



**Invitation to Facilitate**  
**at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual IAF Asia Facilitator Conference in Taipei**  
**August 28 – 31, 2009**  
**GEAR up for the future!**

Dear Facilitator,

We are pleased to announce the 12th Annual IAF Asia Facilitator Conference and CPF assessment - to be held in Taipei, Taiwan. This is the first time the IAF Asia Conference is stepping out of Singapore or Malaysia and moving to Taipei: Taiwan's largest city as well as the economic, political, and cultural center of the nation. Taipei is a cosmopolitan metropolis with a lively and diversified face, as well as brimming with exuberance. A special highlight of this year is the Deaflympics which is to be held in Taipei this coming September.



The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual IAF Asia Facilitator Conference schedule is as follows:

**August 26 & 27**, Wednesday & Thursday: IAF facilitator certification assessment (CPF).

**August 28**, Friday: Full day Pre-Conference activities.

**August 29 & 30**, Saturday & Sunday: Conference with concurrent sessions, majority in English, one or two in Chinese.

**August 31**, Monday: Full day Post-Conference proceedings.

**Venue:** [Chientan Youth Activity Center, Taipei](#)

Over the years these conferences have built a reputation for being innovative, informative, enlightening, and enjoyable. On an average the 150-250 participants have come from ten different countries in the Asia Pacific region and beyond, including Europe, Australia, United States, Africa. One of the keys to making these facilitator conferences successful is the quality of the facilitated workshops: both the concurrent sessions as well as the day-long pre conference and post conference workshops.

The theme of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual IAF Asia Facilitator Conference is **“GEAR up for the future!”**

**Grounding, Evolution, Alignment and Recharging** are the main pillars of this conference. As we are confronted with the greatest challenges of our generation, change is inevitable. This shifts the focus of facilitators as we are asked less to do “what feels good” but more of “what must be done.” This is both a challenge and an opportunity for our community of facilitators in Asia as well as all over the world. We hope that this conference will serve as a platform for **GEARing** up methodologies and spirits to keep us moving forward and helping others make changes and be ready for the future.

This year in our 2009 Asian conference, we shall focus on 3 critical areas:

***Responding to the Crisis***

This is a time of Crisis. Changes are imposed to individuals and organizations. As people are in the “firefighting” mode, facilitators are often asked to join the fire brigade. Most importantly, people need to regain confidence and community connectedness when the fire eases off.

- What competencies do we need to have to help people deal with inevitable changes and challenges?
- How do we support leaders to ask the right questions?
- What value do we provide as facilitators?

***Leveraging diversity***

A strength we have in Asia is diversity. It is the source of creativity and innovation. Through

facilitation group strengths become aligned and people are able to gain new insights on future directions.

- What are innovative approaches to linking people together socially and technologically?
- What are ways for diverse ideas to come together?
- How do we bridge differences and use facilitation as a social glue?

### ***Creating Sustainability in Collaboration***

As we clearly see the consequences of unsustainable ways of life, it is time for us to enable conversation about what really matters. As facilitators, we have the means to help groups create conversations about what solutions will be demanded in the future, to evoke heart and spirit, and to offer tools and methods to enhance participation and democracy.

- What competencies, awareness and capacities do we need in order to deal with the most challenging situations in the world?
- What positive cores can we amplify to lead a sustainable future?
- How can we be a force for sustainability and sanity in the current system?

Because your expertise is important in building a solid foundation for the profession of facilitation, we sincerely invite you to be a presenter at the conference and to share your experience to create greater social awareness of facilitation and to contribute to the development of the Asia Facilitation community.

We are pleased to invite you to submit a proposal to conduct a workshop at this year's conference following criteria below:

**Concurrent Sessions (August 29 & 30):** These workshops, mostly in English and one or two in Chinese, may be of any topic illustrating **facilitation** (not just training) methodology and techniques.

**Full day Pre- or Post-Conference workshops (August 28, 31):** These workshops, all in English, are for participants of all levels wishing to gain a greater depth in facilitation not possible in the 90-240 minutes conference concurrent workshops. Examples of past offerings include leading-edge facilitation methodologies, innovations in workshop design, and insights about working with diverse human dynamics.

Please indicate your interest to participate by sending an email to us first - followed by your submission no later than April 15, 2009. After we receive your program proposal, a detailed linkage with conference theme will be sent out by the organizing committee.

### **Accommodation Information**

The accommodation in Chientan Youth Activity Center offers the fee of NT\$1,100/night/person (including breakfast). There are limited rooms for reservation. If you need to book the room, please email to [facilitatorsforum@gmail.com](mailto:facilitatorsforum@gmail.com) ASAP

The concurrent sessions of 90- 240 minutes will run on August 29 and 30, and the day-long workshops will run on August 28 (pre-conference) or August 31 (post-conference). As you write the proposal, please note the IAF Competencies accompanying this packet - preference will be given to proposals illustrating these competencies.

As with all IAF conferences, the workshop facilitators are also participants in the entire event, and as such, pay a reduced registration fee to attend the conference. This helps keep the costs down for this not-for-profit conference and encourages participation by as many as possible.

**The GEAR team in Taipei**

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORMS BY April 15, 2009 TO**  
[facilitatorsforum@gmail.com](mailto:facilitatorsforum@gmail.com)