

**Progress Report of  
the ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme**

**Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship  
March 2006**



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

## 1. Background

- ◆ 2000. 10 Korea, France and Singapore jointly proposed the ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme (ASEM-DUO) at ASEM 3 held in Seoul, Korea, and this initiative was endorsed by the summit.
  
- ◆ 2001. 4 Representatives of 16 ASEM countries participated in the Expert Group Meeting held in Seoul, to develop details of ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme.
  
- ◆ 2001. 9 A Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship was established in Seoul, Korea.
  
- ◆ 2001.12 DUO-Korea Fellowship Program 2001 selected 8 pairs of students and professors each.
  
- ◆ 2002. 5-9
  - DUO-Singapore Fellowship Programme 2002 selected 18 pairs of students
  - DUO-France 2002/3 Fellowship Programme selected 16 exchange projects.
  - DUO-Korea 2002 selected 19 pairs of students, 2 pairs of high school teachers and 14 pairs of professors.
  - Denmark announced to join the ASEM-DUO Fellowship as a contributing partner at the ASEM 4 held in Copenhagen, Denmark.
  
- ◆ 2003. 5-11
  - DUO-Singapore 2003/4 selected 27 pairs of students.
  - DUO-France 2003/4 selected 9 projects and DUO-Korea 16 pairs of professors and 33 pairs of students
  - DUO-Denmark announced 14 pairs of professors and 15 pairs of students
  - Twenty-seven representatives from 13 ASEM Member countries participated the 2nd ASEM-DUO Expert Meeting in Seoul, Korea.
  
- ◆ 2004. 6-7
  - DUO-Singapore 2004 selected 18 pairs of students and DUO-Denmark 12 pairs of students and 11 pairs of students
  - DUO-Korea 2004 selected 12 pairs of professors and 39 pairs of students and DUO-France 9 projects.
  
- ◆ 2004. 10 ASEM-DUO Programme was endorsed for extended period of 2006-2010 at ASEM V in Hanoi, Vietnam



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

- ◆ 2005. 5-7 -DUO-Singapore 2005 selected 18 pairs of students, DUO-Korea 2005 selected 12 pairs of professors and 45 pairs of students and DUO-France 6 projects.
- ◆ 2006. 1-3 -DUO-France and DUO-Singapore 2006 called for applications

## 2. Purpose of the ASEM-DUO

The ASEM-DUO aims at contributing to better enhance reciprocal academic exchanges between the students and the teachers of the European Union and Asian ASEM member countries. It is dedicated not only to increase the number of people-to-people exchanges between the two regions but also to encourage the development of bilateral exchange programs: through creating new programs or inducing people's active engagement to exchange programs which have already been established but in dormancy. The first plan was designed for 2001-2005. Thanks to efforts of contributing members and successful progress, the plan was endorsed for another extended period of 2006-2010 from ASEM V in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2004.

## 3. Structure and Principles

### 1) Structure of the ASEM-DUO

The ASEM-DUO Fellowship Program is basically an umbrella program, and actual fellowships are provided by individual program. At present, there are four such individual programs, and they are respectively called DUO-Denmark, DUO-France, DUO-Korea and DUO-Singapore, reflecting the contributing member countries. All these individual programs are governed by a set of Core Principles and the rest of the specific details of the programs are to be prescribed by the contributing members.

### 2) Core Principles

Core Principles, which govern all individual fellowship programs, consist of three principles. They are as follows:

- Only *pairs* of students or teachers between the two educational institutions, one in Asia and the other in Europe, are to be supported.
- The standardized duration of financial support - Financial support is given in terms of *units*, not in terms of months or years; for students, one unit



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

comprises of six months; for teachers, one unit is one month. From the Expert Meeting held in November 2003, the definition altered to *a semester of 4 months to 6 months*.

- In regards to the alteration agreed from the meeting, the standardized amount of financial support –12,000 euros for a pair of students for *1 unit* was adjusted to *8,000~12,000 euros* (total of 8,000 euros for two students for four months and 12,000 for six months), and *6,000* euros for a pair of teachers for *1 unit* (total of 6,000 euros for two teachers for one month). Each individual program may specify the maximum number of units for support.

#### **4. Progress of individual DUO Programs (in alphabetical order)**

Current individual DUO programs slightly differ in details, while fully observing the Core Principles. Current status and characteristics of each program are as follows:

##### **1) DUO-Denmark**

Under the auspices of the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DUO-Denmark was launched on April 1 2003. The announcement of the DUO-Denmark was made through the ASEM-DUO website, <http://www.asemduo.org>, and the information letters to ASEM-DUO contact points in ASEM member countries were sent out from the secretariat.

The objective of this fellowship is to promote the creation of the closest possible bilateral links between the higher educational institutions in Denmark and Asian countries, by financing the exchange of students and professors in pairs. Hence, DUO-Denmark does not support existing exchange projects but support new projects or projects with new developments. DUO-Denmark 2003 supported 14 projects from 4 Asian members, China, Korea, Singapore, and Thailand were selected to dispense 246,000 euros. Except for 3 cancelled projects due to internal reasons, 11 projects have been successfully completed.

DUO-Denmark 2004 programme selected 12 projects amounting to 184,000 EUROS to support 11 pairs of professors and 11 pairs of students in partnership with China, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, Malaysia, and Japan. Twenty professors and all students completed exchange. Two professors and 4 students are working on final reports back from exchange. One pair of professors was withdrawn from award.



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

Eligibility has been more elaborated for 2004 programme criteria. For exchanges between Denmark and China, the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam that are promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, only Danes are eligible from Denmark and nationals of the countries mentioned from the Asian side. For exchanges between Denmark and Brunei, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, and Singapore, professors and students from Danish universities are accepted as are professors and students from the ASEM countries.

After having assessed future of DUO-Denmark with assistance from an independent consulting group in early 2005 (please refer to its evaluation report on the “archive menu” at [www.asemduo.org](http://www.asemduo.org)), Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed its continuance to support DUO-Denmark with its current share of Asian partner countries. Meanwhile Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MSTI) decided to withdraw from the second stage. Further discussion is underway in terms of management of the programme without MSTI’s partnership.

## **2) DUO-France (subject to further information)**

DUO-France, financed by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aims at supporting cooperation projects (post graduate level only) between higher-education institutions located in France and in the Asian ASEM countries. Like DUO-Denmark, DUO-France does not support existing projects but encourages their development or helps in the creation of new projects. Selection of persons to be exchanged under the projects is left with the educational institution. Verification of fellows’ nationality has recently been added to reinforce the objective of exchange between French and Asian fellows.

In June 2002, the selection of projects was made for 16 exchange projects, which involved institutions in France, and 8 Asian member countries – Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, Singapore, China, Philippines, and Malaysia. A total of 48 students and 44 professors were to be exchanged. As the 2-year project ended as of August, 2 professors and 4 students were not able to complete exchanges with reasons including SARS.

For DUO-France 2003, 9 projects were awarded. The nominated Asian members are from Vietnam, Japan, Philippines, Korea, China, and Indonesia. Forty-nine professors and 54 students completed exchange.



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

DUO-France 2004 announced its selection of 9 projects with 22 pairs of students and 19 pairs of professors for 322,000 EUROS in July, 2004. Seven partner countries included China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, and the Philippines. Twenty professors and 22 students completed exchange.

From 2005, the French government contracted an independent education service organization, EGIDE, to operation of DUO-France including financial transaction of fellowship to fellows in order to simplify its internal procedure. It has been agreed to have close cooperation between EGIDE and the Secretariat in sharing information with prior approval of French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In January 2005, DUO-France 2005 issued calling for applications until March, 2005. DUO-France 2005 Award went to 6 projects to support 36 professors and 36 students with 278,000 EUROS. Exchange partners are from Japan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The actual exchange has not taken place yet.

DUO-France 2006 has announced its call for applications until March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and under process of receiving applications.

### **3) DUO-Korea**

DUO-Korea was launched in 2001. Other than Core Principles, this program requires cooperation agreements signed between the two educational institutions and the persons to be exchanged are selected under the cooperation agreement before submitting applications. DUO-Korea does not impose any further requirements, in order to encourage as many applications as possible.

In 2001, DUO-Korea selected 16 pairs of applicants, 8 for exchanges of students and 8 for professors, which involve 9 European member countries - Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom - and nine Korean universities across the country. Except for one withdrawal from professor's side, all students and professors selected have successfully completed exchanges.

In 2002, DUO-Korea selected 2 pairs of high school teachers, 16 pairs of professors and 19 pairs of students in July. The decision involves European educational institutions from 10 European member countries (Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

Ireland, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the U.K.). Except for one cancellation on professor's side, all professors and all pairs of students have successfully completed exchanges.

DUO-Korea 2003 awarded 16 pairs of professors and 33 pairs of students from 10 European countries-Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. Except for 2 cancelled projects, all fellows have completed exchanges and 3 professors are under obligation to submit final papers.

DUO-Korea 2004 produced 12 pairs of professors and 40 pairs of students were selected for total of 392,000 EUROS. There were 10 partner countries including Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, UK, Spain, Italy, Sweden, and the Netherlands. 23 professors and all students completed exchanges. One professor and 15 students are working on final documents to finalize exchange.

Before making proposal for DUO-Korea 2004 calls, Advisory Committee for ASEM-DUO Secretariat (ACAS) members voted to add pre-screening procedure on nationality of applicants as a way to enforce institutional relationship.

In 2005, DUO-Korea selected 9 pairs of professors, 3 pairs of teachers, and 45 pairs of students. Six professors, 3 teachers, and 69 students have finished exchanges. At the Selection Committee Meeting, Committee Members agreed to accept EU nationals in general as rightful candidates for DUO-Korea programme even though their nationality may not coincide with those of institutions and the amendment will be effective from year 2006.

#### **4) DUO-Singapore**

Announced in November 2001, DUO-Singapore invited applications for the academic year 2002/2003, twice in 2002. The first batch of exchange comprised 18 pairs of students. It involved all three Singaporean universities, and European educational institutions from 7 European member countries (France, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands and the U.K.). In the academic year 2003/2004, 27 pairs of students were selected. In 2004, DUO-Singapore closed its call for proposals as of March, and in June, selected 18 pairs of students for the academic year 2004-5. The European students come from 7 European countries including Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, and the UK. DUO-Singapore had encouraged



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

ASEAN students in the three Singapore universities to participate in the programme. In academic year 2002/2003, one Malaysian student from the Singapore Management University was awarded; in academic year 2003/2004, 2 Malaysian students were awarded (one from the National University of Singapore and one from Nanyang Technological University); and this year, 1 Malaysian, 1 Indonesian and 1 Vietnamese from the National University of Singapore received the award.

DUO-Singapore 2005 selected 18 pairs with partners from 7 EU countries involving Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, and UK.

Currently, DUO-Singapore 2006 is open for applications.

### 5) Beneficiary Members

From all the information of nominees from above mentioned individual programmes, we found the following;

<Table 1> Number of awardees of ASEM-DUO Programme

Year	Number of Nominated Beneficiaries				
	Denmark	France	Korea	Singapore	TOTAL
<b>2001</b>			30 P14 S16		<b>30</b> <b>P14 S16</b>
<b>2002</b>		92 P44 S48	68 P30 S38	36 S36	<b>196</b> <b>P74 S122</b>
<b>2003</b>	48 P22 S26	100 P50 S50	94 S28 S66	54 S54	<b>296</b> <b>P100 S196</b>
<b>2004</b>	42 P20 S22	82 P38 S44	104 P24 S80	36 S36	<b>264</b> <b>P82 S182</b>
<b>2005</b>		72 P36 S36	114 P24 S90	36 S36	<b>222</b> <b>P60 S162</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90</b> <b>P42 S48</b>	<b>346</b> <b>P168 S178</b>	<b>410</b> <b>P120 S290</b>	<b>162</b> <b>S162</b>	<b>1,008</b> <b>P330 S678</b>

\* P=Professor S=Student

Except for DUO-Korea, the rest of DUO Programmes have selected fewer or the same number of nominees than last year.



<Table 2> Fellowship of ASEM-DUO Programme

Year	Fellowship (unit: Euros)				
	Denmark	France	Korea	Singapore	TOTAL
2001			138,000		<b>138,000</b>
2002		420,000	342,000	216,000	<b>978,000</b>
2003	204,000	448,000	348,000	216,000	<b>1,216,000</b>
2004	184,000	322,000	392,000	144,000	<b>1,042,000</b>
2005		278,000	432,000	144,000	<b>854,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>388,000</b>	<b>1,468,000</b>	<b>1,652,000</b>	<b>720,000</b>	<b>4,228,000</b>

DUO-Korea topped with the highest awarded fellowship for year 2005 as well as for accumulated amount. The total accumulated figure of 4,228,000 EUROS covers approximately 70% of 6 million Euros, the amount that 3 countries officially initiated in 2001 for the first phase 2001-2005.

#### 6) Analysis of Demand & Supply for ASEM-DUO Programme

With new joining ASEM members, the beneficiary countries increased to 25 countries. For there was no call for DUO-Denmark 2005 programme, Germany rose to second largest beneficiary member from EU. The following is the table of countries in ranking order of its accumulated amount of fellowship from 2001 until 2005.

<Table 3> Beneficiary ASEM Member Countries 2001-2005(unit: Euro)

Rank	European	Fellowship	Asian	Fellowship
1	France	945,000	Korea	907,000
2	Germany	310,000	Singapore	413,000
3	Denmark	235,000	Vietnam	205,000
4	Sweden	163,000	China	165,000
5	UK	123,000	Thailand	124,000
6	Finland	109,000	Japan	120,000
7	The Netherlands	91,000	Indonesia	76,000
8	Spain	46,000	Philippines	68,000
9	Belgium	33,000	Malaysia	36,000
10	Austria	20,000	Brunei Darussalam	0



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

<b>Rank</b>	<b>European</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>
11	Italy	16,000		
12	Ireland	7,000		
13	Greece	6,000		
14	Lithuania	4,000		
15	Czech Republic	3,000		
16	Poland	3,000		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,114,000</b>		<b>2,114,000</b>

### 5. The ASEM-DUO Secretariat

To facilitate the implementation of the ASEM-DUO initiative, the Secretariat serves as a focal contact point and depository for relevant information of the programme besides providing administrative assistance. A minimum coordination among individual DUO programmes is indeed indispensable in order to maintain consistency and avoid duplicating support, as well as to maximize the effectiveness of the programmes and minimize the cost of implementation. The Secretariat also serves, depending on each country's needs, as a center for the receiving and processing applications for ASEM-DUO programmes. In that respect, the Secretariat works closely with ASEM partners that are interested in the ASEM-DUO programme including contributing partners, in designing procedure and implementing programs to best suit the needs of each partner.

In order to increase participation by ASEM member countries, the Director General of the Secretariat paid a couple of visits to China in June 2004. The meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education in China dwelt on the subject of progress of ASEM-DUO program and the possibility of financial contribution to the ASEM-DUO programs.

From June through July 2004, the Secretariat conducted a survey to over a thousand DUO programmes applicants and fellows for 3 weeks on the 3 following areas;

1. General information and administration affairs
2. Fellowship, selection, and evaluation process (for fellows only)
3. Comments and advice on public relations

There were 146 returned surveys, and they were analyzed with a recommendation to better implement the role of the Secretariat. The preliminary report was shared with working level officials from contributing countries for further feedback. After receiving



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

feedback from those countries, the Secretariat uploaded the information on the homepage website.

In September 2004, there was a meeting held with EUA at EAIE Conference held in Italy. As a result, the Secretariat set up a registration and search engine on its searching for partners' corner in the website for universities to take part in. The news was published in November 19<sup>th</sup> issue of EUA Newsletter. For further promotion of the program, the Secretariat had meetings with the Netherlands' Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and Sweden's Ministry of Education and Science and DAAD Germany.

For a new second phase (2006-2010) of ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme that was granted in ASEM V held in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2004, Dr. Sung also paid a visit to contributing countries including Denmark, France, and Singapore requesting future plan concerning the extension and including new ASEM members as beneficiaries in November and December, 2004.

From the meetings with contributing countries, members expressed strong support for networking and information sharing. Accordingly, the Secretariat set up a database of ASEM-DUO fellows on the website, [www.aseduo.org](http://www.aseduo.org) to facilitate the request. The database shows basic information and mission reports of fellows for those who are interested in exchange and search for more concrete experience of predecessors.

To further inquire on possibility in joining as contributing members, Dr. Sung made a business trip to Germany and Finland in September, 2005. In addition, a meeting with the Thai Ministry of Education took place in November for Dr. Sung to advise on setting up DUO-Thailand from 2006. Committee has been organized to develop the management of DUO-Thailand.

On November 25<sup>th</sup> 2005, with the assistance of French Embassy in Korea, the Secretariat organized its first ASEM-DUO Fellows' Alumni Party in Seoul, Korea. Over 100 alumni and officers from ASEM member embassies and university participated to create alumni network among fellows after their exchange and promotion of ASEM-DUO programme.



Secretariat for ASEM-DUO Fellowship

## **6. Works Ahead**

The French government and the Secretariat agreed to hold third Experts' Meeting in Paris on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2006. Paris Meeting is expected to attract more European members' participation for its vicinity. It would be a good opportunity for EU members to join the meeting and find out in person what ASEM-DUO Programme has to offer.

END.