exchange activities (e.g., Discussion Groups, which are the heart of SSEAYP, and PY Seminars), and taking part in Solidarity Group Activities in the countries visited, such as homestays, local youth interactions, and institutional visits.



MALAYSIA - KOREA YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (MKYEP)

The Malaysia-Korea Youth Exchange Programme is an annual international youth exchange program established under an agreement between the Malaysian and Korean governments since 1979. It is a collaborative program administered by the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, and the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, Korea.

One of the program's goals is to strengthen the bilateral relationship between Malaysia and Korea by developing youths with broad knowledge, particularly in youth development. This annual program involves 20 youth delegates from each country, who participate in a 10-day country program hosted alternately in Malaysia and Korea.





MALAYSIA - SINGAPORE YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (MSYEP)

The Malaysia-Singapore Youth Leaders Exchange Programme (MSYLEP) is a key bilateral initiative between the youth focal points of Singapore and Malaysia.

The program involves 40 participants (20 from Malaysia and 20 from Singapore) aged 18–30 years. This five-day program includes seminar workshops, learning journeys, dialogues with thought and industry leaders, as well as institutional visits to important public and private organizations. Participants' specific age and occupational profiles may vary from year to year, depending on the program and theme. Program themes are also subject to annual agreement between both countries.

The eight-day exchange includes several components, such as institutional visits, learning journeys, keynote lectures, group discussions, meetings with political leaders or think tanks, and workshops.

TRANS ASEAN BACKPACKERS (TABS)

The ASEAN-Trans Backpackers Program (TABS) is a new initiative by the National Youth and Sports Department (JBSN). The program aims to develop and empower Malaysian youth by fostering a strong sense of identity and equipping them to compete at the international level.

Participants will travel across ASEAN countries using public transport, including trains, buses, and walking routes. Designed to push participants beyond their comfort zones, the program focuses on personal development and nurturing a spirit of volunteerism. It features a variety of activities that promote self-growth and active engagement in community-based social initiatives with local populations.

