

Dear friends of “Water is Life”,

After the two successful youth conferences and thanks to a tremendous support from Raffles Institution and Maurick College, Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen is now ready to announce the next edition of Water is Life in Japan in 2018: “Water is Life - the local approach”. We would like you to join this conference scheduled on July 24 – 28, 2018.

For your information, Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen has two campuses in the metropolitan Tokyo area – one in Shibuya (Tokyo) and the other is Makuhari (Chiba). We are sister schools with Mr. Tetsuo Tamura as our Principal. The venues of the conference will be on one of these campuses. The students of your research teams will be hosted by the parents of either Shibuya Senior High School or Makuhari Senior High School. Teachers are asked to stay in Tokyo or Chiba depending on which school their students will be hosted by. After the full registration, we’ll inform you which will be your host school.

This Information Pack ① contains:

- This introduction letter
- General information
- Information about the website
- Information about the contact person

The themes of the conference are the same as in the last conferences:

- Engineering and Technology  
Water quality, treatment, monitoring, waste water management
- Biodiversity  
Bio-remediation, ecosystem, biodiversity
- Communities  
Service learning, community involvement projects, water & recreation,  
Integrated urban water designs
- Education  
Corporate social responsibility, awareness & advocacy
- Stewardship & Policy  
Leadership, national strategies, historical & geopolitics of water, water conflicts

It will be our great pleasure to host you all in 2018, and we are looking forward to another exciting learning opportunity here in Japan!

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<b>Conference:</b>	<b>“Water is Life - the local approach”</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>July 24 - 28, 2018</b>
<b>Host Schools:</b>	<b>Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen (Shibuya &amp; Makuhari Senior High Schools)</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Shibuya (Tokyo) &amp; Makuhari (Chiba)</b>

While it is estimated that 900 million people in the world do not have ready access to safe drinking water, we should consider ourselves fortunate in that we have abundant fresh water here in Japan. The average Japanese is said to use as much as 250 liters of water a day and we even have an expression “as if we were using water” when we spend money lavishly. However, that doesn’t mean we are free from any water-related issues. Some areas in Shikoku regularly suffer from water shortages and typhoons cause flooding and landslides, often with many casualties. Moreover, Japan is still haunted by the aftermath of the disaster in Fukushima: how the radioactivity might seriously contaminate ocean life and whether it can stop the leaks of radioactive water from the nuclear power plant. Each country has its own water-related issues, but we believe this conference will offer a valuable opportunity to share a local approach that each country has taken in tackling some of the water-related issues.

The setting, objectives, guidelines and components of this conference are comparable with the framework of the first conference in Singapore and the second one in the Netherlands.

### **Setting**

In a world characterized by climate change and increased global inter-connectedness, the local and global challenges on water management are increasingly complex. We need to prepare for the future by developing in our youth the knowledge and leadership necessary to manage and overcome these challenges. This conference aims to bring bright young students from different countries together in a meeting of hearts and minds. It seeks to plant the seeds of friendship and dialogue, instill awareness on the issue of water management and develop scientific, diplomatic and leadership skills in young participants.

### **Objectives**

1. To create deeper awareness and instill a sense of urgency regarding water security and sustainability issues through keynote addresses, dialogue sessions and student presentations on water management strategies and challenges in their countries;
2. To facilitate the development and sharing of scientific innovation in water technologies and water ecology through a scientific symposium;
3. To develop friendship and collaborative networks for future exchange and research projects on water technologies through cultural exchange, collaborative workshops;
4. To develop leadership and diplomatic skills in participants through facilitation sessions that incorporate dynamic workshops and activities aimed at developing their organisational skills, ability to lead and work as a team.

## **Guidelines**

1. Each school can send up to 6 students (one or two teams) with one or two accompanying teacher(s). The target age group of the students is 16-19.
2. Foreign schools are expected to arrive on July 23, 2018 and leave on July 29, 2018.
3. Pre-registration of your school research team is available online from May 1 through June 15, 2017. Late submission will not be entertained. Information Pack ② will be sent by September 1, 2017 **only to pre-registered school teams.**
4. Full registration will be available online from September 1 through October 31, 2017 . We will provide you with an official invitation letter after the full registration, which can be used (if necessary) for VISA applications as well.

## **Conference finances framework**

1. The basic conference fee is US\$250 for each participant. One accompanying teacher can participate free of charge, but if you are sending more than one accompanying teacher, he or she is expected to pay the same amount for participation.
2. All participants from abroad are expected to pay and make their own flight reservation, though accomodation and food will be free as part of the homestay. Home-stay protocol will be available later in the Information Pack.
3. Accompanying teachers are expected to make their own reservation and pay for their own flight and hotel accomodation in Tokyo or Makuhari.
4. Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen will take care of all further catering, program, transportation and excursions for students and teachers during the conference program.
5. Shibuya Kyoiku Gakuen will organize free airport pick-ups and drop-offs according to flight schedules of different delegations, based on arrival in either Haneda Airport (Tokyo) or Narita Airport (Chiba).

## **Research Settings**

### a) “The Local Approach”

We suggest you bring in water-related research activities connected to your local water situation, either by way of a scientific, political, or economical approach, or by way of an integrated approach from a multidisciplined point of view.

### b) Themes

- Engineering and Technology
- Biodiversity
- Communities
- Education
- Stewardship & Policy

## **Program**

The components of the conference (keynote speeches, panel discussion, oral presentation, poster presentation, site visits, excursion, panel discussion) will remain the same. We will provide you with the program in IP②.

## **Pre-registration due June 15, 2017**

Pre-registration is available online from May 1 to June 15, 2017. We will ask you for basic information such as the name and the address of your school, the name of the contact person, and the possible number of teams and participants in your research team(s).

Make sure you send the pre-registration form by the due date so that your participation in Water is Life 2018 will be guaranteed.

## **Website:**

**<https://waterislife2018.jp/>**

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