

Hiroshima YPA Training 2012 – Action Plan

Setting Up an Online Information Platform on MPs' Attendance and Voting Record

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Background:

- Sri Lanka has just come out of a military conflict
- Need for Peace Building and Reconciliation
- Disappointed Young People from different communities
- Increasing influence of nationalistic / chauvinistic elements
- Lack of clear Policy and Legislative level leadership
- Need to holding elected officials responsible for their actions
- Importance of MPs' contribution at parliament and how they vote for bills
- No such centralized information (and analysis at later stage) platform available

Strengths:

- Existing contacts and coordination with Members of Parliament
- Previous work in legislative and policy advocacy
- Large network through Sri Lankan Youth parliament
- Relationship with gov agencies related to youth affairs
- NGOs and International Agencies who are pro peace, pro youth

Area of Focus:

The contents will primarily target attendance & voting on bills related to;

- Peace and Reconciliation
- Human Rights
- Language Right
- Youth Affairs
- Women and Children

The Project:

Creating an online platform which will incorporate information on;

- Daily Attendance of Parliamentarians
- Last 2 years' voting history
- Fortnightly updates
- Young researchers' and journalists' contributions
- Feedback to MPs on their individual actions

Phases of Action:

1. Setting up a core team
2. Initiate dialogue with Parliamentary Secretariat
3. Work through the MPs' offices
4. Data collection
5. Buying a web domain and registration
6. Simple version of online platform development
7. Launch with historical data for last 24 months
8. Social media and email publicity
9. Fortnightly updates
10. Feedback collection and review
11. Invite media, analysts to contribute contents
12. Review progress

Possible Partners:

- Parliamentary Secretariat
- Vote Youth Campaign
- Other Youth Organizations and Networks in Sri Lanka
- Most Popular Citizen Journalism Website
- Media (Electronic and Print)
- OIYP – Oxfam International Youth Partnerships
- YPA Network
- UNESCO

Expected Outcomes:

- Stakeholder Agreement for the concept in the first month
- Building up a working relationship for data sourcing
- Creating a public interest and at least 5000 hits a month initially
- Having a team of volunteers for Web, Reporting and Coordination
- Positive response from media, public feedback on accountability
- MPs being conscious about attendance and their voting for crucial bills

Follow Up / Continuation:

- Follow up with creating a TV / Electronic media coverage on the points covered in the online platform
- Gathering students feedback and general feedback through Educational channels and social media respectively
- Forwarding comments to MPs and also MPs' clarifications through the online platform

2013 and Beyond:

- Use this UNESCO YPA Training Action Plan as a success story and work with other partners to host another UNESCO training in Colombo with special focus on India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan to create YPA networks in those countries
- In the long run, with significant growth in the YPA pool, facilitate a peace and understanding dialogue between multiple ethnic groups

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