**CALL FOR Youth PArticipation**

# Background and Introduction

Mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) remain a threat to people’s safety, a constraint to socio-economic development, and a humanitarian problem in the ASEAN region. There are five (5) countries in ASEAN, namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, which are affected by mines/ERW as a result of wars and/or the country’s internal armed conflicts.

On the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action 2018, the United Nations Secretary-General stated, *“… In our turbulent world, mine action is a concrete step towards peace.”* This statement highlights that on-going mine action work is conducted to move towards a peaceful world. It is also an important step in raising awareness within the broader community, particularly the younger generation. As agents of peace, youth should also be involved in efforts to raise awareness. The role of youth in peacebuilding is acknowledged under the UN umbrella mainly through the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (UNSCR 2250) – the first resolution on youth, peace and security, which was adopted in 2015 to emphasise the importance of youth as agents of change in the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.

The ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) is pleased to announce the **call for youth participants** from ASEAN University Students to join the Commemoration of Mine Awareness Day: *“Raising Mines/ERW Awareness for Peace, Stability and Resilience in ASEAN through Youth Participation”,* which will be held on 3-4 April 2019. ARMAC will collaborate with *Association internationale des étudiants en sciences économiques et commerciales* (AIESEC) – the world’s largest youth organisation, to organise the event. Additionally, the Government of Norway, the Royal Government of Thailand, Clearing for Results Project, and the Government of Ireland will provide funding support for this commemoration.

# Application and Selection Process

Applications are open for undergraduate students from universities in ASEAN Member States. **A full sponsorship (i.e. return flights from/to home countries, accommodation, per diem, meals and field trip)** will be provided for **three students from each ASEAN Member State** to attend this two-day event in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Please refer to the following criteria for applicants:

1. The Candidate must be 18-25 years old at the time of submission.
2. The Candidate must be enrolled in at least the second year of an undergraduate programme at a university in an ASEAN Member State (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam).
3. The Candidate must provide a letter of enrolment from the university, a copy of their grade point average (GPA), and a copy of their passport (with at least six-month validity at the days of the event).
4. The Candidate must submit either (i) Artwork(s) with a 250 word maximum explanation describing the main theme of the work and its meaning. (e.g. photograph, posters, painting[[1]](#footnote-1), animation, or video), OR (ii) Essay, of 500 words maximum, regarding **the effects of mines/ERW and/or efforts to address them** **in ASEAN**; Some submission examples are; a painting portraying the dangers of mines/ERW on local communities, a photo capturing the impact of mine/ERW on human lives, an essay discussing the history of mine action in an ASEAN state, an essay examining how ASEAN countries could work towards reducing the problems of mines/ERW. etc
5. The Candidate must also submit a 250 word maximum plan of action on how he/she will raise mines/ERW awareness for peace, stability and resilience in ASEAN to their peers/networks/universities/communities via digital/social media or direct interaction. He/she will be given 30 days from the conclusion of the event to implement the plan of action and submit evidence of completion to ARMAC.
6. The Candidate shall fill out an online registration form and submit the above-mentioned artworks and/or essays to <http://mad2019.aseanmineaction.org/> by **Friday, 15 March 2019**. Selected Candidates will be announced by **Tuesday, 19 March 2019.**
7. The Candidate may contact info@aseanmineaction.org, if she/he has issues using the online submission system or if there are any other inquiries. The subject of the email shall be “**Commemoration of 2019 International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action**”.

# Entry and Selection Rules

1. The artwork(s) (with its explanation) OR Essay must clearly address **the effects of mines/ERW and/or efforts to address them** **in ASEAN.** If the Candidate submits a video, it should have a duration of 60 seconds with English audio, or include English subtitles if there is audio in a different language. All other documents (explanation or essay) shall be written and submitted in English.
2. Entries depicting violence, sexism, racism, or other inappropriate content such as smoking, drinking, or other vices, including messaging deemed to advocate curtailment of the rights of others, will be disqualified.
3. The artwork and/or essay must be an original work created solely by the Candidate. It must not infringe on copyright; trademarks; or the rights of privacy, publicity, or intellectual property rights of any person or entity.
4. By submitting the artwork and/or essay, the Candidates agree to grant ARMAC and its partners in this event permission to publish those artworks and/or essays with appropriate attribution (*published including your name*).

# Prizes

**Three students from each ASEAN Member State** will be selected and given a full sponsorship which includes **return flights to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from the capital of their (ASEAN) home countries, accommodation, per diem and meals**. The selected candidate/s from Cambodia will also be given a full sponsorship which includes **return bus tickets to Phnom Penh from his/her hometown,** **accommodation, per diem and meals**. All selected candidates will have the opportunity to visit the training centre and physical rehabilitation centre to learn about the effects of mines/ERW and/or efforts to address them in Cambodia. An optional city tour will be arranged by ARMAC which will visit some of Cambodia’s main tourist attractions and provide a brief insight into Cambodia’s history and culture.

Selected Candidates will also gain valuable experience from attending the seminar, which will be arranged and conducted in the same manner that ARMAC hosts its professional mine action seminars. Certificates will be handed-over by H.E. Mr. Panyarak Poolthup, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Chair of Steering Committee of ARMAC, and and H.E. Mr. Morten Høglund, the Ambassador of Norway to ASEAN. This will provide evidence of their achievement in providing one of the best submissions in ASEAN.

All artworks and/or essays submitted by the successful applicants will be published during the event and in digital media with credit given to the Candidates for their work.

# Contact Information

Should you require more information please message ARMAC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ASEANMineAction/>, or contact ARMAC at info@aseanmineaction.org

1. Candidate may submit the photo of the painting, and bring the painting with her/him to the event, if selected. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)