



**CAPACITY-BUILDING ON
GENDER
EQUALITY &
WOMEN'S
PARTICIPATION**



7-9 September 2026
Kunming, Yunnan, China





Capacity-Building on Gender Equality and Women's Participation

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ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), in partnership with the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Yunnan Province, is organising a three-day in-person **Capacity-Building Programme on gender equality and women's participation in Kunming, China, on 7-9 September 2026**.

The programme is designed to empower approximately 20 participants from ASEM partner countries who influence policy, programme design, institutional practice, advocacy, research, or public dialogue on gender equality. The primary objective is to place women's participation at the centre of inclusive governance and sustainable development - recognising gender equality as a cross-cutting issue that underpins progress across many of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) - while underscoring its significance to broader agendas including climate change, peace and security, and social inclusion.

Women's participation is essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to strengthening inclusive, equitable societies. This programme provides a timely opportunity to enhance gender equality and women's participation in policymaking. Participants will also benefit from balanced representation of Asian and European perspectives across institutions, sectors, and levels of decision-making, fostering collaboration through a whole-of-society approach.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The Capacity-Building Training aims to convey to participants:

- A deeper understanding of the structural, institutional, social, and cultural barriers that continue to constrain women's participation and leadership.
- Practical competencies in gender analysis, the use of gender-sensitive and gender-disaggregated data, gender-responsive budgeting, and monitoring approaches relevant to women's participation.
- An introduction to mainstreaming gender equality in their own organisations, policies, and programmes. Fourth, it will foster cross regional learning and exchange among participants



from Asia and Europe, enabling comparative reflection and peer-to-peer knowledge sharing.

- Analysis of barriers to women's participation using an intersectional lens, the application of practical tools for integrating gender equality into policy and programme processes, enhanced utilisation of gender-sensitive data and indicators, identification of strategies for promoting women's leadership and participation in their own sector or institution, and the formulation of concrete follow-up actions that are feasible within their professional contexts.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY

The training is designed to engage a diverse range of stakeholders committed to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment across the ASEM region.

Primary participants will include representatives from relevant government agencies and bodies with mandates in this area – such as Ministries, Commissions, or Councils on Women, Departments of Social Welfare, Family Affairs and Development, gender focal points within ministries, and members of relevant inter-ministerial groups, as well as representatives from civil society organisations actively engaged in promoting gender equality.

Secondary participants may include representatives from academic institutions, as well as relevant private sector organisations and agencies contributing to women's participation and empowerment.

All participants are expected to be citizens of eligible ASEM Partner countries.¹, and working proficiency in English is also required. Priority will be given to participants who are in positions to influence policy, programme design, institutional practice, advocacy, research, or public dialogue. In line with the programme's objective of promoting gender equality as a whole-of-society agenda, gender-balanced participation will be encouraged.

TRAINING FORMAT

The Training format will include a series of comprehensive training sessions specifically developed to strengthen understanding of gender equality and women's participation in policymaking, programming, advocacy, and community-level initiatives. These sessions will emphasise participatory, interactive, and strongly practice-based approaches, prioritising an inclusive and engaging learning process.

The training will be facilitated by a senior expert with extensive professional experience in gender equality and women's participation across various sectors and agencies. The sessions will further feature insights from local experts on gender equality, women's leadership, and the protection of girls' rights and development.

¹ Eligible ASEM member countries are: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

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The three-day programme will also include a cultural tour to allow participants to learn more about the host's history and culture.

The programme will include a short pre-training assessment to identify participant expectations and baseline knowledge, as well as a post-training assessment to capture learning gains and participant feedback.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

The co-organisers will cover:

- Air-/ train fare on point-to-point economy class to travel to/from Kunming, China through reimbursement for international participants.
- 4 nights of accommodation at the training venue with check-in on 6 September and check-out on 10 September 2026 for international participants.
- Meals and refreshments during the training programme.

All additional costs to be borne by participants directly, including extra nights of accommodation and visa application fees².

ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION

The **Asia-Europe Foundation (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 thematic areas of culture, education, governance, economy, sustainable development, public health and media.

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

ASEF runs more than 25 projects a year, consisting of around 100 activities, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications and online platforms, together with about 150 partner organisations. Each year over 3,000 Asians and Europeans participate in ASEF's activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks and web-portals.

For more information, please visit www.ASEF.org



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