2022

EAST-WEST CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

He pūkoʻa kani ʻāina

A coral reef
that grows into
an island

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EAST-WEST
CENTER

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Mission ▸ The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue.

Vision ▸ East-West Center, in collaboration with partners, is a premier institution in the Indo-Pacific to convene, develop, and equip a network of leaders to solve challenges of common concern.

Values ▸ **RESPECT:** Be inclusive, listen openly and actively. Value expertise and forms of knowledge from many cultures and perspectives.

INNOVATION: Seek improvement and growth, and embrace change by being agile, adaptable, and comfortable in challenging the status quo.

COLLABORATION: Work as a team across the Center and across the region, benefiting from multicultural, multidisciplinary, and multisectoral approaches.

2022 Theme:

He pūkoʻa kani ʻāina: A coral reef that grows into an island.

A person beginning in a small way gains steadily until they become firmly established.

Suzanne Vares-Lum
PRESIDENT, EAST-WEST CENTER

Dr. James K. Scott
CHAIR, BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Aloha,

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO PRESENT OUR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT on behalf of the Board of Governors and the East-West Center's more than 160 staff members in Honolulu and Washington, DC. As we reflect on the past year, we are humbled by the commitment and dedication of those who advance the Center's critical mission: to promote better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific.

The theme we have selected for this report, and for our year ahead, is a Hawaiian aphorism: He pūkoʻa kani ʻāina, or "a coral reef that grows into an island." This is said of a person or enterprise that begins in small ways and gains steadily until they become firmly established.

Similarly, the Center began 2022 by establishing a vision and foundational strategy to build on for the next five years—our first formal strategic plan since 2005. Our new plan, and this report, are based on five strategic pillars: Developing and Equipping Leaders, Convening Impactful Dialogues, Partnering with the Pacific Islands, Fostering Environmental Solutions, and Supporting Good Governance.

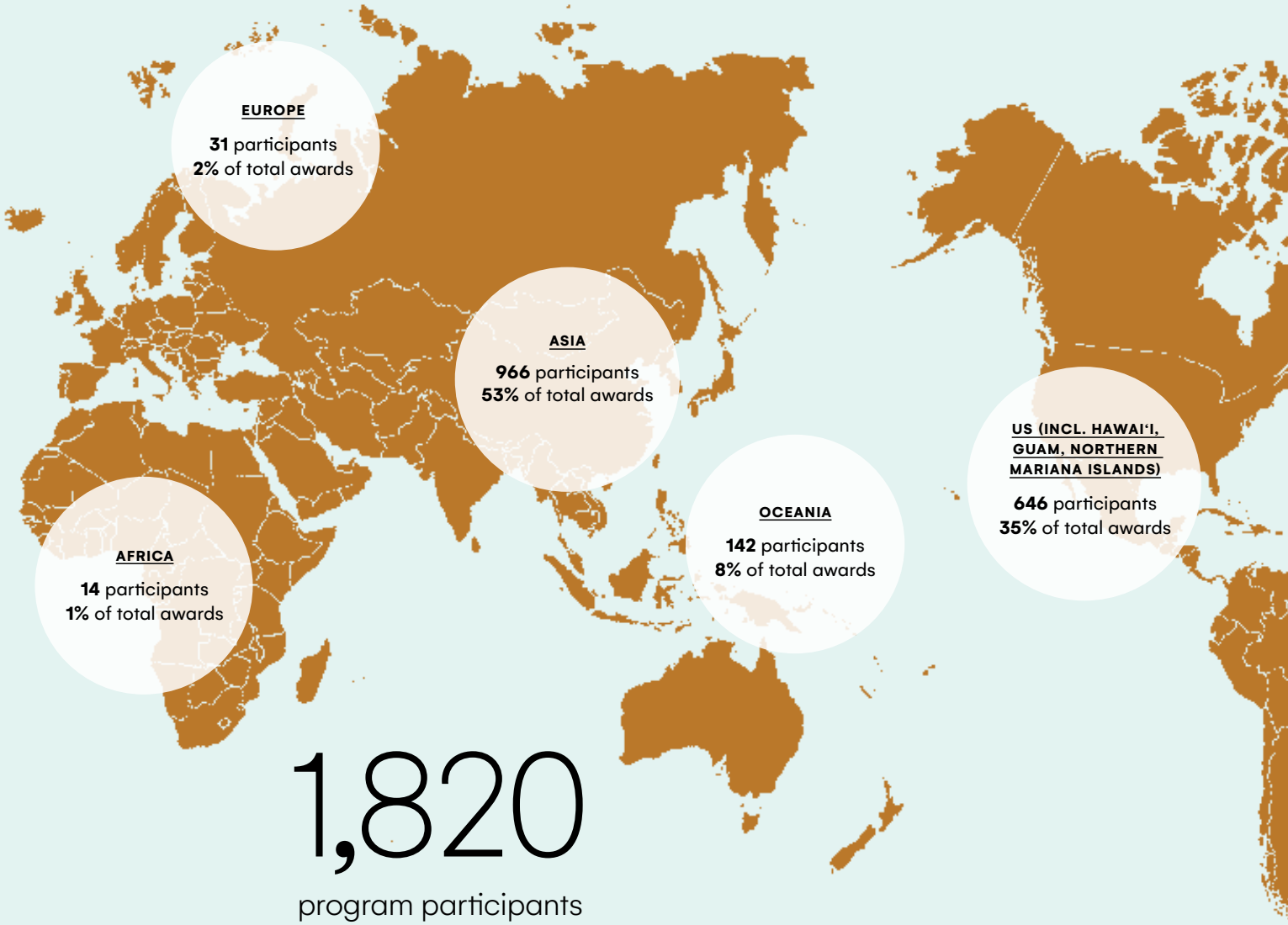
Our vision for the Center, in collaboration with our many partners and more than 68,000 accomplished alumni worldwide, is to be a premier institution in the Indo-Pacific for building and supporting a network of leaders to solve challenges of common concern. Over the past year, our community has worked to realize this vision through hundreds of programs and events involving more than 1,800 participants and 35,000 viewers from around the region and the world. While it is not possible to fully capture all of this transformative work, we hope to highlight here a few of the Center's most impactful activities and individual stories.

Mahalo nui loa for your continued support of the East-West Center. We look forward to continuing this important work with all of you in 2023 and beyond!

Globe Trotter

THE EAST-WEST CENTER PROVIDED 1,820 PARTICIPANT AWARDS* IN FISCAL YEAR 2022, TO PEOPLE FROM 71 COUNTRIES AND 44 US STATES AND TERRITORIES.** They engaged with the Center through the many opportunities offered by our programs in Education, Pacific Islands Development, Professional Development, Research, Alumni Engagement, and Communications & External Relations, as well as our office in Washington, DC.

Of the 1,820 awards granted this year, 417 (23%) went to long-term degree students studying at the University of Hawai'i, and 1,403 (77%) went to shorter-term participants in activities including leadership development, professional exchanges, educational workshops, and academic conferences.



** Individuals who formally participate in the East-West Center's educational, research, and professional training programs receive a "participant award," or grant, in fulfillment of the Center's congressional mandate to invite people from the region to participate in its programs.*

*** October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022*

AMERICAS (EXCL. US)

21 participants
1% of total awards

A Closer Look

Program participants by place of origin and percentage of total participant awards

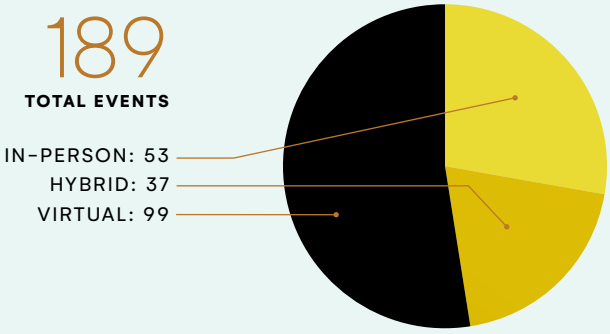
AFGHANISTAN	7	0.38%
ARGENTINA	1	0.05%
AUSTRALIA	17	0.93%
AUSTRIA	1	0.05%
BANGLADESH	25	1.37%
BHUTAN	3	0.16%
BRAZIL	3	0.16%
BRUNEI	5	0.27%
CAMBODIA	35	1.92%
CAMEROON	1	0.05%
CANADA	13	0.71%
CHINA	59	3.24%
COLOMBIA	1	0.05%
EGYPT	3	0.16%
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA	9	0.49%
FIJI	34	1.87%
FINLAND	3	0.16%
FRENCH POLYNESIA	3	0.16%
GERMANY	5	0.27%
GHANA	1	0.05%
GREENLAND	1	0.05%
HONG KONG	4	0.22%
ICELAND	1	0.05%
INDIA	163	8.96%
INDONESIA	76	4.18%
IRAN	13	0.71%
ISRAEL	1	0.05%
ITALY	2	0.11%
IVORY COAST	3	0.16%
JAMAICA	1	0.05%
JAPAN	55	3.02%
KENYA	2	0.11%
KIRIBATI	5	0.27%
KOREA	56	3.08%
LAOS	5	0.27%
LITHUANIA	1	0.05%
MALAYSIA	21	1.15%
MALDIVES	1	0.05%
MARSHALL ISLANDS	2	0.11%
MONGOLIA	6	0.33%
MYANMAR	58	3.19%
NAURU	1	0.05%
NEPAL	47	2.58%
NETHERLANDS	1	0.05%
NEW ZEALAND	9	0.49%
NIGERIA	3	0.16%
NORWAY	1	0.05%
PAKISTAN	82	4.51%
PALAU	16	0.88%
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	23	1.26%
PERU	2	0.11%
PHILIPPINES	77	4.18%
RUSSIA	5	0.27%
SAMOA	5	0.27%
SINGAPORE	16	0.88%
SLOVENIA	1	0.05%
SOLOMON ISLANDS	8	0.44%
SPAIN	3	0.16%
SRI LANKA	11	0.60%
SUDAN	1	0.05%
SWITZERLAND	1	0.05%
TAIWAN	34	1.87%
THAILAND	49	2.69%
TIMOR-LESTE	13	0.71%
TONGA	3	0.16%
TURKEY	1	0.05%
TUVALU	1	0.11%
UNITED KINGDOM	5	0.27%
UNITED STATES	646	35.49%
VANUATU	6	0.33%
VIETNAM	43	2.36%

By The Numbers

Events

EACH YEAR THE CENTER OFFERS A MULTITUDE OF EVENTS COVERING TOPICAL ISSUES IN THE INDO-PACIFIC. A return to the office in April 2022 resulted in a mix of virtual (99), hybrid (37), and in-person (53) events. An assessment of US-ASEAN relations, a discussion of media in post-coup Myanmar, and the annual Celebrate Micronesia festival saw strong viewership numbers. The Center also had three major international, hybrid events: the International Media Conference, the Alumni Conference, and the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders, which featured significant virtual programming and generated worldwide conversation.

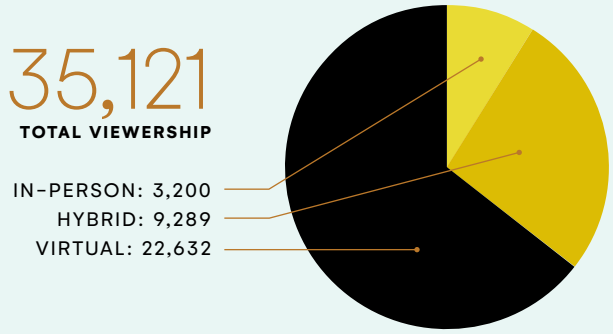
189
TOTAL EVENTS



Viewership

Total viewership* of events for the reporting period of October 2021 – September 2022. Virtual viewership has greatly increased access to EWC events for attendees around the globe.

35,121
TOTAL VIEWERSHIP



**Viewer counts include individuals who attended an in-person event or viewed a live stream, plus later video views.*

Publications

The Center expanded its flagship publications series in FY22.

132 PUBLISHED PIECES

52	5	31	17	22
ASIA PACIFIC BULLETIN	*ASIA MATTERS FOR AMERICA*	*EAST-WEST WIRE*	WEB ARTICLES	NEWS RELEASES

181,852 Number of times the Center's publication webpages were visited

Social Media Reach

FOLLOWERS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

27,724
(16.1% INCREASE) FACEBOOK

2,740
(29.1% INCREASE) INSTAGRAM

14,897
(8.3% INCREASE) TWITTER

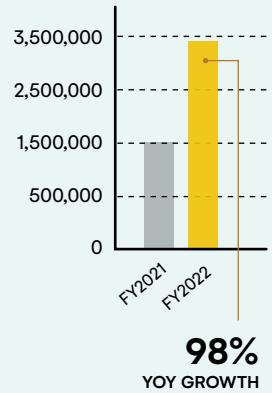
1,264
(26.5% INCREASE) YOUTUBE

9,976
(45.8% INCREASE) LINKEDIN

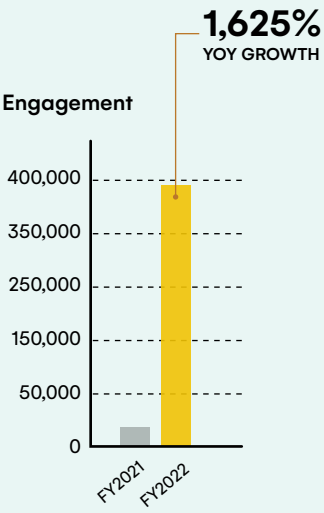
Social Media Impact

FY2022 OVER FY2021

Impressions



Engagement



EAST-WEST CENTER LEADERSHIP/ BOARD OF GOVERNORS

EAST-WEST CENTER LEADERSHIP TEAM

Suzanne Vares-Lum
President

Dr. Satu Limaye
Vice President & Director of Research and EWC in Washington

Ambassador Robert Riley
Chief Operating Officer

EAST-WEST CENTER MANAGEMENT TEAM

Paul Adrians
Director of Human Resources — Development & Implementation

Jake Hamstra
Chief Communications Officer, Communications & External Relations

Ann Hartman
Dean, Education Program

Dr. Mary Therese Hattori
Interim Director, Pacific Islands Development Program

Carly Iwamoto
Director of Human Resources — Operations & Administration

Ruth Lohr
Finance & Administration Director

Christina Monroe
Director, Alumni Engagement

Jung Song
Chief Development Officer

Kris Thompson
Administrator, Facilities

EAST-WEST CENTER BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dr. James K. Scott, Chair
Peter S. Ho, Vice Chair
Caroline Casagrande, Vice Chair

APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I

Elisia Flores
Lynn K. Miyahira
Honorable John Waihe'e III

APPOINTED BY THE US SECRETARY OF STATE

Ambassador Kelley E. Currie
Ambassador Kenneth I. Juster
David R. Stilwell
Representative Gene Ward

ELECTED MEMBERS

Daniel R. Fung
Senator Hilda C. Heine
Chris Kanter
Takeshi Niinami
Ratan Tata

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Governor of Hawai'i David Y. Ige
(Designee: First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige)

Governor of Hawai'i Josh Green
(December 2022)

Assistant US Secretary of State Lee Satterfield
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
(Designees: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ethan Rosenzweig, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Marianne Craven)

Dr. David Lassner
President, University of Hawai'i

INVITEES

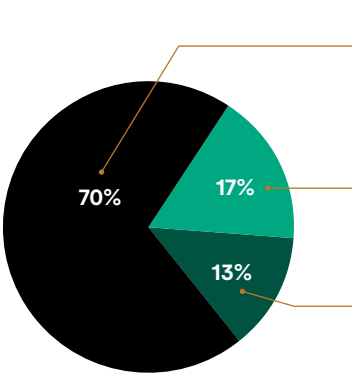
Raoul Magaña
East-West Center Foundation

Subir Kole
East-West Center Association

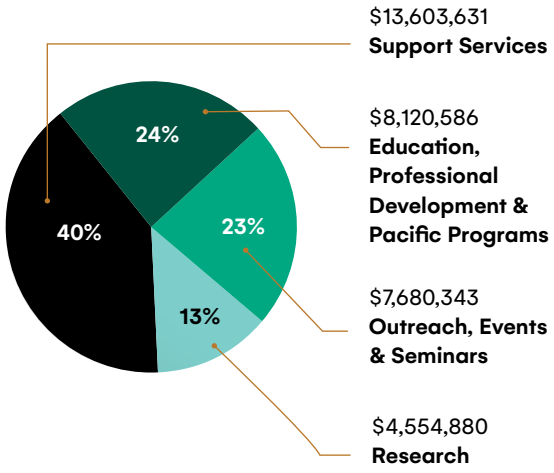
David W. Panuelo
President, Federated States of Micronesia and Chair, Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders

Financial Overview

FY 2022 REVENUE (UNAUDITED)



FY 2022 EXPENSES (UNAUDITED)



The financial graphs represent cash-basis data for EWC fiscal year 2022, beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022. The standard accrual financial statements are currently being audited and are not equivalent to the reporting basis in the graphs. When audited financial statements are issued, they will be online at www.EastWestCenter.org.

Shaping Leaders for Life

A foundation of shared experiences and resources

SINCE 1960, THE EAST-WEST CENTER HAS EQUIPPED EMERGING AND ESTABLISHED LEADERS with educational and professional tools through cooperative study, research, and dialogue.

Degree Students

At the beginning of the 2022 academic year, the Center welcomed 100 new students representing 35 countries or territories, 20 US states, and 55 fields of study, joining a vibrant community of over 300 degree students overall. Through community-building activities, leadership projects and internships, cultural exchanges, educational enrichment gatherings, and service-learning projects that augment their academic studies at the University of Hawai'i, EWC degree participants establish lifelong ties to a network of people committed to positive change in the Indo-Pacific region.

Leadership Education

EWC's approach to leadership education involves experiential learning, confronting assumptions, stretching perspectives, and inspiring action. The Center's activities this year to foster leaders in a wide variety of fields included our signature International Media Conference and several other journalism dialogues and exchanges, along with the Changing Faces and #GalswithLEI women's leadership seminars and many other professional development programs.

2022 also marked the 20th year of the Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP), which brings business, community, policy, and education leaders from across the region to the Center to live, learn, and expand their leadership roles together. Through Hawai'i-centered learning, exploration of critical trends and issues, and collaboration with their peers, APLP fellows redefine how they can positively impact their communities.

> **"The exposure we get from living together, sharing space, and learning from each other's experiences is helping me grow and be a better leader."**
>
> — **Huma Nasir,** EWC Graduate Degree Fellow

Pacific Islands Museum Professionals

In July 2022, *Weaving a Net(work) of Care for Oceanic Collections: A Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Museum Institute*, a learning, exchange, and exhibition project organized by the EWC Arts Program, provided skills development and network building to 20 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islands museum professionals. Focusing on collections management, conservation, and curation, the project was a joint effort by EWC and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and in partnership with the Pacific Islands Museum Association and numerous Hawai'i museums, institutions, and individuals.

Sums up EWC President Suzanne Vares-Lum: "Through our collaborative, applied programs, East-West Center helps equip both budding and established leaders with the critical knowledge they need to better address real-world issues in their communities."

SPOTLIGHT

Giving Voice to Human Rights and Youth Advocacy

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN ACTION

Based in Kashmir, India, lawyer and legal scholar, Huma Nasir is deeply committed to gender justice, human rights, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution. She is passionate about strengthening youth-inclusive peace processes and hopes to advance young people's perspectives in international peace and security efforts.

"Human rights violations are rampant, and regard for legal rights is minimal in many countries around the world," says Nasir. "Therefore, it is instrumental to promote international cooperation to protect human rights through youth advocacy."

Nasir received the Center's prestigious Graduate Degree Fellowship to pursue her specialization in international conflict resolution at the University of Hawai'i's William S. Richardson School of Law. She received additional funding support from EWC donors through the Toufiq and Ulrike Siddiqi Degree Scholars Award, the Bryan Bushley Memorial Scholarship, the EWCA Alumni Endowment Fund, and a Brara Brothers Fellowship.

Before coming to EWC, Nasir practiced law and did extensive research on the intersection of human rights and conflict resolution in the Asia-Pacific region. She is a former peacebuilding fellow at the European Union-funded ALLY project and is currently a Youth Advisory Board member at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, where she works to mobilize young people to stand up for their human rights at the global level.

Nasir is grateful for every opportunity that has inspired her personal and professional development. "My professors and the EWC administrators have been amazing," she says. "They always ensure that the fellows are supported and equip them to become great leaders."

In November 2022, Nasir was invited to speak at the EWC Foundation's annual Thanks for Giving dinner where students, alumni, and donors have an opportunity to connect. "It was wonderful to meet such amazing fellow scholars and hear of their experiences at the EWC and living in Hawai'i in the 60s," she shares. "Listening to their stories and accomplishments has motivated me to expand my understanding of Asia-Pacific relations."

Connecting in a Zero Trust World

Media leaders convene to address misinformation and build trust

FOR DECADES, EWC HAS CONVENED INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOCUSING ON FREE EXPRESSION AND OPEN SOCIETIES. So it was only fitting that the Center's first major hybrid event since the pandemic was the 2022 International Media Conference, or IMC, in Honolulu. With more than 300 in-person participants from 35 countries, and even more online, it marked the first time the biennial conference has been hosted within the United States.

Nobel Laureate Ressa Headlines

The theme of the 2022 International Media Conference, "Connecting in a Zero Trust World," was developed with guidance from EWC media alumni about rebuilding trust in media and journalism. One of the highlights of this year's IMC—the seventh event since the conference was first launched in 2008—was an opening keynote by Maria Ressa, EWC media program alum and 2021 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Ressa has become a global leader in the fight for free speech for her efforts to combat disinformation. A journalist for more than 35 years, she is the co-founder and

CEO of Rappler.com. She previously covered the Philippines for CNN and led the newsroom of the country's largest broadcaster, ABS-CBN, which was later shut down by the Duterte administration. The 2020 documentary *A Thousand Cuts* profiled her fearless reporting and the legal and online abuses she has endured as a result.

India–Pakistan Cross-Border Reporting

In September 2022, the Center's media exchange program gathered 60 Pakistani and Indian journalists in Kathmandu, Nepal, to develop cross-border stories with shared bylines. This extremely rare journalistic collaboration across the neighbors' tense border resulted in a number of major news stories that ran in both countries. EWC's cross-border media programs between India and Pakistan began in 2016 and now have 300 media alumni, with the goal of sustained collaboration and networking.

To date, close to 4,500 journalists have participated in EWC journalism exchanges, study tours, conferences, dialogues, and training. The programs offer journalists from the US, Pacific Islands, and Asia an opportunity to gather firsthand information and perspectives, build credible information networks, and improve professional skills to enhance their reporting.

> **"If you don't have integrity of facts, you don't have integrity of elections."**
>
> **–Maria Ressa,** acclaimed journalist, 2021 Nobel Peace Prize winner, East-West Center Journalist of Courage and Impact awardee, and Chaplin Fellow in Distinguished Journalism.

SPOTLIGHT

Truth to Power

DEFENDING INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM

photo courtesy: ProjectSpeaker

At the EWC International Media Conference in June 2022, Nobel Peace Laureate Maria Ressa began her keynote speech by asking, "What would you do if your government gave you a shutdown order?" She then revealed that her news organization, Rappler.com, had just received such an order from the Philippine government.

Acknowledging that Rappler uses the same social media channels to report genuine news that online troll armies have used to attack her personally, Ressa spoke from her own personal experience of the power of technology and social media to enlighten and build community on one hand, and to assault and intimidate on the other. Despite the continual risks she faces to her own freedom and safety, she encouraged listeners to engage and make change wherever they are.

"We have to have a person-to-person defense of democracy," Ressa implored. "When we're living in a world that is atomized into meaninglessness, we must make sure our area of influence has meaning. We must connect."

Ressa urged the audience of media professionals to expose attacks on democratic values and hold technology companies accountable for business models that elevate profits over truth. Through predictive algorithms and trends of mass persuasion, she said, autocrats around the world are using online media to radicalize communities and destabilize democracy, with a disproportionate impact in the global south.

While delivering a rousing call for the defense of independent, professional journalism, Ressa also reminded the audience to connect with one another, saying, "journalists can't do this alone."

Pu‘uhonua: The Pacific Way Forward

Creating safe spaces to address key regional issues

FOR 40 YEARS, THE PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PIDP) has been the piko, or center, of EWC’s extensive programming for Pacific Island countries and territories, as well as serving as an official member of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP). PIDP’s mission is to enhance quality of life for Pacific Islands people through research, education, and capacity building.

In the past fiscal year alone, Pacific-focused programs across the Center have welcomed 3,811 participants and attendees, provided 16 scholarships, and produced dozens of publications and reports that advance the goals and address the needs of Pacific Islands people at local, national, and regional levels.

Convening Pacific Leaders

In September 2022, PIDP welcomed heads of 16 Pacific Islands governments to the 12th Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders (PICL), with the theme “Pu‘uhonua: The Pacific Way Forward.” Designed to create a safe space for active dialogue and engagement, the conference featured an impactful three-day schedule of private meetings as well public panels and side discussions.

“This is an especially important gathering of leaders, regional organizations, and the broader public during a time of renewed regional unity, as the Pacific works toward collective action to confront critical issues such as climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, industry diversification, and geopolitical challenges,” says Dr. Mary Therese Hattori, PIDP interim director. “In ways that are more organic to our Island cultures, we are coming together and working toward a prosperous future for the Pacific and for Pacific Islanders.”

Several leaders noted that the PICL meeting served as a key precursor to the US-Pacific Island Country Summit hosted at the White House by President Joe Biden soon afterwards,

and the resulting Declaration on US-Pacific Partnership signed by Biden and 14 Pacific nations. EWC President Vares-Lum was invited to serve as a moderator at some of those critical discussions.

Strengthening Regional Financial Governance

Another major milestone in 2022 was the launch of EWC programs for PROJECT Governance—a five-year, US $20 million partnership with USAID, the Pacific Community (SPC), CARE, and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) to promote democratic institutions and sound, just, and responsive governance in the region.

The Center is leading four mutually reinforcing programs focused on strengthening capacity and transparency in financial governance. These include trainings for financial governance agencies, embedding investigative journalism mentors in Pacific newsrooms, graduate fellowships for young leaders, and an online Blue Pacific Governance Gateway.

SPOTLIGHT

Empowering People to Act Against Election Corruption

A PROJECT GOVERNANCE DEGREE FELLOW'S FIGHT FOR FAIR, FREE, AND SAFE ELECTIONS

▸ **Alice Areori had just completed her undergraduate law degree in her homeland of Papua New Guinea (PNG)** when she stumbled upon a Facebook post about the PROJECT Governance Degree Fellowship Program at the East-West Center. She had never traveled to the United States before, and she didn't expect she'd be accepted. But she gave it a try, and when the opportunity did arise for her to pursue international and human rights law at the University of Hawai'i through the program, she stepped aside from her job promoting elections integrity at Transparency International PNG and came to the Center.

One of the three inaugural PROJECT Governance Graduate Fellows in 2022, Areori focuses on empowering people to take action against corruption in elections. She is especially concerned with safeguarding women voters in her country. "There are a lot of women who are not able to vote due to block voting, threats, and intimidation," she explains.

As Areori completes her law studies, she has also begun participating in PROJECT Governance directly as a student assistant in 2023. When she returns home to continue working for election reform, she says, she will be bringing PROJECT Governance with her.

> **"EWC has provided me with scholarship support but also involved me in other activities to enhance my skills and knowledge. Together with my master's degree and work experience, I will be more skilled to contribute positively in the community, country, and the region as a whole towards good governance and human rights."**

Exploring Environmental Solutions in Residency

Fellowship, collaboration, and leadership in a globalized society

FOSTERING ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS TAKES COLLABORATIVE ACTION. One sterling example of this in 2022 was the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Academic Fellowship on Environmental Issues, which reached both inside and outside the Center to maximize its impact.

Building Skills of Change

The YSEALI Academic Fellowship is an experiential academic program that invites promising young leaders from across Southeast Asia to live and study in the United States for five weeks. The goal of the Center's YSEALI programming is for participants to explore climate change and the environmental issues of a globalized society while building leadership skills and networks. The Fellowship's unique experiential component supports these young leaders after they return home with funding and mentorship to apply environmental solutions learned at the Center.

The YSEALI fellowship is sponsored by the US Department of State and is run by EWC's Professional Development Program in partnership with the University of Montana. Participants come from one of 11 countries in Southeast Asia, and candidates apply through the US embassies located in their home countries, whose YSEALI coordinators review thousands of applications to fill just 21 slots per cohort.

In 2022 YSEALI quadrupled its programs with four cohorts and was one of the first programs to resume in-person sessions. "It was a demanding experience," says Lance Boyd, EWC senior experiential leadership specialist and academic director of

the Center's YSEALI fellowship, "but one that allowed us to test our capacities."

Center-wide collaboration

To expand their capacity, Boyd and his team looked within the Center, specifically to the Research Program, where they tapped the expertise of research fellows like Drs. Tammy Tabe, Phanwin Yokying, Micah Fisher, Ming Li Yong, and Ryan Longman, whose work on climate change and the environment closely aligns with YSEALI's larger objectives. "The researchers would sit down and mentor groups of YSEALI fellows, and understand their interests," explains Boyd. "Then each researcher would moderate a panel discussion by their mentees or lead them on a research field school connecting environmental issues to local Hawaiian traditions."

A spirit of Center-wide collaboration is also evident in the program's partnership with EWC's Education Program, which pairs YSEALI Fellows with University of Hawai'i students like EWC Graduate Degree Fellow Jomphol Lamoonkit. As peer mentors, EWC's graduate students provide personal and professional guidance to the primarily undergraduate YSEALI fellows during their time in Honolulu. For Lamoonkit, a YSEALI alum, it was a role that brought him full circle. "It has been a snowball effect that guided me to an academic career path in oceanography and ocean engineering," he says.

SPOTLIGHT

Developing Data to Inform Environmental Planning and Management

PACIFIC DROUGHT KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE MAKES INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE

The key to fostering environmental solutions in a changing climate is data, and EWC's Dr. Ryan Longman is leading an effort to make that data accessible, site-specific, and available in near-real-time. His work builds on more than a decade of developing the Hawai'i Climate Data Portal, or HCDP, a web-based interface featuring a wide range of information that resource managers can use to make better-informed planning and management decisions.

As an Oceania Research Fellow with the Pacific Islands Development Program at the Center, Longman is focused on finding ways to create meaningful data products and decision-support tools for a range of stakeholders in Hawai'i and other Pacific Island communities. He is co-investigator for the Pacific Drought Knowledge Exchange (PDKE), a project designed to foster relationships between scientists and managers in order to tailor products to specific stakeholder needs.

Through funding provided by the National Integrated Drought Information System, Longman's team is working in partnership with the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council to design a tool that uses HCDP data to help ranchers better understand how climate might impact forage growth in the future. Other ongoing PDKE projects include the development of monthly rainfall maps and plain-language climate fact-sheets for Guam and the creation of site-specific climate portfolios for a wide range of stakeholders across Hawai'i.

"The ultimate goal," Longman says, "is to build resilience and reduce vulnerability to changing environmental conditions."

Bridging the US and Indo–Pacific Nations

Asia Matters for America

GOOD GOVERNANCE IS A COMPLEX SYSTEM OF PROCESSES, INSTITUTIONS, PRACTICES, AND VALUES—but one thing every effective system of governance needs is reliable information that promotes understanding. This is why the Asia Matters for America/America Matters for Asia initiative is so critically important right now, when disinformation is a real and growing threat.

Comprehensive and Comprehensible

Asia Matters for America (AMA) is an initiative of EWC in Washington that features flagship publications, articles, one-page summaries of US state and congressional district interactions with Asia, and public programs across the US and Asia on relations at the national and local level. The information captured is as comprehensive as it is digestible, covering roughly a dozen topics from trade, investment, and employment to security, education, tourism, and people-to-people connections. The data is presented in easy-to-grasp graphics and maps.

Each publication provides this information innovatively, conveying the depth and range of the United States' connections with the countries of the Indo-Pacific. Whether looking from the perspective of a government official, businessperson, or member of the public, a common thread rings clear: Asia matters for America, and America matters for Asia.

"One of the goals of AMA is to provide easy access to a wide array of information regardless of past knowledge," says the project's lead coordinator, Spencer Gross. "And one of the great things about the series is that we do our best to provide information not only at a national level, but at a subnational level as well."

Record Year

2022 was a banner year for AMA, with a record-breaking five new publications. With cooperation and funding from outside partners, three of the publications featured places receiving AMA analysis for the first time: the Pacific Islands, with support from the US Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs; the Philippines, with support from the US Embassy in Manila; and Taiwan, with support from the American Chamber of Commerce there.

One of the great things about the series is that we do our best to provide information not only at a national level, but at a subnational level as well."

— **Spencer Gross**, AMA Project Lead Coordinator

The remaining two publications included an update to the region-wide Indo-Pacific AMA and the new AMA Public and Elite Opinion Poll, which compared views held by US officials and business leaders on US-Asia issues with the opinions of the general public.

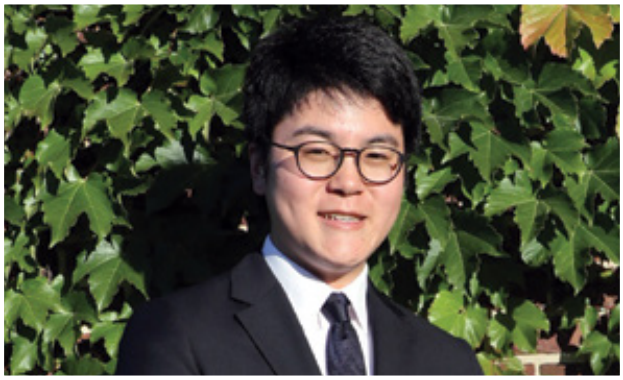
Most of the research that goes into each publication is conducted by undergraduate, graduate, and recent graduate students who take part in the Young Professionals Program (YPP), a semester-long professional and leadership development program hosted by the EWC in Washington every spring, summer, and fall.

In 2022, YPP welcomed 26 interns representing eight different nationalities. In addition to their work on the AMA publications, the participants contributed more than 110 blog articles highlighting the connections—big and small—that bridge the US and Indo-Pacific. These articles, along with the AMA publications, can be found online at AsiaMattersForAmerica.org.

SPOTLIGHT

Making Connections

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM INTERN BUILDS DC POLICY NETWORKS



Kenji Nagayoshi was introduced to the East-West Center through a security course at American University, where he's getting a master's degree in international affairs. The focus of the course was the Indo-Pacific, and as one of the assignments the professor had the class read the latest *ASEAN Matters for America* publication.

"I'm from Japan, so I knew about ASEAN," Nagayoshi explains, "but I didn't know in-depth about it or how the region is affecting US policy, so that was very informative. And as I was looking for an internship, EWC became my top choice."

Nagayoshi joined EWC in Washington as a 2022 summer intern in the Young Professionals Program (YPP), which exposes students and recent graduates to the field of US-Indo-Pacific relations through research, analysis, and the production of blog articles and other content for the AMA publications. The timing couldn't have been better, with the work of drafting the 2023 edition of *Japan Matters for America/America Matters for Japan* just getting underway.

"Kenji excelled at creatively highlighting local US-Japan connections at a really critical point in our research," notes Abbigail Hull, programs coordinator for YPP. "His willingness to build connections with the Japanese embassy and other experts really showed his skills and interests."

Making such connections by talking to experts, attending seminars, and engaging with scholars and officials is what Nagayoshi says he appreciated most about the Young Professionals Program. "I was encouraged to do more networking," he says, "and that really broadened my understanding of this field."

Powering the Future

Philanthropy

WE ENVISION A FUTURE FILLED WITH INNOVATIVE LEADERS reflective of diverse and inclusive voices rising to meet the critical challenges of the day. We envision a future where meaningful conversations and actions bridge differences and deepen understanding.

Philanthropic support powers the Center in reaching for that future. Please visit www.EastWestCenter.org/2022Donors for a list of donors in 2022 who helped us achieve that brighter future.

Developing and broadening private support for the Center is at the core of EWC Foundation's mission. On behalf of its Board of Directors, the Foundation extends its gratitude to Aaron Alter, Gae Berquist-Trommald, Robert Kurisu, Trudy Schandler Wong, and Denise Yamaguchi, whose service ended in 2022.

Mahalo!

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SPOTLIGHT

Sharing Hawaiian Stories on a Global Stage

PERFORMANCE TRADITIONS IN ACTION

Storytelling is a treasured and essential part of Native Hawaiian culture and community. From performing rituals to celebrating events and recording natural phenomena, stories infuse cultural practices through mele (song), oli (chant), pule (prayer), hula (dance), and hana keaka (theater).

Kaonohikalāealohilohinei (Kalā) Müller came home after college and was inspired by the program to integrate the art of theatre with indigenous stories. "I wanted to get back in touch with my cultural identity and create art closer to home, and with people I identify with most," says Müller.

Currently pursuing his master of fine arts degree at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Müller is a recipient of EWC's Hawai'i Pacific Foundation Graduate Degree Fellowship. Part of his kuleana, or responsibility, as a fellow includes holding an EWC internship and volunteering.

"With the Hawai'i Pacific Foundation's mission to empower Native Hawaiian communities and the EWC's new strategic direction to increase Pacific Islands participation in all EWC programs, including Native Hawaiians, it was imperative that the EWC become one of our key grantee partners," said Walt Kaneakua, Director of the Board of the Hawai'i Pacific Foundation.

With plans to graduate in the spring of 2023, Müller wrote his first play, *Tamoree*, which follows Kaua'i's historic Chief Kaumuali'i as he struggled to maintain his people's sovereignty, along with raising his own son in the new, ever-changing post-contact world around them. The two-act play, Müller says, "explores themes of fatherhood, identity, respect during conflict, and the pillars that anchor us to Hawai'i."

After graduation, he says, "I look forward to giving back to the community in more ways than my art."

Renewing Our Global Community

In person and online, EWC alumni reconnect with the Center's mission and each other

2022 WAS AN ACTION-PACKED YEAR FOR OUR 68,000-STRONG ALUMNI COMMUNITY ACROSS 185 COUNTRIES. Collaborating with our alumni 'ohana virtually and in person gave us renewed energy and connection to the EWC mission.

We, the East-West Center Association, are proud of our 53 chapters. They have: established a partnership with the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (Fulbright Philippines) to further alumni exchange experiences; welcomed Indian and Pakistani alumni journalists from the EWC Cross-border exchange to alumni's largest gathering in Kathmandu in EWC history (pictured above); funded Okinawan diaspora students and alumni from Asia and the Americas to join the homecoming Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival; revived Asia Pacific Leadership Program global mentorships; hosted the Asian Studies Development Program National Conference in San Diego, the institution's first major in-person event since the pandemic; and rallied members to join the EWC/EWCA International Alumni Conference, which together with the International Media Conference, brought over 500 participants from 35 countries together in Honolulu. We also launched the pilot Affinity Group on Women, Leadership, and Sustainability, the first of many interest-driven alumni professional groups that will support the Center's strategic pillars.

With renewed focus, our intergenerational, cross-sector, international network is demonstrating its power and dedication to creating a peaceful, prosperous, and just global community.

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