BACKGROUND

ASEF’s initiative on health and migration

“Migration is a fact of life and governments face the challenge of integrating the health needs of migrants into national plans, policies and strategies” as reported by the World Health Organization (March 2010). Identification of migrants’ health-related needs and reflection of them into policies and practices require research and data that provide evidence for migrant vulnerabilities. The ASEF Public Health Network aims to address such migrant health issues by initiating joint research and a series of research exchange workshops through a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach. In 2011, the ASEF Public Health Network launched the 1st Joint Research on Regional Integration and Infectious Diseases. The research study by the Yuchengco Center (The Philippines) and Fondazione ISMU (Italy) on “Public Health Challenges in the Era of Migration: The Health Dimension of Southeast Asian Migration to Europe” (publication forthcoming in 2013) presented concrete data on health status of Chinese and Filipino migrants in Europe and produced recommendations to integrate their needs into the policies of host communities.

In March 2012, the ASEF Public Health Network organised the 1st Research Exchange Workshop on “Social Determinants of Migrants’ Health across Asia and Europe”, in collaboration with Casa Asia in Barcelona, Spain. The workshop provided researchers across Asia and Europe with an opportunity to better understand the state of health of Asian migrants in Europe and to share the information and experience of multiple stakeholders in addressing migrants’ health issues. The workshop participants came up with a list of recommendations and further research areas to strengthen bi-regional collaboration on health and migration.

Translating research evidence on migrant health into policy and practice

The research findings and outcomes of the workshop were considered highly useful and relevant for addressing and tackling issues on health and migration by not only academics but also other players such as international organisations (WHO, IOM, UNDP), regional institution (European Commission), national authorities (Spanish national public health agency, Indonesian national board for overseas workers), and civil society organisations. The recommendations and conclusions of the research study and workshop also drew out the implications of translating the evidence into public health policy and healthcare practice to obtain positive outcomes in health of migrants. Therefore, the ASEF Public Health Network will invigorate policy dialogue at its second research exchange workshop, bringing senior-level decision-makers, researchers as well as multiple stakeholders involved in migrant health issues.

OBJECTIVES

The 2nd Research Exchange Workshop on “Bringing the Migrant Health Discourse into Policy” will gather policy-makers of all related fields and levels across Asia and Europe to inform them of the data and information generated and compiled from the ASEF Public Health Network’s research initiative on health and migration. The open discussions with researchers as well as representatives from migrant communities, health care providers and social workers will help the decision-makers to revise and develop policies that affect migrant health.

The workshop specifically aims to:

- Address present challenges in migrant health policies based on the data generated from the ASEF Public Health Network’s research initiative on health and migration;
- Provide an avenue for debates on how to drive changes in policy and practice in relation to migrant health and social integration; and
- Foster active co-operation between multi-sector players to achieve policy coherence on migration and health.

The outcomes of the workshop will be compiled into a report and the report will be disseminated to the relevant stakeholders in Asia and Europe.

DATES AND VENUE

The Asia-Europe Foundation and Yuchengco Center of De La Salle University co-organise the research exchange workshop on **28-29 November 2012** in **Makati City, The Philippines**. A public briefing will be organised back to back in the evening of 28 November to highlight the findings of the ASEF-supported research, “Public Health Challenges in the Era of Migration: The Health Dimension of Southeast Asian Migration to Europe”.

Day 1 – Wednesday, 28 November 2012

0800 – 0830hrs  Registration

0830 – 0845hrs  Welcome Remarks
                   – Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco
                     (Chairman, Board of Trustees of Yuchengco Center)

Session 1 – Bi-lateral Labour Mobility Agreements: Challenges and Opportunities

0845 – 0930hrs  Presentations
                 *Bi-lateral Labour Mobility Agreements*
                 I. Case of Germany and Poland

0930 – 0950hrs  Questions & Answers

0950 – 1010hrs  Break

1010 – 1050hrs  II. Case of Singapore and the Philippines

1050 – 1120hrs  Questions & Answers

1120 – 1130hrs  Conclusion of Session 1

1130 – 1300hrs  Lunch

Session 2 – States’ New Approaches to Health and Migration

1300 – 1400hrs  Presentations
                 I. Case of the Netherlands

1400 – 1430hrs  Questions & Answers

1430 – 1500hrs  Break
1500 – 1600hrs  II. Case of the Republic of Korea
   – Prof Youn-tae Cho
     (Department of Health Science and Services, School of Public Health, Seoul National University)
   – Representative of the Ministry of Health and Welfare (TBC)

1600 – 1630hrs Questions & Answers

1630 – 1640hrs Conclusion of Session 2

Public Briefing

1630 – 1700hrs Registration for Non-workshop Participants

1700 – 1710hrs Welcome Remarks
   – Representative of the Embassy of Japan to the Philippines

1710 – 1730hrs Presentations
   Key Findings of the Research, “Public Health Challenges in the Era of Migration: The Health Dimension of Southeast Asian Migration to Europe”.
   – Dr Trinidad Ostería
     (President, Yuchengco Center, De La Salle University)
   – Dr Daniela Carrillo
     (Researcher, Health and Welfare Sector, Fondazione ISMU)

1730 – 1800hrs Panel Discussion
   – Policy-makers, healthcare providers, representatives from migrant communities in Italy, Spain, China, or the Philippines

1800 – 1830hrs Questions & Answers

1830 – 1835hrs Closing Speech
   – Representative of the Asia-Europe Foundation

1840 – 2000hrs Welcome Dinner

Day 2 – Thursday, 29 November 2012

0830 – 0900hrs Registration

Session 3 – The Impact of Migration Policy on Migrants’ Access to Health Care

0900 – 0930hrs Presentations
   Outcomes of the ASEF-commissioned joint research, “The Nature and Magnitude of the Costs of Exclusion of Documented and Undocumented Migrants from Health Care”
   I. Comparative Policy Analysis of Austria and Italy
   – Dr Ursula Karl-Trummer
     (Executive Director, Center for Health and Migration)
   – Dr Sonja Novak-Zezula
     (Managing Director, Center for Health and Migration)
0930 – 1000hrs  II. Comparative Policy Analysis of Hong Kong SAR and Singapore
   – **Prof Phua Kai Hong**  
     (Associate Professor, Health Policy & Management, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy)
   – **Prof Sian Griffiths**  
     (Professor and Director, Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care, Chinese University of Hong Kong)

1000 – 1030hrs  Questions & Answers

1030 – 1050hrs  Break

1050 – 1130hrs  Panel Discussion  
   – Policy-makers from Austria, Italy, Hong Kong SAR, Singapore

1130 – 1200hrs  Questions & Answers

1200 – 1210hrs  Conclusion of Session 3

1210 – 1330hrs  Lunch

**Session 4 – Policy Options for Improving Social Inclusions of Migrants**

1330 – 1400hrs  Presentations
   I. Representative from migrant community

1400 – 1430hrs  II. Representative of healthcare providers/social workers

1430 – 1500hrs  Questions & Answers

1500 – 1515hrs  Break

1515 – 1545hrs  III. Representative from employers’ associations

1545 – 1615hrs  IV. Representative of an international organisation

1615 – 1625hrs  Conclusion of Session 4

1625 – 1640hrs  Closing Remarks  
   – **Dr Alvin Culaba**  
     (Executive Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization, De La Salle University)
   – Representative of the Asia-Europe Foundation

1640hrs  End of Workshop

This workshop is organised with the financial support of the Government of Japan.