



CALL FOR BACKGROUND PAPERS: Sustainable Urbanisation & Waste Management

The [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) is looking for recognised experts to develop background papers on Waste Management & SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities) in [ASEM Partner Countries](#). A financial compensation of up to SGD 1,000 per paper will be granted.

About ASEF and ASEFSU23

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation which brings together the peoples of Asia and Europe to address common global challenges. The 23rd ASEF Summer University ([ASEFSU23](#)) is a virtual Hackathon programme on “Liveable Cities for a Sustainable Future”, for students and young professionals across Asia and Europe, taking place from September to December 2021. The participants, students & young professionals coming from up to 51 Asian & European countries ([ASEM Partner Countries](#)) will work in teams to solve urbanisation [challenges](#) in Bangladesh, India & Pakistan. The Challenge set for the urbanization context in Bangladesh is “Creating Clean Cities: Tackling Urban Waste Management”. Further information can be found in the [Project Overview](#) here.

Aim and scope

ASEF is commissioning 2 background papers to be drafted by experts (or groups of experts) on Waste Management and its links with SDG11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities) in Asia and Europe. The two background papers aim to provide a solid knowledge foundation on the topic for a general audience of non-specialists and the youth participants of the ASEFSU23, by focusing on one of the 51 [ASEM Partner Countries](#) (except Bangladesh).

- **1st background paper:** Waste Management and its links with SDG11 in 1 Asian Country (any ASEM Country in Asia except Bangladesh) with a focus on 1 City (minimum 200,000 people)
- **2nd background paper:** Waste Management and its links with SDG11 in 1 European Country (any ASEM Country in Europe) with a focus on 1 City (minimum 200,000 people)

Expected format

- **Structure:**
 1. Short summary
 2. Overview of waste management in selected Country
 3. Overview of waste management in selected City
 4. The way forward (highlighting existing or potential solutions to improve waste management)
 5. List of selected key further readings and possible other e-learning materials

- **Language:** English, accessible language targeting a general audience of non-specialists and avoiding technical jargon
- **Length:** max. 4,000 words (excluding summary and further readings)

Eligibility

- The author and possible co-authors should be citizen of any of the [51 ASEM Partner countries](#).
- Recognised academic or relevant expertise in the field of waste management and sustainable urbanisation preferably with sound knowledge on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Expert from any relevant academic discipline with the capacity to develop clear, concise and cross-disciplinary synthesis on the topic.

Application and paper submission timeline

- Application deadline: **Sunday, 10 October 2021**
- Result of application: **Wednesday, 13 October 2021**
- Manuscript submission: **Tuesday, 26 October 2021**
- Revised manuscript submission (if needed): **Sunday, 31 October 2021**

Application process

- Application should include an updated CV and at least 2 examples of relevant publications
- In your application, please specify which ASEM Country and which City you want to focus on
- You can apply using the [link here](#)

Contact

For any questions, please contact Mr Quentin FAYET from ASEF's Education Department at asefsu@asef.org.

Co-organised by:



Visual Explainer

Yarns are emblematic (or are a symbol) of the cotton production and textile industry in South Asia which greatly contributed to its economy and opening up to the rest of the world. Along with this evolution, the region's growing urbanisation has been a driving force, reshaping modern cities and societies.

Like a fabric with its distinct pattern, a city is a network of interdependencies and intertwined social interactions, and a complex eco-system where every element is closely connected to each other. This intricate crisscross is a fragile equilibrium contingent on every thread which needs to be carefully sewn and integrated within the broader structure. To shape urban images and to (re)place the different wooden pegs orientating the threads, one (urban planners) need(s) intentionality and a comprehensive understanding of all its constituting elements. To weave a sustainable future (to weave and build liveable cities for a sustainable future), holistic and transformative visions are needed. Our ASEFSU23 participants will develop these for Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.