

21st Century **reality** for all young Australians



- Globalisation:
connected people
 - Global issues:
connected countries
 - Rise of Asia:
Asia and Australia
- = **new skills, knowledge,
understandings
required**

POLICY



Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians, Ministerial Council, 2008

“Global integration and international mobility have increased rapidly in the past decade. As a consequence new and exciting **opportunities** for Australians are emerging.

This heightens **the need** to nurture an appreciation of and respect for social, cultural and religious diversity and a sense of global citizenship...

India, China and other Asian nations are growing and their influence on the world is increasing. **Australians need to become Asia literate**, engaging and building strong relationships with Asia.”

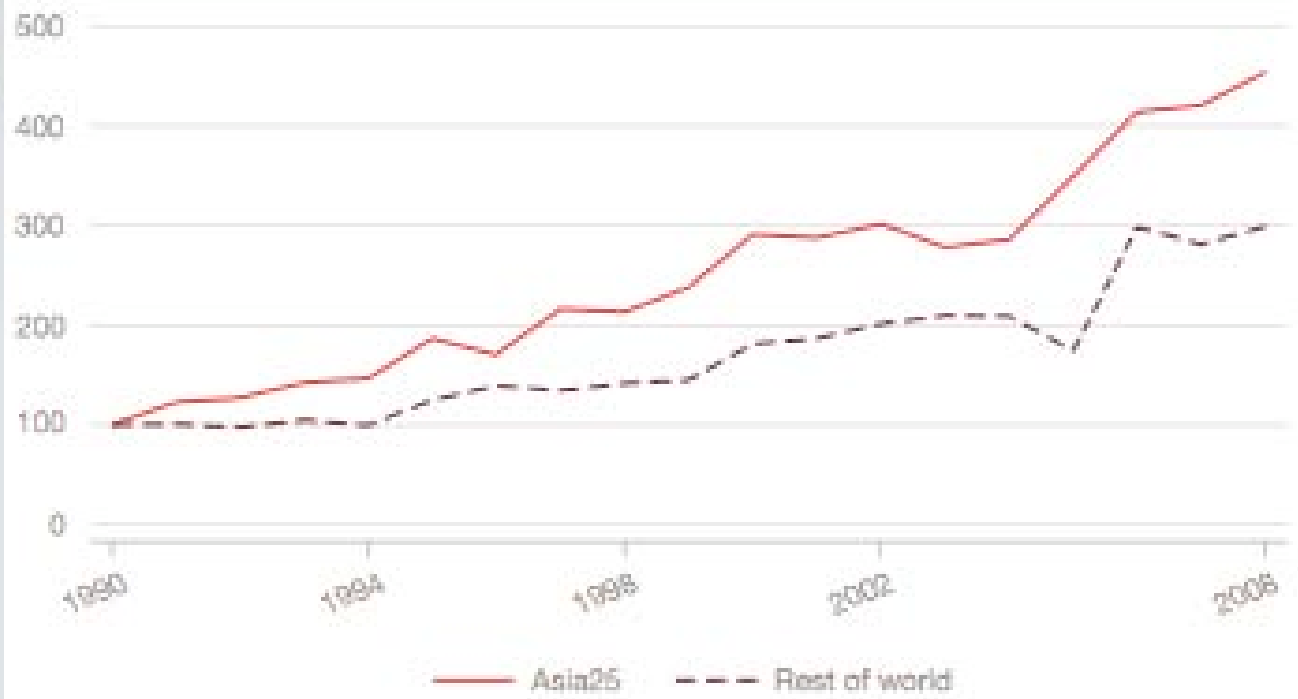
“Australians need to become Asia literate”



An ‘Asia literate’ Australia means that **every student** will develop knowledge, skills and understandings about the histories, geographies, cultures, arts and literatures of the diverse countries of Asia through their schooling...

and the cohort of students also fluent in an **Asian language** will be substantially expanded.

PricewaterhouseCoopers **Asialink Index**



Australia in the 21st century



OUR PROSPERITY

- Top four trading partners: China, Japan, US and South Korea
- A **child** starting school in Australia today will enter their working life in **2030**: just at the time when China and India become the world's major economies...
- In 2011, 74% of Australian businesses operating in Asia or indicated interest in expanding into Asia

OUR PEOPLE

- 40% of Australia's immigration intake from Asia - mainly India and China
- 800,000 Australians speak an Asian language at home; Buddhism is our fastest growing religion
- 24% of Australians anti-Asian; 48% anti- Muslim; 12% identify as racist. (University of Western Sydney Feb 2011)

Australia in the 21st century



OUR PROXIMITY

- Australia needs to work with Asian countries to resolve climate change, people movement, security, biodiversity, economy and health issues
- Asia is the largest recipient of Australia's humanitarian aid
- Asia: two thirds of world population

OUR CREATIVITY

- Our cultural, spiritual and physical lives are enriched by Asia: contributing to what it means to be *Australian* today
- Our young people gain new knowledge from Asia: equipping them for a global economy - and as global citizens
- China: now Australia's major scientific partner

New **Australian Curriculum**



**Asia and
Australia's
engagement with
Asia: a priority
for all students**

**Intercultural
understanding:
a capability
required by all
students**

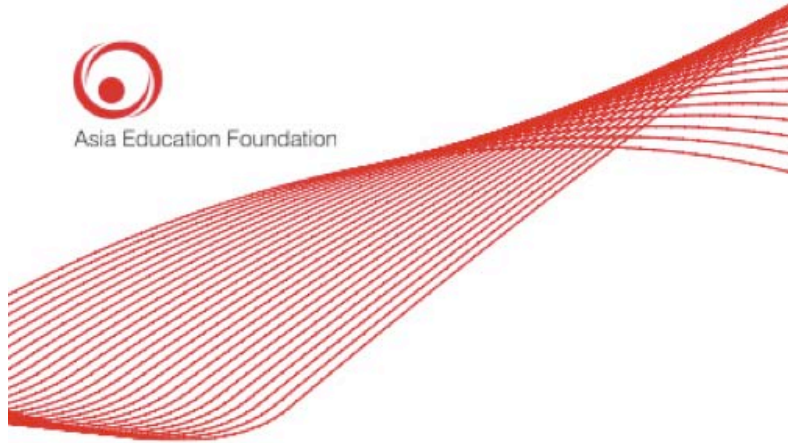
Challenge: Asian Languages

- Only 18% of Australian school students study an Asian language
- Decreases to 5.8% in Year 12
- 94% of year 12 students of Chinese have Chinese background
- Indonesian is losing 10,000 students per year since 2005
- Japanese declined 20% - now mostly in primary schools
- Korean taught in very few schools.

Challenge: Asia across curriculum



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Research Report

Studies of Asia in Year 12

April 2009

Jenny Wilkinson
Gina Milgate

In NSW Modern History,
National Studies Module:

- 2% chose China
- 4% chose India, Japan, Indonesia and Australia combined
- 4% - South Africa
- 6% - USA
- 65% - Germany
- 19% - Russia/Soviet Union



AEF key levers of change

1 System policy and investment

1 **Building “demand”**: engage principals, teachers, students and the community including parents, universities, business, media and government

1 Ensuring “supply”

- Build capacity of **school leaders** to ensure **whole school commitment** to deliver an Asia-engaged curriculum
- Build **pre and in-service teacher knowledge** to deliver an Asia-engaged curriculum
- Provide **curriculum resources, networks and opportunities** to support delivery of an Asia-engaged curriculum.

4 Partnerships

NALSSP

National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program

Becoming Asia Literate: Grants to Schools

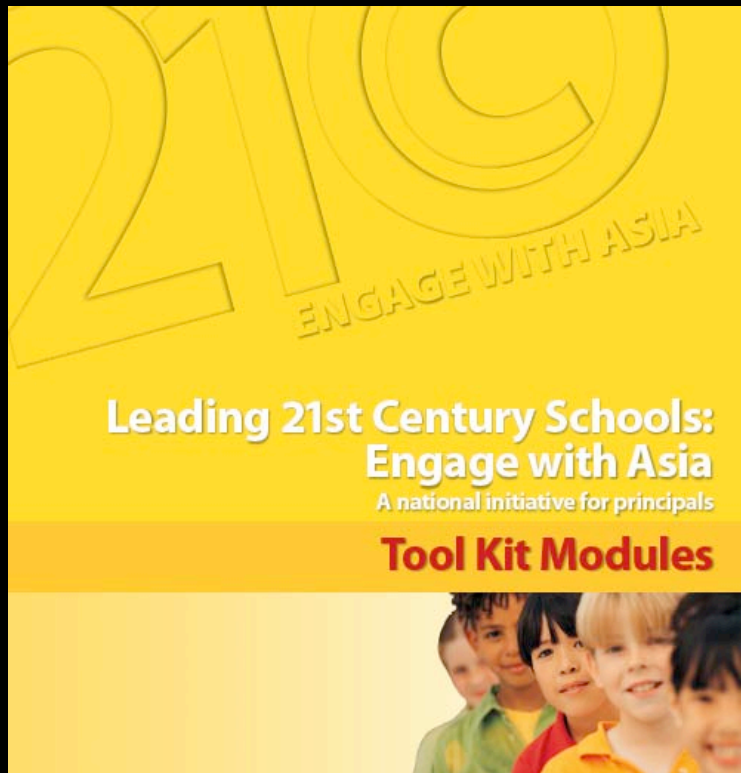
APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS ROUND 3 OPEN MAY 2011



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www.deewr.gov.au/schooling/nalssp

Engage with Asia: Leading Change Principal's Tool Kit



- Indicators of an 'Asia literate' school
- Audit tools
- Parent resources
- Curriculum resources
- On-line discussion group
- Participant network
- Principals Australia free, on-line module
- Study Tours

www.asiaeducation.edu.au



Asia Education Foundation



For teachers


For school leaders

For students

For parents

Partners

Access Asia resources: Richer than the Silk Road

Find resources 

The Asia Education Foundation (AEF) is a joint activity of **Asialink** at the University of Melbourne and **Education Services Australia Ltd.** The AEF advocates for and supports Asia literacy in Australian schools.



For teachers

Develop confidence in teaching through up-to-date curriculum review and professional learning. Learn more

- » [Primary school resources](#)
- » [Secondary school resources](#)

www.asiaeducation.edu.au



AEF Partners:

Asia Literacy Education, Business and Community Alliance

Peak Education Organisations

Art Education Australia
Asia Education Teachers Association
Asialink
Asian Studies Association of Australia
Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia
Australian College of Educators
Australian Council for Educational Leaders
Australian Council for Educational Research
Australian Council of State School Organisations
Australian Curriculum Studies Association Inc
Australian Education Union
Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations Inc
Australian Federation of Societies for Studies of Society and Environment
Australian Geography Teachers' Association
Australian Literacy Educators' Association
Australian Parents Council
Australian Primary Principals Association
Australian Professional Teachers Association
Australian Secondary Principals Association Inc
Business Educators Australasia
Catholic Secondary Principals Australia
Centre for Strategic Education
Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Council of International Schools
e:lit - the Primary English Teaching Association
Independent Schools Council of Australia
National Advocates for Arts Education
Principals Australia
Social Educators Association of Australia
The University of Melbourne

Business Alliance for Asia Literacy⁵

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Australian Industry Group
Australian Services Roundtable
Business Council of Australia
Australia-ASEAN Business Council
Australia China Business Council
Australia Indonesia Business Council
Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee
Australia Korea Business Council
Australia Singapore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Ltd
Australia Taiwan Business Council

OPPORTUNITY



“The opportunities offered to Australia by the ‘Asian Century’ will not materialize by themselves.

Prospects in Asia are strong – but large gaps in experience and skills”

Engaging Asia: Getting it right for Australian business Australian Industry Group & Asialink 2011

Asia literacy

- Equip our people and our nation for the **21st century**
- Provide a **world class** curriculum
- Promote **social cohesion**
- Provide an Asia –ready **workforce** to support business
- Provide young people with a **global competitive edge**
- Contribute to a prosperous, peaceful, secure, harmonious, sustainable, enriched and exciting **future for all our people.**

....investment is required at Government, school and classroom levels.



The world of tomorrow is being shaped
in your classrooms today