

ASEM Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals and Education

Draft Terms of Reference

Name of Expert Group
Expert Group on SDGs and Education
Working Period
February 2023 – ASEMME 10 in 2026 This new group was established at the Intermediate Senior Officials' Meeting (ISOM) in November 2022.
Chair
tbd
Composition (Participating Countries and Stakeholders)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ (Senior) Officials of the following ASEM partners: Austria, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, European Commission, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Korea, Lao PDR, Latvia, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, Romania, Thailand. ▼ Representatives from ASEM Education stakeholders: Asia Europe Institute (AEI), Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF), Erasmus Student Network (ESN), European Students' Union (ESU), European University Association (EUA), International Association of Universities (IAU), Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization – Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)
Reference to Policy Background Papers
<p>Chair's Conclusions ASEMME8 (Bangkok, December 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Ministers underlined the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on SDG4 and agreed that the ASEM Education Process can contribute to realizing the SDGs. The Ministers re-confirmed their commitment to contribute to the implementation of SDG4 in order to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education and Lifelong Learning opportunities for all. Therefore, they welcomed the newly formulated mission of the ASEM Education Process: "By 2030, the ASEM Education Process (AEP) will contribute to a more prosperous, resilient and sustainable Asia-Europe education region, better prepared for current and forthcoming global challenges. ASEM Education partners and stakeholders will reaffirm the AEP as an advanced transregional dialogue and cooperation platform. They aim to develop the AEP as a platform to promote inclusive and equitable quality education and training through equal and mutually beneficial Asia-

Europe partnerships, leveraged by people-to-people connectivity. Through partnerships, exchanges and collaboration, ASEM Education partners and stakeholders will support the education sector to train individuals able to navigate through rapidly changing and increasingly complex societies and labor markets, while respecting national, regional and local education contexts and practices, as well as academic values. In order to realize this vision and mission statement, ASEM Education partners and stakeholders have identified strategic objectives, instruments and working methods, and developed an Action Plan in order to ensure effective implementation and tangible results.” (cc.13)

Chair’s Conclusions ASEMME7 (Bucharest, May 2019)

- The Ministers underlined the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on SDG4 and agreed that the ASEM Education Process can contribute to realising the SDGs. Therefore, the Ministers confirmed their commitment to contribute to the implementation of the SDG4 in order to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all. The Ministers welcomed the suggestion to link the ASEM Education Process more explicitly to the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 by introducing “Sustainable Development” as a transversal theme within the 4 priority areas of the ASEM Education Process. (cc.12)

Purpose and Intended Outcome

Purpose

- Foster dialogue on SDGs in (higher) education with specific regard to the four priorities of the ASEM Education Process.
- Promote peer learning among the appointed experts of both regions.
- Strengthen collaboration and connectivity by identifying, sharing, and promoting good practice concerning the implementation of SDGs in education at national and regional level.
- Complementing the work of other ASEM expert groups by providing expertise in the field of SDGs.

Intended Outcome

- Establishment of a pool of experts on SDGs in (higher) education specifically working within the ASEM context.
- A portfolio of good practice examples on the implementation of SDGs in (higher) education and cooperation between Asia and Europe, which serve as a knowledge basis for further collaboration between the two regions.
- Contributing to outcome documents of ASEM meetings (ASEMME and SOM).

Reporting

The Chairs report progress to the ASEM at Intermediate Senior Officials’ Meeting (ISOM) and Senior Officials’ Meetings (SOM).

The minutes of this EG’s meetings are in the responsibility of the Chairs.