

# Europe and ASEAN Partners in People-to-People Connectivity

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SHARE Programme Closing Event



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# What is Connectivity?

## 13<sup>th</sup> ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM)

“Strengthening Partnerships for Peace and Sustainable Development”

Myanmar, 2017

## EU-ASEAN joint ministerial statement on connectivity

Brussels, 2020

*‘We reaffirmed the definition of connectivity as agreed at the 13th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting and acknowledged the strong EU-ASEAN cooperation and the importance of strengthening synergies between the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 [...] and the EU Connectivity Strategy in the four pillars of energy, digital, transport and **people-to-people.**’*



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# Definition of Connectivity

## ASEMFMM13

- Connectivity is about bringing **countries, people and societies closer together**.
- It facilitates access and is a means to foster deeper **economic and people-to-people ties**.
- It encompasses the **hard** and **soft** aspects, including the **physical and institutional social-cultural** linkages that are the fundamental supportive means to
- enhance the **economic, political-security, and socio-cultural ties** between Asia and Europe which also contribute to the narrowing of the varying levels of development and capacities.

**Key principles:** level playing field, free and open trade, market principles, multi-dimensionality, inclusiveness, fairness, openness, transparency, financial viability, cost-effectiveness and mutual benefits. Contribution to the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.



# ASEM Connectivity Portal

HOW CAN WE MEASURE SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY?

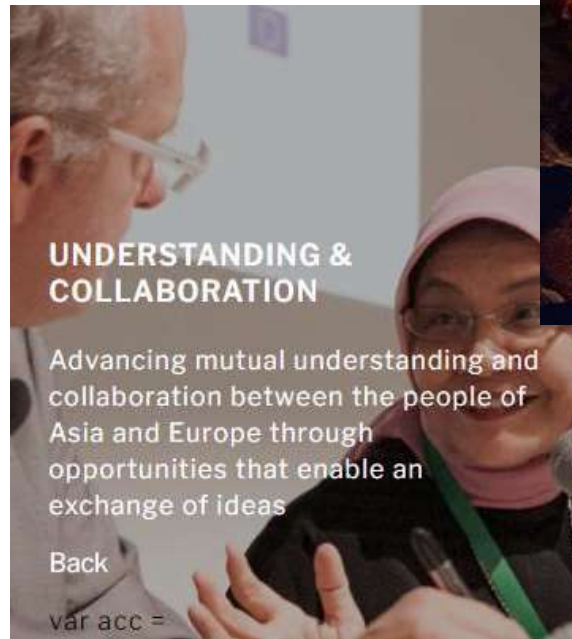
ASEM SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY



# People-to-People Connectivity and ASEF

ASEF runs more than **25 projects a year**, consisting of around **100 activities**, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications, and online platforms, together with about **150 partner organisations**.

Each year over **3,000 Asians and Europeans** participate in ASEF's activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks and web-portals.



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# Measuring People-to-People Connectivity

## Types and Indicators of P2P Connectivity

### 1. Mass Connectivity

- Tourist arrivals at national borders
- Trade in cultural goods and services
- Common language users
- Migrant stock

### 2. Knowledge Connectivity

- International student mobility in tertiary education
- Research outputs with international collaborations
- Patents with foreign co-inventor





# P2P Mass Connectivity

## Commercial Flights 2017

Source: <http://cooper-thomas.com/portfolio/the-human-footprint/>

Source: OpenFlights.com  
Cartography: Cooper Thomas

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# P2P Knowledge Connectivity – Science Cooperation

2005-2009



2010-2016



## Network of Scientific Cooperation

Source: Csizmadia, N. Geofusion 2.0 Towards a Long-term Sustainable Eurasian Growth. 2020.



# Overall – P2P Connectivity remains the most challenging

Region	Success areas	Challenges
Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Institutional connectivity</li><li> Political connectivity</li><li> Social sustainability</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Economic/financial connectivity</li><li> People-to-people connectivity</li></ul>
Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Environmental sustainability</li><li> Economic/financial sustainability</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> People-to-people connectivity</li><li> Economic/financial connectivity</li></ul>

Figure 48. Successful areas and challenges by geographical region

Becker, W.; Dominguez-Torreiro, M.; Neves, A.R.; Tacao Moura, C. J.; Saisana, M., Exploring ASEM Sustainable Connectivity – What brings Asia and Europe together?, 2019  
<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC112998>



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# Recommendations

1. Invest more in existing P2P Knowledge Connectivity structures between Europe and (Southeast) Asia, keep up the momentum of virtual exchanges #ASEM #EU-ASEAN #Indopacific
2. Create people-centered connectivity networks, driven by the interest of civil society #PeopleFirst

