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 550 projects, engaging over 17,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe.

www.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) was initiated in 1996 when the ASEM leaders met in Bangkok, Thailand. ASEM is an informal trans-regional platform for dialogue and co-operation between the two regions and has arisen out of a mutual recognition that the relationship between Asia and Europe needed to be strengthened in light of the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

The ASEM process is based on an equal partnership and its activities are grouped into three pillars: political, economic and socio-cultural. 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.

ASEM holds a Summit every two years, alternately in Asia and in Europe. This is the highest level of decision-making in the process. Besides the attendance of the Head of States, the Summit also features accompanying Ministers, the Head of the European Commission and other stakeholders. Apart from the Summit meetings, the ASEM process is carried forward through a series of Ministerial and working-level meetings, as well as a number of activities arising from it.

www.aseminfoboard.org
Chairman’s Message

The emergence of increasingly complex challenges in our fast-changing world reaffirms our belief in the continuing relevance of ASEF. From cross-continent pandemic threats, the worsening impact of climate change and the ongoing financial crisis, their bearing on society at large cannot be ignored. Despite the varying scope and severity of these challenges, one thing is constant – the importance of constructive dialogue and multilateral efforts to face these shared challenges.

ASEF’s projects over the past years have endeavored to contribute to the redress of these challenges. Through programmes such as the ASEF Public Health Network, which employs a multisectoral approach in tackling public health issues, and the Asia-Europe Environment Forum, which ignites debate on environmental issues, ASEF has zeroed in on the priorities concerning not only the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), but also the larger international community. ASEF has also continued its work in other crucial areas of dialogue and cooperation such as arts and culture, education, human rights and governance and intercultural dialogue.

It cannot be emphasised enough that ASEF’s true value lies in its ability to bring together civil society and governments together in meaningful dialogue and interaction. As the only established institute of ASEM, ASEF is in a unique position to reinforce the informal dialogues at the government level by bringing the discussions to the people of Asia and Europe and obtaining valuable recommendations for the consideration of ASEM leaders. With the Foundation’s established networking platforms and partners, I am confident that ASEF will continue to foster greater dialogue and cooperation between the two regions.

In 2011, we have witnessed a change in ASEF’s leadership, as Ambassador Dominique Girard stepped down as Executive Director on the grounds of retirement. On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to express my gratitude to Ambassador Girard for steering ASEF for the past three years. We also welcome the appointment of Ambassador Michel Filhol, who recently took over the reins of the Foundation to continue its good work, and to ensure the sound financial and strategic management of ASEF.

Finally, I would like to commend the hard work put in by the ASEF staff in the development and execution of the Foundation’s programmes. Their dedication and belief in ASEF’s mission and vision is the fuel to the fire that further reinforces the relationship between Asia and Europe.

Ambassador Soemadi Brotodiningrat
Chairman, ASEF Board of Governors

asef 2011
03
Overseeing ASEF is a Board of Governors who is responsible for reviewing the organisation’s strategy and policies while ensuring that ASEM’s principles and priorities are strictly adhered to. Also under their purview are ASEF’s finances and budgeting as well as approvals for all projects and programmes. The Board is appointed by the respective ASEM partners and meets thrice in two years.

< Left: Governors and ASEF management at the 27th ASEF Board of Governors’ Meeting in Singapore

**ASEAN Secretariat** Ambassador Sayakane Sisouvong
- **Australia** Ms Julie Heckscher
- **Austria** Ambassador Dr Martin Eichtinger
- **Belgium** Ambassador Roland Van Remoortele
- **Brunei** Ambassador Pengiran Dato Yunus Mahmud
- **Bulgaria** Mr Svilen Bozhanov
- **Cambodia** Mrs Tuot Panha
- **China** Ambassador Lü Yongshou
- **Cyprus** High Commissioner Nafisa Kroustli
- **Czech Republic** Ambassador Jan Fúry
- **Denmark** Ambassador Prof Jørgen Østrup Møller
- **Estonia** Ambassador Mait Martinson
- **European Union** Ambassador Karel Kovač
- **Finland** Ms Eva Blaudet
- **France** Ambassador Claude Bianchemaison
- **Germany** Prof Helmut Haussmann
- **Greece** Ambassador Dr Sotirios Mousouris
- **Hungary** Ambassador Dr András Balogh
- **India** High Commissioner Dr T. C. A. Raghavan
- **Indonesia** Ambassador Soemadi Brotodiningrat
- **Ireland** Ambassador Joseph Hayes
- **Italy** Ambassador Anacleto Felicani
- **Japan** Ambassador Nobutake Odano
- **Korea** Ambassador Kim Sam-hoon
- **Laos** Mr Thongphane Savanhpet
- **Latvia** N.N.
- **Lithuania** Ambassador Dainius Petras Kamaitis
- **Luxembourg** Dr Jacques F. Poos
- **Malaysia** Dato’ Md. Hussin Nayan
- **Malta** Prof Henry Joseph Frendo
- **Mongolia** N.N.
- **Myanmar** Ambassador Tin Oo Lwin
- **New Zealand** High Commissioner Peter Hamilton
- **The Netherlands** Prof W. A. L. Stokhof
- **Pakistan** High Commissioner Syed Hasan Javed
- **The Philippines** Ambassador Prof Rosario G. Manalo
- **Poland** Ambassador Waldemar Dubaniowski
- **Portugal** Lieutenant-General Vasco Joaquim Rocha Vieira
- **Romania** Ambassador Gheorghe Magheru
- **Russia** N.N.
- **Singapore** Prof Leo Tan Wee Hin
- **Slovakia** Mr Igor Otčenáš
- **Slovenia** Ambassador Helena Dmőšek Zorko
- **Spain** Ambassador Juan José Herrera de la Muela
- **Sweden** Ambassador Olof Ehrenkrona
- **Thailand** Ambassador Sawanit Kongsiri
- **United Kingdom** High Commissioner Antony John Phillipson
- **Vietnam** Ambassador Nguyen Duc Hung
Executive Director’s Message

I have had the opportunity to witness the remarkable evolution of ASEF since its early beginnings. Therefore, I am pleased to be today at the helm of this organisation, which aims to open new avenues of dialogue and interactions between Asians and Europeans.

In 2011, ASEF had once again the opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of its mandate. The financial crisis afflicting Europe raised critical questions and concerns in Asia. More than ever, a substantive dialogue is welcome in order to dispel arising misperceptions that could hamper the course of the Asia-Europe relationship.

Also in 2011, ASEF has implemented activities approved by the ASEF Board of Governors in 2010, and has begun to adjust its projects with consideration to its current circumstances. In 2012, with the support of its leadership, ASEF will continue to focus its resources on priority projects which correspond with the core of its mandate. In doing so, ASEF will fulfill its mission of implementing, in a practical way, the agenda set at the political level by the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process of which ASEF is its unique institution.

ASEF has also invited important opinion and policy makers to address relevant issues of the day, in particular through public talks. Amongst them were French intellectual Dr Jacques Attali who spoke on the topic “Is The Global Economy Still in Crisis?” (January 2011) and economic advisor to the Russian President Dr Igor Yurgens, who – with The Federation of Russia having joined ASEM in 2010 - shared his views on the topic “Russia in the Next Decade and Cooperation with Asia” (April 2011).

ASEF has also worked on strengthening Asia and Europe’s voice in the international arena. The Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENForum) programme embarked on the Asia-Europe Strategies for the Earth Summit 2012 workshop, a series of scenario-building workshops with a solution-oriented focus. This will hopefully contribute to the dialogue process on the way towards the Rio+20 Earth Summit.

Whereas the outcome of ASEF’s work may oftentimes be intangible, it also established solid outputs. The publication “Good Policing: Instruments, Models and Practices” is based on the spirit of sharing best practices and is being used by police academies in the training of their officers. The 11th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights “National and Regional Human Rights Mechanisms” held in Prague in November last year gave rise to a set of key recommendations, a detailed Seminar Report and a comprehensive Background Paper prepared by expert Rapporteurs.

In realm of the public health, young people at the community level were involved in an awareness campaign through the medium of theatre (“Health on Stage”, India, August - October 2011). To bring together young people from Asia and Europe, two other events were also organised in 2011. These were the “Atelier for Young Festival Managers” (Singapore, May 2011) and the “17th ASEF University” (Penang, June 2011). I invite you, the reader, to learn more about ASEF’s activities organised in 2011 by going through this comprehensive annual report.

ASEF will celebrate its 15th Anniversary in 2012. The Asia Europe Foundation is now a well-established institution. We owe this achievement to all of those who, over the past fifteen years, have made it as it is now. I wish to acknowledge their decisive contributions.

At a time when sudden changes are taking place in Europe and Asia, and at a time when short term analysis prevails, ASEF is determined to be even more responsive in order to address the topics of the day through in-depth exchanges of views between experts of the two regions and constructive dialogue that provides a reliable and neutral platform. ASEF will continue to make long term investments through sustainable programmes, as they reflect the vision which inspired the Foundation’s institution.

Responsive in the short term, commitment in the long term: these two dimensions will continue to shape ASEF.

Ambassador Michel Filhol
ASEF Executive Director
the ASEF team

**Executive Office**

*From Left:* Ambassador Michel Fihol *(Executive Director)* France, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Khanh *(Deputy Executive Director)* Vietnam, Leonie Nagarajan *(Chief of Staff to ED)* Germany, Wendy Lee *(Personal Assistant to ED)* Singapore, Amelia Indradjaja *(Executive Assistant to ED)* Indonesia, Linyan Xue *(Executive Assistant to ED)* China

The **Executive Office (EO)** facilitates the implementation of management decisions based on the directions and policy guidelines set out by the ASEM governments and the ASEF Board of Governors. At the same time, it manages the growth of ASEF’s overall capability by setting out strategic objectives and operational requirements, while ensuring co-ordination across the organisation both internally and externally with its networks.

**Finance and Administration**

*From Left:* Sandle Fun *(Director)* Singapore, Michael Laserna *(Administrative Officer)* The Philippines, Frances Tay *(Finance Manager)* Singapore, M. Basri Borhan *(Driver)* Singapore, Irene Yap *(Accounts Officer)* Singapore

The **Finance and Administration department (F&A)** safeguards ASEF’s financial management via appropriate financial planning, reporting and central support systems, thus ensuring efficiency, cost-effectiveness and transparency across all day-to-day operations and activities of the organisation.
Public Affairs

From Left: Paul Koh (Director) Singapore, Kristine Joy Lucero (Admin/Project Officer) The Philippines, Theresa Ann Chung Cua (Project Officer) The Philippines, Kotryna Stankute (Project Officer) Lithuania, Debasmita Dasgupta (Project Executive) India, Rafael Secades (Assistant Director) Spain

The Public Affairs department (PA) plays a pivotal role in extending knowledge on Asia-Europe co-operation and engendering heightened mutual understanding between Asia and Europe. It raises awareness and understanding about ASEF, ASEM and key issues concerning Asia-Europe relations across a diverse range of constituencies including the media and general public.

Cultural Exchange

From Left: Sabina Santarossa (Director) Italy, Sasiwimon Wongjarin (Project Officer) Thailand, Md Hatta Bin Hj Md Moktar (Admin/Project Officer) Singapore, Ramona Laczko David (Project Officer) Romania, Anupama Sekhar (Project Manager) India

From Left: Kalaiivani Karunanethy (Project Officer) Singapore, Katelijn Verstraete (Assistant Director) Belgium, Claire Rosslyn Wilson (Project Officer) Australia, Valentina Riccardi (Project Executive) Italy

The Cultural Exchange department (CE) promotes dialogue among young artists, cultural professionals and policymakers that evolves into positive artistic interventions, dynamic cultural networks and cultural policy development in and between Asia and Europe. It creates a unique environment for young artists’ exchanges, process-oriented platforms for exchange and discussions on arts and culture policy.
the ASEF team

**Intellectual Exchange**

*From Left:* Sol Iglesias (Director) The Philippines, Grazyna Pulawska (Project Executive) Poland, Ratna Tania Mathai Luke (Project Officer) India, Rachmat Irwansjah (Project Manager) Indonesia

The **Intellectual Exchange department (IE)** tackles topical issues and questions raised in policy dialogue among the international community. Together with experts and stakeholders from government institutions and civil societies, the IE department analyses developments in Europe and Asia and identifies areas offering common perspectives. These are addressed by ASEF partners who design and implement appropriate programmes for them. Actionable recommendations from briefings, public events and publications are conveyed to the decision-makers.

**People-to-People Exchange**

*From Left:* Anjeli Narandran (Assistant Director) Singapore, Ronan J Lenihan (Project Executive) Ireland, Grace Foo (Admin/Project Executive) Singapore, Sunkyong Lee (Project Executive) Korea, Christopher Massey (Technical Assistant) United Kingdom

The **People-to-People Exchange department (P2P)** champions the building of strong partnerships and supporting greater mobility and networking among the youth at ASEM countries. It facilitates the development and exchanges of formal and non-formal educational policies and practices across Asia and Europe.
Towards ASEF’s 15 Anniversary

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) marks another milestone in its history as it commemorates its 15th anniversary in 2012. Established by members of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in 1997, the Foundation was founded to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe.

Since its inception, ASEF has engaged some 17,000 direct participants and organised over 500 projects in seven areas of interest namely economy, environment, education, public health, arts and culture, human rights and governance, and intercommunal dialogue. It champions issues of immediate relevance to the two regions and emphasises common ground for future partnerships.

<Left: Ambassador Tommy Koh (Singapore) and Mr Pierre Baroux (France), ASEF’s first Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director

<Left: Mr Pascal Lamy, EU Commissioner for Trade, at the ASEF 5th Anniversary Lecture in 2002.

^Top: Nassim Hill, ASEF’s original office in Singapore

^Bottom: Professor S Jayakumar, then Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Law (Singapore) and Mr Hans van Mierlo, Minister for Foreign Affairs (The Netherlands) during ASEF’s launch on 15 Feb 1997
Engaging Civil Societies

ASEF actively engages a diverse spectrum of individuals and organisations in an effort to connect civil societies with the political deliberations at the ASEM Summits of Heads of States and Governments and Ministerial Meetings. In 2011, the Foundation showcased the results of the ASEM Education Hub’s 2009 and 2010 activities at the 3rd Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3) in Copenhagen, Denmark, which included the results of the Rectors’ Conference in 2010 involving the heads of 73 high-level university representatives.

Providing an Asia-Europe Voice in Global Dialogues

ASEF continued its participation in the Europe-Asia Policy Forum (EUFoRAsia), which aims to boost cooperation and drive awareness of contemporary issues concerning EU-Asia relations. Targeting policymakers and other stakeholders, it has organised 24 Brussels Briefings, 11 roundtables and two conferences over three years for government, business and civil society leaders.

Going beyond ASEM meetings, ASEF has drawn attention to the concerns of civil societies at various international meetings and forums. At the Rio+20 Summit in 2012, a defining moment in international dialogue on environment and sustainable development, ASEF will present the outcome of the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) workshops, the Asia-Europe Strategies for the Earth Summit 2012, to influence the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD). This includes research, good practices and insights gleaned from 20-year scenarios developed by over 55 experts.

> Right: Ms Sol Iglesias, Director for Intellectual Exchange in Indonesia for the ENVforum’s 1st Scenario Planning Workshop in Yogyakarta (July 2011)

> Right: Participants during the 3rd ASEM Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3)

Over 100 civil society and government participants descended on Prague, the Czech Republic for the 11th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights in November 2011. Representatives from the United Nations, the European Union and various national human rights institutions also participated in the dialogue which discussed national and regional human rights mechanisms. The outcomes will be tabled in a set of recommendations for the strengthening of regional and national mechanisms in the two continents.

One of ASEF’s longest running programmes, the Seminar stands as the largest meeting point between Asia and Europe on human rights issues. Launched in 1997, it brings together and enhances relations between government officials and civil society participants in the area of human rights from the 48 ASEM partners.

ASEF also engages the cultural sector on environment and sustainable development issues. ASEF’s Connect2Culture programme brought together over 100 artists, creative professionals, scientists and sociologists to examine arts and culture as a catalyst for creative solutions to important global challenges such as climate change alongside key events such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP15). From 2012, Connect2Culture will investigate the role of culture in human development and contribute to discussions on the Millennium Development Goals.

Giving Arts & Culture a Stage

In October 2011, ASEF lent its support to the Fifth World Summit on Arts and Culture. Held in Melbourne, Australia, the Summit was the meeting point for over 500 cultural leaders, practitioners and artists representing governments, national cultural institutions and cultural organisations. The Summit was an ideal opportunity to showcase culture360.org project an online portal dedicated to the promotion of Asian and European cultures by engaging users and fostering partnerships between professionals and organisations from the two regions.
Tackling Health Concerns in Asia & Europe

A special mandate from ASEM to form the Public Health Network in 2009 turned the spotlight on public health. Using an international, multi-sector approach targeting experts, policymakers and grassroots, a series of workshops were organised to formulate comprehensive strategies to safeguard against pandemics in Asia and Europe. Representatives from international organisations, government bodies, the business sector and not-for-profit organisations joined ASEF in raising the bar on pandemic preparedness.

In a separate initiative, ASEF through the Health on Stage project teamed up with young volunteers to drive awareness of water-borne diseases and share prevention knowledge across various urban and rural communities in India.

An Enduring Impact

Through working to shape policies and processes, ASEF’s work has an enduring impact. The Good Policing: Instruments, Models and Practices handbook published in 2011 is the culmination of three years of deliberations and research into police oversight mechanisms in Asia and Europe. Focusing on the intersections between external oversight, internal disciplinary mechanisms and other accountability structures that improve police and community partnerships, it serves as a guide to the different models, existing good practices, legal instruments and key parameters that can foster a culture of good policing. The Indonesian Police Academy has since adopted the publication for the training of its police officers.

Furthering Our Mission

In 2010, ASEF welcomed Australia, New Zealand and Russia on board. Its continued enlargement serves as a testament to the Foundation’s increasing relevance in fuelling the dialogue between Asia and Europe. As ASEF celebrates its 15th year with a stable of projects and events to be rolled out over the year, it is poised to continually engage relevant stakeholders, build partnerships and pursue its mission of establishing closer ties between the two regions for the benefit of all.

Through such events and programmes, ASEF has involved a broader audience of over 185,000 people who were able to experience the identity and strength of our diverse cultures and benefit from stronger cooperation in the different areas that were mentioned above. ASEF has provided these individuals with the opportunity to engage their counterparts in the other region or to work together to advance our mutual interests. As we count down to ASEF’s 15th birthday, we hope to continue promoting closer ties and facilitating bi-regional partnerships for the benefit of the peoples in Asia and Europe.

^ Top : Professor S Jayakumar, Ms Karina Suonio, Chairman of ASEF’s Board of Governors, Mr Hans van Mierlo and ASEF Executive Director Ambassador Cho Won-il during ASEF’s 10th Anniversary

^ Bottom : Key human rights stakeholders such as Professor Michael O’Flaherty, Chief Commissioner, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (left) and Mr Kieren Fitzpatrick, Director of Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (right) participated in the three-day seminar.

< Left : Participants perform for the local community in Mysore during the Health on Stage project in India
Economy & Society

As the international financial and economic crisis continues to impact Asia and Europe, reforms in international economic governance have also affected related regional mechanisms. With 12 ASEM countries forming a part of the G-20 economies, ASEF’s activities in the area of Economy and Society address the crisis’ effects on society, engaging government and civil society in a collective reflection that gives rise to innovative and integrated policy recommendations.
Public Lecture by Dr. Jacques Attali
“Is The Global Economy Still in Crisis?”
13 January 2011
Singapore

In a highly successful Public Talk attended by over 350 business leaders, diplomats, media representatives and bloggers, French public intellectual, Dr Jacques Attali, tackled the issue of the on-going international crisis, highlighting the absence of a global rule of law to control the global financial marker as the fundamental cause of the global economic crisis. Guest-of-Honour and then-Foreign Minister of Singapore, George Yeo, introduced Dr Attali who subsequently addressed queries on the future of the Euro and the role of an emerging China in redefining the world economy.

*In partnership with the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS).*

*Top*: Dr Jacques Attali addresses a query from the public

*Bottom*: Dr Jacques Attali (left) is welcomed by Singapore Foreign Minister George Yeo (right) before the Public Lecture

*Top-left*: Singapore Senior Minister of State Zainul Abidin Rasheed is engaged in discussion with ASEF Executive Director Ambassador Dominique Girard and Deputy Executive Director Nguyen Quoc Khanh

*Bottom-left*: ASEF founding Executive Director Ambassador Tommy Koh signs the ASEF guestbook as Singapore Senior Minister of State Zainul Abidin Rasheed looks on
Seminar: Russia in the Next Decade and Cooperation with Asia
28 April 2011
Singapore

Some 40 participants gathered for this two-hour seminar as Dr Igor Yurgens, Chairman of the Institute of Contemporary Development – Russia’s leading think-tank and a close advisor to Russian President, Dmitry Medvedev, imparted knowledge on the current thinking of Russia’s influential policymakers.

Speaking on behalf of the Medvedev Group which aims to propel Russia forward, he addressed a crowd comprising members of diplomatic corps, ASEF governors and representatives of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), INSEAD and ESSEC business schools, the Singapore Management University (SMU), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), APEC Secretariat and businessmen. Participants demonstrated a lively interest and posed insightful questions on how President Medvedev could successfully motivate the country’s vast majority towards a sense of renewal during the Q&A session moderated by Ambassador Michael Tay, Executive Director of the Russia-Singapore Business Forum.

^Above: Ambassador Michael Tay of the Singapore-Russia Business Forum shares a light moment with Dr Igor Yurgens during the Seminar

^Above: Dr Igor Yurgens, Chairman of the Institute of Contemporary Development with former ASEF Executive Director Ambassador Dominique Girard
Workshop on the Impact of the Crisis on Regional Economic and Financial Integration in Asia and Europe

14 – 16 September 2011
Lubljana, Slovenia

Shedding light on the possible ways forward for both regions, 20 of Asia and Europe’s top economists came together to debate the impact the current crisis has on regional economic and financial integration. Leveraging a unique strategic foresight methodology to guide and form strong policy recommendations, the two-day workshop saw experts table the key drivers and vulnerabilities of the crisis and develop policy adjustments for future stability and further integration. The recommendations for Asian and European leaders and the proposed agenda for the next ASEM Finance Ministers Meeting are detailed in the workshop report.

In partnership with the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Europe-Asia Policy Forum (EUforAsia), Faculty of Social Sciences – University of Ljubljana and Prospex.

^Above: H.E. Samuel Zgobar, Slovenian Foreign Minister, addresses the audience at the public briefing at the University of Ljubljana

^Above: Dr Chalongphob Sussangkarn (2nd from left), Former Thai Finance Minister, addressed the audience during public briefing
Environment and Sustainable Development

Lending weight to the importance of Asia-Europe cooperation in environment and sustainable development, ASEF conceived a series of programmes aimed at igniting debate on the global challenges of climate change and other environmental issues. As a result, ASEF and the ENVforum have been singled out by ASEM Environment Ministers in both Lecce and Copenhagen in 2003 and 2007 respectively.

Of particular note, a statement by the Chairman of the 7th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit in Beijing in 2007 noted, “Leaders stressed the need to focus on development needs and environmental sustainability in the energy sector. They emphasised the need for Asia-Europe cooperation to ensure the availability of environmentally sound energy at a reasonable price to support economic growth and that the latest technology should be intended to increase energy efficiency. Leaders recognised the need to develop regional and sub-regional projects amongst ASEM partners to promote low-carbon economy. Leaders acknowledged the key message on sustainable energy from the 6th Asia-Europe Environment Forum.”
6th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
4 – 6 June 2011
Szentendre and Budapest, Hungary

The focus of the 6th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar centred on the role of the media in enhancing awareness on key issues related to climate change. This followed the 15th and 16th Conference of Parties climate talks in Copenhagen and Cancun where the issue emerged of drastically diverse notions of impact, responsibility and historical contexts on the climate change debate between Asia and Europe.

Over 30 senior journalists from the regions’ foremost media organisations attended the seminar which saw Per Meilstrup, Climate Director of top Scandinavian think tank, Monday Morning, emphasise the media’s responsibility in society and their power and obligation to promote change. In particular, he noted that it was not anti-journalistic to focus on opportunities and solutions.

The seminar concluded with 10 suggestions by journalists including the need to balance stories about the negative impacts and consequences of climate change and explore presenting solutions and positive opportunities on the subject.

In partnership with the Regional Environmental Centre and sponsored by China Daily.

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Asia-Europe Strategies for the Earth Summit 2012
16 – 18 July 2011 and 10 – 12 October 2011
Yogyakarta, Indonesia (1st workshop) and Uppsala, Sweden (2nd workshop)

The primary objective of the Asia-Europe Strategies for the Earth Summit 2012 was to consolidate an Asia-Europe position on International Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) options for International Environmental Governance (IEG) reform, ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 4 to 6 June 2012.

Two of the three informal consultation workshops comprising stakeholders of the ASEM process have been held. They received valuable contributions from 55 international participants representing governments, regional and international organisations, civil society, academia, think-tanks, the media, the private sector and the youth, with each boasting significant involvement in sustainable development and environmental governance.

The four scenarios conceived at the first Workshop in Yogyakarta, Indonesia were presented at the UN High Level Dialogue on Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development in Solo, Indonesia. The scenarios portraying a distinct IEG future in 2032 – 20 years after Rio+20 – were shared with over 200 delegates from 90 countries, UN bodies and environmental groups.

Further enhanced at the second Workshop in Uppsala, Sweden in October, the scenarios were applied to the four priority areas for sustainable development, namely, public access to environmental information, energy and climate change mitigation, biodiversity and ecosystems, and resource and waste management.

In partnership with The Hanns Seidel Foundation, the Institute of Global Strategies and the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme.

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^Top: Panyasith Thammavongsa (centre) from The Vientiane Times, discusses climate change issues in Laos

^Bottom: Per Meilstrup, Climate Director at Danish think tank Monday Morning, outlines the pressing responsibility of journalists to not merely be an objective observer, but to promote change

^Above: Participants of the workshop in Uppsala, Sweden
Public Health

Born out of the ASEM initiative addressing the rapid containment of pandemic influenza, the ASEF Public Health Network draws attention to the need for enhanced international cooperation on transnational issues linked with emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in Asia and Europe. The programme will receive financial support from the Government of Japan for the period 2009 to 2013 as it carries out its mission of enabling public health dialogue by establishing a multi-sector and multi-level platform between Asia and Europe focused on the exchange of best practices, capacity building and information distribution.
ASEF Public Health Network
2nd Advisory Group Meeting
26 – 27 January 2011
Singapore

Eight Advisory Group Members from international and regional organisations, non-profits and the private sector across Asia and Europe convened for the 2nd Advisory Group Meeting of the Public Health Network. While members offered technical inputs on 2011’s activities, the agenda also included the future projects to be executed by the ASEF Public Health Network and possible partnerships for future initiatives.

Following the meeting was a public talk on “Regional Integration and Emerging and Re-Emerging Diseases’ Surveillance in Asia and Europe”, featuring keynote speaker, Dr Allan Li, Medical Officer of World Health Organization – Western Pacific Regional Office. Her presentation covered the current state of regional disease surveillance mechanisms, the challenges to be addresses and the possible ways forward.

In partnership with the Centre for Non-traditional Security, S. Rajaratnam School for International Studies of the Nanyang Technological University (RSIS Centre for NTS Studies).

ASEF Public Health Network
ASEF-ASAP Strategy Development Workshop for Multi-sector Pandemic Preparedness
9 – 10 June 2011
Bangkok, Thailand

With the conclusion of 2010’s scenario development workshops, the ASEF Public Health Network shifted attention to the development of strategies for pandemic preparedness in Asia and Europe. Key areas such as human security, health, environment and food were the focal points as a panel of experts worked towards developing multi-sector and sector-specific pandemic preparedness strategies according to the ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness) scenarios.

20 participants from UN agencies, ASEM governments, media, international donor agencies, corporations and civil society engaged in interactive workshops, put forth recommendations and presented them at the ASEF-ASAP’s public launch following the workshop.

^Above: Dr Allan Li, Medical Officer, World Health Organization - Western Pacific Regional Office delivering her speech at the Public Talk by ASEF Public Health Network

^Above: Participants clustering priority options during the plenary session
ASEF Public Health Network
ASEF-ASAP Public Launch of Scenarios
13 June 2011
Bangkok, Thailand

Above: Dr Siriwat Tiptaratod, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health of Thailand inaugurating the ASEF-ASAP digital book.

The launch of the ASEF Public Health Network’s ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness) scenarios was held in Bangkok on 13 June 2011. Covering possible future scenarios, they serve to safeguard Asia and Europe from potential pandemics and public health emergencies.

Witnessed by Guest-of-Honour, Dr Siriwat Tiptaratod, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, the event showcased visitors a series of short animated films depicting the scenarios, while a digital book offered more detailed information. ASEF facilitators were on hand to describe the outcomes and development of the multi-sectoral strategies to pre-empt pandemics based on these scenarios.

Representatives from Thai ministries, foreign embassies in Bangkok, Thai academia, chambers of commerce, UN agencies and international non-profit organisations participated in the panel discussion and interaction session which followed.

10th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange (AEYVE): Health on Stage
20 August – 1 October 2011
Bangalore, Chennai and Mysore, India

Health on Stage initiated a dialogue among 21 volunteers from 14 ASEM countries on water-related health issues concerning slum-dwellers in Bangalore, workers in an industrial area in Chennai and villagers in Mysore. Organised within the framework of the International Year of Volunteering +10 (IYV+10), the AEYVE has three phases namely training, field implementation and evaluation. During the project’s second phase, Health on Stage volunteers, together with local communities, put up forum theatre performances.

The 30th of September marked the Open Day event in Bangalore which offered participants and organisers a platform to share insights on the project with the media, NGOs and other interested parties.

In partnership with the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) with the cooperation of Field Services and inter-cultural Learning (FSL) India.

Above: Participants perform for the local community in Mysore.

Left: Participants perform for the local community in Bangalore.
Public Health Network
Strategy Development Workshop on
Preparedness for Pandemics and
Public Health Emergencies in the
Passenger Air Transport Sector
15 – 16 December 2011
Budapest, Hungary

With extensive air travel exacerbating the spread of infectious diseases across the globe, a vigorous pandemic preparedness plan is paramount for the industry. To this end, ASEF put together a workshop aimed at engineering strategies to pre-empt pandemic and public health emergencies in the sector.

Outlining challenges in existing plans, experts from major airline companies, airport hubs, government institutions and international agencies in the health and aviation industries leveraged the ASEF-ASAP (Accurate Scenarios Active Preparedness) scenarios to design new strategies for improvement.

Above: Participants deciding priorities of their action plans during the plenary session
Arts and Culture

Arts and culture are the driving forces that fuel insightful dialogue and spur awareness of societal topics while bolstering cultural diversity and mutual understanding. At ASEF, arts and culture have proven to be indispensable as we strive to foster greater understanding between Asia and Europe. Spanning cultural policy to artistic exchanges, our programmes create opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to engage in active discussions and discover new creative and cultural forms via various means including the Internet.
Asia-Europe Cultural Partnership Initiatives Film:
Human Frames Film Screenings
17 – 20 February 2011
Singapore

The Human Frames Film Screenings follows up from the Human Frames – Trends in Experimental Cinema film forum held in Singapore in 2010 together with the 1st Experimental Film Forum: Experiments in Progress. The Human Frames project was supported by ASEF under the Asia-Europe Culture Partnership Initiatives which was unveiled in 2009.

The Film Screenings boasted over 70 experimental short films by 70 Asian and European filmmakers shown in 10 thematic screening sessions which focused on different human expressions. Showcased at Singapore’s The Substation, over 100 people viewed the screenings which included a presentation by lead curator Silke Schmickl and co-curator Stéphane Gérard from French independent film label Lowave on opening night.

Throughout 2011, it has featured in prominent venues across Europe such as the contemporary arts centre, Kunst im Tunnel in Düsseldorf, Germany, and the Festival des Cinémas Différents in Paris, France.

In partnership with The Substation (Singapore) and Lowave Ltd. (France)

^Above: Curators and filmmakers introducing the film screenings of the Human Frames project at The Substation (Singapore)

^Left: The Human Frames project showcased the work of 70 Asian and European independent filmmakers

Asia-Europe Festivals Exchange Programme: Atelier for Young Festival Managers
14 – 21 May 2011, Singapore

Drawing participation from 34 international festival managers, the Atelier for Young Festival Managers leveraged presentations, group discussions and workshops to ignite an exchange of knowledge and experience. Held for the first time in Asia within the Singapore Arts Festival in May 2011, it evoked a reflection on the role festivals play in the modern landscape while fostering international cultural cooperation.

The intensive week-long training wrapped up on 20 May 2011 with a public talk on “Arts and Festivals: Serving Artists Serves the Public”. The LASALLE College of the Arts auditorium was packed with over 200 enthusiastic people, including Mr Kris Peters, Minister-President of Flanders, Belgium, who graced the event as its guest-of-honour.

In partnership with the Association of Asian Performing Arts Festivals (AAPAF), CultureLink, European Festivals Association (EFA), LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore Arts Festival.

^Above: Participants of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers listen to festival leaders such as London International Festival of Theatre director Rose Fenton and Australian arts director Robyn Archer

^Above: Greeting guest-of-honour Mr Kris Peeters, Minister-President of Flanders (Belgium) at the public talk “Serving Artists Serves the Public” are representatives from LASALLE College of the Arts, ASEF and European Festivals Association
17th ASEF University
20 June – 01 July 2011
Penang, Malaysia

The 17th ASEF University (AU17) was organised in response to the recommendations and priorities proposed at the 4th ASEM Culture Ministers Meeting in Poznan, Poland in 2010. The meeting placed primary importance on the need to educate and involve the younger generation in heritage protection.

With the theme of “Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities”, AU17 brought together 41 participants from 31 ASEM countries who took part in active discussions and interactive activities. The group was taken on educational trips around the UNESCO World Heritage Site of George Town, soaked up local customs and joined in an excavation at an archaeological site.

Summing up their experiences, the participants produced a photo and video exhibition entitled “Shared Heritage: As We See It”.

In partnership with the University Sains Malaysia in coordination with the Center for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS).

ASEMUS Executive Committee Meeting,
Website and Mapping of Asian Collections Project
18 – 19 July 2011 and 8 - 9 October 2011
Singapore and Stockholm, Sweden

Participants of the ASEMUS Executive Committee Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden discussed future plans for the Network and the new projects to be executed by the organisation. One such project is the Mapping of Asian Collections project. In line with their mission of promoting knowledge and information sharing between museums of the two continents, the project will tabulate the content of Asian collections, professional expertise and on-going collaborative projects spanning Asia and Europe.

At the meeting, the Committee welcomed the new ASEMUS Chair, Dr Kim Youngna, Director General of the National Museum of Korea, as well as the new Vice-Chair, Ms Fiona O’Croke, Director of the Chester Beatty Library, Ireland.

Separately, ASEMUS’ new website (asemus.museum) was launched in 2011 and resides as a special sub-site of culture360.org.

In partnership with the National Museum of Korea, National Heritage Board of Singapore, musée du quai Branly (Paris, France); and the National Museums of World Culture (Sweden)

^ Top : AU17 participants during their tour of George Town
^ Bottom : Ezra Chen Yongliang (L) from Singapore and Niklas Nodström (R) from Sweden, working with their fellow participants on the launch of the exhibition

^ Top : The ASEMUS Executive Committee members meeting in Stockholm (Sweden)
^ Bottom : The new ASEMUS website aims to give greater visibility to the Network and its members
Asia-Europe Compendium of Cultural Policies
27 – 28 July and 7 October 2011
Seoul, Korea and Melbourne, Australia

In a bid to encourage greater analysis and engagement in cultural policy among Asian and European experts, ASEF launched the Asia-Europe Compendium of Cultural Policies in 2011. To be developed by an international group of partners including the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA), the initiative will add to the International Database of Cultural Policies (WorldCP), an international online database of cultural policies of the world’s regions.

The directions of the research project were charted in two Expert’s Meetings in Seoul, Korea and Melbourne, Australia in 2011. Over 40 participants made up of policymakers, researchers and cultural policy experts uncovered common areas of interest and relevance for intra-Asia and Asia-Europe dialogue in arts and culture. Some of the key areas earmarked for future dialogue included the development of creative industries, heritage and arts education.

In partnership with the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Republic of Korea.

^ Above : ASEF is supporting the development of an online compendium of cultural policies of Asia and Europe as part of an international database covering different regions of the world (WorldCP-International Database of Cultural Policies)

^ Above : The first “Expert Meeting on Cultural Policy” organised by ASEF and its partners in Seoul (Korea) brought together 18 experts from Asia and Europe
Asia-Europe Cultural Exchange Partnership Initiatives: Creative Encounters
2010 to 2011
Throughout Asia and Europe

Together with partners, Arts Network Asia and Trans Europe Halles, ASEF unveiled “Creative Encounters: Cultural Partnerships between Asia and Europe” a new edition of the Asia Europe Cultural Partnership Initiatives (AECPI) which was first launched in 2009. The new programme is designed to further ASEF’s efforts in uniting artists and cultural practitioners across the two continents in all areas of the arts. Both Asian and European cultural organisations have responded to the call for proposals, jointly submitting creative projects for selection by ASEF and its partners.

From 2010 to 2011, 15 artistic projects were implemented under the programme. Over 200 artists shared their experiences and collaborated in residencies, meetings, production of exhibitions and performances which benefited 13 countries across Asia and Europe.

In partnership with the Arts Network Asia (ANA) and Trans Europe Halles (TEH).

Connect2Culture at the 5th World Summit on Arts and Culture
4 October 2011
Melbourne, Australia

ASEF marked the completion of its four-year programme, Connect2Culture, with a special dossier, Arts. Environment. Sustainability. How can Culture Make a Difference? Presented at the 5th World Summit on Arts and Culture in Melbourne, Australia in October 2011, it examines arts and culture as catalysts for creative solutions to important global challenges like the environment and climate change. Receiving special mention was the rising interest and awareness of such topics among artists and cultural practitioners, of whom many were united through the programme’s many projects and initiatives since 2008.

In partnership with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA).

> Right: The dossier “Arts. Environment. Sustainability. How Can Culture Make a Difference”, presented at the 5th World Summit of Arts and Culture in Melbourne

> Above: About 40 dancers, choreographers and dramaturges from different ASEM countries took part in the Ignite Festival Of Contemporary Dance in India, which ASEF supported under the AECPI programme in 2010
**culture360.org**  
Throughout 2011  
Singapore and Melbourne, Australia

ASEF’s culture360.org is the only online portal dedicated to engendering artistic and cultural exchanges between Asia and Europe. It received prominent mention in the presence of over 500 world cultural leaders, experts and practitioners at the 5th World Summit on Arts and Culture in Melbourne, Australia. The culture360.org booth at the Summit attracted more than 400 participants through an interactive project organised along the event.

Relaunched in April 2010 complete with new features and social media functions, the portal has since enjoyed an 820% increase in visitor numbers. The development of the culture360.org platform included in 2011 the launch of film. culture360.org, a new website for sharing information on film industries with a special focus on independent cinema in Asia and Europe.

*In partnership with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA).*

^**Above:** During the Summit, delegates visited the culture360.org booth and got connected to each other through the interactive wall

^**Above:** ASEF’s arts and culture portal culture360.org has seen a 820% rise in the number of visitors since its relaunch in 2010.
Education & Academic Cooperation

Education is the foundation upon which an individual matures and a society advances. With the development of countries closely tied to the progress in national education programmes, ASEF has set in motion a series of programmes aimed at bolstering collaboration among education networks and academic institutions across Asia and Europe. Our workshops, seminars, and conferences breed keen academic discourse and intercultural exchanges that have seen best practices implemented at these institutions. Continued Asia-Europe cooperation in education has also given rise to diverse ASEF projects including web portals, newsletters, and several publications.
Asia-Europe Co-operation in Voluntary Service – 4th Networking Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Conference (NAEYV)
6 – 12 February 2011
Semarang, Indonesia

The 4th Networking Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Conference (NAEYV) sought to promote the visibility and values of International Voluntary Service (IVS) as one of the main non-formal education (NFE) tools in Asia and Europe. The seven-day event set out to:

• Share research outcomes of the 9th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange on the impact of IVS;
• Showcase the current IVS schemes and legal frameworks on volunteering;
• Identify stakeholders interested in establishing and marketing an Asian Voluntary Service;
• Encourage cross-sectoral co-operation between different voluntary service stakeholders; and
• Develop spin-off initiatives in IVS.

Attended by 35 participants, the Conference comprised a two-day strategic meeting with 18 representatives from IVS organisations, and a conference that included 17 representatives from governments, universities and other stakeholders.

In partnership with the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) in cooperation with the Indonesia International Work Camp (IIWC).

ASEFUAN/IGIR Dialogue on Trade and Public Health
8 April and 6 May 2011
Brussels, Belgium

Attended by representatives from diverse sectors including academia, government, private institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the ASEFUAN Dialogue opened the floor for young leaders and experts to air their opinions on topics strongly related to their future.

Brussels Campus of the Massatrtich University hosted the two Dialogues on “Trade and Public Health” and “Trade and Competition in the Pharmaceutical Sector” on 8 April and 6 May respectively.

In partnership with the ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN), Institute for Globalisation and International Regulation (IGIR), and Maastricht University.

^ Above : From L-R: Mr Jinsu Yom, CCIVS President; Ambassador Soemadi Brotodiningrat, ASEF Governor for Indonesia; Mr Masanori Nagaoka, Programme Specialist for Culture of UNESCO Jakarta; and Mr Francesco Volpini, Director of CCIVS

^ Top : Participants of the 8 April 2011 edition of the ASEFUAN Dialogues

^ Bottom : Participants of the 06 May 2011 edition of the ASEFUAN Dialogue
**3rd Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3)**
9 – 10 May 2011
Copenhagen, Denmark

Organised by the Danish Ministry of Education in Copenhagen, the 3rd Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3) shined the spotlight on four major areas – balanced mobility, engaging business and industry in education, lifelong learning (LLL) including vocational education and training (VET), and quality assurance and recognition.

ASEF was on hand to present the results of the ASEMEducation Hub’s (AEH) activities from 2009 to 2010. ASEME4 will be hosted by the government of Malaysia in 2013.

**2nd Asia-Europe Education Workshop**
5 – 7 June 2011
Innsbruck, Austria

From across Europe and Asia, 26 individuals comprising university leaders and staff, researchers and students, policy makers and business and media practitioners gathered at the 2nd Asia-Europe Education Workshop to debate “Knowledge Societies: Universities and their Social Responsibilities”.

Organised by ASEF and the University of Innsbruck, the event saw participants making three recommendations, namely:

1. The promotion of the Universities Social Responsibility (USR) agenda through continuous dialogue with stakeholders;

2. The identification of a (minimum) USR paradigm; and

3. The pursuit of evidence-based USR policies.

USR will be one of the major themes to be discussed at the 3rd ASEM Rectors’ Conference in the Netherlands in September 2012.

*In partnership with the University of Innsbruck, with the support of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research as well as of Economy, Family and Youth, the Austrian Foreign Ministry, the Province of the Tyrol, the Town of Innsbruck, the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research, the ASEA-Uninet, and Swarovski Crystal Worlds.*

[^Top]: Delegates to the 3rd Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3)

[^Bottom]: ASEF delegates - Mr Zhang Hongjie, Ms Edwige Rozier and Ms Helen Chua Baiderama with Ms Madalena Cszmazia (2nd from Right) - former intern at the People-to-People Exchange Department

[^Above]: From L-R: Mag. Elmar Pichl (Chief of Cabinet to the Minister for Science and Research and Deputy, Director General, Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research), Prof Dr Margret Friedrich (Vice-Rector for Teaching and Students, University of Innsbruck), Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Khanh (Deputy Executive Director, ASEF), Prof Erich Thoni (Workshop Convener and University Representative for International Relations, University of Innsbruck) at the Opening Session of the Workshop
**ASEFUAN Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Academic Conference**

3 – 5 August 2011
The Netherlands

With the theme “Securing Public Health in a Globalised World”, ASEFUAN’s Academic Conference provided a platform for academicians, professionals and government officials from around the globe to explore topics spanning Asian and European perspectives on epidemics and pandemics, access to medicines and public-private partnerships in public health, to the challenges of ageing societies and the role of technology and innovative approaches. In attendance were a total of 57 ASEFUAN members, 13 external participants and 25 speakers.

Following the two-day event, a Model ASEM conference featuring a simulation of a public health crisis was held where participants represented the heads of the ASEM states, the European Commission and ASEAN. The conference was organised in conjunction with ASEFUAN’s 10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) which fell on 5 August and featured a review of past and future activities of the network as well as the election of a new Executive Committee.

Organised by ASEFUAN in partnership with the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. Supporting the event were the Australian Embassy, the Amsterdam Municipality, Philips Research, the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development, the Wemos Foundation and Air France/KLM.

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**1st ASEFUAN International Voluntary Service (IVS) Work Camp**

1 – 17 July 2011
Ulu Tembeling, Malaysia

At Kampung Bukit Mat Daling, a remote village near Terengganu, Malaysia, six ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) participants from six ASEM countries and around 30 local participants attended the 17-day ASEFUAN International Voluntary Service (IVS) Work Camp. Aimed at encouraging bonding and intercultural exchange in a community and work-based setting, the work camp was first conceived at the 4th Networking Conference for Asian and European Young Volunteers (NAEYV) held in Indonesia in February 2011.

In partnership with Service Civil International (SCI), Service Civil International Malaysia (SCI Malaysia) and Yayasan Salam Malaysia.
10th Asia-Europe Classroom Network Conference
7 – 11 November 2011
Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland

Appropriately themed “Apps in Asian and European Classrooms! Unleashing Educational Creativity”, the 10th Asia-Europe Classroom Network Conference highlighted the current technologies that could assist in extending creativity in the classrooms. Attended by 113 participants from 33 ASEM countries including six student representatives, the five-day event consisted of presentations by invited speakers and five workshops showcasing creative apps and tools that could prove useful to educators from both continents.

In partnership with the County Louth Vocational Education Committee and supported by the Department of Education and Skills and the National Tourism Development Authority, Ireland.

Asia in the Eyes of Europe
Throughout 2011
Various venues in Asia and Europe

Spearheaded by ASiE, Asia in the Eyes of Europe is an insightful research project that sheds light on the public and media perceptions of Asia in Europe. Combining three research elements – public opinion surveys, daily media analysis and interviews of high level media professionals and conducted in eight European Union (EU) member states, the research uncovers vital information on public and media attitudes towards Asia.

The project spelt a busy year for ASiE. After the completion of data collection, the ASiE research teams presented the findings at the “Asia in the Eyes of Europe – Methodology Workshop” in Beijing from 6 to 9 March and took the opportunity to interview Beijing-based foreign correspondents. In September, a final workshop was held in Vienna where the teams released the full research findings, followed by a brief of local diplomats and stakeholders in a public event, “Asia in the Eyes of Europe – Challenges and Opportunities for External Relations with Asia”, which took place on 27 September.

^ Above : H.E. Lü Yongshou (Centre), ASEF Governor for China, addresses participants of the workshop

The publication of the findings will be available in June 2012.

Activities in 2011
Asia in the Eyes of Europe Methodology Workshop 6-9 March 2011: Beijing, China
Asia in the Eyes of Europe: Methodology Workshop 25-27 September 2011: Vienna, Austria
Asia in the Eyes of Europe - Challenges and Opportunities for External Relations with Asia 27 September 2011: Vienna, Austria

In partnership with the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE) – University of Canterbury; German Council for Foreign Relations (DGAP); Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS); Tsinghua University; Austrian Institute of International Affairs (OII); Brussels Institute for Contemporary Chinese Studies (BICCS); Copenhagen Business School; Centre Asia – Institut Français des Relations Internationales (IFRI); University of Siena; Romanian Institute for European - Asian Studies (IRSEA) and the London School of Economics (LSE).

^ Top : The educators brainstorming on their collaboration work during the working group session

^ Bottom : Group photo with Mr Ruairí Quinn TD, Irish Minister for Education and Skill
ASEM Education and Research Hub for Lifelong Learning (ASEM LLL Hub)

The ASEM LLL Hub collaborated with its research networks to organise a series of meetings in 2011. These included:

- **Research Network 1:**
  E-learning in ASEM countries
  (14-15 November 2011, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

- **Research Network 2:**
  Workplace Learning
  (11-13 July 2011, Innsbruck, Austria)

- **Research Network 3:**
  Professionalisation of Adult Teachers and Trainers in ASEM countries
  (9-10 December 2011, Makati City, Philippines)

- **Research Network 4:**
  National Strategies for Lifelong Learning
  (12-13 December 2011, Shanghai, China)

- **Research Network 5:**
  Core Competences
  (8-9 September 2011, Riga, Latvia)

The Hub also launched the inaugural ASEM Magazine for Lifelong Learning in the final quarter of 2011. More information on the organisation’s activities can be found at www.dpu.dk/asem/.

In partnership with the ASEM LLL Hub Secretariat, supported by the Danish School of Education (DPU), Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ASEM Ministries of Education (MOEs) and LLL Hub partner universities.

EU through the Eyes of Asia After Lisbon – Perceptions of the EU

Providing key information on attitudes towards the EU is the EU through the Eyes of Asia research project. Carried out in ten Asian ASEM member countries, it has reached the next stage in the project and is currently studying public media and opinion-leader perceptions of the EU across Asia in a post-Lisbon Treaty era.

The project continues to grow under the management of ASEP’s long-standing partner, NCRE. In 2011, extensive media analysis and face-to-face interviews have been conducted by research teams in Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore and Thailand. In support of the research efforts, ASEP hosted a workshop, “EU through the Eyes of Asia: After Lisbon – Perceptions of the EU”, and public briefing, “The EU as a Global Power – Still a Work in Progress? Media Coverage and Framing of the EU in 2011”, in July 2011. Held in Singapore, it showcased the research’s initial findings.

2012 will see ASEP take on a greater role in the project as it completes the research components and boosts project outreach in time for the publication of the findings which will be released in December 2012.

In partnership with the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE) – University of Canterbury.

<Left: Prof Martin Holland, Director of the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE), University of Canterbury facilitating an interactive session of the workshop

<Left: Mr Hoe Yeong Loke of the EU Centre in Singapore taking part in the interview skills training session of the workshop
Human Rights and Governance

From historical experience to innovative solutions on contemporary problems, the field of governance poses myriad opportunities for the mutual benefit of both Asia and Europe. Regionally, nationally and even at the individual level, addressing human security and human rights issues begins with good governance.

Beginning 2011, the scope of ASEF’s governance landscape has grown to encompass policing and conflict management. The organisation secures open, informal and non-confrontational arenas to propagate the exchange of ideas, thus uniting the two continents in dialogue on related topics.
7th Asia-Europe Roundtable (AER) – Brussels Briefing: Framework Document for an Early Warning System in Minority Conflicts
10 February 2011
Brussels, Belgium

Regional early warning responses to minority conflicts received paramount attention at the 7th Asia-Europe Roundtable – Brussels Briefing, spurred on by the findings at the 7th AER Workshop, Early Warning Systems in Minority Conflict, held in Singapore on 20 to 21 May 2010. Targeting specific policy makers, it raised a framework for the development of such systems and the feasibility of its implementation at an institutional level, studied potential improvements in regional early warning structures and responses, and turned the spotlight on the significance of regional partnerships.

Set against the backdrop of the current debates on the responsibility to protect, the framework was presented by Ms. Sol Iglesias, Director, Intellectual Exchange, Asia-Europe Foundation, and Dr. Noel Morada, Director, Asia-Pacific Centre on the Responsibility to Protect, while Mr. Justin Davies, Director, C@M Solutions and former Advisor to Pieter Feith, EU Special Representative in Kosovo, offered a commentary.

In partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, and the Europe-Asia Policy Forum.

Public Launch of ‘Good Policing: Instruments, Models and Practices’ in Brussels and Jakarta
15 March 2011 and 28 April 2011
Brussels, Belgium and Jakarta, Indonesia

Heralding the launch of Good Policing: Instruments, Models and Practices, two public briefings were held on the topic in Brussels entitled “Quis custodiet ipsos custodes? Asian and European Experiences in the Security Sector”, and Jakarta under the heading, “Who will Guard the Guards Themselves: Human Rights and Accountability in Policing”. The latter represented a collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KONTRAS). It was attended by Commissioner General Imam Sujawiro of the Indonesian National Police who praised the publication, which is being translated into Bahasa Indonesia by the Jakarta office of the Hanns Seidel Foundation, as a useful guide for Indonesian police academies.

Both briefings emphasised the significance of the established international and regional norms that set the tone for police work, as well as the challenges in establishing ethical policing standards. With regard to the alignment of Human Rights standards and policing practices, the discussions signaled the importance of training and cross-regional capacity-building projects in cooperation with institutional counterparts.

In partnership with the Hanns Seidel Foundation.
8th Asia-Europe Roundtable
23 – 25 May 2011
Bali, Indonesia

The 8th Asia-Europe Roundtable set out with the dual objectives of analysing the emerging trends in conflict prevention and transformation, as well as indentifying the best methods for Asia and Europe to collaborate on future conflict challenges. Equipped with a scenario-building methodology, participants leveraged various tools to identify possible future scenarios of Asia-Europe cooperation on security and conflict issues and develop recommendations to address these. Noted futurist, Prof. Sohail Inayatullah led the exercises, while Mr. Jusuf Kalla, Indonesia’s former Vice President, delivered the keynote address.

In partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, and the Europe Asia Policy Forum.

^Above: His Excellency Jusuf Kalla, former Vice-President of Indonesia, delivering the keynote address

^Above: Roundtable participants discuss possible scenarios of Asia-Europe cooperation
11th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights
“Regional and National Human Rights Mechanisms”
23 – 25 November 2011
Prague, Czech Republic

^Above: Group discussion during 2nd scenario building workshop in Uppsala

More than 100 government officials and members of civil society comprising non-government organisations, national human rights institutions, the legal field and academia gathered for the latest seminar in this long-running series, paving the way for an open discussion on regional and national mechanism-building. Experience and insight dominated at the event set amidst the Baroque surroundings of the Czernin Palace, and added to existing knowledge on national and regional human rights standards, governance and best practices in Asia and Europe. Immediately following the event, key recommendations aimed at augmenting regional and national mechanisms were sent to ASEM governments. The full proceedings of the seminar will be published in April 2012.

In partnership with the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (delegated by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic.
Briefing on Improving Regional Security Architectures through an Asia-Europe Strategic Partnership
13 December 2011
Brussels, Belgium

Featuring key panellists, Alistair Macdonald of the European External Action Service and Justin Davies of C2M Solutions, the Briefing explored avenues for enhanced inter-regional cooperation on common concerns among Asian and EU economies in managing on-going conflict. It highlighted concerns about the ability of traditional regional institutions to engage different, non-traditional security issues. It was also noted that the shift to a more inclusive approach that gave regional institutions both tools and support to engage emerging crises necessitated that the form and function of future cooperation between regions receive careful consideration.

The European Policy Centre hosted the event during which, The Future of an Asia-Europe Strategic Partnership in Conflict Transformation – a publication based on the 8th Asia-Europe Roundtable – was unveiled.

In partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, and the Europe Asia Policy Forum.

^Top: Seminar discussions take place in small, closed-door working group - a safe environment for an open and frank exchange of opinion

^Bottom: The seminar participants representing government and civil society from across the ASEM membership
Europe-Asia Policy Forum Final Conference
15 – 16 December 2011
The Hague, The Netherlands

The final event organised under the Europe-Asia Policy Forum (EUforAsia) partnership, the Re-engaging Europe with Asia conference comprised workshops on economic integration and security, as well as panel discussions on cooperation with regard to higher education and energy sustainability. The Netherlands Institute for International Relations Clingendael played host to the event which studied the European Union’s evolving relationship with Asia, its subregional bodies and Asian countries.

The conference marks the conclusion of three years’ cooperation amongst the four members of the EUforAsia consortium, which has been responsible for two international conferences, six roundtable workshops, two briefings and several sets of recommendations for Asia’s and Europe’s policy makers since 2009.

In partnership with the Europe-Asia Policy Forum (International Institute of Asian Studies, European Policy Centre, Singapore Institute for International Affairs) and Netherlands Institute for International Relations Clingendael.
Intercommunal Dialogue

Religion, ethnicity and culture continue to be powerful societal drivers in many parts of the world. While dialogues between such groups in the event of a conflict target reconciliation, such intercommunal discussions can function as social or political instruments in conflict prevention. Geared towards building inclusive, multi-stakeholder involvement, ASEF’s activities enlarge mutual understanding and uncover avenues for collaboration and innovation among all stakeholders including religious and secular groups.
Lingua Comica Reloaded

Reloaded is the latest addition to the Lingua Comica series. With topics ranging from children’s games to economics crises, this collection of five comics raises issues affecting people in an increasingly globalised, interdependent world.

The publication is the creation of 12 alumni of ASEF’s Lingua Comica programme, which leverages comics and graphic novels as platforms for cultural dialogue. Reloaded was conceived in 2009 when ASEF called on participants to propose new collaborations with the aim of strengthening ties established in 2006.

Early Warning Systems in Minority Conflict: A Framework for Developing Regional Responses

Editors: Stefanie Elies, Sol Iglesias and Yeo Lay Hwee

Early Warning Systems in Minority Conflict: A Framework for Developing Regional Responses analyses the role of early warning systems in preventing and containing minority conflicts. Based on the background paper and the discussions from the 7th Asia Europe Roundtable workshop in May 2010, it studies the gaps within the current mechanisms, and presents policy options to better integrate and enhance regional multi-level structures for minority conflict prevention.

The publication was unveiled during a briefing in Brussels in February 2011 that was organised in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Europe-Asia Policy Forum.
The Future of an Asia-Europe Strategic Partnership in Conflict Transformation

*Editors: Stefanie Elies, Sol Iglesias and Yeo Lay Hwee*

Focusing on conflict and security issues, The future of an Asia-Europe Strategic Partnership in Conflict Transformation examines potential opportunities for future Asia-Europe cooperation. It analyses relevant current and emerging global trends, highlights possible future developments of Asia-Europe cooperation on conflict and security issues, and puts forth multi-sectoral recommendations to augment and better manage Asia-Europe conflict transformation strategies.

Brussels witnessed the launch of the publication at the EUforAsia briefing, Improving Regional Security Architectures through an Asia-Europe Strategic Partnership.

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Human Rights and Gender Equality: Proceedings of the 10th Informal Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

Government officials and experts from civil society from across the ASEM membership came together for the 10th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights in Manila on 7-9 July to discuss “Human Rights and Gender Equality”. Accompanied by important keynote speeches and a backpaper on the major topical themes, the proceedings of the seminar give precious insights into the current status and trends both national and regional concerning gender equality including education, employment, gender violence and cultural practices.

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*Human Rights and Gender Equality*
A Green Future: Asia and Europe Growing Sustainably
Summary of Proceedings
Asia-Europe Environment Forum Conference 2010

A Green Future: Asia and Europe Growing Sustainably documents the proceedings of the ENVforum 2010 Conference and presents its key findings.

With a multi-sectoral approach to sustainable management of natural resources, the Conference explored issues ranging from the green economy, biodiversity and ecosystem services to environmental governance perspectives, investigating current developments and their sustainability. The event featured 12 workshops jointly hosted by organisations from Asia and Europe and was attended by 150 experts in sustainability, development and the environment from ASEM1 countries that span government, civil society, and businesses.

Good Policing: Instruments, Models and Practices
Authors: Prof Dr Monica den Boer and Prof Dr Changwon Pyo
Editors: Sol Iglesias and Dr Ulrich Klingshirm

Uncover different methods of enhancing the culture of good policing in keeping with international and national principles and practice. With the aim of improving police ethics, transparency and compliance with international human rights standards, the authors point out gaps in various areas of policing such as electronic monitoring of populations and crowd and riot policing. Launched in Jakarta and Brussels, the publication also highlights specific challenges ranging from organised crime and terrorism to sensitive issues such as the protection of minority groups.
Learning from the Crisis: How can Asia and Europe respond to future financial and economic crises?

Be ready for impending crises as Learning from the Crisis throws up innovative ideas and informed recommendations to preparing for future events while identifying vulnerabilities and activities for greater cooperation. Based on discussions at the "Workshop on the Impact of the Crisis on Regional Economic and Financial Integration in Asia and Europe", it features Asian and European perspectives on regional financial cooperation for enhancing global integration, and examines issues related to future monetary regimes, regional financial integration mechanisms, regulatory frameworks and fiscal policy implications, while setting the priorities for the next ASEM Finance Ministerial Meeting.

Asia-Europe University Cooperation: Contributing to the Global Knowledge Society

The 2nd ASEM Rectors’ Conference emphasised the role of universities in establishing knowledge societies. Jointly organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Korea University (KU) and the ASEAN University Network (AUN), it encompassed topics such as knowledge transfer, research collaboration, mobility of staff, higher education governance and accountability as well as curricular reforms for teaching global citizenship.

The Conference builds on the results of the 1st ASEM Rectors’ Conference and the 2nd Asia-Europe Education Workshop.
ASEF Corporate Website

http://www.asef.org

Revamped in 2011 with a new look and improved navigation, ASEF’s primary website presents comprehensive information about the organisation, while showcasing its existing projects, recent announcements and completed activities and events. Visitors have access to participation information as well as the latest ASEF publications, news articles and links to partner organisations.

ASEM Infoboard

http://www.aseminfoboard.org

Mandated by ASEM partners, the ASEM InfoBoard is a one-stop information service for all ASEM affairs and other matters involving Asia-Europe relations. A main source of information on the ASEM process, it plays a key role in elevating ASEM's profile in the public eye.
Asia-Europe Classroom Network (AEC-NET)

http://aec.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Classroom Network (AEC-NET) is ASEF’s primary channel connecting secondary and high schools, educators and students throughout Asia and Europe. Unveiled in December 1998, it creates opportunities for collaborative learning and intercultural exchanges, while functioning as a cyber-classroom for students and educators alike to forge stronger bi-regional networks and partnerships through common online projects and face-to-face exchanges.

European Studies in Asia (ESiA)

http://esia.asef.org

The ESiA website enables online information sharing and collaboration among European studies academics, institutions and networks. Containing papers, articles, conference and publication announcements, vacancies and an extensive database of leading European studies institutions and networks in the two regions, it is a resource for European studies scholars in Asia and Europe to tap for information, debate and research.
culture360.org

http://www.culture360.org

Bringing together the people of Asia and Europe through arts and culture, culture360.org has a significant presence in fostering cultural cooperation in the virtual world.

The portal features a wellspring of news, events, opportunities and publications as well as the magazine with profiles, interviews and an in focus section dedicated to cultural policy dialogue and heritage. Conceived by the ASEM Culture Ministers and developed by ASEF since 2005, it caters to cultural practitioners, artists, policy makers, cultural ministries and anyone with an interest in Asia-Europe cultural relations.

film.culture360.org

http://www.film.culture360.org

film.culture360.org is dedicated to sharing information on film industries with emphasis on Asian and European independent cinema. It continues the mission of its predecessor, SEA-Images (Synergy Europe-Asia in the field of cinema) with the aim of:

- Providing relevant information on different tools, programmes, platforms available for young filmmakers from Asia and Europe seeking regional or international collaboration;

- Giving young filmmakers from Asia and Europe insights on practical experience and study cases by making them available to a wider audience;

- Giving a voice to observers and active figures of the film sector in the two regions, in order to understand further the particularities of each countries and the synergies between these two; and

- Contributing to the development of regional film policies and programmes to further nurture regional collaboration and support.
The Asia-Europe Museum Network – ASEMUS

http://asemus.museum

Established to promote mutual understanding, this cross-cultural network of museums organises collaborative activities and facilitates the shared use of museum collections.

The ASEMUS website has been raising the visibility of the Network and its activities since its launch in July 2011. With a vibrant new design and features, it encourages dialogue and exchange of information among its members.

ASEF eNewsletter

ASEF eNewsletter is the one-stop source of information about ASEF’s latest and upcoming projects and activities. The eNewsletter is published every month and has an outreach of about 15,000 subscribers in Asia and Europe.
## Financial Information

### Contributions received from ASEM partners

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| Total SGD               | 5,643,135       | 100,270,997            | 61,371,292           | 25,933,167                          | 12,966,538          |

The contributions received from ASEM partners are placed under the following funds in accordance with the declarations made by the contributors:

a. **Operating Fund**
   Contributions received are utilised for the operating requirements of the Foundation.

b. **Project Fund**
   Contributions received are utilised for the funding of projects. In the case of trust funds, contributions received are earmarked for specific projects, the utilisation of which requires prior approval from the contributing member.

c. **Reserved Fund**
   Contributions received are invested, with income generated being used to finance activities of the Foundation if necessary.

* Unaudited figures as at 15 February 2012

ASEF 2011

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Summary of Expenditure

- **60% (SGD 2,850,862)**
  Project Expenses

- **25% (SGD 1,211,203)**
  Staff Expenses

- **9% (SGD 431,427)**
  General & Administration Expenses

- **4% (SGD 195,659)**
  Institutional Communications Expenses

- **2% (SGD 91,017)**
  Property Maintenance Expenses

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE**

Exchange rates as at 31 December 2011:
1 USD = SGD 1.29534
1 EUR = SGD 1.70809

*Unaudited figures*
## Project Partners

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<th>Project</th>
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<td>ASEFUAN / IGIR Dialogue on Trade and Public Health</td>
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<td>Arts Network Asia (ANA)</td>
<td>Asia-Europe Cultural Exchange Partnership Initiatives: Creative Encounters</td>
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<td>Asia-Europe Cultural Exchange Partnership Initiatives: Creative Encounters</td>
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