

## EXPERTS' MEETING

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP & YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

### Re-engineering Tactics for Asia & Europe

# #ASEFSE

29 June – 1 July 2015  
Stockholm, Sweden

## Overview

### Background

Over the past years entrepreneurship has been a positive force in addressing youth employment and increasingly gained attraction as a career option for many young people across Asia and Europe. Consequently, the 53 members of [Asia-Europe Meeting \(ASEM\)](#)<sup>1</sup> process have highlighted the topic as one of the priority areas. Both the ASEM Ministers for Education<sup>2</sup> and the ASEM Ministers for Labour and Employment<sup>3</sup> have expressed the urgency of building platforms for enhanced investment mechanisms to entrepreneurial education and skills-development.

To address this call for action by the ASEM members, the [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) and [Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship \(SSES\)](#) will organise a 2.5-day Experts' Meeting on 29 June–1 July 2015 in Stockholm to explore, map and discuss synergies and pending needs on the topic of entrepreneurship and youth employment. The [Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) and the [Swedish Ministry of Education and Research](#) act as supporting partners at this Experts' Meeting.

The Expert's Meeting will build upon previous projects led by ASEF:

- [Developing a Better Policy Context for Social Enterprises in Asia and Europe](#)  
July 2013 | Berlin, Germany | in collaboration with the British Council
- [Skills for Social Entrepreneurs  
- Towards a social entrepreneur network: Exchanges between Asia and Europe](#)  
May and June 2012 | Yangon, Myanmar; Hanoi, Vietnam | in collaboration with the British Council

### Objectives

The Experts' Meeting is designed to set a collaborative environment for sharing good practices and explore existing and emerging efforts related to youth employment and entrepreneurship from 5 sectors:

1. how **social enterprises** work to instil employability skills among youth and which trends are emerging;

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<sup>1</sup> The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern. The 53 ASEM Members are Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the 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, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Viet Nam, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat.

<sup>2</sup> See the Conclusions by the Chair, [4<sup>th</sup> ASEM Ministers for Education \(ASEMME4\)](#), 12-14 May 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, page 5, section 20. Also, see the Conclusions by the Chair, [5<sup>th</sup> ASEM Ministers for Education \(ASEMME5\)](#), 27-28 April 2015, Riga, Latvia, page 20, section B.

<sup>3</sup> See [Hanoi Declaration](#), 4<sup>th</sup> ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers' Conference (LEMC4), 25-26 October 2014, Hanoi, Viet Nam, page 3, section 9.

2. how **corporations** address youth employment and which supporting mechanisms are yet to be developed;
3. how **policies** are formulated to stimulate youth employment and which gaps exist;
4. how **education** fosters entrepreneurship across all walks of life and the challenges faced in designing a curriculum that encompasses industry requirements, and;
5. how the **start-up** scene vitalises job-creation and need to overcome the challenge of scaling the growth.

Embedded in ASEF's education project portfolio, the meeting shall also kick-start a long-term engagement and facilitate cooperation among Asian and European organisations to work on entrepreneurship and youth employment. To start the process, the participants will jointly:

- Map existing activities and actors in the field of entrepreneurship and youth employability from the 5 identified sectors
- Co-write background papers/essays to
  - Feed into the upcoming ASEM Initiative on Youth Employment in Rome, Italy (*Autumn 2015*)
  - Provide preparatory content for the participants of the [ASEF Young Leaders Summit on Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment](#) (1-5 November, Luxembourg)
  - Provide analysis and reference materials for ASEM Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs and Labour/Employment.
- Facilitate a dialogue and collaboration between key-individuals and institutions from Asia and Europe which are working on youth employment and entrepreneurship
- Contribute to the promotion of entrepreneurship as a force in job-creation within Asia and Europe

### Participants

- 10 invited Asian and European expert's representing 5 sectors
- Local representatives from businesses, universities, public entities and entrepreneurs
- Representatives from ASEM Ministries

### Programme

The project consists of the following main components:

- Snapshot-presentations on entrepreneurship and youth employment from the 5 sectors reflecting the activities taking place in Asia and Europe
- Mapping of the current efforts addressing the topic, emerging needs and potential collaborative synergies
- Dialogue-session for the co-written essays
- ½-day study tour to Social Enterprises

### Results

#### Tangible

- E-publication compiling the co-written essays, case studies and additional commissioned articles
- Recommendations and content input to the ASEF Young Leaders Summit on Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment

#### Intangible

- Support the policy makers and practitioners in the field of entrepreneurship and youth employment with recommendations, good practices and an overview of youth employment and entrepreneurship efforts across the two continents for decision making and concrete actions
- Networking opportunity between Asian and European social entrepreneurs, educators, policy-makers, businesses and start-up entrepreneurs
- Better insights on the local social enterprise scene among the invited experts

## Co-organised by



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 700 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 650 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 17,000 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.

For more information, please visit [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

## Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship

The **Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship (SSES)** is collaboration between Stockholm's top five schools. We are established to provide the member schools' students with education, training and inspiration in applied entrepreneurship.

For more information, please visit <http://www.sses.se/>

## Supported by



### Ministry for Foreign Affairs Sweden

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden** is responsible for Sweden's foreign, development assistance and trade policy. The is also responsible for coordinating Swedish foreign policy at the Government Offices. The Ministry is led by Ms Margot Wallström, Sweden's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

For more information, please visit <http://www.government.se/government-of-sweden/ministry-for-foreign-affairs/>



### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The **Swedish Ministry of Education and Research** is responsible for the Government's education, research and youth policy. The Ministry works on issues including school performance, conditions for teachers, study financing and living conditions for young people, and quality in higher education.

For more information, please visit <http://www.government.se/government-of-sweden/ministry-of-education-and-research/>

#### More Information

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