

ACTION PLAN

Project Title	The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates
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Project Members	John Dale Dianala, Philippines Gabrielle Paul Pascual, Philippines Tawin Kim, Thailand Rungtip Junlah, Thailand
Target Partners	Silliman University SEAYEN Asian Development Bank Universities and Colleges in South-East Asia Department of Environment and Natural Resources Various Media Outlets Various Environmental NGOs
Partner LGUs	ASEAN Dumaguete City Local Government Negros Oriental Provincial Government

Project Description

The Project aims to establish an inter-ASEAN collegiate debate competition that focuses on current environmental issues and solutions.

Characterization of Debate Tournament:

- The competition will be in the Asian Parliamentary Format (2 competing teams per round, 3 Speakers per team, 7 minute speeches per speaker, and a 4-minute reply speech per team)
- The competition will consist of 7 preliminary rounds and a finals series
- All the motions will be focused on a specific, prominent environmental issue and will be debated on by both teams. (e.g. *This House Believes that the US government should not only provide full financial support for the rehabilitation, but also for the expansion and continuous protection of the Tubbataha Reefs*)
- The rounds will be judged and the corresponding winners decided upon by the Adjudicators assigned to that room. To maintain integrity in the rounds, adjudicators will be competing as well (similar to most international debate competitions). They will be rated by the teams they adjudicate in accordance to how they present their oral adjudication (which will follow after every round).
- Several booths may be put up for environmental NGOs, in order for them to forward their own causes to the participants. These booths will be found within the vicinity of the competition.

- After the 7th preliminary round, the Core Adjudicators (an elite group consisting of 5 veteran debaters, selected to help facilitate the tournament, adjudicate the rounds, and more importantly, formulate the motions.) will announce the breaking teams, or teams that would proceed to the finals series, based on their final team points and speaker points.
- After the announcement of the breaks, and before the finals series starts, a day would be allotted for site visits. The breaking teams would be given the opportunity to see Apo Island and their rehabilitation efforts there, and the other teams would be going to a separate excursion to a marine sanctuary in Dauin (a municipality near Apo Island).
- Unlike other debate tournaments, a special seminar on pressing environmental issues will be given during the opening program. And a keynote speech from a prominent environmentalist will also be given during the championship dinner.
- At the climax of the tournament, the winning team, the finals best speaker, the top 10 best speakers of the preliminary rounds and the top 10 adjudicators will be awarded. And all participants will be given certificates of participation.

This proposal will require the cooperation of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their corresponding Environmental sectors in terms of promotion and dissemination. Several officials may also be contacted to give the environmental seminars during the competition.

The help of various environmental NGOs will also be needed as they are given the opportunity to reach out to the participants through the booths that will be put up for them. And some of their representatives will also be contacted to give talks some time during the competition.

And to achieve an even more substantial result from this event, the ideas that were put forth by the debaters throughout the tournament are then gathered, categorized and collated to produce a publication that would serve as resource material to local government units, environmental NGOs and for the students themselves.

Objectives

This project aims to not only foster constructive competitiveness, but also allow students to pitch in their ideas and propositions regarding various global environmental issues. The project also aims to allow various NGOs, LGUs and Environmental sectors an avenue to interact with young leaders and finally have the constructive dialogue that they aim to look for in seminars.

Expected Output

The Proposal is expected to create the following changes in the community which would benefit not only the participants but also the environmental movement as well.

- **Increased Environmental Awareness** – This will be achieved as the participants will be exposed to various booths, talks and seminars that concern various eco-issues. The interaction they would also have with their opponents would also allow them to be more aware of several issues they might not have known beforehand.
- **Formulation of Organic, Youth-oriented Solutions** – Allowing these students to put in their own two cents worth in these issues would cultivate more organic solutions and ideas. And considering their youth, the approaches they would pitch in would be more or less very youth-centric—something that the current LGUs and NGOs have trouble finding and formulating.
- **A Whole Catalog of Innovative Ideas** – With the extensive amount of brand-new, youth-oriented solutions, the organizers can very much collate these ideas and produce a whole library of proposals and counter-proposals that could very well help local governments and even the international arena.
- **Stronger International Relations** – The amount of interaction done throughout the tournament would ultimately foster strong connections between the participants and the environmentalists. The strong rapport would be very beneficial for any future environmental endeavors in the participating schools/countries.
- **Heightened Value on Critical Thinking** – Like every debate tournament, the amount of importance given to critical thinking allows the participants to see the value there is in being a more critical thinker. This would not only be beneficial for them as students, but also as future leaders in their own respective communities.

Tentative Schedule of Tournament

First Day	
AM - 13:00	Participants Arrive
13:00 - 16:00	Registration
16:00 - 18:00	Adjudication Seminar
18:00 - 22:00	Opening Dinner Keynote Debate (<i>in place of Sample</i>) Adjudication Exam
Second Day	
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast Adjudication Exam Results
8:00 - 10:00	Round 1
10:30 - 12:30	Round 2
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 16:00	Round 3
16:30 - 18:30	Round 4
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
Third Day	
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast
8:00 - 10:00	Round 5

11:00 - 13:00	Round 6
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 16:00	Round 7
16:00 - 19:00	Panel Discussion with Experts / Open Booths / Eco-Expo
19:00 - 20:00	Break Night
Fourth Day	
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast
8:00 - 10:30	Special Activity
10:30 - 16:00	FIELD TRIP to Apo Island/Dauin Sanctuary with lunch
19:00 - 22:00	Dinner
Fifth Day	
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast
8:00 - 10:00	Octo-Finals
10:30 - 12:30	Quarter-Finals
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 16:00	Semi-Finals
19:30 - 23:00	Championship Dinner & Final Round Announcements and Awarding of Winners
Sixth Day	
Whole Day	Departure

Timeline

Organizational Planning	Late July 2013
Communication with Partnering Organizations, Schools and Groups, Prospective Core Adjudicators and Resource Speakers, Media Launching	August - September 2013
Announcement to Schools and start of Promotion	October 2013
First-Phase Registration for participants (Country cap-based)	October - December 2013
Announcement of initial country caps and opening of extra slots for capped teams (if applicable)	December - January 2013
Second-Phase Registration for Participants	December 2013 - February 2014
Competition Proper	April 2014
Post-evaluation and Production of Publication	April 2014