



Australian Government  
Australian Public Service  
Commission

**LAFIA 2009**



# Leading Australia's Future in Asia

30 May–20 June 2009  
China and South Korea

LAFIA (Leading Australia's Future in Asia) is part of a suite of leadership programmes developed by the Australian Public Service Commission for senior public service executives. It is delivered in conjunction with the

Crawford School of Economics and Government at The Australian National University, with support and input from the Australian Public Service Commission and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

# LAFIA programs are essential to building the

“ skills of our key decision makers ”

Senior Treasury Official

## Programme background

Join a diverse and high profile group of senior executives as part of LAFIA Asia 2009.

LAFIA Asia 2009 analyses Australia's contemporary engagement with Asia. You will be encouraged as a senior executive to think about the effects of current developments within the region on Australia, your agency and yourself as a leader in government.

The unique and challenging political, economic, strategic and social issues in the Asia region increasingly influence Australia's directions and policies. The East Asian economies of China and South Korea are now facing challenging times as the global economic crisis threatens to engulf both nations after several decades of stellar economic growth. China and South Korea are both key economic powerhouses of Asia, one with a centrally managed economy which has grown into the world's 3rd largest economy and the other a robust democracy with strong Western alliances. LAFIA will provide you with a unique opportunity to better understand the intricacies of these two diverse countries and their relative capacities to emerge from the current global financial crisis.

Continuing Asian economic success and the remarkable recent growth of China in particular makes it a compelling time to be part of LAFIA 2009.

LAFIA Asia 2009 allows you to experience contemporary whole of government challenges that face Asia initially through intensive pre-tour diplomatic and academic briefings. Then in China and South Korea you will meet with senior government, business and community leaders, visit key political, commercial and community locations and enjoy stimulating discussions with influential decision makers.

## Key elements of LAFIA Asia 2009

- gain deep insights into the motivation of the people of the region
- broaden your understanding of Asian institutions, culture and history
- cultivate an awareness of demographic profiles, social and economic context
- refine your understanding of political and strategic implications and
- conduct high level dialogue with political powerbrokers, business entities and government.

LAFIA is a distinctive contribution to enhancing your performance and leadership skills as a senior member of the Australian and New Zealand public sector. Through a structured and tailored programme designed to meet your portfolio needs and wider interests you are afforded a unique opportunity to experience first hand the social economic and political dimensions that charge Asia.

## LAFIA Asia 2009 Programme Features

- Two day Introductory Strategic Dialogue in Canberra 7 and 8 May 2009
- Three week overseas study tour visiting China and South Korea 30 May–20 June 2009
- A post study tour reporting and evaluation session in Canberra 30 July 2009

Each year around 25 senior executives from the Australian and New Zealand public sector take part in LAFIA programmes across Asia and the Pacific. More than 260 senior executives have participated in LAFIA, now in its sixteenth year. If you are a member of the APS Senior Executive Band 2 or 3 (or equivalent) the programme gives you the context and background for the international dimension of your senior leader responsibilities. Enhance your strategic leadership, build senior executive business and management skills, promote a greater understanding of the region and its significance and establish valuable contacts and networks.

If you are aspiring to elite levels of leadership within the Senior Executive Service you cannot go beyond the unique experiences, challenges and substantial rewards of LAFIA.

## LAFIA Asia 2009 focuses on:

### CHINA

China's gross domestic product (GDP) reached more than 30 trillion yuan (4.4 trillion U.S. dollars) in 2008 after a stellar period of extraordinary growth. The Chinese Government, recognising that China could not stay immune to the global financial contagion, announced a massive US\$585 billion dollar economic stimulus package in November 2008 and budgeted for a US\$135 billion deficit in March 2009 aimed at further public spending to boost its economy.

Although China's share of the global economy is still only 5%, there is widespread speculation that an impetus to the Chinese economy will be the trigger to a worldwide resurgence of the global economy. LAFIA 2009 will investigate this issue, examine the resilience of the Chinese economy and assess the impact of the stimulus packages and the flow-on effects for the Australian economy. LAFIA will also explore the contemporary political and social environment in China after decades of spectacular economic growth. LAFIA will also explore China's emerging importance in the global strategic balance as seen by key players in China itself.

### SOUTH KOREA

South Korea boasts Asia's fourth largest economy built on a period of rapid development and industrialisation in the 60s and 70s. Korea has also undergone a remarkable political transition to a robust democracy. Reeling from the global economic crisis, the South Korean economy is now forecast to shrink by about 2 per cent in 2009; the first contraction since the Asian financial crisis in 1998 when more than 1 million jobs were lost.

Collapsing exports in the year to February 2009 have resulted in more than 200,000 jobs lost and the won has depreciated sharply (by 35 per cent) against the US dollar. In response, the South Korean government has announced plans for a US\$20 billion stimulus package to boost the domestic economy.

LAFIA 2009 will assess the capacity of the South Korean economy to withstand and survive the global economic downturn. You will explore the critical issue of relations with North Korea, the long term outlook for reunification, South Korea's relations with China, and its strategic relations with Japan and the United States.

LAFIA Asia 2009 takes you on a structured study tour of China and South Korea.

## Introductory Strategic Dialogue

The Introductory Strategic Dialogue (ISD) is an intensive two day briefing of Australia's engagement with Asia designed to prepare you for your study tour.

You will hear a diverse range of views focusing on the cultural, social, economic and political perspectives of Asia including key historical events as well as current and topical issues.

The ISD is conducted by the Australian National University's Crawford School of Economics and Government.

The key to the success of the ISD is the quality of presentations from high profile professionals with long experience in engagement with the Asia region.

Over the two days you will hear from and interact with:

- leading ANU academics
- senior leaders from various Australian Public Service agencies
- Diplomatic representatives from China and South Korea
- representatives from private sector corporations discussing the strategic context of business building in Asia.

Discussion topics for LAFIA Asia 2009 ISD include:

- history, politics and culture in Asia
- economic growth, prospects, challenges and opportunities
- governance, stability, security and implications for Australia
- the role of strategic alliances—Australia's place
- promoting Australia's future integration into Asia
- Asia's future directions and Australia's future interests
- globalisation—pressures and opportunities

## Study tour highlights

- roundtables with Australian, international and Asian business leaders discussing business, finance and international trade
- formal cocktail receptions, dinners and informal discussions hosted by Australian diplomatic representatives in China and South Korea
- high level briefings by Australian diplomatic staff on Asian economic, political, trade and security priorities
- intensive discussions with Asian regional public sector counterparts
- stimulating forums with key Asian non-government organisations and community leaders
- roundtable discussions with key government leaders and policy advisers on China and South Korea's bilateral and regional strategic policy agenda
- informative sessions with senior Asian journalists and independent policy institute representatives
- meetings with elite academic representatives
- insightful briefing sessions with LAFIA's senior academic facilitator, ANU Emeritus Professor Peter Drysdale, who led the intellectual work resulting in the creation of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Forum and the Pacific Economic Co-operation Council (PECC)
- fully escorted visits to a range of historical, cultural and social attractions
- streamed visits and meetings tailored to your specific areas of interest
- structured free time to refresh, reinvigorate and regroup

## Reporting and evaluation session

The reporting and evaluation session is the opportunity to reflect and share your experiences and those of SES colleagues about LAFIA Asia 2009.

Specifically the session is an assessment of the personal and professional outcomes of LAFIA Asia 2009 through its stated aims of:

- improving your understanding of Australia's role in Asia
- enhancing your commitment to your agency and the role of the Australian and New Zealand public sector
- positively re-assessing your leadership functions, responsibilities and outcomes

The reporting and evaluation session will be in Canberra on 30 July 2009.

The session will be followed by a celebratory LAFIA Alumni dinner.

## Fees

**\$27,800 (including GST)**

The fee includes academic course content, a programme of meetings with high level government, business and community leaders, briefings from senior Australian and other diplomats, official receptions and in-country transport.

Travel, accommodation and allowances are additional costs to be met by sponsoring agencies.

## Closing date for application— Monday, 27 April 2009

Application process—complete and return the LAFIA Asia 2009 registration form on the back of this brochure.

## Further information

**For further information, please contact:**

Theresa Graham (Australian Public Service Commission) on (02)6202 3767, or email [theresa.graham@apsc.gov.au](mailto:theresa.graham@apsc.gov.au).

## Programme Directors

**Peter Drysdale**, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the Crawford School, ANU has played a key role in research and dialogue on economic development and international economic and trade relations of the Asia Pacific region. He led the intellectual work in support of the creation of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Forum and of the Pacific Economic Co-operation Council (PECC).

Peter is the founder and chief editor of the East Asia Forum which discusses the economics, politics and public policy of the East Asian region. Peter is also the founder and head of the East Asian Bureau of Economic Research which brings together key economic research institutes in Japan, China, South Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Australia. EABER is co-hosted by ANU, The Japanese Ministry of Finance and AusAID.

**Andrew MacIntyre**, a Professor of Political Science, is Dean of the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific and Director of the Crawford School of Economics and Government. His research focuses on the political economy of Southeast Asia and Australian foreign policy interests in the Asia-Pacific region and he is the Academic Convenor of the Australia-Indonesia Governance Research Partnership (AIGRP).

Andrew is an active member of the Australian-American Leadership Dialogue, sits on the advisory boards of the Asian Development Bank Institute and the School of Government, Victoria University in New Zealand and is the Honorary ACT President of the Committee for the Economic Development of Australia (CEDA). Andrew has served as the lead academic facilitator for LAFIA since 2004 and is involved in the planning and development of the academic content of LAFIA 2009.



# LAFIA Asia 2009—China and South Korea

**Please fax this application form to Theresa Graham on 02 6202 3799**

Programme name LAFIA ASIA 2009

Study tour dates 30 May–20 June 2009

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr  Ms  Mrs  Miss other \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Title/position \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Branch/team \_\_\_\_\_ AGS Number \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Agency ABN \_\_\_\_\_

## Special needs

Please note any special dietary or other requirements \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Authorised person to complete and sign

I understand the terms and conditions below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost \$27,800** (GST inclusive)

Upon registration a tax invoice will be sent to you for payment

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Fees and charges:** Any cancellations from this programme must be advised in writing. Written cancellations received by 7 May 2009 will be entitled to a full refund. Cancellations received after 7 May 2009, will incur full charges. Substitute participants of the appropriate level, will be accepted up to 6 May 2009.

**Identifying information:** Your information is collected for the purpose of the Public Service Commissioner's functions under the *Public Service Act 1999*, which include coordinating and supporting APS-wide training and career development opportunities and fostering leadership and reporting on the State of the Service. It will be used for course administration, statistical analysis and evaluation of programmes. Some details may be disclosed to your home agency for administrative and statistical/monitoring purposes. Your information may be used to distribute information about other Commission-run or sponsored opportunities and to check our other databases. Occasionally mailing lists are made available to bodies with related functions. If you do not wish to have your information used for marketing purposes email [apscmailing@apsc.gov.au](mailto:apscmailing@apsc.gov.au). For more details see our privacy statement at <http://www.apsc.gov.au>.