



**Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,**

we are happy to announce that the development of ASAF on the whole is progressing quickly. Therefore, we herewith want to provide you with our 3rd Newsletter to keep you in the loop of ASAF's progress.

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## **1) European Development Days (EDD)**

**ASAF will be present with two members.**

Once again, the European Development Days (EDD) will host the Young Leaders Programme from June 9th to 10th 2020 in Brussels, this year under the heading of "The Green Deal for a Sustainable Future" (for further information, click [here](#)).

The Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) is looking for two ASAF members to support their team as volunteers during the EDDs. Your tasks would include the participation in the promotional activities that DG EAC will organise at the event, e.g. helping out at DG EAC's stand talking to visitors, taking part in mini panels, etc. In the framework of this voluntary service, all travel and subsistence costs (2 days + travel) will be covered by ASAF.

Are you an ASAF member? Are you proficient in English (French and Portuguese as a second language would be an asset)? Are you familiar with this year's EDDs topic "The Green Deal for a Sustainable Future"?

Then please apply for the voluntary participation in the [ASAF online-community](#).

You can find the link to the application form the general newsfeed.

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## 2) ASAF-Logo

**Open discussion and space to comment in the online community is launched.**

As you already might know, we are diligently working on the logos and design templates for the future ASAF Website. Together with the logo development group some possible suitable logos have already been identified. For the further steps, we would now like to know how the ASAF Community assesses these logo drafts. Taking this input into account, the so called selection group 2 (composed i.a. by the European Commission, ASAF Logo Task Force, the Community Manager and the Communication Expert) will make the final decision according to the evaluated comments in the ASAF Community.

All ASAF members have been invited by separate e-mail to comment on and provide feedback regarding the logo prototypes. Please note that the logo survey will be **closed on Sun, 08th March** at midnight CET.

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## 3) ASAF-Website

**Closely related to the Logo process the Website development is making good progress.**

ASAF IT Development Task Force

The "IT Development Task Force" is currently working on the content and design of the future ASAF website. To make the whole website development project more feasible, two exemplary websites have been selected. The respective task force could then pick and mix the best features, e.g. font, colour scheme, menu navigation, calendar and event features etc. of the suggested exemplary websites. The task force and the community management are now working on consolidating all the ideas and proposals for the IT service provider. The website is designed to be in French and English to increase outreach.

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## 4) ASAF Survey

**The Service Provider in close collaboration with the Survey Task Force starts the development of the 1st ASAF survey.**

As part of the set-up of ASAF a survey about international mobility students and staff in and from Africa and the impact of the mobility on their development will be conducted. This survey aims to better understand the ASAF members from the different programmes, to identify the impact mobility programmes have on individuals, institutions and Higher Education systems and to elaborate how mobility in Africa can be strengthened, further improved as well as to define the role the Alumni can play.

With regard to this survey, it is crucial to have the diversity of ASAF covered and thus to be able to ask the right questions and to develop a suitable design for the survey. The Service Provider's survey experts from the Institute for Advanced Studies ([IHS](#)) will therefore liaise

with the members and start the development process. The majority of the process will be implemented remotely. However, small groups might meet in person from time to time.

The participants of the regional Workshops have already been invited to show their interest to contribute in the Survey Task Force. We are delighted to inform you that already 35 committed members of ASAF decided to join this endeavour. They already formed a group in the [ASAF online-community](#) to better collaborate.

After the first steps being taken and the process being better defined, every ASAF member will be invited to contribute to the success of this survey. We will keep you informed.

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## **5) ASAF strategic development meeting to come**

**ASAF volunteers will meet to discuss the next steps and specific actions for 2020.**

After the strategy kick-off meeting in Bonn last September and the very successful four regional Workshops in Accra, Rabat, Pretoria and Addis Ababa later last year, it deems to be necessary to schedule another small strategic meeting to define and agree on the next important steps for ASAF. This meeting is scheduled for April 17th – 19th 2020 and is currently planned to be held in Dakar, Senegal. A small but representative group of ASAF members, covering the diversity of the continent and the programmes ASAF addresses, will be invited. The experience and knowledge of the ASAF volunteers already supporting the ASAF idea for several years will be complemented by “new” members adding additional aspects to the networks as well as the experience of the past four regional workshops.

Please stay tuned, we will keep you informed about the further development.

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## **6) ASAF projects in Africa for Africa**

**To increase the impact, visibility of ASAF as well as the chance for ASAF members to contribute and to participate, it is foreseen to make happen a number of projects with and for ASAF members across Africa.**

These projects will often build on the great ideas developed by the members during the ASAF workshops and will mainly serve two aims (in this first round). On the one hand they should empower ASAF volunteers and provide them with the skills they need to successfully work on ASAF topics, on the other hand the projects should enable to increase the visibility of ASAF, the visibility of mobility programmes and promote ASAF membership.

Please stay tuned for more information to be distributed via the [ASAF online-community](#) and social media channels.

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## 7) Get engaged

### How can ASAF members contribute to the success of ASAF?

ASAF can only flourish with the commitment and the contributions of its high qualified members. The vast set of experiences and skills combined by ASAF members will be able to tackle all challenges. Already the regional Workshops showed that the Forum combines excellent volunteers for all the different needs ASAF might have.

ASAF needs your help and your contribution. Several areas already have been identified in which ASAF volunteers can perfectly contribute to the further development of the Forum:

Corporate Design/ Logo, Multilingualism/Translation, Social Media, IT development, Vision and Mission statement, Internal Affairs, Community Development, Membership Promotion and Volunteer Activation, Professional Development.

If you are an ASAF member and you are interested in contributing to the further development of ASAF, please become a member of the group you are interested in via the [ASAF online-community](#).

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## 8) Social Media

### We need ASAF to be seen. Help us to spread the word.

There is nothing as important for a Forum like ASAF as its outreach. Therefore, it is crucial that we get in contact with interested and important addressees all over Africa. Different countries, different cultures and different generations are using different means of communication. But we have to reach out to all of them.

Therefore, please follow us on our social media accounts and share the content. Find your friends on photos from the events and comment them. Help to make the networks even more vital and alive.



Kind regards,  
Your ASAF-Team

Contact information:

Topics concerning general questions about ASAF or mobility:

[info@asaf.africa](mailto:info@asaf.africa) or call +49 221 25997921.

Technical assistance: [it-support@asaf.africa](mailto:it-support@asaf.africa) or call +49 221 139319-0.

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