Background

The ASEF Classroom Network (#ASEFClassNet) connects high school students, teachers & school leaders, teacher trainers, researchers, policy makers and EdTech experts from the 51 ASEM Partner countries. The ASEF ClassNet provides opportunities for collaborative teaching & learning and focuses on Education for Sustainable Development and the potential of education technology in the secondary education sector. Activities of the network include, amongst others, conferences & capacity building programmes for school leaders & teachers, bi-regional school collaborations, research & studies for policy support as well as communication and outreach campaigns to advance knowledge and promote good practices within the secondary school sector. https://classnet.asef.org

ASEF ClassNet School Collaborations

As part of the ASEF ClassNet activities, ASEF ClassNet School Collaborations are peer-to-peer learning initiatives that engage school leaders & teachers across Asia & Europe to share and jointly work on innovative teaching & learning practices. Designed and implemented by Asian and European secondary, high and vocational school teachers, these collaborations are conducted either as an integral element of the daily school curriculum or as an extracurricular activity. They consist of both virtual and practical activities and have a duration between three to twelve months.

ASEFClassNet School Collaborations in 2021

This year, two School Collaborations are planned to promote Education for Sustainable Development & Global Citizenship as well as Digital Competences, with a particular focus on SDG 3 (Health & Well Being), SDG 4 (Gender Equality).

1) Wellbeing of Teachers & Students

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic caused severe disruptions in the education sector and heavily affected teachers, students and parents alike. Even in 2021, the lock down in some countries has been extended and schools across the globe have to continue with a home-based learning mode. Teachers still face challenges linked to the delivery of quality education, curriculum development, access to technology or the lack of social engagement of students. These challenges have far-reaching effects on the teaching & learning environment.

This school collaboration invites secondary and vocational teachers to jointly create a Handbook that collects Pedagogical Stories from Asia & Europe. The stories illustrate how teachers in different educational & cultural contexts approach their subjects in an online context, and gives insights into techniques and tools they use to ensure a holistic learning environment for their students.

2) Gender Equality and the SDGs

Ensuring gender equality is crucial to build peaceful, prosperous & sustainable societies. However, even in the 21st century, we face discriminatory laws & social norms that raise gender inequality issues and threaten sustainable development. It is important that schools equip young people with knowledge and awareness needed for fighting gender biased stereotypes at an early age.

This school collaboration welcomes secondary and vocational teachers to engage in Virtual Classroom Exchanges to discuss gender equality from diverse cultural perspectives. Contributions will be compiled in an Asia-Europe blog and published on ASEF’s social media channels.

Join us if you are looking for

- A peer-to-peer learning & support network to enrich pedagogical skills and to learn from colleagues about teaching practices amidst current uncertainties
- A platform that creates awareness and builds resilience & knowledge for a conducive teaching and learning environment
- Opportunities to enhance digital competences and to receive recommendations on how to improve & maximise the use of existing technology and resources
- Development of soft skills, mutual understanding and a mindset of Global Citizenships.
- Ways to include students in the process of brainstorming and the development of solutions to learn and demonstrate 21st century skills.
Methodology

Participants will have the opportunity to experience the following:

- Peer-to-Peer Collaboration
- Dialogues & Exchanges with Experts
- Workshops conducted by Peers for Peers
- Virtual Classroom Visits in Asian & European Schools
- Knowledge & Resource Sharing and Joint Creation of Publication/Blog
- Interdisciplinary Engagement of Teacher & Student in Activities to promote the SDGs
- Member and Access of the ASEF Classroom Network

Eligibility

Teachers from secondary and vocational schools in ASEM countries
Teachers can apply for one or both activities
1 School per ASEM country, up to 2 Teachers per school

No registration or participation fee

Language
Good command of English

Access to Technology & Software

- Internet access & computers with webcam
- Video chat platforms (Microsoft Teams, Zoom or Skype), Google Drive
- Dropbox
- Facebook
- Slack
- Graphic Design & Editing Tools

Duration & Time Engagement

June - October 2021
Ca. 5 hours per month
Specific dates/times of monthly activities or meetings will be confirmed by project coordinators with participants in due course
Light engagement during European School Holidays

Participation and Commitments

- Regular attendance and active participation in online group meetings & activities
- Resource creation and sharing to strengthen the peer-to-peer learning and support platform
- Completion of individual and team assignments related to the topics being covered in meetings
- Promotion of project activity and knowledge gained from the project in own teaching & learning community.

Visual Concept: The “Fortune Teller” has gone by a variety of names across cultures, for example cootie catcher, salt cellars or paku-paku. It used to be a popular paper game and was even played to get answers about the future. The player had 2 moves and 4 choices to come to one of 8 possible pictures or messages about the future. Times have changed. From human imagination and “Fortunes Tellers”, we have shifted to creative human minds and “Artificial Intelligence (AI)” to foresee the future. 2 moves, 4 choices and 8 scenarios have now become 1s, 0s and millions of possibilities. Which moves and choices do we make out of these millions to design our sustainable future - in the midst of an ongoing public health & education crisis as well as the transformation of education through technology?