

About ASEF

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development.

ASEF is a not-for-profit intergovernmental organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia- Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

www.asef.org

About ASEM

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation bringing together the 28 European Union member states, 2 other European countries and the European Union with 21 Asian countries and the ASEAN Secretariat. The ASEM dialogue addresses political, economic and cultural issues, with the objective of strengthening the relationship between our two regions, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

53 ASEM Members: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, Viet Nam, the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Union.

www.aseminfoboard.org



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CULTURE

ASEF promotes various forms of cultural cooperation between Asia and Europe including **policy dialogue**, **bi-regional networks** and **artistic collaborations**. It fosters sustainable partnerships between arts organisations, while also facilitating **dialogue between the arts sector and government agencies**. ASEF enables wider public access to information on arts and culture through the **online portals** of ASEF culture360 and the Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS).

www.asef.org/projects/themes/culture



EDUCATION

ASEF contributes to **education policy dialogue** and facilitates **youth networks**. Through interdisciplinary and pragmatic approaches as well as the integration of ICT as an essential component, ASEF's education projects strengthen **collaboration between education institutions**, **exchange among young people** and **link them to the ASEM Education Process** and ASEM Leaders' Meetings.

www.asef.org/projects/themes/education



PUBLIC HEALTH

The ASEM Initiative for the Rapid Containment of Pandemic Influenza was launched in 2009 by ASEM leaders to **combat the Influenza A (H1N1)** and **possible human influenza pandemics**. ASEF's work is designed to create a **platform to address public health issues** across Asia and Europe, and to **build up a stockpile of anti-viral drugs** and personal protective equipment.

www.asef.org/projects/themes/public-health



ECONOMY

ASEF addresses both **current economic concerns** and **long-term trends** impacting Asian and European economies. These activities connect representatives from governments, think-tanks, academia, civil society organisations, the private sector, and international agencies to develop **policy recommendations for ASEM leaders**.

www.asef.org/projects/themes/economy



GOVERNANCE

Respect for human rights, rule of law, effective participation and accountability of public institutions are key areas for good governance. Asia and Europe have much to benefit from sharing information and **exchanging best practices** from their respective legal, judicial and political frameworks. ASEF encourages **dialogue between government and civil society** representatives through its programmes on **human rights** and **public diplomacy**.

www.asef.org/projects/themes/governance



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Reflecting priorities and needs from stakeholders at international, regional, and national levels, ASEF's sustainable development and environment programmes focus on the **global debate on the post-2015 development agenda**, and **climate change policy and practices**. ASEF contributes through multi-national **research**, **case study projects**, **consultations**, **capacity-building** and **training** activities.

www.asef.org/projects/themes/sustainable-development