

Newsletter

**Red Cross
East Asia Youth Network**



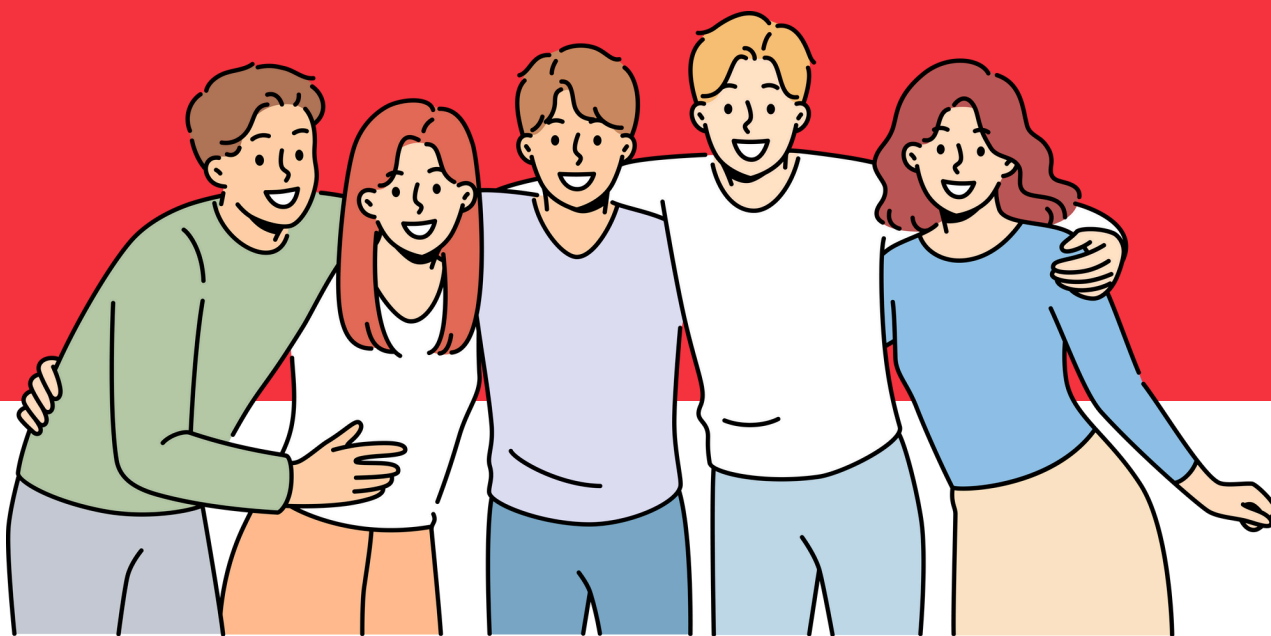
January to March, 2025

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GET TO KNOW EAYN



The **East Asia Youth Network (EAYN)** is a sub-regional youth network in the Asia Pacific operational region. It provides a platform for youth from the East Asia National Societies (EANSs) to **interact, connect and remain in communication**. EAYN fosters mutual understanding, supports capacity building and facilitates the sharing of best practices. Guided by a **youth-led and National Society-owned** approach, the network encourages youth-led activities and empowers young people to engage in decision-making at all levels by considering doing more, doing better, reaching further.

The Network consists of five National Societies in East Asia: the Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS), the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), the Republic of Korea National Red Cross (KNRC), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross Society (DPRK RC) and the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC), including its two branches: the Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) and the Macau Red Cross (Macau RC).

IFRC East Asia Delegation

Secretariat



Members of EAYN

All Red Cross Youth from EANSs

Every Red Cross youth from EANSs is automatically considered a member of EAYN. The EAYN Executive Committee is currently composed of 12 youth representatives from EANSs, responsible for key operations and decision-making. Additionally, 6 youth staff members from EANSs serve as observers, with the IFRC East Asia Delegation acting as the EAYN Secretariat to provide joint support. To further strengthen youth engagement in East Asia, EANSs have formed their youth support teams, while EAYN has established 4 Working Groups (WGs) to extend its reach and impact to contribute to wider regional initiatives.

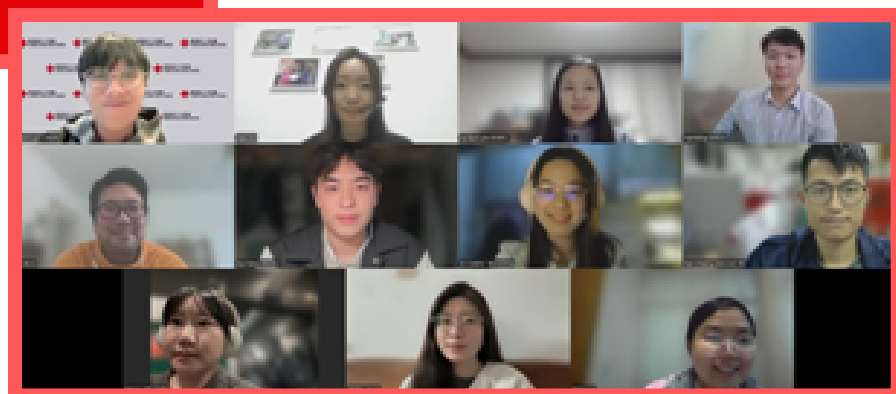
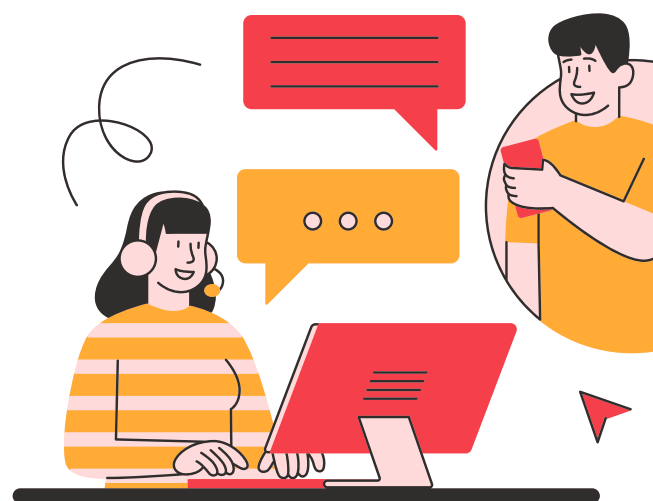


YOUTH NETWORK HIGHLIGHTS



Youth Network Highlights

Team-up for Impact! Regular Meetings Foster Further Collaboration



On March 17, 2025, exciting discussions went down at the 1st Bilateral Meeting of Asia Pacific Youth Network

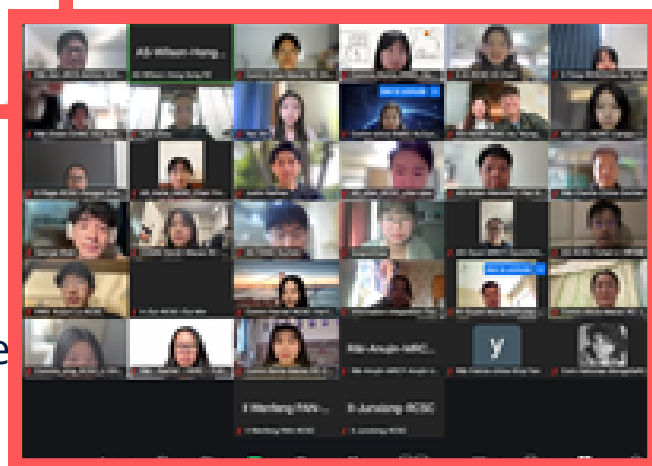
(APYN) and EAYN! Both networks explored ways to collaborate together, including consistency of Terms of Reference (ToR), climate and disaster resilience and youth engagement strategies etc. In the EAYN Bimonthly Meeting, the Committee members then shared National Society reports, discussed Working Group plans for upcoming Kick-off Sessions and reviewed IFRC updates to guide future initiatives.

These regular meetings continue to serve as platforms for coordination and strong connections!



Youth Network Highlights

EAYN Welcomes New Working Group Members for the 2025 Term



On March 30, 2025, EAYN Committee kicked off the new term with an energizing gathering of the freshly recruited WG members! A vibrant group of 40 talented youth from across East Asia joined our four Working Groups—Activities Support, Communication, Information Integration and Research & Initiative. The event began with warm-up games, followed by RCRC Movement knowledge sharing and an overview of EAYN's mission.

During the Breakout Sessions, WG Leads presented each Plan of Action (PoA) for the term while bonding through interactive activities. The enthusiasm and ideas shared set a strong foundation for the year ahead.



YOUTH ON THE MOVE



1.Enhancing Humanitarian Engagement in Education

On February 19, with N. Naranbayar, Member of the Parliament, Government Minister and Minister of Education, the MRCS hosted a meeting to introduce outstanding practices of the Youth and Children's Movement, aiming to integrate and enhance humanitarian initiatives within the education



MRCS Hosts Collaboration Meeting with the Minister of Education

sector. A total of 36 participants from all levels of the Youth and Children's Movement attended the meeting to exchange insights and strengthen future cooperation.

2. 1,000 Children's Snow Festival: A Celebration of Joy, Inclusion and Well-being

From Feb 24 to 27, the "1,000 Children's Snow Festival" was held at Sky Resort Ski Base, offering free outdoor activities for children from vulnerable groups. As a representative activity, it was attended by E. Uuganbayar, Head of the Youth and Children's Movement and supported by several caring companies.

With free training sessions and access to skiing, sledding and snowboarding facilities, as well as free beverages, pine nuts and toothpastes. This memorable winter experience provided a safe and enjoyable environment for children to socialize, stay active and positively impacted their growth, development and well-being



1. Amplifying Compassion: Red Cross Youth World Expo Social Media Campaign Drives Global Engagement

The Osaka-Kansai Expo opened on April 13. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has also set up a pavilion, where visitors can experience the importance of compassion through projection mapping and an immersive hemispherical dome.

The exhibit encourages people to “notice” that those affected by crises once lived ordinary lives just like us, to “think” about their suffering from a personal perspective, and to “act”—even in small ways—on what they can do to help.



Taking this Expo as an opportunity, the Youth Volunteers have formed the “Youth Volunteer Expo Team” with three goals: (1) revitalizing Red Cross volunteer activities, (2) raising public awareness, and (3) promoting inter-generational collaboration among Red Cross volunteers. The team actively shares various content through social media platforms.



2. Building Resilience: National Disaster Preparedness and Volunteer Day Calls to Action



On January 17, 1995, the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, the first post-war earthquake disaster to hit a major city, claimed over 6,400 lives and displaced 800,000 people. With volunteers flooding into evacuation centers, the tragedy sparked nationwide solidarity, making a turning point dubbed “The First Year of Volunteering” in Japan.

In line with this, January 17 has been designated as “Disaster Prevention and Volunteer Day,” and the week of January 15 to 21 as “Disaster Prevention and Volunteer Week,” with the aim of enhancing and strengthening disaster preparedness.

In recent years, natural disasters have become increasingly severe and frequent. It is essential for each individual to view disasters as a personal concern, strengthen connections with others during normal times while keeping disaster situations in mind and be prepared in advance. Red Cross volunteers across the country are actively engaged in various disaster preparedness initiatives during normal times to be ready for future disasters that may occur.

1. Forging Tomorrow's Leaders:

2025 RCY National Council Workshop Unites Youth Vision



From March 15 to 16, KNRC office in Seoul buzzed with energy as youth leaders from universities nationwide gathered for the 2025 University RCY National Council workshop.

Participants shared the best practices of each branch, collaborated on quarterly strategies and spearheaded plans for an 120th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Korean Red Cross University RCY Humanitarian Leadership Camp and a youth-driven schedule to empower peers.

2. Caring Animals:

Youth Visit Gwangju Animal Shelter Through Hands-On Care



On March 22, twenty RCY from the Gwangju-Jeonnam region carried out volunteer work at an animal shelter. Alongside cleaning the facility, playing with the animals and contributing pet supplies, they also picked up litter and helped clean the surrounding environment under the frame of eco-campaign.

To further support the adoption of the shelter animals, they amplified adoption efforts by sharing animals' stories on social media and donating essential supplies. Pledging annual visits, the team plan to extend support to an under-resourced shelter in Jeollanam-do, which proves that youth-led action could drive lasting change.

1. Honoring a Hero's Legacy: Youth Make a Difference in the Body and Organ Donation Cause



The “Joy Flying, Lifelong Vision” campaign honored Qile Lu, a teenage organ donor, through nationwide educational events in February.

Youth from 28 universities created tribute videos. At the same time, more than 100 RCY participated in the salon “Life Relay, Youth Make a Difference” to discuss bravery and humanity in body and organ donation cause.

2. Youth in Action: Promoting Lei Feng's Spirit Through Nationwide Charity Campaign



In March, youth volunteers participated in a nationwide charity campaign inspired by “Learn from Lei Feng Day”, greatly promoting the spirit of selflessness and devotion.

The activities focused on areas such as emergency response, first aid, humanitarian assistance, disaster prevention and mitigation, community service, rural revitalization, elderly care, mental health, showcasing youth commitment to social good.

1. Youth Engagement Policy Assessment Workshops: Reviewing and Optimizing

From late February to mid-March 2025, the HKRC organized a series of interactive workshops with multiple sessions. Utilizing the IFRC toolkit and tailoring it to local contexts, participants evaluated the effectiveness of existing Youth Engagement Policy and collected feedback from stakeholders actively involved in youth programs.



These sessions provided a platform for sharing experiences, insights and recommendations for enhancing youth participation in the HKRC.

2. Testing Emergency Response Skills: Youth First Aid Competition



On February 23, HKRC youths participated the 2024-2025 Hong Kong Youth First Aid Competition at the HKRC Headquarters.

The event tested their theoretical and practical abilities through the First Aid Quiz Competition and a Simulation Scenario Competition. Winners were awarded after the whole session, recognized for their fund of knowledge and technical proficiency.

1. A Safer Macao! “AED” City Challenge Promotes Life-saving Awareness

The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a first aid device mainly used in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest. As Macao mainly operates on tourism, it is also necessary to install AEDs in crowded areas. Currently, AEDs have been installed in many places to create a safe environment for the public and tourists. Through this “AED” City Challenge, youth members are able to better familiarize themselves with the common locations of AED machines.



2. Celebrating Cultural Traditions: Youth strengthen Ties at Chinese New Year Gathering

On January 25, 2025, Macau RCY hosted its annual Chinese New Year Gathering.



Youth members participated in various activities such as calligraphy writing and making dumplings, creating a festive atmosphere in welcoming the new year.



Window of communication

1. The 3rd Red Cross City Challenge: Stay Strong! Supporting Resilient Communities



On March 2, 2025, the Hong Kong Red Cross organized the event. It aimed to promote resilience and community support, allowing participants to engage in teamwork while completing challenges within a specified time. A total of 100 teams participated, members from the Macau RC and the RCSC also joined the Hong Kong youths to conduct the event. Together, youth gain insights into social fund-raising, volunteer services and community resilience.



2. Korean and Vietnamese Youth Collaborate in Volunteer Initiatives



Korean and Vietnamese youth joined forces to participate in meaningful volunteer programs across Southeast Asia. The first volunteer activity took place in Laos (Vientiane, Vang Vieng and Luang Prabang) from January 12 to 19, 2025, where participants engaged in environmental improvement projects and delivered friendship gift boxes to local communities. The second program was held in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, from February 16 to 23, 2025. Activities there included facility repairs, art initiatives and cultural exchange programs to foster international cooperation. Both initiatives emphasized grassroots engagement and cross-cultural understanding through hands-on volunteer work.



MEET OUR TEAM

Meet the incredible youth behind the mission! Starting this month, we're bringing you closer to the heart of EAYN. Each issue, you'll get to know 3 amazing team members—their stories, passions and the unique roles they play in making our work possible.





Wilson Lo
Chair of EAYN

Hong Kong Red Cross, Branch of Red Cross Society of China

Hello everyone! This is Wilson from the Hong Kong Red Cross, Branch of the Red Cross Society of China. I have volunteered with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for over nine years, focusing on international engagements related to youth policies, training, development and climate change in recent years.

Currently, I serve as the Chair of the East Asia Youth Network, where I have been involved for more than three years. I represented the EAYN in the Asia Pacific Youth Network for the past two years while serving as the External Vice-Chair, primarily concentrating on climate change and disaster risk reduction through peer education, advocacy and regional collaboration.

Locally, I am a member of the Advisory Panel for Youth Development Services at the Hong Kong Red Cross, where I focus on advising youth engagement and empowerment activities. I have co-founded two engagement platforms within the organization, contributing to broader volunteer service initiatives.

The new session of the EAYN has commenced, with 12 committees representing four National Societies and two branches. This nearly complete committee presence is an exciting development. I hope this new session will better bridge and represent the youth across East Asian National Societies, enabling the East Asia Youth Network to unleash our collective power to influence decision-making, reach grassroots communities and create a meaningful impact.



Akihiro Ishimoto
External Vice-Chair of EAYN
Japanese Red Cross Society

Hello! I'm Aki. I volunteer as a youth member of the Japanese Red Cross Society. It has been nine years since the earthquake in Japan that inspired me to become a Red Cross volunteer. Last year, I became a member of EAYN and had various opportunities to learn about the advanced initiatives of youth from other countries, as well as the development of tools using new technologies.

Going forward, I hope to continue working together with you to incorporate new technologies and ideas into our activities and to share your great initiatives across East Asia. Recently, I've also become interested in learning about areas I haven't experienced before, such as health promotion and the dissemination of international humanitarian law. I'm looking forward to volunteering together with you all! (^_-)-☆



MIN Ziyi
Internal Vice-Chair of EAYN
Red Cross Society of China

Hello everyone, I'm MIN Ziyi from the Red Cross Society of China. From a grassroots volunteer at university to a youth leader, I have accumulated four years of experience in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. I met EAYN through the East Asia Youth Summer Camp Gathering in 2023 and applied to become a member of its working group afterwards. Now, as the Internal Vice-Chair of EAYN, I continue my connection with it..

Besides, I serve as the Vice-Chair of the China Red Cross Youth Network, playing the role of a bridge to promote the development of the youth movement. Currently, I focus on issues such as youth empowerment, climate change, gender equality and international development. I am looking forward to working together with all of you on this multicultural platform of EAYN to make progress!

WANT TO SEE WHO' S NEXT?

Stay tuned—more inspiring stories are around the corner!

With Gratitude

East Asian National Societies are putting youth at the heart of change—turning ideas into action and passion into impact. Through bold advocacy and cross-border collaboration, young volunteers aren't just meeting urgent community needs; they're rewriting what's possible.



We owe the completion of this newsletter to the dedication and efforts of our outstanding team. Special thanks to Kuijun Lu and Pengye Zhang for integrating NS updates, Ziyi Min and Xi Chen for refining the details, Ye Eun Lim, Susan, Haliun, and Harriet for the layout, and our Committee members along with Xin Yao for their invaluable advice. Thank you all for your support and hard work!

*East Asia Youth Are On the Move
Let's Do More, Do Better, Reach Further!*