Focus areas of the ASEM Education Process

- Quality Assurance and Recognition
- Engaging Business and Industry in Education
- Balanced Mobility
- Lifelong Learning including TVET
Balanced Mobility

• Goal: achieve a similar number of outgoing and incoming students.
• Applicable both for short-term exchanges or full-degrees.
• Current situation: more Asian students in Europe than European students in Asia.
• Can lead to brain drain and other challenges.
• Sometimes related with political priorities.
Situation in Erasmus+
Obstacles to student and staff mobility

- Fear of the unknown
- Language and cultural barriers
- Bureaucracy (often related with Learning Agreements)
- Visa
- Credit transfer and grade conversion
- Accommodation
- Disabilities
Solutions needed

• Mutual recognition of learning outcomes and qualifications.
• Easier credit transfer (e.g. EU-ASEAN SHARE project).
• More quality assurance and less paperwork (digitalisation).
• Interregional exchange programmes.
• More data about student and staff mobility for more targetted policies.
• More scientific cooperation.
• Dialogue with other ministries (e.g. visa).
Student organisations can help eliminating obstacles and balancing mobility
The example of the Erasmus Student Network

40 countries
528 local organisations
1000 HEI
15000 volunteers
250000 students
“Students helping students”
ESN programmes and services

• Fear of the unknown: integration activities and mentoring.
• Language barriers: tandem and world cafés.
• Bureaucracy, credit transfer, grade conversion: development of digital tools with HEI.
• Visa, accommodation: research and advocacy to change the system.
• Disabilities, reintegration of homecoming students: research and development of tools.
• Work done also with traineeships and TVET mobility.
Services that can be used in Asia
Services that can be used in Asia
Services that can be used in Asia
Support on the ground
Need for Asian counterparts

• Student organisations are not yet present enough in Asia.
• ESN can work with Asian HEI to support the creation of student organisations.
• Existing organisations might need support and recognition.
• This step is essential to fulfill the ASEM goals and balance mobility.
• ASEF can be the interlocutor of this process.
Thank you!

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