

Working with CSOs in the context of ASEM process, the experience of ASEF

Policy Forum on Development

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THE ASEM PROCESS



- Initiated in 1996
- Informal process of dialogue & cooperation
- Brings together 51 countries from Asia & Europe plus the European Union & the ASEAN Secretariat

ASEM'S KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Equal partnership
- Multi-dimensionality
- Informality
- Dual focus on high-level and people-to-people dialogues

ASEM'S WORKING MECHANISMS & PLATFORMS

- **Official level:**
 - ASEM Summits
 - ASEM Ministerial Meetings (Foreign Affairs, Finance, Culture, Economics, Education, Environment, Labour, Transport)
 - ASEM Senior Officials' Meetings (prepare Ministerials)
 - ASEM Chairman Support Group (ACSG; initiated in 2011)
 - ASEM Initiatives
- **Non-official level:**
 - Asia-Europe Business Forum (AEBF)
 - Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP)
 - Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF)

ASEF & THE ASEM PROCESS



Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

- Founded in 1997 (26 members; 2014: 53)
- Inter-governmental not-for-profit organisation
- Only permanently established institution of the **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** process
- Originally initiated under the aegis of the 3rd (socio-cultural) pillar of ASEM
- Funded by annual voluntary contributions from the 53 ASEM members

ASEF MEMBERS

Asian Members (22)

- ASEAN 10 + ASEAN Secretariat
- China + Japan + Korea + Mongolia
- Bangladesh + India + Pakistan
- Australia + New Zealand
- Russian Federation + Kazakhstan

European Members (31)

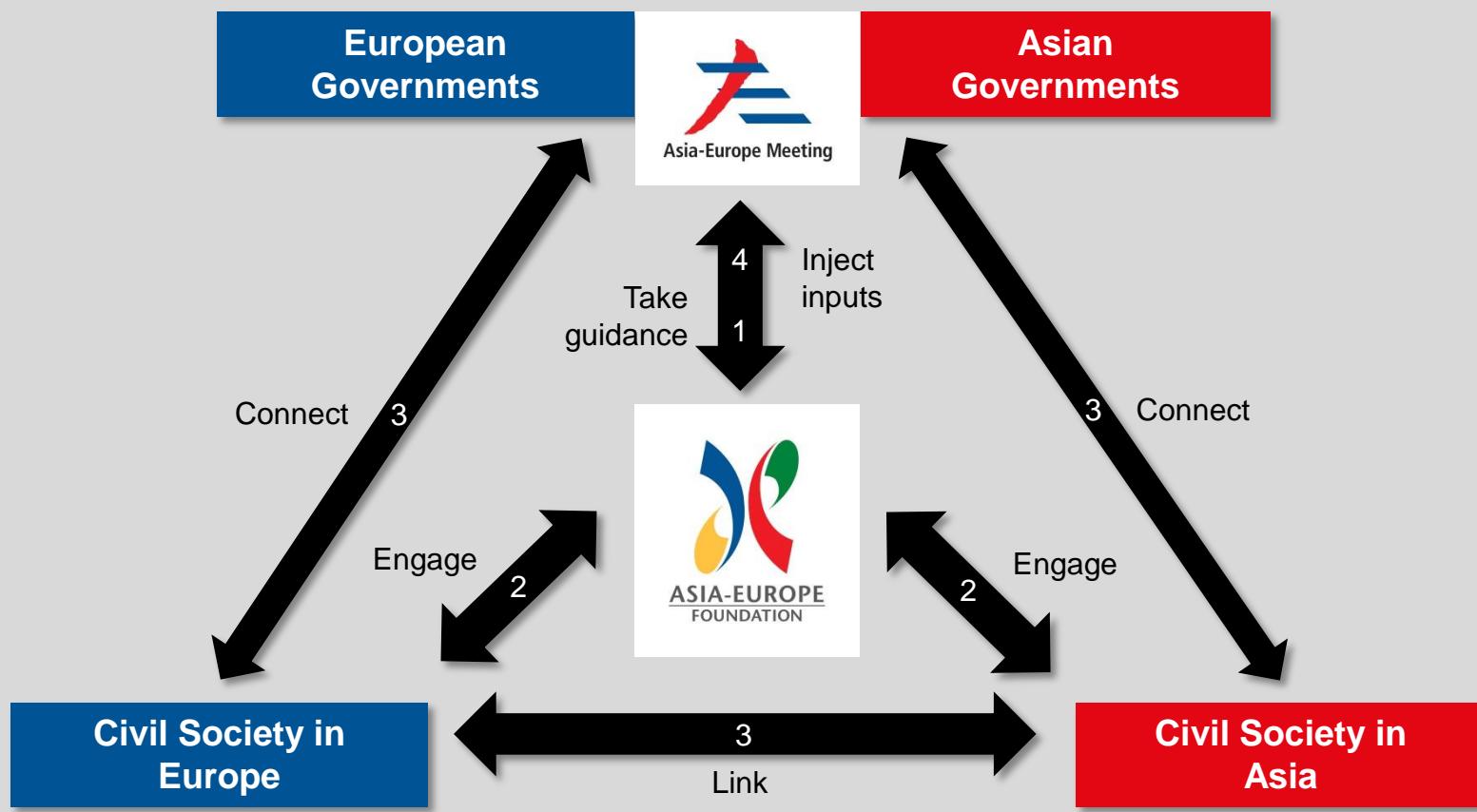
- EU 28 + European Union
- Norway + Switzerland

ASEF'S MANDATE

- Promote better **understanding** between Asians & Europeans
- Enable **exchanges** between people, institutions & organisations of Asia & Europe
- Organise & implement **projects** in Asia & Europe

(Dublin Agreed Principles, 1996; amended 2004)

ASEF'S ROLE



ASEF'S THEMATIC WORK SCOPE I

Culture

ASEF Cultural Policy Programme

- ASEF Cultural Policy Dialogue Series
- WorldCP

ASEF Cultural Platforms & Networks Programme

- ASEF culture360
- Creative Encounters
- ASEF Creative Networks
- Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS)

Economy

- Asia Europe Economic Forum (AEEF)
- Social Enterprise

Education

ASEF Higher Education Programme (AHEP)

- ASEM Rectors' Conference & Students' Forum (ARC)
- ASEF Education Workshop
- ASEM Lifelong Learning Hub (ASEM LLL Hub)

ASEF Young Leaders Programme

- ASEF University (AU)
- ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN)
- ASEF Classroom Network (ClassNet)
- Model ASEM

ASEF'S THEMATIC WORK SCOPE II

Governance

- Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights
- Migration in Asia & Europe
- Asia-Europe Public Diplomacy Training Initiative

Public Health

- ASEF Public Health Network

Sustainable Development

- Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum)
- Asia-Europe: Energy Challenges and Climate Change

ASEF Media Programme

- ASEF Editors' Roundtable / ASEF Journalists' Colloquium

ASEF Focus

- ASEF Outlook Report

ASEM Focus

- ASEM InfoBoard

ASEF & CSOs: Engage, Link, Connect I



ASEF Experts' Meeting & Public Forum in the framework of **the Asia-Europe Culture Ministers' Meeting**

ASEF & CSOs: Engage, Link, Connect II



ASEF Rectors' Conference and Students' Forum & their contribution to ASEM Education Ministers' Meeting

ASEF & CSOs: Engage, Link, Connect III



Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights

ASEF'S RESULTS

17 years

over 650 projects

over 700 partners

over 17,000 active participants

Tangible Results (Outputs):

- Publications
- Reports
- Web-portals
- Networks
- Collaborations

Intangible Results (Outcomes):

- Sharing of knowledge & practices
- Networking
- Added value to the ASEM process by
 - increased knowledge on Asia-Europe relations
 - enhanced mutual understanding among the people
 - better conditions for future cooperation

www.ASEF.org

