



Asia
Society

ASIA 21
YOUNG LEADERS

VIRTUAL SUMMIT

*Life After the Pandemic:
Building Sustainable and Resilient Futures*

December 6-8, 2020 in New York / December 7-9, 2020 in Asia

Agenda

Sunday, December 6

Monday, December 7 (Asia)

Sessions hosted by the Asia 21 Team in New York

10:00 pm EST/11:00 am HKT

[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Opening Remarks

Josette Sheeran, President and CEO, Asia Society; U.N. Special Envoy to Haiti

10:30 pm EDT/11:30 am HKT

[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Keynote Conversations

Leadership in Times of Crisis: Lessons in Resilience

Keynote Speakers:

Bi-khim Hsiao (Class of 2006), Representative of Taiwan to the United States

Omar Ishrak, Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board, Medtronic; Chairman of the Board, Intel; Asia Society Trustee

Moderator:

Tom Nagorski, Executive Vice President, Asia Society

11:30 pm EST/12:30 pm HKT

[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Panel Discussion

Asia 21 On the COVID-19 Frontlines:

Alumni Share Experiences from the Pandemic and Lessons for Future Outbreaks

Meet Asia 21 health sector heroes and hear their first-hand experiences working on the frontlines of the battle against COVID-19 — the risks and challenges they have faced, their worries, and the trials and tribulations medical professionals have endured in this trying year. These Asia 21 alumni will also make recommendations to the healthcare sector,

policymakers, and ordinary citizens regarding ways to prevent and/or better prepare for future outbreaks.

Meet Asia 21 Young Leaders:

Avinesh Bhar (Class of 2016), Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine Physician, Sliip

Bryan Albert Lim (Class of 2011), Physician and Infectious Disease Specialist, Cebu, Philippines

Lungten Z. Wangchuk (Class of 2013) Scientist and Team Lead for Communicable Diseases, World Health Organization, Nepal

Moderator:

Tania Hyde (Class of 2013)

Strategic Advisor and former Chief Operating Officer, Taylor Street Advisory

12:30 am EST/1:30 pm HKT

Closing of the New York Programs

Monday, December 7

12:30 am EST/1:30 pm HKT

Sessions hosted by Asia 21 Young Leaders in Asia

Transition to National Chapters, Asia Society Global Centers, and Asia 21 Alumni-led sessions, targeted to Asia-based audiences given the timings for this segment.

12:30 am EST/1:30 pm HKT

National Chapter Session

Future Proof: Reinventing Work at a time of Crisis

Hosted by **Diana Wu David** (Class of 2006), Founder, Future Proof Lab

Unemployment is at all-time highs across the world. We are working harder than ever but still chasing and falling behind, big changes fueled by technology, demographics, globalization, and now a pandemic. How can you positively adapt to a changing world? With insights from her best-selling book, *Future Proof: Reinventing Work in the Age of Acceleration*, and further research as part of the Future Work Forum think tank, **Diana David** (Class of 2006) and **Roshan Paul** (Class of 2018) will talk about how we can adapt as individuals to future proof our lives, companies, and careers.

Speakers:

Roshan Paul (Class of 2018), Co-founder and CEO, Amani Institute

1:30 am EST/2:30 pm HKT

National Chapter Session

Building Back Better: Asia's Climate Response

Hosted by **Renard Siew** (Class of 2018), Climate Change Advisor, Centre for Governance and Political Studies

With the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen lockdowns happening all across the world. But even so, we are only able to cut down global emissions by 5%. To achieve the aspirations of the Paris Agreement, we would need to cut emissions by 7.6% annually.

Inspired by the New Deal, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's socioeconomic reform proposals, the "Green New Deal" is a proposed package of legislation that aims to address climate change and economic inequality, championed by U.S. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Ed Markey.

As the European Commission, the executive branch of the European Union, leads a proposed "European Green Deal", what coordinated actions are possible here in Asia in light of Covid-19? What would an "Asian Green New Deal" look like, and should this be Asia's response to the looming climate crisis? How feasible would it be?

Speakers:

Vivian Claire Liew (Class of 2009), Founding CEO, PhilanthropyWorks

Aarti Shrivastava (Class of 2014), Environmental Documentary Filmmaker

Dorjee Sun (Class of 2013), CEO, Perlin

[National Chapter Session](#)

6:00 am EST/7:00 pm HKT

Asia 21 Community Give and Take

Hosted by **Aaron Maniam** (Class of 2008), Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Information, Government of Singapore

An exclusive session to facilitate ways Asia 21 alumni can be more helpful to each other, especially at this unprecedented time of difficulties and uncertainties.

[National Chapter Session](#)

8:00 am EST/9:00 pm HKT

Cambodia's Future Outlook Post Covid-19

Hosted by **Natharoun Ngo** (Class of 2013), Director, Center for Khmer Studies

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all economies and livelihoods around the world, and Cambodia is no exception. The various measures deployed by local Cambodian authorities and the private sector helped weather the local storm. Still, the complexity of globalized economies and the unpredictability of the pandemic render any mitigation measures extremely difficult.

Another important consequence is the disruption the pandemic created in regional supply chains, which fragilized households, firms, and SMEs across sectors, age groups, and social classes. Before COVID-19, Cambodia's economy was ranked as among the most dynamic in the world. Despite the crisis, it is expected that massive capital flows will

continue to fuel the growth of large-scale infrastructure for the coming decades.

Will the "new normal" be a way to do business differently? Where are the tipping points and possible opportunities for small or large systemic change in support of dynamic economies that can benefit more people and possibly be better prepared for the next crisis?

Speakers:

Serey Chea (Class of 2017), Assistant Governor and Director General, National Bank of Cambodia

Franz Heng (Class of 2019), Managing Director, LHT Capital

Wisal Hin Co-Founder and Director of Business Development and Innovation, Platform Impact

Solinn Lim (Class of 2015), Country Director, Oxfam in Cambodia

National Chapter Session

9:00 am EST/10:00 pm HKT

Rebuilding a Global Community Through Our Shared Humanity:
Building Stronger and Lasting People-to-People Ties Across Boundaries

Hosted by **Wenchi Yu** (Class of 2011), Ash Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School; Head of Global Public Policy, VIPKid

Finding ways to build stronger and lasting people-to-people ties across boundaries in the era of COVID-19 and beyond.

Speakers:

Wang Guan (Class of 2017), Host and Senior Reporter, CGTN

Penny Low (Class of 2007), President and Founder, Social Innovation Park Ltd

Anam Zakaria (Class of 2018), Oral Historian, Author and Cultural Facilitator

Monday, December 7
Tuesday, December 8 (Asia)

8:00 pm EST/9:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Sessions hosted by the Asia 21 Team in New York

Keynote Conversation and Panel Discussion

After the Pandemic: The Future of Philanthropy and Fundraising

Remarks by **Rajiv Shah** (Class of 2006), President, The Rockefeller Foundation

By all accounts, the outpouring of philanthropic giving to meet the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic has been unprecedented. Support from private individuals, independent foundations, and the corporate sector has been instrumental in complementing governments' relief spending. However, as we brace for the "second wave" and continue to reel from the economic fallout, the level and scale of charitable giving may not be able to meet the need.

- What new measures are philanthropic and charitable organizations considering to transform giving and significantly reduce the burden for grantees in the post-COVID 19 reality?
- Can new practices take root and grow as individuals and institutions reimagine philanthropic innovation? And what should nonprofits anticipate, and how can they adapt to trends in philanthropy as donor expectations and giving behaviors continue to shift?
- How should nonprofits pivot and identify ways to evolve their fundraising efforts?
- How do we significantly increase spending towards social and environmental problems?

Speakers:

Aarti Wig (Class of 2015), Co-Founder, Yunus Social Business India

Moderator:

Frederick M. Demopoulos (Class of 2006), Founder, Queen's Road Capital; Asia Society Trustee

Panel Discussion

Racial Equity and Social Justice in a post-COVID-19 World

While the world is consumed with adapting to a "new normal" – or "new abnormal" – post COVID-19, this pandemic has also exposed one "normal" the world had gotten all too accustomed to: entrenched racial inequities in education, health, employment, housing, and livelihood in both the developed and developing worlds.

- As a global community, how can we reduce the opportunity gap and ensure that the most vulnerable groups are not left behind in the post-COVID recovery effort?

9:00 pm EST/10:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

- How can we contribute to rebuilding a more equitable, just, and inclusive world where everyone will have a fair shot to get ahead, irrespective of one's race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, and national origin?

Speakers:

Cherrie Atilano (Class of 2017), Founding Farmer, President and CEO, AGREA

Ajit George, Director of Operations, Shanti Bhavan Children's Project
Pradip Pariyar (Class of 2018), Executive Chairperson, Samata Foundation

Moderator:

Luna Ranjit (Class of 2013), Writer, Strategy Consultant and Co-founder, Adhikaar

[Keynote Conversation and Panel Discussion](#)

After the Pandemic, Charting the Path for a "Green Recovery"

10:00 pm EST/11:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Remarks by **Kevin Rudd**, President, Asia Society Policy Institute

The worst recession to confront the global community since World War II has forced both public and private sectors around the world to redefine, reimagine, and prioritize the kind of growth and development policies required for a more sustainable and resilient recovery. The rebuilding and recovery are already underway in some parts of Asia, but the prospects for building back in a more climate-friendly fashion are unclear. The staggering global challenge wrought by the pandemic has, however, presented governments and businesses with a unique opportunity to create a cleaner, greener future.

- How should governments and businesses embrace a green recovery as the world reels from the economic devastation of COVID-19?
- Will the inclusion of climate commitments in stimulus packages take a back seat or help steer a green recovery after the pandemic?
- With the contraction in global GDP, job losses, and a continuing health crisis, how can decision-makers and private citizens commit to building back better – and "greener"?

Speakers:

Arnel Casanova (Class of 2009), Country Representative, Philippines AECOM

Rashneh Pardiwala (Class of 2009), Founder and Director, Centre for Environment Research & Education (CERE)

Gita Syahrani (Class of 2019), Executive Director to the Secretariat, Sustainable Districts Association (Ingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari)

Moderator:

Emily Chew (Class of 2015), Global Head of Sustainability for Investment Management, Morgan Stanley

11:00 pm EST/12:00 pm HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Keynote Conversation

Leadership and Culture: Leading Through a Crisis

Any of us may be called to lead, for a short time or a longer one, in a large or small group, and almost all of us are capable. However, an age-old question, "What does it mean to be a Leader" is something we continue to wrestle with, irrespective of our roles or however long we have been in a position of leadership. Join **Ken Wilcox**, Board Chairman, Asia Society Northern California, Emeritus Chairman of Silicon Valley Bank, and former CEO of SVB Financial Group, as he shares his personal leadership journey that required him to relocate from the east coast to the west, with a lengthy stint in China; transform a startup bank to a global one; and lessons learned which helped him become a better leader during every part of this journey. Mr. Wilcox is also Chairman of the Board, Asia Society Northern California and author of *Leading Through Culture: How Real Leaders Create Cultures that Motivate People to Achieve Great Things*. Conversation moderated by **Ejaj Ahmad** (Class of 2012), Founder and President, Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC)

12:00 am EST/1:00 pm HKT

Closing of the New York Programs

Tuesday, December 8

Sessions hosted by Asia 21 Young Leaders in Asia

Transition to National Chapters, Asia Society Global Centers, and Asia 21 Alumni-led sessions, targeted to Asia-based audiences in light of the timing for this segment.

National Chapter Session

12:30 am EST/1:30 pm HKT

Digital Security Issues in South Asia in the Era of a Pandemic

Hosted by **Hana Shams Ahmed** (Class of 2006), Ph.D. Candidate, York University

The COVID-19 pandemic has further increased clampdown on freedom of expression and crackdowns on press freedom in several countries, including in South Asia. Harassments and arrests of journalists reporting on the pandemic, in particular, concerning the failure of government leadership to swiftly respond to COVID-19, have been widely reported. In this session, a panel of media and civil society experts will discuss how civil society in South Asia can protect the right to freedom of expression in their region as the pandemic is reshaping South Asia's digital landscape.

Speakers:

Nighat Dad (Class of 2019), Founder, Digital Rights Foundation

Sara Hossain (Class of 2008), Partner, Dr Kamal Hossain and Associates

Shankar Narayan (Class of 2007), Co-Founder and Co-Principal, MIRA!
(Mobilize Innovation, Reimagine Agency)
Nikhil Pahwa (Class of 2019), Founder, MEDIANAMA
Zafar Sobhan (Class of 2008), Editor, Dhaka Tribune

[Asia Society Australia Session](#)

3:00 am EST/4:00 pm HKT

Startups, Scale-ups and Survival: How to Go Global in the New Normal

Hosted by **Manoj Kohli**, Asia Society Australia-Victoria Distinguished Fellow; Country Head, SoftBank India

New Year, New Me, New Normal: How do we foster the right environment for startup success, survival, and scale-up into 2021?

2020 has created a completely new set of rules for doing business. A new and largely digital operating environment means new opportunities for innovators to support economic bounce-back and create jobs, but only if the conditions are right. With 1.3 billion people and a large working-age population, India holds enormous startup potential and a vast amount of young talent. So, how do we create the right conditions to capitalize on that talent and growth potential and create more opportunities for work and prosperity as we enter a new year?

Speakers:

Kristin Kagetsu (Class of 2015), Co-Founder and CEO, Saathi
Sanjay Vijayakumar (Class of 2015), Co-founder and Chairman, Startup Village Collective

[National Chapter Session](#)

4:00 am EST/5:00 pm HKT

Resilience Photography

Hosted by **Nitin Das** (Class of 2009), Director, Filmkaar Productions

A collaborative session that will help us recharge using photography as a tool for self-reflection. During the session, participants will create a map of resilience for themselves, using pictures from their countries—an informal, creative, and fun way to get a glimpse into the state of our minds. The session will also provide an excellent opportunity to engage with each other through photos from different corners of the planet.

[National Chapter Session](#)

5:30 pm EST/6:30 am HKT

Peace, Health and Human Rights on the Korean Peninsula

Hosted by **John Delury** (Class of 2010), Professor of Chinese Studies, Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies

What to do about North Korean nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missiles was the most urgent national security challenge—crisis, really—facing Donald Trump when he came into office, and as Kim Jong

Un did more and better weapons tests, with Trump tweeting back at him, the world worried about nuclear war. But, suddenly, the winds changed, and we watched a spectacular series of summits between the two Koreas and the U.S. All this time, the human rights situation within North Korea remained bleak, and then the COVID pandemic led Pyongyang to seal off the country even more tightly. Join our panel of Asia 21 experts in imagining where to go next for a solutions-oriented discussion of the way to promote peace, health, and human rights in and with North Korea.

Speakers:

Jieun Baek (Class of 2017), Author, Researcher, and Founder/Co-Director of Lumen

Sylvia Kim (Class of 2016), General Partner, CerraCap Cares

John Park (Class of 2006), Director of Korea Project, Harvard Kennedy School

Tuesday, December 8

Sessions hosted by the Asia 21 Team in New York

6:30 pm EST /
7:30 am HKT, Dec. 9 in Asia

Opening Remarks

Keynote Conversation and Panel Discussion

6:50 pm EST/7:50 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

After the Pandemic, Adapting to the Changing Landscapes in Education

Remarks by **Sal Khan**, Founder and CEO, Khan Academy

Education's sudden, nearly wholesale shift to online learning has forced educational institutions to go into overdrive to meet the demands of a pandemic. COVID-19-related school closings have exposed the digital divide and opportunity gap that disproportionately impact school children from vulnerable populations and affects their ability to stay on track.

- What are some innovative ways for the government and the private sector to work together and find solutions to close the digital equity gap?
- How can educators make distance learning work for all?
- How can digital learning augment in-person classroom learning instead of replacing it?
- How can students themselves take charge of their learning as they adapt to the changing landscape? What are some strategies and tips for parents to support their children?

Speakers:

Clarissa Isabelle Delgado (Class of 2016), Co-Founder and CEO, Teach for the Philippines

Wenchi Yu (Class of 2011), Ash Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School; Head of Global Public Policy, VIPKid

Moderator:

Dr. Anthony Jackson, Vice President for Education and Director of the Center for Global Education, Asia Society

Panel Discussion

8:00 pm EST/9:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

Arts and Culture in a Post-COVID-19 World

There is no single sector or industry that has emerged unscathed from the impact of COVID-19. The arts and culture sector is no exception—cultural institutions and creatives industries throughout the world have been greatly affected by pandemic-driven museum closures and large drops in attendance and revenue. At the same time, COVID-19 is the ultimate proof that our world is more interconnected than ever, as we have seen artists all over the world using social media and other platforms to help others calm their minds and combat loneliness during the pandemic. This combination of art, ideas, and innovation—as demonstrated by Asia Society's first

Triennial, "We Do Not Dream Alone"—has the power to bring people together and give them a voice in times like now.

- How is the arts and culture sector adapting to the post-COVID 19 reality?
- How are cultural institutions throughout the world unleashing the power of art to connect, unite, and inspire?
- What are some of the creative ways museums are engaging with the public, despite having their galleries closed or partially opened?

Speakers:

Lesley Ma (Class of 2019), Curator of Ink Art, M+ Museum

Phloeun Prim (Class of 2012), Executive Director, Cambodian Living Arts

Aly Rose (Class of 2007), Associate Arts Professor, NYU in Shanghai

Moderator:

Michelle Yun Mapplethorpe, Vice President for Global Artistic Programs and Director of Museum, Asia Society

Keynote Conversation and Panel Discussion

Silver Linings? Role of Technology and Innovation in COVID-19 Response and Recovery Work

9:00 pm EST/10:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to change how we live, learn, and work in ways we never anticipated. Unending lockdowns, school closings, travel bans, and remote working have now become more of a norm, and there is no real timetable as to when our lives might return to some semblance of normalcy. However, COVID-19 has also exposed silver linings—with A.I. applications, and the health care industry is now able to improve the accuracy and efficiency of cancer screening, diagnose and treat patients more quickly, and better predict patient outcomes while reducing cost. Pharmaceutical companies are also developing COVID-19 vaccines in record time due to technological advancements. And workplace innovations have improved life and productivity in other sectors as well.

- What are some of the most helpful innovations to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, and in what ways are they changing our lives for the better?
- The boom in technological and digital innovations has also revealed the big equity problems. How can we enhance the learning environment—while at the same time working to address the inequity exposed by COVID-19?
- What are some of the most successful strategies deployed around the world to bridge the technology gap? What can we learn from them, and how can such successful strategies be scaled up?

Speakers:

Nanxi Liu (Class of 2016), Co-Founder and CEO, Enplug, Inc.

Mitchell Pham (Class of 2008), Director, Augen Software Group;
Founding Chair, Digital Council of Aotearoa New Zealand
Stephanie Sy (Class of 2019), Founder and CEO, Thinking Machines

Moderator:

Duncan Clark (Class of 2006), Founder and Chairman, BDA China; Asia Society Trustee

[Asia 21 Conversation](#)

Mindfulness Leadership: Leading Through and Beyond the COVID-19 Crisis

10:00 pm EST/11:00 am HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

The world is changing rapidly. Change is often multi-layered and multipolar; often too much and too fast. The COVID-19 crisis, for example, has in a short few months, added unprecedented levels of anxiety and stress both at the workplace and at home, across individual, family, and organization units for an extended period of time; entrenched societies in new norms of social interactions; and put to the test leadership through the crisis. The unprecedented COVID-19 crisis has forced leaders to transcend all barriers and adapt to the new normal.

Leaders grapple with functioning with clarity and focus in this world of information overload and distractions. They have a much tougher job in satisfying all the demands of stakeholders for the public good and making mindful decisions in a world that is far more connected and fast-moving.

Mental resilience forms the cornerstone of self-awareness and effective leadership. How do we come together to transform "Mind-full leaders" into "Mindful Leaders"? There is a high need for the emergence of mindful leaders to rebuild confidence in people and societies.

Join the dialogue to understand the benefits of mindful leadership in crisis management and be part of the movement to co-create a mindful leadership community for the greater good.

Speakers:

Nitin Das (Class of 2009), Director, Filmkaar Productions

John Haffner (Class of 2011), General Manager – Sustainability, Hang Lung Properties Ltd.

Tania Hyde (Class of 2013), Strategic Advisor and former Chief Operating Officer, Taylor Street Advisory

Natharoun Ngo (Class of 2013), Director, The Center for Khmer Studies

Moderator:

Penny Low (Class of 2007), President and Founder, Social Innovation Park Ltd.

[Closing Session](#) - Curated by Asia Society Japan and Asia 21 Japan

Looking Ahead to Tokyo 2021

11:15 pm EST / 1:15 pm HKT
[Calculate Your Local Time](#)

12:15 am EST / 2:15pm

Closing of 2020 Virtual Summit