15ᵗʰ ASEF Classroom Network Conference

Education for Sustainable Development and AI: The Role and Readiness of Teachers

Tokyo, Japan | 25-29 November 2019

Overview & Open Call

Co-organised by

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WHAT IS #ASEFCLASSNET?

Launched in 1998, the ASEF Classroom Network (ASEF ClassNet) fosters collaborations among secondary and high school teachers and students in Asia and Europe while harnessing the potential and opportunities of technology for education.

To-date, more than 1,500 teachers from 48 ASEM Partner countries have joined the ASEF Classroom Network. In addition, more than 32,000 students have been engaged in 398 school-to-school collaborations since 2001.

ASEF ClassNet comprises 4 core activities:

1. **Annual ASEF ClassNet Conferences** - for teachers to share experiences, network and to enhance their professional skills

2. **ASEF ClassNet School Collaborations** - jointly developed and run by Asian and European schools on-site and online to facilitate and promote inter-cultural exchanges between teachers and students

3. **ASEF ClassNet Website** - to connect schools and teachers through one online platform

4. **Research and Policy: ASEF ClassNet Policy Outlook** - to gather and highlight school leaders' and teachers' voices related to AI in education matters.

WHAT IS #ASEFCLASSNET15?

The 15th ASEF ClassNet Conference (ASEF ClassNet15) will take place at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan from 25-29 November 2019. Both the hosting country and the host institution have been selected based on their strong engagement with the theme: Japan is known for leading international discussions on ESD as it hosted the World UNESCO Conference on ESD in 2014 and played a crucial role in promoting the Global Action Programme (GAP).

The conference will be organised in collaboration with Sophia University, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan, with support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and The Open University, United Kingdom.

Themed "*Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and AI: The Role and Readiness of Teachers*" ASEF ClassNet15 will address 3 key questions:

1. What roles do teachers need to play in classrooms to transform teaching and learning practices for ESD in the AI era?
2. What level of knowledge on ESD and AI do teachers need to develop appropriate pedagogies?
3. What kind of capacity building and partnership support do teachers need to integrate ESD meaningfully in the school curriculum and to enhance their readiness for the AI era?

APPLY NOW

#FASTFACTS

CLOSING DATE

Saturday, 31 August 2019 16:00 GMT

WHEN & WHERE?

25-29 November 2019
Tokyo, Japan

FOR WHOM?

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

A secondary, vocational or high school teacher or educator

Individuals with a proficient command of English (verbal and written)

Keen interest in developing knowledge in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and/or Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education

SELECTION

Participants are selected through an Open Call for Application. The Open Call and screening process will ensure a non-discriminative approach assuring a balanced geographic representation, gender balance and fair access to the opportunity for all.

The conference will bring together approximately 70 secondary, vocational and high school teachers and educators from up to 51 Asian and European countries.

ASEF ClassNet15 will promote a deeper discussion on ESD and provide a brief introduction on emerging AI technologies in education. The conference will facilitate a robust action-oriented dialogue on ESD, AI, and the role and readiness of teachers by providing a multi stakeholder platform for secondary/high schools and vocational school teachers, researchers, policy makers and EdTech leaders to:

- Raise awareness and build knowledge on the topic "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and AI: The Role and Readiness of Teachers" as an integrative element in teaching and learning in secondary, high, and vocational school education, through case-studies and practical tools

- Encourage schools to join an active Asia-Europe network and to initiate collaboration and support for creating holistic and timely relevant future learning environments

- Gather feedback from teachers to suggest policy recommendations to education policy makers and governments to integrate ESD into curricula with the help of AI tools.

Participants will also have the opportunity to tie up with their peers to work on an innovative teaching and learning project.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The programme is built on 6 elements:

1. **Awareness Creation and Outreach through Open Call** - an inclusive Open Call for Application across all 51 ASEM Partner countries. The Open Call also includes a mandatory perception survey where applicants share concepts and views on the topic.

2. **Virtual Knowledge Building Phase** - The 15th ASEF Classroom Network Conference integrates a virtual learning experience. Participants will go through a 5-6 weeks long knowledge building phase so that you have a basic understanding on the topic as well as a chance to familiarise yourself with all the participants prior to the conference. The virtual learning phase consists of webinars, individual and group tasks. The organisers will share relevant learning resources on the topic with all participants after they register for the conference.

3. **Research & Enrichment** – Expert talks and panel discussions on ESD and AI within education featuring teachers, educators, school leaders, policy makers and researchers, to gain knowledge about the most up-to-date trends.

COSTS

No registration or participation fee for the selected participants. Accommodation and meals will be provided to participants residing outside Finland. ASEF offers travel cost subsidies.

KNOW MORE!

For further information, check out the **FAQ**.

For other questions, drop us an email: **classnet@ASEF.org**

4. **On-site Training & Networking** – Practical workshops and trainings from practitioners to place participants and their schools at the forefront of the educational development, and sessions to improve their pedagogical skills and extend networks.

5. **ASEF ClassNet Awards & Collaborations** – Showcase the most outstanding ASEF ClassNet collaborations from 2018 & 2019 and Awards.

6. **Feedback & Policy Recommendation** – Opportunity to contribute to the policy recommendations to be disseminated to the education policy makers and governments to integrate ESD into curricula with the help of AI tools.

WHY JOIN THE CONFERENCE?

The Conference offers participants a platform to:
- Meet local, national and international education practitioners and experts from 51 Asian and European countries
- Become part of the creation of new networks between teachers, school leaders, researchers and EdTech experts with possible spin-off activities
- Increase knowledge and awareness, reflect and give feedback on methods, good practices, theories and policies on ESD/AI
- Discuss, understand, and identify the role and readiness of teachers for teaching ESD in the AI era.

MORE INFORMATION
- Video: Example of the 13th ASEF ClassNet Conference in Switzerland
- ASEF ClassNet Website
- Overview of ASEF ClassNet School Collaborations

Organised by

ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION

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, public health and media.

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.

In Partnership with

Sophia University, located in the centre of Tokyo, is a private Catholic university founded in 1913 by the Jesuits. It is a comprehensive university with 9 undergraduate and 10 graduate schools based on its educational philosophy:" Men and Women for Others, with Others" recognizing the human dignity with appreciation of diverse values and cultures. Sophia established the first English-taught program in Japan in 1949 and nowadays, it has 350 overseas partner institutions from 72 different countries as one of the Top Global University Project in Japan. Sophia provides full-degree programs taught in English in Liberal Arts, Green Science and Technology, Global Studies, Global Environmental Studies, TESOL and Education. From 2020, Sophia will launch the new English-taught Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures (SPSF).

For more information, please visit www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) attaches importance to developing the networking with Asian and European countries. In this regard, MOFA considers the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) as an important informal platform to foster exchanges and cooperation especially on connectivity between Asia and Europe. From this perspective, MOFA has been supporting activities of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) especially in the field of public health and people-to-people exchanges, such as the ASEF Public Health Network 10th Anniversary Event (Tokyo, May 2018), the 3rd ASEF Young Leaders Summit (Brussels, October 2018), and the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (Yokohama, July 2019).

For more information, please visit https://www.mofa.go.jp/

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) is responsible for education in Japan. MEXT has cooperated with ASEF, especially in education and strongly supports the 15th ClassNet conference in Tokyo. The Secretariat of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO is established in MEXT. As Japan being the country that proposed the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), MEXT places special emphasis on promoting ESD, capitalizing on over 1,000 UNESCO Associated Schools in Japan.

For more information, please visit http://www.mext.go.jp/en/

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Visual Concept

The "Fortune Teller" has gone by a variety of names across cultures, for example cootie catcher, salt cellars or paku-paku. It used to be a popular paper game and was even played to get answers about the future. The player had 2 moves and 4 choices to come to one of 8 possible pictures or messages about the future.

Times have changed. From human imagination and "Fortunes Tellers", we have shifted to creative human minds and "Artificial Intelligence (AI)" to foresee the future. 2 moves, 4 choices and 8 scenarios have now become 1s, 0s and millions of possibilities.

Which moves and choices do we make out of these millions to design our sustainable future?