

# Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) Education Department

Enhancing Connectivity between  
Asia & Europe  
By Boosting Inclusive & Balanced  
Mobility and Exchanges



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ASEM Education Action Plan 2030  
Virtual Workshop 2  
26 January 2022

# Overview of Presentation

1. Introduction to ASEF & its Education Portfolio
2. ASEM Education Strategy 2030 & ASEF's Contributions/Proposals for Action

## **Part 1:**

# **Introduction to ASEF & its Education Portfolio**







## ASEF

- Created in 1997, intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation based in Singapore
- The **only permanently established institution** of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Process
- Funded by voluntary contributions from the 53 ASEM Partners
- **Facilitates** bi-regional dialogue, knowledge exchange and collaboration
- **Connects** Civil Society & Governments
- **Areas of work: Education**, Culture, Governance, Sustainable Development, Public Health & Economy



## ASEF's Education Department

- **We connect:** youth, students, teachers & educators, higher education leaders, EdTech experts & policy makers
- **We facilitate:** knowledge exchange, policy dialogues, capacity building, eLearning, research & networks
- **We promote:** inclusive & equitable access to education opportunities & LLL
- **We contribute to:** innovation in the formal & non-formal education sector & towards the SDGs of the UN Agenda2030
- **Our projects are:** official side events of ASEM Summits, ASEMFMMS and ASEMMEs



# ASEFEdu's Outreach & Impact

## Knowledge Creation, Sharing & Learning

- Peer-to-Peer Exchange
- ASEM-wide studies, reports & policy recommendations
- Communication campaigns for ASEM Education stakeholders

## Engagement & Visibility

- Projects across all 51 ASEM countries
- Ca. 15-20 activities per year
- Ca. 45,000 followers on social media

## Connectivity & Collaboration

- Network of over 4,500 active alumni; outreach to ca. 1,000 education institutions and ca. 70,000 individuals
- 87% of ASEFEdu participants stay in contact with peers
- 25% of them collaborate on a specific project

The logo features a stylized red and blue graphic resembling a stylized 'A' or a bridge, with a red swoosh and blue horizontal bars.

**Asia-Europe Meeting**

**ASEM Education**

## **Part 2:**

# **ASEM Education Strategy 2030 & ASEF's Contribution/Proposed Actions**



### ASEM Education Strategy 2030

#### Strategic Objective 2: Enhancing Connectivity between Asia & Europe by boosting inclusive & balanced mobility and exchanges

“In the next decade, ASEM partners and stakeholders will [...]

- foster [...] not only **physical mobility**, but also **virtual mobility and exchanges**, as well as **blended mobility**.
- promote and encourage **exchanges in all their forms**, as well as in various context.  
[...]





# ASEF's Contributions & Proposed Action to the ASEM Education Strategy 2020 For Youth



## ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS)

- **Official youth side-event** at ASEM Summits with ASEM Youth Intervention
- **Thought & action leadership programme** for students & young professionals that focuses on values & sustainable impact in society
- **Personal meetings** between Youth and ASEM Leaders from all 51 ASEM countries
- **Access** to an invaluable network that drives key priorities of ASEM and the UN Agenda2030 and trains future societal leaders

### Upcoming in 2021:

ASEFYLS4 on  
“Sustainable  
Development in a  
Post-COVID-19 World”



**Upcoming in 2021/22:**

10<sup>th</sup> Model ASEM  
with ASEM eLearning  
Platform

## Model ASEM

- **Official youth side-event** at ASEM FMMs with ASEM Youth Intervention
- **Capacity-building** for students to fine-tune their skills in diplomacy, negotiation, consensus-building and public speaking
- **Personal meetings** between students and their Foreign Ministers from all 51 ASEM countries
- **Access** to an invaluable network that promotes Youth Diplomacy, Asia-Europe relations and creates ASEM Youth Ambassadors
- **Spin-off editions** organised locally by students & civil society organisations



# ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU)

- Capacity building & Global Citizenship Education for students & young professionals through an experiential learning journey across ASEM-countries & virtually
- Interdisciplinary *Innovathon/Hackathon competition* where ASEM youth, local communities & ASEM stakeholders collaborate to tackle socio-economic challenges
- Awareness creation and promotion of ASEM priorities & the SDGS of UN Agenda2030

Upcoming in 2021:

ASEFSU23 on  
“Sustainable  
Urbanisation”







# ASEF's Contributions & Proposed Actions to the ASEM Education Strategy 2030 For Professionals



### Upcoming in 2021:

ARC8 on “Vision 2030:  
Inclusive and Diverse  
Higher Education in Asia  
and Europe”

## ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education (ARC)

- **Official Dialogue Partner & Official Side-Event** of the ASEM Education Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM ME)
- The only **bi-regional multi-stakeholder dialogue platform** for university and student leaders, experts, policy makers and ministers
- Its main outputs, including **research & policy recommendations** feed into the preparation process of the ASEM Education Ministers’ Meetings
- **Capacity Building Trainings** on SDGs as spin-offs for the higher education sector



## ASEF Innovation Laboratories (ASEFInnolabs)

- **Design thinking laboratory** for leaders, managers and administrators of tertiary higher education institutions in charge of innovation and research
- A project that **incentivises STEM collaboration among ASEM universities** and creates a sustainable peer network
- Methodology is **learner-centred, collaboration focused** and inspires personal and institutional actions

Upcoming in 2021:

ASEFInnolabs1 on  
“Universities’ Role In Data  
Science & Artificial  
Intelligence (AI)Innovation  
Ecosystems”



## ASEF Classroom Network

- The **only platform in Asia and Europe** that facilitates connectivity, knowledge and intercultural exchange in secondary, high, and vocational schools
- **Sustainable network** for collaboration & co-creation where teachers & students **discuss, explore and apply education technology** at the secondary level education
- Contributes to **teacher professionalisation** and the **development of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills among students** by focusing on contemporary education topics

Upcoming in 2021:

School Collaborations on IoT, Big Data & AI as well as Health & Well-Being of Teachers



## ASEM Education Strategy 2030

**Strategic Objective 2: Enhancing Connectivity between Asia & Europe by boosting inclusive & balanced mobility and exchanges**

- To strive for Inclusive Exchanges
- To stimulate Balanced Exchanges and Mobility
- To promote and support Virtual Mobility and Exchanges

Extract: Draft, Page 6 - 7



## ASEF's Contributions & Proposed Actions to the ASEM Education Strategy 2030

## Priority 2.1: “To strive for Inclusive Exchanges”

Examples of ASEF’s contributions:

- Development of **ARC8 Report** with focus on inclusive & diverse Higher Education; one chapter specifically on mobility
- Launch of **National Equity Policy in Higher Education** across all 51 ASEM countries
- Support to Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility survey **(SIEM) Survey** coordinated by Erasmus Student Network
- Inclusion – focus on **socio-economic background: funding** of participants
- Inclusion – focus on **mixed abilities: increased efforts to enhance access** to information & **funding for specific needs**

## Priority 2.2: “To stimulate Balanced Exchanges & Mobility”

### Examples of ASEF's contributions

- **Balanced distribution of ASEF projects & partner organisations** across ASEM countries
- **ASEM-wide Open Calls** and representation of 51 nationalities in most of ASEFEdu's projects
- **Balanced diversity of speakers & participants** in terms of gender, age, abilities, socio-economic background & access to opportunities



## Priority 2.3: “To promote & support Virtual Mobility & Exchanges”

### Examples of ASEF's contributions

- Transformation of entire programme portfolio to hybrid format
  - Set up of ASEM eLearning Platform to reach wider audiences
  - Focus on collaborative virtual sessions
  - Introduction of hybrid events that combine awareness creation across ASEM, research & study elements, e-learning activities for all participants, peer-to-peer on-site meetings & networking, local community outreach & engagement
- > Creation of a programme ecosystem that integrates various forms and methods of mobility and exchanges



**ASIA-EUROPE**  
FOUNDATION

We look forward to  
collaborating with you!  
**#ASEFEdu**  
**[www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)**

