



**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**
(МИНОБРНАУКИ РОССИИ)

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14.10.2021 № МН-12/2149

На № _____ от _____

О проекте «ASEF InnoLab-2»

Руководителям научных и
образовательных организаций,
подведомственных Минобрнауки
России

Департамент международного сотрудничества Минобрнауки России информирует о том, что Фонд «Азия-Европа» (АСЕФ) планирует организовать проведение онлайн-курса ASEF InnoLab-2.

Программа, рассчитанная на 6 недель (4 ноября – 9 декабря 2021 г.), посвящена комплексному анализу роли образовательных организаций высшего образования в национальных и региональных инновационных экосистемах по внедрению искусственного интеллекта (соответствующие материалы прилагаются). К участию приглашаются представители научно-академических кругов, занимающихся вопросами искусственного интеллекта.

Рабочий язык – английский. Регистрация участников – до 22 октября 2021 г. (https://bit.ly/ASEFInnovationLab2_OpenCall).

В случае участия просим направить краткий обзор и оценки итогов мероприятия в адрес Департамента международного сотрудничества Минобрнауки России, в том числе по электронной почте Довмальян Кристине Гарриевне (dovmalyankg@minobrnauki.gov.ru), в срок не позднее 17 декабря 2021 г.

Приложение: на 17 л. в 1 экз.

С уважением,

Заместитель директора Департамента
международного сотрудничества



Е.М. Горожанкина



ASEF HIGHER EDUCATION

UNIVERSITIES' ROLE IN ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE (AI) INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

OVERVIEW



Organised By



In Partnership with



APRU

OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND ON THE #ASEFInnoLab SERIES

In line with the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)'s mission, we create opportunities for higher education managers from Asia and Europe to meet, learn from each other, and build capacity to address common global challenges together. We believe managers of higher education are in a unique position to transform and modernise their higher education institutions by introducing tech-savvy, inclusive and sustainable policies. Therefore, we provide platforms where they can exchange good practices and co-create new ideas to move away from business as usual and develop something progressive.

What are the key objectives of the series?

The ASEF Innovation Laboratory series aims to



EXPAND KNOWLEDGE

Enhance understanding of data and artificial innovation ecosystems, and the universities' role in advancing them.



STIMULATE INNOVATIVE IDEAS

Through learning from experts and peers, enable higher education managers to think about innovative and actionable ideas on how to improve innovation strategies and practices in their institutions.



BUILD PEER SUPPORT NETWORKS

Create an Asia-Europe platform of practitioners to exchange good practices and promote collaboration in innovation for sustainable development in Asia and Europe.

KEY FACTS

WHEN & WHERE

6 weeks between 4 November
– 9 December 2021, Online

PARTICIPANTS

40 higher education managers, administrators and academics selected from 51 ASEM countries by an Open Call for Applications

METHODOLOGY

ASEFInnoLab is an experiential design laboratory where interactive sessions ensure peer learning and actionable outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ◆ Enhanced understanding of Data and AI Innovation ecosystems
- ◆ Increased insights and knowledge to advance innovation ecosystems at participants' universities
- ◆ Capacity to prepare an action plan to get ahead of change

FULLY FUNDED, NO PARTICIPATION FEES.

TOPIC OF THE UPCOMING #ASEFInnoLab

What will be discussed?

Strategies for university managers to enhance the role of their institutions in innovation ecosystems in Asia and Europe.

Tertiary education institutions are at the intersection of education, research and innovation. Their performance is crucial in contributing to well-performing economies and sustainable societies. With the impact of demographic changes, socio-economic developments and technological disruptions of the 4th Industrial Revolution on the labour market, tertiary education providers have to adapt quickly to new skills and technology transfer demands.¹

The world is increasingly reliant on Artificial Intelligence (AI) across all societal sectors, harnessing its potential in industry, economics, healthcare, information security, communication and education, amongst others. Growing investments in research and development of AI technologies confirm this trend: over the past 3 years, EU funding for AI research has increased by 70% compared to the previous period.² However, the digital- and AI-based portion of Europe's ICT sector accounts for around 1.7% of GDP only, a rather low share compared to leading tech nations like China (2.2 %) or the United States (3.3 %).³ Two-thirds of global investment in artificial intelligence is pouring into China, which helped the AI industry grow by 67% in 2018 alone.⁴

Higher education institutions (HEIs) are instrumental in the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems. They are in the perfect position to orchestrate the dialogue among stakeholders, engaging students, company managers & policy makers likewise, and co-create knowledge and driving strategic development.⁵ HEIs are the seedbed for AI ecosystems. In France and the UK, many AI start-ups originated at universities. In India and South Korea, large companies sponsor AI research projects and fellowships at universities and research institutions. In China, government spending on university scientific research has grown by double digits annually for the past decade, spurring AI progress.⁶

ASEFInnoLabs will explore university strategies in their national and regional ecosystems, how they create multi-stakeholder partnerships with businesses, policy makers and international partners to boost AI innovation ecosystems.

ASEFInnoLabs will engage participants in **further enhancing the innovation strategies and practices at their universities** in the following two areas:

- 1 | Teaching and Entrepreneurship for AI Innovation Ecosystems
- 2 | Research and Technology Transfer in AI Innovation Ecosystems

TARGET GROUP **Who should apply?**

This Innovation Laboratory is designed for university managers, administrators and academics who spearhead AI-related initiatives in their institutions.

We envision about 40 participants from among the 51 ASEM countries to join the ASEF Higher Education Innovation Laboratory, **who meet the following criteria:**

- ◆ Managers, administrators or academics in tertiary higher education institutions in charge of initiatives related to the ASEFInnoLab topics
- ◆ Citizens of any of the 51 ASEM partner countries
- ◆ Excellent command of English (written and verbal)

Selected participants will have to commit to participate at the Pioneer Sessions (2 hours) each week and participate at as many Action Sessions (1 hour) as they deem necessary to develop an action plan, and submit an individual action plan at the end of the programme that will be published.

Participants will be selected by an Open Call for Application. The screening process will ensure a non-discriminative approach assuring a balanced geographic representation, gender balance and fair access to the opportunity for all. When assessing the applications, **ASEF is looking for applicants who meet the eligibility criteria, express strong motivation, and are committed to transforming the knowledge and skills gained during the laboratory into action.**

Participation does not require technical or coding abilities. The laboratory will focus on the managerial and organisational aspects of AI innovation ecosystems.

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS

What are the programme elements of the ASEFInnoLab?

It is a 6-week long intense virtual learning and networking project for ideas and action.





The Lab will be organised entirely virtual, with the use of online collaboration tools and platforms. It is a **6-week long engagement with approximately 3 hours commitment per week**. This phase is dedicated to expanding knowledge, exchange good practices, and build networks among participants. This phase will include:

- ◆ **Pioneer Sessions - Facilitated interactive sessions:** led by experts, featuring speakers from leading universities and companies in the field of innovation and AI on the subthemes of ASEFInnoLab. Participants will attend these 2-hours long

exchange sessions every week.

- ◆ **Action Sessions - Small group discussions with mentors and peers** - led by practitioners in the field and will be available for small group discussions to discuss the action plans, challenges, collaboration opportunities. These sessions are dedicated to help participants developing their individual action plans.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW	
PIONEER SESSIONS	ACTION SESSIONS
Facilitated interactive group sessions with guest speakers and lots of exchanges, 2hrs each week	Small group sessions focusing on action plan development with mentors, 1hr each week
Week 1 Getting to Know Each Other & Explore Challenges	 Small group sessions with peers and mentors for exchange
Week 2 Value Propositions and Target Groups - Beneficiaries On Campus and Off Campus	 Discussing the Action Plan Content and BMC segments
Week 3 Activities and Resources – Teaching and Research Contributing to AI Innovation Ecosystems	 Peer discussions and exchanges of experience in small groups
Week 4 Stakeholder Groups – Working with Private & Public Sector to Improve AI Powered Activities	 Continuous Review of Action Plans with Mentors and Peers
Week 5 Outcomes and Impact – Critical View of Measuring Outcomes in AI Teaching and Research	
Week 6 Wrap up and Presenting Action Plans of Participants	

OUTCOMES FOR PARTICIPANTS

What do participants get out of the ASEF Innovation Laboratory?

In short: knowledge, ideas and networks to kick-start their own project at home.

Participants will complete the programme with a key combination of knowledge, practical solutions and new networks which can advance their work in driving innovation. Participants will walk away with:

- ◆ **Enhanced understanding of AI innovation ecosystem**
The lab will help participants to understand the role of higher education in leveraging AI in higher education; expand knowledge on different strategies related to the traditional missions of universities (education, research, partnership) and learn about good practices in ASEM countries.
- ◆ **Personal network in Asia and Europe**
The Lab will provide diverse opportunities for interaction and cooperation for 25 participants from different countries across Asia and Europe. Therefore, we fully expect new bi-lateral and multi-lateral partnerships to emerge.
- ◆ **Tailored action plan to get ahead of change**
Participants will develop their own action plans, which they can implement in their home institution to unlock the full potential of their organisations and to contribute to national and regional ecosystems.

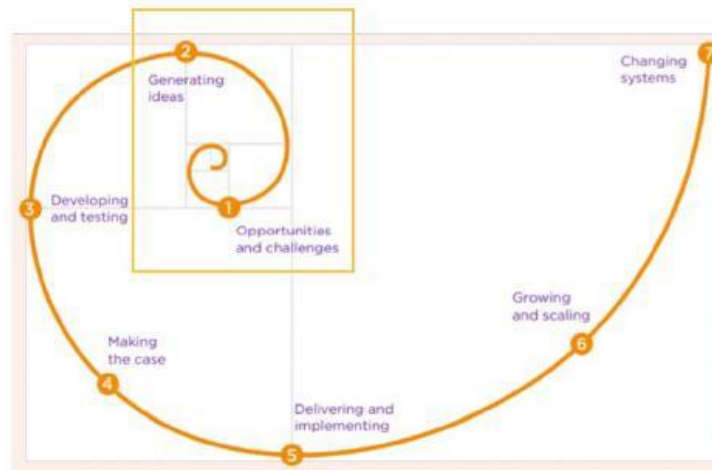
IMPACT

In the long term, the impact of ASEFInnoLab is expected to realise on four levels.

- ◆ Individual level: Inspire **ASEM higher education managers** to take action and improve institutional strategies and practices in innovation
- ◆ University level: Strengthen **ASEM universities'** role in innovation ecosystems
- ◆ Policy level: Inform the **ASEM education policy makers** on ASEM universities' roles and strategies in innovation ecosystems
- ◆ International level: Create an **Asia-Europe peer network** to support exchange on innovation and find opportunities for collaboration



The ASEFInnoLab is supporting participants in taking the first two steps on an innovation spiral. It is our intention to initiate the process and participants will then pursue the road to impact independently. We hope that the peer support community will help them in following through this process.



Source: Innovation Teams and Labs, A Practice Guide, Nesta.
https://media.nesta.org.uk/documents/innovation_teams_and_labs_a_practice_guide.pdf

ORGANISED BY Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). ASEF promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, sustainable development, economy, public health and media.

For more information, please visit www.ASEF.org.

Fudan University

Fudan University is a major public research university in Shanghai, People's Republic of China. Founded in 1905, today it is widely considered as one of the most prestigious and selective universities in the country. The QS University Rankings 2021 ranked Fudan as the 7th most reputable university in Asia, while it is classified as a Double First Class University by the Ministry of Education in China. Fudan also actively incubates high-tech industries and encourages them to convert knowledge to power. In return, the multi-pattern development of the high-tech industries helps the University to industrialize the research outcomes.

For more information, please visit <https://www.fudan.edu.cn/en>

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

As a network of leading universities linking the Americas, Asia and Australasia, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is the Voice of Knowledge and Innovation for the Asia-Pacific region. We bring together thought leaders, researchers, and policy makers to exchange ideas and collaborate on effective solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.

For more information, please visit <https://apru.org>

CONTRIBUTING TO Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. Presently it comprises 53 partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM addresses political, economic, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership. In Berlin (Germany) in 2008, ASEM Ministers of Education met for the first time and since then have been meeting regularly (every second year) to develop the [ASEM Education Process \(AEP\)](#) and to create an ASEM Education Area.

For more information, please visit [ASEM Info Board](#).

ENDNOTES

¹ World Economic Forum. The Future of Jobs, Employment, Skills and Workforce Strategy for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Accessed on 17/04/2018. http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_FDJ_Executive_Summary_Jobs.pdf

² Excellence and Trust in Artificial Intelligence. ISBN 978-92-76-15957-5 February 2020. European Union. Accessed on 26/02/2020: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_20_282

³ Tackling Europe's Gap in Digital and AI. McKinsey Global Institute. February 2019. Accessed on 26/02/2020: <https://www.mckinsey.com/~/media/mckinsey/featured%20insights/artificial%20intelligence/tackling%20europes%20gap%20in%20digital%20and%20ai/mgi-tackling-europes-gap-in-digital-and-ai-feb-2019-vf.ashx>

⁴ Meet China's 5 biggest AI companies. World Economic Forum. 20 September 2018. Accessed on 26/02/2020: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/09/the-top-5-chinese-ai-companies/>

⁵ Dr Sybille Reichert. The Role of Universities in Regional Innovation Ecosystems. EUA 2019. Accessed on 22/04/2020. https://www.eua.eu/downloads/publications/eua%20innovation%20ecosystem%20report_final_digital.pdf

⁶ Embracing Artificial Intelligence: Enabling Strong and Inclusive AI Driven Economic Growth. Accenture. 2017. Accessed on 22/04/2020. <https://www.accenture.com/acnmedia/accenture/next-gen-5/event-g20-yea-summit/pdfs/accenture-intelligent-economy.pdf>

02 **innoLab**

ASEF HIGHER EDUCATION

UNIVERSITIES' ROLE IN ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE (AI) INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

DRAFT PROGRAMME







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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

PIONEER SESSIONS	ACTION SESSIONS
Facilitated interactive group sessions with guest speakers and lots of exchanges, 2hrs each week	Small group sessions focusing on action plan development with mentors, 1hr each week
Week 1 Getting to Know Each Other & Explore Challenges	 Small group sessions with peers and mentors for exchange
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Week 6 Wrap up and Presenting Action Plans of Participants	 Continuous Review of Action Plans with Mentors and Peers

DETAILED PROGRAMME

Week 1 | Getting to Know Each Other & Explore Challenges

Thursday, 4 November 2021 | Pioneer Session led by Facilitators

8:00-10.00
UCT

Welcome and Introductions

- ◆ Ms Leonie NAGARAJAN, Director, Education Department, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
- ◆ Prof Shen YI, Director of International Institution of Global Cyberspace Governance, Director of Center for BRICS Studies, Fudan University, China
- ◆ Dr Christopher TREMEWAN, Secretary-General, Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

Getting to Know Each Other and Challenges

2.5-minute pitches of participants with reflection after each group of 5 presenters

- ◆ Introduction including participants profile, position, responsibilities, an achievement that she is most proud of, and a challenge that she is facing within her institution.

Introduction to the Programme by Expert Facilitator

Explaining the framework of the programme and the action plan

Friday, 5 November 2021 | Action Session led by mentors60 mins
Timing TBD**Small-Group Session led by Mentors**

These sessions are dedicated to discussing the content and ideas emerging from the Pioneer Session in a small group, in a safe and inclusive environment. Each Action Session will consist of a max of 10 participants. Attendance in this Small Group Session is optional. However, participants are encouraged to make the best use of these sessions.

Week 2 | Value Proposition and Target Group – Beneficiaries On Campus and Off Campus in AI Innovation Ecosystems

Thursday, 11 November 2021 | Pioneer Session led by facilitators08:00- 10:00
UCT**Round table discussion with guest speakers from Asia and Europe, sharing their value proposition and their target groups:**

- ◆ Dr Joana RESENDE, Pro-Rector - Strategic Planning, Entrepreneurship and Knowledge Transfer, CEO of UPTEC – Science and Technology Park of University of Porto, Portugal
- ◆ Dr Alex LIN, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Nanyang Technological University, NTUitive Pte Ltd., Singapore
- ◆ Prof Wei ZHONGYU, Professor of School of Big Data, Fudan University

Facilitator led Group Discussion

Breakout room discussions along the following lead questions: *What value would you like to create? What value does your action plan deliver to stakeholders and target group? What needs will your action plan meet? Why is it a good idea? Whom are your actions targeting? How can you best describe the direct beneficiaries of your action?*

Friday, 12 November 2021 | Action Session led by mentors60 mins
Timing TBD**Small-Group Session led by Mentors**

These sessions are dedicated to discussing the content and ideas emerging from the Pioneer Session in a small group, in a safe and inclusive environment. Each Action Session will consist of a max of 10 participants. Attendance in this Small Group Session is optional. However, participants are encouraged to make the best use of these sessions.

Week 3 | Activities - Teaching and Research Activities Contributing to AI Innovation Ecosystems

Thursday, 18 November 2021 | Live Online Pioneer Session08:00 –
10:00 GMT**Guest speakers from Asia and Europe, sharing their strategy on actions in teaching and research**

- ◆ Dr Aleksandra PRZEGALIŃSKA-SKIERKOWSKA, Vice-Rector Responsible for International Cooperation and ESR, Kozminski University, Poland

- ◆ Mr ZHU Shiqiang, President, Zhejiang Lab; Vice-President of Zhejiang University, China

Facilitator led Group Discussion

Breakout room discussions with the following lead questions: *What key activities are required to fulfil the value proposition? What activities are needed to create collaborations and relationships with stakeholders/target groups? What foundation is already available within the organisation for an activity? What are the boundaries you must operate within (time, policy, culture, structures)?*

Friday, 19 November 2021 | Action Session led by mentors

60 mins
Timing TBD

Small-Group Session led by Mentors

These sessions are dedicated to discussing the content and ideas emerging from the Pioneer Session in a small group, in a safe and inclusive environment. Each Action Session will consist of a max of 10 participants. Attendance in this Small Group Session is optional. However, participants are encouraged to make the best use of these sessions.

Week 4 | Stakeholder Groups – Working with Public and Private Stakeholders

Thursday, 25 November 2021 | Live Online Pioneer Session

08:00 –
10:00 GMT

Panel discussion with guest speakers from Asia and Europe representing different types of stakeholders:

- ◆ Policy perspective: UNESCO International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI)
- ◆ Industry perspective: Mr Arno Meerman, CEO & Founder, University Industry Innovation Network, The Netherlands
- ◆ University perspective: Dr Rajiv Vaid BASAIWMOIT, Head of Sci-tech Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Aarhus University, Denmark
- ◆ Student perspective: TBD

Facilitator led Group Discussion

Breakout room discussions along the following lead questions: *Who needs to be consulted? Who will you need as a partner? From whom do you require validation or permission (formal or informal)? Which relationships have you already established? What actions are needed to engage new stakeholders? How are these relationships interlinked? How can you create a dynamic, ongoing exchange with stakeholders? What socio-economic or cultural factors need to be taken into consideration?*

Friday, 26 November 2021 | Action Session led by mentors

60 mins
Timing TBD

Small-Group Session led by Mentors

These sessions are dedicated to discussing the content and ideas emerging from the Pioneer Session in a small group, in a safe and inclusive environment. Each Action Session will consist of a max of 10 participants. Attendance in this Small Group Session is optional. However, participants are encouraged to make the best use of these sessions.

Week 5 | Outcomes and Impact – Critical View of Measuring Outcomes in AI Teaching & Research

Thursday, 2 December 2021 | Live Online Pioneer Session

08:00 – 10:00 GMT **Guest speakers from Asia and Europe, sharing their ways of going about outcome and impact measurement in teaching and research:**

- ◆ Prof Pascale FUNG, Director, Center for AI Research (CAiRE), Hong Kong University of Science & Technology (HKUST)
- ◆ Dr Mislav BALKOVIC, Dean, Algebra University College, Croatia

Presentations will be followed by Facilitator-led breakout rooms. Participants will reflect upon the practices employed by their own university and assess their effectiveness against the good practices presented. Participants will include bespoke methods into their BMC.

Friday, 3 December 2021 | Action Session led by mentors

60 mins
Timing TBD

Small-Group Session led by Mentors

These sessions are dedicated to discussing the content and ideas emerging from the Pioneer Session in a small group, in a safe and inclusive environment. Each Action Session will consist of a max of 10 participants. Attendance in this Small Group Session is optional. However, participants are encouraged to make the best use of these sessions.

Week 6 | Summary and Presenting Action Plan of Participants

Thursday, 9 December 2021 | Live Online Pioneer Session

08:00 – 10:00 GMT **Presentation of Action Plans, Reflections, Summary, Moving Forward.**

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02 **innoLab**

ASEF HIGHER EDUCATION

UNIVERSITIES' ROLE IN ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE (AI) INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

FREQUENTLY ASKED
QUESTIONS (FAQ)



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ESSENTIALS

When and where will ASEFInnoLab2 take place?	The 2nd ASEF Higher Education Innovation Laboratory will take place entirely online.
I'm interested, what now?	Glad to hear that you are ready to seize this opportunity! Submit your online application here.
When is the deadline to apply?	We accept applications until <u>Friday, 22 October 2021, 10.00 AM GMT</u> Keep an eye on the confirmation email upon your successful submission; if you do not receive it, it might have landed in your junk/spam folder.
When will the results be out?	We will announce the application outcome before Friday, 25 October 2021. You will receive an email with your result. Also, don't forget to like/follow our ASEFEdu Facebook page and Twitter account for all the latest updates.
Eligibility criteria	You have to meet all the following eligibility criteria for your application to be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Be a citizen of any of the 51 ASEM partner countries ◆ Strong command of English (written and verbal) ◆ Be a manager, administrator or academic in charge of AI initiatives <p>For any exceptions see the FAQ below.</p>
Eligibility: I am an ASEM country national working for a University that is not from ASEM. Am I eligible to apply?	This opportunity is primarily for university managers, administrators or academics working at universities in one of the 51 ASEM Partner Countries, therefore this group has priority. In case you are an ASEM national but working for a university outside the ASEM countries, you are eligible to apply, but your application will be considered on an exceptional basis.
Eligibility: I am a non-ASEM country national working for a university based in an ASEM country. Am I eligible to apply?	As long as you are working for a university based in one of the 51 ASEM Partner countries, you may apply.
Eligibility: I am interested in the topic but am currently not employed by a university. Am I still eligible to apply?	ASEFInnoLab is designed for managers, administrators and academics working at a university, to equip them with ideas on how to enhance the role of their institution in innovation ecosystems. In case you find that your work highly relates to this mission, even though you are not working at a university, you may apply, and your application will be considered on an exceptional basis.
Selection criteria	When assessing the applications, organisers will look for applicants who are in charge of initiatives related to the topics of the Lab (teaching, entrepreneurship and skills for AI innovation ecosystems; research and technology transfer in AI innovation ecosystems) and are committed to transforming the knowledge and skills gained during the laboratory into action. The Open Call and the screening process adopt a non-discriminative approach ensuring a balanced geographic representation, gender balance and fair access to all. In doing so, the

organisers do not discriminate against any applicant or participant on the basis of his or her race, national origin (ancestry), colour, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, religion (creed), marital status, or age.

Selection: I am not involved in any AI initiative currently, but have plans for the future. Can I apply?

Yes, please apply! We understand that innovation ecosystems have different stages of development in each country/region, especially when it comes to AI. We also know that different universities are at different stages in dealing with this topic. Therefore, it is not a disadvantage if your university has little or no experience in the topic, as long as you have fresh and innovative ideas. The ASEFInnoLab is designed to help you with taking the first steps to develop something new!

Selection: I do not know how to code or write AI applications. Is this a problem?

Not a problem. Participation does not require technical or coding abilities. The Lab will focus on the managerial and organizational aspects of data science and AI innovation ecosystems.

Does this programme have a minimum or maximum age for participation?

All the ASEF projects require a minimum age of 18 years old. This programme has no upper limit for age as long as you meet the criteria and have a suitable profile.

PROGRAMME

Do I need to prepare anything before the online programme begins?

You do not have to prepare for the programme. However, as the programme will be held online, it is necessary that participants have access to teleconferencing facilities (working laptop/desktop, webcam & microphone) with stable internet connectivity.

How will the programme schedule be like?

The Lab will be organised entirely virtually between 4 November - 9 December 2021.

- ◆ It is a 6-week engagement and requires participants to set aside approximately 3 hours every week to prepare for and participate in the sessions.
- ◆ Live sessions will be organised on Thursdays between 8.00-10.00AM GMT (morning in Europe, afternoon in Asia), allowing for real-time collaborative work with peers.
- ◆ The facilitated lab combines self-paced study elements such as readings, videos, case studies, with collaborative learning elements such as live online presentations, group exercises, tailored to the challenges that participants choose to work on.

Please refer to the Programme document on our [website](#).

Are there any commitments after the project?

After the 6-week long virtual learning and networking phase has been completed, we hope participants will continue with the initiation of their action plans. ASEF will facilitate further engagement among group members, to discuss the progress and challenges of their action plans, and to solve new innovation challenges.

Do I get a certificate at the end of the programme?

The programme ends with a joint certificate of completion by Fudan University and ASEF. The criteria for receiving the certificate is active engagement and presentation of an action plan at the 6th week.

ACCESSIBILITY

I have some additional needs. Can you help me with this?

We aim to make all our projects as accessible as possible and accommodate all needs of participants. We will therefore request all selected participants to provide us with their special requirements during the application and while registering for the programme.

To allow us to assess the applications smoothly, all applications need to be completed in English and submitted through the online form provided. However, if you have an access

Can I submit the application in any format other than the one provided? and we will try to accommodate your needs.

FEES

Is there a participation or registration fee? There are no participation or registration fees. This is a fully-funded project.

FURTHER QUERIES

Do you have more questions? Drop us an email at E: innolab@asef.org or get in touch with the team.