



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

www.asef.org

TABLE OF CONTENT



ABOUT THE
ASIA-EUROPE MEETING
(ASEM)

04

ABOUT THE ASIA-EUROPE
FOUNDATION (ASEF)

06

ASEF BOARD OF
GOVERNORS 2022

08

MESSAGE FROM THE
CHAIR OF THE
BOARD OF
GOVERNORS

09



MESSAGE FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10



EXECUTIVE OFFICE

11

COMMUNICATIONS
AND MEDIA

12

CULTURE

18

EDUCATION

24

GOVERNANCE
AND
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
28



STOCKPILE
UNIT
34

ASEF AT EXTERNAL
EVENTS
36



ASEF AT
ASEM EVENTS
45

WHO WE ARE
47

HUMAN
RESOURCES
46

FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATION
48

PUBLICATIONS
50

WEBSITES
54



SOCIAL MEDIA
55

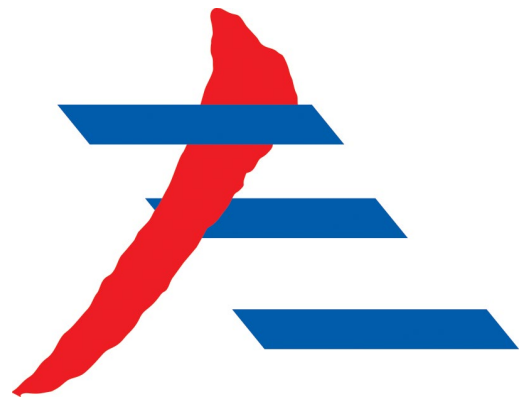
ASIA EUROPE MEETING

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe.

ASEM addresses political, economic, financial, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership. Its foremost event, the ASEM Summit, is a biennial meeting between the Heads of State and Government, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. In addition, ASEM Ministers & Senior Officials also meet in their respective sectoral dialogues.

The initial ASEM Partnership in 1996 consisted of 15 EU Member States, 7 ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, Korea and the European Commission. Today, ASEM comprises [53 Partners](#): 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat.

Through its informal process based on equal partnership and enhancing mutual understanding, ASEM facilitates and stimulates progress but does not seek to duplicate bilateral and other multilateral relationships between Asia and Europe.



ASEM PARTNERS

ASIA

Australia	Japan	New Zealand	Bangladesh	Kazakhstan
Pakistan	Korea	Brunei Darussalam	Philippines	Cambodia
Lao PDR	China	Russian Federation	Malaysia	Thailand
Singapore	India	Mongolia	Indonesia	Myanmar
Vietnam				

EUROPE

Austria	Greece	Portugal	Belgium	Hungary
Romania	Bulgaria	Ireland	Slovakia	Croatia
Italy	Slovenia	Cyprus	Latvia	Spain
Lithuania	Czech Republic	Sweden	Switzerland	Denmark
Luxembourg	Estonia	Malta	United Kingdom	Finland
Netherlands	France	Norway	Germany	Poland

OVERVIEW



53 Partners



Dialogue & Cooperation



Informal
Political Process



Strengthening links
between Asia & Europe

PILLARS



Political



Economic and
Financial



Cultural and
Educational



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 & economy, media, public health and sustainable development.

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

Together with over 150 partner organisations, ASEF has conducted more than 250 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 40,000 Asians and Europeans have participated in its activities, and reached a much wider audience through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

OUR MANDATE

To promote mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges (Dublin Principles).

OUR VISION

Our vision is a world in which Asians and Europeans shape the future together, respectfully, fairly, and sustainably.

OUR MISSION

We provide opportunities to connect the people of Asia and Europe for an exchange of ideas. We encourage cooperation towards innovative and sustainable solutions for common global challenges. We complement the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Process.

OVERVIEW

- Complements the ASEM Process through people-to people connectivity
- Publicly funded by voluntary contributions from 53 Partners
- Reports to a Board of Governors
- Based in Singapore

CORE VALUES

- ✓ Diversity ✓ Learning ✓ Respect
- ✓ Professionalism ✓ Sustainability ✓ Accountability

7 THEMATIC AREAS

1 Culture

2 Economy

3 Education

4 Governance

5 Media

6 Public Health

7 Sustainable Development

ASEF BOARD OF GOVERNORS

ASEAN Secretariat	H.E Ekkaphab PHANTHAVONG	Latvia	Prof. Inna ŠTEINBUKA
Australia	Ms. Angela ROBINSON	Lithuania	Ambassador Gediminas VARVUOLIS
Austria	Ms. Bitia RASOULIAN Dr Gabriele MEON-TSCHÜRTZ (until December 2022)	Luxembourg	Mr. Robert GOEBBELS
Bangladesh	Mr MD Rais Hasan Sarower Mr Zokey AHAD (until March 2023)	Malaysia	Mr. Ahmad Kamrizamil MOHD RIZA
Belgium	Ambassador Colette TAQUET	Malta	High Commissioner Clifford BORG-MARKS
Brunei Darussalam	Ms. Megawati MANAN	Mongolia	Amb Enkhbayar SOSORBARAM Ambassador TUMUR Lkhagvadorj (until April 2022)
Bulgaria	Ms. Snezhana YOVEVA-DIMITROVA	Myanmar	Mr Soe MYINT Ambassador Htay AUNG (until July 2022)
Cambodia	Ms TOUCH Sopharath Ambassador HENG Sokphal (until January 2022)	Netherlands	Mr. Ernesto BRAAM
China	Ambassador ZHANG Xiaokang	New Zealand	High Commissioner Jo TYNDALL
Croatia	Ambassador Dražen MARGETA	Norway	Ambassador Eivind Sigvart HOMME
Cyprus	High Commissioner Agis LOIZOU	Pakistan	High Commissioner Rukhsana AFZAAL
Czech Republic	Ambassador Michaela FROŇKOVÁ	Philippines	Dr Emmanuel R Fernandez Ambassador Joseph D. YAP (until July 2022)
Denmark	Ambassador Sandra Jensen LANDI	Poland	Ambassador Magdalena BOGDZIEWICZ
Estonia	Ms Heli ARU-CHABILAN Mr Mart LAIDMETS (until October 2022)	Portugal	Ambassador Mário Miranda DUARTE
European Union	Mr Ioannis GIOGKARAKIS-ARGYROPOULOS Ms Rensje TEERINK (until October 2022)	Romania	Amb Iulian BUGA Ambassador Florin Marius TACU (until August 2022)
Finland	Ambassador Antti VÄNSKÄ	Russian Federation	Amb Nikolay KUDASHEV Ms Olga KHARLAMOVA (until February 2022)
France	Ambassador Hervé LADSOUS	Singapore	Prof. Leo Wee Hin TAN
Germany	Ambassador Dr Norbert RIEDEL	Slovakia	Ambassador Denisa FRELICOVÁ
Greece	Ambassador Dr Sotirios MOUSOURIS	Slovenia	Ms. Petra KEŽMAN
Hungary	Ambassador Judit PACH	Spain	Mr. Javier PARRONDO
India	High Commissioner Periasamy KUMARAN	Sweden	Ms Jenny EGERMARK
Indonesia	Ambassador SOEMADI Brotodiningrat	Switzerland	Ambassador Frank GRÜTTER Ambassador Fabrice FILLIEZ (until October 2022)
Ireland	Ms. Maeve GALLAGHER	Thailand	Dr. Darnp SUKONTASAP
Italy	Ambassador Mario Andrea VATTANI	United Kingdom	High Commissioner Kara OWEN CVO
Japan	Ambassador Kuni SATO Ambassador Kojiro SHIOJIRI (until February 2022)	Vietnam	Ambassador Doan Xuan HUNG
Kazakhstan	Ambassador Arken ARYSTANOV		
Korea	Ambassador CHOI Sung-joo		
Lao PDR	Mr. Kingphokeo PHOMMAHAXAY		

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ASEF BOARD OF GOVERNORS



On behalf of the ASEF Board of Governors, I send our warm greetings to all of you. We wish you and your loved ones much happiness, success and above all, good health.

Speaking of health, more specifically public health, I am pleased that we are finally seeing the light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel. Borders are re-opening, and we are now able to once more interact and engage with one another in-person. Over the last two years, ASEF had reiterated that the pandemic was an unparalleled, and unprecedented, global health crisis that had caused grave disruptions to our lives, livelihood, trade and travel. ASEF will continue to serve its mandate to bring Asia and Europe closer together in the post-pandemic era.

We have just celebrated ASEF's Silver Jubilee, a significant milestone achievement for any organisation. I would like to add that given the fragmentation and disruptions in the post-COVID-19 world, ASEF, as a key institution established to bridge the regions of Asia and Europe, has a greater role to play. ASEF should continue to be a valuable platform in terms of promoting dialogue, and exchange of views and ideas, in order to bring our two regions together. By making efforts to understand each other, we can work collectively to open the door for the future in key areas such as innovation, green economy and human rights.

ASEF has grown as an organisation. We can certainly take pride in the fact that over 25 years, ASEF's membership has more than doubled to 53 partners across the regions of Asia and Europe. Over the years, ASEF has worked hard to steadily

build up a commendable portfolio of projects across various domains in order to carry out the organisation's mandate to bring together the peoples of Asia and Europe to address common global challenges. However, we must also be honest and admit that after 25 years, ASEF's role has evolved, and must continue to evolve. In order for ASEF to better serve the cause of exchange between Asia and Europe, it would be timely for us to consider its balanced presence in our two regions. I would like to repeat myself: ASEF has a greater role to play in the world today. The challenge remains to walk the path ahead, a road that will be less than clear, and full of unforeseen developments.

Over the course of the year in 2022, ASEF has shown its continuing commitment and unyielding resilience in realising its mandate. Despite the obvious challenges not only arising from the pandemic but due also to the ASEM process being on hold, ASEF continues to carry out projects, events and activities as the sole established institution to enhance the exchange between Asia and Europe. Nonetheless, these difficulties and challenges have not stamped out the of dedication and enthusiasm of the ASEF leadership. The Board of Governors met in person for the first time in the post-pandemic period, and we give our deepest thanks and appreciation to Thailand for graciously hosting the 43rd meeting of the ASEF Board of Governors in Bangkok in June 2022. In this regard, we would like to commend the Chair of the ASEF Board of Governors for 2022, Dr Darnp SUKONTASAP for his brilliant leadership and unwavering support. We would also like to give thanks to the entire Board of Governors for their commitment and guidance to give the necessary support to ASEF's Executive Management team and ASEF staff.

The year 2023 will mark a turning point for ASEF as the organisation develops a new strategy through which ASEF will embark on a new direction and navigate into the next quarter century. We – my fellow Governors and I – therefore look forward to working closely with the ASEF team to make 2023 an even more significant year for ASEF, as the organisation carries out an enhanced role in building stronger bridges for the peoples in our two regions and beyond.

Mr. Javier PARRONDO
Chair, ASEF Board of Governors 2023

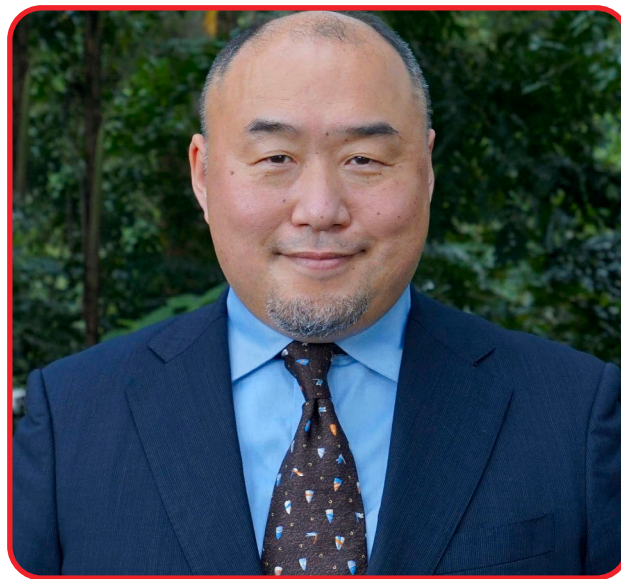
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ASEF began the year on a positive note. On 14 February 2022, ASEF launched the start of a year-long series of activities and events to commemorate its 25th Anniversary (#ASEF25). Turning 25 is indeed a significant milestone since its formal establishment in February 1997, and ASEF remains the first and only permanent institution under the ASEM Process. We started with only 26 members in 1997, and today we are justifiably proud to be able to boast a membership of 51 countries and 2 regional organisations (the ASEAN and the EU). Over the years, ASEF has worked hard to steadily build up a commendable portfolio of projects across various domain areas in order to carry out the organisation's mandate to bring together the peoples of Asia and Europe to address common global challenges.

However, **the year 2022 has not been smooth sailing.** Right after ASEF began to celebrate its Silver Jubilee, the geopolitical disruption broke out in February 2022, and it has been heavily impacting on us all in Asia and Europe, and beyond. ASEF immediately issued an appeal for the peace and started to support the humanitarian activities implemented by WHO EURO to assist the people in need in and around Ukraine. As the war continues, ASEF replenished its support to the second phase of the WHO's activities. The geopolitical disruption caused some impact on ASEF itself. The Extraordinary Board of Governors meeting adopted the decision to suspend the participation in the projects and the Governing body meetings by the Member concerned in May 2022. ASEM process is also on hold.

Over the course of last year, we slowly but surely started to emerge from the cocoon of isolation created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The re-opening of borders is enabling us to enjoy once more meeting each other face-to-face, which affirms a universal truism that as humans, we are social beings who share the mutual joy of meeting in person as we exchange ideas and views to better understand one another. **ASEF wasted little time in kick-starting or re-launching our projects,** events and activities across the various thematic areas of work. Some highlights include the Public Diplomacy Training hosted by Hungary in October and the Asia-Europe Cultural Festival organized in Brussels in November. ASEF was also invited to co-organize the side event of the EU-ASEAN Summit in December 2022.

In carrying out its work, ASEF continues to be guided by the ASEF Board of Governors (BoG). In this regard, **I would like to place on record our deepest appreciation and thanks to Thailand for hosting the BoG43** in Bangkok in June last year. The in-person meeting, no doubt aided by Thai customary gracious hospitality, allowed us to have frank and in-depth



discussions on the impact on the work of ASEF due to “the continuing change in the global and regional political, economic and social landscape” as we emerge into the post-pandemic era. BOG43 assigned the Secretariat to submit a 3 year strategy for approval by the BOG44. Right after the BoG43 meeting, the ASEF Management has taken a series of reform steps to improve the Executive Office (EO) at ASEF and to upgrade the EO's capacity to assist, effectively and efficiently, the Management in addressing different key issues such as implementation of the Board's decisions arising from Governing meetings, review of ASEF's key structural matters, etc.

We are also meeting the concomitant challenges of limited resources by **pushing ahead with ASEF's Digital Transformation.** The Digital Unit conducted an upgrade of security for the whole ASEF IT system, and assisted the Communications Department (COM) in improving ASEF's digital assets. In addition, the process of transition to the new Customer Relations Management (CRM) system will be completed in 2023. We hope to continue our Digital Transformation journey by investing for the future, in particular to establish an Integrated Project Budget Management System (IPMBS), which will require additional funding. The positive change in this region is the rapid growth in Southeast and South Asian regions. The relationship between Asia and Europe is gradually shifting to the peer-to-peer relationship in which the Asians and the Europeans to work together for the betterment of the world. ASEF is committed to continue to work enhance this shift in 2023 and beyond.

Ambassador MORIKAWA Toru
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The ASEF Executive Office Department (EO) supports the work of the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director in ensuring that ASEF carries out its mandate to bring Asia and Europe closer together. In 2022, responding to the necessity to deal with the rapidly and fundamentally changing environment of ASEF and for the ASEF Secretariat to be able to deliver the 3-year Strategy for ASEF, the structure of EO was reformed.

This configuration of EO included:

- (i) EO Core Unit which deals with determining ASEF's strategic objectives and road map for achieving these objectives, liaises with ASEF Governors, key stakeholders and relevant partners, provides support to Senior Management in the area of thought leadership, and lead centralised coordination within the organisation to ensure smooth and efficient performance of the organisation,
- (ii) Digital Transformation Unit which supports the enhancement of digital capabilities of the organisation,
- (iii) Financial Unit supports funders relationship management, and,
- (iv) Human Resources Unit is responsible for the formulation and implementation of HR policies, programmes and procedures.

In addition to this central function, EO also carried out implementation of activities which enhance dialogue and exchange between Asia and Europe, one such example was the ASEF 25th Anniversary Commemorative Event.

EO organised outreach activities for the Senior Management to facilitate the exploration of opportunities for potential collaborations, fostering strategic partnerships, and establishing visibility for ASEF through customised networking.



COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

The Communications Department (COM) promotes Asia-Europe cooperation by advancing awareness and knowledge about ASEF, ASEM and key issues in Asia-Europe relations. Aimed at a diverse range of constituencies, including the media and general public, COM's activities foster greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe in the media space. Media is one of 7 thematic areas of work in ASEF. Through its media projects, COM creates unique networking platforms for the exchange of views and ideas as well as cooperation among media professionals from Asia and Europe. The media projects address themes aligned with the ASEM agenda, which examines issues relevant to Asia-Europe relations, challenges faced by the media industry, as well as the professional development of media personnel.

In addition to these project roles, COM is responsible for corporate or strategic communications. In this function, COM is custodian for ASEF's brand, identity and messages, provides support on thought leadership where needed, organises outreach events for key stakeholders, and drives our messaging and build our presence on social media through make strategic choices, annual Roadmaps, management of its digital assets, and coordinating communications by ASEF project departments and ASEM-related bodies.

In 2022, as project department, COM was entrusted with 3 projects. Two were its traditional flagship projects, namely the ASEF Journalist Seminar and the AsemInfoBoard. The third was the ASEF 25th Anniversary. The latter extraordinary project was a great success only because of support from across the departments, especially the Executive Office.



ASEF 25th Anniversary (#ASEF25)

15 FEBRUARY 2022 – 14
FEBRUARY 2023 | ASEF,
SINGAPORE

ASEF celebrated its 25th anniversary (#ASEF25) in 2022. Achieving this Silver Jubilee was a significant milestone since the formal establishment of ASEF in February 1997. ASEF, while remaining the first and only permanent institution under the ASEM Process, has grown as an organisation. While it started with only 26 members in 1997, today ASEF boasts a membership of 51 countries and 2 regional organisations (ASEAN and the EU).

The #ASEF25 Logo which was designed in-house:

- At the top, the focus is placed on the timeline during which ASEF has made a continual effort to bring Asia and Europe together.
- At the centre, the focus is placed on the numbers 2 and 5. The numbers intend to highlight the years ASEF has worked as an interface between Asia and Europe, advancing mutual understanding and cooperation. Each continent is represented in a number and coloured with the ASEF primary and secondary palettes accordingly. The blue and yellow in number 2 represent the European continent while the red and green in number 5 represent the Asian continent. These colours mirror ASEF's logo and spirit.
- Combined, these elements portray the idea of Asians and Europeans coming together to build a common future.
- At the bottom, the tagline "Bringing Asia and Europe Together" highlights ASEF's key mission in the past, present, and future. It is the motto that drives all ASEF actions.



- The ASEF logo is the most important asset of the organisation. In this section you will find information regarding the logo and guidelines on its proper use.
- The ASEF logo comprises two components: the logomark or symbol (graphic) and the logotype (name). The symbol is a pictorial presentation of the letters 'a' and 'e'. The form of the letters also hints at a meeting of East and West.
- The logo was created by a former student at the LaSalle/SIA College of the Arts, Ms ANG Hui Cheng. It was selected during the Inaugural Meeting of the ASEF Board of Governors on 17 February 1997.
- The primary colours denote freshness, vitality, and diversity. No other special meaning should be assigned to the emblem.

ASEF's 25th Anniversary logo draws inspiration from the complex puzzle of different cultures, languages, and histories across Asia and Europe. The pieces of the puzzle, represented in four different colours, highlight the intentional coming together of Asia and Europe for a common purpose, while preserving their individuality. Above all, it represents equally beneficial cooperation.

MOU between ASEF and Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore

18 JULY 2022 | ASEF,
SINGAPORE

On 18 July 2022, ASEF and Temasek Polytechnic (TP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), in the presence of Guest of Honour, Dr Mohamad Maliki bin Osman, Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore. At the signing ceremony, ASEF was represented by its Executive Director, Ambassador Toru Morikawa while TP was represented by its Principal and CEO, Mr Peter Lam. It was also an occasion to celebrate ASEF's 25th Anniversary.



ASEF Messaging Workshop

8 SEPTEMBER 2022 | ASEF, SINGAPORE

A Messaging Workshop was organised to build consensus and update ASEF's message house on the occasion of #ASEF25, and strengthen understanding and cooperation across departments on the importance of speaking with one voice. The Workshop was led by professors from the NUS Business School and NUS Department of Communications and New Media.



Supported by:



ASEF 25th Anniversary Commemorative Event

15 MARCH 2023 | ASEF, SINGAPORE

The highlight of #ASEF25 was the visit of H.E. Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, to ASEF. His Excellency Dr Balakrishnan delivered a keynote speech to an audience comprising ASEF Governors and ASEM Ambassadors. To read the Minister's speech, [click here](#).



Press coverage of Minister's visit:

联合早报

2023年03月16日 星期四

维文：地缘政治环境复杂 亚欧须加强联系保障和平

董云丹 报道
yiran@qph.com.sg

地缘政治和经济环境变动且充满不确定因素，亚洲和欧洲的联系比过去任何时候都重要，这也在亚欧两地保障和平、取得繁荣的唯一途径。

外交部次长维文星期三（3月15日）在亚欧基金会（Asia-Europe Foundation）成立25周年纪念活动上致辞时说，面对复杂的地缘政治环境，亚洲和欧洲必须加强联系。

这包括在现有的欧盟—新加坡自由贸易协定、亚欧安—欧盟全面航空运输协定等具开拓意义协定的基础上继续取得突破，以及尽快达成亚欧安—欧盟自由贸易协定。

此外，亚洲和欧洲国家必须充分借助数字经济，以及加大对应对气候变化的力度。

“通过合作，我们能占据独特地位，把握数字经济等共同关注的领域。”

维文对第二次世界大战结束至今的世界格局提出三点观察：首先，二战后尽管面对核武器可能带来的毁灭性后果，或者也许因为这个原因，世界没有再次陷入大战。

其次，全球用于国防开支的国内生产总值占比从1960年的6.34%减至2021年的2.24%，随之而来的“和平红利”意味着更多公款可用于非国防开支。

第三，过去25年全球化进程是和平与繁荣的关键特征。全球共享一套科技体系，大家合作创新，制造新产品与服务、推动进出口，促进进步与发展的良性循环，各国减少贸易壁垒，跨国企业纷纷设立，优化效率的原则也把供应链推向全球化。

维文指出，过去一个世纪，人类“根据共同的研究、方法、应用和科技平台，有了共同、开放、不断发展的科学发现”，并从中受益。

以半导体领域为例，上世纪60年代一个晶体管要价2美元（约2.7新元），但因为制造技术的改良和供应链的创新与效率，如今数十亿个晶体管总值不到50美元。晶体管更被台积电创办人张忠谋称为“人类所发明最具经济效益的产品”。

然而，维文指出，全球经济正面临分化风险。这不只是对通货膨胀和发展速度产生直接影响，也可能导致世界局势动荡，人类的相互依存感也会消失。他说，全球正处于前所未有的险境，要为各国人民实现就业、提供教育和促进和平，就需要以规则为基础的世界秩序，以及更高程度而不是更少的经济整合。

维文说：“无论在亚洲或欧洲，没有人希望看到军备竞赛或全面科技战，因为它们会减少我们投资基础设施、互联互通、生产力、医疗保健、教育与培训的能力，而这些才是对人民生活有利，也能带来实质影响的优先事项。”

出席活动的外国驻本地使节和亚欧基金会理事共40多人。维文在致辞后与他们进行约半小时的闭门对话。

THE STRAITS TIMES SINGAPORE

Vivian calls for speedy conclusion of Asean-EU FTA amid global tensions



The formula for globalisation and economic integration is now at risk, said Minister for Foreign Affairs Vivian Balakrishnan.

Natasha Ann Zachariah
Correspondent

UPDATED MAR 17, 2023, 11:38 AM SGT

SINGAPORE – At a time when the global order faces growing stress from fraught geopolitical relationships, pushback against economic integration and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan has called on Asia and Europe to work together for mutual benefit.

The formula for globalisation and economic integration, which has worked well over the past 60 years to generate growth and lift many out of poverty, is now at risk, he said.

Speaking on the 25th anniversary of the Asia-Europe Foundation (Asef) at its premises in Pasir Panjang, Dr Balakrishnan on Wednesday commended the good work that the foundation has done to promote mutual understanding through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

Asia, Europe urged to intensify cooperation



ASEF25 Essay Competition

MARCH 2023 | ASEF/ASEM MEMBER COUNTRIES

As part of #ASEF25, COM organised the first-ever Essay competition on the topic “The Future of Asia-Europe Cooperation”. Over 120 entries were received from 25 countries in 2 months. A judging panel from the following ASEF Governors Ms Angela ROBINSON of Australia; H.E. Ambassador Michaela FROŇKOVÁ of the Czech Republic; H.E. Ambassador Antti VÄNSKÄ of Finland; H.E. Ambassador Judit PACH of Hungary; Ms Maeve GALLAGHER of Ireland; Professor Inna ŠTEINBUKA of Latvia; H.E. High Commissioner Clifford BORG-MARKS of Malta; H.E. Ambassador Eivind S. Homme of Norway; H.E. Ambassador Mário Miranda DUARTE of Portugal; Professor Prof Leo TAN Wee Hin of Singapore; H.E. Ambassador Denisa Frelichová of Slovakia; H.E. Ambassador Frank GRÜTTER of Switzerland; Dr Darnp SUKONTASAP of Thailand, and the ASEF Executive Director resulted in the winning essays by the following:

Category I (25 years old and above)
Asia: Ms. Shwe Zin Thin (Myanmar)
Europe: Ms. Julija Loginovich (Lithuania)

Category II (Below 25 years)
Asia: Ms Teo An Rae (Singapore)
Europe: Mr Thibault Ferrier (France)
To read the winning essays, [click here](#).

13th ASEF Journalists Seminar (ASEFJS13)

7-10 NOVEMBER 2022 | SINGAPORE

Traditionally an official side event of the ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting and a flagship event of COM, the 13th edition of the ASEF Journalists Seminar (ASEFJS13) was held as ASEF's first post-pandemic event that brought together 26 young journalists from 20 ASEM countries to explore the topic “Best Media Practices in the Digital Age”. The ASEFJS13 was also held in celebration of #ASEF25. The welcome ceremony was graced by ASEF's Executive Director Ambassador MORIKAWA Toru, ASEF Governor from the Czech Republic which was also in the EU Presidency, H.E. Ambassador Michaela FROŇKOVÁ, and ASEM Senior Official from Singapore, Ambassador NG Teck Hean. To learn more about ASEFJS13, [click here](#).

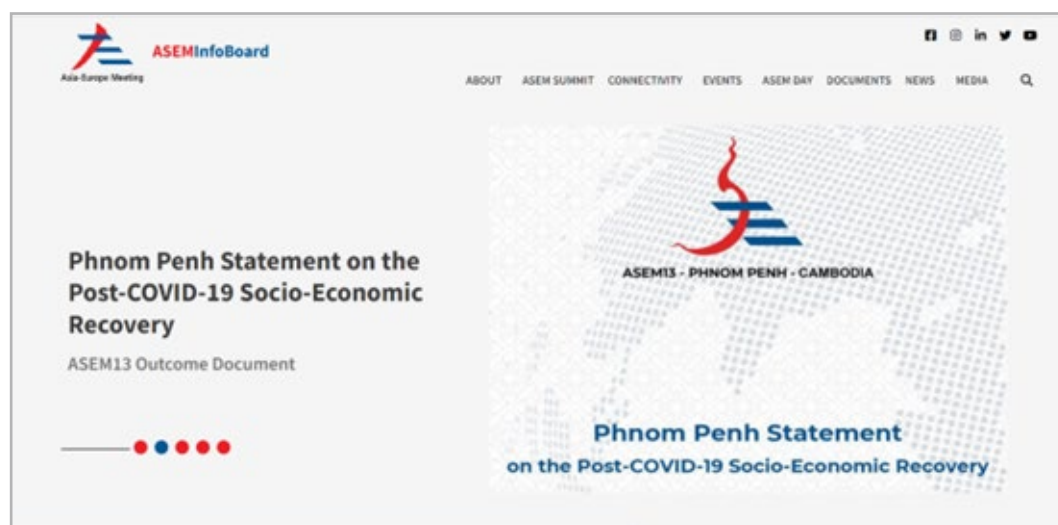


ASEM InfoBoard (AIB)

ASEMinfoboard.org

The AIB is an ongoing project to offer relevant, up-to-date and publicly available information on inter-regional cooperation between ASEM Partners from Asia and Europe. It is mandated by the ASEM summits and ministerials as the strategic communication platform to enhance the visibility of the ASEM Process in the Asia-Europe context.

The AIB includes a website, a monthly newsletter and 4 social media accounts (TW, FB, LI and IN). In response to the ASEM13 statements, an exclusive Connectivity Tab has been designed and is in the process of being uplifted to the website.



MEET OUR ASEF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

We continued the initiative that was introduced in 2020 to familiarise our growing audience to ASEF's Governors and staff, as well as resource experts, participants, and friends. The aim remains to show the human side of our networks as ASEF strives to remain a core facilitator of people-to-people connectivity within the ASEM region.



[Meet our ASEF Family and Friends:](#)
[Adam Stepinski](#)

CULTURE

ASEF's work in Culture connects arts communities in Asia and Europe through online platforms, virtual residencies, arts festivals and bi-regional dialogue.

ASEF promotes cultural relations by connecting artists, cultural professionals, arts organisations, public institutions, networks and museums in Asia and Europe. ASEF's work in culture responds to current gaps in cultural cooperation between Asia and Europe by providing access to information, enabling building of capacity, facilitating dialogue and knowledge sharing and promoting artistic diversity.

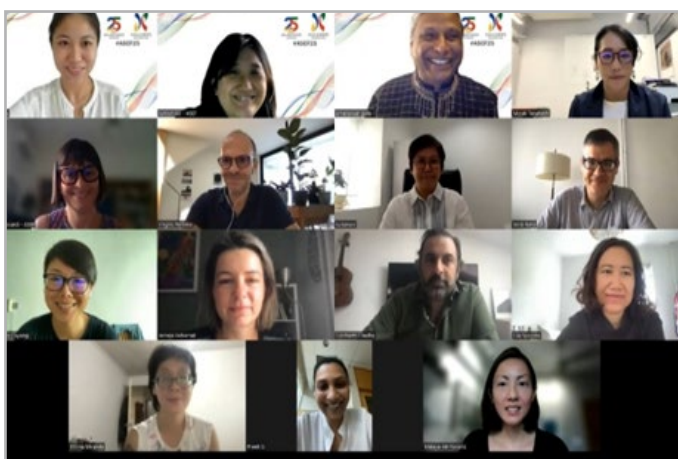
The cross-disciplinary nature of the projects engages artists, heritage and museum professionals, arts administrators, and policy makers as well as experts from related fields such as environmentalists, journalists and academics.

In alignment with the UN 2030 Agenda, ASEF's work in Culture contributes to the following sustainable development goals:



ASEF's arts and culture platform <https://culture360.ASEF.org> enables digital access to relevant and updated information on arts, heritage and the creative industries and facilitates knowledge exchange on topics of common interest for Asia and Europe. In addition to online year-round activities, the project develops several activities such as arts residencies, mentorship programmes and roundtable series.

- "In 2022, the project launched" one consultation process titled *Recalibrating the Compass: "What Future for Asia-Europe Cultural Relations?"* launched among stakeholders and partners to reflect on the current state in Asia-Europe cultural relations and discuss possible strategies for international cultural cooperation in post-pandemic recovery. Throughout 2022, 5 closed-door roundtables were organised on pressing themes for the arts and culture communities in Asia and Europe. The series will culminate in a public forum in early 2023, where findings and recommendations from the roundtables will be shared and discussed in an open forum.

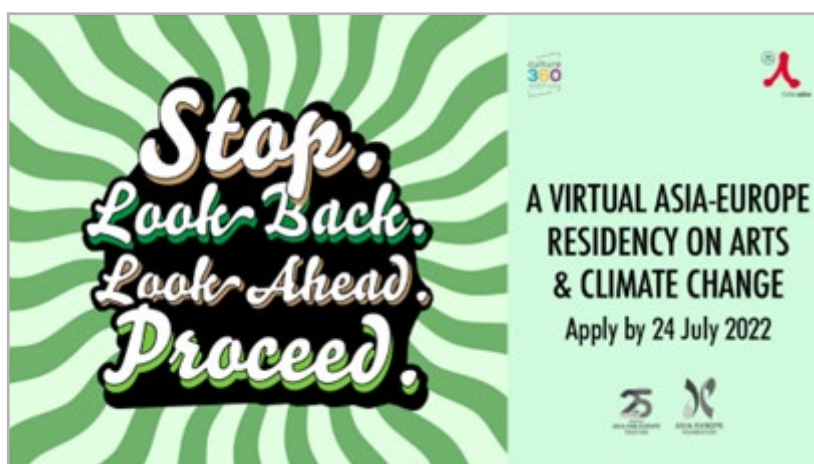


culture360.ASEF.org

[Participants of Roundtable #3: Recalibrating the Compass | Sustainable and ethical practices in the cultural sector during the online roundtable on 20 July 2022](#)



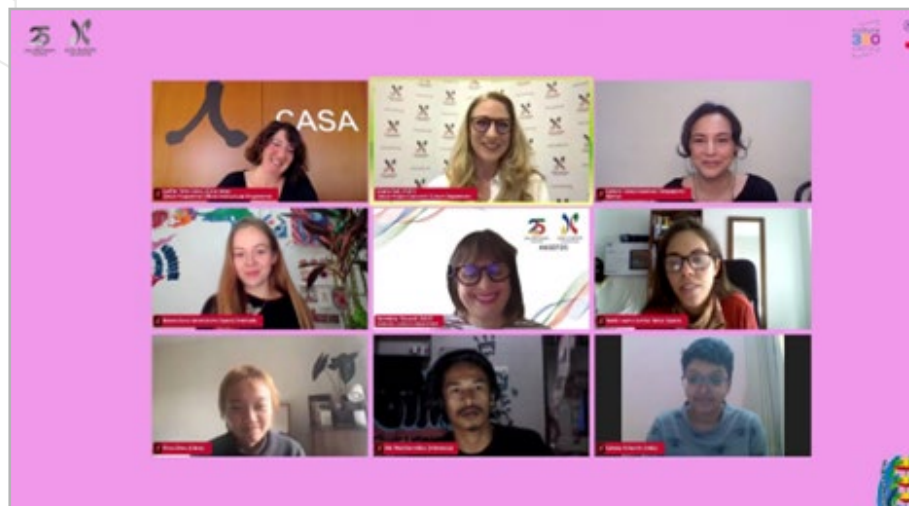
- One new virtual residency titled "*Stop. Look Back. Look Ahead. Proceed.*" *Proceed.* for emerging artists from Asia and Spain was organised in partnership with Casa Asia. The residency facilitated the interaction of 2 groups of artists with the support of one mentor. Weekly updates from each group were published on ASEF culture360 Instagram platform and 2 online projects were created. An online conversation showcasing the results of the collaboration was hosted at the end of the 8-week programme gathering an audience of over 80 participants.



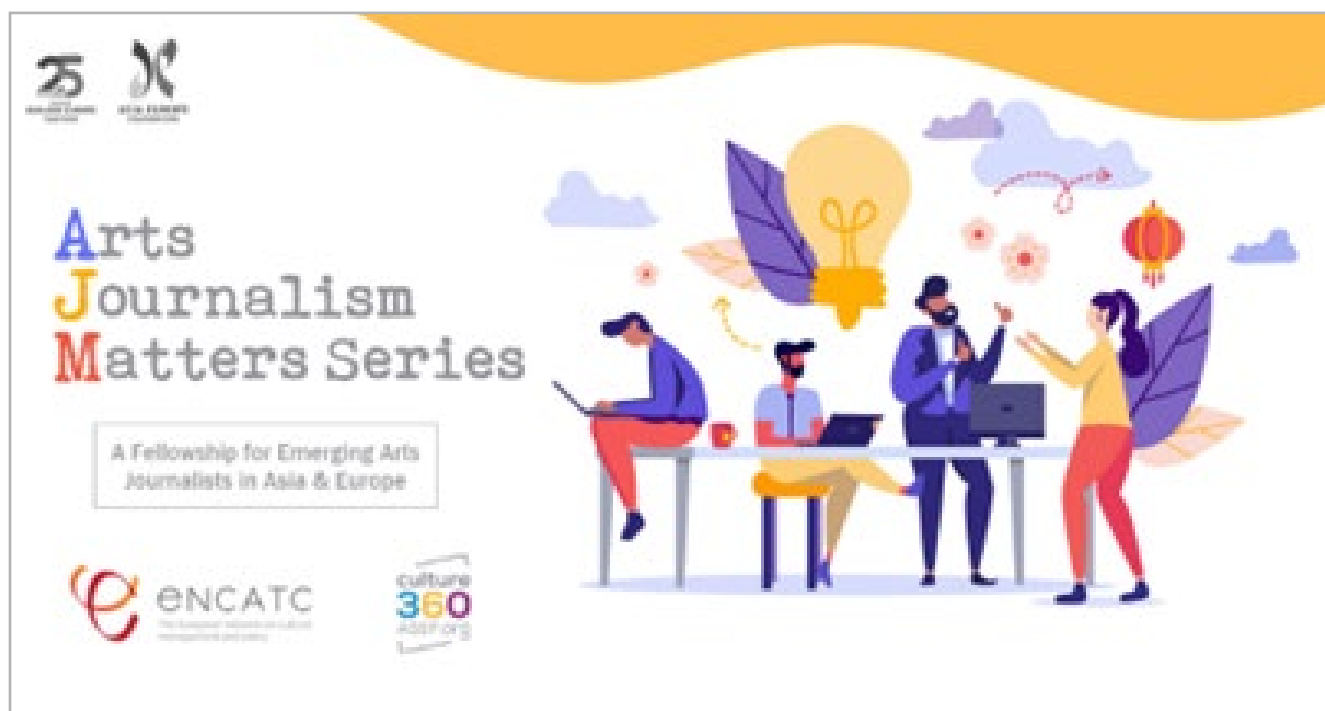
PARTNER



[Participating artists of Stop. Look Back. Look Ahead. Proceed. e-residency during the webinar The Virtual Residency Model: Can artists collaborate online? on 25 October 2022](#)



- The Arts Journalism Fellowship titled “*Arts Journalism Matters*” was organised in partnership with ENCATC, the European Network for arts management and cultural policy. The Fellowship provides long-term capacity building, networking and peer collaboration opportunities for young emerging arts journalists, specialising in cultural management and cultural policy writing.



PARTNER



- Over 30 weekly curated updates on arts news, events and funding opportunities
- Over 20 commissioned articles a year on topics of common interest for Asia and Europe, partially selected through an open call process
- 6 media partnerships with relevant arts events in Australia, Bangladesh, Germany, Indonesia, Italy and Malaysia.
- 1 new publication in the [Creative Responses to Sustainability series](#) on sustainable textile practices and crafts in Asia published in August 2022.

MEDIA PARTNERS



ASIA PACIFIC
SCREEN ACADEMY™



Indonesian
Dance
Festival



ASEF's contribution is co-funded by the France



and by Belgium



Kamini Ramachandran,

Mentor Virtual Residency 2022 Stop.Look Back. Look Ahead. Proceed.

"The Virtual Residency opened up a much-needed avenue for emerging artists to collaborate across borders without the limitations and expenses of international travel. It was an enriching experience mentoring artists from different backgrounds to highlight climate change challenges through their creative practices. The online space holds so much potential for nurturing cultural understanding and I have enjoyed guiding the mentees and seeing their artistic responses materialize on social media."

Asia-Europe Cultural Festival: Cultures Connect

BRUSSELS, 26-27 NOVEMBER 2022
ONLINE, 16-22 DECEMBER 2022

The Asia-Europe Cultural Festival: Cultures Connect is a public arts festival that celebrates the artistic diversity of Asia and Europe and promotes dialogue and exchange amongst artists from the 2 regions. The following activities took place in 2022:

- A hybrid version of the Festival with on-site events in Brussels and online
- 1 documentary film highlighting the richness of cultural diversity
- 1 public forum on the role of festivals in Asia and Europe
- 1 music performance with diverse musical genre influences
- 1 online dance performance addressing stereotypes in cultural identities



PARTNER



FACILITATING BI-REGIONAL DIALOGUE

As part of our work in enhancing dialogue between the artists, cultural professionals and policy makers, ASEF partnered with key institutions to host much needed discussions about the arts and culture sector and the impact caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. ASEF ROUNDTABLE: RETHINKING INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION IN TIMES OF GLOBAL CRISIS | UNESCO MONDIACULT 2022 SIDE EVENT

ONLINE, 27 SEPTEMBER 2022

In response to the impact of the pandemic and the evolving geopolitical context, ASEF in partnership with the Australia Council for the Arts and Transit Projectes (Spain) organised an online roundtable featuring 6 speakers from the arts and culture sectors of Asia and Europe, to reflect on cultural cooperation. The discussion focused on challenges and opportunities in post-pandemic recovery, glo-cal actions, and the role of culture in addressing imbalances.

The roundtable was selected as an official side event of the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development – MONDIACULT 2022 (28-30 September 2022, Mexico City). The recording of the discussion is available on culture360.asef.org.



PARTNER



2. 30TH ENCATC CONGRESS: INTERNATIONALIZATION IN CULTURAL EDUCATION, RESEARCH, POLICY, AND PRACTICES: THEORETICAL, STRATEGIC AND MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVES

**BRUSSELS AND ANTWERP,
17-19 OCTOBER 2022**

ASEF continues to engage with partners and stakeholders in conversations on cultural policy and the unique role of arts and culture sectors in connecting people within and beyond borders. ASEF's Executive Director Ambassador Morikawa was invited to the 30th ENCACT Congress on the topic of "Decolonising and diversifying internationalisation: from theory to practice" where he delivered some opening remarks.



PARTNER



EDUCATION

ASEF's work in Education connects youth, students, teachers, educators, higher education leaders and managers with policy makers across Asia and Europe. Through policy dialogues, capacity building and the creation of bi-regional networks, we contribute to innovation in the formal and non-formal education sector and towards the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN Agenda2030.

Education projects promote intercultural & intergenerational dialogue and engage civil society and government stakeholders in interdisciplinary, technology-driven and lifelong learning opportunities to enhance quality education.

Further, we bring the voice of young people into decision-making spaces and facilitate input into education policies across Asia and Europe.

Learn more about our work in Education: <https://asef.org/themes/education/>



4th ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS4): Navigators Debrief

21 – 25 JUNE 2022 | BANGKOK, THAILAND

The #ASEFYLS4 was a 10-month leadership programme focusing on ‘Sustainable Development in a post-COVID-19 World’, connecting over 180 young people from Asia and Europe. The #Navigators led groups of these young people through a theory phase & Leadership in Action Phase. ASEF brought them together to participate in the [final component of their ASEFYLS4 Leadership Journey](#) – a Debrief and Reporting event in Bangkok, Thailand. This component was held as a side-event of the 43rd ASEF Board of Governors meeting. To learn more about the Navigators Debrief, [click here](#).



Organised by:



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
នាយករដ្ឋមន្ត្រី
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation



In partnership with:



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe



Center for
Creative
Leadership

Contributing to:



ASEF's contribution is made possible with the financial support of the European Union

9th ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education (ARC9)

29 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE

Asia-Europe Higher Education Mapping: Working Towards the SDGs

The [#ARC9](#) bi-annual project was working on two studies in 2022 to map SDGs in higher education across Asia and Europe: **(1) Higher Education Policies on the SDGs** in partnership with the [International Association of Universities \(IAU\)](#) **(2) Higher Education Institutional Practices** on the SDGs. A [Roundtable dialogue session](#) explored initial findings of the studies on 29 November 2022, while the studies have been launched at 10 March 2023. To learn more about the project and the studies [click here](#).



9 9th ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education
ASEM Higher Education Mapping: Working Towards the SDGs

Roundtable Dialogue
Asia-Europe Higher Education Mapping: Working Towards SDGs

Moderated by **Reka TOZSA**
Acting Director, Education Department
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Miguel Antonio LIM
(ARC9 Research Project lead)
University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Doria ABDULLAH (ARC9 Researcher)
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia

Prof N.V. VARGHESE
Vice Chancellor at National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), India

Fabrizio TRIFIRÒ
Head of Quality Benchmark Services, UK ENIC

ASEF ClassNet School Collaborations 2022

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2022
| ONLINE

Innovative Teaching & Learning, STEM Education and Education for Sustainable Development

The 3-month long (Sep-Dec 2022) capacity-building project for teachers at the secondary education level contributed to enhancing teaching & learning environments in secondary, high, and vocational schools across Asia and Europe, along two themes. To read more about the school collaboration, [click here](#).

1) School Collaboration on “Holistic Learning Environments for Innovative Teaching and Learning”

Trained 77 Teachers from 27 ASEM Countries which resulted in the development of [16 Innovative Teaching Practices](#) on various aspects of Holistic Education.



2) School Collaboration on “STEM Education through Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)”

Trained 65 Teachers from 32 ASEM Countries and enabled them to critically reflect on both local and global Climate Change issues. It contributed to introducing Climate Change Education across ASEM through [11 Innovative Teaching Practices](#).



Asia-Europe Connectivity MOOC: Soft Launch

10 DECEMBER 2022 |
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The soft launch of the Asia-Europe Connectivity Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) took place at the Young Indo-Pacific Forum (YIPF) 2022 with the participation of over 40 young participants from Asia & Europe. [Read more here](#).

2. 10th December: ASEF MOOC & Panel Discussions

Place: Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Avenue de l'Yser 11, 1040 Brussels

Registration/Log-in

08:50 "Youth in Multilateralism across Asia & Europe", featuring the soft launch of the ASEM Massive Online Open Course (MOOC), Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

09:00 - 10:30

Freye Chow-Paul & Quentin Fayet (Youth Project Co-coordinators at the Asia-Europe Foundation)

Juan Rayon (President of the Erasmus Student Network)

Ioannis Giogarakis-Angyropoulos (EU Governor for the Asia-Europe Foundation; Head of Division for Regional Affairs, EEAS)


Asia-Europe Connectivity
 Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNANCE

In the field governance, ASEF promotes informal, open and non-confrontational dialogue between civil society and government representatives, particularly in human rights. We also make concrete and practical contributions to the ASEM process by providing a tailored capacity-building training for early-/mid-career diplomats and government officials engaged in public diplomacy efforts. Our work in human rights and public diplomacy complement ASEM's political pillar, a key element of the ASEM Process.

INFORMAL ASEM SEMINAR ON HUMAN RIGHTS (ASEMHRS)

Established in 1997, the Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights Series aims to bring together civil society representatives, academics and government officials from ASEM Partner countries for shared dialogue on human rights.

The 21st Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights (ASEMHRS21)

"This Seminar can make a difference, by contributing to deeper, more meaningful collaboration between Asia and Europe to advance human rights-based environmental action towards our joint goal of stopping the triple planetary crisis."

(Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights at the opening of ASEMHRS21)

Held under the auspices of Host Luxembourg, the 21st Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights was held on the theme of "Human Rights and Climate Change". It brought together over 150 participants and guests for human rights dialogue between academia, national human rights institutes, civil society and government officials from 47 ASEM Partner countries. Due to the uncertainty and global travel restrictions caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Seminar was converted from the originally planned face-to-face meeting to into a hybrid event.

The Seminar was addressed by a number of speakers who reflected on the importance of strengthening human rights integration in climate change policies and actions, as well as enhancing human rights mechanisms for addressing environmental issues. The event was honoured to have the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Michelle BACHELET and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment, Dr David R. BOYD deliver the keynote addresses; with closing reflections from the European Union's Special Representative for Human Rights, Mr Eamon GILMORE, among other experts. The Seminar was also privileged to have Mr Jean ASSELBORN, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The Working Group deliberations and debates at the Seminar successfully came up with concrete [Recommendations](#), which were disseminated among 53 ASEM Partners as well as Co-organisers' networks of institutions and individuals working in the field of human rights and climate change. Read the full Seminar [Publication](#) here.



Side Event during the 51st Human Rights Council Session in Geneva

The Seminar outcomes were also promoted at a [side event](#) entitled “*Regional Efforts to Address Climate-induced Loss and Damage and Human Rights*” during the **51st Human Rights Council (HRC) Session** on 26 September in Geneva, Switzerland and online, which was co-organised in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL).

Capacity-Building Programme on Human Rights-Based Approaches to Adaptation and Mitigation Challenges

Furthermore, the Seminar outcomes also contributed to the development of a 7-week [Human Right Training Programme](#) on “*Climate Action: Human Rights-Based Approaches to Adaptation and Mitigation Challenges*” which ran between October and November and targeted ASEM government agencies and civil society organisations working in international human rights law, environmental law, or climate change mitigation and adaptation.



CO-ORGANISERS



RAOUL WALLENBERG INSTITUTE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA



SPONSORS



Co-funded by the European Union



HOST



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

10th ASEF Public Diplomacy Training (ASEFPDT10)

In 2022, ASEF organised the 10th edition of the ASEF Public Diplomacy Training. The Training started with a 7-week online course delivered by DiploFoundation from 5 September to 20 October 2022. The online training was designed to enhance participants' skills to understand and exchange views; and formulate; develop; and deliver effective public diplomacy campaigns in the context of Asia-Europe relations. These skills were further developed during the face-to-face training which was co-organised by the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary on 21-25 November 2022, in Budapest, Hungary. The face-to-face training also provided a unique opportunity for the junior diplomats to network; collaborate; and share experiences in an informal setting, promoting a deeper understanding of Asia-Europe relations. The Training saw the participation of 28 diplomats from 21 ASEF Partner countries, including alumni from the 8th and 9th editions.



FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING CO-ORGANISERS



HUNGARIAN
DIPLOMATIC
ACADEMY

ONLINE COURSE PROVIDER



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Development as a key theme in ASEF's work is the framework that embraces the crosscutting approach of the environmental, social and economic areas. It focuses strongly on exploring policy solutions and working within the environmental limits on the issues related to sustainable consumption and production, circular economy and climate change.

In order to address the sustainable development thematic area ASEF engages civil society, governments, and businesses on national, regional, and international levels to build capacity on issues of sustainability. We organise workshops, dialogue platforms, and knowledge hub meetings that produce research on sustainability in Asia and Europe. We align our work with the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute to the global debate on climate change through Asia-Europe dialogue facilitation.





Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum)

The Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) provides an inter-regional platform for knowledge-sharing and capacity building for policy makers, businesses and civil society from Asia and Europe on issues related to sustainable development, specifically focusing on circular economy and climate change.

ENVFORUM CONSORTIUM PARTNERS



The Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) “SMEs Going Circular: Decarbonisation of Food Supply Systems”

The Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) “SMEs Going Circular: Decarbonisation of Food Supply Systems” was a 2-day, online international conference aiming to boost the exchange of ideas and solutions on the decarbonisation of the agri-food industry.



As the transition to a circular economy centred on Net-Zero can only be achieved by scaling up collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders involved in the SMEs ecosystem, the conference offered a platform to empower participants to identify challenges, exchange best practices, and brainstorm solutions towards an effective decarbonisation of food supply chains resulting in action oriented policy briefs around the two thematic streams:

1. Circular Transition: SMEs Decarbonisation Enablers.
2. SMEs Decarbonisation Pathways: Innovation for a Cleaner Supply Chain.

In the lead to the conference the research on ASEM practices resulted in creating background paper on “Decarbonisation of Food Systems in Asia and Europe.

The event was made possible thanks to the financial support of the ENVforum partner consortium, consisting of the following institutions:

ENVFORUM CONSORTIUM PARTNERS



Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) Spin-Off Conference: “Circular Industry - Innovation and Digitalisation as Enablers for SMEs”

Taking place as a hybrid event with both online and onsite elements, the ENVforum conference was embedded in the overall programme of the 2022 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum (SDTF), organised by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) on 25-28 October 2022.

The event focused on two themes:

- 1) Circular Economy as a Strategy for Decarbonisation: The Role of SMEs as Enablers for Decarbonisation
- 2) Green and Digital Transition: Advancements in the Circular Industry in Asia and Europe

The conference focused on exchange of knowledge and experiences on SMEs' contributions towards sustainable, green, and digital transitions in the food industry sector by providing a platform for multistakeholder engagement of policymakers, academia and research community, the business community, and civil society organisations from ASEM countries. It was the first opportunity to connect and facilitate dialogue with participants from over 25 countries the challenges of green and digital transformation.

The event was made possible thanks to the financial support of the ENVforum partner consortium, consisting of the following institutions:

ENVFORUM CONSORTIUM PARTNERS



HOSTED BY

PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK

Since its launch in 2009, ASEF Public Health Network (ASEF PHN) has been promoting the bi-regional exchange of public health priorities with a strong focus on emerging infectious diseases (EIDs), including pandemic influenza. ASEF PHN has been working on the following topics: Risk Communication for Public Health Emergencies, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and Pandemic and the Economy.

In alignment with the UN 2030 Agenda, ASEF's work in Public Health contributes to the following sustainable development goals:



ASEF PHN is financially supported by the Government of Japan.

ASEF Events:

2022 High-level Meeting on Risk Communication for Public Health Emergencies: The Role of Risk Communication in Pandemics

ASEF Public Health Network, in partnership with **Public Health Wales**, held its annual [High-level Meeting on Risk Communication for Public Health Emergencies](#) in hybrid mode in Cardiff, Wales (UK) on **19-20 October 2022**. The meeting focused on sharing best practices and lessons learnt to overcome the difficulties implementing effective risk communication. With **22 in-person and 72 online registered attendees hailing from over 20 ASEM Partner countries**, the event included panel sessions followed by Q&As and a **Simulated Emergency Exercise (SIMEX)**. The participants shared lived experiences, case studies, and common challenges faced whilst implementing risk communication during the COVID-19 pandemic. Leveraging the SIMEX, they undertook a comprehensive and practical critical reflective analysis of the risk communication response. The event not only facilitated **knowledge sharing** amongst Asia-Europe Risk Communication practitioners, but also identified areas of **international, intersectoral collaboration** to improve Risk Communication for future Public Health Emergencies.



Expanding ASEF Public Health Network's International Footprint in 2022

In 2022, ASEF Public Health Network expanded its international footprint by **attending a variety of multilateral, multisectoral fora** to contribute to the field of Public Health with the focus on EIDs. Such international events and meetings included but were not limited to: the [7th Global Health Security Agenda Ministerial Meeting](#) (28-30 November, Republic of Korea), and online meetings of [AMR Action Package](#) and [Sustainable Financing for Preparedness Action Package](#) under Global [Health Security Agenda](#), which ASEF PHN is member of, amongst others.

In 2022, ASEF Public Health Network successfully joined the [UHC 2030 initiative](#) and was nominated to be a **task force member** preparing for the UNGA high-level meeting on the subject in 2023. Upon WHO's invitation, ASEF PHN also became a **permanent member** of the [WHO Global Strategic Preparedness Network \(GSPN\)](#) and [ASEF PHN's contribution is accessible via WHO's Strategic Partnership for Health Security and Emergency Preparedness \(SPH\) Portal](#).



STOCKPILE UNIT

About The Unit:

Following the 6th ASEM Summit in 2006, where Asian and European leaders expressed their determination to combat avian influenza and a possible human influenza pandemic, the ASEM Initiative for the Rapid Containment of Pandemic Influenza, financially supported by the Government of Japan, was approved in principle at the ASEM Senior Officials Meeting in 2008. It was officially launched at the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting in 2009. Since then, the 2 components of the Initiative (ASEM Stockpiling of Anti-viral Drugs and Personal Protective Equipment, as well as ASEM Public Health Network) have contributed to strengthening ASEM Partners' capacity to manage public health emergencies.

The ASEM Stockpiling of Anti-viral Drugs and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), also known as the Stockpile Project plays a significant role in enhancing ASEM Partners' capacity for pandemic preparedness and response by stockpiling and distributing critical resources, including antiviral drugs and PPE.

Additional funding has been received through the Third Japan Trust Fund (JTF3) to the Stockpile Project which aims to deliver projects for "Strengthening Preparedness and Response to the COVID-19 and other Emerging Infectious Diseases".

In 2022, the Stockpile Project made significant progress in the area of pandemic preparedness while supplying critical health resources under its humanitarian efforts. Some of the key highlights are;

- I. 5 Apr 2022 – Utilising US\$9.5 million from JTF3 for WHO's Emergency Response to address COVID-19 and other infectious Diseases in Ukraine and neighboring countries (Phase 1)
 - a) The support has been pivotal in enabling WHO deliver its life-saving response in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czech Republic, and Moldova through:
 - i. Medical equipment, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
 - ii. Ensuring the continuity of COVID-19 services in Ukraine and extending access to COVID-19 services to refugee populations, including vaccination, public health measures, testing, and medical care;
 - iii. Preventing and responding to vaccine-preventable diseases, Measles, and Polio; and
 - iv. Other Response Actions under the Project such as public health response to HIV and Tuberculosis
- II. 9 Sept 2022 - 28,600 courses of Tamiflu were donated to Mongolia.

International Events:

The Stockpile Unit participated in international events organised by external partners:

- 16 March 2022: “We Need To Do Better: Climate Related Disasters and Child Protection in Southeast Asia” hosted by The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- 7 April 2022: “Laws, Disasters and Public Health Emergencies in the Pacific” hosted by The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- 2 June 2022: “Our planet, our health -Perspectives on Planetary Health” hosted by Friends of WHO, Japan.

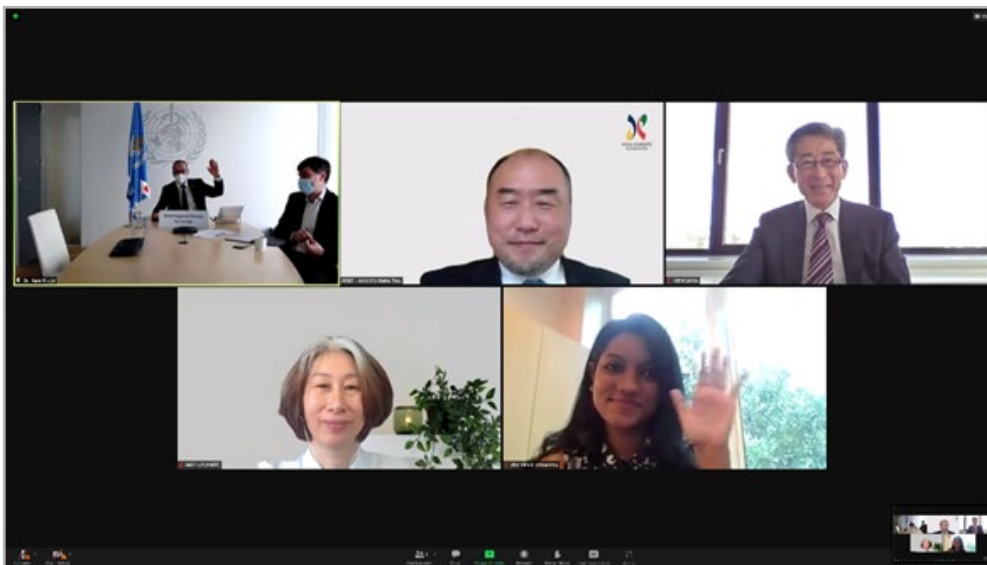


Photo of the virtual signing ceremony (WHO EURO, Embassy of Japan in Denmark, and ASEF)



Photo of WHO Staff in a Warehouse in Ukraine Housing Medical Equipment for Internally Displaced People

The Stockpile project is funded by the Government of Japan



ASEF AT EXTERNAL EVENTS

PAMS (Performing Arts Market in Seoul) 2022

HYBRID, 26-29 SEPTEMBER 2022

ASEF Culture Director, Valentina Riccardi, was invited as Speaker to the online discussion organised on 29 September by PAMS - Performing Arts Market in Seoul, an annual performing arts platform organized by the Korea Arts Management Service (KAMS), with support from the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (MCST). Titled International Exchanges in the New Era of Deglobalization, and Sustainability, the panel explored how arts and culture institutions such as ASEF embrace more sustainable, long-term and balanced international exchanges.

PARTNER



Singapore International Foundation (SIF) panel “The Art of Sustainability”

ONLINE, 7 OCTOBER 2022

ASEF Culture Director, Valentina Riccardi, took part as Speaker to the webinar organised on 7 October by the Singapore International Foundation (SIF) on the topic of arts and sustainability. The panel shared their approaches in galvanising action towards community engagement and environmental sustainability. It also explored the role that the arts, culture and participatory design can play in being agents of change.



PARTNER



EU Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE)

THROUGHOUT 2022

[The EU Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region \(SHARE\)](#) Programme partnered ASEF on several occasion to promote student mobility and harmonisation of higher education systems:

The 14th SHARE Policy Dialogue “The Contribution of Higher Education Partnerships in Southeast Asia towards the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030”

29-31 MARCH 2022,
BANGKOK, THAILAND

ASEF was invited to facilitate a session on “Inclusion as a Precondition to Higher Education Partnerships to Achieve the SDGs”. [Read more here.](#)



The 15th SHARE Policy Dialogue “Envisioning the Future of a Common Higher Education Space in Southeast Asia”

27-28 JULY 2022,
HA NOI, VIET NAM

ASEF was invited to speak at the conference and participate in the work of the ASEAN Working Group on Higher Education Mobility (AWGHEM) which officially launched the ‘Roadmap on the ASEAN Higher Education Space 2025 and its Implementation Plan.’ Link to the press release [here](#), watch the recording of the event [here](#).



SHARE Roadshow: Alumni Engagement Workshop

5-6 OCTOBER 2022, PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

ASEF was invited to facilitate and support the development of the SHARE alumni network. [Read more here.](#)



SHARE Closing Event

6 DECEMBER 2022, JAKARTA, INDONESIA

ASEF was invited to facilitate and support the development of the SHARE alumni network. [Read more here.](#)



UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC) 2022

18-20 MAY 2022 | BARCELONA, SPAIN

WHEC2022 was held with the objective to reshape ideas and practices in higher education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity. ASEF contributed with a video campaign promoting the youth voice in the dialogue, with alumni from **ASEFYLS4** sharing the risks and opportunities for **Quality Education across Asia and Europe**. [Read more here](#)

The UK-SEA PEER Seminar

28 JUNE 2022 IN BANGKOK, THAILAND (ONLINE)

The UK-Southeast Asia Higher Education and Research Partnerships (UK-SEA PEER) is an international research study combining British & Asian perspectives. This seminar explored the topic: **'We can't take inclusive and equal partnerships for granted'**. ASEF is a partner in the UK-SEA PEER Project. [Read more here](#).

EU CHARM Inclusion Conference

16 SEPTEMBER 2022, ONLINE

The conference explored **"Creating an Inclusive University: Access and Participation in European Higher Education: Challenges and Enablers"**. ASEF was invited to support the conference and to facilitate group discussions. Read more [here](#).

ESN Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility (SIEM) Conference

3-4 OCTOBER 2022,
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

ASEF was invited by the [Erasmus Student Network](#) to speak on inclusion and mobility bringing forward perspectives from both Asia and Europe. ASEF presented findings of the [ASEM National Equity Policies in Higher Education Report](#) and the [Achieving Inclusive Higher Education in the ASEAN Region](#) study. [Read more here](#).

ASEAN Youth Conference 2022

7-9 OCTOBER 2022, PHNOM
PENH, CAMBODIA

The [ASEAN Youth Organisation](#) conveyed youth leaders from the region to explore the theme of **"Collaborative Development Post COVID-19 pandemic"**, in accordance with Cambodia's chairmanship of ASEAN. ASEF facilitated 2 workshops during the conference, focused on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Pillar. [Read more here](#).

Times Higher Education Global Sustainable Development Congress

31 OCTOBER – 2 NOVEMBER
2022, GLASGOW,
UNITED KINGDOM

The Congress explored the topic of **"Uniting higher education, governments, industry and society for a sustainable future"** and brought together higher education, governments, industry and civil society. Two [ASEFYLS4](#) Alumni were invited to speak on the panel **"SDG futures: The role of young people in galvanising support for SDGs"**. [Read more here](#).





2022 Inter-Regional Research Symposium

23-25 NOVEMBER 2022,
BANGKOK, THAILAND

The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Center for Higher Education ([SEAMEO-RIHED](#)) organised symposium provided a platform for research on **‘Sustainable Learning in Higher Education: Towards Sustainable Development’**, concerning regional progress in higher education. ASEF is a member of the organising committee of the symposium. ASEF facilitated the panel on **‘Inter-regional Outlook: Higher Education Working Towards the SDGs’** where initial findings of the ARC9 study were discussed. Read more [here](#).



Asia-Europe Youth Forum on Green Development

28 NOVEMBER – 2 DECEMBER
2022, XI'AN, CHINA

The Forum was held under the theme of **“Building Global Partnership for Green Development”** to foster in-depth discussion on promoting green economy, ecosystem quality, climate actions, and low-carbon innovation. ASEF was invited to speak during this programme.

Going Global Asia Pacific Conference 2022 (GGAPC)

28 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER 2022,
SINGAPORE

The GGAPC, organised by the British council, aimed at leaders in education with a focus on the Asia Pacific region. ARC9 Researchers presented the initial findings during the panel on **‘Enhancing university’s third mission through teaching and research’**. University and civil society leaders visited the ASEF Office in Singapore and participated in discussions on the role of higher education in advancing the SDGs. [Read more here.](#)



Young Indo-Pacific Forum (YIPF) 2022

9-14 DECEMBER 2022,
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Through the topic of **‘Hybrid Threats’ – Youth Perspectives and Narratives**, YIPF welcomed global, 40 young participants to discover EU-Indo-Pacific insights. ASEF joined as a key partner supporting logistics and contributing to the programme content. [Read more here.](#)



Global Health Security Conference

28 JUNE-1 JULY, SINGAPORE

ASEF PHN was invited to speak at the roundtable dialogue on health security preparedness organised by the World Health Organization (WHO) at the 2022 Global Health Security Conference held in Singapore. [Read more here.](#)



ECDC Risk Communication Workshop

13-14 SEPTEMBER,
STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

As a keynote speaker, ASEF PHN was invited to share perspectives and experiences from Asia on Risk Communication at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Training Workshop in Risk Communication in Stockholm, Sweden. [Read more here.](#)



Regional conference and consultation on lessons from COVID-19 communications and stakeholder engagement

26-27 OCTOBER,
BANGKOK,
THAILAND

Upon invitation by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), ASEF PHN attended the workshop entitled above as a development partner. PHN took part in a panel session as a speaker. [Read more here.](#)

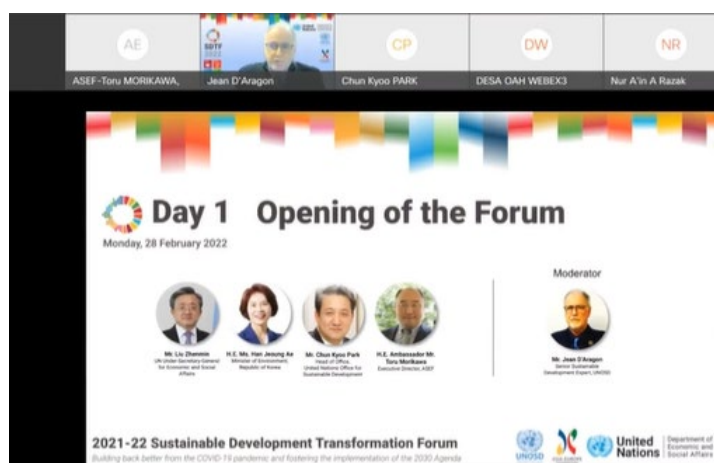


Sustainable Development Transition Forum (SDTF) 2022 Virtual

25-28 OCTOBER 2022 /
INCHEON / KOREA

The overarching objective of the 2022 SDTF was closely linked to the High Level Political Forum 2022, aiming to offer a platform for capacity building, policy dialogue and knowledge sharing for building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic and advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Forum aimed to achieve a better understanding of success, challenges, lessons learned, and good practices related to the implementation of SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17, the impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on those and across all the SDGs, and to identify potential solutions and share them with relevant stakeholders.

ASEF is a knowledge partner in the project since its inception in 2012 contributing to the sessions dedicated to the topics of Quality Education, Gender Equality and Life on Land. The collaboration allowed the ENVforum to provide the input to the HLPF on Education and and Life on Land by sharing the decarbonisation solutions in food supply chains.



ORGANISERS



PARTNER / CO-ORGANISER



HOST



Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Sustainable Development Transition Forum (SDTF) 2022 – Face to Face

The SDTF aimed to provide in-depth review during the HLPF in July 2023, namely SDGs 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, 9 on the industry, innovation, and infrastructure, 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals.

It gathered 120 participants in Incheon to share knowledge and discuss “Accelerating the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels. The AEF as a knowledge Partner contributed to the discussions on the SDG 9 on the industry, innovation, and infrastructure by feeding the outcomes of the Incheon Communique directly.



HOST



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

PARTNER / CO-ORGANISER



2022 Sustainable Development Transformation FORUM

Accelerating the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels

25 – 28 October 2022 | Incheon City, Republic of Korea

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs | UNOSD | Ministry of Environment | Incheon Metropolitan City | ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION | Korea Environment Corporation | Incheon Tourism Organization | arirang

COP 27 side event on Nature-Based Solutions

The official side event on “Promoting Nature-based Solutions through the Article 6.2 Cooperative Approaches in the Forest Sector” took place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt on 8 October in Korean Pavilion. Keynote: H.E. Kyung-won Na, Special Presidential Envoy of the Republic of Korea delivered opening remarks underlying the importance of learning from nature as one of the key strategies to ensuring carbon neutrality. Event also launched the ASEF’s research project focused on NbS solutions in Asian cities contributing to carbon neutrality.

The ASEF’s work on circular economy and climate change has been also expanded by speaking at and attending a number of international events to share the outcomes of the ENVforum forum. As a result of the COP27 participation, ASEF has joined the “Coalition for Innovation, Circularity and Entrepreneurship (CICE), A Collective Action Catalyst for an SME-led Circular Low-Carbon Transition”.

ORGANISED BY



ASEF AT ASEM EVENTS

ASEM Intermediate Education Senior Officials Meeting 2022 (ISOM)

24-25 NOVEMBER 2022 IN MALTA

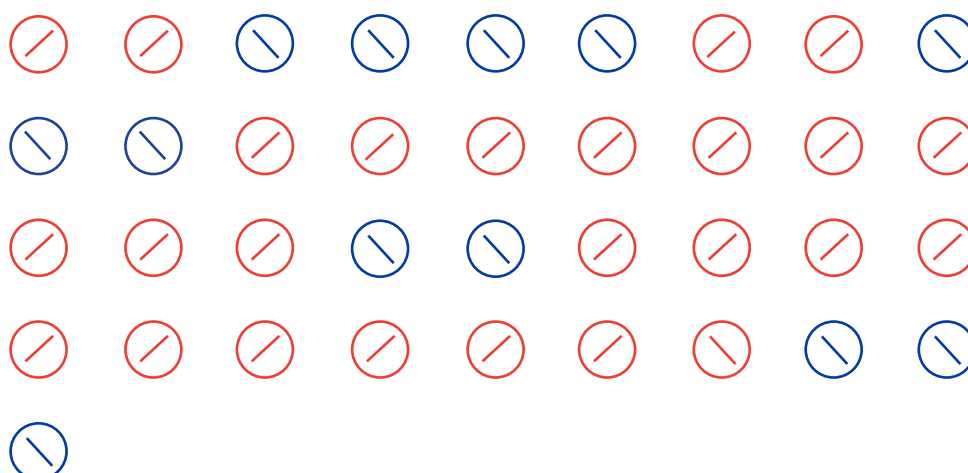
The Intermediate Senior Officials Meeting (ISOM) titled “**Implementation of the ASEM Education Vision and Strategy 2030**” was organised by the ASEM Education Secretariat and the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) in Malta. ASEF conducted a workshop with policymakers titled “**ASEM Higher Education Mapping: policies and practices working towards SDGs**”. To learn more about ISOM, [click here](#).



HUMAN RESOURCES

ASEF Staff Strength as on 31 December 2022	Male	Female	Total
CE		03	03
COM	03	01	04
EDU*	02	04	06
EO (include Stockpile)	04	07	11
F&A	03	03	06
GSD	01	06	07
Total	13	24	37

Nationality Breakdown	Asia	Europe
Bangladesh	01	
China	01	
Finland		01
France		02
Hungary		01
India	01	
Indonesia	01	
Italy		03
Japan	03	
Malaysia	02	
Mongolia	01	
Philippines	04	
Poland		01
Portugal		01
Singapore	11	
Slovenia		01
Switzerland		01
United Kingdom		01
Total	25	12



WHO WE ARE

(as at 31 December 2022)



Toru Morikawa
Executive Director (Japan)

Preeti Gaonkar
Acting Director, Operations (India)

Saifudin Hamjuri Bin Samsuri
Project Manager (Singapore)

Sanja Dundovic
Senior Executive Assistant (Slovenia)

Enkhjin Bayarkhuu
Senior Project Funds Manager (Mongolia)

David Jourdan
Associate Director, Digital & IT (France)



Jeannie Lim
HR Manager (Singapore)

Cynthia Yeo
Senior HR Executive (Singapore)

Mai Fujii
Associate Director, Co-ordinator for
Pandemic P&R (Japan)

Felix Golez
Finance Project Manager (Philippines)

Sharmila Krishnasamy
Senior Project Executive (Malaysia)

Chua Thai Keong
Director (Singapore)



Donny Sandjaya Suparman
Senior Project Executive (Indonesia)

Bruna Antonio
Project Executive (Portugal)

Sathish Murugayah
Project Executive (Singapore)

Valentina Riccardi
Director (Italy)

Giulia Poli
Senior Project Executive (Italy)

Huang Haiqi
Project Executive (China)



Reka Tozsa
Acting Director (Hungary)

Angie Toh
Senior Admin/Project Manager (Singapore)

Jyoti Rahaman
Project Executive (Bangladesh)

Freya Chow-Paul
Project Executive (United Kingdom)

Miguel Pangalangan
Project Executive (Philippines)

Quentin Fayet
Project Executive (Switzerland)



Laure Du Teilhet
Director (France)

Grazyna Pulawska
Associate Director (Poland)

Riko Kimoto
Senior Project Manager (Japan)

Nur A'in Binte Abd Razak
Project Executive (Singapore)

Armi Hannele Aarni
Senior Project Manager (Finland)

Elizabeth C. DY
Admin Executive (Philippines)



Alessandro Sereni
Project Executive/Admin (Italy)

Lam Kong Chai
Director (Singapore)

Tan Siam Luang
Finance Manager (Singapore)

Irene Yap
Senior Accounts Executive (Singapore)

Michael Laserna
Senior Administrative Executive (Philippines)

Eason Chong
Accounts Executive (Malaysia)



Sarbjit Kaur
Accountant (Singapore)

Other Staff:

Octaviano Trishia Panlaqui (Philippines), SPE, GSD (up to Jun 2022); **Leonie Karen Nagarajan** (Germany), Director, EDU (Aug 2022); **Simon PIOLDI** (Germany), PE, GSD (Aug 2022); **Mehreen Tanvir** (Pakistan), SPE, COM (Sep 2022); **Meera Kaur Bal** (Singapore), COS, EO (Oct 2022); **Leon Paul FABER** (Luxembourg), DED, EO (Nov 2022)

Financial Information

*Unaudited figures as at 31 Dec 2022
Receipts have been converted to Singapore Dollars SGD at transaction date rates

2022 INFORMATION (SGD)					YTD 1997 to 2022 (SGD)			
S/N	MEMBERS	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION	OPERATING	TOTAL PROJECT FUND (Incl. Trust Fund)	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION 1997 - 2022	TOTAL OPERATING FUND	TOTAL PROJECT FUND (Incl. Trust Fund)	TOTAL RESERVE FUND
01	ASEAN Secretariat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
02	Australia	53,474.16	53,474.16	0.00	678,187	678,187	0	0
03	Austria	54,593.14	54,593.14	0.00	2,386,587	2,386,587	0	0
04	Bangladesh	20,526.93	20,526.93	0.00	184,788	184,788	0	0
05	Belgium ¹	10,380.14	0.00	10,380.14	2,663,165	1,111,460	145,026	1,406,678
06	Brunei Darussalam	81,088.20	81,088.20	0.00	2,855,746	2,855,746	0	0
07	Bulgaria	33,459.84	33,459.84	0.00	541,965	541,964	0	0
08	Cambodia	13,514.70	13,514.70	0.00	211,565	211,565	0	0
09	China	1414,943.00	339,586.32	1075,356.68	14,007,997	8,904,383	5,103,614	0
10	Croatia	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,379	23,379	0	0
11	Cyprus	7,671.02	7,671.02	0.00	160,022	160,021	0	0
12	Czech Republic	58,817.00	58,817.00	0.00	939,863	939,863	0	0
13	Denmark	176,011.50	0.00	176,011.50	4,825,502	4,320,041	505,461	0
14	Estonia	15,396.26	15,396.26	0.00	276,317	276,317	0	0
15	European Union	0.00	0.00	0.00	26,214,631	4,389,163	19,972,069	1,853,400
16	Finland	36,077.34	36,077.34	0.00	4,177,702	4,177,702	0	0
17	France	126,469	28,402.91	98,066.69	9,092,821	1,845,625	6,232,796	1,014,400
18	Germany	317,846.10	317,846.10	0.00	10,026,756	10,026,756	0	0
19	Greece	0.00	0.00	0.00	403,401	377,871	0	25,530
20	Hungary	37,869.98	37,869.98	0.00	1,083,472	1,083,472	0	0
21	India	162,468.12	162,468.12	0.00	2,472,121	2,472,121	0	0
22	Indonesia	80,900.77	80,900.77	0.00	2,009,533	2,009,533	0	0
23	Ireland	147,493.50	147,493.50	0.00	3,336,633	3,336,633	0	0
24	Italy	23,397	23,397	0.00	2,300,865	2,300,865	0	0
25	Japan ³	665,551.83	183,294.83	482,257.00	84,893,080	5,591,083	79,301,998	0
26	Kazakhstan	30,522.86	30,522.86	0.00	238,774	238,774	0	0
27	Korea	276,128.40	276,128.40	0.00	7,784,009	6,096,071	345,900	1,342,038
28	Lao PDR	6,776.02	6,776.02	0.00	124,774	124,774	0	0
29	Latvia	32,349.87	32,349.87	0.00	566,326	566,326	0	0
30	Lithuania	28,245.76	28,245.76	0.00	404,245	404,245	0	0
31	Luxembourg	124,611.42	124,611.42	0.00	7,205,808	6,151,954	0	1,053,853
32	Malaysia	82,838.52	82,838.52	0.00	2,040,364	1,474,453	0	565,911
33	Malta	3,835.51	3,835.51	0.00	67,773	67,773	0	0
34	Mongolia	9,581.43	9,581.43	0.00	94,596	94,596	0	0
35	Myanmar ²	26,814.71	26,814.71	0.00	444,856	444,856	0	0
36	Netherlands	98,860.16	0.00	98,860.16	3,955,773	3,525,858	429,915	0
37	New Zealand	0.00	0.00	0.00	974,965	974,965	0	0
38	Norway	140,939.00	140,939.00	0.00	1,359,596	1,322,099	37,497	0
39	Pakistan	0.00	0.00	0.00	505,325	505,325	0	0
40	Philippines	84,339.63	84,339.63	13,217	1,709,140	1,682,290	26,850	0
41	Poland	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400,615	1,400,615	0	0
42	Portugal	24,439.39	24,439.39	0.00	1,586,205	708,892	0	877,313
43	Romania ²	31,887.54	31,887.54	0.00	485,105	485,105	0	0
44	Russian Federation	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,814,029	1,814,029	0	0
45	Singapore ¹	262,924.60	0.00	0.00	9,484,341	6,055,041	0	3,429,300
46	Slovakia	14,122.88	14,122.88	0.00	171,145	171,145	0	0
47	Slovenia	15,209.02	15,209.02	0.00	385,487	385,487	0	0
48	Spain	70,614.40	70,614.40	0.00	3,168,432	3,168,432	0	0
49	Sweden	84,694.47	84,694.47	0.00	3,840,410	3,840,410	0	0
50	Switzerland ¹	293,771.69	239,122.98	54,648.71	2,216,055	1,871,441	344,614	0
51	Thailand	103,292.85	103,292.85	0.00	2,974,219	1,576,104	0	1,398,114
52	United Kingdom	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,453,044	1,038,609	1,414,436	0
53	Vietnam	40,617.03	40,617.03	0.00	892,983	892,983	0	0
	TOTAL SGD	5,141,005.69	3,145,424.81	1,995,580.88	234,114,490	107,287,776	113,860,175	12,966,538

This table (denominated in Singapore dollars) lays out the receipt/receivable¹ of funding from ASEF members countries by calendar year for reference. The financial year for Years 1997-2005 was from 1 April to 31 March. In 2006, the financial year was changed to end on 31 December. **Footnote:** ¹Include amount receivable for previous year & year 2022. ²Amount received for previous year contribution. ³Total include amount received for Japan Stockpile (JTF3).

NOTE: RECEIPTS HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO SGD AT TRANSACTION DATE RATES

The contributions received from ASEF Members are placed under the following funds in accordance with the declarations made by the contributors:

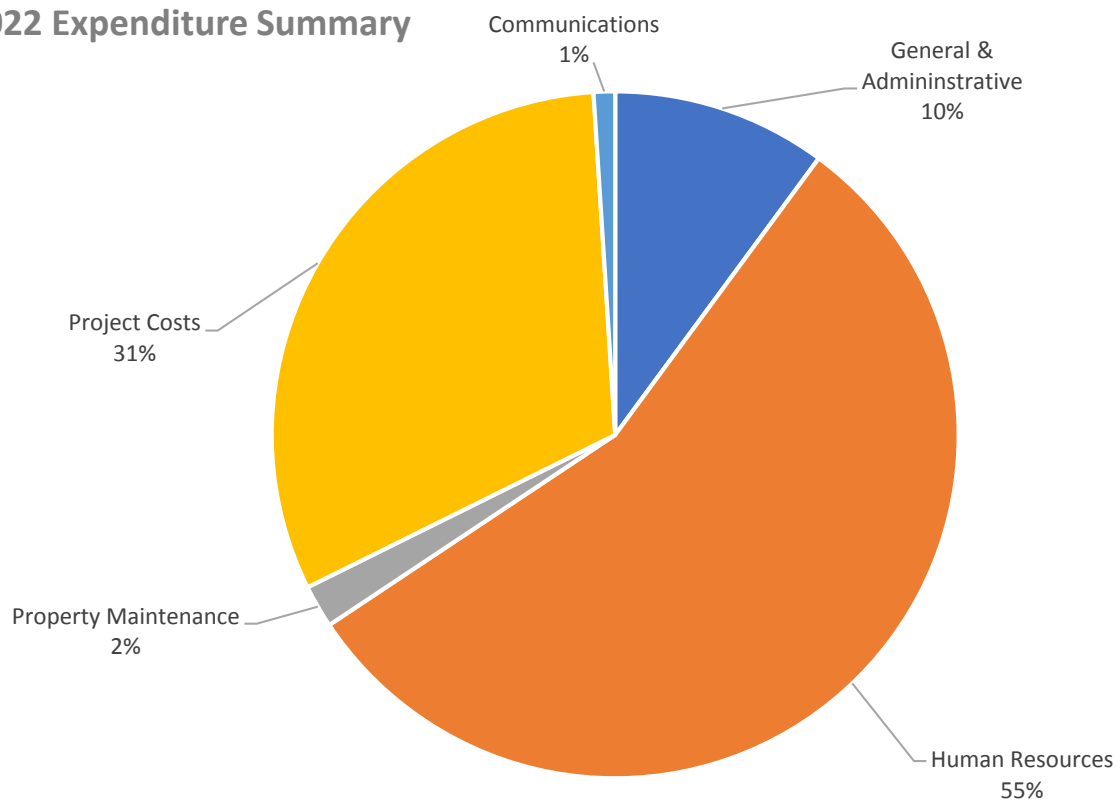
a. Operating Fund Contributions received are utilised for the operating requirements of ASEF.

b. Project Fund Contributions received are utilised for the funding of projects. In the case of trust funds, contributions received are ear-marked for specific projects, the utilisation of which requires prior approval from the contributing member.

c. Reserve Fund Contributions received are invested, with income generated being used to finance activities of ASEF if necessary.

2022 Summary of Expenditure

2022 Expenditure Summary



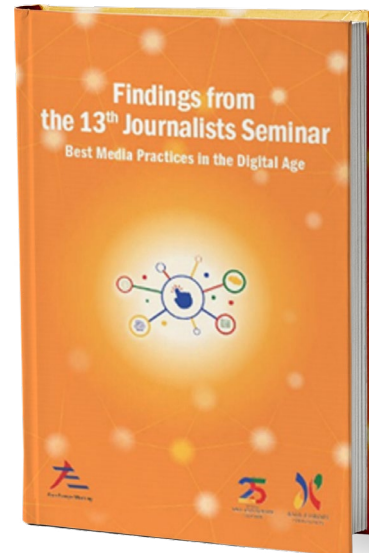
PUBLICATION

Findings from the 13th Journalists Seminar

PUBLISHED: JUNE 2023

The publication aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the 13th ASEF Journalists Seminar held in Singapore in 2022, focusing on its key topic “Best Media Practices in Digital Age”, discussions, and outcomes. Additionally, it explores the participants’ perspectives and experiences, and captures the dynamic field of journalism in the Asia-Europe context.

[Download the report here](#)



The Creative Resource Guide Crafts in Asia: Pathways to Sustainability

ASEF culture360 produced a new Green Guide on sustainable textile practices and crafts in Asia addressing climate change, pollution and waste. This Creative Resource Guide highlights the key role played by crafts in providing practical solutions to face the climate crisis at hand. Written by textile historian, freelance cultural writer and documentarist Magali An Berthon, the guide presents a directory of 12 case studies and 3 in-depth interviews from indigenous and local communities in China-Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, South Korea and Viet Nam. This Guide follows on the series initiated in 2019 with The Creative Resource Guide: Crafting Laos and Cambodia, looking at crafts and innovation in Cambodia and Lao PDR.

[Link to Publication.](#)



Achieving Inclusive Higher Education in the ASEAN Region

PUBLISHED: MARCH 2022

This report aims to better understand the current state of policies and practices as well as opportunities and challenges to equity and inclusion in ASEAN higher education institutions (HEIs). Authored by students of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, in collaboration with ASEF.

[Download the report here:](#)

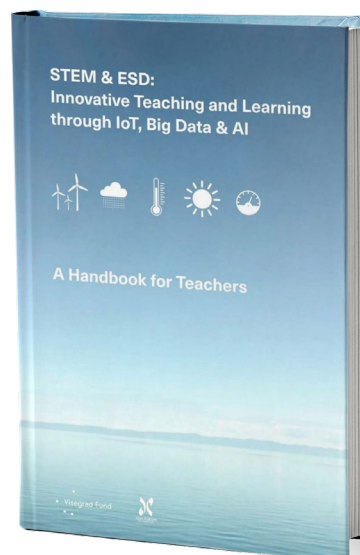


STEM & ESD: Innovative Teaching and Learning through IoT, Big Data and AI. A Handbook for Teachers.

PUBLISHED: APRIL 2022

The Handbook aims to empower K-12 teachers in the four Visegrad (V4) countries, the ASEM region and beyond and inspire teaching and learning in an innovative, engaging, and interdisciplinary way. It features theoretical background on using IoT, Big Data and AI in teaching, and also offers practical teaching modules, ready for teachers to be utilised.

[Download the report here:](#)

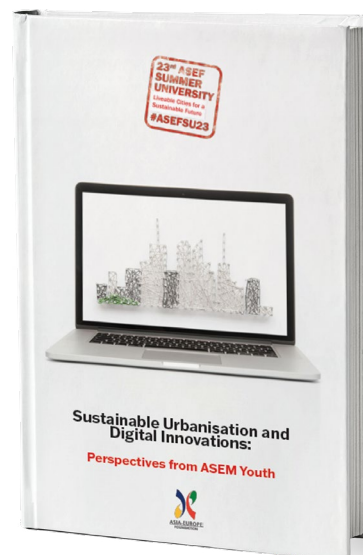


Sustainable Urbanisation and Digital Innovations: Perspectives from ASEM Youth

PUBLISHED: AUGUST 2022

The publication is a unique compilation of 74 selected essays by the ASEFSU23 participants on the urban challenges they face in their cities & communities and how digital innovations could be harnessed to tackle these challenges. The digital solutions imagined by these young Asians & Europeans can help envision and shape the liveable cities of tomorrow.

[Download the report here:](#)

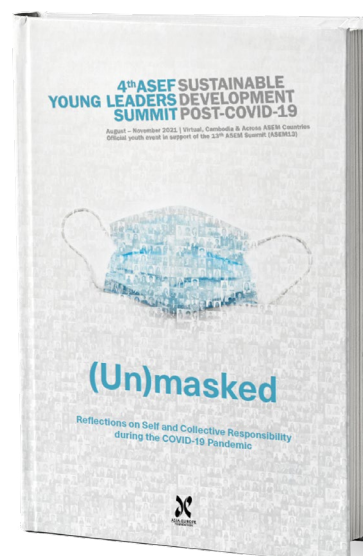


(Un)masked: Reflections on Self and Collective Responsibility during the COVID-19 Pandemic

PUBLISHED: FEBRUARY 2023

The publication brings together the perspectives of 80 young people from Asia & Europe – sharing their individual experiences amidst the pandemic, as well as their observations on youth around them. This publication can be taken as a unique historical snapshot, with each of their op-eds highlighting the complexities in navigating the ethical obligations of individuals to keep our societies healthy & safe.

[Download the report here:](#)



Publication on Climate Change Mitigation

PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 2022

The study titled “Overview of Climate Change Mitigation Efforts in ASEM Partner Countries: Outlook on the Circular Economy Transition” provides a detailed overview of climate change mitigation efforts in the 51 partner countries of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process and offers a set of policy recommendations to strengthen decarbonisation efforts towards net-zero ambitions. With currently emitting more than half of the global GHG emissions, #ASEM countries have a crucial role in contributing to fast paced decarbonization efforts and move towards a low-carbon development pathway set out by the Paris Agreement.

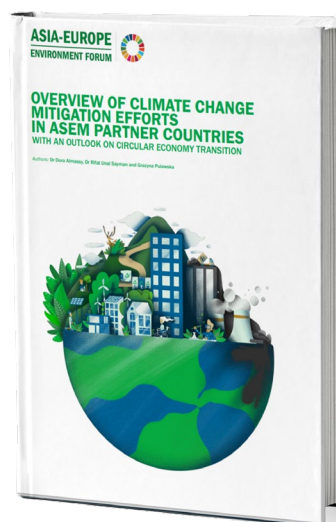
[Download the report here:](#)

Highlights of the report:

- In-depth analysis of GHG emissions in ASEM
- Overview of national climate mitigation commitments via the assessment of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Mapping of climate policy frameworks
- Summary of implementation actions in key emitting sectors

The publication was made possible thanks to the financial support of the ENVforum partner consortium, consisting of the following institutions:

ENVFORUM PARTNERS



Human Rights and Climate Change

16-18 MARCH 2022 IN LUXEMBOURG AND ONLINE

The publication provides an overview of the key concepts and the current state-of-play on the advances made across Asia and Europe to integrate human rights into climate action. It also makes a number of recommendations to ASEM Partners and other stakeholders as to the steps that they may wish to consider in their efforts to improve the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change. The publication is based on the 21st Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights and Climate Change (ASEMHRS21) held on 16-18 March 2022 in Luxembourg and online.

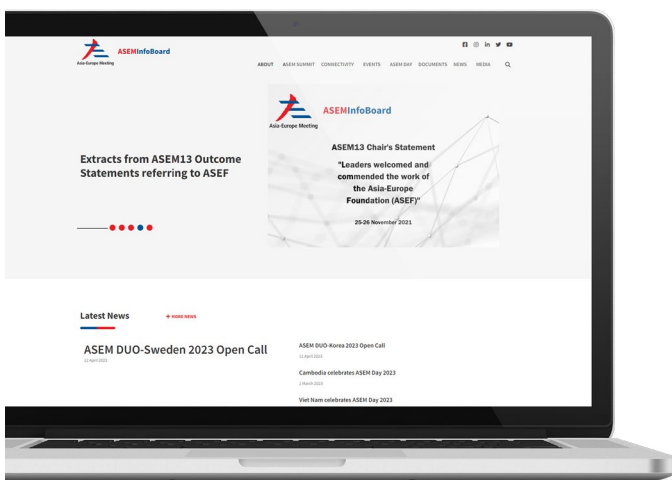
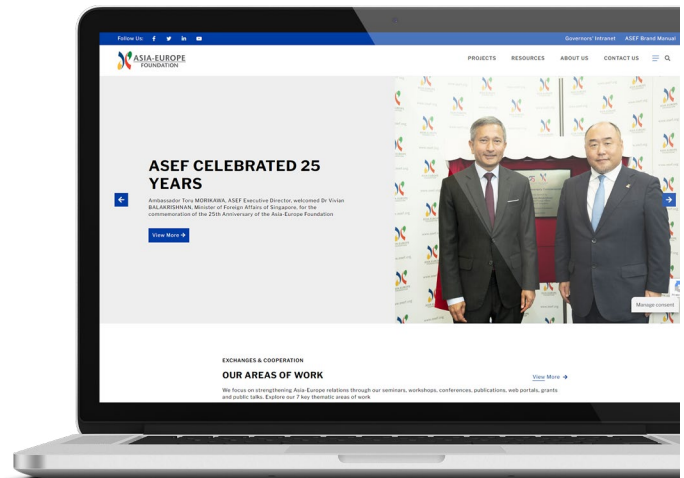
[Download the report here:](#)



WEBSITE

www.ASEF.org

ASEF.org is the official website of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), serving as a central hub for promoting collaboration and dialogue between Asia and Europe. As the primary online platform of this prominent intergovernmental organization, the website offers a wide range of resources and features designed to facilitate knowledge exchange, cultural understanding, and people-to-people connections. ASEF.org showcases the impactful projects undertaken by ASEF across seven thematic areas: Culture, Economy, Education, Governance, Media, Public Health and Sustainable Development. By providing a gateway for stakeholders to engage in meaningful partnerships and collaborations, the website plays a pivotal role in promoting and strengthening inter-regional cooperation between Asia and Europe.

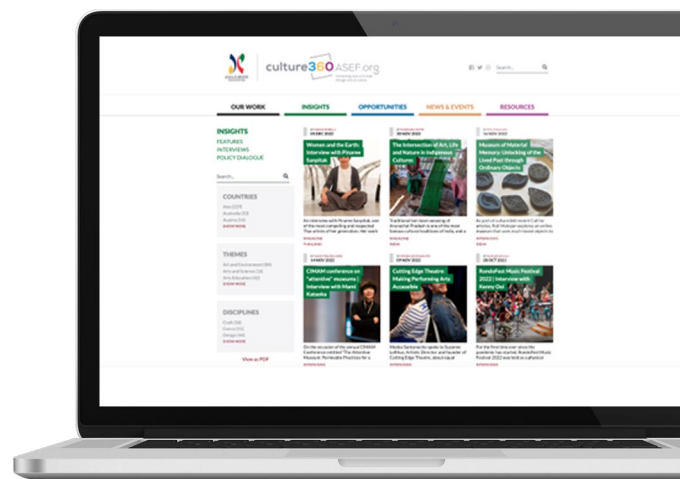


www.aseminfoboard.org

The ASEM InfoBoard (AIB) website is the only official digital platform of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). It is a one-stop online information hub for all ASEM meetings, conference documents and ASEM news. As decided at ASEMFM6, ASEF was mandated to manage AIB on behalf of 53 ASEM Partners since 2004. The ASEM InfoBoard website provides comprehensive resources, including news articles, event listings, policy documents, and publications, offering stakeholders a reliable source of information on ASEM-related activities.

culture360.asef.org

ASEF culture360 is a digital information hub for arts and culture communities across Asia and Europe offering up-to-date information on arts, culture and heritage from 51 ASEM Partners. For over 15 years, this online platform has served as a “one stop shop” for relevant arts news, opportunities, and events that are relevant for individual artists, arts organisations and cultural policymakers in the ASEM region, in line with the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG16. It remains the only website offering such a service in the ASEM context and has been recognised as a good model of information exchange between the two regions by UNESCO, the UN’s agency for culture and the European Union.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook

3.7% Growth Rate in Fans

27K Engagements

6.3M Users Reached

Facebook Channels:

- » Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
- » Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)
- » ASEFEdu
- » ASEF Culture360
- » ASEF Public Health Network



LinkedIn

26% Growth Rate in Fans

5.1K Engagements

158K Users Reached

LinkedIn Channels:

- » Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
- » Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)
- » ASEFEdu

Twitter

14.4% Growth Rate in Fans

17K Engagements

2K Link clicks

1K Mentions

Twitter Channels:

- » @aseforg
- » @asiaeuropemt看
- » @asef_PHN
- » @ASEF Culture360
- » @asefedu

Instagram

19.3% Growth Rate in Fans

5.7K Engagements

103K Users Reached

Instagram Channels:

- » @asef_edu
- » @asiaeuropemt看
- » @culture360_asef



2022

CONTACT US

+65 6874 9700 | info@asef.org

31 Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Singapore 119595

www.asef.org