Asia-Oceania

60% of world population, including 5 of 10 most populous countries

Australia
Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
Korea (South) (Republic)
Malaysia
Mongolia
Myanmar
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
Nepal
New Zealand
Pakistan
Philippines
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand
Viet Nam

and non-chapter countries
ILAE-AO activities

• ASEPA (Asian Epilepsy Academy)
  – Education
  – Training
  – NESSAN/ASNA related partnerships

• Taskforces
  – Global campaign
  – Research
  – Epilepsy Surgery
  – Paediatric

• IGAP
Asian Epilepsy Academy (ASEPA)

Different countries of our region have different priorities, depending on local needs and resources

- educational courses are developed in conjunction with local faculty to try and match the needs of the local community
Teaching courses and workshops

• Didactic courses provide:
  – practical clinical information/handouts on key topics
  – build relationships
  – and elevate the profile of epilepsy, particularly with policy makers and local governments

• Interactive case-based course and small group teaching (epilepsy and EEG)
  – increasingly popular 2-day teaching courses
    » more resource intensive
    » delivers the best learning opportunities
Strategies

• Provide educational activities throughout our region, particularly in places of greatest need

• Develop ASEPA educational courses in epilepsy and/or EEG in conjunction with local faculty to ensure we match the needs of the local community

• Provide teaching faculty for the activity
  – generous commitment of many contributors: often drawn from ASEPA/ILAE members and other colleagues

• Welcome all proposals that people may have for their region and country
Target audience: who to teach?

• **Primary audience**
  – Health Care providers

• **Secondary audiences**
  – Patients and their families
  – Community
  – Educational institutions
  – Employers
  – **Policy makers**: government, healthcare
Logistics

• Local colleagues become involved in the education and training efforts, and follow through

• After workshops, when possible, one of the faculty stays on as a visiting professor to provide mentoring in clinical skills, EEG or both

• Ongoing mentoring and support of local educators provided via email/web-sharing, with follow-up workshops to consolidate
Teaching Courses and Workshops in 2018
Teaching Courses and Workshops in 2021

Reduced number of courses and Virtual courses have difficulties:
- language/group translators
- cultural

for example in Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Mongolia
Activities for 2022-2023

• ASEPA Fellowships (CT Tan) – 6 months
  – $7,500 for epilepsy fellowships (x2)
  – $3,300 for neurosurgery fellows (x3)

• ASEPA EEG Certification Examination (SH Lim)
  – Since 2005
    » Part 1: 834 candidates took the exam, and 544 passed; passing rate: 64.5%
    » Part 2: 472 candidates took the exam, and 346 passed; passing rate: 73.3%
    » 346 candidates have been certified as Electroencephalographers.
Epilepsy Surgery Taskforce

Sarat Chandra and Kensuke Kuwai

• Epilepsy surgery webinars
Case-by case step by step:
1018-1500 participants each session

• Epilepsy surgery education courses/workshops
and one translational course

• Epilepsy surgery database
  - To improve and stimulate epilepsy surgery in Asia-Oceania countries
    » develop an exclusive web based platform
    » mobile app platform
Global Outreach

Ernie Somerville

• Primarily
  – reduction in treatment gap
  – improvement in capacity of medical practitioners to diagnose and manage epilepsy

• Education of local neurologists and paediatricians and, in some cases, general practitioners
Paediatric taskforce

Jithangi Wanigasinghe

• Educational and research opportunities

• Working with ASEPA
  - paediatric foundations always included
Research

Kheng Seang Lim

• Organise or support research methodology courses

• Support mentees to present their results

• Organise or support mentors and mentees meetings

• Epinet database: development for 3 projects in 2022
What do we need?

More effective regional communications

• Engaging all countries of our region
  – Building regional links for cooperation, education and research

• Administrative support
  – Local volunteers (people are more likely to respond to locals)
    » Emails- WhatsApp- WeeCHAT: ASEPA email list
  and recently offered
  – Central support from Gus Egan, including:
    » Promotion / advertising (social media/website/newsletter)
    » Video editing/uploading
    » Budgeting
    » Methodological support
    » …timezone and local contact issues….
What do we need?

A more effective voice

• Regional engagement and activities are acknowledged as very important
  – Including membership in councils and taskforces

• International leadership is excellent – massive work

but

• real opportunities to contribute to setting priorities and goals are limited or lacking
• many initiatives do not account for regional differences and priorities
Relationship with central ILAE

*It appears:*

- Regional concerns and priorities are subordinate to central ILAE and its international commissions/taskforces and academy

- Limited real opportunity to contribute to setting overall priorities and goals

- **Meetings mainly consist of:**
  - being shown complex and factually dense information with little or no notice
  - the expectation to take it in and agree, or at least not dissent
  - This is difficult, even with English as a first language
    » Budget is an example