

Call for Virtual Missions for YSAP, 2021

Last date for submission of proposals: 31 August 2021

1. Contacts
<p>YSAP working group co-leads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - David Fernandez Rivas d.fernandezrivas@utwente.nl - Chandra Shekhar Sharma cssharma@iith.ac.in
2. Who is eligible to apply?
<p>All GYA members, irrespective of whether they are a member of the YSAP working group. Two GYA members, one from a developing country, the other from a developed country, can apply for a mission. Missions are non-traditional; that is, interactions occur between two countries that are at different stages of scientific development, or between two countries that historically have had minimal scientific contact. GYA members travel between developed and developing countries, transferring expertise and knowledge and otherwise increasing engagement between nations of different scientific development.</p>
Reasoning to propose electronic missions
<p>We believe that the YSAP should not stay with arms crossed, and despite the travel restrictions, which most of our members have due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an opportunity to stay active and keep the GYA members active. In fact, with possible reduced budget in virtual missions, we may support more such efforts. Two virtual missions organized in 2020 set up an example for the YSAP virtual missions.</p>
3. What is the issue you want to address with the YSAP virtual missions?
<p>We want to introduce an alternative to the traditional missions that should require very little funding, but can lead to significant positive outcomes. Instead of a GYA member traveling to another member's location, we propose to have the closest possible to a "mission" without the actual movement of people. For this, we propose two alternatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic mission 2. Activity/experiment mission
4. How does it work?
<p>1. Basic mission</p> <p>Here, it will be basically a lecture/tutorial planned between two GYA members, that will be around the expertise of the "outgoing" member (e-traveling) and "receiving". The topic and</p>

the assessment of the expected impact or results is left to the two parts, “outgoing” and “receiving”.

2. Activity/experiment mission

This case has the same basis as the Basic mission, but with the addition of a “practical” activity. This activity can be (not limited to):

- Giving a tutorial or practicum, where an actual experiment is performed with the supervision of the “outgoing” member. See example further down.
- Performing field work with the guidance of outgoing and receiving ends.
- The mission does not necessarily need to be performed in “one day”. This can help accommodate more interactions and grow a stronger relationship between GYA members.

We believe that, based on the experiences we will have, this mission modality can remain, even after lockdowns and travel restrictions are lifted.

There are several advantages:

1. More missions can be accommodated with limited budget (shipping costs, small consumables for lab work, simple catering, etc.)
2. One mission can be “replicated” with another GYA members team
3. Members with family obligations, or super-busy agendas can have a better chance to participate (avoiding long travels, visa procedures, etc.)

5. Is there a more concrete example?

Yes!

Virtual YSAP Missions 2020

After a call to the GYA membership in August 2020, the group chose two proposals for online missions in 2020. [Pradeep Kumar](#) (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) and [Filippo Rossi](#) (Politecnico di Milano, Italy) collaborated to introduce their students to advanced molecular mechanics simulation techniques. Their YSAP mission included a virtual tour of both their labs.

[Chandra Shekhar Sharma](#) (Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad, India) and [David Fernandez Rivas](#) (University of Twente, Netherlands) conducted a tutorial and experiment with ultrasound jointly with both their teams.

<https://globalyoungacademy.net/ysap-goes-virtual-india-netherlands-mission/>

- ⇒ For each virtual mission, a mission report, and any potential outcomes, will be produced and shared on the YSAP website, in the same way as it has been done for previous YSAP in-person missions.

6. Budget

Most suggested online interactions will not need extra funds. However, up to 500 Euros can be available for each mission. Funds will be allocated based on a draft mission budget provided by the applicants. Funds can be used for, e.g., video chat infrastructure, joint pizza, sending materials for experiments, etc.

7. How to apply?

To propose a Virtual YSAP mission, two GYA members (one from a developing country, one from a developed country) should submit their proposal, detailing their proposed mission (up to 2 pages). A draft budget must be included if YSAP funds will be needed to run the mission. Deadline for submitting your proposal is **31 August 2021**.

Proposals should be submitted to the YSAP co-leads, David (d.fernandezrivas@utwente.nl) and Chandra (chans2k2@gmail.com) via email.

The proposals will then be reviewed by an internal YSAP committee composed of five YSAP members, including alumni, who will not submit a mission proposal themselves. The committee will elaborate on the ranking rules, and will communicate a decision to the applicants.