

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MULTI-COUNTRY
PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS ON-DEMAND PROGRAM:
“BUILDING THINK TANK INFLUENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS”**

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) seeks candidates for the 2016 “Building Think Tank Influence and Effectiveness,” a Professional Fellows On-Demand Exchange Program funded by the U.S. Department of State and implemented by World Learning. This exchange program encourages the study of existing and emerging international bodies in Asia and their efforts to address national, regional, and global challenges. The application deadline is May 31, 2016.

Program Overview

The exchange program will include two categories of think-tank professionals. Eleven think-tank scholars, including one from each of Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam, will research regional bodies and their approaches to solving transnational issues. Thirteen think tank leaders, including one from each of the following countries Australia, Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam, will investigate different models for growing their think tanks’ capacity and influence. The exchange contains two tracks which would take place concurrently. In the first track, scholars are invited to work with American colleagues to share different research approaches and hypotheses on topics of mutual interest for the region and the United States. In the second track, leaders and managers will discuss approaches to increasing think tank capacity and influence. The U.S. program would take place in the September – October timeframe, and would begin and end in Washington, DC, and would include short-term placements at U.S.-based think tanks in multiple cities around the United States. The program will be followed by outbound exchange of a few of the key U.S. interlocutors to a country / countries TBD in Asia in early 2017, with many of the participating fellows gathering in one location as well.

Other Essential Program Information

Program Funding: The United States government will cover all participant costs, including international travel, ground transportation, cultural activities, lodging, and small stipend.

Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all workshops and organized activities. The program is intensive and there will be little time for personal pursuits.

English Language Ability: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. The program is rigorous and demanding. Participants will be expected to handle reading materials in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience.

Candidate Description and Qualifications: The participants are expected to be

- professionals from think-tanks that are active in either management or scholarly research
- English-language fluency.
- Aged 25-45.

- Plan to return to your organization following completion of the program.
- Demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in your work.
- An emerging or mid-level professional with the background to benefit from this learning experience.
- The support of your supervisor and/or organization.
- Demonstrated understanding of program objectives.
- Communication of personal goals in line with program objectives.
- Participants chosen from each country as a whole reflect the diversity of that country in terms of its populace, geography, and variety of economic interests/fields/organizations.
- Demonstrated commitment to strengthening your community.
- Little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States.
- Be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive program, Fellowship position, community service, and travel program in the U.S.
- Be able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those in Vietnam.

The deadline for receipt of applications is **May 31, 2016**. Late applications will not be accepted.

For more detailed information and application form, please visit the program website [here](#).

Applicants studying at a university in northern Vietnam (from Quang Tri Province to the north) can send any questions regarding the program to:

Public Affairs Section
 U.S. Embassy, 7 Lang Ha, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
 Tel: 84-4-3850 5000, ext. 6034
 Email: pas.culture@gmail.com

Applicants studying at a university in southern Vietnam (from Thua Thien-Hue Province to the south) can send any questions regarding the program, to:

Public Affairs Section
 United States Consulate General
 4 Le Duan, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City.
 Tel: (84) (8) 3520-4657
 Email: PASHCMC@state.gov