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Friendship Youth Alumni Association

EVALUATION STUDY 1998



The Friendship Programme for 21st Century



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Executive Summary

The execution of Evaluation Study project commencement with the formation of a Working Committee from the Part of FYAA Thailand where various responsibilities had to be allocated to various members so that the over all projects could be shouldered equally among the group. Several projects were simultaneously launched or mobilised. The distribution of survey questionnaires were start on 19 December 1997 and as the questionnaires were slowly returned by respondents, other work of compiling of other information were undertaken by other committee members. Consultation with several agencies were undertaken to gather other relevant information.

In this report is the result of an Evaluation Study of the Youth Invitation Programme which has been initiated by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan. Project of this study program came to the attention of FYAA Thailand on 2 December 1997 when the managing Director of The Office of Evaluation and Post Project Monitoring of JICA wrote letter to the President of FYAA Thailand regarding their intention to conduct an overall evaluation of the Friendship Programme. FYAA Thailand promptly responded and accepted the project.

The overall objective of the Evaluation Study as mentioned in its Terms of Reference is to "Evaluate the Youth Invitation Programme with a view to evaluating the achievement and impacts of the project. The more detailed aims as, stipulated in the Terms of Reference are:

- 1. To evaluate achievements and impacts of the Youth Invitation Programme in six (6) ASEAN countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.*
- 2. To make suggestions for the program content.*
- 3. To make suggestions for the Alumni activities and JICA support system.*
- 4. To guide the general direction of the program in the future.*

The approach of the study was to begin with an overview of the Youth Exchange Programme and the Alumni Association in Thailand and slowly work its way to getting to know general information to more specific and more detailed elements of the Programme.

Chapter 1 ; This is an overview of introduction Thailand and Japan and the International Exchange Programme in Thailand is highlighted. In some way, the historical development of the Thai Youth Exchange Programme as experienced by Thailand is portrayed in this section, from its humble beginnings to its present status. how the pre-departure orientation training is organised in Thailand. An overview of FYAA Thailand Alumni Association is also given, describing the history of its development, structure of its organisation and the activities that have so far been organised by the Association.

Chapter 2 ; of this report signifies the approach or methodology of the evaluation project. This section is explain how the whole evaluation study is being undertaken and the methods and techniques that have been employed in making the assessment. The formation of the Working Committee in undertaking the various projects in detailed.

Chapter 3 ; This part is the result of the Survey data outlined in the report. Together with the Impact Evaluation, this is probably difficult to study, from where all assessment and evaluation are based. About 1000 ex-Participants so far involved in the Friendship Youth Program for the 21 st Century, only 900 questionnaires reached ex-Participants due to reasons such as: ex-Participants who work abroad, on study leave, having wrong addresses and lost contact , out of touch. Nevertheless some of them ; 276 Participants have responded, which is good enough for evaluation (over 25% sample survey).

A majority of respondents were sent and recommended by the government departments that they work in 55% of the respondents thought that the selection process is fair and 38% said it was not fair because the general local youth can not joy in this program and 7.25% said do not know because they are not necessary to take the interview program, they came by quota of some government department.

Over 50 % of the Participants mentioned that they totally agreed that the reason for their Participation in this programme is to visit Japan, make Japanese friends, are interested in international exchange programme , would like to improve their professional knowledge and to win honor .

Over half of the respondents thought that the programme was very beneficial to them.

The 4 most beneficial activities to respondents were visit relate to professional field, observation tours, in-house seminars and the homestay.

95% of respondents thought that their impression of Japan have changed for the better or much better after joining in this programme.

About 70% of the respondents are still in touch with each other, either Japanese friends or Thailand friends.

About 54% thought that the promotion of international exchange is more important than to learn about professional knowledge.

About 60% thought that programs in local areas and regional cities should be increased.

Over 72% of the respondents were still receive with "Dear Friends"

Only 10% of the respondents were still active in Alumni activities; 52% said that they were Participating at sometime ; The two top reasons were that they were too busy and they did not live in capital city.

The top four activities recommended for Alumni Association were environmental issues , development of Thailand , establish a network among the member and international exchange program

Chapter 4 ; provides some participant comment of the programme and assessed components on international understanding and promotion of friendship among ASEAN countries and between Thailand with Japan, and looked at how the international program has been positive about youth exchanges of this nature. Answer of the questionnaires are also support and strengthen the justification of these argument. And developments in FYAA Thailand as a result of the Friendship Youth Program for 21st Century.

Chapter 5 ; provides a situational analysis, evaluation and final recommendations to some of the aspects that are looked at in previous Parts of the report, This section deals with specific analysis of the components of the analysis and assesses and evaluate these specific issues in greater detail.

Chapter 1

Introduction

THAILAND

LAND OF A THOUSAND SMILES

Land and resources

Thailand, with an area of 518,000 square kilometres, shares borders with Burma to the north and west, Laos to the northeast, Cambodia to the east, and Malaysia to the south.

Geographically , Thailand is divided into six major regions. In the mountainous north, elephants work forests and winter temperatures are sufficiently cool to permit the cultivation of temperate fruits such as strawberries and peaches. Then there is the sprawling northeast plateau, bordered by the Mekong River, where the world' s oldest Bronze Age civilisation flourished some 5,600 years ago. The third region is the central plain, considered to be one of the most fertile rice and fruit-growing areas. The fourth is the eastern coastal plain where fine sandy beaches support the growth of summer resorts. The fifth is the western mountains and valleys, suitable for the development of hydro-electric power, and the sixth is the peninsula south where arresting scenic beauty complements economically vital mining, rubber cultivation and fishing.

Race, language and religion

Throughout her long history, Thailand has absorbed immigrants. Her early arrivals were mainly skilled writers, painters, sculptors, dancers, musicians and architects, who helped to create a rich and indigenous culture.

Thai is the official language of her 53 million people. However, English is widely understood, particularly in Bangkok where it is the major commercial language.

English and major European languages are spoken in most hotels, shops and restaurants, as well as in major tourist attractions. Thai-English road signs can be found nationwide.

Theravada Buddhism is the professed religion of more than 90 percent of all Thai. Buddhism was introduced to Thailand during the third Century BC at Nakhon Pathom, site of Thailand's tallest Buddhist monument.

Besides moulding morality, providing social cohesion and offering spiritual succour, Buddhism has also provided incomparable artistic impetus to Thailand.

At least one male member in every Thai Buddhist family would have studied the Buddha's teachings in a monastery. It is also a custom for every Buddhist male over 20 years old, once in his lifetime, to be ordained for a period of between five days and three months.

Besides sustaining monastic communities, Thai temples have traditionally served other purposes such as the village hostel, village news centre, employment and information agency, school, hospital, dispensary and community centre, to give them roles in Thai society.

Although Thailand is a predominantly Buddhist country, there are sizeable minorities of Muslims, Christians, Hindus and Sikhs who freely pursue their respective faiths.

Independence, government and development

Thailand, which is a constitutional monarchy, is an old nation with a well-established and distinctive culture. It has a democratic governmental system which works in a similar fashion to those of most western countries.

The word Thai means free with a special emphasis on freedom from foreign domination. Indeed Thailand is one of the very few Asian countries and the only Southeast Asian country which has never been colonised.

The Thai people's conviction towards freedom and independence has been upheld in the course of the country's long history.

Towards the end of the Ayutthaya period (1767) when enemy forces invaded and sacked the capital, the Thais quickly rallied and after a series of hard-fought battles, expelled all enemy forces out of the land. Again, during the Bangkok period, national leaders followed the heroic spirit of their forefathers; they attempted to steer the nation through the stormy seas of western colonialism. Flanked by the British and the French, the Chakri Kings, Rama IV and Rama V, worked strenuously to avoid falling prey to the two western powers. Through an astute foreign policy, governmental and social reforms, Thailand has successfully maintained her independence for over 700 years.

Thailand is governed by a constitutional monarchy with the King as Head of State. It was King Rama VII who graciously agreed to abolish absolute monarchy and transfer power to the constitution-based system which is currently in force. The present constitution took effect in 1978 providing for a parliament of 225 appointed senators and 324 elected members of the House of Representatives.

The Thai Constitution recognises the King as the Head of State, Head of the armed Forces, Upholder of Buddhist Religion and all other religions. All constitutions also recognise that the King's sovereign power emanates from the people and is exercised in three ways: legislative power through the National Assembly, executive power through the Cabinet and judicial power through the law courts.

There are 73 provinces in Thailand, each of which is represented by a provincial governor. Thus, the provincial governor is the vital link between Bangkok and the upcountry populace. All government efforts affecting the nation are channelled through the Interior Ministry the body to which he is directly responsible. He, in turn, passes them to the people.

At the national level, executive power is administered and legislation proposed by the Cabinet, on which all the Ministries are represented. It is chaired by the Prime Minister, whose post was established in 1933. The first 25 years of constitutional government saw the Prime Minister's power gradually increase. Since 1958, Prime Ministers have played a dominant role in the running of the country. The Thais look to the Prime Minister as a protective father like leader. As such, he is expected to deal with national problems in an effective manner, and is the acknowledged head of government.

JAPAN

LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Land and resources

Located off the eastern coast of the Asian continent, the Japanese archipelago stretches in a narrow arc some 3,800 kilometres long, between 20° 25' and 45° 33' north latitude. Formed by four main islands and about 3,900 smaller ones, these islands give Japan a total land area of 377,815 square kilometres.

Honshu, the biggest island, accounts for more than 60 percent of the land. The next three bigger islands are Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku.

The topography of Japan is mainly mountainous with more than 532 of its peaks rising well over 2,000 metres high. This gives the country a long and rocky coastline with many small but excellent harbours. Mount Fuji, the tallest mountain, stands at 3,776 metres and is snow-capped throughout the year. The Japanese islands form part of a long chain of mountains running from Southeast Asia all the way to Alaska.

Japan's beautiful and dramatic scenery of snow-fed mountain lakes, rocky gorges and turbulent rivers, rugged peaks and graceful waterfalls are a constant source of inspiration and provide pleasure for both Japanese and visitors alike.

Her resilient sons and daughters

The Japanese, with a cultural history dating back more than 1,000 years, are well known for their ability to adapt imported culture and technology to improve their own living standards.

Since the beginning of its earliest civilisation, the Japanese have put work before.

pleasure and are known to traditionally scorn play for play's sake. For most Japanese, work is what gives life its meaning and play is time spent at relieving work-related stress and exhaustion. Many would agree that even golf is played mainly to enhance business relations rather than for rest and relaxation.

This is because the dividing line between business and pleasure is a fuzzy one in the Japanese business world. Socialising, for example, is considered an integral part of a business relationship even if not a word of business is exchanged. It is believed that such informal socialising contributes to establishing personal trust—and such personal trust is far more important to the Japanese businessman than any specific contractual relationship. The most important factor in a Japanese business relationship is whether or not the people involved are comfortable and feel they can trust each other.

Friendly ties

Japan emphasises its relations with the Republic of Korea, China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries. Although Korea is right next door, Japan-Korea relations have not always been the smoothest. However, relations were normalised in 1965 and further improved during the 1983-1984 period with the exchange of official visits by Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Korean President Chun Doo Hwan. Major efforts have also been made to strengthen Japan's friendly relations with China and the ASEAN countries.

PROFILE OF JAPAN ' S ODA

Within the last decade, Japan has become the top donor country providing the largest amount of funds to the Developing country worldwide. Japan's funds for development called -Official Development Assistance- (ODA) Consist of three major components;

- * Bilateral Grant
 - Grant Aid
 - Technical Cooperation
- * Bilateral Loan (generally called Yen-loan)
- * Contributions and subscriptions to multilateral organizations

PRIORITY AREAS IN JAPAN' S ODA PROGRAM TO THAILAND

Considering the economic status of Thailand as well as the necessity to cooperate with the Government of Thailand, in early 1996 the Government of Japan agreed to continue her ODA program to the Government of Thailand In order to provide direction for future cooperation between the two countries the Government of Japan has identified the following five main issues as priority areas for the next five years;

- Social Sector (Education , HIV / AIDS ,etc)
- Environmental Protection
- Development of Rural Areas
- Improvement of Industrial Infrastructure
- Assistance for Regional Cooperation

ESTABLISHMENT OF JICA

Japan' s ODA covers a broad range of "Development Assistance". Most of these activities require close bilateral cooperation. With a view to promoting international cooperation for social and economic development of developing countries, the Government of Japan established the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in 1974, as an implementation agency of ODA.

JICA is the official agency of Japan, whose main function is to extend technical cooperation to developing countries on the basis of agreements reached between the Government of Japan and Governments of Thailand. Such technical cooperation are designed to help developing country in their economic and social development.

FUNCTION OF JICA THAILAND OFFICE

JICA Thailand Office was established in 1974 to replace the Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA) Office which started its functions in Thailand under the name of "The Asian Association" in 1958. At present main assignments of JICA in Thailand are to implement the following cooperation programs;

- Training programs. (Acceptance of participants, Friendship Program)
- Expert Dispatch Program.
- Equipment Supply Program.
- Project-Type Technical Cooperation Program.
- Development Study Program.
- Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) Program.

Japan implements its programs or extends support on government to government basis. Therefore, all of JICA activities for Thailand are to be based on requests made through the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation (DTEC), Office of the Prime Minister which is the official channel for external cooperation.

TRAINING PROGRAM

A) ACCEPTANCE OF PARTICIPANTS

With the cooperation of various Japanese government ministries, local governments, universities and private sectors, JICA offers over 290 group training courses with an annual average of 6400 persons conducted in Japan accommodated among 13 training centers.

Every year JICA accepts more than 500 people from Thailand for training in Japan. So far over 10,000 Thai participants have taken advantage of this program.

B) FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Besides offering technical training, JICA invites to Japan young people from Asian and Pacific countries who are to lead the growth of these countries in the 21st century. The program has been implemented with an aim to foster further understanding of Japan, deepen friendship with Japanese youth, and promote mutual development and peace.

The program has been implemented by JICA with close cooperation of Japanese youth groups and local governments. More than 1,300 young people including 150 youth from Thailand were invited in 1995. Since 1984, a total of 1,800 Thai youth have been invited to Japan through administration of the National Youth Bureau (NYB) of Thailand.

EXPERT DISPATCH PROGRAM

The purpose of dispatching experts is to help developing countries with human resources development. The dispatch of experts is one of the fundamental forms of technical cooperation carried out by JICA. Japanese experts in particular fields are dispatched under this program in response to the request of the government of the recipient country. They assist in various ways for the advancement of technology in developing countries transferring their technical know-how to their counterparts.

These experts are classified into two categories as follows:

1. Individual experts, assigned as technical or administrative advisors to the recipient government and international organizations.
2. Experts for projects implementing under the Project-Type Technical Cooperation Program, who are dispatched to provide technical guidance and advice to counterpart personnel for smooth and effective implementation of the projects.

As of 1996, more than 180 Japanese long-term experts of both categories are in service in various recipient agencies including international organizations in Thailand. A total of over 5,000 Japanese experts have been dispatched to Thailand since 1954. Recently around 200 long-term experts assigned at any one particular time.

EQUIPMENT SUPPLY PROGRAM

Under this program, JICA supplies machinery and equipment to developing countries including Thailand. The equipment supplied under this program is to facilitate technology transfer and services of the Japanese experts, JOCV members as well as for the ex-participants of JICA training program.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM

If a new business is established in developing country, there will be great contribution to its economic and social development.

This program provides financing under lenient conditions, and technical guidance when need, for Japanese business who cannot obtain necessary fund from finance agency due to the risk, low profitability, or technical problems on their new projects.

There are two types of development cooperation as follow;

- * Development Project Investment and Financing.
- * Surveys and Technical Guidance.

DISASTER RELIEF AID PROGRAM

Disaster relief aid is conducted by rescue, medical and expert teams (Japan Disaster Relief Team: JDR) and the provision of relief goods at the request of disasters break out.

In Thailand, medical and relief goods were donated when affected by flood of large scale in 1988 and 1995 respectively.

PROJECT-TYPE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

As a form of comprehensive effort to promote technical transfer, JICA conducts its Project-Type Technical Cooperation Program which provides integrated assistance from planning and implementation to evaluation by combining three forms of cooperation:

1. Training of Counterparts
2. Dispatch of experts
3. Equipment supply

In Thailand, as of September 1996 JICA has been implementing 23 projects of this type of cooperation in various technical fields.

DEVELOPMENT STUDY PROGRAM

The Development Study Program contributes to the improvement of technical capabilities upon request of the recipient countries, providing assistance in formulating development plans in public sector, such as electric power, harbor, road, transportation, communications, forestry and fisheries.

Study findings compiled in a report are then presented to the government of the recipient countries for further reference in formulating the government policies and evaluating the worthiness of such projects for bilateral or multilateral financial assistance. Such as, they constitute a basic step towards the realization of the development plans and provide an important link between technical and financial cooperation.

Depending on contents and phases of study, there are six categories of development studies:

- * Master Plan (M/P) Study for formulating various types of master plans including national and regional comprehensive development plans and long-term plans for specific sectors.
- * Feasibility Study (F/S) for Planning the technical, economic and financial feasibility of various projects.

* Basic Data Survey for natural resources evaluation and collection of data for drawing topographic maps and formulating various development plans in the field of ground water utilization, fisheries as well as mineral resources development.

* Demonstrative Study for experimental crop cultivation with collection and analysis of demonstrative data on natural conditions of particular area, cultivation methods and crops, which is followed by formulation of an agricultural development plan.

* After-Care Study for reviewing and complementing the already completed studies.

* Detail Design Study

In the case of Thailand, JICA has been sending study teams to assist in formulating development plans and projects, such as establishment of infrastructure, increasing of product, comprehensive regional development, exploration of mineral resources and others.

JAPAN OVERSEAS COOPERATION VOLUNTEERS (JOCV) PROGRAM

Under this program, JICA dispatches young Japanese volunteers between 20 and 39 years of age, with some specific skill to assist the socio-economic development of local communities and promotes youth and volunteers activities in developing countries, attaining mutual understanding among people concerned.

In Thailand, this program has played an important role in enhancing mutual understanding since 1981. Today, more than 50 JOCV are working in Thailand in the fields of vocational training, industry, agriculture, public health, computer, Japanese language teaching, among others.

THE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMME FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

How it began

Youths of today are leaders of tomorrow And it is for a better and brighter tomorrow that Japan introduced The Friendship Programme for the 21 st Century.

The Programme, sponsored by the Japanese Government and implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)—an arm of the Foreign Affairs Ministry—creates and provides opportunities for youths in Japan to interact and establish mutual understanding and friendship with their counterparts in the ASEAN countries and the Pacific region.

The Programme was started with the ASEAN countries in 1984 and upon strong requests from other countries, was extended to Myanmar , Papua New Guinea and Fiji in 1986, China and South Korea in 1987, and 12 South Pacific countries in 1988. In 1991, the Programme was extended to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Each year , more than 1,300 young people visit Japan under the auspices of the Programme.

The Programme started as a five-year plan for the ASEAN countries. After evaluation, a second five-year plan was implemented in 1989. In the Programme, participants are grouped, usually between 15 and 30 people, and are identified by their occupations and fields of specialization. For example, under the category Occupational Field and Country are six groups: youths engaged in or related to agriculture, working youth, teachers, students, youth leaders and civil servants. Each group will take part in discussions with Japanese participants in similar fields, and tour establishments and facilities related to that group's particular field of interest.

The other three categories are the ASEAN Component Group comprising civil servants, teachers and students; Group by Themes (for ASEAN participants) comprising those with special interests in tackling issues such as the environment and social welfare; and Pacific Component Group comprising civil servants and teachers.

What the Programme Covers

Before leaving for Japan, participants take part in a pre-departure orientation programme during which they will be prepared for a pleasant stay in Japan. The preparation includes lectures to equip them with basic knowledge of Japan, briefings on what they will be doing and what they can expect, and practising conversational Japanese to help them communicate with the locals. Once in Japan, they will be given a general orientation before embarking on a specialised programme in Tokyo, another programme in a local area and touring facilities and various parts of Japan. Then they will participate in an evaluation programme followed by a summary session.

General Orientation

The general orientation programme, held during the first week, consists of lectures to broaden the participants understanding of Japan. Subjects such as history, culture and economic development and progress are covered. There will also be tours to various establishments and facilities, and Japanese martial arts appreciation lessons. Conversational Japanese lessons will also continue daily.

Specialised programme (in Tokyo)

Following the general orientation programme, the individual groups will begin a two-week specialised programme. They will spend a week in Tokyo and another in a local area learning more about their particular field of interest in the Japanese context.

This programme focuses on the group's field and consists of an outline briefing by relevant central government agencies and a tour of associated establishments and facilities.

Participants can expect to take part in an in-house seminar where the group lives with Japanese youths sharing the same interests. They can strengthen their friendship through discussions, sports and games.

Specialised Programme (in a local area)

After the programme in Tokyo, the groups move on to a local area where they can experience the area's characteristics and the local lifestyle. Participants are briefed by the prefectural authorities regarding the prefecture, its form of government, and its activities and achievements in the fields which the group has interests in. Tours to related establishments and local industries also help the group gain a deeper insight to that region.

The highlight of this period is the homestay programme when participants live with Japanese families to gain first-hand experience of the Japanese way of life.

Observation Tour

The final week is spent on an observation tour to Hiroshima, the first place to suffer the horror of nuclear weapons, and the ancient capital of Kyoto. Here the groups are asked to reflect on what they see and feel.

Evaluation Programme

Upon completion of the observation tour, the groups return to Tokyo—after which participants share their impressions and opinions of the programme at an evaluation meeting.

Summary Session for Theme Groups

Here is where participants seek expert clarifications to any question they may have of their one-month's stay in Japan.

HISTORY OF THE ALUMNI

Since coming back home from participating the friendship programme for the 21st Century, there have been many youth group to do some activity to keep in contact together. The very important activity was the "newsletter publication" so that they could publish their activities in their own community. This was introduction of Association establishment. The attempt of setting Association was beginning in 1987 when the Friend Alumni club has been introduced.

For establishing the association, the working group in the friendship Alumni Club has formed to be responsible for legal registration. With supporting by the Nation Youth Bureau (NYB), all the essential documents have been immediately submitted to the nation culture Commission and the Police Department. However, it has taken a period of time to be investigated and legally approved.

The association finally succeeded to be legally approved since February 20, 1992, named, "The Friendship Youth Alumni Association of Thailand" or "AJAFA-21 Thailand", aimed at exchanging ideas among ex-participants and cooperating with JICA and other Japanese organizations and NYB in any kind of its needs, in particular, the arrangement and promotion of the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century with the main purposes as follow:

1. To promote friendship and mutual understanding among the Thai exparticipants of the Friendship Programmed;
2. To promote and develop the education and self-reliability of the member;
3. To create activities concerning with social and community development;
4. To maintain linkage with other alumni associations in ASEAN countries and Japan;
5. To cooperate with the government and non-government organizations for the promotion of education, culture and welfare of childrens and youths;
6. To promote welfare of the members;
7. No political affiliation involves.

Activities

Among AJAFA-21, Thailand's earliest activities was the publication of a newsletter to keep ex-participants of the Friendship Programme posted on the various activities undertaken by each batch of visitors to Japan.

The newsletter also serves to persuade ex-participants to join in activities such as sharing their experiences in Japan with youths selected for the Friendship Programme.

Members are also encouraged to assist the Association in hosting Japanese visitors. AJAFA-21, Thailand also hosted the 4th AJAFA-21 Executive Council Meeting in 1992.

AJAFA-21 held her Annual Executive Council Meeting on the 21st day of January each year by alphabetically. Each member country turn in hosting this meeting and also her Regional Youth Camp & Forum. The resolutions reached in the meetings are aimed for the improvements of the relationship established involving cooperation among the member countries through cultural exchange, economic cooperation, educational management training seminar, social activities, and communication network programmes. It is hope that from this platform better understanding will be achieved and peace and harmony will be able to sustain in the challenging future to come.

The Friendship Youth Alumni Association of Thailand (FYAA) had honourable hosted "The 5th AJAFA-21 Executive Annual Council Meeting" during January 20-22, 1992 in Pattaya, Thailand. And next Executive Council Meeting, that is the 11th AJAFA-21 Executive Council Meeting, shall be hosted in Chiang Mai, Thailand during March 5-8, 1998.

Afterward there are hosted the Regional Youth Camp & Forum, alphabetically. And last year 1997, FYAA has proudly, to be selected by the 10th AJAFA-21 Executive Council Meeting in Singapore during March 20-23, 1997, to be hosted the 7th AJAFA-21 Regional Youth Camp/Forum in Thailand next year 1999.

Therefore, FYAA shall be held 2 activities in the same time during March 5-8, 1998, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, which FYAA organizing committees and north region members to welcome AJAFA-21 members visit Chiang Mai city.

Domestic Activities

1.DONATION

For disabled children on National Youth Day (September 20, 1991) in Nonthaburi Province.

2. ORIENTATION PROGRAM

For participants of the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century before departing to Japan since 1992. The association in cooperated with The National Youth Bureau (NYB) to organize the Friendship Program for the 21st Century during the pre-departure orientation by providing the necessary information about Japan through exchanging the past experiences of ex-participants as well as introduction of the association activities.

3. GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION

Organizing for the General Annual meeting and Reunion for exparticipants. The general annual meeting & reunion party was organized every year at the Hotel or restaurant Bangkok to give all members the change to meet their old friends and recall the memorable experiences in Japan. As the late executive committee was finished their period, so the election of a new president and 14 committees was also held in this party.

4. THAI REGIONAL CAMP ON ENVIRONMENT

This Enviromental Activity Awareness held in Petchaburi Province with the main purpose of preserving the environtment.

5. The association in cooperation with the Population Development Association (PDA) organized the "Family Caravan for Green" to support the reforestration programme in Nakorn Rachima Province. In occasion, also arranged the project to celebrated the Fiftieth Anniverary (Golden Jubilee) of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne (June 3, 1995)

6. AJAFA-21 THAILAND MONTHLY MEETING

The committee meeting is organized monthly to exchange the opinion in creating and planning for new activities in every year, emphasized on local activities which has proposed by local sub-committee from all part of Thailand and also to evaluated in passed activities.

7. NEWSLETTER AND QUESTIONNAIRE

The four Newsletters issued during every year were to report the Alumni information, movement as well as to persuade members to join our interesting activities. It is also used as a medium to communicate and publicize among all members. The special issue with questionnaire was sent to all members due to update member's data and find their interest and opinion in the alumni's activities.

8. VISITING MEMBER'S HOUSE & FARMS

In 1996 we have held this activity according to create mutual understanding and developing our relationship with members especially in up-provinces area. For first time, we went to orchid farm of Mr. Chamnarn Jearratham at Sampran District, Nakornpathom Province on May 11, 1996. The visitors were not only committee but also many interested members and non-members people who worked and studied in agriculture field.

9. EVALUATION TEAM

The association was honorably hosted dinner and 1 day trip to visit some place for Evaluation Team every time. For this private meeting we talked about the development of this program and also post-program that might be set in the near future.

10. ONE DAY TRIP FOR AFTERCARE TEAM

The After Care Mission provided an opportunity to exchange various ideas and collectively decide on issues affecting the implementation of the Friendship Programme. It further strengthened the ties among the Thai past participants and their Japanese counterparts with high hopes that would continue the learning experiences that they had. Hopefully next year, the After Care Mission would be a success as well through joins efforts of all FYAA members.

11. GIFT-CARAVAN PROGRAM

In October 27, 1996, We had held "Gift-Caravan" Program according to provide students and poor people in rural area, the necessary stuff for living such as book, stationary for student and clothes, blanket for poor people etc. We started from Bangkok to "Thung Hearng Temple", Phanut-Nikom District, Chonburi Province. At that time we also donated some money, collected from participants, to the temple for development of public welfare of that community.

International Activities

1. Honourable hosted The 5th AJAFA-21 Annual Executive Council Meeting during January 20-22, 1992 in Pattay Thailand
2. Honourable hosted The 11th AJAFA-21 Annual Executive Council Meeting during February 5-8, 1998 in Chaieng-Mai Thailand
3. Participated in The AJAFA-21 Annual Executive Council Meeting every year.
4. Participated in "The AJAFA-21 Regional Youth Camp & Forum since 1990 in Singapore, 1992 in Malaysia, 1993 in Philippines, 1994 in Bangkok and Kanchanaburi Province Thailand and 1995 in Baandar Seri Begawan, Negara Brunei Darussalam.
5. Honourable hosted The 5th AJAFA-21 Regional Youth Camp & Forum in Kanjanaburee Province during October 1-5, 1994. The topic is "Do & Don't in your country"

Future Plan

YOUTH CAMP PROJECT

AJAFa-21 Regional Youth Forum/Camp will be held in Chiangmai during March, 1999 for 4 days approximately. Eight delegates from each country in Asian and Japan will be invited to participate in this Camp. The theme of discussion and activities will be related to "Asian Lifestyle in 21st Century". From our experiences, we strongly believed that gathering of Asian and Japan Youth have created the unity, creativity and fruitful friendship. Therefore, we look forward to receiving your kind cooperations from all AJAFa members.

YOUTH'S DONATION CARAVAN PROGRAM

With the cooperation of all nationwide members to donate the living necessities, books, stationaries as well as donated money for poor people and schools in a rural area in Mid October, 1998.

ECO-TOURISM FOR THAI YOUTH PROGRAM

According to Amazing Thailand 1998-1999, we, Thai Youth, realize how important the environment is, so this program will be held in Krabi during April, 1998. The activities are to pick up the garbage along the beach, to give the knowledge of Eco-Tourism to both Thai and Foreign tourists and etc.

STREET CHALLENGE PROGRAM

In order to promote the Youth to spend their leisure time in the meaningful way, we try to encourage them to participate in this sport activity. The playing method of this game is similar to Basketball, but there are 3 players for each team. This program is expected to be held in October vacation, 1998.

THE REGIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

This is to decentralize the alumni activity to those members who are living in various parts of the country. For example, Chiang-Mai will be the central for the members who live in the northern area. The new structure will help cooperation between members and create new activity for the association.

Chapter 2

Methodology

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

At the Meeting in 5 December 1997, the office bearers for evaluation Committee of the Friendship Youth Alumni Association of Thailand are as follows.

Chairman	Mr. Decha Sigvanich	<i>Tel: 318-8278</i> <i>Fax: 398-6176</i>
Secretary	Ms. Jitjanya Permpatr	<i>Tel: 318-7100</i> <i>Fax: 319-7108</i>
Treasurer	Ms. Muukda Jenthanyawan	<i>Tel: 539-9033</i> <i>Fax: 530-2540</i>
North Coordinator	Mr. Phoowadon Nakornchaisri	<i>Tel: (053)372-865</i>
South Coordinator	Mr. Nivat Sawangneat	<i>Tel: (152)516079</i>
East Coordinator	Mr. Tanet Jaroenloy	<i>Tel: (045)399-046</i>
West Coordinator	Mr. Chacrit Decha	<i>Tel: (032)337-612</i>
Administrator	Ms. Usa Kamutchart	<i>Tel: 516-3742</i>
Translator	Ms. Siriwan Sakornraksa	<i>Tel: (01)496-1296</i>
	Ms. Anunkhation Itthichaicharone	<i>Tel: (01)953-1935</i>
	Mr. Ekkaphan Kanittham	<i>Tel: 466-2562</i>
	Ms. Naowarat	<i>Tel: 289-1247</i>
	Ms. Piyada Kangsathien	<i>Tel: 374-9603</i>
Data collection	Mr. Somyos Poolchuen	<i>Tel: 580-3834</i>
Data analysis	Mr. Lon Changthong	<i>Tel: 312-8288-9</i>
Computer enter	Mr. Yuttakrai Sirisak	<i>Tel: 518-1675-8</i>
Page Layout	Mr. Suchart Jiengraksa	<i>Tel: 314-1364</i>

The address of the association for convenient contact shall be
The Friendship Youth Alumni Association of Thailand
20 Soi Lampech Ramkamhaeng 11 road,
Huamark, Bangkok 10240 Thailand.
Tel : (662) 318-8278 Fax : (662) 398-6176
Email : poly@loxinfo.co.th.

Procedure of work

2 December 1997	JICA send the evaluation study paper to the Alumni Association.
5 December 1997	FYAA form the Executive evaluation team for job responsibility.
10 December 1997	Translate questionnaire from English to Thai.
15 December 1997	Printing questionnaire 900 copy.
16 December 1997	Prepare the questionnaire and paste a stamp inside.
19 December 1997	Send questionnaire to Ex-participant 900 persons.
24 December 1997	Find data from NYB.
1-31 January 1998	Collecting data from Ex-participant. Interview some Ex-participant by Phone. Prepare computer program. Translate some data to send back.
1-5 February 1998	Key in data into computer for processing.(276 data)
6 February 1998	Print output for meeting to evaluation.
7 February 1998	Meeting to evaluate data.
10 February 1998	Final of evaluation and translate back to English.
13 February 1998	Printing draft report.
14 February 1998	Collecting some mistake.
15 February 1998	Printing report to send JICA.
20 February 1998	Send the report.
31 March 1998	Final report

DATA COLLECTING METHOD

The data and information collected in this study are gathered by collected through literature or documentation study and questionnaire. Several interviews with some ex-participant also conducted, such as from respected senior alumni, newly returned alumni, pre-departure program committee and also officials at the Secretariat General of National youth Bureau, as the authority for participants selection and predeparture program in Thailand. The questions that were focused in the interview are namely open questions that are relevant with the friendship program. Questionnaires were sent to all of the alumni member as sample population of this study. The questions in the questionnaire we write in Thai language. Due to the alumni database that was not regularly updated, only 900 questionnaires were sent to the alumni member.

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This study evaluation project was conducted in a relatively limited time of less than 2 month, from January 1 to February 15, 1998. Due to time constraints, the distribution of questionnaire was quite difficult. Most of the questionnaires were mailed to their home according to the available address database. Therefore most of the respondents received their questionnaire upon their arrival to their home, resulting to the lateness of the received feedback from them. The returned questionnaires within the deadline date were then processed to base this study on.

More over, the government agency which in charge of organizing this program is National Youth Bureau (NYB) . This organization directly responsible for this program according to its policy . Consequently , all the process of participant recruitment, pre-departure orientation program and budget management are organized by NYB since the beginning of the program until now.

The operation committee of FYAA tried to find the cooperation from NYB to complete this evaluation study regarding to the followed topics which organized by NYB. However , the concerned information was not distributed to us. The suggestion is that JICA should contact her directly for such informations.

- * Procedure for nomination of participants
- * Preparation for participation of the program including pre-departure orientation program

Chapter 3

Result of Data and Analysis

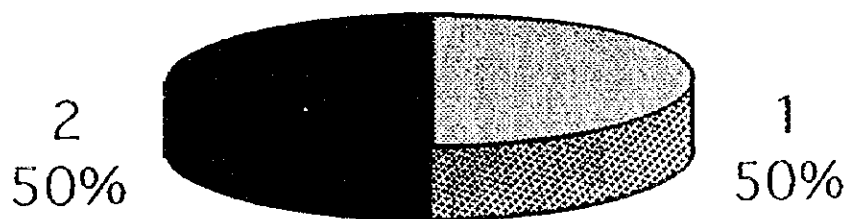
SEX

Male	138 Person	50.00 %
Female	138 Person	50.00 %
Total	276 Person	

count	276 Data	30.67 %
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Sample	900 Data
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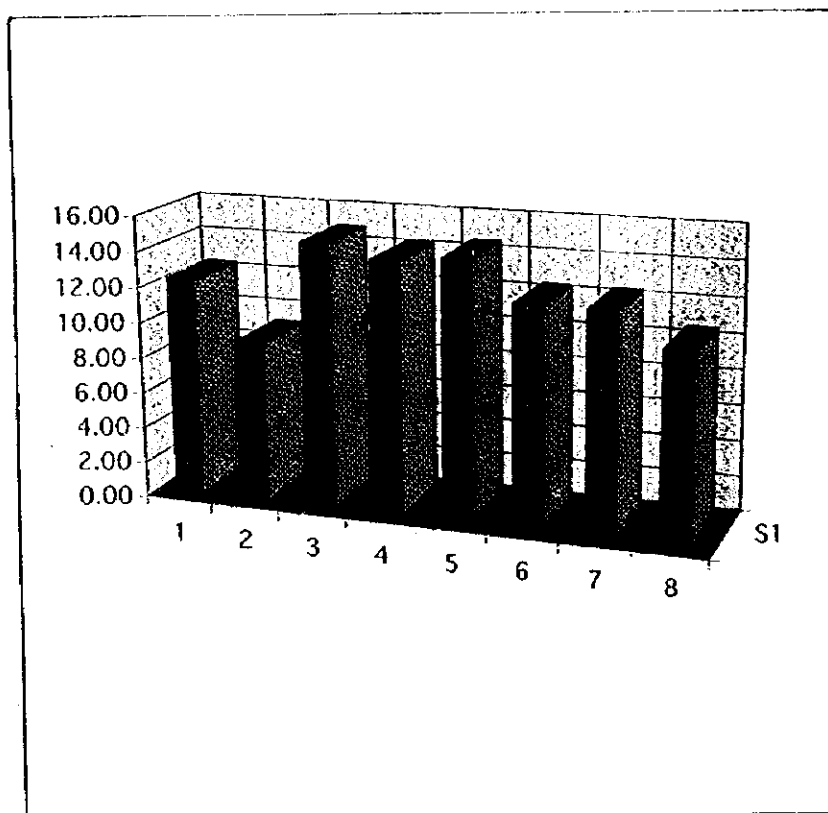
Sex Male & Female



Group

Group to answer	Person	%
1. Agriculture	34	12.32
2. Economic	25	9.06
3. Social	41	14.86
4. Youth Leader	39	14.13
5. Asean	40	14.49
6. Teacher	34	12.32
7. Student	34	12.32
8. Industrial	29	10.51

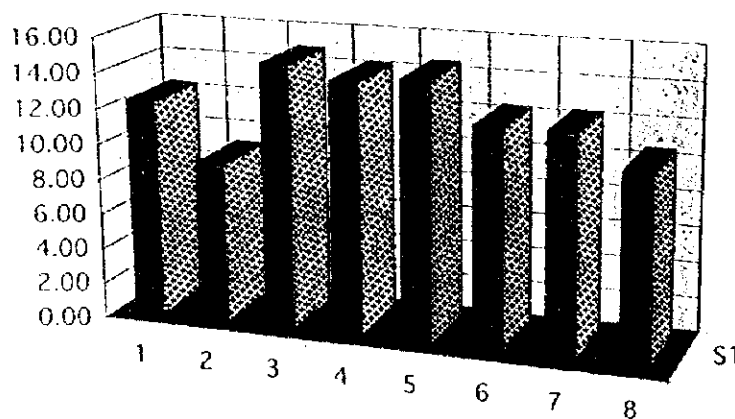
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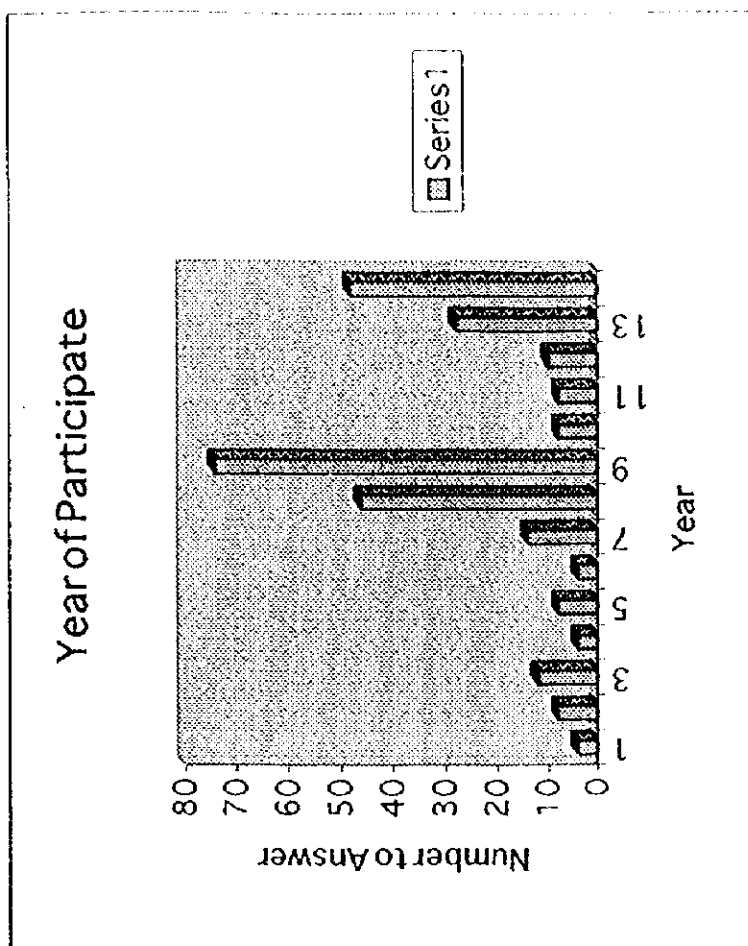
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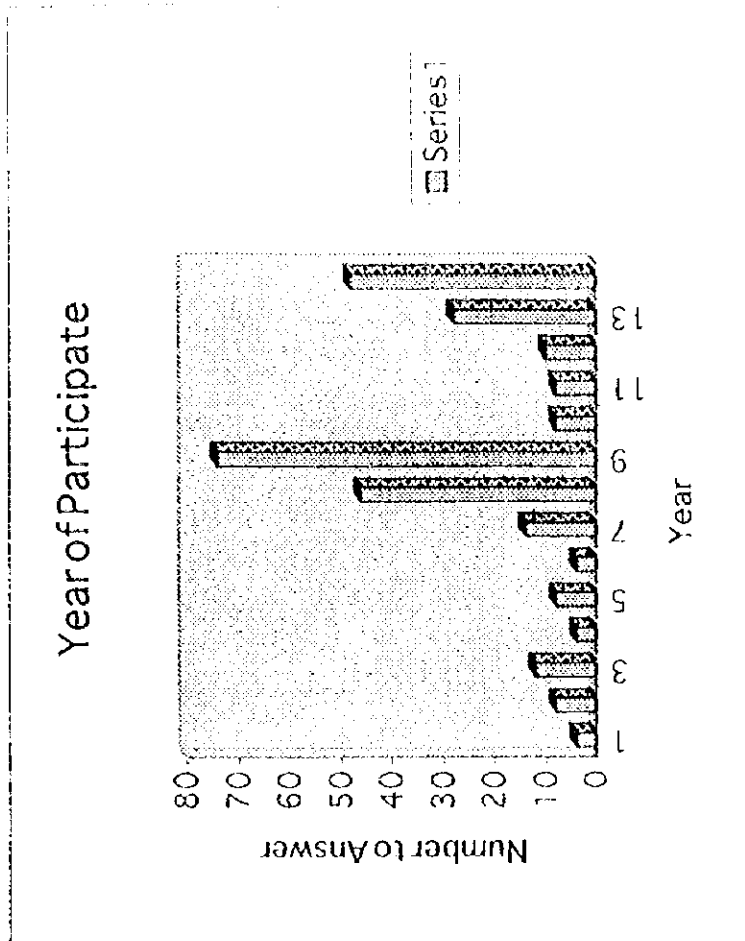
276 Data

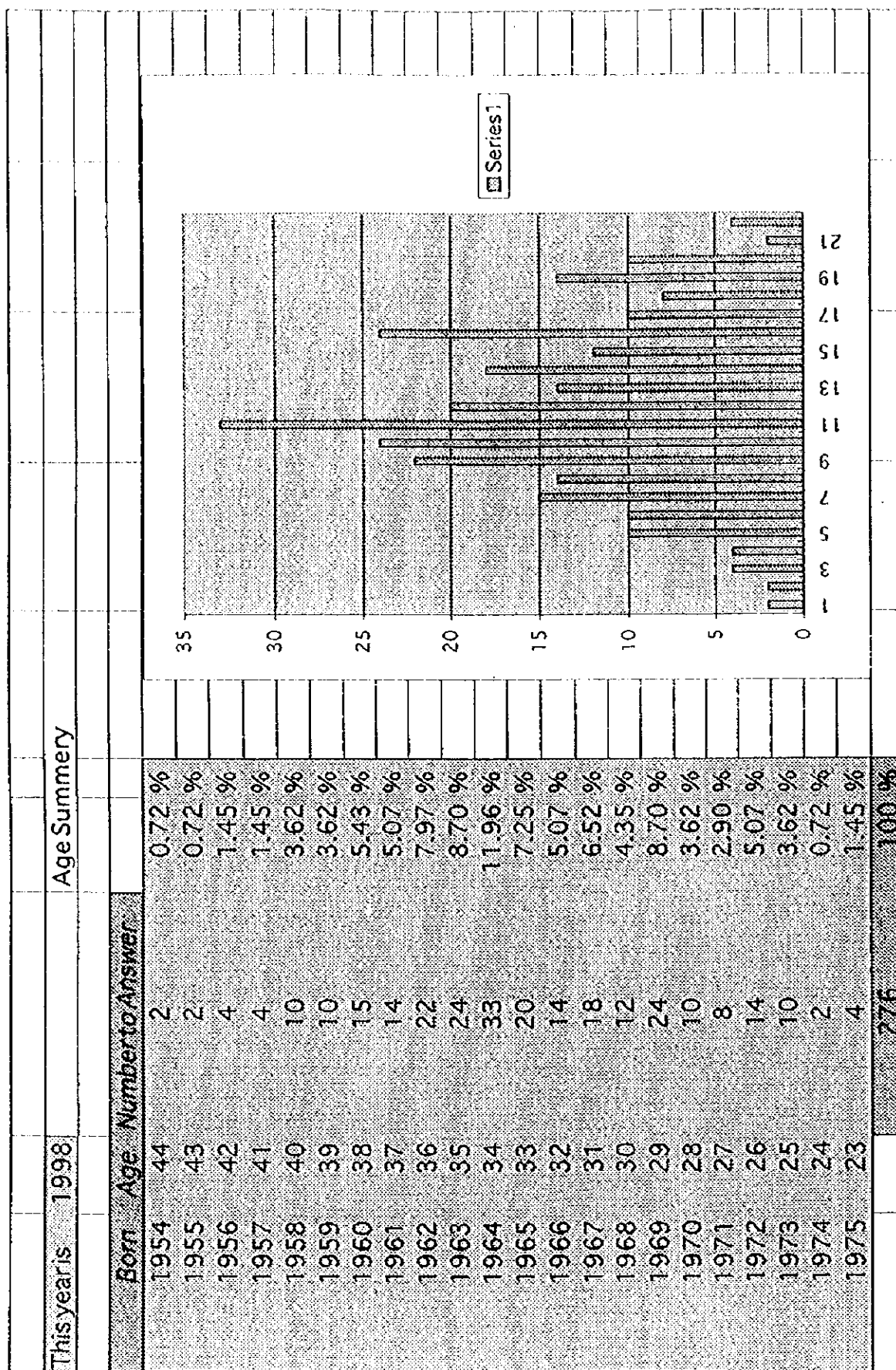


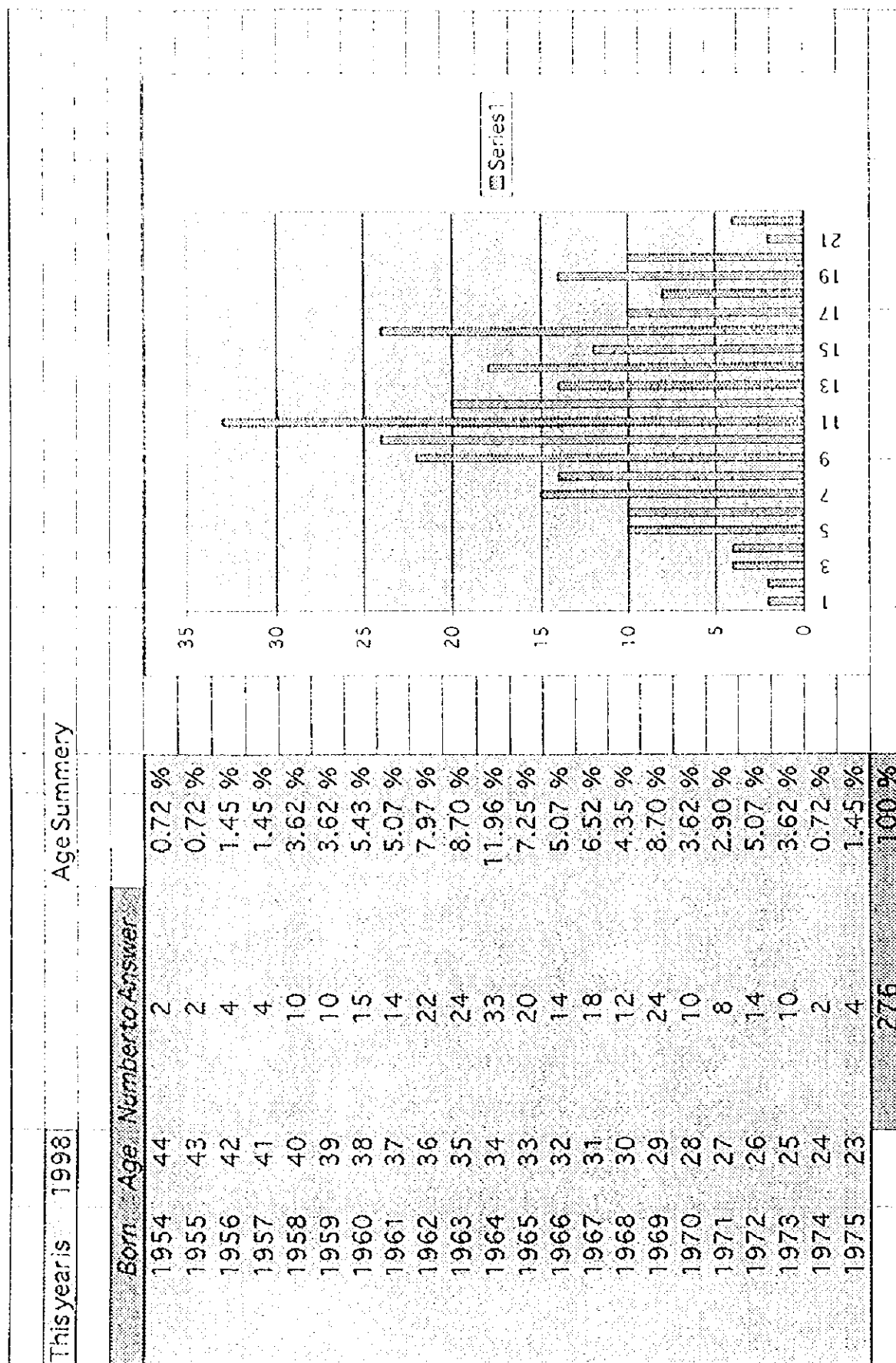
Year to go to Japan	Answer	
1984	4	1.45 %
1985	8	2.90 %
1986	12	4.35 %
1987	4	1.45 %
1988	8	2.90 %
1989	4	1.45 %
1990	14	5.07 %
1991	46	16.67 %
1992	74	26.81 %
1993	8	2.90 %
1994	8	2.90 %
1995	10	3.62 %
1996	28	10.14 %
1997	48	17.39 %
	276	100.00 %



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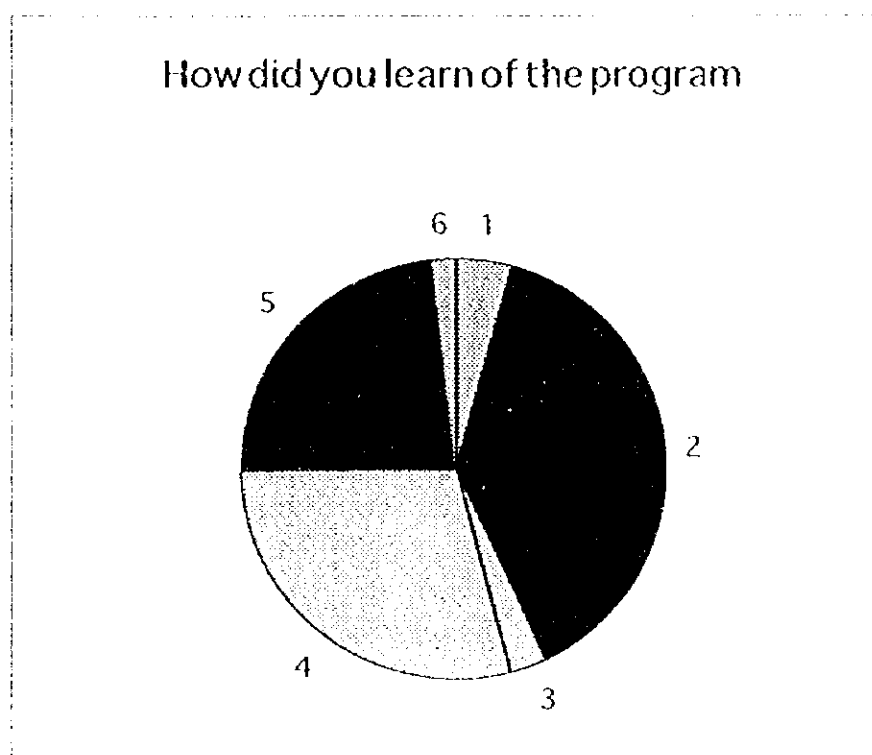






Question 1 <i>How did you learn of the program?</i>		
1. Through the press	20 person	7.25 %
2. From government offices	170 person	61.59 %
3. From JICA representative	12 person	4.35 %
4. From your workplace	128 person	46.38 %
5. From ex-participant or Alumni Association	104 person	37.68 %
6. Other	8 person	2.90 %

Count 276 Data



ANALYSIS QUESTIONS 1

How did you learn of the program?

From the gathered data, 61.59 % of the respondents learned of the program through government office (NYB) , Because this program is under management by committee of NYB at first time until now, This project have announcement from NYB to the other division of government office directly. Because of this program is individual so that NYB not necessary to have announcement by newspaper, radio or Television. (7.25 % known from public media)

46.38 % of the respondents received the information from their respective workplace and most are in the private sector of government office. In the past until 1997, the NYB as the selecting committee directly dispatch the information to the government division. Some private company tend to receive the information from other sources, but presently the information are dispatched to the Federation of Thai Industry to be forwarded to private companies.

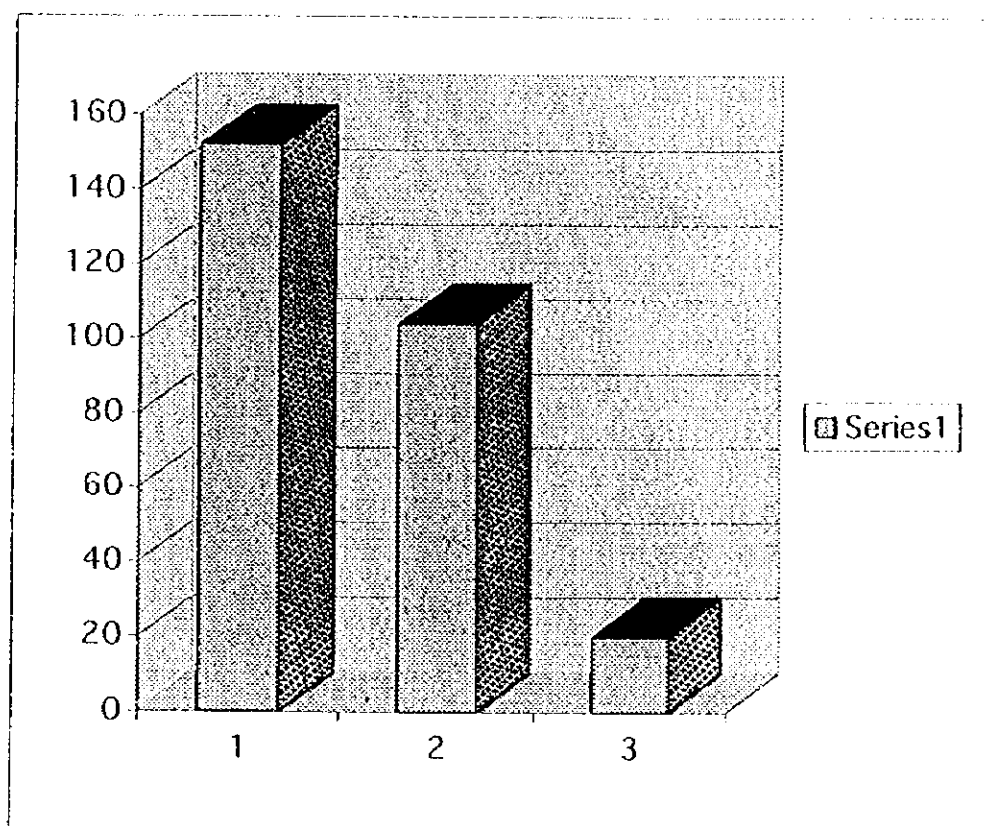
37.68 % learn from ex-participant or Alumni Association , It mean the friendship program were responsibility by alumni of the program, showing the fact that person to person information distribution are more widespread. Usually the alumni will tell all the experiences from the program to family members and friends in their respective surrounding. This created a fast chain of information distribution .

One other source of information is through the JICA Representative Office in Bangkok, Thailand and 4.35% of the respondents claim to learn about the program through this channel. The remaining 2.9 % of the respondents learns about the program through the other media.

JICA Representative Office, their or ex-participants of the program. Meanwhile respondents working in NGO obtain their information about the program through other organization or their respective workplace.

Question 2		
<i>What do you think about the selection process of the participants</i>		
1. Fair	152 person	55.07 %
2. Not fair	104 person	37.68 %
3. Do not know	20 person	7.25 %
Total	276 person	

count 276 Data

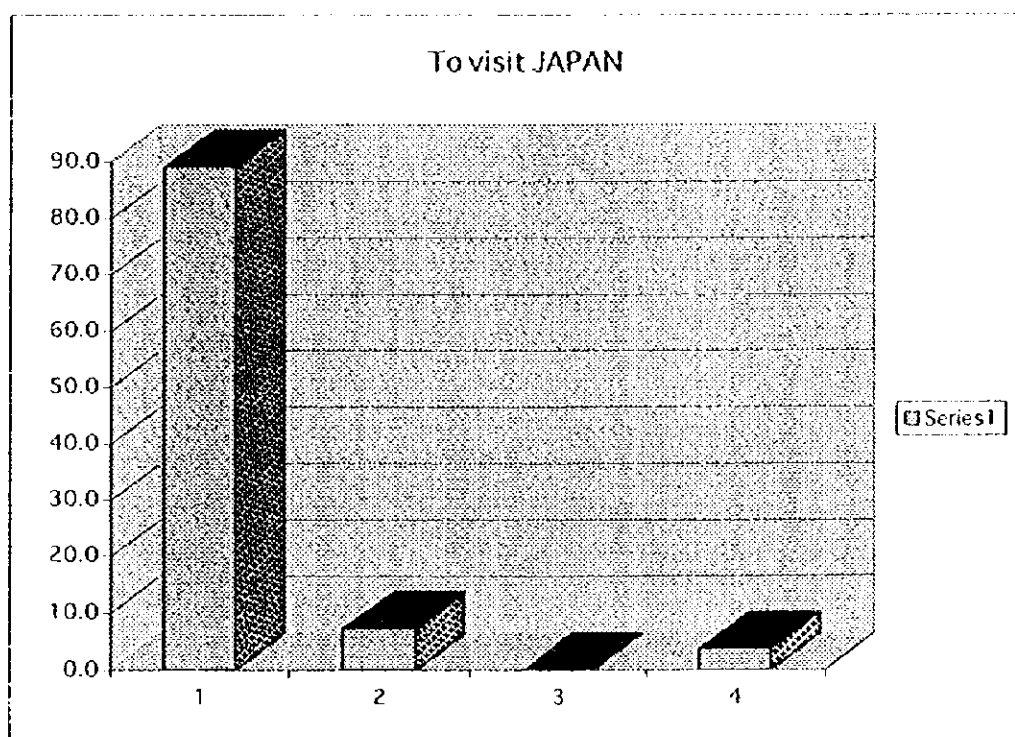


ANALYSIS QUESTION 2

What do you think about the selection process of the participants?

Most of members agree and accept selection method of ex-participants which appropriated and fair. Many members have to suggestion and improve the selection method to be more effectively in order to select proper person to exchange knowledge, tradition and social condition etc. Committee should select the person who classified in the same or near occupation in order to create the familiar among the group and spread to interested person in local area. Then, test applicants by written examination and interviewing in local area in order to create more enthusiasm. Another suggestion is to test the ability of English language communication. The core of these test is to consider the concept and degree of English language ability of participant. The core of English test is to get knowledge and details through the point. This recruitment should give chance to the external person to participate with this project.

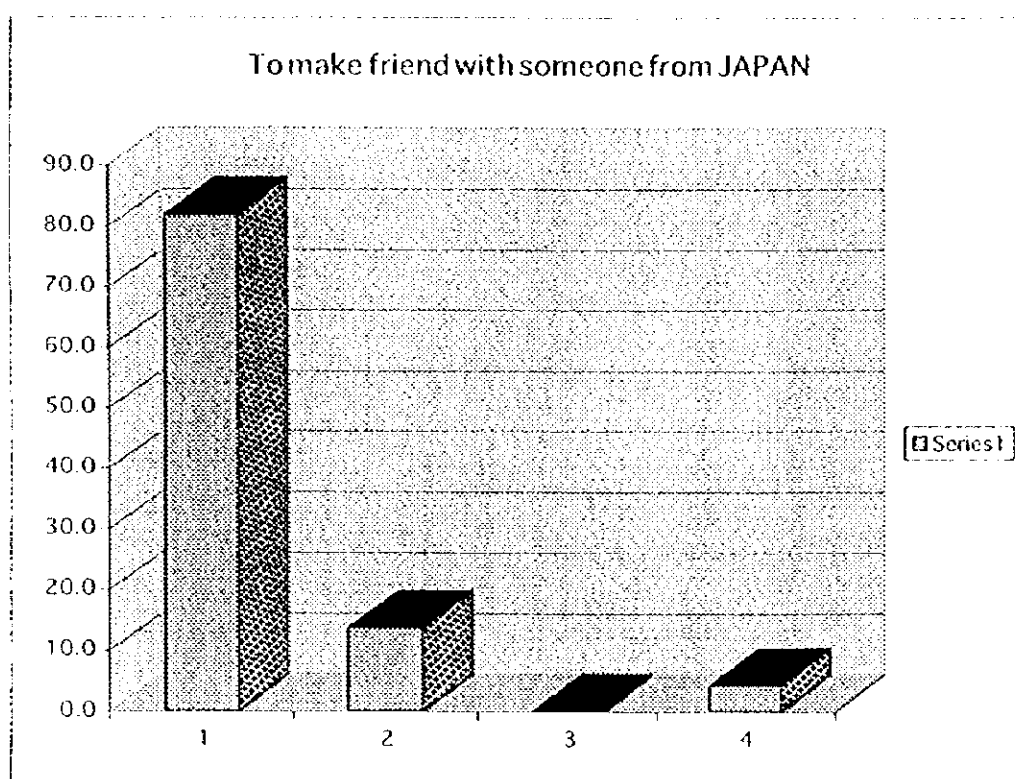
Question 3					
Why did you participate in the program?					
	A	B	C	D	
1. To visit Japan	89.1	7.2	0.0	3.6	%
2. To make friend with someone from Japan	81.9	13.8	0.0	4.3	%
3. To make friend with someone from your own country or region	62.3	29.0	3.6	5.1	%
4. Interested in international exchange program	82.6	13.0	0.0	4.3	%
5. To improve your professional knowledge	76.1	20.3	0.0	3.6	%
6. Advised by your organization	42.8	31.9	8.0	17.4	%
7. To win honor	65.2	13.0	6.5	15.2	%
Count 276 Data					



1 Agree
 2 Partly Agree
 3 Disagree
 4 No Answer

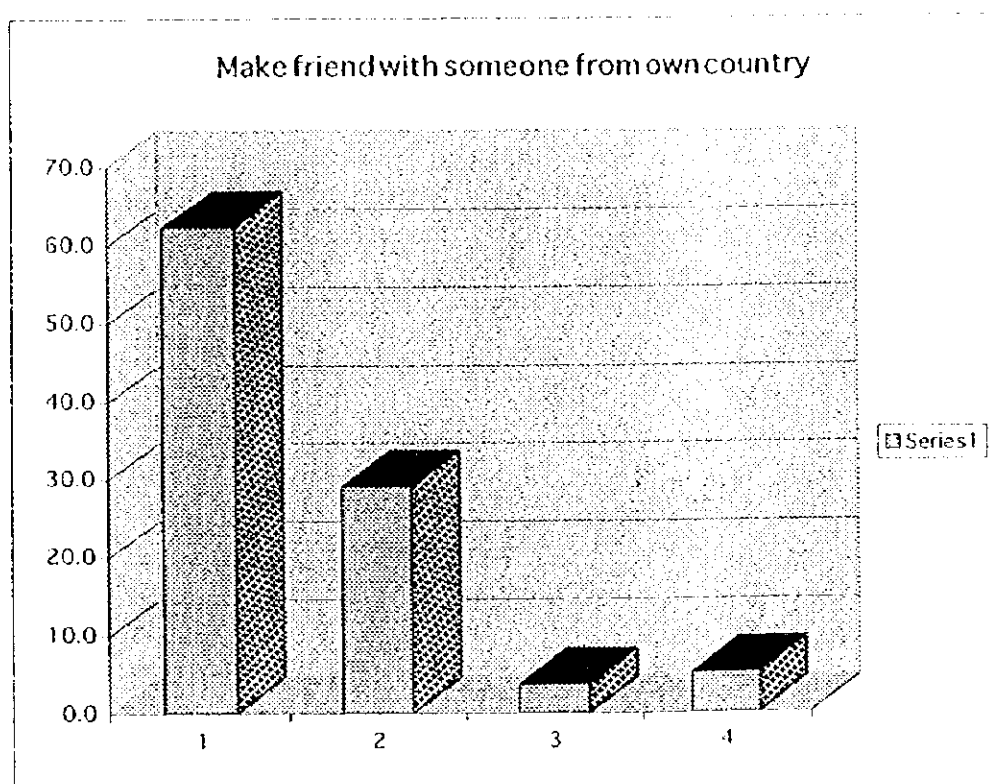
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Count 276 Data



1 Agree
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3 Disagree
4 No Answer

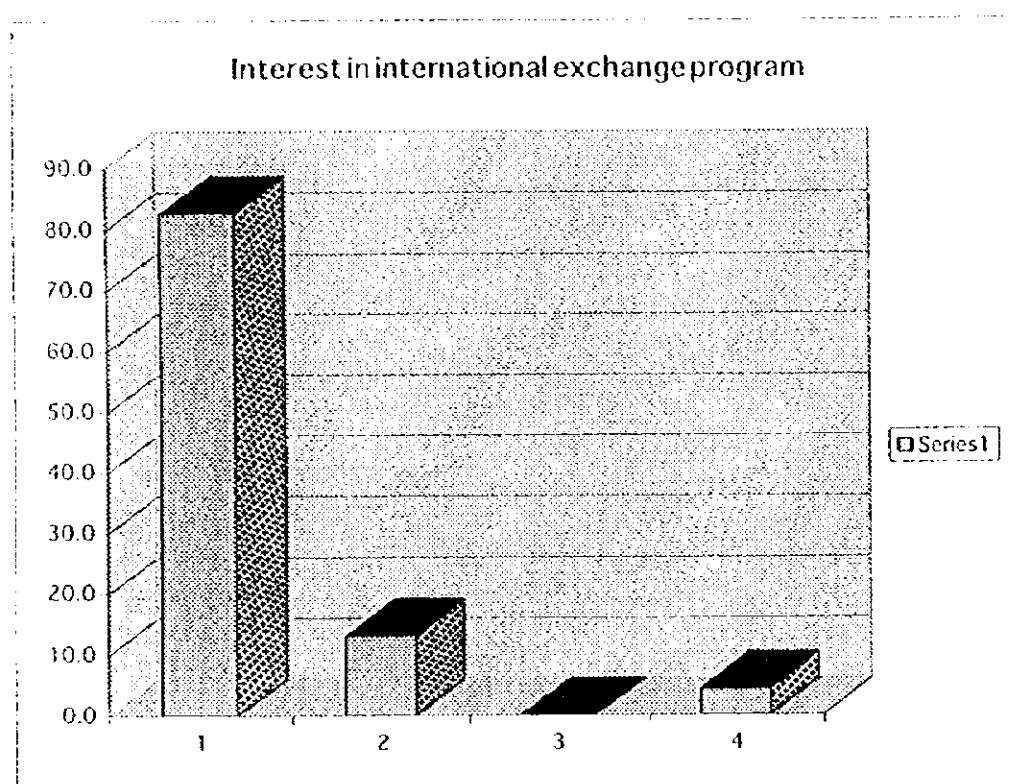
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Count 276 Data				



1 Agree
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 3 Disagree
 4 No Answer

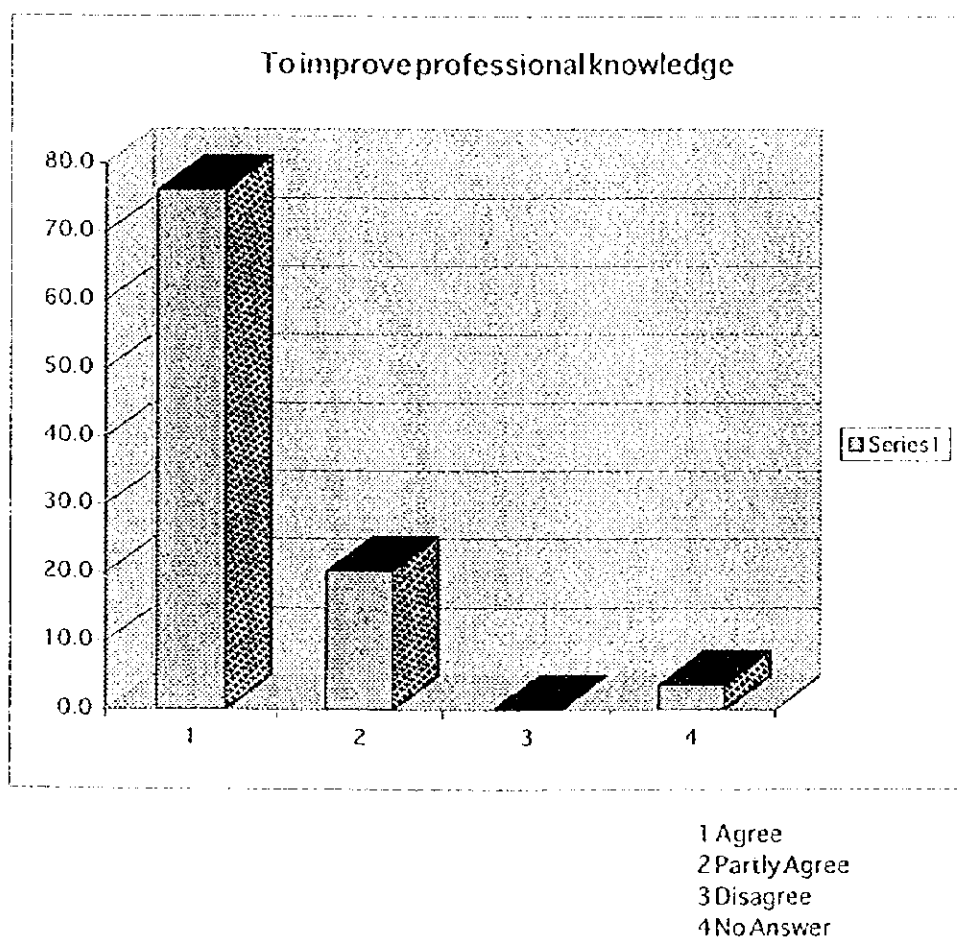
Question 3 Why did you participate in the program?				
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Count 276 Data



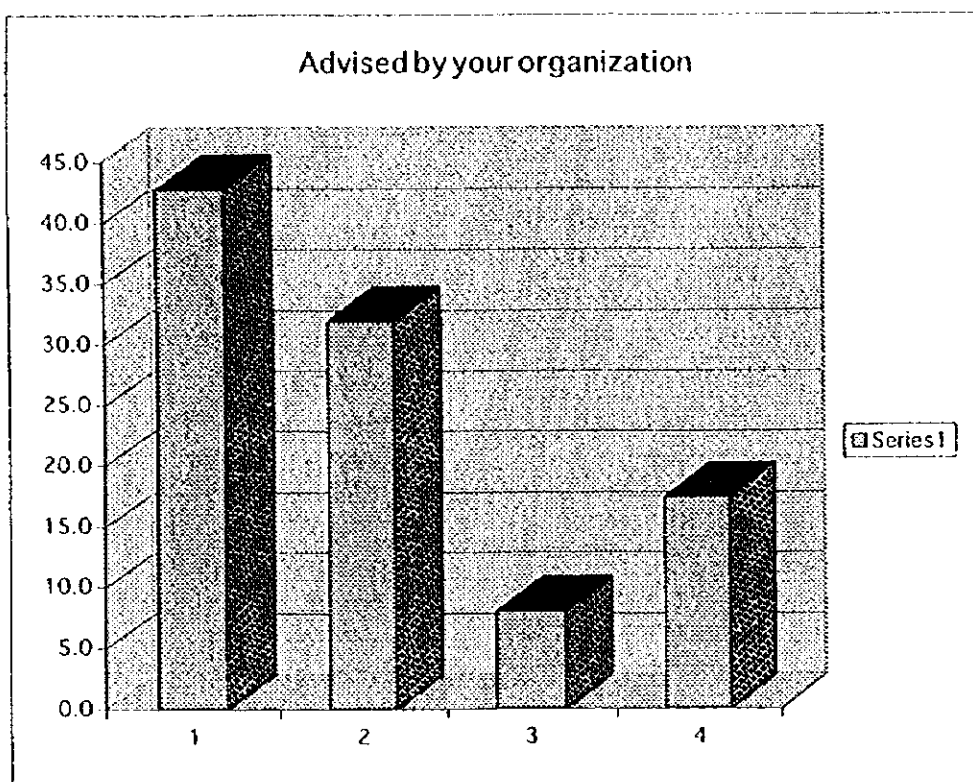
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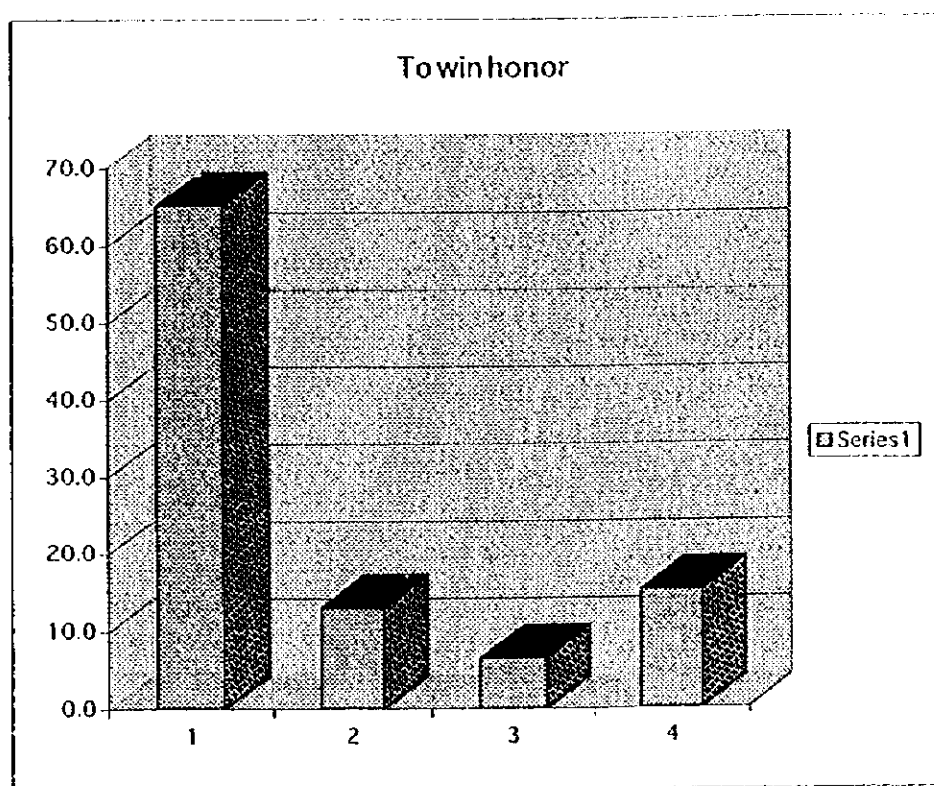
Count 276 Data



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Count 276 Data



1 Agree
2 Partly Agree
3 Disagree
4 No Answer

ANALYSIS QUESTION 3

Why did you participate in the program ?

This survey study can conclude several motivations of the respondents in joining the friendship program. The given alternatives for those motivational reasons are as follows:

- To visit Japan
- To make friends with someone from Japan
- To make friends with someone from one's own country or region
- Interested in international exchange programs
- To improve your professional knowledge
- Advised by your organization
- To win honor

From the given alternatives, about 89.1% of the respondents agreed that they participated in the program because they wanted to visit Japan, while 7.2% partly agreed.

About 81.9% of the respondents agreed that they participated in the program to make friends with someone from Japan, especially the youth, while 13.8% partly agreed and 4.3% did not answer.

And then 62.3% of the respondents agreed to participate in the program to make friends with someone from their own country or the region, while 29% partly agreed, 3.6% disagreed and 5.1% did not answer.

About 82.6% of the respondents agreed that they participated in the program because they were interested in international exchange programs, while 13.0% partly agreed and 4.3% not answer.

About 76.1% of the respondents agreed that they participated in order to improve their professional knowledge, meanwhile 20.3% partly agreed, 3.6% did not answer.

From the gathered respondents, 42.8% agreed that they participated in the program because they were advised by their respective organization, while 8% disagreed with this reason and 17.4% did not answer.

About 65.2% of the respondents agreed that they participated in the program in order to win honor, while 13% partly agreed, 6.5% disagreed and 15.2% did not answer.

From the respondents answers above, it can be concluded that in general as motivational reason 89% agreed that they participated in the program in order to visit Japan. While 82% agreed they were interested to make friends with someone from Japan, 82% agreed they were interested in international exchange program. Also friends with someone from and 76% agreed that they improve their professional

Unless the above reasons, members decide to attend this project is to know the differences of other countries. They will know and get the Thai directly. They get the knowledges and order to develop country in industrial and agricultural fields.

Nowadays, Thailand has connected to Japan more. They would like to create the good relationship and know the concepts and ideas of people who live in difference condition and feedback of people in country to the Asian countries.