

PREFACE

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The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and On the Move are jointly presenting for the first time, the *Mobility Funding Guides for International Cultural Exchange* in **49 countries of Asia and Europe**. In addition to the 3rd edition of the *Mapping of Funding Opportunities for International Cultural Exchange in Asia*, which presents mobility funding resources for 19 Asian countries, this year, we will also present the updated guides for **27 countries of the European Union, as well as Norway, Switzerland and the Russian Federation**¹. These guides follow the methodology used in the online ‘*Guide for International Funding Opportunities for the Mobility of European artists and culture professionals*’, produced in 2011 by the Interarts Foundation, On The Move and PRACTICS.

The launch of this comprehensive list of resources on mobility in Asia and Europe follows a series of important meetings that have happened in 2013 and 2014. Initiated in 2013 by ASEF with the *Platform meeting of Asian and European cultural mobility funders* in Prague, Czech Republic (5-6 June 2013)², the conversation among funders and policy makers has further developed in 2014, with the brainstorming meeting on *Access and Reciprocity* organised by On the Move in partnership with Asialink and ResArtis in Melbourne, Australia (12 May 2014) with the support of ASEF. The meeting was part of the *Inaugural Meeting of the Asia-Europe-Australia Creative Residency Network (AAECRN)* and in conjunction with the *Asia Satellite Meeting* co-organised by IETM (International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts) and the Australia Council for the Arts.

Among the key findings of the meeting on *Access and Reciprocity* was that multiple types of partnerships are necessary at different levels: international, national, regional but also between public and private funders and cultural organisations and artists and cultural professionals. Participants also agreed on the need for a new understanding of the notion of reciprocity. National and international agencies funding mobility should consider the benefits of investing not only on ‘their’ national artists and ‘their’ country but go beyond the idea of “export” and define how to build long-lasting collaborations with different partners at different levels.

Over 50 cultural mobility funders, stakeholders and professionals from Asia, Australia and Europe agreed on the need to reinforce and diversify networks through the support of new types of networks’ initiatives and their potential for connections within the region Australia-Asia-Europe.³

Such meetings have also to be read in the context of other international and regional initiatives like the Preparatory Action on Culture in EU External Relations⁴ or the recent Canary Island Declaration on Artistic and Cultural Mobility coordinated by the Roberto Cimetta Fund.⁵

The international approach of the mobility funding guides is crucial as it positions the discussion on the **funding of cultural mobility in a global perspective** in order to better respond to local needs and interests from the cultural sector.

¹ The Guide for the Russian Federation is presented as a web-repository related to cultural mobility funding in the form of a listing of websites and information platforms which may be relevant to find out more about cultural organisations, venues, residencies, funding organisations. As for Croatia, it became a member of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) only in October 2014 therefore a guide was not yet created for this 3rd edition.

² Meeting co-organised by the Arts and Theatre Institute, Czech Republic, Kelola Foundation, Indonesia and On the Move:

<http://on-the-move.org/about/ourownnews/article/15512/platform-meeting-of-asian-and-european-cultural/>

³ Read the full report of this meeting: <http://on-the-move.org/files/12%20May%20cultural%20mobility%20meeting-%20final%20report.pdf>

⁴ <http://cultureinexternalrelations.eu/main-outcomes/>

⁵ Read the full Declaration here: <http://culture360.asef.org/news/the-canary-islands-declaration-on-artistic-and-cultural-mobility/>

ASEF and On the Move will continue to work together with the cultural sector and other partner organisations to promote mobility of artists and cultural professionals in Asia and Europe, in line with the recommendations of Asian and European Culture Ministers (in the framework of the Asia-Europe Meeting/ASEM) also reinforced at the last 6th ASEM Culture Ministers Meeting (Netherlands, October 2014).⁶

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We hope you will find this updated 3rd edition a useful resource.

Anupama SEKHAR, Acting Director, Culture Department, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
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⁶ Action Plan of the 2nd ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting (ASEM CMM2), 6-7 June 2005, Paris, France, pages 4-5: www.aseminfoboard.org.
Chair's Statement, 6th ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting (ASEM CMM6), 19-21 October 2014, Netherlands, p. 6; www.aseminfoboard.org