

Get to know ABIJ



The Associação Brasileira de Intercâmbio de Jovens (ABIJ) plays a pivotal role in enhancing and promoting the Rotary Youth Exchange Program (RYEP) in Brazil. Its establishment in 2001 marked a significant step towards unifying and strengthening the efforts of Brazilian districts in offering youth exchange opportunities. ABIJ officially started in 2001, after some years with annual YEO meetings that happened since 1990. It was incorporated in 2008.

This comprehensive overview explores the functions, objectives, and structure of ABIJ, alongside the impact of the RYEP in Brazil, emphasizing its importance in fostering international understanding, cultural exchange, and personal development among young people.

Objectives of ABIJ

ABIJ's mission is multifaceted, focusing on enhancing the RYEP's effectiveness and reach. Its objectives include:

- National Meeting

Coordination: Organizing national meetings for RYEP leaders to ensure cohesive planning and execution.

- Promotion and Publicity:

Increasing awareness of RYEP among Brazilian and international authorities.

- Inter-District Cooperation:

Facilitating partnerships among Brazilian districts to strengthen the program.

- Collaboration and

Partnerships: Working with private and public sectors to expand RYEP's visibility and impact.

- RYEP Promotion:

Advocating for RYEP at both national and international events related to Rotary.

- Social and Educational

Activities: Engaging in projects that support ABIJ's social, educational, and cultural missions.

Importance for Rotary The Youth Exchange Program aligns with Rotary's broader goals, such as:

- Promoting peace and understanding.

- Enhancing Rotary's public image and membership.

- Supporting The Rotary Foundation and its initiatives.

- Encouraging youth involvement and leadership.

- Fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion.

- Establishing networks of alumni and Rotex associations.

- Empowering young individuals.





ABIJ Structure

ABIJ's organizational structure is designed to support its wide-ranging objectives efficiently:

- Board of Directors: Oversees strategic and operational decisions.
- Supervisory Board: Monitors governance and compliance.
- Advisory Board: Provides insights based on past presidents' experiences.
- Regional Directors: Manage local implementation and coordination.
- Committees: Focus on specific areas such as international relations, IT, alumni engagement, events, training, and more.

Importance and Benefits

The RYEP offers immeasurable benefits, facilitating cultural exchange, personal growth, and the development of leadership skills. Participants become ambassadors of their cultures, gain independence, and are empowered to contribute positively to global understanding and peace.

RYEP in Brazil: Pre and Post-Pandemic Data

- Pre-Pandemic: Annually, 8,000 students worldwide, with Brazil hosting 800.
- Post-Pandemic: A decrease to 6,000 worldwide, with Brazil's participation halving to 400.



Peace Day Initiative

ABIJ's commitment to fostering peace is exemplified through its promotion of Peace Day, engaging exchange students in community service, thereby enhancing their exchange experience and impact.

Conclusion

ABIJ's role in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program underscores a deep commitment to youth development, international understanding, and cultural exchange. Through its structured approach and dedicated efforts, ABIJ not only enriches the lives of young participants but also contributes significantly to the global Rotary community's objectives of fostering peace, understanding, and cooperation across borders.