



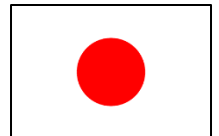
Youth in ASEAN, Japan, and the World

Campus Town Hall #1 – Jakarta Session

“Youth Participation: Trust in Governance Across ASEAN”

KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN

21 October 2025





Questions

1. Why does youth participation matter?
2. What youth programmes are taking place?
3. What next steps for the youth?

Youth participation matters for ASEAN and Japan

JOINT VISION STATEMENT ON ASEAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION: Trusted Partners

Our vision is for a world where the shared principles and values, as espoused including in the United Nations Charter (the UN Charter) and upheld by the AOIP, among others, are ensured, and where all countries can pursue peace and prosperity and uphold the principles of democracy, the rule of law and good governance, and respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms

ASEAN Community Vision 2045 "Resilient, Innovative, Dynamic, and People-Centred ASEAN"

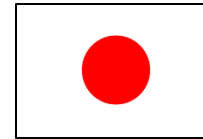
36. A Community where youth can meaningfully contribute to the strengthening of a dynamic, innovative, resilient ASEAN Community, and in addressing contemporary and emerging challenges, advancing sustainable socio-economic development, and reinforcing ASEAN awareness, values and identity.

ASEAN and Japan matter to each other



ASEAN

- **Geo-strategic location**
(Centre of the Indo-Pacific, Chokepoint of a major sea lane)
- **Growth centre of the world**
(Population of 670 million with the vitality of youth, growing market for innovation)
- **Hub of multi-layered cooperation**
(ASEAN-led mechanisms across sectors, engagement of external partners with ASEAN at the centre)



Japan

- **Growth and solution experience**
(Track record of rapid economic growth and addressing economic/social challenges)
- **Technology with craftsmanship**
(Track record of automobiles, electronic appliances, quality infrastructure, etc.)
- **Global democratic power in Asia**
(Member of G7/G20, Frequent non-permanent member of UN Security Council)

Fukuda Doctrine (1977)

1. Japan, a nation **committed to peace, rejects the role of a military power**, and on that basis is resolved to contribute to the peace and prosperity of Southeast Asia, and of the world community.
2. Japan, as a true friend of the countries of Southeast Asia, will do its best for consolidating the **relationship of mutual confidence and trust based on "heart-to-heart" understanding** with these countries, in wide-ranging fields covering not only political and economic areas but also social and cultural areas.
3. Japan will be an **equal partner of ASEAN and its member countries**, and **cooperate positively with them in their own efforts to strengthen their solidarity and resilience**, together with other nations of the like mind outside the region, while aiming at fostering a relationship based on mutual understanding with the nations of Indochina, and will thus contribute to the building of peace and prosperity throughout Southeast Asia.



Speech by PM Fukuda in Manila on 18 August 1977
(Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office)

SSEAYP

the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program, operated by the Cabinet Office.
This is a joint project between Japan and ASEAN countries, launched in 1974

48th SSEAYP in 2024

- 4th November to 11th December, 2024
- 168 participants (16 from each ASEAN participating country, 21 from Japan)
- Tokyo — Ho Chi Minh City — Jakarta — Tokyo



49th SSEAYP in 2026

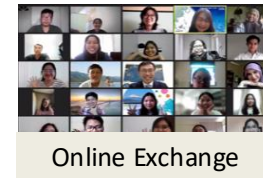
- 16th January to 17th February 2026
- 181 participants (17 from each ASEAN participating country, 21 from Japan)
- Tokyo —Singapore — Bangkok



“JENESYS” project promotes people-to-people exchange between Japan and the Asia-Pacific region including ASEAN Member States (AMS).
It is a successor program of JENESYS (2007-2012) and JENESYS2.0 (2013-2015).

Objectives

- To promote mutual trust and understanding among the peoples of Japan and the Asia-Pacific region, and to build a basis for future friendship and cooperation.
- To encourage an understanding of Japan’s economy, society, history, diverse culture, politics and diplomatic relations, and to build networks in these field.
- To convey information on the learnings of the program and the charms of Japan to the general public in the region through Social Media and others by participants.



Online Exchange



Face-to-face Exchange

Core Contents of the Program



Thematic Site Visits



Thematic Discussions



Thematic Exchange



Homestay



Cultural Experience

ASEAN-Japan Student Conference

- From January 14 to January 21, approximately 100 students from 10 ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste will visit Japan to participate in the “ASEAN-Japan Students Conference” under Japan’s Friendship Ties Programs “JENESYS”.
- The delegation will participate in the ASEAN-Japan Students Conference to be held in Tokyo from January 18 to 20. Under the common theme of “What we (students) can do for peace, stability, growth, and prosperity in the Asian region”, students from the ASEAN region and Japan will discuss "Maritime Security and Rule of Law", "Climate Change and Energy", and "Cultural Preservation and Education", and present a “Declaration of Action Plan”.
- Through this exchange program, it is expected that the youths of ASEAN and Japan will deepen their mutual understanding and that the network of friendship and cooperation between the next generation of ASEAN and Japan will be strengthened.



Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0

- ◆ On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation (2023), the Government of Japan launched **a comprehensive people-to-people exchange initiative as a Japan Foundation project that will benefit more than 10 million people, especially the next-generation leaders of Japan and ASEAN**, and will implement this initiative intensively over the next 10 years.
- ◆ Through this two-pillar project (“Two-way Intellectual and Cultural Exchange” and “NIHONGO Partners”), the Government of Japan will strengthen **“investment in people”** in both Japan and ASEAN, which are **“heart to heart” partners**, and **develop human resources to co-create the future of Japan and ASEAN**.
- ◆ The project aims to achieve the following:
 1. Build **a strong relationship of trust** between ASEAN and Japan for the future.
 2. Promote two-way exchanges and strengthen **multi-faceted human networks**.
 3. **Address together global challenges**, such as climate change and disaster prevention.
 4. Nurture the next generation to **serve as a bridge between ASEAN and Japan**.
 5. Contribute to the further development of **a multicultural society**.

Two-way Intellectual and Cultural Exchange

- ✓ Promotion of intellectual dialogue and support for collaborative research on a variety of topics
- ✓ Invitation and exchanges of primary and secondary school teachers
- ✓ Human networking and collaborative projects in the fields of art, theater, music, audiovisual contents (including co-produced film screenings), sports, etc.



Exchange at Sanriku International Art Festival

NIHONGO Partners

- ✓ Dispatch of “NIHONGO Partners” to support Japanese language classes and introduce Japanese culture
- ✓ Training in Japan for teachers and students from the NIHONGO Partners’ host schools
- ✓ Support for the activities of NIHONGO Partners who have returned to Japan



A NIHONGO Partner with students

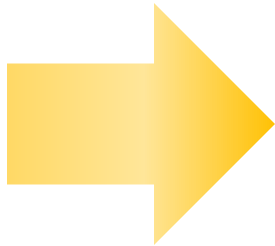
Japan-ASEAN Youth Forum Take Actions for Social Change (TASC)

The exchange programme to deepen mutual understanding between young people in ASEAN countries and Japan as part of the “Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0”. The theme for 2025 is “Plastic Waste”. Participants will develop their own questions and explore the theme through online programmes, field trips to the Philippines and Japan, and other activities. Then, through dialogue with other team members, participants will create action plans to co-create a better world, and each team will present a report on the outcome.



Sakura Science Program

- Invitation program for international youths in the field of science and technology
- Invited more than 1,500 youths from ASEAN+3 countries in FY 2024(more than 29,000 youths since the program started.)



Lectures by scientists
who are Nobel laureates



Visits to field of
research



Exchanges with
researchers

Asia Kakehashi Project +

- Invitation program for mainly Asian high school students studying Japanese.
- Continued as ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT+(PLUS) with the addition of G7 high school students from FY 2023.
- Inviting 100 students to study in Japan for 5 months in FY 2025
- Invited 1,132 students including 817 students from ASEAN+3 countries in 7 years(FY2018-FY2024)

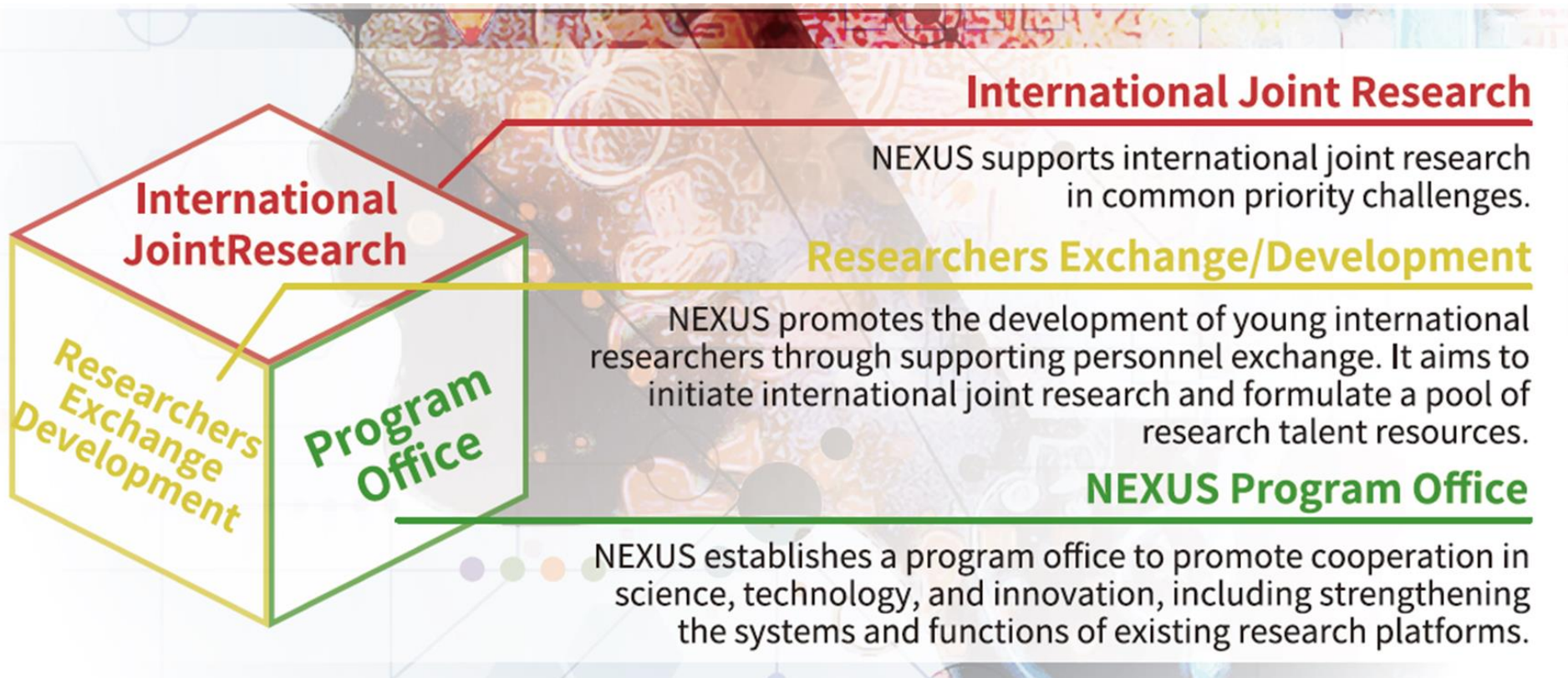


Speech by the Prime Minister on June 5, 2017
“ We will provide opportunities for Asian high school students studying Japanese to live in Japan for 10 months. This will be at a scale of 1,000 students over the next 5 years.”



NEXUS

NEXUS (Networked Exchange, United Strength for Stronger Partnerships between Japan and ASEAN) is a flexible and multi-layered cooperative framework, leveraged by the long history of science and technology cooperation between both sides with the opportunity of the “50th anniversary of friendship and cooperation between Japan and ASEAN.” It is aimed to further strengthen the cooperative research relationship between Japan and ASEAN as partners in co-creating innovations in science and technology. The three schemes below are detailed approaches.



Networks for the Next Generation

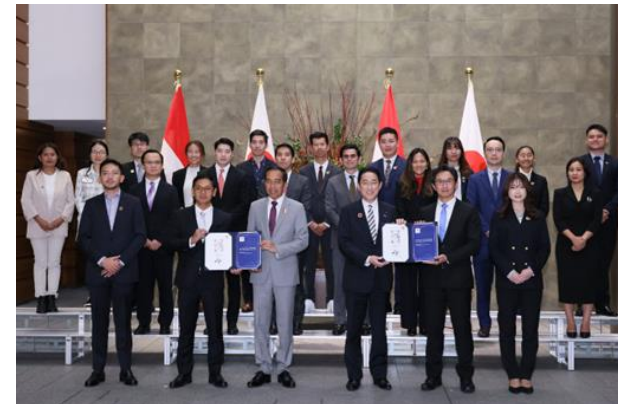
- About 100 young business leaders and entrepreneurs from ASEAN and Japan, who are expected to become future business leaders, gathered in Karuizawa in December 2023 for building and strengthening mutual understanding and trust. **The Young Business Leaders' Summit and Generation Z Business Leaders' Summit were launched as opportunities to create new connections for the next generation.**
- The participants shared economic and business challenges, discussed ways to cooperate to solve them, and compiled joint statements.
- **The statements were delivered to the co-chairs of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting**, Prime Minister Kishida and President Joko of Indonesia.
- These events will continue to be held as a legacy project for the 50th ASEAN-Japan anniversary. The second ones took place in Kyoto in December 2024.



Young Business Leaders' Summit



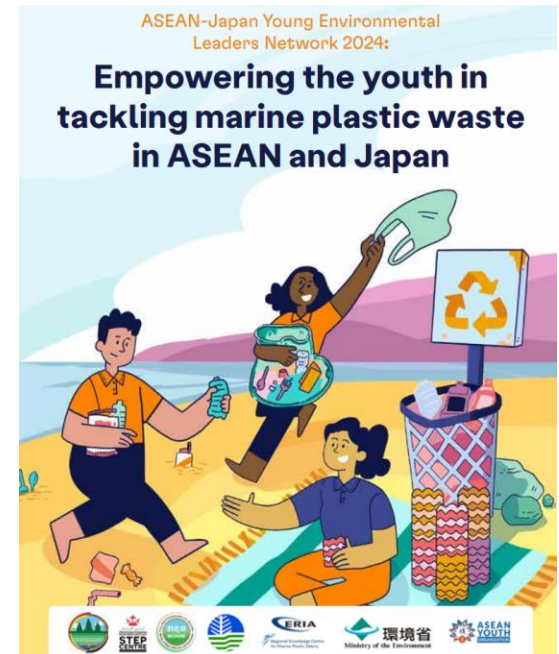
Discussion among Generation Z business leaders



Delivering joint statements to the co-chairs of the Commemorative Summit

AJYELN

The ASEAN-Japan Young Environmental Leaders Network (AJYELN) is a network of young regional champions in combating the plastic pollution crisis selected from the 10 ASEAN Member States and Japan. Organized by the ASEAN-Japan Centre, the network promotes youth-led solutions to the plastic pollution issue in the region.



ASEAN-Japan Youth Summit

The Japan-ASEAN Youth Summit (JAYS) 2025 was a three-day summit held in Jakarta, Indonesia, bringing together 46 students aged 15-23 from Japan, the 10 ASEAN countries, and Timor-Leste. The summit was divided into two subcommittees: Healthcare and Environment and Development. Each subcommittee consisted of five distinct sections: Pre-Assignment, which took place before the event; Lectures, which provided foundational knowledge on the subcommittee topics; Site visits, which offered hands-on experience and exposure to real-world applications; Workshops + Discussions, which facilitated collaborative problem-solving and idea-sharing; and Final Presentation, where participants showcased their findings and recommendations. The summit was hosted across three prominent venues: the Embassy of Japan Jakarta, Indonesia; the ASEAN Secretariat; and the Yello Harmoni Hotel Jakarta, providing a unique and immersive experience for the participants



Model East Asia Summit (EAS)

Jakarta, Indonesia | 15–19 September 2025 – Young leaders from the ten ASEAN Member States, Timor-Leste, and East Asia Summit (EAS) countries including Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States, are gathering in Jakarta this week to participate in the ASEAN Foundation Model ASEAN Meeting East Asia Summit 2025 (AFMAM EAS 2025). The programme runs from 15–19 September 2025 at the ASEAN Secretariat/ASEAN Headquarters.



Commemorative Summit (Tokyo, 17 December 2023)

● JOINT VISION STATEMENT ON ASEAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION



Subtitle : Trusted Partners

Building on mutual trust, ASEAN and Japan will strengthen the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** that is meaningful, substantive, and mutually beneficial under the following three pillars, embracing ASEAN unity and centrality:

- 1) Heart-to-Heart Partners across Generations
- 2) Partners for Co-creation of Economy and Society of the Future
- 3) Partners for Peace and Stability

- **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: 130 cooperation items**
- Actions for “Peace and Prosperity” through “Co-creation” based on “Trust”

44 Areas of ASEAN-Japan Cooperation

Mission of Japan to ASEAN
March 2025

Heart-to-Heart Partners across Generations

- ◆ Youth and People-to-People Exchanges
- ◆ Cultural and Intellectual Exchanges
- ◆ Sports
- ◆ Tourism
- ◆ Language
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Foreign Workers
- ◆ Science and Technology
- ◆ Human Resource Development
- ◆ Business Exchanges
- ◆ Local Government Exchanges
- ◆ Support for ASEAN Capacity Development
- ◆ Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai

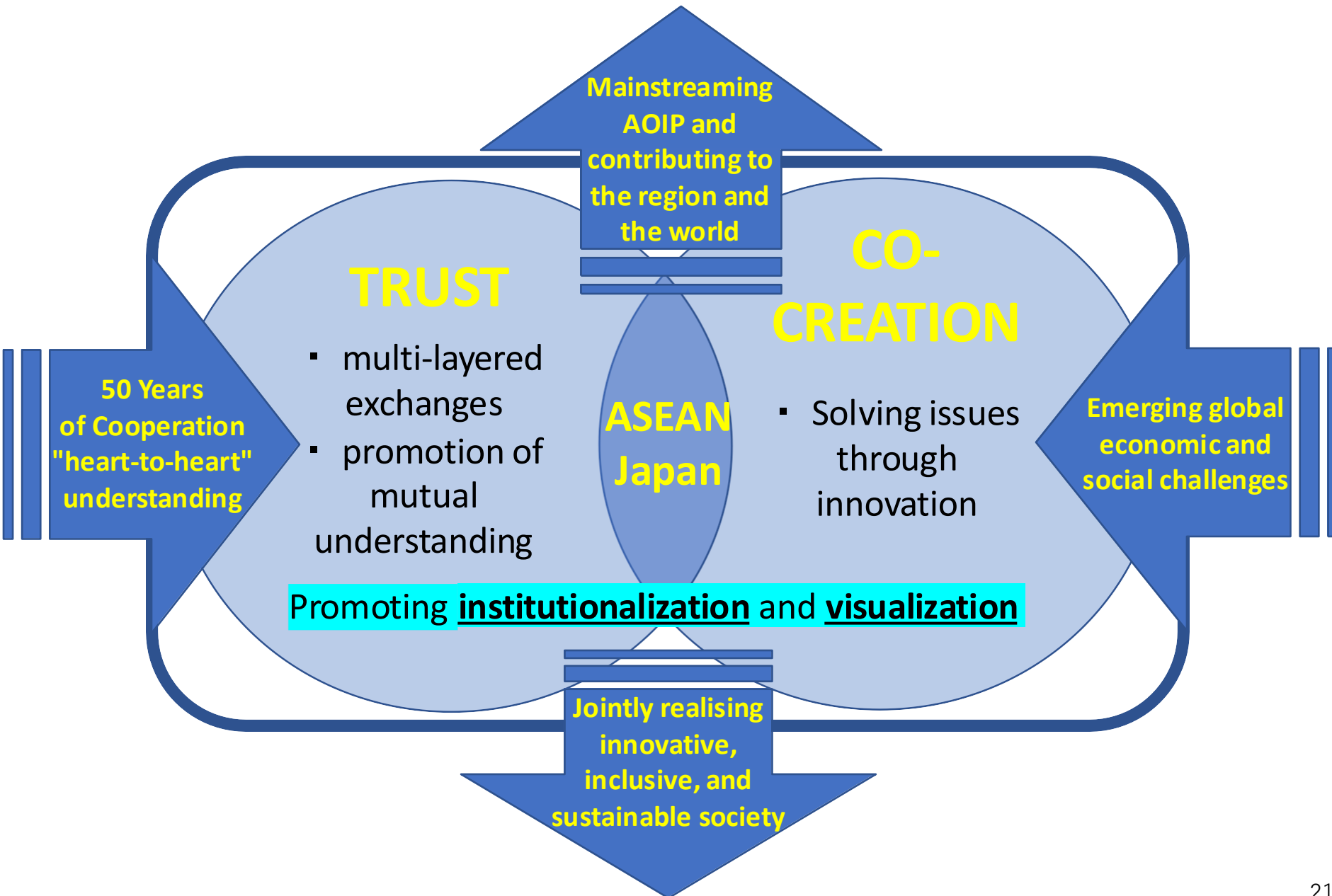
Partners for Co-creation of Economy and Society of the Future

- Economy
- Finance
- Connectivity
- Transport
- Climate Change and Environment
- Energy and Critical Minerals
- Disaster Management
- Health and Social Welfare
- Smart City and Urbanization
- Digital
- Outer Space
- Agriculture and Food Systems
- Narrowing the Gap
- Gender
- Labour
- SDGs
- Civil Service
- Rural Development

Partners for Peace and Stability

- Rule of Law
- Maritime Security
- Defense
- WPS, YPS, Peacebuilding
- Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
- Human Rights
- Transnational Crimes
- Cybersecurity
- Disinformation
- Competition Policy and Law
- Immigration
- Landmines
- Regional Architecture

What next steps for the youth in ASEAN and Japan?



My message: Change the world with “VMAP”

◆ **Vision** : Dream a vision

◆ **Mission** : Identify yourself with that dream

◆ **Action** : Start your work

◆ **Passion** : Overcome any difficulties

Thank you very much!

