

# Youth Dream for Constructive Achievement (YDCA Liberia)

## Update on Student Recruitment for the Liberia–Japan Pen Pal Program

### Introduction

This report provides an update on the ongoing recruitment of students for the Liberia–Japan Pen Pal Program. The initiative aims to connect Liberian and Japanese students through structured cultural and educational exchange.

### Recruitment Activities Conducted

Outreach efforts have been initiated in 23 selected schools across targeted communities. School administrators and teachers were briefed on the objectives of the program and asked to support the identification of suitable student participants.

### Student Interest and Demographics

Initial feedback from 50 students shows strong interest among students. Most of the students expressing willingness to participate fall within the age range of 10 to 18 years. Interest has been particularly strong among students who are curious about global cultures and eager to represent Liberian traditions through written communication.

### Selection Criteria and School Engagement

Teachers are assisting with the screening process to ensure recruited students demonstrate responsibility, consistency, and interest in intercultural exchange. Recruitment activities have prioritized primary, junior high, and senior high school students who are able to commit to regular participation.



## Next Steps

The following activities are scheduled as the next phase of implementation:

- Finalization of the first cohort of student participants
- Orientation sessions to prepare students for cultural exchange and communication protocols
- Coordination with partners in Japan to match students with peers
- Officially launch the program in Liberia.
- Scheduling of the first round of letter exchanges (digital and handwritten)



## Conclusion

Recruitment efforts are progressing successfully, with positive engagement from schools and high levels of student interest. The program is positioned to move into the orientation and pairing phase once the recruitment list is finalized. Continued support from school leadership and cultural advisors will further strengthen program implementation.