

EU-ASEAN Sustainable Connectivity Package - Higher Education Programme (SCOPE-HE)

Call for ASEAN University Participation in the 2nd EU-ASEAN Policy Dialogue on Higher Education

26-28 May 2025, Brussels, Belgium

1. Background

The European Union (EU) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) continue to strengthen their strategic partnership through promoting sustainable connectivity and cooperation in higher education, research, and skills development.

In this context, the Sustainable Connectivity Package - Higher Education Programme (SCOPE-HE) is organising the **EU-ASEAN Policy Dialogue on Higher Education: The Sustainable Connectivity Showcase** in Brussels, Belgium, on 26-27 May 2025. Additionally, a **networking event** for EU and ASEAN universities will take place on 28 May 2025 to foster institutional partnerships and academic collaboration.

To reinforce ASEAN's role in shaping higher education policy, a total of eleven universities, one from each ASEAN member state and Timor Leste, will be selected to participate. To ensure strong institutional commitment and effective policy engagement, SCOPE-HE will sponsor one representative per university, with an emphasis on high-level participation.

2. Objective of the Call

This call seeks to identify one university from each ASEAN member state and Timor Leste to participate in the Policy Dialogue and networking event. The Concept Note for the Policy Dialogue can be accessed here: <https://s.id/029-SCOPE-HE>.

Selected universities will:

- Contribute to policy discussions on key higher education issues relevant to ASEAN-EU collaboration.
- Share insights into their institutional initiatives, challenges, and opportunities within the key topics of the Policy Dialogue.
- Explore new collaboration opportunities with European institutions during the networking event on **Internationalisation and Widening Collaboration among European and Southeast Asian Higher Education Institutions**.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Universities applying for participation must:

- a. Be a recognised public or private higher education institution in one of the ten ASEAN member states and Timor Leste.

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- b. Demonstrate active engagement in one or more of the themes of the Policy Dialogue.
- c. Be experienced in international partnerships, particularly with EU Higher Education Institutions (preferred but not required).
- d. Be committed to sending a high-level representative (e.g., President/Rector, Vice President, or senior representative) to the event.

5. Submission Requirements

Interested universities must complete the **online application form** (link: <https://s.id/030-SCOPE-HE>) and submit a **letter of interest** by **7 March 2025**.

The **letter of interest** (maximum 500 words) should elaborate on any existing or planned collaborations with EU institutions, highlighting key areas of cooperation and expected outcomes. If no current or planned collaborations exist, please describe your university's strategy or plans for developing partnerships with EU Higher Education Institutions.

6. Selection Criteria and Announcement

Applications will be assessed based on the relevance of the university's mission and activities to Policy Dialogue themes and SCOPE-HE objectives, institutional commitment to internationalisation and EU-ASEAN higher education cooperation (including strategic priorities, support for mobility and sending a high-level representative), and regional representation by ensuring one university is selected from each ASEAN Member State and Timor Leste, prioritising those with a strong commitment to regional cooperation and knowledge sharing in cases of multiple strong applications from the same country.

The universities selected will be **announced on 14 March 2025** and subsequently will receive a formal invitation letter.

7. Support for Selected Participants

SCOPE-HE will cover the following expenses of one participant per selected university:

- **Round-trip transportation** (economy class airfare)
- **Accommodation** in Brussels
- **Daily Allowance**
- **Meals** during the policy dialogue and networking event
- **Visa fees**

Not covered by SCOPE-HE are personal expenses, travel insurance.

8. Contact Information

For further inquiries, please contact **scope-he@nuffic.nl**

We look forward to your participation in shaping the future of EU-ASEAN higher education collaboration!