**—Survey on Sylff Support Programs—**

The Tokyo Foundation currently administers two support programs: Sylff Research Abroad (SRA) and Sylff Leadership Initiatives (SLI). We would like to know what fellows think of these programs and how they may be modified or expanded to better fit their needs and expectations. We look forward to hearing your candid views.

Also, the Sylff program will mark its 30th anniversary in 2017, and on this occasion, the Tokyo Foundation plans to launch a number of new Sylff support programs to enhance the attractiveness and usefulness of the fellowship program. Although many programs will primarily be intended for graduated fellows, you will soon be eligible for the program after graduation. Therefore, we are interested in learning what current recipients would appreciate in additional support as they consider their career prospects.

First please tell us about yourself, and then proceed to Survey I about SRA and SLI and to Survey II on new programs currently under consideration. Please return this form to **leadership@tkfd.or.jp** by **January 10, 2017.**

**About Yourself**

* Your name:
* Sylff institution

* Expected degree: Year:
* Your major is in the **(1) social sciences**, **(2) humanities,** **(3)professional-oriented training (e.g. MBA, LLM)** (write number: )

Your concentration:

* The thrust of your degree is **(1) traditional discipline (history, literature, philosophy, political science, economics, sociology etc.), (2) inter- or multidisciplinary studies** (write number: )
* You intend to pursue a career as a **(1) academician,** **(2) other** (write number: )

Desired occupation:

**Survey I**

* **Sylff Research Abroad**

The Tokyo Foundation currently administers “Sylff Research Abroad” (SRA) to support academic research related to fellows’ doctoral dissertation in a foreign country. How much interest do you have in this support program? How could it be modified to better suit your needs? Please let us know what you think. (Detailed information on SRA is available at <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/sylff/support_programs/sra/call-for-applications>.)

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for an SRA award?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

* **Sylff Leadership Initiatives**

The Tokyo Foundation currently administers “Sylff Leadership Initiatives” (SLI) to support Sylff fellows wishing to undertake social action projects or to organize a conference/workshop addressing social issues. How much interest do you have in this support program? How could it be modified to better suit your needs? Please let us know what you think. (Detailed information on SLI is available at <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/sylff/support_programs/sli/call-for-applications>.)

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for an SLI award?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

**Survey II**

Ideas for five new programs are presented below, categorized into **(1) academic support**, **(2)** **support for social engagement**, and **(3) skill development and networking**. Please read the descriptions of the program(s) in each category and provide your candid comments to each.

**(1) Academic Support**

* **New Support Program A**[[1]](#footnote-1)

**[Name]** Sylff Sabbatical Support

**[Objective]** Financiallysupport Sylff fellows’ research during their sabbatical

**[Program description]** The Tokyo Foundation will compensate the difference between a fellow’s regular salary and his/her salary during the sabbatical period because his/her salary during sabbatical is usually lower than regular salary. The Foundation will also cover travel expenses if the fellow hopes to conduct research at a distant destination. Depending on actual living costs, the Foundation may also provide living expenses during the research period.

**[Award amount]** Up to US$50,000

**[Number of awards]** Two or three awards per year[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for the above program?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

* **New Support Program B**

**[Name]** Sylff Postdoctoral Award

**[Objective]** Help postdoctoral fellows produce research outputs that contribute to academic advancement

**[Program description]** The Tokyo Foundation will provide awards to postdoctoral fellows enabling them to focus on their research at critical junctures in their academic careers.

**[Award amount]** US$30,000–$40,000 per year

**[Number of awards]** 10 awards per year

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for the above program?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

* **New Support Program C**

**[Name]** Sylff Social Innovation Research Award

**[Objective]** Promote innovative research aligned with the Sylff mission of resolving social issues by transcending differences and overcoming obstacles.

**[Program description]** Support fellows’ advanced multidisciplinary research that will lead to tangible social innovations and changes.

**[Award amount]** US$10,000–$20,000

**[Number of award]** Two or three awards per year

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for the above program? (check one)

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

**(2) Support for Social Engagement**

* **New Support Program D**

**[Name]** Young Leaders Award

**[Objective]** Acknowledge fellows whose actions have made significant contributions to bringing about positive social change

**[Program description]** Young fellows who are expected to become leaders of tomorrow and have taken the initiative to make a positive social impact will be honored by the Sylff community. The award is intended to enable the winner to undertake further social initiatives on a greater scale. An award ceremony will be held in conjunction with the global meeting of Sylff program administrators.

**[Award]** US$100,000

**[Number of awards]** One award every three or four years

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in becoming a recipient or nominator for this award?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

**(3)Skill Development and Networking**

* **New Support Program E**

**[Name]** Sylff Leadership Workshop

**[Objective]** Fellows committed to social betterment will apply their leadership skills to addressing key challenges confronting contemporary society.

**[Program description]** This program will be for mid-career fellows with professional experience, either in action- or policy-oriented fields. Approximately 20 Sylff fellows from around the world will be invited to participate in the program spanning 12 to 18 months. During these months, fellows will attend two or three workshops in different countries (Duration of each workshop is one week). Workshops will consist of lectures, discussions, experience learning, group work, etc. A number of topics will be selected for focused and in-depth discussion during group work, while all topics, along with an overriding theme, will be addressed at the plenaries. Outputs will consist of oral presentations about one’s mission and roadmap and publication of the conclusions of each group.

**Questions**

(1) Would you be interested in applying for the above program?

1. Very interested

2. Interested

3. Not interested

4. Not relevant

**Write number**:

(2) Please offer any comments, if any, on the program. How could it be modified or expanded to better suit your needs?

(3) What social issues would you like the workshop to address?

**Survey III**

**Sylff association**

The Tokyo Foundation is considering launching an association that will pool the resources of the global Sylff community to benefit fellows each other in tangible ways. In principle, the Tokyo Foundation expects that all Sylff fellows will be members of the association. Specific functions of the association will be the following:

* The association will facilitate networking and friendship building, and provide opportunities for gathering etc. among Sylff fellows.
* The Tokyo Foundation will also be a part of the association that works as organization to administer support programs for Sylff fellows who are members of the association
* It is also envisioned that the association will function, in the future, as a worldwide network through which fellows can propose a project with a social mission and solicit both ideas and support (monetary, in-kind, voluntary service, etc.) from other fellows and from the Tokyo Foundation. The association welcomes fellows to support to such a project as project member, participant, donor etc.

Sylff fellows’ involvement in the association can be flexible depending on their interest and need.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Question**

Please offer any comments on the proposal. How can the Foundation design the network so as to maximize the usefulness of the resources in the global Sylff community?

**IV Your comment**

The Foundation is now taking steps to radically enhance our research capabilities with the goal of emerging as one of the world’s top public policy think tanks. We hope to create greater synergies between our leadership development and research activities. Please offer any suggestions you may have to promote linkages with the advanced policy research of the Tokyo Foundation (refer also to the cover letter)

If you have any comments not mentioned in the above survey or have ideas for new programs and activities, please feel free to write here.

1. The program is only an idea at this point, and whether or not it will be implemented will be determined later (as with all other proposals). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The amount and number of awards are provisional (as with all other proposals). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The association mentioned above is tentatively named and is not so called “local association” which is organized and administered at some Sylff institutions. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)