

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Story Grants for
Reporting on ASEAN Issues



They are still called ASEAN's newer entrants, but Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam have been members of Southeast Asia's main regional grouping for two decades or more now. They are part of the ASEAN Community which, currently on its fourth year, has set a vision for deepening integration till 2025, and is now looking at 2040 and beyond.

The integration process of CLMV, as the group is called, into ASEAN and the ASEAN Community, involves taking in ASEAN ways and habits, as regional linkages play a bigger role in national priorities. A good amount of these countries' commitments under the Community blueprints came into full play in 2018.

All these mean that the ASEAN story is here to stay.

In an interconnected world where the lines between regional and domestic news have become blurred, these alert journalists to many cross-border issues around CLMV's space in the ASEAN integration project. ASEAN stories are no longer foreign stories.

But while media coverage mentions the ASEAN Community and ASEAN integration a lot, these tend to lump CLMV issues under those of the ASEAN-6 countries – the older, more developed ASEAN states. This tends to crowd out their unique perspectives, including the challenges they face with development gaps within ASEAN. At the same time, local media houses do not always have staff focusing on ASEAN issues, or have opportunities for in-house training on regional perspectives.

The [Reporting ASEAN](#) program aims to address these news challenges by providing a professional media space for CLMV journalists to focus on improving, and using, skills for analyzing ASEAN integration and community issues. For instance, how is the CLMV group adapting to becoming ASEAN? How has ASEAN membership and integration made a difference to them, whether in foreign policy, trade and economics, education, environment or disaster management? How can journalists capture the CLMV countries' nuances and tell their stories in a solid, engaging manner that combines interviews, statistics and people's voices?

Reporting ASEAN's CLMV Integration Series seeks original, relevant and creative story proposals from journalists from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam that focus on their countries and subregion's engagement with ASEAN community-building.

The Reporting ASEAN program, hosted by [Probe Media Foundation Inc](#), is an independent media venue for strengthening reporting skills and critical coverage of the role and impact of ASEAN and regional integration. The CLMV Integration Series, the program's fourth round of fellowships since 2014, is supported by the [Lower Mekong Initiative](#) and the US State Department.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

The Reporting ASEAN program is looking for quality story proposals from journalists who are curious about issues beyond their national borders and want to go beyond their regular news routines to do in-depth reporting with a regional perspective, into CLMV's place in the larger ASEAN. Covering ASEAN issues does not mean only events at the high-level summits and ministerial meetings.

Applicants have creative room to propose stories from a wide range of themes related to ASEAN issues. This call for proposals would give priority to stories that focus on environment and sustainability (including marine waste, plastics, renewables and waste management), impact of economic integration, ASEAN identity, and challenges that are unique to CLMV.

WHO CAN APPLY

The Integration Series is open to journalists with at least three years of experience, from the CLMV countries, who work in print, photojournalism, television/radio/audio and multimedia. It is open to both staff journalists and freelancers who can show regular work with their targeted news outlets.

Those accepted in the series would:

- be correspondents on ASEAN/regional news issues from April to September 2019, working with the Reporting ASEAN desk
- take part in an editorial workshop in Bangkok in April 2019 that touches on both thematic ASEAN/CLMV issues as well as storytelling skills in digital media spaces
- have coverage grants of 600 to 800 USD to produce two story assignments on the approved topics over a three-month period (until July 2019)

STORY OUTPUTS

The following editorial outputs are to be produced by journalists accepted in the series:

- for print journalists: two sets of feature stories/articles totaling 1,000-1,200 words
- for photojournalists: a photo essay of 8 selected quality photos and an accompanying narrative of up to 700 words
- for broadcast journalists (radio and TV): two video reports of 2-3 minutes each or two podcasts/audio features of 7-8 minutes each
- for multimedia journalists, a mix of the abovementioned print, photo, audio and/or video materials

Selected fellows would carry out this coverage project as part of their work with their media houses, because Reporting ASEAN aims to work your newsrooms. Their stories would be published in their media outlets, whether local-language or English.

Reporting ASEAN accepts proposals in local languages. Translation will be provided during the workshop.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Reporting ASEAN encourages applicants to have the following elements in their proposals:

- **Relevance** - Does the story proposal fit the series' goals, and explain why media audiences and CLMV countries need to know about it?
- **Originality** - What is new/different about the topic, be it the perspective, the subject or an under-reported aspect?
- **Creativity** - How does the proposal use solid storytelling, including ways of visualization, imagery, or data presentation?
- **Preparation & Feasibility** - How thorough, well researched, practical is the story plan?
- **Variety of voices** - Does the story proposal consciously vary sources to include not only state voices, but those of individuals and sources from different professional backgrounds and gender?

HOW TO APPLY

The application kit can be downloaded from <http://www.aseannews.net/clmvseries2019open>, and application forms submitted online at <http://bit.ly/clmvseries2019forms> . (The set of forms can also be found in PDF on the succeeding pages.)

Applicants also need to email to reportingasean@gmail.com samples of work as follows:

- scanned copies of, or links to, clippings of three bylined articles (for print journalists)
- three published photos/photo essays (for photojournalists)
- at least two sample video or radio/audio segments/podcasts that have been aired, either files or online links (for broadcast – TV and radio/audio journalists)
- scanned copies of, or links to, at least two published features/multimedia outputs (for multimedia journalists)

For questions and information, write us at reportingasean@gmail.com.



CLMV Integration Story Series 2019 APPLICATION KIT

Deadline for submission: 1 March 2019

Send completed applications to reportingasean@gmail.com

Submit online applications at <http://bit.ly/clmvseries2019forms>.

Information also available at <http://www.aseannews.net/clmvseries2019open>.

PART ONE: INFORMATION SHEET

Applicants must be:

- citizens of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar or Vietnam
- journalists and media practitioners with a bona fide media organization or freelance journalists able to show a track record of regular contributions
- able to submit a complete set of application documents (with Part One and Part Two)
- able to attend the Reporting ASEAN media workshop to be held in Bangkok, Thailand in April 2019

Personal and Contact Information	
Full Name (as it appears in passport)	
Age:	Date of birth:
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Country of residence/work:	Nationality:
Home address:	
Email address:	Mobile phone number:
Passport number, date of issue and expiry:	
Professional Information	
Type of media organization (please check):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> Television station
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine (indicate frequency)	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo agency
<input type="checkbox"/> News agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Radio station
<input type="checkbox"/> Online publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify):
Name of organization and URL/website of media outlet:	Language/s of media outlet:
Office address:	
Position:	
Description of responsibilities:	
Social media accounts/chat applications used (please tick):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Facebook <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter <input type="checkbox"/> LinkedIn <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram <input type="checkbox"/> LINE <input type="checkbox"/> Signal <input type="checkbox"/> Telegram <input type="checkbox"/> WhatsApp <input type="checkbox"/> Viber <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify:)	

The [Reporting ASEAN program](#) is being implemented by [Probe Media Foundation Inc](#)

Manila – (63-2) 433 0456 | Bangkok – (66 81) 8896755 | reportingasean@gmail.com | www.aseannews.net

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Years in media work:	
Previous media experience (please include organizations and dates):	
Other professional experience (please indicate organizations and dates):	
Language skills:	
Subjects of news interest/specialization:	
Applicant's Confirmation and Supervisor's Endorsement	
<p>I confirm that the information stated above are true and correct. Should I be accepted in the CLMV Integration Series of the Reporting ASEAN program, I will fulfill the requirements of the project and make myself available for the workshop to be held in Bangkok, Thailand in April 2019.</p> <p>My supervisor, whose name and contact details are provided below, is aware of this application and has allowed me to participate in the CLMV Series of the Reporting ASEAN program, and fulfill its requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature and Date</p>	
Supervisor's Details (The applicant's immediate supervisor will be contacted for confirmation.)	
Name of Supervisor:	
Position:	Email address:
Organization:	Mobile phone number:
References (Provide the names of at least two persons who are familiar with your work and can be contacted for further details. They cannot be family members.)	
Name:	
Position:	Organization:
Mobile phone number:	Email address:



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PART TWO: STORY PROPOSAL FORM

Applicant's Details
Full Name:
Name of Media Organization:
Name of Media Outlet/Program/Section where material will be published or aired (if different from name of organization)
Story Proposal Details
Application type (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Print <input type="checkbox"/> Photo <input type="checkbox"/> Television <input type="checkbox"/> Radio/Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia
Topic/subject and focus (Indicate the ASEAN/regional topic to cover and the specific angle you will take):
Places of coverage: (Indicate cities, places where coverage will take place, and organizations and locations for interviews and shooting.)
Story Summary and Background (In a maximum of 10 sentences, Please explain why your proposed topic is newsworthy, what makes it new and different. Adequate research and homework with facts and some figures are strongly advised.)

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Interviewees/sources and/or images (Indicate the kinds of people you plan to interview and images you would like to use.)

Timeframe (Describe your work plan for interviews, writing, research, production and post-production. Provide dates and specific activity.)

CHECKLIST OF SUBMISSIONS to send to reportingasean@gmail.com:

- Complete set of application documents - consisting of Information Sheet (Part One) and Story Proposal Form (Part Two)
- Samples of work:
 - Scanned copies of, or links to, clippings of three bylined articles (for print journalists)
 - Three published photos/photo essays (for photojournalists)
 - At least two sample video or radio/audio segments/podcasts that have been aired, either files or online links (for broadcast – TV and radio/audio journalists)
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