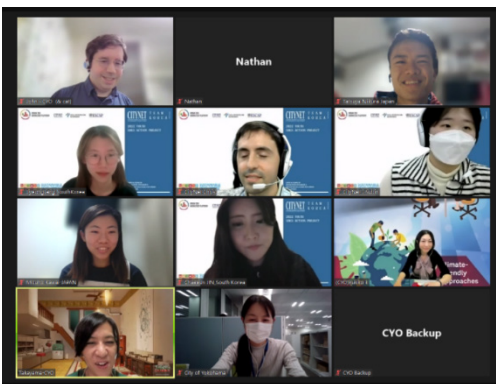


I. University and elementary students from Japan, Mongolia, and South Korea share progress on SDGs projects during direct online exchanges

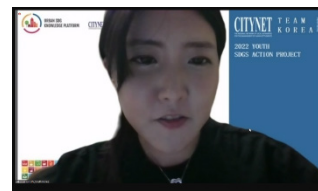
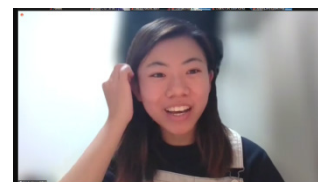
The colors of the Ukrainian flag shine on Yokohama City Hall in solidarity with Ukraine and its sister city Odesa, part of support initiatives from the city to the country and its refugees. In times of regional conflict between states, local governments have a unique opportunity to take advantage of intercity connections and networks to provide direct and indirect aid to affected peoples.

## I. University and elementary students from Japan, Mongolia, and South Korea share progress on SDGs projects during direct online exchanges

The first such program launched by the CityNet Yokohama Project Office, the **2022 Youth SDGs Action Project** will seek to inspire students to approach the SDGs as an aspect of their daily lives and encourage them to take the lead on sustainable action as future leaders.



On November 8, students from Kanagawa University in Yokohama, Japan, and from several universities in South Korea had a one-on-one online meeting to share their progress and ask for feedback and ideas from each other. While both teams are approaching inequalities in education, their

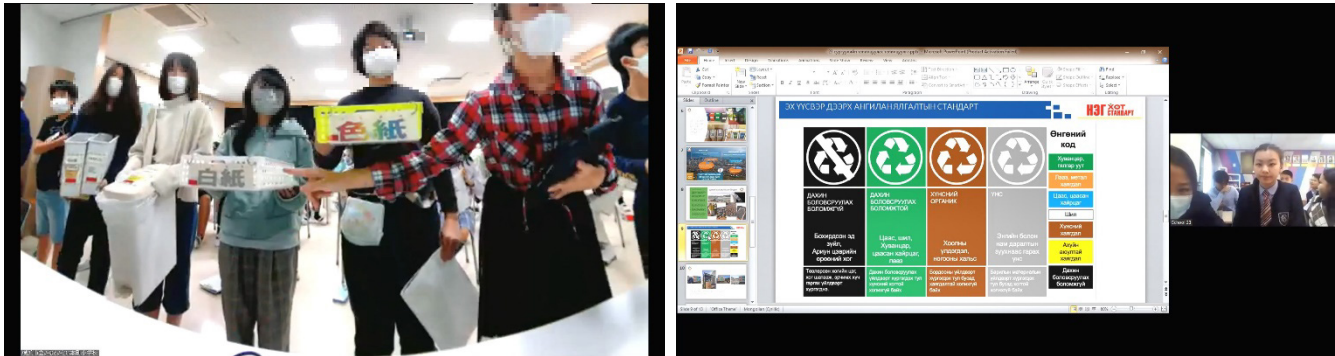


projects address different aspects within Goal 4. The Yokohama team will examine discrimination within local institutions to raise awareness of issues related to unequal treatment and encourage appropriate learning at an earlier age. On the other hand, the Korean team will draw on their in-depth research and interview educators to ultimately develop a proposal to present to local government related to how institutions could better prepare students for a more equal working society.

Later, on November 17, Minatomiraihoncho Elementary School fifth-year students from Yokohama, Japan, met online for the second time with their slightly older peers from 23rd School in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Building on the experiences from their first online exchange the previous month, this follow-up provided a keen opportunity to discover more about each other's cultures and perspectives, develop a deeper connection, as well as share their projects related to the SDGs.



Responding to the 23rd School's invitation to interact with their "Eco Club" that focuses on collecting and separating waste/recyclables and spreading awareness, Minatomiraihoncho students demonstrated how they sort garbage and reuse various kinds of paper. The Ulaanbaatar students delivered a presentation on how they are working in their school to reduce plastic waste and encourage separation. The Yokohama students were surprised that ash was its own category, and their counterparts explained that it mostly comes from the local “ger” dwellings (often referred to as “yurts” in other countries).



The Minatomiraihoncho students, who are creating a new song for their school, shared the melody and ideas behind the project, and got feedback from the Mongolian students. The song aims to incorporate the SDGs, especially the spirit of Goal 17, and may be unique for a school song in that it is intended not just to inspire school pride but to be an accessible song for everyone.

This one-year project will be supported by the International Affairs Bureau of the City of Yokohama and Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR).

International Organizations Center 5F, Pacifico-Yokohama  
 1-1-1 Minato Mirai Nishi-Ku, Yokohama, JAPAN 220-0012  
 TEL: (+81)-45-223-2161  
 E-mail: info@citynet-yh.org  
<http://www.citynet-yh.org>



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