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TAEF UPDATES

Southeast Asian Arts and Cultures in a Time of Global Pandemic



Thursday, September 3, 2020

Since the coronavirus outbreak at the turn of this year, the ways how this global

pandemic has fundamentally devastated economic, political, and security conditions of all societies have been the main focus of international media coverage. Although arts and cultural activities have been significant means by which people and communities connect with each other, it is quite surprising to find that these aspects have not been fully explored in public discussion. While problems faced with Western artists and cultural practitioners have gradually entered our horizon, the Southeast Asian counterparts have still been subjected to public neglect.

How art and cultural workers have been influenced by the pandemic? In what ways have they tried to survive this difficult period of time? What kinds of innovative projects that rebuild social bonding have been developed amid the new normal of social distancing? To address these issues, Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, Mekong Cultural Hub, and Taiwan Panorama together initiated an investigative project that endeavors to cover these issues with an in-depth report scheduled to be released in Mandarin Chinese, English, and Southeast Asian languages.

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ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Taiwan Alliance in International Development

Global NGO Forum on International Development (Call for Registration)

2020全球NGO國際發展論壇

Global NGO Forum on International Development

會議主題

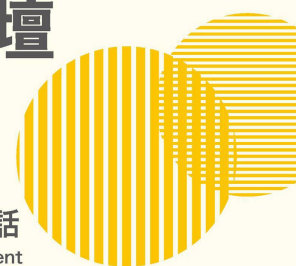
促進國際發展的包容性夥伴關係：政府與公民社會的對話

Inclusive Partnership between Government and Civil Society in International Development

10月5日(一)至6日(二) | 5th to 6th October, 2020

地點 | 公務人力發展學院福華文教會館前廳 (台北市大安區新生南路3段30號)

Venue | Conference Room, 1st Floor of Howard Civil Service International House



The Taiwan Alliance in International Development will be holding the 2020 Global NGO Forum on International Development on October 5-6, 2020. The Forum will be

concentrating on promoting partnerships between government and civil society organizations and building a cordial environment for policy development in the time of the global pandemic. Leaders and representatives of international NGO networks from France, Belgium, the US, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, India, and Australia are expected to share their thoughts and insights at the Forum. The former vice president Chen Chien-Jen will also be sharing Taiwan's successful results in epidemic control.

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NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Focus Taiwan

International Students Thank Taiwan With Food for the Homeless

Sunday, September 6, 2020

A monthly free food distribution program initiated by a group of international students from Southeast Asia is allowing them to serve the community in return for the education that Taiwan has given them, Vietnamese religious leaders said this week.

The 23 students, part of the "Students Helping Initiative Program (SHIP)" backed by Saint Christopher's Church in Taipei, prepared and handed out over 150 baked chicken thigh lunchboxes on Saturday to the homeless that sleep near the city's historic Longshan Temple area.

Many homeless and needy people rushed to get the lunch boxes, which brought smiles to their faces as they received the warm food in their hands.

During the event, Vietnamese nun Sister Mary Nguyen told CNA that the purpose of the program is to let the students find joy and happiness in serving the community around them.

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REGIONAL HEADLINES

Channel News Asia

Pompeo Urges Southeast Asia to Shun Chinese firms Working in South China Sea

September 10, 2020

Washington's top diplomat urged Southeast Asia on Thursday (Sep 10) to cut ties with Chinese companies helping build islands in the South China Sea, weeks after the US blacklisted two dozen firms working in the disputed waters.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's comments came at a regional Asian summit overshadowed by the US-China rivalry over a range of issues, from trade to the coronavirus.

Tensions are also simmering over the South China Sea, with the US last month sanctioning 24 Chinese state-owned companies

The Times of India

Indian High Commissioner Meets Bangladesh Commerce Minister, Discusses Ways to Boost Trade Relations

September 5, 2020

High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh, Riva Ganguly Das met Commerce Minister of Bangladesh, Tipu Munishi and discussed ways to boost trade relations between the two countries.

The Daukandi (Bangladesh) - Sonamura (Tripura) Inland Waterway Protocol route was operationalised on Thursday marking a milestone in India-Bangladesh relations.

"Bangladeshi vessel, MB Premier carrying cement started from Daukandi on September 3, 2020, and will reach Sonamura on September 5, 2020, traversing 93km along the river Gumti. This

East Asia Forum

APEC's Pursuit of Global Cooperation

September 5, 2020

As COVID-19 takes its toll on the global economy, the need for international cooperation has seldom been so urgent. A recent report from APEC predicts a 3.7 per cent contraction in the region's economy — a total output loss of US\$2.9 trillion in 2020.

The first-ever virtual Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) meeting between trade ministers from 21 APEC economies is an encouraging step towards a post-COVID-19 recovery.

At the meeting, the APEC trade ministers reaffirmed commitment to facilitating the flow of goods and services and the need for a stable and

it said had helped Beijing's military buildup in the resource-rich waterway.

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would be the first-ever export consignment from Bangladesh to Tripura through the inland waterways," the government of India said in a release.

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predictable trade environment.

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