

2017 Asia Foundation Development Fellows Program



The Asia Foundation Development Fellows program provides highly qualified, young professionals from Asia with an unparalleled opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills and gain in-depth knowledge of Asia's critical development challenges. The year-long career advancement program draws on The Asia Foundation's extensive 18-country network and deep expertise working with innovative leaders and communities across the region.



EMERGING LEADERSHIP FOR ASIA'S FUTURE

In these times of rapid change and extraordinary development challenges throughout Asia, the need for creative, inspired, and transformative leadership has never been more imperative. To address this need, The Asia Foundation has created the Asia Foundation Development Fellows program, an initiative designed to identify, nurture, and support dedicated next-generation leaders across Asia. The program aims to strengthen and enhance the ability of carefully selected leaders and changemakers to advance Asia's social, economic, and political development through forward-looking initiatives and policy reforms.

Leveraging The Asia Foundation's rich 60-year history of development experience, the Asia Foundation Development Fellows program targets and invests in an extraordinary body of young and emerging Asian professionals – NGO and civil society leaders, government officials and policymakers, social entrepreneurs, journalists, environmentalists, and academics. The various components of the program create a nexus of different disciplines, working environments, professional experiences, cultures, and country contexts through which development practitioners and professionals can effectively build practical skills and enhance leadership capabilities while deepening bonds of regional and international perspective, understanding, and commitment.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Asia Foundation Development Fellows program is designed to be a multifaceted experience, enhancing leadership skills, Asian development knowledge, professional networks, and international exposure for Asian professionals. The program also provides the flexibility for Fellows to custom-tailor their own professional development component and to stay in their current occupations while participating in the program's rigorous modules. The program is comprised of the following five components:

- 1) The Leadership Training Program offered in partnership with the Korea Development Institute (KDI) School of Public Policy and Management in South Korea;
- 2) The Workshop on Asian Development, held each year in a different Asian nation;
- 3) A two-week leadership dialogue and study tour opportunity in the U.S.;
- 4) A flexible professional development stipend/award of US\$5,000; and
- 5) A mentoring component allowing Fellows to tap into The Asia Foundation's extensive human resources and thematic expertise.

The application period starts in the fall of each year. A selection committee, comprised of distinguished specialists, then makes their final decision at the beginning of the following year. The Fellows will be recognized over a year-long period from January 1 through December 31.

DEVELOPMENT FELLOWS ARE:

Thoughtful, committed, respected, and inspirational young leaders within their professional fields and within their larger community.

Under 40 years old.

Citizens or nationals of the following countries where The Asia Foundation has programs:

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
India
Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Laos
Malaysia
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Vietnam

LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM SOUTH KOREA | APRIL 9-15, 2017

The Leadership Training Program features an intensive one-week course presented with the Korea Development Institute (KDI) School of Public Policy and Management in South Korea. With the larger objective of enhancing leadership skills and potential, the training focuses on strategic thinking and decision-making, working with participants on developing critical perspectives, solving complicated problems, managing change, and introducing innovative approaches in leadership and management.



WORKSHOP ON ASIAN DEVELOPMENT VIETNAM | APRIL 16-22, 2017

Immediately following the Leadership Training component is a one-week study tour program involving leading development practitioners and thinkers, recognized policy leaders, and academics who will help Fellows explore various approaches that deliver positive impact and advance development knowledge. The workshop is held each year in a different Asian nation, where development challenges and innovations will serve as a contextual backdrop for applying theories and concepts in international development. Previous workshops have taken place in the Philippines, Nepal, and Mongolia.

LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGE UNITED STATES | SEPTEMBER 10-26, 2017

Asia Foundation Development Fellows will take part in a leadership dialogue and exchange program in the United States, providing important opportunities to extend personal bonds with their cohort, as well as building new international perspectives and networks of support and inspiration. Over a two-week period, the Fellows will take part in a comprehensive series of programs, policy discussions, and unique learning and leadership development opportunities organized in and around San Francisco, New York, and Washington, DC.



The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. Headquartered in San Francisco, The Asia Foundation works through a network of offices in 18 Asian countries and in Washington, DC. Working with public and private partners, the Foundation receives funding from a diverse group of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, foundations, corporations, and individuals.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

An award of up to \$5,000 will be made available to each of the selected Asia Foundation Development Fellows. This cash award will allow each Fellow the opportunity to design and shape individualized plans to further their leadership skills and relevant professional experience in areas of particular importance to their career growth and potential. Each Development Fellow will be asked to develop a personalized, year-long work plan that may involve such areas as enrollment in specialized training programs or short courses, language study, travel to attend key regional forums or workshops, or engagement in a series of other enrichment activities to further their leadership and professional capabilities.

MENTORING

Building on the strength and local capacity of The Asia Foundation, the Asia Foundation Development Fellows program offers a mentoring component that is tailored around the particular background and professional interests of the Development Fellows. The Foundation has valuable perspectives to lend to the field of leadership development, with a proven program history and record of commitment throughout Asia. Fellows will also become part of an active and engaged alumni network.

TO APPLY FOR OR LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ASIA FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT FELLOWS PROGRAM, VISIT:

[ASIAFOUNDATION.ORG/DEVELOPMENTFELLOWS](http://asiafoundation.org/developmentfellows)



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