ENVEST Sri Lanka is looking for youth sport organizations in Sri Lanka to send representatives to the United States for training in youth leadership and positive social change through sport.

What: A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to receive training, visit youth sport organizations in the United States (U.S.), and develop action plans to improve your own organization and community.

This program begins with delegates visiting the U.S. for training and to develop action plans that can be led by youth team members back in Sri Lanka. Several months later, the training team from the U.S. will visit Sri Lanka to follow up, support action plans, and provide additional training. The goal is that youth sport organizations, with youth leadership, develop intentional strategies for promoting positive youth development and social change through sport.

When: We hope to bring Sri Lankan delegates to the U.S. from April 22 to April 28, 2018. The U.S. training team will then follow up with a visit to Sri Lanka in August 2018.

Where: The U.S. training will be based at Northern Illinois University which is near Chicago. The follow up training in August may be offered in or near Colombo.

Who: We hope to work with five different youth sport organizations in this program. We are recruiting teams of five individuals from each organization. Teams should be made up of one adult leader from the organization (coach/administrator) and four actively engaged youth (15-18 years old) who have demonstrated leadership potential. Two of the youth should be male and two should be female. Across the team of five, the ethnic make-up of the organization’s service area should be represented. In the event that some of the youth are unable to attend, organizations will also identify alternates.

How: A full organizational application packet is available and can be found online at http://cedu.niu.edu/knpe/outreach/index.shtml

In order to be eligible for the ENVEST program, adult team leaders need to be proficient in English and submit all application materials in English. Application packets should be submitted electronically to Dr. Paul Wright at pwright@niu.edu by February 16, 2018. Applications will be reviewed by February 28, 2018. For organizations that demonstrate high potential, there will be a screening process conducted by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy at Colombo. Individual delegates from organizations that are ultimately invited to participate will need to present a valid passport photo/bio data page, sit for a J-1 visa interview and be approved by the Consular Agent at the U.S. Embassy at Colombo.

For more information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/ENVESTSRILANKA/ or http://cedu.niu.edu/knpe/outreach/index.shtml