



19th International Youth Forum 2008 – Youth Challenges in the ASEM Context

15 - 22 July 2008, Seoul, Republic of Korea

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Background

The International Youth Forum (IYF) is an initiative of the National Council of Youth Organisations in Korea, based and developed on the special fund that the Ministry of Sports and Youth of the Republic of Korea created in 1990 in order to promote international awareness and friendship among young people.

The first (IYF) took place in the same year, 1990 and was organised under the name Korean International Peace Camp. Its success made it possible for the IYF to become an important youth event. Throughout the years, the IYF focused on different issues that were of extreme importance; for example, in 1994, it was organised in conjunction with the “International Year of the Family”, in 2001, the main theme was Voluntarism, while in 2006, the theme was “a world without borders”, having as the main focus the promotion and the raising of awareness about the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2008, the IYF will be focusing on creating more opportunities for interaction between Asian and European young people, on strengthening the Youth Dialogue between these regions and on providing Asian and European young people with a space for dialogue that would help improve and ponder over present global issues.

2. Objectives

This year’s International Youth Forum focuses on current global issues that aggravate living circumstances of human beings so as to seek how Asian and European youth, as leaders of the future, can contribute and participate to the global development.

- To encourage mutual understanding and co-operation between the youth from Asia and Europe;
- To enable young people to identify possible solutions to global challenges and to take responsibility for their active involvement in solving them;
- To encourage the active participation of young people in issues that concern the aggravation of the living conditions of human beings;
- To provide a space (opportunity) for young people to make an input to the institutional process of ASEM.

3. The Outline of the Project

- **Focus:** “The role of Asian and European Youth in tackling global issues through inter-cultural dialogue.”
- **Sub Topics:**
 - Environmental protection & climate change
 - Education to eradicate poverty
 - Decent work and unemployment
 - Public health policy and HIV/AIDS
 - Gender Equality
- **Duration:** July 15th - July 22nd, 2008 (8 days)
- **Co-organised with:**
 - Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
- **In Co-operation with:**
 - Youth Forum Jeunesse (YFJ)
 - Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs (MOHW)
- **Venue:**
 - Hamilton Hotel (Seoul) (<http://www.hamilton.co.kr>)
 - Goesan Youth Center (<http://www.gsyouth.co.kr>)

4. Participants' Profiles

130 young people representing the 45 ASEM members:

- Asia: Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam;
- Europe: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom;
- The European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat

Participants should:

- be aged between 18 and 30 - born between 1978. 1. 1 ~ 1990. 12. 31 (**applicants outside of this age group will not be accepted*);
- be able to work in English;
- be interested in the topics discussed during the Forum;
- be willing to attend 100% of the event;
- come from any of the ASEM countries;
- be currently working/have worked as volunteers or employees in an NGO/IGO;
- have clear presentation skills and cooperation skills to work with other young people;
- have openness and understanding to other cultural, social, political, religious, and other

issues from Asia and Europe.

Participants will be selected on a gender equality and geographical balance basis.

5. Main Programme

- **Special Lecture I, II, III**
- **Workshops**
 - Group discussions, Creation of the Seoul Declaration
 - Theme related Activities (performances)
- **Experiencing Korean Culture and Exchange Activities**
 - Experiencing Korean Culture (Korean Historic Sites, Traditional Culture)
 - ASEM Youth Festival

6. Required documents

- Completed application form (attached)
- An essay in English (A4 size 3pgs) on the following topic: Topic: “The Role of Asian and European Youth in Tackling Global Issues through Inter-cultural Dialogue”

7. Travel, accommodation and meals details:

- There is no participation fee for the programme.
- **Airfare:**
 - Asia and Europe: Unfortunately, this time we regret that organisers are unable to provide financial support to cover the airfare for all participants. Nonetheless, if you request financial support due to your limited budget, we may provide a certain amount that would cover part of your expenses.
- **Accommodation and meals;**
 - Korean domestic hospitalities include board, lodging, and local transportation.

8. Deadline of Applications

- Interested parties should send the completed Participation Application Form attached to the designated co-ordinators no later than Tuesday, the 10th of June, 2008

9. Contact Details of the Organisers

Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs	National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea (NCYOK)
Deputy Director: Mr. Kang In Jun – Children & Youth Exchange Team (MOHW)	Coordinator: Mr. Kim Seong Jin, Andrew (Doe-Youn) Kim

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10. Further information and links

Glimpse of the 18th International Youth Forum
<p>Photos: http://www.ncyok.or.kr/board/loveroom/view.asp?boardcode=loveroom&itemid=28593&page=1&subject</p> <p>Movies: http://www.ncyok.or.kr/pds/video/view.asp?boardcode=video&itemid=28697&page=1&subject</p>
Asia-Europe Foundation
<p>Visit: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=19&Itemid=64</p>

Tentative Schedule

(* schedule may change due to certain circumstances)

July 15th (Tue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Arrival / Registration- Orientation & Ice Breaking- Group Activity
July 16th (Wed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Opening Ceremony- Special Lecture I (Q & A)- Special Lecture II (Q & A)- Team Work Activities
July 17th (Thu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Special Lecture III (Q & A)- Report of Current Situation- Workshop I
July 18th (Fri)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Workshop II- Workshop III- Theme related Performance
July 19th (Sat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Plenary Session
July 20th (Sun)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- ASEM Youth Festival- Experiencing Korean Culture I
July 21st (Mon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Field Trip (Free City Tour in Seoul)- Draw up IYF Declaration- Closing Ceremony- Farewell Party- Programme Evaluation
July 22nd (Tue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Departure