

The YF4 is open to the youth from the countries in the EAS region: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, PR China, DPR Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam. The applicant must be 18 to 25 years of age, University or graduate student, young professional, and is an active member of youth organization/s and institution/s working in the field of sustainable development.

Tentative Programme of Activities

Date	Description
15 November	Arrival of Youth Forum Participants and Registration
16 November	Team building and setting up of Youth Exhibit
17 November	Morning session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation and discussion on achievements, gaps and ways forward in achieving the sustainable development targets for 2015• Role of youth in charting the way forward for the sustainable development goals and targets Afternoon session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Showcase of case studies by the youth participants
18 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International Conference Session 2• Development of Youth Statement/ Declaration
19 November	Skills Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of project proposal• Fund raising• Use of social media• Science and socio-cultural communication
20 November	Morning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EAS Congress Closing Ceremony• Presentation of Youth Statement/ Declaration Afternoon Outdoor activity
21 November	Field Trip
22 November	Departure of Youth Forum Participants

Participants will be chosen through a nomination process (National Focal Points, ICM sites, PEMSEA ICM Learning Centers) and through an open and competitive application. Priority will be given to applicants with outstanding case studies, researches or projects related to ocean and coastal management.

Expected Outputs

Some of the expected outputs include:

- the youth exhibit, youth action plans and the Youth Statement;
- a journal of relevant case studies/projects on initiatives led by the youth;
- a YF toolkit;
- a microsite to facilitate online discussions/ preparations for the forum; and
- working groups for the establishment of country hubs for the EAS Youth Network.



The EAS Congress 2015 Secretariat

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The 4th East Asian Seas Youth Forum 2015

CHARTING THE FUTURE WE WANT

Engaging Young Champions for the Ocean Beyond 2015

V I E T N A M
15-21 November 2015



CHARTING THE FUTURE WE WANT:

Engaging Young Champions for the Ocean Beyond 2015

Rationale and Background

The Earth Summit of 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development of 2012 have both posited how critical it is to include the youth in achieving sustainable development goals. As 2015 is fast approaching, fundamental questions regarding youth participation should be addressed: What role does the youth play in influencing the post-2015 sustainable development agenda? How do governments ensure that the youth are included in the process from the very beginning? How does the youth directly contribute to the achievement of these global targets?

The EAS Youth Forum (YF) is one of the special events of the East Asian Seas Congress (EAS), which was first launched in 2006. The 1st YF adopted the Youth Agenda for the Seas of East Asia, detailing a plan of action on informing, inspiring and involving the region's youth. In 2009, the 2nd YF committed to the sustainable development of the seas of East Asia through the Youth Statement and Country Work Plans. The 3rd YF in 2012 formulated the Changwon Youth Declaration on the Protection of the Seas of East Asia.

Now on its fourth cycle, the EAS Youth Forum (YF4) carries the theme, "Charting the Future We Want: Engaging Young Champions for the Ocean Beyond 2015." The YF4 will gather young leaders in the EAS region to showcase their initiatives contributing to the sustainable development agenda. Putting the youth as actors for and stakeholders to a healthy world, YF4 will encourage participants to display ideas and convictions, innovative frameworks, approaches and methodologies in addressing pressing environmental issues in their respective communities.



Format

The 4th EAS Youth Forum 2015 will feature interactions with known leaders in ocean and coastal management, peer-to-peer learning discussions, teambuilding and creative sessions designed to empower the next generation of young champions for the oceans and coasts in the EAS region.

Objectives

The YF4 aims to:

- Discuss the youth's crucial role in the post-2015 development agenda by recognizing young leaders and innovators involved in youth-led ridge-to-reef initiatives in the EAS region;
- Provide a conducive platform for mutual exchange of knowledge, experience and skills in sustainable ocean and coastal management;
- Strengthen the youth's capacity to develop and/or lead initiatives in the local, national or regional level;
- Review the recommendations to national and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, universities and the private sector drafted in previous youth forums (e.g., Changwon Youth Declaration 2012, EAS Youth Forum Statement 2009, Youth Agenda for the Seas of East Asia 2006);
- Sustain and expand the network of young people empowered to take actions in protecting the region's oceans and coasts through the EAS Youth Network and its country hubs; and
- Feature case studies showcasing the environmental initiatives of the youth participants.

