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CALL FOR PROPOSAL ASEF Public Health Network

Thematic Working Group 2 (TWG2) on Multi-sector Pandemic Preparedness and Response: Public Briefing and Strategy Development Workshop

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) was established in February 1997 under the framework of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process¹. The membership has grown to 46 countries, plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. Through conferences, workshops, and a diverse range of projects, ASEF seeks to promote mutual understanding, deeper engagement and continuing collaboration among the people of Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural, and people to people exchanges between the two regions.

THE ASEF PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK

The ASEF Public Health Network is constituted as part of the ASEM Initiative for the Rapid Containment of Pandemic Influenza.

Through one of its main thematic areas – the Multi-sector Pandemic Preparedness and Response – the ASEF Public Health Network reaffirmed its added-value in actively engaging health and non-health sectors towards multi-sectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response (PPR) through the ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness) initiative. With three different scenarios developed throughout 2010, the ASEF Public Health Network now utilises these scenarios to improve sectoral and multi-sectoral strategies for pandemic preparedness and response, and disseminates the outcomes of this activity to wider public.

OBJECTIVE

This open call for proposal aims to invite consulting firms specialised in foresight or facilitation to carry out two of our activities under the above thematic area in 2012.

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

Background

In 2010, through a series of workshops, ASEF developed ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness) Scenarios for pandemic preparedness planning and response to improve multi-sectoral and sectoral strategies for pandemic preparedness and response. In 2011, two activities were implemented: Multi-sectoral Strategy Development Workshop; and Strategy Development Workshop for Passenger Air Transport Sector.

In 2012, the ASEF Public Health Network will organise two activities: a public briefing and a strategy development workshop.

1. Public Briefing

¹ The **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation. It brings together Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam, the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission. www.aseminfoboard.org

The ASEF Public Health Network launched the ASEF-ASAP Scenarios in Bangkok in June 2011. The scenarios were presented in the form of short video animations and a digital publication to reflect the ASEF scenario-building process.

In 2012, ASEF Public Health Network will reach out to members of the public and the media in Europe with a similar event to showcase the ASEF-ASAP scenarios.

Specifically, the Public Briefing aims to:

- Generate public and media awareness of the ASEF-ASAP scenarios in Europe by showcasing the outcomes of the scenario development process and the strategy recommendations on multi-sector pandemic preparedness
- Share information and tools on how to utilise ASEF-ASAP scenarios for specific sectors, and how organisations can develop sector-specific strategies for pandemic planning and response based on the ASEF-ASAP scenarios

This event will be half-day and target 50 participants from different background, which are, among others: ministries of health of ASEM Countries; public health practitioners; and public health crisis managers in Europe.

2. Strategy Development Workshop

In 2012, the ASEF Public Health Network aims to strengthen pandemic vaccines strategy by using ASEF-ASAP Scenarios.

The recent H1N1 pandemic revealed the enormous pressure not only on the vaccine manufacturing industry to deliver as much vaccine in a short timeframe as possible, but also on purchasing or receiving countries to ensure its safety, efficacy, and accessibility - including the speed at which they are made available for distribution. The pandemic vaccines strategy should also take into consideration the specific social-cultural context of the community in question.

It is important to ensure that pandemic strategies, including those pertaining to vaccines, are robust enough to face a wide range of future pandemics. Therefore, these strategies need to be tested against different possible future settings, as detailed in the ASEF-ASAP Scenarios.

ASEF-ASAP SCENARIOS

In 2010, through a series of workshops, ASEF Public Health Network convened a group of people from different background and expertise, to undertake scenario-building exercise to develop long-term scenarios (with 30-year time span) for possible future pandemics.

As a result, three scenarios for pandemic preparedness, namely ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness), were developed:

Grey Paradise

A future dominated economic control by authorities, redistributed resources, politically global

MosaInc.

A future dominated by economic self-interest, resource abuse, and weak political structures

Glocal Blocs

A future dominated by regional/collective economic interest, resource for own development, regional political blocs

Each scenario entails different consequences that will determine how present strategies at different level for pandemics or public health emergencies should be strengthened in order to be better prepared for such consequences.

The three ASEF-ASAP scenarios can be found in this link:

<http://asef.org/ebooks/public-health/scenarios/scenario.html>

The upcoming Workshop will map the current challenges in the preparedness plan for vaccines development sector and frame these challenges into different realms in order to develop recommendations for improving the existing pandemic vaccines strategies.

The Workshop will be organised in Asia in early June 2011 (*dates and venue tbc*) and target maximum 30 participants selected from a wide range of sectors both in Asia and Europe.

Objectives

In light of the above, services acquired from the provider are to:

- Assist ASEF in designing the format of the public launch;
- Facilitate session and dialogue on ASEF-ASAP Scenarios during a public briefing;
- Assist ASEF in designing the format of the strategy development workshop;
- Facilitate the process of strategy development for pandemic vaccines using the ASEF-ASAP scenarios;
- Prepare a workshop report;
- Assist in the strategy analysis and formulation of recommendations;

REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

The selected consultant will have to submit:

- Design and tentative programme for the public briefing
- Facilitation plan, design and tentative programme for the Workshop
- Prepare and submit a workshop report and recommendation paper

SELECTION CRITERIA

The following requirements shall be met:

- Organisation from an ASEM country;
- European and/or Asian related experience with business clients, public authorities and civil society;
- Expertise in the field of Public Health will be considered as advantage;
- Previous projects in scenario-building will be considered as advantage;
- More than 5 year-experience in facilitation or scenario building development

Proposals will be assessed on both financial (30%) and quality (70%) criteria.

DEADLINE OF PROPOSAL

The interested consulting firm should submit application form (maximum 5 pages), which contains brief information about the company and methodology/ plan to implement the activities.

A proposal should be received before Friday, 23rd December 2011.

STARTING DATE

The work will commence on 15th January 2012. Public briefing will take place in February 2012 in Brussels, and the Strategy Development Workshop will take place in June 2012 in one of the ASEM countries in Asia.

FUNDING

ASEF will provide the financial envelope for all services not more than EUR 30,000 (inclusive travelling costs for the event purpose).

SUBMISSION AND CONTACT

Every item on the application form uploaded on the web page of announcement should be filled in and sent to Mr. Rachmat Irwansjah at rachmat.irwansjah@asef.org and Ms Sunkyoung Lee at sunkyoung.lee@asef.org. Please also direct queries to them.

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