

The Youth Learning Project on Pacific Economic Cooperation

March-July 2005

Jointly Organized by

**Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation
and
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups**



太平洋經濟合作香港委員會
**Hong Kong Committee for
Pacific Economic Cooperation**



香港青年協會
the hongkong federation of youth groups

Introduction

A vibrant economy, with good prospects for continued development, is the cornerstone for the success and prosperity of Hong Kong. In today's increasingly globalised world, regional economic cooperation is becoming an important form of partnership. This holds true for Hong Kong as well, not only because of her strategic location in the region, but also because of her importance as an international financial and trading hub.

For Hong Kong to retain its pre-eminent position as a financial powerhouse, her young people must be trained to fully understand and analyse economic and business trends, not only locally, but regionally and globally as well. Young people must have the cognisance to be able to see the interconnection between such issues as finance, trade, infrastructure, the Rule of Law, health and human resources development. Once they are able to comprehend these intricate relationships, they will be able to formulate their own innovative and feasible development strategies for the Asia Pacific region.

This Youth Learning Project on Pacific Economic Cooperation aims at encouraging young people to cultivate their interest in policy issues of the Asia Pacific region. It also focuses on enriching knowledge, developing creative thinking, and enhancing investigative powers to analyse the current situation, while formulating strategies to face the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Objectives:

- ◆ To advance understanding on Hong Kong's economic and trade development
- ◆ To enhance awareness on economic and trade cooperation in the Asia Pacific region
- ◆ To increase knowledge, develop analytical skills and encourage strategic thinking of Hong Kong's role and development in the Asia Pacific region

Duration:

March - July 2005.

Target Group

Young adults below the age of 35 are encouraged to join this Project. There will be two categories of entrants – young adults and secondary school students. Each team may be composed of 2 to 5 participants, with one member of the team acting as the contact person. Individuals should participate in one category and one team only.

Secondary School Students

Participants in this category must be secondary school students. Each school or organization may enter more than one team in the Learning Project, or students may form their own teams in their own names.

Young Adults

Participants in this category must be young adults below 35 years of age

Learning Areas

Through a series of inter-related seminars, workshops, and a competition, participants will be able to develop and utilise their analytical skills and knowledge to enhance their:

1. Analysis on Regional Policies (This area will help develop rational and critical perspectives on regional economic, trade and other policies.)
2. Creative Thinking (This area will strengthen abilities to think strategically and constructively.)
3. Public Speaking Skills (This area sets about teaching them basic skills in how to prepare and present information, in an interesting and easily understood manner.
4. Research Methodology (This area will enable improved study and evaluation of regional economic cooperation issues objectively and systematically.)
5. Project Management Skill (This area will teach the effective organization and how projects can be implemented.)
6. Global Perspective Development (This area will broaden their knowledge base through the sharing of information with professionals from the private and public sectors.)

Themes of the Competition

Each team will be required to select policies or issues relating to one of the following themes as their competition topic.

Theme 1: Regional Cooperation (including, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) and Pacific Economic Cooperation Council's (PECC) impact on regional development; current regional cooperation and development; cross border coordination of infrastructure, in such areas as the law, capital transfer regulation, cross-boarder bridges and port facilities)

Theme 2: Community Development (including, labour migration and competition; anti-terrorism strategies , prevention and control of epidemics and communicable diseases).

Theme 3: Financial Issues (including the development of Hong Kong's financial system; maintenance of currency stability and betterment of bond markets).

Theme 4: Trade Cooperation (including trade liberalization, its challenges and opportunities; trade and economic cooperation and the World Trade Organization's further development.)

Training Contents

Four seminars and three training workshops will be provided by the organizers for entrants in order to strengthen their basic knowledge on each competition topic, as well as to help sharpen their analytical, presentation and creative thinking skills.

Seminars

Seminar 1: The Development of Hong Kong's Financial System

Seminar 2: Development and Exploration of Human Resources

Seminar 3: The Opportunities and Challenges of Globalisation and Regional Cooperation

Seminar 4: The Prospects of Hong Kong's Trade Development

Training Workshops

Workshop 1: Project Management and Research Methods

Workshop 2: Creativity and Problem Solving Skills

Workshop 3: Report Writing and Presentation Skills

Format of the Competition

Project Report

Each team will be required to prepare and submit a written report of no more than 5,000 words (not including graphics and other supporting materials) in either Chinese or English. All submissions must be the participants' original work.

All reports from participants will be summarized into a Report Summary, which will be published and sent to all secondary schools and universities, government departments and relevant organizations.

Project Presentation

Participants are required to select a format or combination of formats, such as graphics, models, multi-media and display boards, to make a presentation on the content of their reports.

Prizes

Prizes for each category will be awarded as follows:

- ◆ Champion: Book voucher of \$3,000, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ 1st Runner-up: Book voucher of \$2,000, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ 2nd Runner-up: Book voucher of \$1,000, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ The Most Outstanding Report: Book Voucher of \$800, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ The Most Outstanding Presentation: Book Voucher of \$800, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ The Most Innovative Report: Book Voucher of \$800, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ The Best Team Work: Book Voucher of \$800, a Trophy and a Certificate
- ◆ 3 Merit Awards: Book Voucher of \$500 and a Certificate for each award

** Participants who have completed the whole project (including submission of reports and presentations) will be awarded a Certificate.*

** Participants who have attended all the 4 seminars will be awarded a Certificate of Attendance*

**2 entrants from the Championship Teams of each category will be delegated to represent Hong Kong at the APEC Youth Plaza-“APEC Youth in the Cyber World” to be held in Korea from 17th to 25th August 2005.*

Schedule of Project

Programme	Date	Time	Venue
1. Briefing Session 1	Wednesday, 23 March, 2005	6 p.m.-8 p.m.	* Leadership 21
2. Briefing Session 2	Tuesday, 12 April, 2005	6 p.m.-8 p.m.	* Leadership 21
3. Deadline for Applications	Friday, 29 April, 2005	6 p.m.	
4. Seminars 研討會			
(1) Development of Hong Kong's Financial System	Saturday, 23 April, 2005	10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Room 103, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, Hong Kong Council of Social Service, No. 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
(2) Development and Exploration of Human Resources	Saturday, 23 April, 2005	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	
(3) The Opportunities and Challenges of Globalisation and Regional Cooperation	Saturday, 30 April, 2005	10 a.m.-12 p.m.	
(4) The Prospects of Hong Kong's Trade Development	Saturday, 30 April, 2005	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	
5. Training Workshops			
(1) Project Management and Research Methods	Wednesday, 13 April, 2005	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	* Leadership 21
(2) Creativity and Problem Solving Skills	Wednesday, 20 April, 2005	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	
(3) Report Writing and Presentation Skills	Wednesday, 27 April, 2005	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	
6. Deadline for Project Submission	Saturday, 7 May, 2005	6 p.m.	
7. Preliminary Sessions	Thursday and Friday, 12-13 May 2005 and Saturday and Sunday, 14-15 May 2005	6p.m. – 9:30 p.m. 1 p.m.-8 p.m.	* Leadership 21
8. Semi-Final	Saturday and Sunday, 21-22 May 2005	2 p.m.–6 p.m.	* Leadership 21
9. Grand Final	Saturday, 28 May, 2005	2 p.m.-7 p.m.	* Leadership 21
10. Awards Ceremony	Saturday, 2 July 2005	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	(To be confirmed)

* All captioned programmes are subject to change. Please visit our official website: www.leadership21.org for the most updated information.

* Leadership21: Unit 6, G/F, The Centre, 99 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

Application Methods

Application forms are available at the websites www.leadership21.org and www.u21.org.hk. Please send the completed application form to The Secretariat of The Youth Learning Project on Pacific Economic Cooperation by any one of the following methods.

- ◆ E-mail to: leadership21@hkfyg.org.hk
- ◆ By post to: Unit 6, G/F, The Centre, 99 Queen's Road Central, Central HK
- ◆ Fax to: 21690603

Application deadline: 6 p.m., Friday, 29 April 2005

Project submission deadline: 6 p.m., Saturday, 7 May 2005

Honorary Advisers

Dr. Rosanna WONG Yick-ming, D.B.E., JP

Executive Director

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Professor Edward CHEN Kwan-yiu, G.B.S., JP

Chairperson

Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation

Enquiries

The Secretariat of *The Youth Learning Project on Pacific Economic Cooperation*

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About Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation

The Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (HKCPEC) is a member committee of Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC). It was set up in 1990 to advise the Government on matters relating to Hong Kong's participation in PECC and to coordinate Hong Kong's input to the organization. Hong Kong as the PECC Chair for the term 1999 – 2001, hosted the 14th General Meeting of PECC on 28-30 November 2001.

HKCPEC is tripartite in nature comprising representatives from the academic, business and government sectors. Its members enjoy distinct reputation in their respective fields and have wide experience and insights on the current policy issues in the Asia Pacific region. Professor Edward Chen, President of Lingnan University, is the current HKCPEC Chairman. The HKCPEC Secretariat is serviced by the Trade and Industry Department. Further information on HKCPEC is available at <<http://www.hkcpec.org/>>.

About The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups was founded in 1960 and is one of the largest non-profit-making youth agencies in Hong Kong. The aims of the Federation are to provide services and activities promoting the social, educational, cultural and physical development of young people, to take every care of their wellbeing and to spare no effort in providing for them within the context of Hong Kong's society. One aspect of the Federation's mission is to nurture young people as potential future leaders of Hong Kong, equipped with a global perspective and a deep commitment to Hong Kong and the Mainland. Attendance at Federation programmes through its 60 plus service units is now 4,500,000 annually.

Leadership 21, the service unit that focuses on youth leadership, was established in April 2000. Its aim is to provide multi-dimensional, systematic and professional leadership training to potential youth leaders aged between 15 and 347. These young people are then expected to play leading roles in the community, working towards the development of Hong Kong in the 21st century.

The content of the programmes offered by Leadership 21, is versatile, practical and forward-looking. By using a variety of teaching models, we hope to help young people bring their talents and creativity into full play. Over the past four years, Leadership 21 has provided training for more than 12,600 secondary school student leaders, university student leaders, volunteer leaders and youth community leaders. As part of the expansion of its operations, the Federation plans to establish a Leadership Institute to provide further comprehensive leadership training that will further cultivate talented youth to work for the future of Hong Kong and the Mainland.