

Asia Leadership Fellow Program 2016

Call for Applications

We welcome your interest in applying for the Asia Leadership Fellow Program 2016.
The application deadline is **Friday, December 25, 2015**.

Before you fill out the Application Form, please make sure that you read the entire packet and that you meet all the terms of eligibility.

PLEASE NOTE:

All application materials should be physically mailed to the **ALFP Secretariat**.
Application materials submitted by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
Applications that arrive after December 25 will automatically be declined.

Inquiries should be made to the ALFP Secretariat:

ALFP Secretariat

c/o Program Department

International House of Japan

5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan

Tel: +81-3-3470-3211 Fax: +81-3-3470-3170

E-mail: alfp_appli_2016@i-house.or.jp

URL: <http://alfpnetwork.net/en/>

WHAT IS ALFP?

In 1996, the International House of Japan and the Japan Foundation jointly launched the Asia Leadership Fellow Program (ALFP). The ALFP seeks to create a close, personal and professional network of public intellectuals in Asia, deeply rooted in and committed to civil society beyond their own cultural, disciplinary and geopolitical backgrounds.

During the Program in Japan, the fellows from diverse backgrounds reside in the center of Tokyo and actively engage in group discussions and dialogue with counterparts in Japan from different fields and sectors.

Since the initiation of the Program, over 100 fellows from 17 Asian countries from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds have participated to date.

The ALFP believes that the fellows' critical voices against the status quo and proposals for alternative solutions will lead to the development of new norms and value-orientations for the future of the region and beyond.

WHY ALFP?

More than 60 percent of the world's population lives in the region called Asia, where different social institutions, economic systems, cultures, religions and ethnicities co-exist. This rich diversity includes a wide variety of problems. There is violence against human life and dignity in the form of socio-economic disparity, environmental deterioration, and racial, religious and cultural conflicts.

While globalization, along with social media, apparently offers the potential for broader unity across borders, there are also many stereotypes about and within Asia that often result in mistrust, intolerance, ignorance and indifference. States and markets alone are not capable of coping with the region's challenges.

The challenges are many but should be and can be articulated, understood and addressed from the perspective of civil society. Indeed, the ALFP believes that the key to breakthrough lies in the solidarity of concerned people who recognize and respect each other's cultural backgrounds and value systems while playing a leading role in initiating effective action. It is imperative to enhance intellectual dialogue and exchange among public intellectuals who share the same concerns about the future of the globe, and feel the need to build an equitable civil society in the region while reaching out to other parts of the world.

New arenas exist for Asian public intellectuals to collaborate on and address long-standing and emerging concerns in the region from a holistic standpoint. The ALFP seeks to be a catalytic forum for public intellectuals, and to extend its reach to the larger public sphere through old and new media.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR ALFP?

- The ALFP is open to citizens of Northeast-, Southeast- and South-Asian countries and regions, aged 35 to 59, inclusive.
- Applicants must have a good command of English to engage in deep and substantial discussions in English.
- Applicants need to have a solid background in their own professions and have access to a wide audience in their country or region through publications, teaching, media, performance, etc. to disseminate their thoughts and findings.

There is no prescribed set of professions for an ALFP fellow; the professions of past fellows include, but are not limited to, academia, journalism, business, national and local politics, education, administration, the arts, publications, and NGO and non-profit activities.

GENERAL THEME FOR 2016

“Seeking Our Commons in Asia: How Can We Create Visions for the Future?”

When the public sphere is expanding into various realms, such as economics, society, culture, nature and digital space, what can people in Asia share in common while acknowledging and respecting differences in values and standards? And through dialogue and collaboration, how can we create new values, ideas and movements from this “commons” or common ground, and connect them to a future which starts from Asia?

PROGRAM PERIOD

September 5 to October 28, 2016

NUMBER OF FELLOWS

A maximum of nine fellows selected from Northeast-, Southeast- and South-Asian countries and regions

SELECTION POLICY

ALFP seeks public intellectuals who are deeply rooted in and committed to civil society beyond their own cultural, disciplinary and geopolitical backgrounds. More specifically, we are looking for those individuals who:

- Have demonstrated a certain degree of achievement in their profession and have demonstrated outstanding leadership ability.
- Are willing to go beyond their discipline or field of specialty and to engage in constructive discussions with other fellows who have diverse specialties and cultural backgrounds.
- Are able to accept different ways of thinking, think tolerantly and alternatively about cultural values, and are willing to develop new social norms and value-orientations in order to build an equitable civil society in the region.
- Have concrete means of dissemination/communication to bring about social and/or intellectual impact in one's community/country/region/world, in order to solve the problems facing global society today, from the broader perspective for the common public good and humanitarian causes.
- Have a good command of English that will enable one to communicate and engage in deep/substantial discussions in English.

ALFP is NOT intended for:

- ◆ "Leadership Development" training for students and young professionals
- ◆ Japanese Studies
- ◆ Supporting individual research projects of any kind

TERMS & CONDITIONS

The Program will provide each fellow with the following:

1. Round-trip airfare between Tokyo and the city where the fellow is based
2. A daily allowance (to cover accommodations, meals and other incidentals)
3. Medical insurance during the Program in Japan
4. Other costs related to group activities set by the Program

Fellows must participate in all the program's activities and make necessary preparations and later dissemination efforts as set by the Program.

Fellows are required to spend the entire program period at the International House of Japan in Tokyo except for the one-week individual activities period in October. Families cannot be accommodated for the duration of the Program.

Fellows are required to submit a final report, reflecting their experience, for publication in the ALFP Program Report.

NOTE:

Although some activities are pre-set for fellows, the Program is still flexible, leaving enough time and space for fellows in designing additional activities after their spending some time together as a group in Japan.

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

Application materials listed below must be submitted **by post** and received by the ALFP Secretariat no later than **Friday, December 25, 2015**. All documents should be A4 size. Use only staplers and/or paper clips; do *not* bind them together with a ring binder or the like.

1. Designated Application Form (pp. 6-7), completed, dated and signed.
2. Curriculum Vitae in English. This must *not* exceed 5 pages in length.
3. An essay of 500-1000 words in English. In this essay, please include the following elements and make sure that they are related to your experience and expertise:
 - 1) reason for applying for the ALFP;
 - 2) what your participation in the ALFP will help you accomplish for your community, country and/or region;
 - 3) your unique contribution to the Program and to other fellows;
 - 4) your thoughts on the 2016 general theme of the Program: "Seeking Our Commons in Asia: How Can We Create Visions for the Future?" (See the explanation on page 2 about the theme.)
4. Two Letters of Recommendation, signed and sealed (using the designated form; pp. 8-9), from people familiar with your work who can comment on your professional achievements.
5. Two samples of your recent written works in English, less than 10 pages in length (short essays, newspaper articles, etc.). Written samples that are related to your reason for applying for the ALFP or to the 2016 general theme are preferred.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

1. The Application Form and Recommendation Form are available in this packet. The forms can also be downloaded at the URL below:

<http://alfpnetwork.net/en/fellow2/>

2. Designated Recommendation Forms, signed and sealed, must be sent **directly** to the ALFP Secretariat by the recommenders. Recommendations written on forms other than the designated form will not be qualified.
3. All the application documents have to be original and sent **by post**.
4. Application documents will not be returned.
5. Application documents submitted by those who are not eligible for this Program or that reached the secretariat after the deadline will not be subject for screening.
6. Receipt of application documents will not be acknowledged (unless specifically requested by applicants by e-mail [alfp_appli_2016@i-house.or.jp]).
7. Each applicant is responsible for ensuring his/her application is complete.
8. Due to the large number of applications received, we are unable to provide feedback to applicants who are not admitted.

*All documents submitted to the ALFP Secretariat will only be used for the purpose of application screening for the Asia Leadership Fellow Program.

SELECTION SCHEDULE

December 25, 2015

Application deadline

January to March, 2016

Stage 1: Screening of application materials

Stage 2: Interviewing of applicants (for those who passed stage 1)

April 2016

Notice of selections

Asia Leadership Fellow Program 2016 Application Form

Directions: Please type or print clearly, and fill in all blanks.

Deadline: Completed application form and other supporting documents must be received by the ALFP Secretariat no later than **Friday, December 25, 2015.**

ALFP Secretariat

c/o Program Department
International House of Japan
5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan
Tel: +81-3-3470-3211 Fax: +81-3-3470-3170
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Date: / /

Name	Family	First	Middle
	Prof. / Dr. / Mr./ Ms / Other ()		
Sex	Male / Female		
Date of Birth	(day/month/year) / /		
Country (Region) of Birth		Citizenship	
Area of Specialty (including areas of interest)			
Position or Title			
Institution			
Business Address			
Tel		Fax	
E-mail			
Home Address			
Tel		Fax	
E-mail		Mobile	

Preferred Address	Please indicate which address you would like to use for future correspondence: () at work () at home
Past grants, scholarships and fellowships	Have you applied for the ALFP before? () yes (please specify the year:) () no
Hobby	
English Proficiency	Speaking: () Fluent () Good () Fair Writing: () Fluent () Good () Fair
Recommender/Referee No. 1 Name: Position or Title: Institution: Contact:	
Recommender/Referee No. 2 Name: Position or Title: Institution: Contact:	
How did you learn about the ALFP?	

I hereby certify that all the information given above is nothing but the truth.

Signature

Date

Please attach to this application form the following documents, EXCEPT for the recommendation forms, which must be sent to the ALFP Secretariat **directly** by the recommenders. All documents should be A4 size.

1. Curriculum Vitae in English. This must *not* exceed 5 pages in length.
2. An essay of 500-1000 words in English. In this essay, please include the following elements and make sure that they are related to your experience and expertise:
 - 1) reason for applying for the ALFP;
 - 2) what your participation in the ALFP will help you accomplish for your community/country/region;
 - 3) your unique contribution to the Program and to other fellows;
 - 4) your thoughts on the 2016 general theme of the Program: "Seeking Our Commons in Asia: How Can We Create Visions for the Future?" (See details on page 2 of the Call for Applications.)
3. Two Letters of Recommendation (using the designated form) from people familiar with the applicant's work who can comment on his/her professional achievements.
4. Two samples of recent written works in English, less than 10 pages in length (short essays, newspaper articles, etc. written by the applicant).

Asia Leadership Fellow Program 2016 Recommendation Form

The person whose name is given below is an applicant for the Asia Leadership Fellow Program (ALFP) 2016. The organizer will be grateful if you will assess the applicant's competence to be a fellow in the light of the program objectives.

After completing and signing this form, please return this form directly to the ALFP Secretariat by post no later than **Friday, December 25, 2015**. Kindly note that we do not accept recommendation forms sent electronically.

ALFP Secretariat

c/o Program Department
International House of Japan
5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032, Japan
Tel: +81-3-3470-3211 Fax: +81-3-3470-3170
E-mail: alfp_appli_2016@i-house.or.jp

This part of the form to be completed by the **applicant**.

Name of Applicant	
Position or Title	
Institution	

This part of the form to be completed by the **recommender**.

Name of Recommender	
Position or Title	
Institution	
How do you know the applicant (academic advisor, work supervisor etc.) and for how long?	

Business Address			
Tel		Fax	
E-mail			
<i>In what ways do you think the applicant can contribute to the ALFP?</i>			
(Please use additional sheets if necessary.)			
<i>How would you evaluate the applicant's English proficiency (written as well as oral)?</i>			

I hereby certify that all the information given above is nothing but the truth.

Signature

Date