FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) have been organising various projects in the framework of the Asia-Europe Co-operation in Voluntary Service (VolunAEt) Programme since 2001. Two components of this programme, The Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange (AEYVE) and the Networking Conference for Asian and European Young Volunteers (NAEYV), bring together International Voluntary Service (IVS) organisations from both regions. During the AEYVE, the young volunteers participate in a training, field implementation and evaluation on Asia-Europe volunteering. The nine previous exchanges have brought interesting results in terms of social, economic and cultural development, as well as on the impact of IVS on the main actors: the young volunteers, local community and the hosting and sending IVS-organisations.

In order to complement the capacity building (knowledge transfer and training) of AEYVE, the NAEYV was convened in 2007. The conference was designed specifically for heads (presidents, directors, board members, managers or coordinators) of IVS organisations and tackled new fields of concern such as lobby and advocacy or networking and partnership building, impact, recognition and policies of voluntary service. The two complimentary activities have positioned ASEF and CCIVS as one of the main actors involved in the Asia-Europe voluntary service field.

4TH NETWORKING CONFERENCE FOR ASIAN AND EUROPEAN YOUNG VOLUNTEERS (NAEYV)

The 4th NAEYV aims to promote the visibility and values of voluntary service as one of the main non-formal education tools in Asia and Europe. The specific objectives are:

- To share the research outcomes of the 9th Asia-Europe Young Volunteers Exchange (AEYVE) on the impact of IVS in Asia and Europe;
- To map the existing voluntary service schemes and the various legal frameworks on volunteering in Asia and Europe;
- To identify stakeholders interested in the establishment and promotion of an Asian Voluntary Service;
- To encourage cross-sectoral co-operation between different voluntary service stakeholders;
- To develop spin-off initiatives in the field of voluntary service.

The NAEYV aims to reach the following (in-)tangible outputs:

- Recommendations for IVS-organisations and policy makers regarding the establishment of an Asian Voluntary Service;
- Map of volunteering-related legislative models in ASEM countries;
- Follow-up initiatives in the field of voluntary service.
- Awareness about the existing IVS-schemes in Asia and Europe;
- Commitment of various stakeholders in supporting IVS-initiatives.
The 4th edition of the NAEYV will be the lead-up event of 2011 that marks the celebration of 10 years of ASEF's involvement in international voluntary service as well as the 10th anniversary of the UN International Year of Volunteers (IYV+10) and the European Year of Volunteering.

**PROGRAMME**

NAEYV will involve high-level representatives of IVS stakeholders including Asian and European intergovernmental institutions. It will build on the results of the impact assessment carried out during AEYVE 2010 and the outcomes of the 4th Connecting Civil Societies. The NAEP will involve panels, working groups and presentations. It is a 4-day programme which includes 2 phases:

- Phase 1 (6-8 February 2011): 2-day strategic IVS meeting; 20 representatives from IVS-organisations will gather to discuss thematic and interregional cooperation, challenges and strategies.
- Phase 2 (8-11 February 2011): 2-day conference; the existing group will be enlarged and include up to 20 representatives from other relevant stakeholders, such as universities, government institutions and (international) companies. The focus will shift to the impact and recognition of IVS and the cooperation between IVS-organisations and the other stakeholders.

**PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS**

For the Strategic Meeting (6-8 February) and the Conference (8-11 February), we are inviting applications from:

- Active members of IVS-organisations: staff, board members and/ or very experienced volunteers who have decision power in their organisation OR Representatives of IVS-networks;
- Between 18-35 years with good knowledge of English.

For the Conference (8-11 February) only, we are inviting representatives from:

- Government institutions that include IVS in their portfolio and policies;
- Universities that cooperate with IVS-organisations in either sending or hosting of volunteers;
- Lifelong Learning organisations/ networks (LLL): that are working on the inclusion of IVS as one of the aspects in LLL.

All participants will be citizens of ASEM partner countries.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORGANISERS**

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) was established in February 1997 under the framework of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process, which groups together 43 countries from Asia and Europe and the European Commission (EC) and the Association of Southeast Asian National (ASEAN) Secretariat. ASEM was launched at a summit meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, in March 1996 to inject greater impetus to efforts to strengthen relations and linkages between Asia and Europe at all levels - political, economic and social.

ASEF was set up pursuant to the third (social) pillar of ASEM, and has been mandated to create better mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. (www.asef.org)

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1. 2011 was proclaimed the International Year of Volunteers +10 through the UN General Assembly's A/Res/63/153 Resolution of 18 December 2008
2. European Commission Press Release IP/ 09/862, dated on 3 June 2009, states that 2011 will be the European Year of Volunteering
5. The ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) now brings together 46 partner 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, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission
The Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service was founded in 1948. CCIVS is a co-ordinating body for international voluntary service organisations and it counts more than 250 member associations in 96 countries, including 5 international networks and several regional structures and platforms. It acts as a link to establish relations between the members and international institutions such as the EU, different UN agencies or foundations. CCIVS fosters the development of regional networks through the organisation of international projects and seminars and the production of publications and training tools. (www.ccivs.org)

IIWC of IPPA Indonesia (Indonesian International Work Camp of Indonesia Planned Parenthood Association) is an NGO entity with main concerns of promoting and organising international voluntary service projects in Indonesia. Informally, it was formed in 1999, when IPPA Central Java chapter organised the first international work camp in Indonesia in a strong co-operation with NICE (Never Ending International Workcamp Exchange) Japan. The name of IIWC itself was introduced for the first time on 10th January 2000 that marks the anniversary of IIWC.

The vision is to strengthen global friendship and its objectives are to achieve global friendship through International Voluntary Service activities; to encourage local community to be self initiative, independent in developing their potential and more concern to the global issues; to strengthen the values of non discriminative and mutual respect to each others and to provide the opportunity of non formal education for all. Further information can be found at www.iiwcinindonesia.wordpress.com.

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ASEF’s contribution is with the financial support of the European Commission.