



A2ELP
Australia-ASEAN
Emerging Leaders Program



Australia-ASEAN Emerging Leaders Program (A2ELP)

Sydney & Melbourne, 2024



Australian Government



AAC
AUSTRALIA-ASEAN COUNCIL



Program Directors' Welcome

Current and future leaders across Australia and Southeast Asia built friendship and understanding through A2ELP. Investing in this kind of youth diplomacy has considerable long-term benefits, facilitating people-to-people connections and institutional links across diverse regions long into the future, all whilst building next-generation leadership.

The Australia-ASEAN Emerging Leaders Program (A2ELP) leads the way not only regionally, but globally, building lifelong networks and inspiring business models that go well beyond economic impact to deliver tangible, and remarkable, social and economic power. As the program directors, we are proud not just of this amazing network of leaders, but also of this program and its impact supporting Australian and Southeast Asian nations' prosperity, partnership and power to drive positive social and environmental change in the region. As a flagship program of the Australia-ASEAN Council, this program delivers generations of impact and leaves a legacy of strong, collaborative leadership.

- Dr Elise Stephenson and Lara Stephenson, A2ELP Program Directors

Background and context of A2ELP

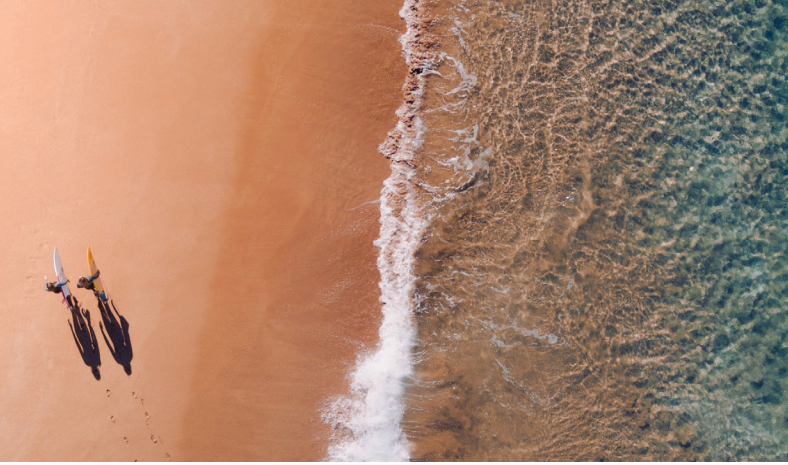
The Australia-ASEAN Emerging Leaders Program (A2ELP) is an Australian Government initiative and a flagship program for the Australia-ASEAN Council (AAC). A2ELP involves a three-month online and in-person leadership program for 15 social entrepreneurs from ASEAN and Australia. The program includes workshops, networking events, cultural activities, and support for on-going collaboration. In 2024, Australia will commemorate 50 years of ASEAN-Australia relations, and A2ELP participants will meet key leaders in Sydney and Melbourne, coinciding with the ASEAN Australia Special Summit.

A2ELP aims to:

- Enhance the leadership potential of participants;
- Strengthen and expand people-to-people, professional, and institutional networks between Australia and Southeast Asia, and
- Showcase contemporary Australian and Southeast Asian creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Participants will:

- build knowledge of scalable and sustainable business models to achieve long-term change
- develop skills to engage a range of stakeholders
- receive training in cultural intelligence
- participate in networking events and cultural activities
- discuss the latest thinking and ideas in social impact with academic experts and industry leaders
- foster connections with participants through peer mentoring exercises and alumni engagement



About Social Good Outpost

Social Good Outpost (SGO) is an Australian strategic and creative communications studio. We work with social enterprise, business and government with impact measurement, communication design, strategy and curation of international diplomacy programs. Founded in 2016 by two sisters, Lara Stephenson and Dr Elise Stephenson, Social Good Outpost is a women-led team, and proudly brings a young approach to this diplomacy program. SGO 'Curates' leads our public projects, creative diplomacy, strategy and events implementation.



Dr Elise Stephenson



Lara Stephenson

We're social entrepreneurs, designers, researchers and strategists who have fallen progressively more in love with the ASEAN region and its people, so we bring a lived commitment to developing Australia-ASEAN enterprise and leadership, with a particular focus on empowering women, LGBTIQ+ and connecting with and supporting Indigenous and ethnic minority communities.

We have deep roots in Southeast Asia and have run more than 76 workshops with communities, business and government across Southeast Asia spanning topics like gender equality and entrepreneurship, LGBTIQ+ inclusion across Southeast Asia, climate action and dealing with climate change, social enterprise, and leadership.



Impact, Communications and Design
www.socialgoodoutpost.com

Curation and Public Diplomacy
www.socialgoodoutpost.com/curates

Program Sponsors

We thank the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Australia-ASEAN Council (AAC) for funding and supporting A2ELP. Australia's people and institutional connections with Southeast Asia are enhanced by the Australia-ASEAN Council (AAC). The council was launched on 8 September 2015 to strengthen Australia's engagement with the region.

Its mission is to generate opportunities that deepen cultural understanding, cooperation and connections with ASEAN member countries – Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The council's work focuses on advocacy and outreach, support for business, education and cultural initiatives, grants and exchange programs.



Australian Government



AAC
AUSTRALIA-ASEAN COUNCIL



Riley Dolman

Volunteer Director, Fair Game & Manager, Garnduwa Australia

I am a proud Eastern Arrernte man from the central desert living on Bunuba country in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. I work for Garnduwa in the community development space, empowering remote communities to build sustainability and self determination in the programs that occur in their communities. I have previously studied a Masters of Clinical Exercise Physiology at the University of Western Australia and have applied some of my learnt skills to volunteering in different roles in the non for profit sector and my current employment.

I have been a Volunteer Director at Fair Game since 2018. Fair Game is a health promotion charity that recycles and repurposes sports equipment and delivers culturally informed health programs to under-serviced communities in Western Australia.



Anjum Kasmani

Founder, Desert Echo Drums & She Recites & Sacred Islamic Wills Australia

A self confessed serial social entrepreneur, Anjum Kasmani is the founder of a number of social enterprises with global impact, including;

Desert Echo Drums, an Islamic Arts School based in Sydney, London and online. Deemed a trailblazer in the field of Islamic drumming, Anjum was not satisfied with only performing but also wanted her audience to taste the transformative power of drums firsthand. Desert Echo's drumming curriculums have benefited tens of thousands of students around the world, created opportunities for confidence in expression for CALD women, and inspired a new generation of drum teachers and performers.

She Recites, is an emerging production house dedicated to archiving the stories of high achieving women of faith from around the world. In 2023 She Recites Podcast focused on ASEAN stories of female empowerment with a number of international visits placing a spotlight on the often overlooked yet critical work of faithful women in the region.

Sacred Islamic Wills brings together Anjum's legal profession with her passion for education and social welfare. SIW aims to educate women on their legal and financial rights and obligations in an affordable, approachable and proactive way through educational workshops and personally tailored consultations at a fraction of the cost of legal services.

In 2023, Anjum was chosen as one of 5 emerging Young Australian Muslim leaders for the AAMEP delegation to Brunei where she attended a private audience with King Hasan Al Bolkiah.



Kiana Mei

Founder, Next Generation Entrepreneur Hub Australia

My name is Kiana and I'm an 18 year old business owner, artist and leader for entrepreneurial youth empowerment. Two years ago I started my own small business. Now, this has turned into a successful business that I have continued to run and grow whilst studying fulltime in highschool. My experiences inspired me to launch my first social enterprise, the Next Generation Entrepreneur Hub, which provides opportunities for young people under the age of 18 to start their own businesses in a supportive and likeminded community that I have established and will continue to grow.



Aimee Davies
Founder, Hey Mate
Australia

Aimee Davies is a multidisciplinary Creative, Counsellor and Founder of social impact organisation Hey Mate. Hey Mate delivers mental health and wellbeing support and education to the creative industries across Australia. When Aimee is not working within Hey Mate she sits on the board of the Emerging writers festival in Melbourne, enjoys the beaches of the sunshine coast, travels and spends time with her two dachshunds Louie and Doogie.



Indio Myles
Founder, Paradigm Shift Games
Australia

Indio Myles is an aspiring foreign journalist, social entrepreneur and multimedia storyteller. As a recipient of the New Colombo Plan Scholarship, Indio is currently based in Bangkok Thailand completing his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) majoring in journalism research. For the past five years, Indio has worked as Publisher and Designer with Australian Social Innovation podcast Impact Boom and contributed to 250+ episodes. Now, Indio is beginning his own journey to become a leader of social change, through developing a social impact tabletop gaming enterprise, Paradigm Shift Games. This enterprise combines Indio's love for shared learning experiences and the communication of complex issues through innovative mediums.

Indio graduated with a Bachelor of Journalism and Communication/Bachelor of Business (majoring in management) and with honours from Griffith University. In his spare time, his passions include music (both listening too and playing), martial arts and writing.



Fatin Afiqah Md Asrul Sanij (Tina)
Founder, Parabelle Studios
Brunei

Tina Afiqah is a practicing Creative Counsellor and published author with a BAHons in Creative Expressive Therapies and a MA in Counselling. Her passion in mental health has allowed her to work with different clients stemming from a wide range of age, disorders and backgrounds. Through her written works, she hopes to inspire the newer generations through the morals embedded within her stories, as well as to provide them with representation (she is mostly keen in working with children with disabilities and illnesses). Being born of Brunei-Murut decent, she founded her company, Parabelle Studios, in 2020 which works closely with native tribal leaders in hopes of further preserving cultural heritage and maintaining family values through progressive storytelling.



Chamroeun Keo
Co-Founder, Smart Veckchob
Cambodia

My name is Chamroeun Keo from Cambodia, and I hold a master's degree in Leadership for Sustainability from Malmö University in Sweden. Professionally, with a focus on project management and strategic planning, I've impacted over 400 SMEs through upscaling and digital programs.

In response to waste management issues and the surge in plastics from food delivery, in 2020, my colleague and I initiated Smart Veckchob (Smart takeaway), a plastic-free food delivery concept born from an incubation program. My commitment to sustainable development extends to active participation in dialogues on policy, sustainable business models, and access to finance. A significant aspect of my mission is to develop entrepreneurship resources tailored to the Khmer cultural context and language, empowering rural markets through localised initiatives.



Rosita Dewi Andi
Founder, Girls and Women in Renewable Energy Academy (GAWIREA)
Indonesia

Andi Rosita Dewi has seven years of working experience as a consultant for renewable energy. She has worked in the private sector dealing with developing hydropower plants for six years. She joined the Indonesian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources as a field facilitator for developing renewable energy in rural areas for one year. Since 2021 she has founded the NGO Yayasan Nyala Perempuan Sebata (YNPS) and start-up Girls and Women in Renewable Energy Academy (GAWIREA), which is engaged in empowering rural women with the help of renewable energy technology. GAWIREA aims to empower women through non-formal education to use renewable energy as a source of income, enabling villages to become economically and energetically independent.



Bounlieng Phanthapanya (William)
Founder & CEO, Startnovation
Laos

Bounlieng Phanthapanya or William is the founder and CEO of Startnovation, a platform that empowers youths through entrepreneurship and leadership skills to support them become entrepreneurs in the future. Startnovation has empowered hundreds of youths in Vientiane via skills-building workshops, online seminars, and business competitions that have supported the community. William has a dream to create a Startup Sandbox or a Startup Incubator where people can come to learn, play, and create a real business for the economy in Laos and go to the global stage as well.



Vellarry Maydelina Yong
Founder, Oupus Organics
Malaysia

I'm Vellarry, the founder of Oupus Organics, a Sabah, Malaysia-based social enterprise. At Oupus Organics, we specialize in crafting handcrafted skincare products using ingredients from Borneo. Our commitment to social impact is reflected in the employment opportunities we provide for underprivileged women, offering flexible working hours to accommodate diverse circumstances. Beyond business, a portion of our profits is dedicated to organizing soap-making workshops for marginalized and indigenous communities. This initiative aims to empower individuals with valuable skills, fostering sustainable income. Oupus Organics stands as a beacon of positive change, combining Borneo's natural beauty with a mission of social empowerment and community support.



Nang Kant Kaw Ywat Hseng
Founder, Clean Bee
Myanmar

I am the Founder of Clean Bee, a social enterprise with a mission to find sustainable alternative source of income for current and ex-opium poppy farmers in Pyet Karng community in the Southern Shan State. Clean Bee believes that war on drugs should be long-term, gradual, sustainable and local. Beyond Clean Bee, I am also a social worker and a Shan State analyst. With my background in Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship, I seek to support my community gradually and more effectively.



Shane Marie Landicho
Founder, Therawee Health Innovation
Philippines

Shane Marie Landicho, OTRP, CPMT, CDPP, MSc, is a health and education technology innovator and an occupational therapist who has managed to advocate for accessible therapy delivery and model through TheraWee, a startup social enterprise recognized both globally and locally by organizations such as UpLink, the World Economic Forum, the Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations (TAYO) Awards Foundation, the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) YOUNified Awards, the National Council on Disability Affairs, etc. in promoting social justice in the health sector. She was also nominated as one of the finalists for Hope Heroes 2023.

She is currently focusing on human rights and a child- and family-centered approach while providing individualized and inclusive solutions through innovation and technology, health policy and system development, and strategic operation and management to build resilience in every individual, family, and institution in the community.



Shuen Hwee Yee
Co-Founder & CEO, Terraformers
Singapore

Shuen Hwee is the co-founder and CEO of Terraformers. She began her career in sustainable development after a post-university gap year. While backpacking around Asia, she witnessed the vulnerability of livelihoods in rural areas, exacerbated by the climate crisis. Shuen Hwee believes that regenerative tourism creates an opportunity to uplift rural communities while honouring their cultural traditions and natural environments. Shuen Hwee was a project lead of climate technology and robotics at Audacity, an impact start-up collective and venture builder before founding Terraformers.



Natthineethiti Phinyapincha (Nikki)
Founder, Transtalents Consulting Group
Thailand

Nikki Phinyapincha (she/her) is a driving force in Asia's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) landscape. As the visionary founder of TransTalents Consulting Group, she spearheads inclusive business strategies aligned with SDGs. With 8 years as a corporate PR director and over 4 years excelling in DEI consultancy, training, and speaking engagements, Nikki passionately advocates for business equality, LGBTIQ+ inclusion, and transgender leadership. Her commitment extends to chairing the PRCA APAC Pride Network, advising the ASEAN Youth Advocate Network Thailand, and receiving the prestigious Young Southeast Asia Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Professional Fellows Program (PFP) in 2022. Recognized in Kocktail magazine's Future List 100, Tatler Asia Magazine's 300 Gen.T leaders, and hailed as an Outstanding 100 Future Leaders Role Model by Involve x Youtube, Nikki collaborates globally, catalyzing transformative change across businesses in Asia, Europe, and the US.



A Tua Khang
Co-ordinator, Ná Nả
Vietnam

I am an entrepreneur and a cultural researcher of the Hmong people from the highland district of Mù Cang Chải in Northwestern Vietnam. I have experience working in the fields of education, economy, and culture, particularly with ethnic minority groups in Vietnam.

Currently, I serve as the co-coordinator of the social enterprise Ná Nả, which focuses on sustainable development for Hmong households.



A2ELP

Australia-ASEAN
Emerging Leaders Program

A2ELP 2024

Sydney and Melbourne, Australia

February 28 - March 7, 2024

team@ausaseanleaders.com.au



Australian Government



AAC
AUSTRALIA-ASEAN COUNCIL

