

About the fellows:

Selected through a highly competitive, open, merit-based application and screening process, YSEALI Professional Fellows represent the next generation of emerging leaders (ages 25 to 35) from Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Fellows are leaders in their fields and many hold advanced degrees business and management.

All fellows are fluent in English and have undergone full orientation programs preparing them for fellowships in the US.

**Program Dates:
April 28 – May 26, 2017**

Reciprocal Programming:

Fellowship hosts in the United States are eligible to develop a reciprocal project together their YSEALI Professional Fellows. If selected for funding, the full cost of travel for the US participant and implementation of the project in the Fellow's home country is covered by the program.

Past Placements Have Included:

- Deloitte
- Starbucks
- US Congressional Offices
- MassChallenge



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Host a State Department Fellow

American Councils is seeking to place talented young professionals in one month fellowships between **April 28 – May 26, 2017**.

“Who is a YSEALI PFP economic empowerment fellow?”

Fellows come from a variety of professional backgrounds including:

- **The business world**
- **Social innovation and social entrepreneurship organizations**
- **Government offices** – including local government, regional development agencies, economic policy offices and others
- **NGOs** – including those increasing the role marginalized populations in the economy and workforce, and supporting financial literacy
- **Universities** - incubators, accelerators, university-based centers or programs focusing on business development

The shared vision of YSEALI Professional Fellows in the economic empowerment cohort is to expand economic opportunities for their communities, country and citizens.



(Fellows at the US Capitol)

To learn more about the program visit our website
<http://professionalfellows.americancouncils.org>

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What is expected from a host organization? To appoint a dedicated “YSEALI PFP Fellow Coordinator” who is a) willing to supervise the fellow and liaise weekly with the American Councils and b) who is interested in working with the fellow to develop his or her professional goals both in the United States and in his/her home country. American Councils will work with host organizations to develop meaningful and mutually beneficial fellowship experiences. Templates and guidance in this regard are already available.

What organizations hosted fellows in the past? Fellows are placed in businesses, NGO offices, accelerators, incubators, government offices working on economic development, and universities. Past placements have included MassChallenge, State Commerce Departments, Deloitte, the Office of Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, the California Legislative Counsel, the Office of US Senator Dan Coats, Starbucks, and many others.

How are Fellows selected? They are selected through a competitive nationwide search that involves an extensive written application and in-person interviews with American Councils and U.S. Embassy staff.

Will Fellows speak English well enough to perform tasks such as writing memos or answering phone calls? Yes. While a Fellow’s English may not be perfect, it will meet strict standards that ensure success in a professional English speaking environment.

How much will Fellows know about the US system of business and our office in particular so that they may make the most of their time in the US? American Councils prepares pre-departure reading materials on various topics related to US government. In addition, we will work with hosts to disseminate other information deemed necessary.

What kinds of tasks can a Fellow perform? Fellows can perform a wide variety of tasks, ranging from answering constituent letters to independent research. American Councils will work with hosts to design a meaningful and mutually beneficial program based on the Fellow’s background and the host’s needs.

How will Fellows be monitored? American Councils uses online surveys, email and telephone calls to monitor progress. We are always available to support both worksite supervisors and fellows during the program.

What are the obligations of a host? We’d love to have a Fellow, but cannot commit to doing a lot of extra work in order to do so. Hosting should not be seen as an obligation but rather a unique opportunity. Past hosts have enjoyed the international perspective Fellows brought to their workplace and commented that Fellows were able to successfully perform “real” work. American Councils will prepare Fellows so that they can “hit the ground running” and will help guide hosts in their preparation for the Fellow’s arrival.

What types of outbound projects will Fellows and Americans create? This is entirely up the Fellow and host. Potential ideas can include a forum on ASEAN enlargement process, workshop on women business participation in Burma, and designing capacity building workshop for young business leaders.

What are the odds of being selected to travel outbound? We anticipate that not every host will be willing or able to participate in the outbound portion of the program, so the odds are good.