



ASEF University

10th Anniversary of ASEF University

Commemorative Brochure
1998 – 2008

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Message from the Asia-Europe Foundation

Dear Alumni and Friends,

“Embracing Diversity, Bridging Peoples, Shaping Partnerships” - we carry this slogan close to our hearts, and in the programmes we bring to the people of ASEM countries. In the last ten years, we have created sustainable programmes which in fact have ignited the formation of permanent networks between Asia and Europe. This people-to-people level of engagement has contributed, in many instances, to establish solid connections between the two continents.

When the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) was established in 1997, one of the first few ideas included an intensive two-week Summer programme that would bring outstanding students from Asia and Europe together to deepen their insights on international issues and certainly, to create personal links with contemporaries in the other countries. The idea received much support, and the first ASEF University was organised in Germany in the Summer of 1998.

The ASEF University is an exemplary programme where ASEF’s mission is well-embodied. Ten years since its first edition, there have been 14 editions of ASEF University bringing together over 400 future leaders of Asia and Europe. The well-established ASEFUAN, the programme’s alumni network is a concrete testament to the success and relevance of the ASEF University. I am thoroughly impressed by these young people, their passion and engagement that initiates wide range of activities. The dynamic ASEFUAN is the driving force behind Model ASEM 2008, which supports ASEM Summit in Beijing this year.

I have been the Executive Director since October 2004. It is always heartening whenever we meet future leaders of Asia and Europe working so closely together on equal partnership. I know with great certainty the bonds ASEF University has sparked will remain not only in the participants’ heart but also in the way they interpret challenges of the world. As they develop in life and establish their leadership in their fields, I am confident that they as leaders of Asia and Europe will continue to work together for the good of both continents.



Ambassador Wonil Cho
Executive Director
Asia-Europe Foundation

Message from the ASEF University Alumni Network

The information age, knowledge and network societies: we are living in a world of constant change. Whilst improved transportation and communication infrastructures are without doubt rapidly changing the nature of everyday life, in my opinion, face to face contact still remains the best way to get to know new friends and cultures. This is precisely the motivation behind ASEF University, which brings together young talent from both continents, to meet and discuss emerging global issues, and more importantly promote understanding and respect for each other while fostering long lasting friendships. This unique initiative is now officially 10 years old!

ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) was born in 2002, founded voluntarily by the graduates of ASEF University Programme. We are the only self-organised and longstanding interregional alumni network under the ASEM framework. Since the first summer school in southern Germany in 1998 our members have come from leading universities in 43 countries across Asia and Europe. While some members are still finishing their studies, many of us have gone on to play important roles in academia, public/private sectors, and voluntary and non-governmental organisations, with careers ranging from member of parliament, to university professor and young entrepreneurs, just to name a few.

One impressive achievement of ASEFUAN is that the organisation is run entirely by the members on a voluntary basis, without any paid staff to coordinate our activities. Yet, our Network has been a big success, not only in terms of number of projects but also the quality and impact of these initiatives. Besides funding from ASEF, we are now proudly working with some of the world's leading academic institutions, private corporations, governmental, non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations. For example, for the most recent Annual General Meeting in Hanoi in 2008, our successful fundraising brought us support from SENKO, Unilever and Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy among others. Moreover, ASEFUAN is becoming more inclusive with some of our key projects now open to both alumni and those who have not participated in ASEF University. A good example of this is the forthcoming Model Asia-Europe Meeting (Model ASEM), which will bring over 150 students and young people from Asia and Europe together in Beijing ahead of the 7th ASEM Summit. This is also true for one of ASEFUAN's original flagship projects, the Culture Capsule, which is still providing fantastic opportunities for an even younger audience (elementary and secondary school pupils) to broaden their cultural horizons and make friends from the other region. ASEFUAN is six years old today!

All these achievements would not be possible without the continuous support from ASEF. As President of ASEFUAN, I wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Asia-Europe Foundation, and in particular the ASEF's People to People Exchange Division. Since the birth of our organisation, ASEF has provided invaluable support, funding and encouragement. A decade of the ASEF University Programme, and six successful years of ASEFUAN are something we are very proud of, but these accomplishments are also the best motivation for us to work even harder to realize the vision and objectives of ASEFUAN. Rudyard Kipling's famous assertion suggests that: 'East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet'. Fortunately, this is not the case for ASEF University and ASEFUAN. In our globalizing world, lessons can be learned from mistakes, and through mutual understanding, misconceptions can be avoided. Through increased communication and dialogue, we can attempt to resolve commonly held misunderstandings. Together, young people can make a difference, and with ASEFUAN, we will continue to fulfill our mission.



Mr. Wei Shen
President
ASEF University Alumni Network

About the Asia-Europe Foundation

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) advances mutual understanding and collaboration between the people of Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. These exchanges include conferences, lecture tours, workshops, seminars and the use of web-based platforms. The major achievement of ASEF is the establishment of permanent bi-regional networks focused on areas and issues that help to strengthen Asia-Europe relations.

Established in February 1997 by the partners of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), ASEF reports to a board of governors representing the ASEM partners. ASEF is the only permanent physical institution of the ASEM process. Since 1997, the Foundation has initiated projects engaging 14,000 individuals from Asia and Europe. ASEF works in partnership with other public institutions and civil society actors to ensure its work is broad-based and balanced among the partner countries.

www.asef.org

About the ASEF University

The ASEF University programme promotes inter-cultural exchanges among university students from Asia and Europe by offering a two-week intensive enrichment programme held annually at venues alternating between Asia and Europe. The programme gives up to forty highly qualified undergraduate students a unique opportunity to broaden their intellectual and cultural horizons in a multicultural environment.

The objectives of this programme are to:

- provide a positive space that fosters inter-cultural dialogue among university students from the two regions on a broad range of issues
- inculcate in university students a better appreciation of the history, culture, economics and politics of the other region as well as the current co-operation between Asia and Europe and
- foster strong personal contacts and a sustainable network among top university students from Asia and Europe.

So far, there have been 14 ASEF University programmes with over 400 alumni with diverse backgrounds and diverse career tracks. The alumni now established an association called ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) to maintain and reinforce the relationships forged among participants of the ASEF University programme and to undertake projects to promote a meaningful intercultural dialogue between Asia and Europe, particularly among the younger generation.

The importance of the programme can be summarized in the message by late Ambassador Delfin Colome, the former Executive Director of the ASEF from 2002 to 2004:

“The ASEF University programme is indeed a jewel in our crown.

Since the first ASEF University was held in Germany in 1998, more than 250 university students, selected for their academic achievements and leadership qualities, from 25 Asian and European countries have benefited from this enrichment programme. The ASEF University has since evolved into a high-level and high-quality programme with a strong intellectual and academic focus, particularly in the fields of international relations, strategic studies, humanities and social sciences.

During the two-week programme, which is organised in collaboration with different prestigious universities and institutions in venues alternating between Asia and Europe, participants are placed in a unique multi-cultural environment to learn about the historical, cultural, social and political developments in Asia and Europe and issues that would affect relations between Asia and Europe. The interactive programme allows students from the two regions to exchange perceptions and perspectives on a variety of issues, learning thereby where their views diverge and converge, and why.

In a globalising world of disappearing boundaries, almost instantaneous communications and increasing inter-dependence, there is a greater potential for frictions as a result of lack of mutual understanding among the different cultures and civilisations. In this context, the ASEF University Programme is an important contribution to efforts to build bridges between Asia and Europe - two of the world's most dynamic and important regions in which several major cultures and civilisations are represented. It is right that we invest efforts to inculcate in students and youth of Asia and Europe a greater awareness of and sensitivity to diversity."

www.asefuan.org

The 14 ASEF Universities

There have been 14 ASEF University (AU) editions in the last ten years, with each programme uniquely perceived as a great success by all collaborating partners.

ASEF University's decade-long history provides an idea of the scope and reach of this unique global learning framework.

The First ASEF University

12 – 24 July 1998
Reutlingen, Germany

The 1st ASEF University was held at the Reutlingen University in Southern Germany from 12-24 July 1998. It was co-organised by ASEF and the Research Institute of the German Society of Foreign Affairs (DGAP). This landmark initiative was themed 'Asia, Europe and the Challenges of Globalisation.'

Thirty-one bright young undergraduates were given the opportunity to experience the unique German culture, in a setting where modernity and antiquity meet and mix well. Tours to cultural and historical sites, standing as testament to a glorious past, were coupled with visits to multinational companies, signifying fast-paced modernity and high-end technology.



The Second ASEF University

22 August – 5 September 1999
Beijing, China



The 2nd ASEF University was hosted by Peking University, China, from 22 August to 5 September 1999. It was co-organised by ASEF and the Center for Overseas Exchange, Peking University. Thirty-four undergraduates attended an intensive programme of lectures and discussions on topics such as European Integration and Monetary Union, Western Democracy and Asia Values, and the ASEM Process.

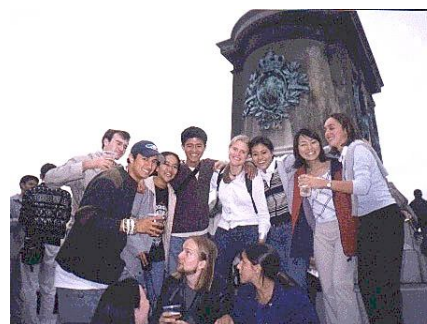
Participants enjoyed a rich cultural programme as well as intensive academic discussions. The alumni of the AU2 subsequently organized an unofficial follow-up seminar in

Brussels, Belgium, from 5 to 11 July 2000, including a visit to the European Parliament to deepen their understanding of the European integration process.

The Third ASEF University

6 – 19 August 2000
Lund, Sweden

The 3rd ASEF University was held from 6-19 August 2000 at the Lund University, Sweden. Co-organised by ASEF, the Centre for European Studies and the Centre for East and Southeast Asian Studies, Lund University, the 33 participants experienced first-hand the culture offered by one of Europe's pioneer welfare states.



With the region of Southern Skåne as a backdrop, participants were happily "conquered" by the warm Swedish hospitality. Memorable moments included a visit to a medieval castle, a day at Ven island, a weekend excursion to Copenhagen, Denmark, and a visit to Ericsson company, a leading player in global mobile telecommunications.

The theme for the 3rd ASEF University 'Asia and Europe: Regional Co-operation in a Globalising World' gave the participants the opportunity to engage in stimulating discussions regarding issues surrounding democracy, regional integration, the relevance of international institutions, the challenges faced with the forces of globalisation, and the resulting new economy.

The Fourth ASEF University

14 - 27 January 2001

Singapore

Thirty-five outstanding undergraduates from 23 ASEM member countries gathered for an intellectually-stimulating and culturally-enriching fortnight.



The students, mostly final year students of social and political sciences, economics, business administration, and international relations, experienced an intensive programme of lectures and discussions by lecturers from universities, research institutes, and international organisations from Asia and Europe. Topics included Post-War History of Asia and Europe, the Implications of Globalisation for Governance in Asia, the Impact of Media and the Diffusion of New Technologies, among others.

The 4th ASEF University was co-organised by ASEF and National University of Singapore (NUS), Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The Fifth ASEF University

22 July – 2 August 2001

Arrabida, Portugal

Twenty-eight outstanding undergraduates from 24 ASEM member countries convened for intellectual and cultural interaction at the historic Convento da Arrabida.

The students, mostly in their final year at their respective universities, from the fields of social and political sciences, economics, international law, geography and history, underwent an intensive programme of lectures and panel discussions focusing on the economic, social, political, ethnic and cultural conflict in the modern world, as well as on different models of regional and bi-regional co-operation and integration (i.e. ASEM, EU and ASEAN) that aim to overcome these conflicts.



The 5th ASEF University was co-organised by ASEF and the Fundarcao Oriente, and supported by the Universidade Aberta.

The Sixth ASEF University

28 July – 11 August 2002

Bangkok, Thailand

The 6th ASEF University, themed 'Asia and Europe: Towards Greater Inter-Cultural Exchanges,' was held in Bangkok, Thailand and was co-organised by ASEF and the Centre for European Studies at Chulalongkorn University.

The 38 selected senior undergraduates discussed the prospects and challenges of different models of regional and bi-regional co-operation and integration, such as the EU and the ASEAN. The globalisation of culture and values was also addressed; at one of the sessions, the students attempted to outline the path towards an open dialogue on values.



The Seventh ASEF University

10 – 24 November 2002

Barcelona, Spain

The 7th ASEF University in Barcelona, Spain embodied the theme 'Regionalism in Asia and Europe and their Significance for Asia - Europe Relations.' It was organised by ASEF with Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), the Fundació Centre d'Informació i Documentació Internacionals a Barcelona (Fundació CIODB) and the Casa Asia.

A public lecture was incorporated into the 7th ASEF University programme in which Dr Joan Colom, Vice President of the European Parliament, was invited to share his views on the EU enlargement. He recalled that the EU Parliament still needed to debate and to approve the accession treaties for the ten new EU member states by 2004.



The Eighth ASEF University

7 – 21 September 2003

Coventry, United Kingdom



The 8th ASEF University, entitled 'The Future of International Order: Unilateralism or Multilateralism?' was held from 7-21 September 2003 in Coventry, United Kingdom. The 8th ASEF University was co-organised with the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation (CSGR), University of Warwick.

34 students attended the two-week congress to compare and contrast unilateralism versus multilateralism for future international order. The students were given an insight into the fundamentals of the world order, and were prompted to ascertain the prospective use of multilateralism pursuant to recent global problems. They were also introduced to a full-day scenario-planning exercise on the future of multilateralism in the final module.

Besides the academic aspect of the 8th ASEF University programme, the students also had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the rich history and culture of England through visits to Oxford, London, and Stratford-upon-Avon.

The Ninth ASEF University

1 – 14 February 2004
Manila, Philippines

The 9th ASEF University programme, 'Asia-Europe Economic Partnership: Opportunities and Challenges for Enterprises in a Changing Global Environment', was convened in Manila, the Philippines. It was the first time that the ASEF University programme focused on business and management issues. The two-week programme was hosted by the John Gokongwei School of Management, Ateneo de Manila University.



Thirty-four students of economics, business, and management from 21 ASEM countries learned about the challenges and opportunities for business enterprises in Asia and Europe against the backdrop of the changing global environment

The highlight of the programme in Manila was the "Business Plan Competition," where participants were divided into multinational teams, comprising Asian and European students. Each team was tasked to identify a business idea that would harness the economic complementarities between Asia and Europe and formulate a coherent strategy to convert that idea into a viable business. The competition provided the participants an opportunity to apply their knowledge of economic theory and business conditions in Asia and Europe. It also allowed them to experience a simulation of the challenges of doing business across cultural boundaries.

The collaborative efforts of the various teams generated many interesting business ideas, which bore testimony to their industry and creativity.

The Tenth ASEF University

22 May – 05 June 2004
Tokyo, Japan

The 10th ASEF University Programme - 'Enlarging the European Union and Asia' - was held in Tokyo, Japan. At this event, students discussed the implications of the topic at Japan's oldest private university and one of its most renowned centres of academic excellence, Keio University. The timing of the programme provided an excellent occasion for the 38 scholars from 35 universities in ASEM countries to discuss the historic enlargement of the EU to include 10 countries in Central Europe and the Mediterranean and the implications of the enlargement and other initiatives by the EU to deepen regional integration.

The academic programme, which was organised around two modules - EU-enlargement and future and regional integration in Asia and Asia-Europe relations - featured not only distinguished lecturers from the host country, but also senior academics from a number of other universities in Asia and Europe. Also, the Head of the EU Delegation in Tokyo, Ambassador Bernhard Zepter, and the Deputy Head of the Delegation, who was formerly the ASEM Counsellor at the European Commission, Dr Michael Reiterer were invited to give lectures.



An interesting innovation introduced at the 10th ASEF University was the holding of two public symposia involving panel discussions by the guest lecturers. The symposia not only allowed the participants to listen to different perspectives of the experts on the key issues, but they also allowed the general student and academic community in the host university to benefit from the insights of the distinguished speakers.

The Eleventh ASEF University

12 – 26 February 2005

Paris, France

The 11th ASEF University: Liberty, Security and the New Global Order, took place from 12-26 February 2005 in Paris, France. Thirty-seven undergraduates from 35 universities in 28 ASEM countries engaged in intensive discussions facilitated by ASEF and the Asia-Europe Centre at the prestigious Institute d'Etudes Politiques Paris, France.

Chen Zhimin, Chair of the Department of International Politics at Fudan University, and Yeo Lay Hwee, Director of the Singapore Institute for International Affairs, provided perspectives on the nature of ASEM and its role in the new global order. The inclusion of sessions devoted to the ASEM process was highly appreciated by the students, who commented that this unique inter-regional process should be given greater visibility among students and the general public.



Participants emerged from the programme with a heightened awareness of the developments and perspectives of counterparts in the other region; respect for cultural diversity; an appreciation of the value that Asia and Europe could add to each other; and an understanding that the existence of diversity between Asia and Europe is not an impediment to closer co-operation and partnership between the two regions.

The Twelfth ASEF University

9 – 22 July 2005

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

The 12th ASEF University engendered the theme, "Asia-Europe Environmental Cooperation: Towards Sustainable Forest Management" in Brunei Darussalam from 9 - 22 July 2005. During the two-week programme, the participants attended lectures given by academics and practitioners from different countries on topics ranging from the Kyoto Protocol to the creation of sustainable cities at the Universiti Brunie Darussalam (UBD). HRH Princess Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah graced the 12th ASEF University.



Thirty-two university students of forestry, agricultural science, environmental studies, economics and geography exchanged perspectives on sustainable forest management and a possible vision for Asia-Europe co-operation towards environmental sustainability. It was the first time that an ASEF University focused on the environment.

Participants emerged from the programme not only with heightened awareness of the environmental developments in Asia and Europe, but also with greater respect and understanding towards the cultural diversity represented by the two regions. They also had the rare opportunity to appreciate the rich Bruneian culture and environmental heritage through their field visit to the tropical rainforest and traditional water village communities.

The Thirteenth ASEF University

2 – 14 July 2006

Leiden, the Netherlands

The 13th ASEF University, entitled “Cross-cultural Perspectives on the International Legal Order in the 21st Century” was held in Leiden, the Netherlands. Co-organised with Leiden University and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IiAS), it brought together 39 university students from 30 ASEM countries, selected for their academic excellence and leadership potential.



The programme was composed of an extensive academic programme, complemented by a colourful cultural itinerary and extra-curricula activities. The keynote address by Judge Hishashi Owada of the International Court of Justice coincided with his inaugural lecture as Leiden University Professor of Relations between Europe and Japan. Lecturers from Asia and Europe explored four main themes: (1) the rule of law, (2) human rights, (3) settlement of disputes and international adjudication and (4) governance and accountability: challenges for the EU, ASEAN and ASEM. Leiden’s Faculty of Law made a substantial contribution to the lectures, along with guest professors and experts from both regions.

The students visited the Peace Palace at The Hague, where they were given a tour of the premises of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and an orientation into the history and work of the Court. In a two-day Moot Court workshop facilitated by the Leiden Faculty of Law, participants developed pleadings on important international disputes, to practice skills in analysis and argumentation.

The Fourteenth ASEF University: Commemorative Edition

31 August – 8 September 2007

Madrid, Spain



ASEF@10: ASEF University, ASEFUAN and Beyond was held in Madrid, Spain, from 31 August to 8 September, 2007. In co-operation with the ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) and the Research Unit on International Security and Cooperation (UNISCI) of Universidad Complutense de Madrid, ASEF organised a week-long series of projects in celebration of ASEF’s 10th Anniversary.

Initiatives by ASEF’s alumni are amongst its most significant achievements in fostering mutual understanding between Asia and Europe’s emerging leaders. With 13 editions completed, the ASEF University programme has successfully promoted a sustainable grouping of promising

young leaders who have since formed ASEFUAN.

The academic conference, *Achieving Human Security: Inter-regional Co-operation and Global Impact*, was held on 3 September at the office of the Representation of the European Commission in Madrid. The whole-day event involved a panel discussion examining Asia-Europe co-operation in human security. Prof David Garcia Cantalapiedra of UNISCI and 1st ASEF University alumni, Prof Natividad Fernandez Sola, Vice Rector of Universidad de Zaragoza and Mr Geoffrey Barrett, ASEM Advisor at the DG External Relations of the European Commission took part in an engaging panel discussion chaired by ASEFUAN President for 2006-2007, Puspa Delima Amri. Workshop sessions followed.

The Sixth ASEFUAN Annual General Meeting was held from 4 - 7 September, 2007 at Casa Asia, and attended by 60 alumni. The yearly gathering was a forum to report on the Network's projects and activities, to develop plans for future initiatives and hold the elections of its Executive Committee. In keeping with ASEF University tradition, an event-filled cultural programme was organised, which brought participants to historic Toledo, Cordoba and Sevilla.

ASEF@10: ASEF University, ASEFUAN and Beyond was supported by Casa Asia, the Representation of the European Commission in Spain, Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores y de Cooperacion (Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation), Universidad de Zaragoza, Grupo Compostela, Fundacion Tres Culturas and Real Fundacion de Toledo.

Testimonials from the AU Alumni

“Through AU I have not only found interesting people. I made friends – in Europe and Asia likewise. This is a gift I got from ASEF I am most thankful of.”

Kerstin Priwitz (Germany), AU11

“SO INTERNATIONAL!!! is all I can tell. It’s an INTERNATIONAL Program organized by an INTERNATIONAL Organizers gathering and connecting INTERNATIONAL Friends via INTERNATIONAL lessons given by INTERNATIONAL Lecturers and INTERNATIONAL meals in an INTERNATIONAL atmosphere with INTERNATIONAL songs...”

Do Thi Minh Hoa (Vietnam), AU13

“AU Alumni is, meeting somewhere, learning together, separating for a while and sometime for years, but the feeling has never changed, which makes our path on the world much closer and friendly, see u around!”

Harry Saputra (Indonesia), AU11

“ASEF is the best summer university you can ever expect – the only problem is the duration, too short! It is intensive learning, networking and more importantly, establishing friendships which last years to come.”

Shen Wei (China), AU8

“ASEF University was a once in a lifetime opportunity to share common passions and learn from each other, despite our diverse backgrounds! I’m blessed to call a bunch of kindred spirits across continents, my friends. Beyond a doubt, the AU program is generous gift to any young person!”

Catherine Candano (Philippines), AU 12

“What do you get when you put a group of young, passionate, and opinionated students from across Asia and Europe? The dynamism and vibrancy of AU! It’s amazing how a short 2-week programme has made an impact on my life- the knowledge I’ve gained, but more importantly, the everlasting friendships I’ve made. It’s addictive!”

Clara Feng (Singapore), AU12

“Having undertaken a truly international study program for the first time, AU13 was an eye-opening experience for me. Talking to my AU13 colleagues was incredibly thrilling – people who you could learn a lot from; people with well defined and well argued opinions. Discussing all manner of things day and night (and struggling to keep eyes open and mind focused during the following day’s lectures) helped me in grasping both contemporary and historical issues of policy, economy, society, and culture more complexly, more comprehensively. AU13 reshaped my geopolitical focus and steered my intellectual attention eastward. But most importantly, the program created long-lasting friendships – and this, from a long-term point of view, is its main asset, its main contribution for forging a bond between Asia and Europe.”

Miroslav Kucera (Slovakia), AU13

“AU programme was a life-changing experience for me. It opened my eyes to be a “global citizen” in this world. In addition, the friendship I gained was more than invaluable. The inspiring discussion in and out of the program and everlasting friendship made AU program the biggest asset of my life.”

Sungjin Kang (Korea), AU2

“Imagine you have a chance to meet new friends, to learn about how people live at the other end of the world, to exchange ideas and experiences with people with whom you feel you share a lot just a couple days after you meet them for the first time... this is what AU is about. The two weeks that the programme lasts are a once-in-your-life experience... that you just wish you could live over and over again.”

Dani Madrid (Spain), AU11

The outcome of the ASEF University – ASEFUAN and its Projects

What is ASEFUAN?

ASEFUAN is an association of former participants of the Asia-Europe Foundation University program. The alumni network was created in 2002 in Bali, Indonesia, and launched its first website later that year. The purpose of ASEFUAN is as follows:

- (a) To maintain and reinforce the relationships forged among participants of the ASEF University, in line with the programme's objective of fostering people-to-people exchanges and building human networks between Asia and Europe;
- (b) To complement efforts by ASEF in the promotion of better mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges; and;
- (c) To contribute to the development of societies in Europe and Asia through the promotion of meaningful intercultural dialogue between the two regions, particularly among the younger generation, based on the principle of mutual respect and equality.

Against this background, ASEFUAN organises various activities to maintain and reinforce the relationships forged among participants of the ASEF University programme and undertakes projects to promote a meaningful intercultural dialogue between Asia and Europe, particularly among the younger generation. More information is available at www.asefuan.org

The Projects

Model ASEM



Model ASEM is a project of the ASEF University Alumni Network, in order to develop a simulation of an Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Similar to the actual ASEM Process participated in by heads of state from Asia and Europe, the Model ASEM for students has the objective to create a greater understanding on relevant issues affecting both regions. Model ASEM conferences aim to promote a greater understanding of the ASEM process, its structure and political process among young people of Asia and Europe.

So far, 2 Model ASEM Conferences in 2004 (Singapore) and 2007 (Manila) have been organized, with a third Model ASEM Conference in Beijing, China on the way. The third Model ASEM will be held from 25 to 27 September 2008, with cooperation of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF). More information is available at www.modelasem.org

Culture Capsule

Culture Capsule is a flagship project of the ASEF University Alumni Network that involves cultural exchanges between students aged 9-17, from elementary and secondary schools in Asia and Europe.

The initiative promotes friendship and better understanding among students, by giving them the opportunity to trade local items, cultural symbols, letters, and photographic records to their counterparts in the other region. The Culture Capsule initiative hopes to encourage students to gain a broader perspective by seeing other parts of the world through the eyes of a fellow student. The exchanges enable students to compare lifestyles, debunk existing stereotypes and misconceptions, and most importantly, gain appreciation and respect toward different cultures. More information is available at www.culturecapsule.org



Other Activities

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) annually organises its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in alternating countries within Europe and Asia.

The AGM is an opportunity for ASEF University graduates to gather together, with the further aim to strengthen the friendships forged in and across the various AU programmes throughout the years

The AGM consists of a day of academic discussion on a related theme, two days of internal discussion on ASEFUAN, as well as a variety of cultural and social activities in the host country. AGM is also the supreme decision-making body of the ASEFUAN under Constitution.

ASEFUAN.ac

ASEFUAN.ac is a scheme launched by ASEFUAN in 2007 consisting with the overall objective to foster academic collaboration between Asian and European researchers, and assist in research project development and promotion of their achievements. The hallmarks of ASEFUAN.ac are simplicity, flexibility, cost-efficiency, and global reach.

There are four distinctive projects under ASEFUAN.ac described below.

ASEFUAN.acbase is a database of researchers working in any of the ASEM countries who are interested in finding new collaborators in their field and engaging in new research projects.

ASEFUAN.acproject consists of an infoboard available to people in the database informing them of open calls for proposals and funding opportunities, and of a project management unit which is a group of people assisting with research project development.

ASEFUAN.acbridge enables up to 5-month exchange stays for ASEFUAN.acbase researchers.

ASEFUAN.acpresent facilitates publishing via enhanced cooperation between ASEFUAN and the Asia-Europe Journal, a quarterly published by Springer.

Contact Us

For more information on the ASEF University Programme, please visit www.asef.org or contact the People-to-People Exchange (P2P) Department.

If you are interested in co-organising a project with ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN), please feel free to contact the ASEFUAN Executive Committee at exco@asefuan.org