UPDATES from Washington, DC





August 2016

In this issue: Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation, Development and Aid Effectiveness, Vietnam, Mongolia, Nepal, Indonesia, Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Violence Monitoring Systems

Upcoming Events

September 14 – The Asia Foundation will launch a book on "India's Approach to Development Cooperation" featuring Anthea Mulakala, Director for International Development Cooperation at The Asia Foundation, and a group of Asian experts. This is part of the Asia Foundation's program "Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation" (AADC), which brings together traditional and emerging Asian donors to share perspectives about the changing dynamics of international development cooperation. Learn more about the Foundation's programs in Development and Aid Effectiveness here.



Save the Date

Late September – Michael DiGregorio, the Asia Foundation's Vietnam country representative, will provide an update on current developments in Vietnam.

Late September –The Asia Foundation's country representative in Mongolia, Meloney Lindberg, will provide insights into the recent parliamentary elections in Mongolia and other political and economic developments in the country.

For more information, please contact the TAF office in Washington at 202-588-9420.

Recent Events

July 11 – Preeti Thapa, a senior program officer in the Asia Foundation's Nepal office, discussed the evolution of community mediation from interpersonal to multi-stakeholder mediation in Nepal, with a special emphasis on gender and restorative justice. Read more about the Asia Foundation's programs in Nepal here.

July 14 - Sandra Hamid, the Asia Foundation's country representative to Indonesia, provided an update on the current developments and politics, including social inclusion, tolerance and religious freedom, in Indonesia. Read more about the Asia Foundation's programs in Indonesia here.

In the News

Nine Reactions to Duterte's First State of the Nation Address

On July 25, Philippine President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivered his first State of the Nation Address (SONA). In this special post, nine Asia Foundation staff in the Philippines share their reactions to his speech. Discover their observations on the president's speech here.

Notes from the Field

Timor-Leste's National Police Prioritize Crime Prevention through Community Policing for 2017 Elections

Timor-Leste, nestled between Indonesia and Australia, is preparing for presidential and parliamentary elections in 2017, the fourth round of elections since the brutal withdrawal by Indonesian occupation forces in 1999. Today, Timor-Leste is widely considered a stable and peaceful country. But most who know the country well admit that this can change rapidly if the focus on consensus and reconciliation shifts even slightly. Read more from Sarah Dewhurst, Program Manager in The Asia Foundation's Timor-Leste office, here.



As Timor-Leste heads into 2017 elections, efforts to prevent crime through community policing are increasingly critical. Above, a suco police officer speaks with a community member. Photo/Bernadino Soares

Publication of Interest

Violent Incidents Monitoring Systems: A Methods Toolkit

Violent Incidents Monitoring Systems: A Methods Toolkit provides practical guidance to practitioners interested in establishing a violence monitoring system. It also seeks to encourage methodological standardization across systems to make cross-country comparison easier. The guidance provided in this paper draws on the experience and lessons from three existing Southeast Asian violence monitoring systems: Thailand's Deep South Incident Database implemented by Deep South Watch, the Philippines' Bangsamoro Conflict Monitoring System, and Indonesia's National Violence Monitoring System. Read the report here.



The Asia Foundation improves lives, expands opportunities, and helps societies flourish across a dynamic and developing Asia. We work with innovative leaders and communities to build effective institutions and advance pathbreaking reforms. Together with our partners, we are committed to Asia's continued development as a peaceful, just, and thriving region of the world.