



Outline of SWY Ship for World Youth program



The SWY Unit,
Office for International Youth Exchange,
Cabinet Office, Government of Japan

What is Ship for World Youth program (SWY)?

- International Youths Exchange program on the ship
- Organized by the Government of Japan since 1988
- Aiming to develop youth leaders in next generation, through the intensive training and interaction on board



History of SWY

1967 -

"The Japanese Youth Goodwill Cruise" Program starts



Departure Ceremony (1968)

1988 -

"The Ship for World Youth" Program starts



The first voyage crossing the Panama Canal (1989)

2021 - 2022

Online Exchange

COVID-19

2023

Activities in Japan without a ship

2024 -

Resuming the ship program

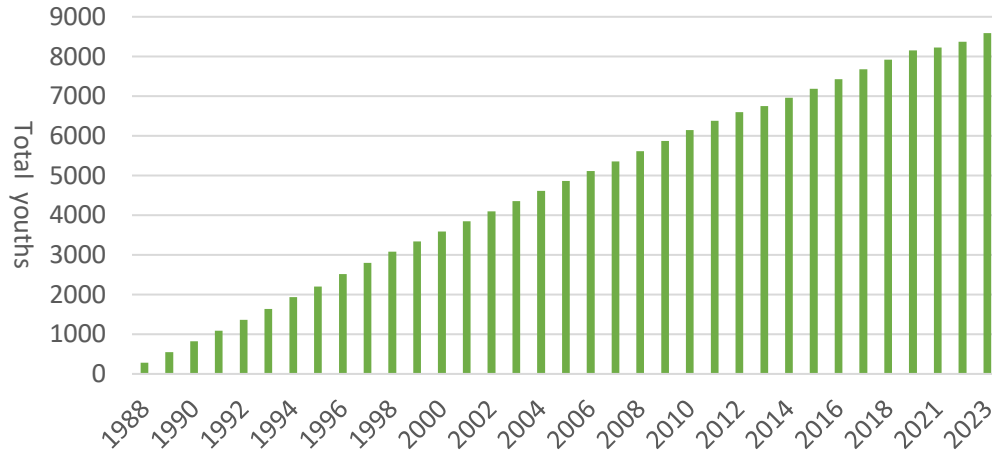


Online Exchange

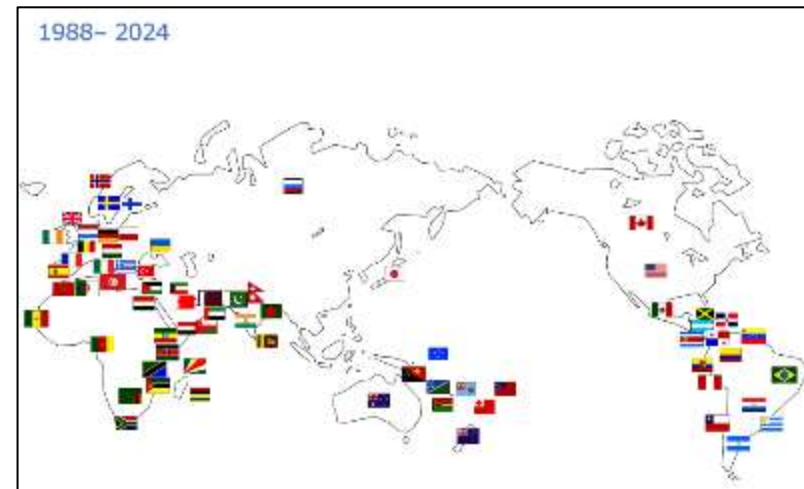
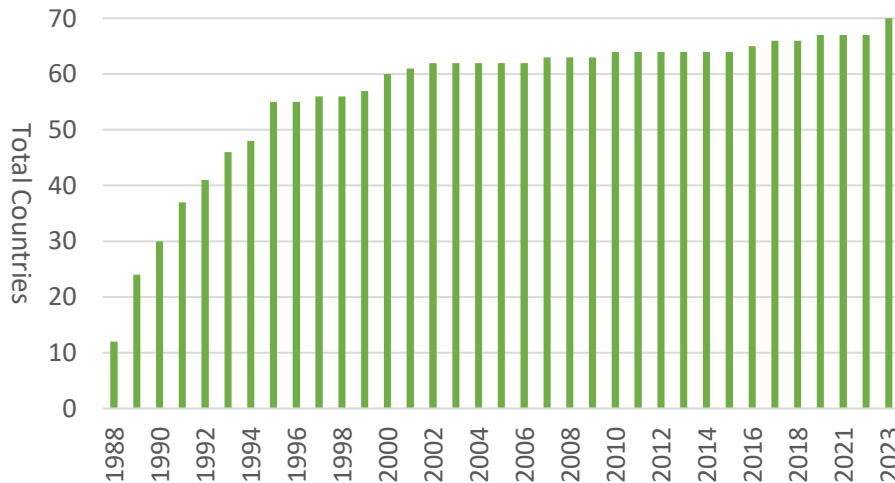
*Cruising course was limited within the Japanese territorial waters during SWY 2024 - 2025

Number of SWY Alumni as of April 1, 2024

● **8592** youths (including 3861 Japanese youths)



● **70** countries (including Japan)



SWY 2026 : Candidate countries (tentative)



Republic of Cameroon



Republic of Chile



Dominican Republic



Hellenic Republic



Republic of India



Jamaica



Mongolia



Kingdom of Morocco



Republic of Mozambique



New Zealand



Republic of Palau



Kingdom of Spain



Japan

(Total 13 countries)

SWY 2026 : Itinerary(tentative)

	Date		Contents
DAY1	Feb. 15	Sun	Arrival of NLs, PYs from 13 countries all over the world
DAY2	16	Mon	Embarkation to the Ship, Departure Ceremony, Orientation
DAY3	17	Tue	Cruise
DAY4	18	Wed	Cruise
DAY5	19	Thu	Cruise
DAY6	20	Fri	Cruise
DAY7	21	Sat	Cruise
DAY8	22	Sun	Cruise
DAY9	23	Mon	Port of call activity
DAY10	24	Tue	Port of call activity
DAY11	25	Wed	Cruise
DAY12	26	Thu	Cruise
DAY13	27	Fri	Port of call activity
DAY14	28	Sat	Cruise
DAY15	Mar.1	Sun	Cruise
DAY16	2	Mon	Port of call activity
DAY17	3	Tue	Port of call activity
DAY18	4	Wed	Port of call activity
DAY19	5	Thu	Port of call activity
DAY20	6	Fri	Port of call activity
DAY21	7	Sat	Cruise
DAY22	8	Sun	Arrival at Tokyo port, Disembarkation Party
DAY23	9	Mon	Disembarkation Ceremony, Disembarkation from a ship, Tokyo Session
DAY24	10	Tue	Tokyo Session
DAY25	11	Wed	Tokyo Session
DAY26	12	Thu	Summary Forum, Closing Ceremony
DAY27	13	Fri	Moving to the airport, Departure of NLs and PYs

- The program period is from February 15, 2026 to March 13, 2026.

- 3 Ports of call in Japan are anticipated.

- 1 "CES" (1day)

- 1 "CES" (2days)

- 1 "PBL" (5days)

*CES stands for Cultural Experience Session.
See page 13 for a description of CES.

*PBL stands for Project Based Learning session.
See page 14 for a description of PBL.

*The Audience with the Imperial Family and Courtesy Call on the Prime Minister by NLs and PY representatives will be scheduled during the Program in Tokyo.

*The itinerary is tentative.

■ Requests to Government of participating countries

- Recruitment, selection and nomination of Participants from their own country
- Attendance at an online briefing session (Scheduled to be held around June 2025)

■ The Japanese Government shall bear the costs shown below

- Round-trip airfare to Japan
- Travel insurance fee during the program
- Accommodation expenses (lodging and food) during the program
- Fees for official activities during the program (e.g. entrance fees)



SWY 2026: Participants

■ Qualification

● Common qualification

- Must hold a nationality and be a resident of each participating country
- Must be in good physical and mental condition and can endure a long voyage

● Qualification of Participating Youth (PY)

- Must be 18 to 30 years of age as of April 1, 2025
- Must have no prior experience in the SWY program (Excluding ex-PYs of the online program)

● Qualification of National Leader (NL)

- Must have the ability to lead his/her own country's youth

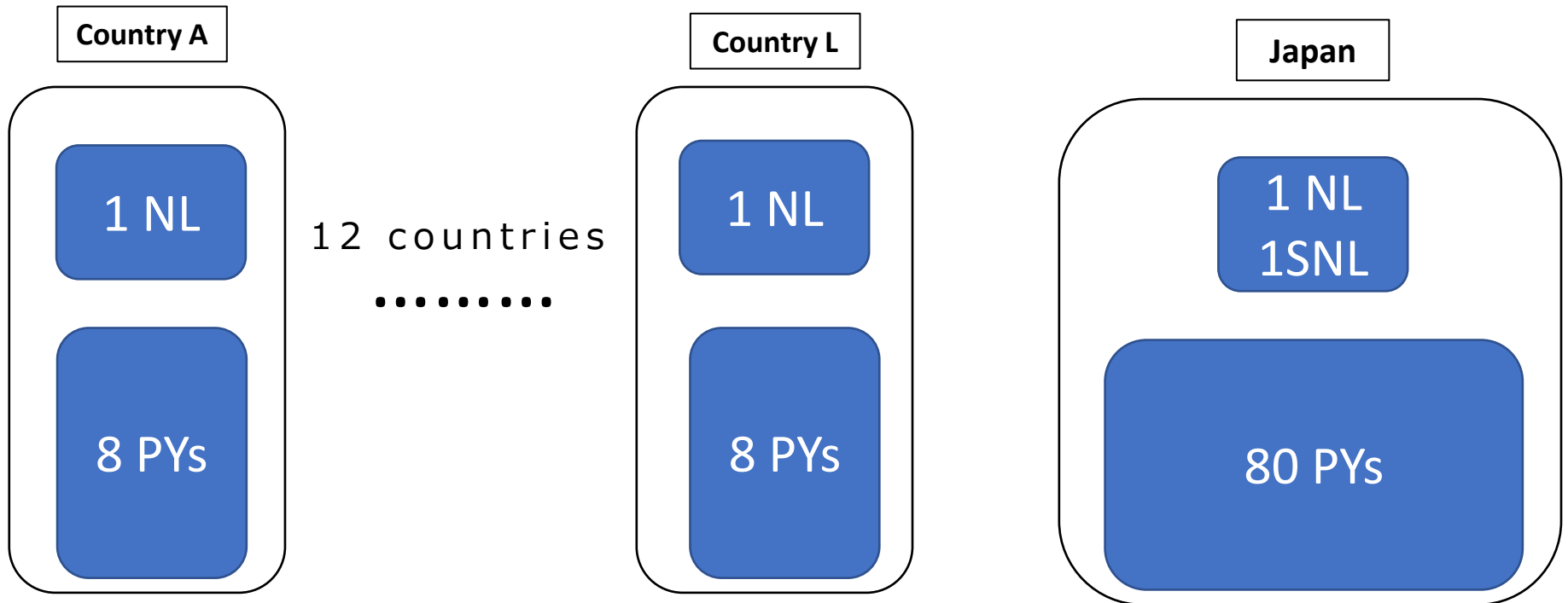
* There are other qualifications for participation in addition to those listed above.



SWY 2026 : Participants

■ Number of participants

- Participating Country : 1 National Leader(NL),
(Tentatively 12 countries) 8 Participating youths(PYs)
- Japan : 1 NL, 1 Sub National Leader(SNL), 80 PYs



■ Total: 176 PYs + 13NLs + 1SNL

(FYI)

Ship for World Youth Program 2025



SWY 2025: Countries



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria



Republic of Peru



Australia



Republic of Poland



Federative Republic of Brazil



Republic of Senegal



Republic of Djibouti



Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



Arab Republic of Egypt



Kingdom of Sweden



Sultanate of Oman



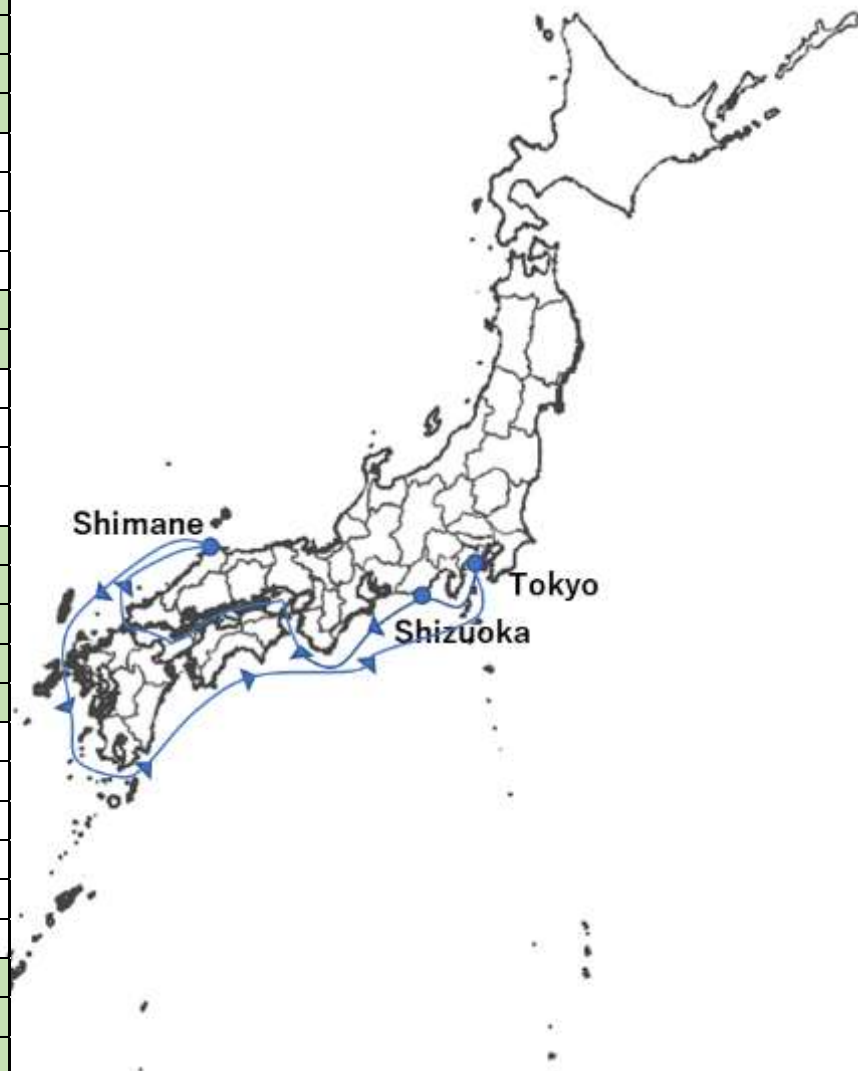
Japan



Republic of Panama

SWY 2025: Itinerary

	Date		Contents
DAY1	Jan. 24	Fri	Arrival of NLS PYs from 12 countries all over the world
DAY2	25	Sat	Tokyo Session(Orientation, Inauguration Ceremony)
DAY3	26	Sun	Tokyo Session
DAY4	27	Mon	Tokyo Session
DAY5	28	Tue	Embarkation to the Ship
DAY6	29	Wed	Departure Ceremony, Departure from Tokyo or Yokohama port
DAY7	30	Thu	Cruise
DAY8	31	Fri	Cruise
DAY9	Feb. 1	Sat	Cruise
DAY10	2	Sun	Port of call activity in Shizuoka (Cultural Experience Session)
DAY11	3	Mon	Port of call activity in Shizuoka (Cultural Experience Session)
DAY12	4	Tue	Cruise
DAY13	5	Wed	Cruise
DAY14	6	Thu	Cruise
DAY15	7	Fri	Cruise
DAY16	8	Sat	Port of call activity in Shimane (Project Based Learning Session)
DAY17	9	Sun	Port of call activity in Shimane (Project Based Learning Session)
DAY18	10	Mon	Port of call activity in Shimane (Project Based Learning Session)
DAY19	11	Tue	Port of call activity in Shimane (Project Based Learning Session)
DAY20	12	Wed	Port of call activity in Shimane (Project Based Learning Session)
DAY21	13	Thu	Cruise
DAY22	14	Fri	Cruise
DAY23	15	Sat	Cruise
DAY24	16	Sun	Cruise
DAY25	17	Mon	Cruise
DAY26	18	Tue	Cruise
DAY27	19	Wed	Cruise, Arrival at Tokyo or Yokohama port
DAY28	20	Thu	Summary Forum, Closing Ceremony, Farewell Party
DAY29	21	Fri	Moving to the airport, Departure of NLS and PYs



*The Audience with the Imperial Family and Courtesy Call on the Primary Minister by NLS and PY representatives will be scheduled during the Program in Tokyo.

Cultural Experience Session (CES) in Shizuoka

■ What is “CES”?

- Participants experience Japanese local culture and interact with local people.
- Contents
 - Ceremony
 - Courtesy call on local government
 - Visiting facilities
 - Cultural experience
 - Interacting with local people

*the pictures were taken in Kyoto during SWY 2024



Project Based Learning session (PBL) in Shimane

● What is “PBL”?

The PBL aims to let PYs think about how to deal with social issues in the rural area in Japan.

PBL will be conducted in conjunction with the Course Discussion.



Field Study, evacuation drill



Discussion with local youths

*the pictures were taken in Kochi during SWY 2024

● What is course discussion?

- Participants are divided into deferent groups
- They discuss the theme of each group under the instruction of Facilitator.
- Discussion themes are related to challenges port of call has.

● Discussion themes of SWY 2025

1. Community design utilizing local resources
2. Inheritance of traditional culture
3. Quality education
4. Environmental conservation
5. Social inclusion of migrants in local community
6. Tourism promotion utilizing local resources
7. Youth Empowerment in rural areas
8. Quality welfare services

*Discussion themes are changed every year.



SWY2025: Activities Onboard①



*The pictures were taken in SWY 2024

SWY2025: Activities Onboard②



National Presentation



Summary Forum



Closing Ceremony



Farewell Party

*The pictures were taken in SWY 2024