Overview

Background

Model ASEM is a political simulation of the actual Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit to generate interest and increase awareness of the ASEM process among university students across all ASEM Partner countries. The Model ASEM spin-off editions materialised directly from the enthusiasm of participants at Model ASEM 2014 to engage further in such political simulations.

Each Model ASEM spin-off edition is a 3-day project self-organised by students local institutions who aspire to build platforms for young people to exchange perspectives on Asia-Europe collaborations, promote the ASEM process and build long-term relations between the young people of the two continents. In agreement with Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), ASEF might act as a supporter to a Model ASEM spin-off edition and provide intellectual, communication and some administrative support.

While the main Model ASEM is held alongside the actual ASEM Summit every two years alternating in Asia or in Europe, the spin-off editions are organised locally to capture the enthusiasm of the students’ interest at a broader level. The spin-off editions are planned to be conducted in several ASEM countries throughout 2015 and 2016 to build up the momentum for the next large scale Model ASEM conference – the 7th Model ASEM organised by ASEF in July 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in conjunction with the 11th ASEM Summit (ASEM11).

Objectives

- Directly link students with ASEM Leaders on a national level
- Facilitate capacity-building and fine-tuning of skills in the fields of negotiation, diplomacy and consensus-building
- Enhance the understanding of Asia-Europe collaboration and the ASEM process
- Develop a consensus based Chair’s Statement, which will be presented as a joint document at ASEM11

Participants

- Each spin-off edition will gather up to 150 participants (including both local and international students based on site) plus resource persons
- ASEM experts from academia
- Members of ASEM Delegations and Ministries

The Open Call and the selection process will ensure a geographical and gender balance as well as a diversity of participants from various relevant fields.

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1 ASEM brings together 53 Partners: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Laos PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Viet Nam, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat.
Programme

Each spin-off edition includes 2 main components:

- **Phase 1: Pre-event preparations**
  Selected participants will partake in pre-event research as a groundwork for Model ASEM spin-off editions preparations

- **Phase 2: 3 day conference**
  - Selected participants will partake in Plenary Sessions and Working Groups with a focus on 3 ASEM pillars, namely economic, political and socio-cultural issues
  - The conference may also entail visits to Diplomatic Missions of other ASEM countries located in the host country to gain in-depth knowledge about the functions of an Embassy or Consulate

Results

**Tangible**
- Model ASEM Chair’s Statement for each spin-off edition on the relevance and strategic direction of ASEM in 3 ASEM pillars, namely economic, political and socio-cultural
- Photo/video footage of the event

**Intangible**
- Interaction between the ASEM Leaders, government officials and youth participants
- Engagement of local ASEM Delegations and Diplomatic Missions with the youth
- Increased understanding of the ASEM process among student participants and resource persons involved through research and preparation before the on-site phase as well as during the course of the event through presentations by ASEM experts
- Enhanced research, public speaking, negotiation, team-work, problem solving, consensus-building and intercultural communication skills
- Enhanced recognition of the younger generation by the political leaders of the ASEM members as a crucial stakeholder group within the ASEM process
- Direct contacts established between youth representatives and ASEM Officials

More Information

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