OPEN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
INTRODUCTION
What is ASEFInnoLab about?

In line with the Asia-Europe Foundation’s mission, we create opportunities for people in Asia and Europe to meet, learn from each other, and build capacity to address common global challenges together. We believe managers of higher education institutions are in a unique position to transform and modernise their institutions, create collaborations, and introduce tech savvy, inclusive and sustainable policies.

The 1st ASEF Higher Education Innovation Laboratory (ASEFInnoLab1) titled Universities’ Role in Artificial Intelligence (AI) Innovation Ecosystems provides opportunity for participants to exchange good practices, co-create new ideas and explore areas for collaboration among their institutions. This first ASEFInnoLab edition will bring together university managers, administrators and academics to discuss strategies for developing their institutions’ role in artificial intelligence innovation ecosystems. In particular, it will tackle the following two topics:

1 | Teaching and Entrepreneurship for AI Innovation Ecosystems
2 | Research and Technology Transfer in AI Innovation Ecosystems

KEY OUTCOMES
How do participants benefit from the ASEFInnoLab?

Upon successful completion of the programme, participants will walk away with:

- Enhanced understanding of data and AI innovation ecosystems
  The Lab will help participants to understand the role of higher education institutions in AI innovation ecosystems and expand their knowledge on different strategies to boost their contribution to ecosystems.

- Action plans to get ahead of change
  Participants will develop their own action plans to enhance existing strategies and practices to unlock the full potential of their own universities and work.

- Personal network in Asia and Europe
  We fully expect new bi-lateral and multi-lateral partnerships emerging among the 25 participants from different countries across Asia and Europe.

- Collaborate with Fudan University
  Two participants of ASEFInnoLab will have the opportunity to work with Fudan University on a joint project proposal, funding will be provided to conduct study visit and exchanges.

TARGET GROUP
Who should apply?

We envision the involvement of 25 participants from across the 51 ASEM countries to join ASEFInnoLab and work together over a period of 8 weeks. Applicants should meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Citizens of any of the 51 ASEM partner countries
- Strong command of English (written and verbal)
- Managers, administrators and academics of universities in charge of AI initiatives

When assessing the applications, the organisers will look for applicants who are in charge of initiatives related to the topics of the Lab and are committed to transform the knowledge and skills gained during the laboratory into action.

Participation does not require technical or coding abilities. The Lab will focus on the managerial and organizational aspects of data science and AI innovation ecosystems.
#ASEFInnoLab

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1st ASEF Higher Education Innovation Laboratory

TOPICS
What topics will be discussed?

Setting the stage
- Week1: Understanding Artificial Intelligence, What It Is, What It Is Not
- Week2: Universities’ Role in Innovation Ecosystems
- Week3: Governing AI Innovation

Teaching and Entrepreneurship for AI Innovation Ecosystems
- Week4: Teaching and Skill Needs of AI Innovation Ecosystems
- Week5: Advancing Student Entrepreneurship in the AI Age

Research and Technology Transfer in AI Innovation Ecosystems
- Week6: Research and Industry Relations
- Week7: Technology Transfer to Businesses

Wrap up
- Week8: Wrap Up, Presentation of Participants’ Action Plans

METHODOLOGY
This virtual lab emphasises collaborative peer learning.

The Lab will be organised entirely virtually between 25 March - 13 May 2021.
- It is an 8-week engagement and requires participants to set aside approximately 4 hours every week to prepare for and participate in the sessions.
- Live sessions will be organised on Thursdays between 8.00-10.00AM GMT (morning in Europe, afternoon in Asia), allowing for real-time collaborative work with peers.
- The facilitated lab combines self-paced study elements such as readings, videos, case studies, with collaborative learning elements such as live online presentations, group exercises, tailored to the challenges that participants choose to work on.

The building blocks of the programme are the followings:
- **Dialogues & Webinars:** Renowned subject matter experts, university leaders in the field of AI and innovation ecosystems will provide valuable inputs and good practice examples for participants. Webinars allow for real-time dialogue with speakers. Recordings are made available to ensure that participants have a flexible and seamless learning experience.
- **Facilitated interactive sessions:** A pair of expert facilitators will guide participants through the sessions, ensuring interactive exchanges and learning from speakers and peers.
- **Action plan development:** Participants will be required to identify one challenge at their respective institution to work on during the Lab. Throughout the Lab participants will develop an Action Plan based on the Business Model Canvas methodology.
- **Online resources:** Readings and videos will be provided to enable participants to develop knowledge in the area.

APPLY NOW
Submit your application **by Friday, 12 March 2021 10.00AM GMT.**
For more information on the project and the application procedure take a look at the **Overview** and **Frequently Asked Questions**.

Should you have any further questions, please e-mail us at innolab[at]asef.org.

ORGANISED BY

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). 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, education, governance, sustainable development, economy, public health and media.

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

Fudan University is a major public research university in Shanghai, People’s Republic of China. Founded in 1905, today it is widely considered as one of the most prestigious and selective universities in the country. The QS University Rankings 2021 ranked Fudan as the 7th most reputable university in Asia, while it is classified as a Double First Class University by the Ministry of Education in China. Fudan also actively incubates high-tech industries and encourages them to convert knowledge to power. In return, the multi-pattern development of the high-tech industries helps the University to industrialize the research outcomes.

For more information, please visit https://www.fudan.edu.cn/en

IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH

Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

As a network of leading universities linking the Americas, Asia and Australasia, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is the Voice of Knowledge and Innovation for the Asia-Pacific region. We bring together thought leaders, researchers, and policy makers to exchange ideas and collaborate on effective solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.

For more information, please visit https://apru.org

CONTRIBUTING TO

Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. Presently it comprises 53 partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM addresses political, economic, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership. In Berlin (Germany) in 2008, ASEM Ministers of Education met for the first time and since then have been meeting regularly (every second year) to develop the ASEM Education Process (AEP) and to create an ASEM Education Area.

For more information, please visit ASEM Info Board.