

2007 Annual Report

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asia catalyst partners with activists in Asia to inspire, create and launch innovative, self-sustaining programs and organizations that advance human rights, social justice and environmental protection. We link up Asian community leaders, journalists, activists, and lawyers with each other and with international experts who can help them to realize their visions.

We incubate programs that may be too risky or innovative for established organizations to take on. We strategize with international organizations to develop creative, effective campaigns for social justice in Asia.

Programs

- **asia catalyst** partnered with a Chinese group to launch the Korekata AIDS Law Center in Beijing. The Korekata Center filed suit and successfully pressed a hospital to compensate a child infected with HIV through a blood transfusion; published two AIDS law handbooks and two issues of an AIDS law magazine; and organized meetings and a monthly salon series. Korekata's director also conducted a study tour to the AIDS Law Project in South Africa and plans to partner with them in the future.

Publications

- *AIDS Blood Scandals: What China Can Learn from the World's Mistakes* (September 2007). Published in both English and Chinese, widely reported in international media, circulated to Chinese AIDS groups and experts.
- "Dance or Else: China's Simplifying Project" in *China Rights Forum*, reprinted in *Japan Focus*, January 2007.
- "Olympic Challenges for Chinese Grassroots Groups," *Anthropology News*, November 2007.

Advocacy/Impacts

- After the release of **asia catalyst**'s report, China's State Food and Drug Administration announced that it would begin centralized testing of all blood products.
- **asia catalyst** worked with others to press for the release of AIDS advocate Dr. Gao Yaojie, enabling her to receive an award from US-based Global Voices.
- Partnered with AIDS and human rights organizations to write to UNAIDS, demanding they speak out against restrictions on Chinese AIDS NGOs in China.
- Translated a press statement by people with HIV/AIDS on the urgent need for second-line AIDS medications.
- Press interviews on Chinese blood safety, Burma's Saffron Revolution, and restrictions on Chinese NGOs with *The Guardian*, *LA Times*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Voice of America*, *Radio Free Asia*, *McClatchy*, *Reuters*, *Agence France Press* and *POZ* magazine.

Events

- In 2007, **asia catalyst** began a series of Asia Catalyzers, panel discussions and events that examine hot-button issues in Asia. The events are building a community in New York of supporters of human rights in Asia.
- Highlights of the series included Chen Guidi and Wu Chuntao, authors of "Will the Boat Sink the Water?," at the Rubin Museum (co-sponsored with PEN International); Asia Catalyst also helped to raise funds for airfares); a panel on Chinese foreign policy with Stephanie Kleine-Ahlbrandt (Council on Foreign Relations) and Dr. Thauung Htun (Burmese Mission to the U.N.), and a panel on the Saffron Revolution in Burma with Josh Kurlantzick, Maureen Aung-Thwin and Dr. Thauung Htun at NYU Law School.