



The Asia Foundation



UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON DC

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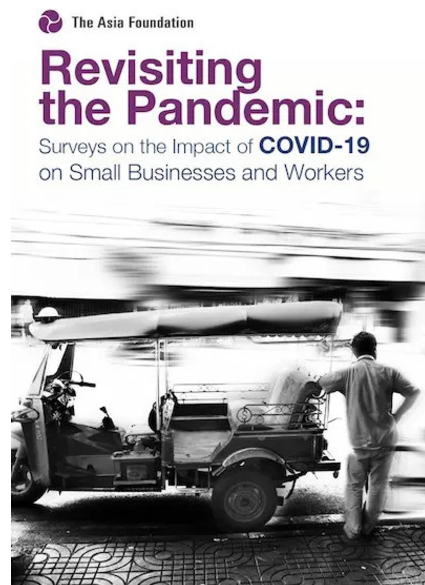
EVENTS

Upcoming Virtual Event – [Nothing is Impossible: America's Reconciliation with Vietnam](#)

JULY 15, 2021 - Join the Foundation for a discussion with Ambassador Ted Osius on his new book, *Nothing is Impossible: America's Reconciliation with Vietnam*. After a lengthy war that cost nearly 60,000 American and more than three million Vietnamese lives, Vietnam today is one of America's strongest international partners. But what kind of diplomacy was involved in helping to thaw tensions and overcome traumas for both countries over the past quarter century? Ambassador Ted Osius is a Trustee of the Foundation.

Recent Virtual Event – [Revisiting the Pandemic: Surveys on the Impact of Covid-19 on Small Businesses and Workers](#)

JULY 8, 2021 - While Southeast Asia has managed to contain the spread of Covid-19 better than most regions, the economic impact has been devastating; Thailand is among the worst affected. This event featured a discussion of findings from *Revisiting the Pandemic: Surveys on the Impact of Covid-19 on Small Businesses and Workers*. This study identifies the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and workers that are the most affected by the Covid-19 crisis to inform critical policy decisions on how to keep the country's path to recovery on a stable trajectory. Click here for more on our [Thailand](#) program.



Recent Virtual Event – [Addressing the Covid-Related Challenges Facing the Pacific Islands](#)

JUNE 30, 2021 - The social and economic implications of the pandemic have been catastrophic for the fragile economies of Pacific Islands. The pandemic has laid bare the precarious nature of past advances in women's labor force participation and the region's pronounced vulnerability to climate disasters and misinformation. The Foundation convened experts for a discussion that highlighted opportunities to shift thinking, systems, and structures through proactive policies and reforms that support a transition toward greener, more resilient economies, a more inclusive labor force, and reliable and transparent information flows. Learn more about our work in the [Pacific Islands](#).



Recent Virtual Event – [Flying Blind: Vietnam's Decision to Join ASEAN](#)

JUNE 23, 2021 - This event featured a discussion with Ambassador (Dr.) Nguyen Vu Tung on his book *Flying Blind: Vietnam's Decision to Join ASEAN*. Based on non-public official documents, rare personal interviews, and analytical research, Ambassador Nguyen provides valuable insight into Vietnam's decision-making, and the journey to better Vietnam-ASEAN relations, and subsequently, Vietnam's membership in ASEAN. Ambassador Nguyen is the current Ambassador to South Korea. Click here to watch the [event recording](#) and learn more about our work to [Promote International Cooperation](#).

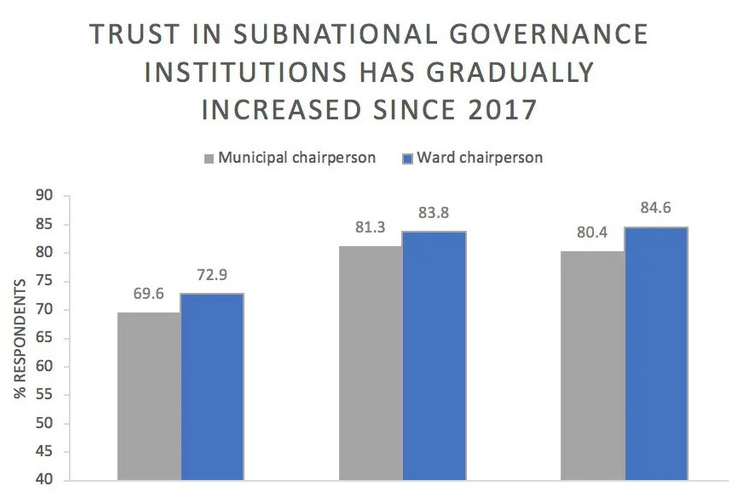
Recent Virtual Event – [Advancing Peace on the Barren Soil of Strife](#)

JUNE 15, 2021 - Amid disinformation, increasing polarization, and modern development that further exposes societal strains and inequalities, local organizations and individuals have generated innovative ways to support dialogue between warring factions and enable communities to solve differences before violence breaks out. This event featured Foundation experts from [Nepal](#), the [Philippines](#), and the [Conflict and Fragility Program](#) for a timely discussion on the bold and groundbreaking actions of peacebuilders across Asia. Click [here](#) to view a recording of the event.

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

InAsia Podcast: [Survey of the Nepali People – A Barometer for Federalism?](#)

In 2017, The Asia Foundation launched *A Survey of the Nepali People* (SNP) to capture the nation's experiences, perceptions, and aspirations related to critical issues including governance and political participation, livelihoods and economic health, personal identity and social relations, security and dispute resolution, and the overall outlook for the [country](#). This episode of InAsia reviews the 2020 survey as part of three years of longitudinal data. Findings suggest that federalism is gaining traction and point to a guarded optimism among the Nepali people as they adapt to this period of dramatic change.



[Malaysia: Eyeing Post-Covid Recovery, Malaysia's Small Businesses Go Digital](#)

The anniversary of [Go Digital ASEAN](#), a regional Foundation initiative supported by Google.org. The program provides training in basic digital skills to those most vulnerable to the economic shocks of the pandemic: workers and small entrepreneurs, particularly women and young people.

PUBLICATIONS

[Accelerating Women's Advancement in STEM: Emerging Lessons on Network Strategies and Approaches](#)

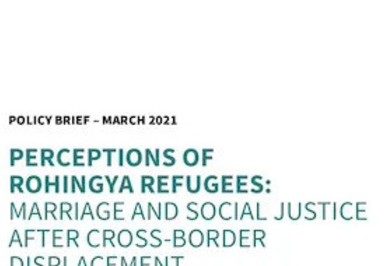
Networks, both formal and informal, play a pivotal role in helping girls and women enter and succeed in STEM fields. This Foundation report showcases the diversity of networks working to advance women's participation and leadership in STEM in Southeast and East Asia, examines the successful—and often innovative—strategies these networks are using to achieve their missions, and highlights emerging lessons for developing, funding, and strengthening these networks. Learn more about our [Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality](#) and [Technology and Development](#) programs.



[Bangladesh: Perceptions and Views of Rohingya Refugees: Marriage, Social Justice, Displacement, and Experiences with Humanitarian Agencies in Cox's Bazar](#)

These policy briefs are part of the [X-Border Local Research Network program](#), which seeks to better understand the causes and impacts of conflict in border areas to support more effective policy making and development programming.

The [first](#) brief conveys findings on refugees' perspectives on the intersection of [marriage and social justice in a context of displacement](#) in refugee camps. The second examines [views on community engagement and consultation approaches by the humanitarian agencies](#) delivering services and aid in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Click here for more on our [Conflict and Fragility program](#).



The Asia Foundation

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. Informed by six decades of experience and deep local expertise, our work across the region addresses five overarching goals—strengthen governance, empower women, expand economic opportunity, increase environmental resilience, and promote regional cooperation.

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