

**Asia-Europe**   
**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE**  
for Young Professionals

 **Asia-Europe Training and Youth Summit on  
Science and Technology Diplomacy 2026**



**OPEN CALL**   
**OVERVIEW AND FAQ**

# OVERVIEW & FAQ

## Ready to increase your impact in Science and Technology Diplomacy?

Join us to develop your skills and network with peers and experts across Asia and Europe!

### BACKGROUND

There is a growing global momentum to advance conversations Science and Technology Diplomacy, reflected in recent milestones such as the recommendations for a **European Framework for Science Diplomacy** and the **ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2026-2035**. For Asia and Europe **deepening dialogue and collaboration** on Science and Technology offers significant opportunities. These include enhanced **knowledge exchange** and greater economic competitiveness, as well as collaboration for the public good and **joint action on global challenges**.

In 2025, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) held the inaugural *Asia-Europe Training and Youth summit on Science & Technology Diplomacy* under the [Asia-Europe Science and Technology Diplomacy Initiative for Young Professionals](#). Organised for a second edition in 2026, this annual Training and Youth Summit **promotes interregional cooperation** among the ASEF member countries, the European Union and the ASEAN, with a **focus on young and emerging professionals working** to harness Science, Technology, and Innovation for sustainable development.

The aims of the Training and Youth Summit are to:



**Facilitate knowledge exchange and mutual learning** on the science and technology diplomacy ecosystems and emerging trends in Asia and Europe. Providing learning opportunities from leading experts in the field.



**Build skills in intercultural science and technology diplomacy communication and collaboration**



**Build peer-to-peer networks** among participants to facilitate future dialogue and collaboration in Science and Technology Diplomacy through high-level dialogues and exchange

### QUICK FACTS

#### When and Where?

- **Training** | 22 Jul – 8 Oct 2026 | Online
  - 22 Jul | Pre-Training Welcome Session
  - 20 Aug | Networking Session
  - 1 Sep - 8 Oct | 2 sessions per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **[For selected participants] Youth Summit** | 19-23 October 2026 | Jakarta, Indonesia

#### Are there any fees involved?

There are no registration or participation fees!

ASEF covers all costs related to the online Training and provides travel subsidies, accommodation, and meals as per the programme in Jakarta.

For further information check the [FAQ](#) or sign up to our [FAQ Webinar](#). For other questions, email us: [scitech@asef.org](mailto:scitech@asef.org)



## ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

### Asia-Europe TRAINING on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2026



Online

The Asia-Europe Training on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2025 takes place from **22 July – 21 October 2026** and includes **two pre-training onboarding sessions** and a **6-week-long online training** that offers an engaging learning experience for ca. 100 young professionals working in the intersection of science, technology, and international relations. Participants will join webinars and hands-on interactive workshops led by experts in the field, designed to build practical skills and foster cross-regional connections. All sessions will incorporate components for peer-to-peer learning and networking, to strengthen connections between the two regions.

#### Training Programme Overview

Intro	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
<b>Wed, 22 July</b> <i>Welcome Session</i>	<b>Tue, 1 Sept Webinar</b> <i>Foundations of Science Diplomacy</i>	<b>Tue, 8 Sept Webinar</b> <i>Tech Diplomacy</i>	<b>Tue, 15 Sept Webinar</b> <i>Science Communications</i>	<b>Tue, 22 Sept Webinar</b> <i>Anticipation in Science Diplomacy</i>	<b>Tue, 29 Sept Webinar</b> <i>Intercultural Dimensions and Skills</i>	<b>Tue, 6 Oct Webinar</b> <i>Collaboration Dimensions and Skills</i>
<b>Thu, 20 Aug</b> <i>Networking Session</i>	<b>Thu, 3 Sept Workshop</b> <i>Foundations of Science Diplomacy</i>	<b>Thu, 10 Sept Workshop</b> <i>Tech Diplomacy</i>	<b>Thu, 17 Sept Workshop</b> <i>Science Communications Skills</i>	<b>Thu, 24 Sept Workshop</b> <i>Negotiation Skills in SD</i>	<b>Thu, 1 Oct Workshop</b> <i>Intercultural Skills in SD</i>	<b>Thu, 8 Oct Workshop</b> <i>Collaboration Skills in SD</i>

All webinars 16:00 - 17:30 SGT / 08:00 - 09:30 UTC  
All Workshops 16:00 - 18:00 SGT / 08:00 - 10:00 UTC

### Asia-Europe YOUTH SUMMIT on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2026



Jakarta, Indonesia

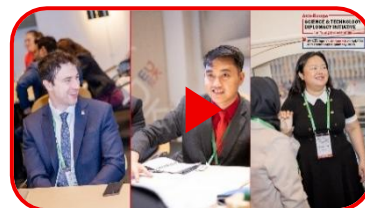
Selected participants from the online Training will be invited to join the **Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy**. The Youth Summit takes place from **19-23 October 2026 in Jakarta, Indonesia**. At the Youth Summit, delegates will be able to meet in person to further discuss the themes covered in the online Training. They will then be able to workshop a Communiqué on their perspectives and thoughts on the future of Asia-Europe cooperation in the field of Science and Technology Diplomacy, which will be disseminated to senior stakeholders in the field at high-level events.

Read here the 2025 [‘Asia-Europe Youth Communiqué on Science and Technology Diplomacy’](#).

#### 2025 Youth Summit Highlights



#### Interviews with Youth Summit Participants



## WHO SHOULD JOIN?

We are looking for participants with the following profiles:

- **Civil Society: Research and Science Managers** in public and private tertiary education institutions/universities or research organisations who have a **supervisory or coordination role** (e.g. managing research projects or teams, overseeing research areas, or supporting institutional research strategy), who are involved in **international science, technology and innovation** cooperation.
- **Government: Diplomats and Government Officials** working in **the intersection of science, technology, innovation and international relations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or relevant government institutions**, either in their home country or posted to an ASEF country.

*Note: The programme is not open to undergraduate students nor for doctoral students/candidates.*

## ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION CRITERIA

Participants will need to comply with the following eligibility criteria:

- Citizens of eligible Asian and European countries\* up to 35 years old
- Excellent command of English (verbal and written)
- Currently working as a Research or Science Manager (Civil Society) or a Diplomat or Government Official (Government) in one of the eligible Asian and European Countries

Selection criteria that will be considered:

- Motivation to participate
- Demonstrated experience in Science and Technology Diplomacy
- Relevant and unique perspectives to contribute to the programme, as well as the potential to apply and share new learnings gained from the experience.

The selection process will ensure a non-discriminatory approach, assuring an even geographic representation, gender balance, and fair access to the opportunity for all.

**The programme is free of charge! There are no registration or participation fees.**

*\* Asia: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.*

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

## WHAT COMMITMENT IS NEEDED?

The **Training programme** will take place between **1 September–8 October 2026** (Onboarding, welcome session, and networking in July-Aug). Participants are required to join and set aside time to participate fully in the online sessions. Participants are expected to:

- Join **Welcome session** on 22 July and **Networking session** on 20 August 2026.
- Actively participate in **12 live sessions** over the course of the 6 weeks (on average 3.5 hours per week), taking place on **Tuesdays (8am–9:30am UTC) & Thursdays (8am–10:00am UTC)** online.
- Engage in discussions & peer-to-peer learning and learning from experts – this includes engagement in discussions in allocated study groups.

Selected participants who are invited to join the **Youth Summit**, in Jakarta, Indonesia (19-23 October 2026) are expected to fully complete both the Training programme and attend and actively engage onsite in Jakarta.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO APPLY!\*\*](#)

## EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the programme, participants should:

- Gain a deeper **understanding of how Science Diplomacy shape international collaboration in science and technology**. Learn from leading experts and practitioners about the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities in this rapidly evolving field.
- **Explore the ways Asian and European countries work together** to advance technology, innovation, and shared policy priorities.
- **Strengthen the ability to recognise and work across different personal, cultural, and professional perspectives** in Science and Technology Diplomacy, with more effective communication across stakeholders.
- **Build meaningful connections with peers and experts** in Science and Technology Diplomacy for future collaborations between the two regions.
- **Expand professional networks through high-level exchanges and dialogue** with stakeholders active in Science and Technology Diplomacy.

## READ ABOUT ALUMNI'S EXPERIENCE IN THE PROGRAMME:



“ Taking part in this programme has been an invaluable experience for me, both professionally and personally. [...] The training helped me to see more clearly how universities [...] can act as diplomatic actors by building partnerships, facilitating knowledge exchange and translating scientific insights for policy and society. [...] I am leaving this training with new ideas and connections, and with a much deeper appreciation of the importance of science and technology diplomacy in shaping our shared future.

**Francesco BEE**  
Participant from **Switzerland**



“ Taking part in the Asia-Europe Training [and Youth Summit] on Science and Technology Diplomacy was more than just a professional development opportunity; it represented a fundamental shift in my diplomatic paradigm. [...] From a junior diplomat perspective, the most impactful takeaway was the mastery of intercultural communication skills and the focus on equitable partnerships. The training illuminated how to navigate the complex geopolitical landscape of innovation, enabling me to move beyond simply receiving aid to strategically brokering and negotiating technology transfer for national benefit.

**Chanmonypech TUY**  
Participant from **Cambodia**

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)

**The Open Call for Application will close on Sunday, 21 June 2026 at 23.59 UTC!**

*All the applicants will have to go through the selection process and will receive an email about the outcome by Friday, 10 July 2026.*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### Q1: Are there any costs involved?

Participation in this programme is **free of charge**. The estimated value of the Training is SGD 1,000 per person, which ASEF covers.

Selected participants of the **Youth Summit** in Jakarta will be provided with:

- accommodation (single room);
- meals, adjusted for participants who have special dietary requirements, as much as possible
- a visa support letter to those who require it.

A **travel subsidy** will be provided by ASEF for eligible travel expenses between your country of resident and Jakarta, Indonesia. This subsidy includes:

- International return travel (e.g. flights)
- Local airport transfers in Jakarta
- Visa fees (if applicable)
- Travel insurance (if applicable)

Participants are expected to **cover travel costs upfront** and will be reimbursed **up to 3-months after the event** upon submission of all required documentation (invoices, tickets, boarding passes, etc.).

The reimbursement amount is calculated based on your country of residence.

### Q2: I am older than 35 years old. Am I still eligible to apply?

This programme is particularly addressed to young professionals between 18-35 years old. You may still apply if you believe you have a lot to contribute to the programme, as applicants up to the age of 40 may be selected under exceptional circumstances. However, we will prioritise applicants who are a closer fit to the eligibility criteria.

### Q3: If I am a citizen from an eligible country, but currently living in a non-eligible country, can I apply?

Yes, you are welcome to apply, however priority will be given to those based in an ASEF country, as the goal of this project is to strengthen ties among these countries. Please note that you are required to join synchronous online sessions during the programme, and these may fall beyond usual work hours for those residing outside Asia/Europe.

### Q4: I do not have experience in this topic. Can I still apply?

This programme is particularly designed for early career professionals with at least 2-3 years of experience in the topic. However, our approach is designed to be inclusive of individuals with varying levels of knowledge and expertise, and we still encourage you to apply, as long as you fit the eligibility criteria. We recognise that everyone has valuable perspectives to share and much to gain from engaging with this subject.

### Q5: Can I participate in only one part of the programme (either the Training or the Youth Summit)?

All participants selected to attend the Youth Summit must complete the Training beforehand. However, if you are interested in the Training but unable or prefer not to attend the Youth Summit, you are welcome to participate in the Training standalone. There is an option in the Application Form to indicate your interest/availability.

### Q3: When will I know if I have been selected for the 'Youth Summit'?

If selected, you will be informed if you have been invited to join either only the online Training or both the Training and Youth Summit. All selected participants will be informed by 21 June 2026.

### Q6: Will I receive a certificate of participation?

Upon completion of the full Training programme, each Participant will receive a Certificate, jointly issued by ASEF and organising partners, for their participation in the programme. Participants of the Youth Summit will also receive a separate certificate for their participation on-site.

### Q7: Is the programme inclusive?

We aim to make all our projects as inclusive as possible and accommodate all needs of participants. We will, therefore, request all selected Participants to provide us with their special requirements.

#### For other questions

- Join our [FAQ Webinar](#) on 2 June 2026 at 16:00 SGT / 10:00 CEST
- drop us an email: [scitech@asef.org](mailto:scitech@asef.org)

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