



Open Call & Overview

27 January - 10 February 2018
Melbourne (Australia) & Christchurch (New Zealand)

Organised by



WHAT IS #ASEFSU21?

The ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU) is a 2-week experiential learning journey and “Interdisciplinary Innovathon” for students and young professionals. Designed to foster crosscultural exchanges and networks among youth from **ASEM¹ Partner countries²**, it offers opportunities for students and young professionals to broaden their horizons, deepen their knowledge on contemporary issues, and propose concrete solutions to societal challenges.

ASEFSU takes place on an annual basis, each year tackling a different theme of socio-political concern within Asia and Europe. ASEFSU makes a positive impact within ASEM societies as it offers tangible results and daring proposals to innovate and promote sustainable development.

Key characteristics of ASEFSU

Engagement and collaboration of youth from 51 Asian and European countries with local ASEM communities

Fusion of theoretical and practical programme components, leading up to an Interdisciplinary Innovathon and Competition

Youth perspectives and solutions on pressing societal issues, practically contributing to the ASEM process, National Agendas, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and society at large

Watch the exhilarating **visual journey** of the previous ASEF Summer University edition: The ASEFSU20 on transportation and connectivity, which passed through 6 cities in China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

#FASTFACTS

WHEN & WHERE?

27 January - 10 February 2018
Melbourne (Australia) &
Christchurch (New Zealand)

FOR WHOM?

Citizens of any of the **51 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) partner countries**

Young professionals and students between 18-30 years

Strong command on English (verbal and written)

SELECTION?

51 mixed-ability participants selected through an Open Call with a balanced number of individuals with & without disabilities

The Open Call and the screening process will adopt a non-discriminative approach ensuring an even geographic representation, gender balance and fair access to all

OPEN TO ALL

The ASEFSU21 is accessible to all ASEM youth. Would you need any special assistance? Contact us – we will do our utmost to accommodate any special needs

¹ The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation bringing together the 28 European Union member states, two other European countries, and the European Union with 21 Asian countries and the ASEAN Secretariat. The ASEM dialogue addresses political, economic and cultural issues, with the objective of strengthening the relationship between the two regions, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership. For more information on ASEM:

www.ASEMInfoboard.org

² ASEM brings together 51 members countries: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

WHAT IS ASEFSU21?

The 21st ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU21) will take place on 27 January – 10 February 2018 in Melbourne (Australia) and Christchurch (New Zealand) exploring the topic of Youth with Disabilities. Check the ASEFSU21 Concept Note [here](#) for an in-depth introduction to the theme of the project.

The project will bring together a group of 51 mixed-ability students and young professionals from all ASEM countries. Next to an invaluable international and intercultural experience, you will as a participant propose solutions to pressing challenges face by ASEM youth with disabilities. These challenges relate to 8 key areas that have a significant impact on the lives of youth with disabilities: 1) Mobility, 2) Rights Protection and Legislation, 3) Economic Security and Employment, 4) Inclusive Education, 5) Health and Well-being, 6) Participation in Society, 7) Access to Information, and 8) Attitudes and Perceptions.

These focus areas are directly aligned with and support the priorities set by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the ASEM Social Inclusion Agenda and the national disability strategies of Australia and New Zealand. The outcomes of the ASEFSU21 will subsequently be presented at high-level ASEM meetings as inputs to the deliberations of policy makers.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The ASEFSU21 consists of 3 core educational parts:

1) 2-week Online Training

In this phase you will actively take part in an online preparatory phase to familiarise with the topics of the project. This phase will kick-start your preparations for the upcoming on-site phase and will require a couple of hours of work per week.

2) 2-week Interdisciplinary Innovathon

Off we go!:

Australia (27 January – 3 February 2018)

The 1-week programme in Australia offers you trainings, workshops, lectures and study visits to develop your understanding of the themes covered by the project.

Reaching the final milestone:

New Zealand (4-10 February 2018)

In New Zealand you will go from theory to practice as you are given the opportunity to propose daring solutions to obstacles currently faced by youth with disabilities. The best challenge solutions will also be awarded by the project's partners and presented to ASEM policy makers.

COST

No registration or participation fee for the invited participants. Accommodation, meals and a travel subsidy will be provided.

KNOW MORE!

Do you feel inspired & up for the challenge to shape inclusive ASEM societies for all?

Then, join us early 2018 for the ASEFSU21!

For further information check out the [FAQ](#)

For other questions, drop us an email at asefsu@asef.org or call us at +6568749714

3) 4-week Online Post-project Phase and Spin-off activities

All prototypes developed on site – analogue and digital – will be analysed and tested after the project by the relevant stakeholders and communities engaged. The participants play a crucial role in following-up on the initiatives and dissemination information about the lessons learned at the ASEFSU21. In addition, selected participants will be invited to present the outcomes of the ASEFSU21 at high-level ASEM ministerial meetings and other events.

WHAT DO YOU GAIN?

First-hand experience in solving real-life challenges

Grab the opportunity to develop concrete solutions to shape inclusive ASEM societies and enhance the quality of life of youth with disabilities.

Knowledge and skills-trainings linked to SDGs

Get inspired by fresh and practical knowledge on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda: in particular Goals 4 (Quality education), 8 (Decent work) and 10 (Inequality).

Access to an Asia-Europe network

Make new contacts with youth leaders from 51 Asian and European countries, as well as political and business leaders. Get access to the large ASEFEdu alumni network.

OUTCOMES OF #ASEFSU21 FEED INTO

ASEM Ministerial Meetings and ASEM activities:

12th Asia-Europe Meeting Summit (ASEM12), 2018, Brussels, Belgium

[ASEM Cooperation on Disability](#), 2018, Asia

ASEF Projects:

Future editions of the ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU)

3rd ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS3), 2018, Brussels, Belgium

Informal ASEM Seminars on Human Rights

Society at Large and SDG Agendas

The solutions you propose at the ASEFSU21 Interdisciplinary Innovathon will at large contribute to the advancement of local and national authorities', businesses' and civil society organisations' work within the field of youth and disabilities.

ORGANISED BY



The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, sustainable development, economy and public health.

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

ASEF runs more than 25 projects a year, consisting of around 100 activities, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications, and online platforms, together with about 125 partner organisations. Each year over 3,000 Asians and Europeans participate in ASEF's activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks, and web-portals.

For more information, please visit www.ASEF.org



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„Glass marbles are celebrated worldwide for their structural simplicity and aesthetic beauty. Although they vary externally in size, structure, design and colour, the very substance which forms them internally is the same. The use of marbles in the designs of the ASEFSU21 is to signify that although each one of us is not the same, the elements that make us human are identical in nature.“