



DAY-2 23rd December

“Diversity and Identity”

“Global outlook from local minds”

T

Today, Ms. Hoshino gave us a lecture on UN’s global initiative, called the “Sustainable Development Goals for 2030”. In this lecture, we learned about all the different objectives towards a sustainable future such as eradicating poverty, ensuring clean water, and guaranteeing a fair and efficient education. Ms. Hoshino then emphasized the notion that a lot of global issues are interlinked, by visualizing the consequential relationship between each issue. Later in Mr. Omori’s lecture, we applied the newly gained ideas to our own local situations and then began developing our own presentation for the final presentation on day 7. Through group discussions, we found commonalities and differences



from each of our group members own interests regarding the environment and sustainability. A lot of the group members were especially passionate about the incompetent education being taught in their own countries, we all then acknowledged the importance of having a good and efficient education. After learning the plethora of perspectives in regard to social and economic issues such as poverty, we then decided to focus our attention to promoting the quality of life in the local communities.

“Demystifying Differences”

Y

We may come from different backgrounds, but we have one common aspiration – a more peaceful and prosperous Asia. Today, we learnt about each other’s opinions and the different factors that influenced how we solve various social, political, economic and environmental issues. For example, we chose Peace from the UN’s Five Ps of Sustainable Development because we agreed that good governance is crucial to achieving all other goals. However, we had a difference in opinion regarding the feasibility of actualizing a competent and honest government. In Singapore, which is



very small and receptive to governmental policies, governance is relatively easier. On the other hand, it is more difficult to effect change in Indonesia and Japan, which are larger both in terms of population and land size, because law enforcement may not reach everyone. Hopefully, as we go through the TYCA program, we will further develop our understanding and knowledge of potential solutions to achieve our common goal of peace in society.



DAY-2 23rd December

“Diversity and Identity”

“Give and Take ”

Out of all the activities we had, we learnt the most from Student Session 2, where we compared our essays and discussed similarities and differences. Through these discussions, we found that all of us had written about how our countries can contribute to Asia. We learnt that each country has both strengths and weaknesses. So how can we all fulfill our needs? We came to a conclusion that we should give and take. For example, Thailand can provide agricultural products, but they don't have developed technologies. On the other hand, Singapore is famous for advanced education, but lacks land for agriculture. Japan has some of the most advanced technologies in the world, acting as a role model for other Asian countries. Therefore, we can use the diversity in Asia to our advantage by giving and taking to achieve a win-win solution. The example above involves only our three countries, but we believe that if we can do the same thing on a bigger scale, it would lead to a sustainable Asia. In addition, this was also a good opportunity to learn more about all our countries.



“Everything Is Connected ”

All the participants were divided into four groups: T, Y, C, and A. As group A, we discussed and shared problems that are occurring in our countries, Brunei, Malaysia, and Japan. It was insightful to learn many issues from the various countries. For Example, in Brunei, there are a few environmental problems like unorganized waste disposal and the use of non-renewable energy sources. After this, we learned about the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs, and discussed about the 5Ps which stand for People, Planet, Prosperity, Partnership, and Peace. As a group, we discussed which P was the first priority, which was Planet for us. Mr. Omori explained to us about Visions and Goals, their definitions and purposes. We applied the knowledge we gained to create our own vision for ASEAN by 2040. Our advisor, Teo, told us many interesting facts and ideas. We even learned about Smart City in Fujisawa as an example of an environmentally sustainable city which is entirely powered by renewable energy sources. He also mentioned about his home country, Singapore, and how they efficiently utilizes their resources, like forming clean drinking water from sewage/toilet water. We realized that world issues are interrelated, and when solving issues we have to think holistically.

