

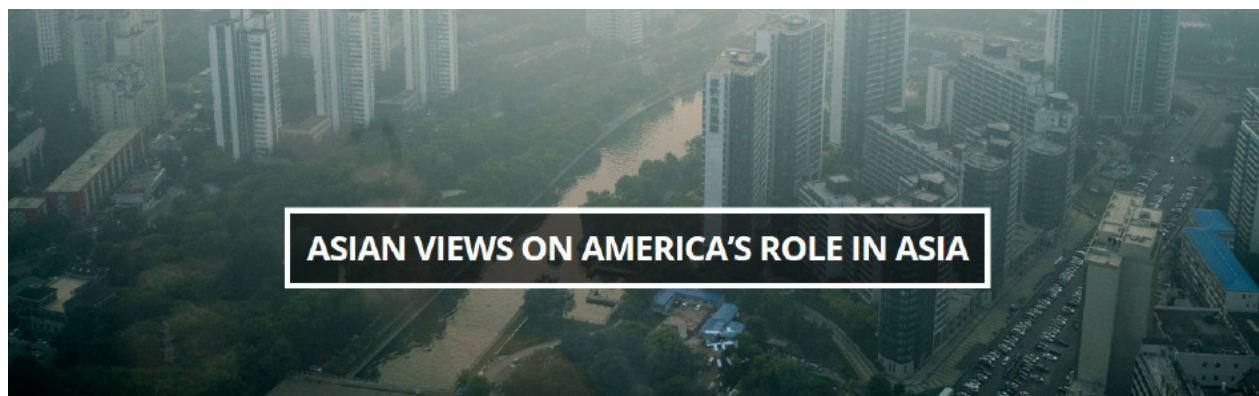


November 2016

In this issue: Vietnam, Women's Empowerment Program, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, America's Role in Asia, Survey of the Afghan People, China, and Indonesia.

Upcoming Events

November 15 – The Asia Foundation will host a panel event to issue Asian Views on America's Role in Asia, a report on U.S. foreign policy concerns most important to the three sub-regions of South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Northeast Asia. Three prominent Asian experts will discuss the report's strategic insights and policy recommendations from established experts and emerging leaders across the dynamic Asia region. Please click here for more information on our international cooperation programs.



December 7 - The Asia Foundation will release findings from Afghanistan in 2016: A Survey of the Afghan People - the broadest, most comprehensive public opinion poll in the country, covering all 34 provinces, with candid data gleaned from face-to-face interviews with more than 12,600 Afghan citizens. This marks the twelfth in the Foundation's series of surveys in Afghanistan; taken together they provide a barometer of Afghan public opinion over time.

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

Recent Events

September 27 – Michael DiGregorio, the Asia Foundation's Vietnam Country Representative, provided an update on the current political and economic situation in Vietnam, including developments after President Obama's recent trip.

September 27 – The Asia Foundation and The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) co-hosted a trilateral forum on women's economic empowerment, with speakers representing the United States, Japan and

Korea. Learn more about the Foundation's Women's Empowerment Program [here](#), and click [here](#) for information on our country programs in Korea and [here](#) for our country programs in Japan.

September 28 – The Asia Foundation's Country Representative in Mongolia, Meloney Lindberg, provided insights into the recent parliamentary elections in Mongolia and other political and economic developments in the country.

October 6 – Nazrul Islam, Program Director for Islam and Development in the Asia Foundation's Bangladesh office, and Tim Meisburger, The Foundation's Director for Elections and Political Processes discussed the survey, Bangladesh's Democracy: According to its People, which captures the diverse range of attitudes towards democracy and its necessary institutions in Bangladesh. For more on our elections work, click [here](#).

October 18 – Matthew Arnold, The Asia Foundation's Deputy Country Representative in Myanmar, discussed the country's evolving governance environment and the roles of security-related actors in the emerging state structure, including new studies on Militias in Myanmar and Municipal Governance. Please click [here](#) for the video of the event and [here](#) for more information on our country programs in Myanmar.

November 2 – The Asia Foundation's Country Representative in Thailand, Kim McQuay, provided an update on the future of Thailand and Thai politics with the recent passing of King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Please click [here](#) for more information on our Thailand program.



Notes from the Field

Supporting Beyond Borders: China's NGOs Respond to World's Natural Disasters

Last week, over 30 representatives from leading Chinese foundations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) gathered in Beijing for an intensive workshop delivered by experts from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) on the international humanitarian system. The session was aimed at crafting a better understanding among Chinese NGOs of how international disaster assistance is assessed, prepared, and delivered, and the need to constantly refine the model with each experience to bring assistance as close as possible to affected communities. Read more from Ji Hongbo, The Asia Foundation's Country Representative in China, [here](#).

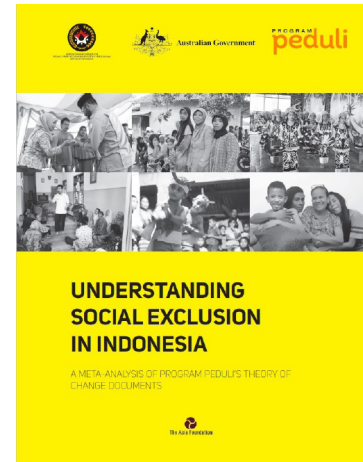


Members of a Chinese disaster relief team work near Jeremie, Haiti. Photo/Li Zilong, Director of Response Operation Department, PHR

Publication of Interest

Understanding Social Exclusion in Indonesia

This study analyses the reports that resulted from 68 Theory of Change workshops held with NGO and CSO partners as part of the Peduli program. This program addresses the social exclusion of six disadvantaged groups in Indonesia: vulnerable children and youth, remote indigenous communities reliant on natural resources, discriminated religious minorities, victims of gross human rights violations, waria (transgender women), and people with disabilities. The objective of the study was to identify the most common types of social exclusion reported by the partners, the most significant actors involved in both exclusion and inclusion, and the types of social change that were envisioned as being most important in facilitating inclusion. [Read the full 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.