

# Asia

## Constellation: APME South Asia C2

Japan, Korea



### NEEDS

Continent: **Asia**

Constellation: **APME South Asia C2**

Country: **Japan**

#### Cry of the Earth

- air pollution from power plant emissions results in acid rain
- acidification of lakes and reservoirs degrading water quality and threatening aquatic life
- Japan is one of the largest consumers of fish and tropical timber, contributing to the depletion of these resources in Asia and elsewhere
- waste management is an ongoing issue
- Japanese municipal facilities used to burn high volumes of trash, but air pollution issues forced the government to adopt an aggressive recycling policy

#### Cry of the Poor

- Levels of poverty are rising and the middle class is eroding. Inflation and a rise in the cost of living are impacting lower income people. The number of children in poverty is rising.
- Japan's "Foreign Technical Intern Training Program" is meant to recruit more foreign workers—many from Southeast Asia—amid a chronic labor shortage
  - program has drawn criticism for human rights violations, including payment of sub-minimum wages, illegal overtime, forced return of whistleblowers to their home countries, and dangerous or unhygienic working conditions

Continent: **Asia**

Constellation: **APME South Asia C2**

Country: **South Korea**

#### Cry of the Earth

- air pollution in large cities
- acid rain; water pollution from the discharge of sewage and industrial effluents
- drift net fishing
- solid waste disposal

### Commitments

Following the 21ST UISG Plenary Assembly theme, “Sowers of Prophetic Hope”, the UISG APME C2 8TH Korea-Japan gathering of Superiors General decided on the following communal action items to sow seeds of hope as consecrated women living the prophetic vocation.

1. Aiming at practicing “Laudato Si”
  - 1) Practice power-saving aimed at not using nuclear power once/month.
  - 2) Together keeping a community “off day” every month.
2. Aiming at realizing peace
  - 1) Implement a peace learning experience with Okinawa for young Korean and Japanese women religious for 4 nights and 5 days.
  - 2) Share the urgent prayer intentions of Japan and Korea.
3. Vocation to care for all creatures
  - 1) Choose a lifestyle reducing carbon emissions, and actively promote and practice this so that the Church and society can do it together.
  - 2) Each Institute determines a person dedicated to JPIC activity, and promotes ongoing solidarity and education.
4. Call to intercultural living
  - 1) Live a intercultural life with persons of different ethnicity, language, religion and culture.

- transboundary pollution

Cry of the Poor

- rising inequality
- poverty among the elderly
- high youth unemployment
- long working hours
- low worker productivity

2) Live a life aiming for communal consent through honest dialogue and fellowship based on faith within the Synodality

5. Vocation to NE Asia peace and reconciliation

1) Continuing to pray for the peace and reconciliation of NE Asia and the Korean Peninsula, and for overcoming the division and discord of Korea.

2) Participate actively in solidarity, pilgrimages and education connected to the peace and reconciliation of NE Asia.