

Northeast Asia Youth Exchange 2024

Applications Now Open



About the Program

The Asia Foundation Northeast Asia Youth Exchange is a dynamic, action-based learning program designed for passionate individuals in Northeast Asia under age 33. The program will equip them with skills, network, and international exposure to tackle climate crisis through regional cooperation. The program reflects the Foundation's seven-decade tradition of investing in Asia's most promising future leaders.

We look for candidates who have demonstrated a career or academic background focused on addressing climate change and a proven commitment to working toward achieving a resilient, sustainable future in Northeast Asia. We welcome candidates from diverse backgrounds, and no professional background is ineligible if a candidate can demonstrate the intersection of their work with climate action.

Agenda: Envisioning Net-Zero Northeast Asia by 2050

According to the Paris Agreement, emissions need to reach net zero by 2050 to keep global warming within the 1.5°C limit and preserve a livable planet. Northeast Asia plays a critical role in this global mission, being responsible for over one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Despite their national commitments to achieve net-zero by 2050, the region faces significant challenges due to a combination of social, economic, and political factors.

The stakes are particularly high for the next generation, who will bear the consequences of today's actions – or inaction. It is crucial to incorporate the views and voices of youth in shaping regional efforts toward achieving net-zero. The Northeast Asia Youth Exchange 2024 aims to provide a platform for young leaders to envision a net-zero Northeast Asia by 2050.



Key Dates

Application Deadline : July 14 23:59

Interview (Invitation Only): July 24- 25

Selection Announcement: July 26

Program Orientation* : July 31

Webinar Series* : August 7, 14, 21

Study Visit to Korea* : August 24 - 31

Schedules noted in (*) are to be confirmed and subject to change

Program Structure

Selected participants will engage in a fully funded, immersive **5-week program** that is comprised of:

Webinar Series

The Webinar Series will equip participants with an overall understanding of the importance of achieving net-zero for a livable climate and provides a country-level overview of net-zero transition status and efforts through a combination of speaker sessions and peer learning. The online classes will aim to build a foundational understanding of the program purpose before approaching the site visit to Korea and the group assignment.

Study Visit to Korea

All participants will gather in Korea for a 1-week exchange and field visit in August 2024. Participants will receive training on frameworks to effectively analyze the political, economic, and social landscape surrounding net-zero transition. The program will also help participants design policy interventions via offline workshops, build teamwork, engage in curated stakeholder meetings, and work on group assignments to design policy recommendations to enable an effective transition to net-zero in Northeast Asia by 2050.

*** All costs for travel, including airfare and accommodations, will be covered by The Asia Foundation**

Group Assignment

The key activities of Northeast Asia Youth Exchange 2024 will concentrate around the Group Assignment, where participants will play a role as a Global Advisor Group to develop policy recommendations for the government of the designated countries in Northeast Asia to successfully achieve the transition to net-zero by 2050. Participants will present their deliverables to selected senior-level panels, providing a valuable real-world experience to approach the pressing regional challenge against climate change while building strong friendships and mutual learning among participants.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Northeast Asia Youth Exchange Participant must:

- Have a demonstrable record of experience and accomplishment related to achieving Net-Zero and/or climate action and a proven commitment to working toward achieving a resilient, sustainable future in Northeast Asia. No professional background is ineligible if a candidate can demonstrate the intersection of their work with climate action.
- Be thoughtful, committed, respected, and inspirational leaders in their professional fields and community.
- Be under 33 years of age by July 14, 2024.
- Be conversant in English (TOEFL exam results are not required).
- Be available and able to participate in **ALL** program components on the program dates specified.

How to Apply

Step 1. Check Your Eligibility

Please carefully read the Eligibility and Selection criteria above

Step 2. Prepare and Submit Your Application Package

Apply via **Official Application Link** : <https://forms.gle/vCb6yNwYWWrdkhDXA>

The Application Process will Require:

- Simple Personal and Professional Profile
- 3 Short Essays
- English Resume or CV
- One Letter of Recommendation from your Supervisor or Professor (if you are a student)
- (Optional) English Test Scores

* For any questions, please contact jaemyung.lee@asiafoundation.org or **02-739-6021**