

Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

Report Form

Date of report November 28, 2018
 Name of municipality Fuji City, Shizuoka Prefecture
 Name of country Japan

Title of peace education initiative	War Exhibition for Peace 2018 in Fuji
The initiative was implemented by (Choose one ✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO (Fuji Citizens Group for Peace and the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons) <input type="checkbox"/> Joint initiative by:
Theme/Aim	<i>(Example: Nuclear disarmament/terrorism/violence)</i> Raising awareness of peace, advocating for the elimination of nuclear weapons, passing down war memories
Participants (age, school grade, number, etc.)	<i>(Example: 60 children (12-year-old) + 30 adults (parents and people in the community))</i> About 1,900 citizens from Fuji City
Location	Rose Theatre Exhibition Room, Fuji Cultural Civic Center
Date(s) of initiative	August 10 to 15, 2018 (six days) * Held annually in August <i>*If it is an initiative held regularly, please tell us when it started and how frequently it is held.</i>
Please answer the questions below clearly and concisely.	
1. Please describe the initiative. For classroom lectures and events, please provide a timeline of the event. For other types of initiatives, such as a competition, please describe the process in detail.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This exhibition is held to convey the reality of war and the preciousness of peace. • Exhibited items are actual wartime artifacts and relics that tell us the horrors of war, as well as photos, books, and pictures that depict the wartime. • During the event period, war survivors living in Fuji City gave a talk on their wartime experience in the exhibition room every day. • The host organization promoted the event, targeting high schools in Fuji. As a result, a total of 62 students (from four high schools) joined as volunteer workers at the exhibition venue. 	
2. Please tell us about the response from participants.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of visitors was 1,931 this year. Since this event was held during the summer holidays, elementary school children were seen visiting with their mothers. They intently listened to their mothers explaining about exhibition items. • The following are comments from visitors. <p>“Although I studied about the war in school, I learned more through exhibited items that I had never seen before. I came to know the hardships of A-bomb sufferers and their emotional damage, which will be never cured.” (A 15-year-old)</p> <p>“I visited the exhibition with my daughter as a part of her summer homework. I hope that my daughter, who knows nothing about war, will learn something from the exhibition and think about peace. I hope this exhibition will continue for years to convey wartime stories to young people.” (A 38-year-old)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A female high school student, who served as a volunteer staff member during the whole exhibition period, made the following comment: “I helped this event as a volunteer because I do believe that our generation should learn about the reality of war. I hope to do my part to convey the importance of peace to the following generations.” 	

3. Please tell us about positive outcomes that resulted from the initiative.

- The exhibition, which marked its 31st anniversary this year, attracts many people every year. In the past, it attracted nearly as many as 4,000 visitors.
- Since the host organization promoted this exhibition through the Fuji City Board of Education, 43% of the visitors were teenagers. This event contributes to raising awareness of peace among those of the young generation who know nothing about war.
- War survivors who have a connection with Fuji City have had limited places to speak about their experiences publicly. This event serves as one of these places and also helps people to know about such survivors, leading to more opportunities for them to give a talk at elementary and junior high schools in Fuji. Their field of activity is expanding now.

4. Please tell us about the challenges encountered in the initiative if any.

The largest number of visitors were teenagers (43%) followed by those in their 60's (22%). We need to consider how to raise awareness of peace among the generation of young people's parents.

5. Please identify any materials used in the initiative (books, videos, slideshow, etc.).

Real artifacts, reference books, photos, pictures, and materials that are compilations of testimonies of war survivors.

6. May the Mayors for Peace Secretariat post the material mentioned in Question 5 on its website? (if there are no copyright or other problems in sharing them publicly)

Yes *Please attach the material(s). No Don't know.

If you would like to submit photos and other materials, please send them in a separate file.



Actual war artifacts and documents



Visitors (families)



Visitors are mostly teenagers.