



SALZBURG
GLOBAL
SEMINAR

THE ASIA WE WANT: BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION 1

A Clean and Green Asia

SESSION BROCHURE

Session 591

DATE

November 6 to 9, 2017

LOCATION

Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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SESSION INFO

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SERIES OVERVIEW

Asia is the world's most vibrant, populous, fast-urbanizing and rapidly changing continent. More than any other region, its development pathway will be the single largest factor influencing global prospects for growth and stability.

Upcoming Asian leaders have the potential to guide sustainable and equitable development for billions of their citizens and to shape the future of global cooperation and planetary health in the 21st century. However, they also face complex challenges to human, economic, and political security that could weaken their ability to fulfill this exceptional promise. A new generation of connected and informed leaders will therefore be critical to advance regional cohesion and cultivate a stronger sense of collaborative responsibility for peaceful global progress.

The Asia We Want: Building Community Through Regional Cooperation is a leadership development program of Salzburg Global Seminar that seeks to build a dynamic, gender-balanced cohort of 150 rising Asian leaders over the next four years (2017-2020). Rooted in their communities and committed to sharing their talent, knowledge, and experience, participating leaders will forge breakthrough collaborations and develop innovative projects and initiatives that advance Asia's regional cooperation and global engagement in the 21st century.

The multi-year series on *The Asia We Want: Building Community Through Regional Cooperation* program was jointly designed by an invited group of Asian experts at a strategy meeting in October 2016, supported by the Japan Foundation. They prioritized three critical topics for Asia, which will provisionally be addressed in the following sequence:

- *Clean and Green Asia (2017)*
- *Asia: Open for Talent (2018)*
- *Conflict-Free Asia (2019)*

It is envisaged that these mutually-reinforcing topics will lead to a synthesis program convened in Asia in 2020. This would bring together the network, learning, and exchange catalyzed during the series' first three years.



LONG-TERM ENGAGEMENT IN ASIA

Salzburg Global Seminar has for decades convened strategic programs focusing specifically on Asian regional challenges and emerging trends.

For many years, these included two annual events:

1) the Freeman Symposium, bringing together scholars from select US and East Asian universities to advance regional dialogue and cooperation; and

2) an annual Salzburg Global session connecting established and emerging Asian leaders from different disciplines with their counterparts from other parts of the world, exploring topics such as Asian political development, security, environment and energy, and other challenges facing the region.

Outstanding Asian change-makers and innovators regularly participate in sessions on global issues across Salzburg Global's program portfolio.



SERIES PARTNER



The Japan Foundation is an institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world. To cultivate friendship and ties between Japan and the world, the Japan Foundation creates global opportunities to foster friendship, trust, and mutual understanding through culture, language, and dialogue.

SERIES OBJECTIVES

The multi-year series *The Asia We Want: Building Community Through Regional Cooperation* has four concrete goals:

1. Develop a shared vision and commitment to Asian community development that is inspired and informed by cooperation at local to global levels to advance peace, prosperity, and sustainable and equitable development.
2. Build and sustain a highly-valued and reputable cohort of rising leaders across geographies and sectors, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and contacts to be effective change agents.
3. Provide a comprehensive analysis of collaboration opportunities in each thematic area and develop the participants' skills to identify and overcome systemic barriers that impede regional cooperation.
4. Generate practical cross-border projects and community initiatives for on-the-ground implementation, suited for replication and scaling up.



2017 SESSION

The first topic in the multi-year series will focus on *A Clean and Green Asia* envisioning an Asia that contributes to human and planetary health.

Environmental degradation and climate change are a defining global challenge for the 21st century. Millions of people in Asia are already suffering the consequences of climate-influenced extreme weather events, acute air pollution, water insecurity, and other threats. These, in combination with other factors, are flashpoints for future instability and conflicts. While many Asian countries recognize the need to accelerate transition to low-carbon and climate resilient economies, stronger leadership and new alliances at various levels are imperative to drive transformation and deliver integrated and equitable solutions. It is important to tackle the divergence of policies among countries and the lack of regional coordination, which often weakens the impact of environmental and climate change policies and actions.

The first cohort of participants will include rising leaders from ASEAN +3 and India who are rooted in their communities, committed to inclusive progress, and work in fields related to energy and climate, environmental protection and governance, urban planning, technology, culture or media. Participants will focus on practical ways to scale up community action and cross-border cooperation to advance climate and environmental progress in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The program will take a bottom-up approach to address the following questions:

- How can communities coordinate action for sustainable urban development and nature-based solutions to improve human health and wellbeing?
- How can rising leaders work together for a low-carbon future that makes affordable and clean energy available for all?
- What kinds of local partnerships between governments, cities, business, and community organizations can leverage innovation and build capacity for sustainable development?
- How can rising leaders make better use of regional frameworks for environmental and climate cooperation?
- How can new collaborations between countries be developed in Asia to strengthen governance and action on shared environmental challenges?



RELATED SESSIONS

Leadership for Regional Cooperation in Asia for the 21st Century

October 2016

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/560

Addressing the Challenges of Climate Migration: Legal Protections, Resilience and Eco-Security

December 2014

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/555

Mind the Gap! Innovating for Regional Cohesion and Smart Growth

May 2014

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/534

People, Peace and Planet in 2030: Shaping Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

November 2013

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/518

A Climate for Change: New Thinking on Governance for Sustainability

June 2013

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/515

China in the 21st Century: What Kind of World Power?

December 2012

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/501

Economic Growth and Social Protection in Asia: Lessons for the Region and the World

November 2011

↳ SalzburgGlobal.org/go/483



FELLOW TESTIMONIAL



SURIN PITSUWAN

Former Secretary-General of ASEAN, Thailand; Multi-time Salzburg Global Fellow; Co-facilitator *Leadership for Regional Cooperation in Asia for the 21st Century* (2016)

“Asian leadership needs to be transformative, trans-generational and transnational...

Our region has become more important to the global community than a mere decade or so ago... An economic derailment, a political tension or a military confrontation now would have grave implications to the rest of the global community beyond repair.

It will not be easy, but it is an unavoidable task for the younger generation of the East Asian region to seek for an alternative and a better future for themselves and their posterity.”

SESSION FORMAT

By examining case studies of community driven and regional cooperation from Asia and around the world, participants will identify opportunities to adapt strategies for their contexts and to build cross-border collaboration.

They will work together to develop pilot projects that will contribute to Sustainable Development Goals and bring benefits for the environment, resource efficiency, as well as inclusive and low carbon economic development.

The four-day meeting in Salzburg will include:

- Discussions to build rising leaders’ understanding and ability to influence climate change and sustainability decision-making;
- Collaborative exercises to expand communities with scales potential across sectors and countries; and
- Capacity- and skills-building workshops to strengthen competencies in advocacy, coalition building, entrepreneurial thinking, and other personal skills needed to be an effective agent of change.

Participants will engage on equal terms with senior resource specialists and renowned speakers from inside and outside Asia. They will be helped to better understand and develop their personal leadership role, identify strategic linkages and support systems, and set priorities for systems change. Participants will be able to develop joint projects for future implementation and benefit from ongoing networks and collaborations.

PARTICIPANT PROFILE



Participants are competitively selected for each annual meeting. Small country teams of three to five participants will be selected to attend. Eligible countries include ASEAN+3 and India.

Asia experts from other parts of the world will also be invited to provide comparative insights and ensure an inter-regional and global perspective. Each cohort will combine perspectives from the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The program will specifically focus on rising community leaders and change-makers who are working on specific initiatives and projects that could benefit from practicable demonstrations of regional cooperation.

Selection criteria:

- 25-45 years of age;
- Minimum 3-5 years of working experience in fields relevant to climate change, environment protection, sustainable economic development, urban planning, media, and/or new forms of governance;
- Demonstration of change making and influencing abilities and skills, either through positions of leadership or championing initiatives at the community level;
- Track record of prior or current collaboration with a variety of stakeholders;
- Commitment to influence the public discourse and action to contribute to Asia's sustainable future; and
- Availability of a supportive home environment, such as a local mentor and/or community institution.

Candidates are requested to provide a résumé and a personal statement of 1000 words maximum demonstrating his/her:

- Rationale for applying;
- Interest in creating social change and willingness to tackle at least one specific challenge;
- Leadership qualities and potential demonstrated through one project example led by the candidate and its outcome/impact; and
- Experience working with various stakeholders on projects and initiatives.

FELLOW TESTIMONIAL



TOSH MINOHARA

Professor, Kobe University, Japan; Salzburg Global Fellow, *People, Peace and Planet in 2030: Shaping Inclusive and Sustainable Growth* (2013)

"The most important outcome of the session was establishing lifelong networks based on mutual trust and friendship.

This will go a long way in strengthening state-to-state relations as well, as we all will surely play a vital role in the future of our respective countries."



ABOUT SALZBURG GLOBAL SEMINAR

Salzburg Global Seminar is an international non-profit organization founded in 1947 to challenge present and future leaders to solve issues of global concern. More than 30,000 people from nearly 170 countries have participated in our programs over seven decades.

Our vision is to shape a better world by forging breakthrough collaborations to bridge divides. Salzburg Global designs multi-year programs to accelerate human, urban and conflict transformation and help organizations and change-makers achieve results at scale. We convene outstanding people across generations and sectors, aiming to catalyze transformative impact and long-term engagement through alliances, networks and projects on the ground. Our work is sustained through strategic partnerships, earned income and philanthropic support.

Our secluded and inspiring home of Schloss Leopoldskron in Salzburg, Austria – built in 1736 by the Archbishop of Salzburg, restored by the Salzburg Festival’s co-founder Max Reinhardt, used by Hollywood for sets in *The Sound of Music*, and now an award-winning hotel – allows us to welcome all participants in conditions of trust, openness and creativity.

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