

4th ASEF SUSTAINABLE YOUNG LEADERS DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT POST-COVID-19

A multi-part youth programme in 2021 | Virtual, Cambodia & Across ASEM Countries
Official youth event in support of the 13th ASEM Summit (ASEM13)

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ACCESSABILITY

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Leadership in Action

*Access & success
for students with ASD*



Leadership in Action - Project #6

Access & Success for Students with ASD



About the 4th ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS4)

The [4th ASEF Young Leaders Summit \(ASEFYLS4\)](#) is a 10-month long youth leadership programme connected with the [13th ASEM Summit \(ASEM13\)](#) in Cambodia. The ASEFYLS4 focuses on 'Sustainable Development in a post-COVID-19 World' and incorporates 3 spheres for youth leadership:

- 1) self-leadership (**you**)
- 2) team leadership (**we**) and
- 3) societal leadership (**all**).

To demonstrate the youth's role in driving Sustainable Development, the programme encourages participants to collaborate & volunteer on meaningful community projects with an Asia-Europe twist. Based on the four ASEFYLS4 focus areas (SDG3, SDG4, SDG8 and SDG13), participants are allocated to specific working groups and work on "Leadership in Action" activities. In total, the ASEFYLS4 facilitates 15 community projects, each led by 1 ASEFYLS4 Navigator and supported by up to 10 participants from different Asian & European countries. See the list and outlines of all "Leadership in Action Projects" [here](#).



About the Leadership in Action Project #6

Background

Autism, commonly known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), is a neurodevelopmental disability, where differences in the development of the brain influences how a person develops in the way they communicate, their understanding and learning of social behaviour, and their interests.

Traits of people with ASD can be seen from young, through their intense interests and higher difficulties in relating with others and understanding social norms. Some individuals grow up requiring less support, but start facing greater difficulties handling social pressures, responsibilities and independent

living during adult life, affecting their capacities to attain meaningful employment and accessing higher education.

People with Autism, including children, still face difficulties in mainstream education, where teachers and staff are inadequately trained to identify individuals with undiagnosed Autism, as well as knowing how to best support them through their educational journeys. Youth and adults have challenges accessing higher education, either due to lack of opportunity, or the lack of support and resources, for example augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), academic and skills coaching, or lack of social or institutional support due to misunderstanding or lack of understanding of individual needs.



Outline and Objectives

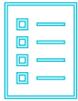
The project "[Access & Success for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder \(ASD\)](#)" connects students of mixed abilities and educators in higher education for a peer-to-peer exchange and collaboration across the ASEM countries.

The objective is to develop a [mini comparative research study on teaching & learning experiences as well as development opportunities and support mechanism for students with ASD](#).

The project will take place between July to November 2021.



Planned Activities



Development of a Survey on Access & Success & Analysis, engaging students with ASD from the 51 ASEM countries



Design & Organisation of 4 Online Workshops on access opportunities and support mechanisms for students with ASD, engaging students of mixed abilities, educators in Higher Education and academics



Development & Distribution of Communication Materials and Simple Guidelines for Educators, to create awareness on the topic and to inform relevant stakeholders in government and academia



Expected Results & Outcomes



Tangible

- ⇒ **Results of Survey on Access & Success** with students input from Asia and Europe
- ⇒ **Asia-Europe Workshops on access & success in Higher Education on**
 - Quality of educational support for people with ASD
 - Improving Students' Knowledge Regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
 - Needs of Students with ASD in Higher Education
- ⇒ **Communication Materials and Guidelines for Educators**, infographics, social media content, photos, videos and other visual materials as well as participants' feedback



Intangible

- ⇒ **For Workshop Participants**
 - Enhanced understanding of issues linked to access & success of students ASD
 - Opportunity to develop own action research, for implementation & advocacy in participants' own institutions and education environment
 - Opportunities for interaction & cooperation in a peer-to-peer learning setting
- ⇒ **For Higher Education Community**
 - Availability of open resources for awareness creation and further research or policies on issues linked to access & success of students ASD, thanks



Project Team

Mongolia	Dr Myagmarsuren Orosoo, Lecturer, Mongolian National University for Education (Project Lead)
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Cambodia	Ms Rachna Thim, Communications Coordinator, STEM Education Organization in Cambodia
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Lithuania	Ms Aiša Loginova, Student, SOAS University of London
Slovenia	Ms Tea Martinović, Administrative Clerk, National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia
Singapore	Mr James Chan, Inclusion Advisor, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
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Further Information

www.asef.org

[4th ASEF Young Leaders Summit \(ASEFYLS4\)](#)

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Organised by:



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