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Nagasaki University

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Japan-ASEAN Online Program Towards SDGs

Flush Out the Differences:

A Cross-Cultural Workshop on Toilets and Sanitation

Overview:

Excretion is an essential activity for living organisms, and issues related to toilets and hygiene are of utmost importance for humans to lead healthy and culturally enriched lives. In this course, we will focus on achieving SDGs goals 3 and 6 by exploring the theme of "Excretion and Toilets." Students from diverse backgrounds in ASEAN countries and Japan will engage in group work to understand cultural differences and perceptions of toilets. This course also provides an opportunity to promote multicultural understanding.

Objectives:

1. To understand SDGs goals 3 and 6:
 - 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.
 - 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
2. To understand the historical and cultural background and differences in perceptions related to toilets and excretion.
3. To deepen mutual understanding and empathy by respecting each other as individuals regardless of race, religion, or cultural background.

Expected Outcomes:

1. Increased awareness and understanding of the importance of toilets and hygiene in achieving SDGs goals 3 and 6.
2. Enhanced intercultural communication skills through group work with students from diverse backgrounds in ASEAN countries and Japan.



- Improved ability to generate ideas and solutions to realize better toilet environments and hygiene conditions, while considering cultural differences and perceptions related to toilets.

Schedule:

December 12th (Tue) – 15th (Fri), 2023

Date	Time (JST)	Activities
Day 1 Dec 12 (Tue)	17:00-19:00	
	17:00	Opening Ceremony
	17:15	Keynote Lecture
	18:00	Ice-breaking activities in 10 groups
	18:15	Interview Survey I: "Taboos related to excretion"
	18:45	Wrap-up & Homework: "Collect toilet photos"
	19:00	End of Day 1
Day 2 Dec 13 (Wed)	17:00-19:30	
	17:00	Ice-breaking activities
	17:15	Interview Survey II: "What types of toilets are there in your country?"
	18:30	Group Presentation (10 groups, 5 min each)
	19:20	Wrap-up & Homework: "Diseases caused by contaminated water"
	19:30	End of Day 2
		Extracurricular Activities
	19:30-20:00	Free Conversation in themed breaking rooms
Day 3 Dec 14 (Thu)	17:00-19:30	
	17:00	Ice-breaking activities
	17:15	Group Work: "Design a toilet on a deserted island" (What kind of toilet? Materials? Privacy? Cleaning? Treatment of excrement?)
	18:30	Presentation Preparation
	19:20	Wrap-up & Homework: "Toilet use for marginalized individuals"
	19:30	End of Day 3
		Extracurricular Activities
	19:30-20:00	Free Conversation in themed breaking rooms
Day 4 Dec 15 (Fri)	17:00-19:00	
	17:00	Group Presentations & Discussion "What is good and what is bad?" (10 groups, 10 min each)
	18:45	Closing Ceremony
	19:00	End of Course

Course Work Instructions:

- Interview Survey**

We will conduct an interview survey to understand each other's cultural backgrounds and differences in perceptions. Ask each other in a group about the cultural background, environment, and hygiene conditions related to toilets and excretion.

- Group Work**

We will exchange ideas and thoughts in a simulation game on designing toilets and managing hygiene in a resource-limited situation on a deserted island. Through this group work, we can consider the issue of toilet installation in low-resource countries more closely. Group work will follow the ground rules below:



1. A facilitator chosen within the group will organize the group work.
2. The facilitator actively seeks input from participants who refrain from speaking.
3. Use plain English as much as possible.
4. Remember "Leave no one behind", which is the SDGs transformative promise.

- **Presentation**

We will present ideas for improving toilet environments and hygiene conditions by designing toilets on a deserted island. We will receive feedback from others.

Extracurricular Activities:

For extracurricular activities, participation is optional for those who wish to join. Participants are free to enter and exit breakout rooms to enjoy conversations. In each breakout room, a TA will host and facilitate conversations among participants on specific themes.

Organizers:

Nagasaki University, Okayama University, and SUN/SixERS

Targeted participants:

Students from AUN and SUN/SixERS member universities who are interested in SDGs.

Language:

English

Platform:

Zoom and Google slides

Certification:

After completing the program, participants will receive certificates issued by AUN and SixERS if their attendance rate is more than 80%.

Criteria for recruitment:

The program will admit 60 students, with 50 from AUN and 10 from SixERS. In the event of an excess of applications, participants will be selected based on their



reasons for applying and their English language proficiency. Successful applicants will receive a confirmation email by November 30, 2023.