

10th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF): **Press Release**

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23rd September 2011

Open Day invitation

International volunteers share their field experiences in South India

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) will hold “Health on Stage” Open Day on 30th September in Bangalore.

This “Open Day” will be the closing session of the “10th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange programme: Health on Stage”. Since 20th August, “Health on Stage” young volunteers from 14 ASEM* countries have worked closely with the urban, semi-urban and rural communities in Bangalore, Chennai and Mysore respectively. Closely interacting with local communities, these volunteers familiarised themselves with their most pressing public health concerns. They then organised forum theatre performances with the local people to raise awareness on hygiene, sanitation and other water-related concerns.

Six weeks of inter-personal communication and inter-cultural learning provided the volunteers with many new experiences, challenges, possibilities, understanding and motivation. The volunteers, their mentors, facilitators, organisers and local community members will share their experiences with visitors at Open Day. There will be an informal dialogue sharing with creative forum theatre performances by the participants.

Representatives from public health institutions, civil society organisations, forum theatre practitioners, the media and the members of the public are invited to attend this event. The detailed agenda of the event is enclosed with the press release.

Open Day

Date: 30th September 2011

Time: 10.30 am – 1.00 pm (India time)

Venue: KROSS - KARNATAKA REGIONAL ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICE
58/6, 2ND CROSS, DA COSTA LAYOUT, WHEELER ROAD EXTENSION, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA
560084, INDIA; TELEPHONE: 080-25496812113

Please register to attend by sending an email to debasmita.dasgupta@asef.org

About 10th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange programme: Health on Stage

“Health on Stage” is a joint effort by the ASEF and CCIVS to commemorate the United Nations Volunteers’ (UNV) 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteering (IYV+10) and the European Year of Volunteering. It is hosted by the Field Services & Inter-Cultural Learning (FSL India) in Bangalore, Chennai and Mysore in South India (20 August - 1 October 2011).

For more information about the project visit <http://tinyurl.com/3d9uye5>

10th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange

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About the Organisers:



The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM*). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since implemented over 500 projects, engaging over 15,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe. www.asef.org

* ASEM now brings together 46 member states (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. www.aseinfoboard.org



CCIVS

The Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service was founded in 1948. CCIVS is a co-ordinating body for international voluntary service organisations and it counts more than 250 member associations in 96 countries, including 5 international networks and several regional structures and platforms. It acts as a link to establish relations between the members and international institutions such as the EU, different UN agencies or foundations. CCIVS fosters the development of regional networks through the organisation of international projects and seminars and the production of publications and training tools. (www.ccivs.org)



FSL India (Field Services and Intercultural Learning) is a Non-Governmental Organization registered under the Indian Trust Act in 2001, as a non-profit body. It is a charitable, non-political, non-religious youth organization. FSL-India is a member of the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS-UNESCO), Network for Voluntary Development in Asia (NVDA) and cooperates with the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organizations. FSL-India networks with like-minded organizations to promote Youth mobility and intercultural learning and acts as a support structure for other youth and social organizations in India. The Head office is located in Bangalore, with centres in Kundapur, Chennai and Kerala. FSL-India receives about 1300 international volunteers every year through the support of international partners. (www.fsl-india.org)