



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01 August 2024 **Period start date** To 31 July 2025 **Period end date**

Charity name: Association of Southeast Asian Studies in the United Kingdom

Charity registration number: 1170590

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The overall object of ASEAS(UK) is to advance the education of the public on the subject of Southeast Asia and to promote research for the public benefit in all disciplines of that subject and to disseminate the useful results by such means as the trustees see fit.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Research Impact Award The 2024-25 Research Impact Award, which is awarded annually to members of ASEAS to support research and impact activities in Southeast Asian Studies, was awarded to Ci Yan Sara Loh (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa) for their project 'Songs of the Temuan of Bukit Tadam: Documenting Echoes and Rhythms of Land and Life Along the Lower Langat River'. The project will see the creation of a bilingual (English and Malay) song book, that documents, using photographs, illustrations and creative texts, Temuan song and dance. Master's Dissertation Prize The 2024/2025 ASEAS Master's Dissertation Prize was awarded to Vincen Gregory Yu. Vincen's dissertation 'Monolithic medicine: Unsettling vaccine hesitancy in COVID-era Philippines', was submitted as part of their MA in Anthropology at the University of Sydney in 2024. Vincen's dissertation provides a much-needed departure from existing debates on vaccine hesitancy in the Philippines (and the larger Southeast Asian region), which have tended to ascribe hesitancy to misinformation, conspiracy theories, belief in traditional medical systems, and the public's so-called 'misunderstanding of

		<p>science'. The significant contribution of this thesis lies in its explication of the role of power—in public health governance, and in people's everyday encounters with the health system—in shaping ordinary citizens' decisions to delay or reject vaccinations.</p> <p>The ASEAS Master's Dissertation Prize showcases outstanding humanities and social science research on Southeast Asia from postgraduate students across the world.</p> <p>International PhD Workshop Sponsored by the University of Leeds, the 2025 ASEAS International PhD Workshop was hosted by Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand and took place from 20–21 May 2025. Twenty-four PhD students from across Southeast Asia, Australia and Europe participated in the workshop, alongside six academic advisors.</p> <p>This international PhD workshop provided an excellent opportunity for current and prospective PhD students to receive an intensive review of chapters and proposals by senior advisors. It was a great way for participants to meet like-minded PhD students and experts working in Southeast Asia, to exchange views on cutting edge research and the most critical issues of the day. Participants also benefitted from additional skills sessions on 'career development' and 'how to get published'.</p> <p>The next workshop will take place from 30–31 July 2026 and is hosted by Monash University Malaysia.</p> <p>ASEAS Biannual Conference The 33rd Association of Southeast Asian Studies conference was held at St John's College, University of Cambridge from 15–17 September 2025 and will be reported on in the next Annual Report.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	ASEAS Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	In accordance with ASEAS(UK) Constitution clause 18(1) (Delegation by charity trustees), the Executive Committee

		shall appoint a Research Committee of three members, at least one of whom should also be a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall appoint the Chair and Secretary of the Research Committee for the purpose of raising research funds and deciding upon their allocation on behalf of ASEAS(UK).
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Awards and Prizes</p> <p>The Research Impact Award awards £1500 per year to an early career scholar to undertake fieldwork in Southeast Asia, fostering new research and publications, whilst advancing their career. The RIA also supports the development or dissemination of a film, audio piece, website, or other artistic project to communicate research outside of academia and to engage broader audiences with the Southeast Asian Studies community. The Master's Dissertation Prize provides a small financial reward (£150 to the winning dissertation author) but significantly raises the profile of Master's students. They are also awarded a free ASEAS membership, enabling them to foster new connections and networks.</p> <p>Conference</p> <p>The biannual ASEAS conferences are an invaluable opportunity for Southeast Asia-focused researchers to network and present their research. They also provide a chance for early career scholars to build their profile and establish important connections. Work presented at the conferences covers a range of topics across eras, geographies and disciplines and has the potential to reshape the wider</p>

		<p>field of Southeast Asian Studies. The 2025 conference was held in the UK but included a day for online presentations which made it much more accessible to the Southeast Asia-based Southeast Asian Studies community.</p> <p>Member Newsletter The monthly membership newsletter is an invaluable addition to the ASEAS membership offering, providing information on opportunities, the latest research, as well as highlighting the achievements of members, including recent publications, awards and grants.</p> <p>Membership and Social Media We currently have 489 members, which is more than double the figure reported in last year's Annual Report. This increase is due to the 2025 Conference at the University of Cambridge, which attracted nearly 300 in person attendees and 120 online attendees.</p> <p>The Facebook page has 6,724 followers, which is a 48.7% increase from 2024; the Facebook Group has 10,304 members; Instagram has 110 followers; and LinkedIn, which was established in September 2025, has 778 followers. Our social media pages provide a lively forum for news and discussion between academics and interested members of the public across the UK and Southeast Asia.</p>
--	--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

--	--	--

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Total of £37,146.00 in assets at the end of the period. Income of £23,426.00 against a total expenditure of £8,804.00. Annual profit of £14,622.00.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity does not have a reserves policy.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	No concerns as it stands about the charity continuing as a going concern. We have had a strong year, driven by a marked increase in event revenue. This has allowed the charity to be dynamic in its research award offering and expand our stipended core team. We outperformed our annual profit target of £5,000 by almost 3 times. This allows the organisation to continue to put on large-scale conferences such as our most recent event at the University of Cambridge.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Membership fees and the biennial conference.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Members of the Executive Committee of ASEAS(UK) will become trustees of ASEAS(UK) on first election to the Executive Committee (unless they are ineligible for one of the reasons described in clause (2) below) and will remain a trustee until they leave the Executive Committee.</p> <p>The Executive Committee will manage the affairs of ASEAS(UK) and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of ASEAS(UK).</p> <p>(2) Eligibility for trusteeship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every charity trustee must be a natural person. • Membership of the Executive Committee (including renewal of Executive Committee membership) is through nomination and support of two other full members of ASEAS(UK). • Each nominee must have been a full member of ASEASUK for at least a year prior to being nominated. • No one may be appointed as a charity trustee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - if he or she is under the age of 16 years; or - if he or she would automatically cease to hold office under the provisions of clause 15(1)(d). <p>No-one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her acceptance of the office of charity trustee.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------	--

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Association of Southeast Asian Studies in the United Kingdom
Other name the charity uses	ASEAS(UK) / ASEAS
Registered charity number	1170590
Charity's principal address	Centre of South East Asian Studies SOAS, University of London Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square WC1H 0XG

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Adam Tyson	Chair		
2	Kimberley Weir	Operations Director		
3	Elliot Newbold	Financial Director		
4	Kellynn Wee	Communications Director	To October 2024	
	Chanapang Pongpiboonkiat	Communications Director	From October 2024	
5	Thomas Kingston	Editorial Director		
6	Stephanie Benzaquen-Gautier			
7	Mike Charney			
8	Fakhriati Fakhriati		To March 2025	
9	Tilman Frasch		To March 2025	
10	Dylan Gaffney			
11	Michael Leadbetter		To March 2025	
12	Ronan Lee			
13	Nick Long			
14	May Tan-Mullins			
15	Ben Murtagh			
16	Louis O'Sullivan		To September 2024	
17	Laurie Parsons			
18	Amanda Rogers			
19	Charlie Rumsby		To March 2025	
20	Russell Yap			
21	Claire Smith		From April 2025	
22	Liana Chua		From April 2025	
23	Milda Istiqomah		From April 2025	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--



Other optional information

--

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Kimberley Weir	Adam Tyson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Operations Director	Chair
Date	14.05.2026	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Association of Southeast Asian Studies (UK)

1170590

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
31/07/2024


To

Period end date
31/07/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Payments	3,928	-	-	3,928	5,223
Gross Interest	376	-	-	376	328
Event Revenue	19,122	-	-	19,122	15,903
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	23,426	-	-	23,426	21,454
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,426	-	-	23,426	21,454
A3 Payments					
Research Awards	3,250	-	-	3,250	227
Stipend	3,334	-	-	3,334	3,500
Reimburse for Services	2,087	-	-	2,087	13,317
Bank charges	133	-	-	133	132
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	8,804	-	-	8,804	17,176
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	8,804	-	-	8,804	17,176
Net of receipts/(payments)	14,622	-	-	14,622	4,278
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,524	-	-	22,524	-
Cash funds this year end	37,146	-	-	37,146	4,278

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Community Account	1,146	-	-
	Business Account	36,000	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	37,146	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		KIMBERLEY WEIR	14.05.2026	